

# Battery research for the energy transition:

## Europe and emerging economies

Ian Ellerington Faraday Institution 11 May 2026



## EUROPE AND EMERGING ECONOMIES

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- Introduction to Faraday Institution
- Transforming Energy Access
- STEPS Storage of Energy in North-West Europe

### THE FARADAY INSTITUTION

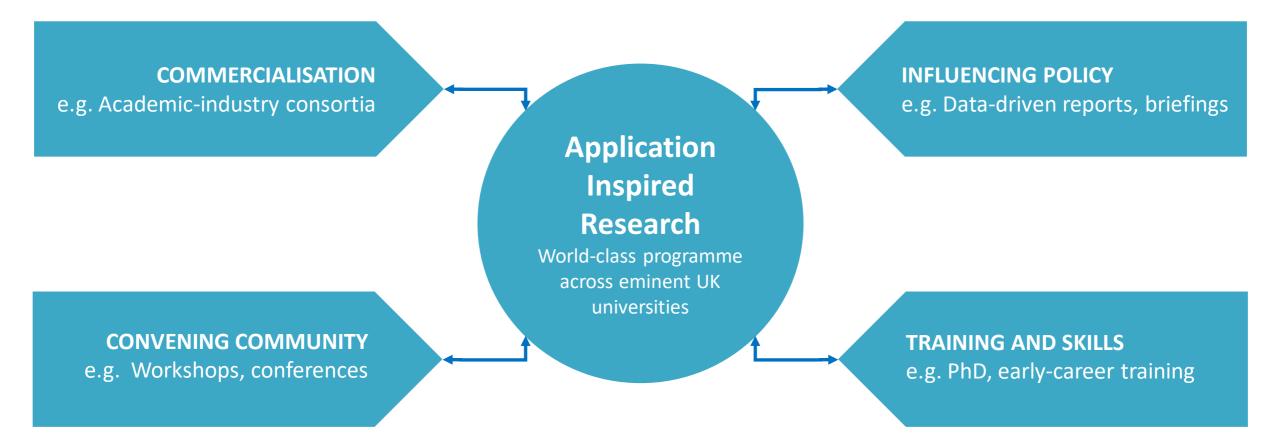




The UK's flagship programme for electrochemical energy storage research, skills development, market analysis and early-stage commercialisation.

## KEY FOCUS AREAS OF THE FARADAY INSTITUTION

The UK's flagship organisation for electrochemical energy storage research, skills development, market analysis, and early-stage commercialisation



**Maximising UK Economic Impact of Battery Research** 

## 4 YEARS OF HIGH-QUALITY IMPACTS IN ENERGY STORAGE

The Faraday Institution has generated a great return on the UK's investment from a standing start in 2017



## Lead 10 major research programmes

across 24 UK universities and research partners and 50 industrial partners



## United a community of 470 researchers

**45% new to field,** to solve battery challenges through breakthrough science



## Training and directly funding 55 PhDs

for UK industrial and academic careers, and an additional **82** affiliated with our projects



#### Published 410+ scientific papers

63% in top 10% journals46% in top 10% most cited50% with international collaborators

Supported 8 entrepreneurial spin-outs

16 industry fellows & 8 industry sprints

#### Leads a consortium of 7 UK organisations

to develop solid-state battery prototypes



#### **26 inventions identified**

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**3** patents granted and a further **13** in patent process

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#### Shaped policy

through **13 Faraday Insights, 10 major reports, 5 national consultations,** numerous briefings including a House of Commons inquiry and a House of Lords inquiry

Hosted 5 Royal Institution Events

attracting 300,000 online viewers



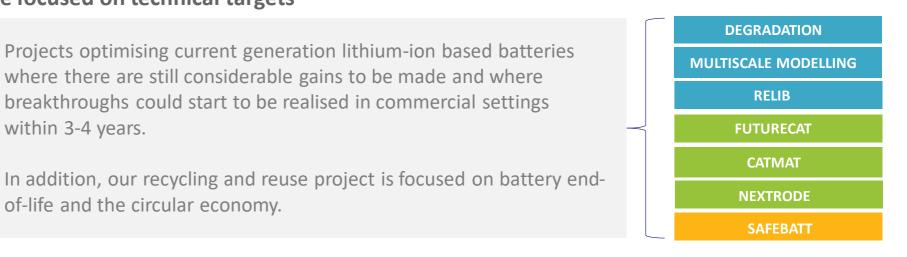
### THE FARADAY INSTITUTION RESEARCH PROGRAMME

within 3-4 years.

of-life and the circular economy.

