

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Global Experts Gather for IREDonline 2026 and Post-Conference Workshop on Grid-Forming BESS Integration, organized by DERlab

Two-Day Online Event Unites Experts on the Future of Battery Energy Storage in Modern Power Systems

Kassel, Germany, June 29, 2026 – The international IREDonline conference concluded on June 23, 2026 and attracted overall more than 250 registrations. This year's theme was **Battery Energy Storage Plants in Power Systems – Markets, Technologies and Regulation**. Organised by DERlab e. V., the two-day event convened researchers, system operators, industry leaders, and policymakers from Europe, North America, Asia, and Australia.

Across six sessions, experts from EPRI, University of Toronto, IRENA, ESIG, Sandia National Laboratories, CSIRO, Amprion, and AIT among others, addressed policies and regulatory frameworks, energy trading, grid interoperability, island grid resilience, ancillary services, and R&D developments. IRENA reported a cost decline of **95% for 4-hour BESS units since 2010**. For testing such units, DERlab presented its overview of their grid-forming BESS laboratory validation projects.

Co-Chairs **Mark McGranaghan**, Fellow at EPRI Europe, and **Prof. Reza Iravani**, University of Toronto, opened and closed the event.

The afternoon of the second day featured a **Workshop on Grid Integration of Grid-Forming BESS into Modern Power Systems**. These were free, open-access sessions co-organised by DERlab e.V., EPRI, and Fraunhofer IEE and were supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE), under the framework of the GFI-Pilot (Pilot tests of grid-forming inverters in the distribution grid). The workshop bridged the gap between research and real-world application. Representatives from international demonstration projects shared practical insights and lessons learnt from real-world applications.

“With the accelerating pace of the energy transition, IREDonline has become a critical venue for global sharing of progress updates, challenges and new solutions.”

— **Mark McGranaghan**, conference chair, **IREDonline 2026**

The next IRED conference will be an in-person held in Delhi, India in April 2027 hosted by the India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF) in partnership with DERlab e. V.

Recordings and materials from IREDonline 2026 will be available at <https://ired-online.der-lab.net>.

For more information, visit www.ired-online.der-lab.net and www.der-lab.net.

About IREDonline: IREDonline (Integration of Renewable & Distributed Energy Resources) is a recurring international online conference organised by DERlab e.V., bringing together experts from industry, academia, and government to address the integration of renewable and distributed energy resources into modern power systems allowing knowledge exchange and cross-sector dialogue.

About DERlab: DERlab (European Distributed Energy Resources Laboratories) is an association of more than 30 leading laboratories and research institutes in the field of distributed energy resources equipment and systems, developing joint requirements and quality criteria for the connection and operation of distributed energy resources (DER) and supporting consistent development of DER technologies.

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