

**Results of the 1st quarter** of the post-doc research project No. 1.1.1.2/VIAA/4/20/604 "START: Decision Support Tool for Decarbonisation Assessment of DistRicT Heating" project (01.01.2021 - 31.03.2021):



1. Participation in a meeting with industry experts, where the project objectives and planned results were presented to obtain input data on the interlinkages between the district heating reference system and other industries and their dynamics, which need to be included in the system dynamics model. The companies' approval was obtained for data provision and collaboration to develop the model.
2. The processing of the input data and the determination of the main variables have been started to identify the behavioral mechanisms and feedback loops of the reference system.
3. The article manuscript "A methodology for selecting a sustainable development strategy for connecting low heat density consumers to a district heating system by cascading of heat carriers" has been prepared and submitted for review in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.
4. Competence enhancing measures. Participation in the event within the framework of the European COST program CA 19126 "Positive Energy Districts European Network (PED-EU-NET)". Within the framework of the project, the competence on indicators describing the energy supply systems is supplemented and networking activities are carried out in search of potential cooperation partners for the development of joint scientific articles and project applications.
5. Dissemination and communication activities of the project have been carried out - information about the project has been posted on the [website of the University of Latvia](#), the website of the [Computational System Biology Group](#) implementing the project and the researcher's profiles at [ResearchGate](#) and [LinkedIn](#), as well as information about the project and funding in A3 poster format.

*The START project is funded under the European Regional Development Fund Specific Objective 1.1.1 "Improve research and innovation capacity and the ability of Latvian research institutions to attract external funding, by investing in human capital and infrastructure" 1.1.1.2. measure "Post-doctoral Research Aid". Project application selection round No.4. Project No. 1.1.1.2/VIAA/4/20/604.*