FlexCHESS

Flexibility services based on Connected and interoperable Hybrid Energy Storage System

2026, May

FlexCHESS sets out the route from research to market with new business models for flexibility

From an island grid in Türkiye to energy communities in Spain, FlexCHESS tested its flexibility solutions in real-life conditions across the continent.

The project sets out its exploitation strategy, centred on an open knowledge base and a planned "FlexCHESS Factory" to sustain its results beyond the project.

As the project approaches its conclusion, the FlexCHESS consortium has set out how it intends to carry its results beyond the lifetime of the project and into the market ensuring that the tools, methods and knowledge developed continue to benefit consumers, energy communities and businesses across Europe.

At the core of this strategy is the FlexCHESS ecosystem, anchored by an Open Knowledge Base (OKB) that collects and structures the experience generated by the platform and makes it accessible to SMEs, start-ups, researchers and third parties. By lowering the cost of access to flexibility know-how and digital tools, the project aims to create new opportunities for European companies particularly smaller players seeking to take part in flexibility markets.

The consortium plans to consolidate its key exploitable results including the FlexPlatform, the digital twin, the CHESS-plug, the forecasting tools and the blockchain-based rewarding system into a sustainable entity, provisionally named the "FlexCHESS Factory", which would create new connected storage nodes or upgrade conventional systems and offer data-driven and flexibility services.

The approach is designed to outlast the project. By assessing markets, business models and intellectual property throughout the work, and by consolidating results into a single ecosystem, FlexCHESS aims to give its tools the best possible chance of reaching the market. The reformed EU electricity market design, which strengthens the role of aggregators, energy communities and demand-side flexibility, provides a supportive backdrop for these services to grow.

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Funded by the European Union

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"The value of FlexCHESS will not end when the project does. By opening up our knowledge base and building an ecosystem around it, we want to give SMEs, start-ups and energy communities the tools to take part in flexibility markets and to make sure the benefits of this transition are shared fairly".
Maria Esfathiou, Project Manager, Citizens in Power

FlexCHESS has also built a community of stakeholders around its results, engaging energy communities, distribution and transmission system operators, technology providers, policymakers and citizens through workshops, information days and Open Living Labs, and synergising with related European initiatives.

Media contact
Citizens in Power (CIP) WP5 Lead, Nicosia, Cyprus | maria.e@citizensinpower.org | https://flexchess.eu |
LinkedIn: /company/flexchess | X: @ChessFlex | Facebook: /FlexchessHorizonEU

FlexCHESS project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 101096946. This publication reflects only the author's view, and the EC is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.