#### **Application-inspired programme focused on technical targets**





#### **RESEARCH STREAM 2 Beyond Lithium-ion**

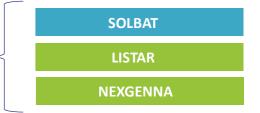
**RESEARCH STREAM 1** 

Lithium-ion

Longer-term market challenges

Nearer-term market challenges

Projects that are higher risk, higher reward and could facilitate the long-term commercialisation of next-generation battery technology that still require considerable research in materials discovery and optimisation.



**RELCo-Bat** 

**Low-Cost Graphite** 

Polysulphide Single Liquid

**Flow Battery** 

#### **RESEARCH STREAM 3 Batteries for Emerging Economies**

Shorter-term projects focused on reducing the cost and improving the performance of battery technologies for use in developing countries and emerging economies. Funded from UK Aid as part of its Transforming Energy Access (TEA) programme

## ASSEMBLED A WORLD-CLASS ENERGY STORAGE RESEARCH COMMUNITY







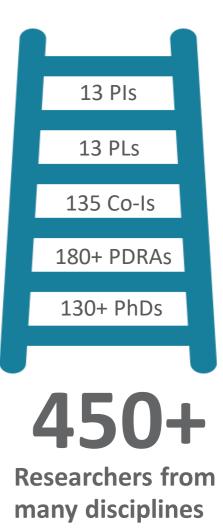
Industry partners



Academic & research partners

#### Grown interest and excitement

- Levelling up across UK
- 30% female
- 74% under 40
- 65% new to battery research



## OUR METHODS

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## Developing a national and international reputation

Increasing collaboration with leading international research groups

Taking a leading role in defining the need for energy storage in emerging economies

Working on international efforts – World Economic Forum's Global Battery Alliance and World Bank's Energy Storage Partnership



## SECTOR FINDINGS



Battery systems with solar can increasingly be competitive with diesel gen-sets.

International organisations are developing standards and test protocols

The potential of Sodium ion cells continues to increase with the announcement this year from China based CATL, one of the world's largest battery manufacturers that they will begin commercially producing Na ion in 2023.

UK's Faradion being acquired by Reliance in India.

There are next generation technologies which have potential to increase the pace of competitiveness

#### There remains significant need for:

Small and large scale demonstrators to build an evidence base that novel technologies are viable and practical;

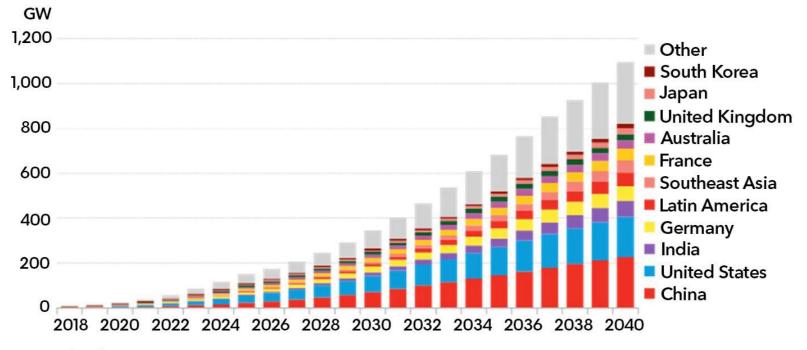
Skills and training throughout the supply chain, as there is nowhere near the capacity or capability required to deliver novel solutions;

Legislation and regulation to drive new technologies and challenge and evolve incumbent, established practices;

Standards to drive integration efficiencies and further cost reduction. These challenges will all need to be addressed to accelerate the take up of new energy storage technologies, especially batteries, in SSA markets.

## THIS IS A REALLY BIG OPPORTUNITY...





Source: BloombergNEF





Total budget received from Interreg NWE (2020-2023):

> €3 million of ERDF

Total project budget:

**€5** million

www.nweurope.eu

## **Partner Introduction**





## TESTBED PROJECT AT HARWELL – FUNDED BY INTERREG EUROPE STEPS



- Demonstrating 3 new, innovative energy storage products for the first time at a commercially relevant scale
  - AMTE Power sodium-ion battery module
  - Brill Power battery management system
  - PowerQuad Mobile Battery Energy Storage
- Integrated to STFC's solar array at Harwell Campus and on-site catering
- Aiding access to project finance for future projects
- Accelerating the uptake of small-scale renewable electricity generation



### TECHNICAL AND MARKET REVIEWS SUPPORT THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS



### IN SUMMARY... IT'S HAPPENING



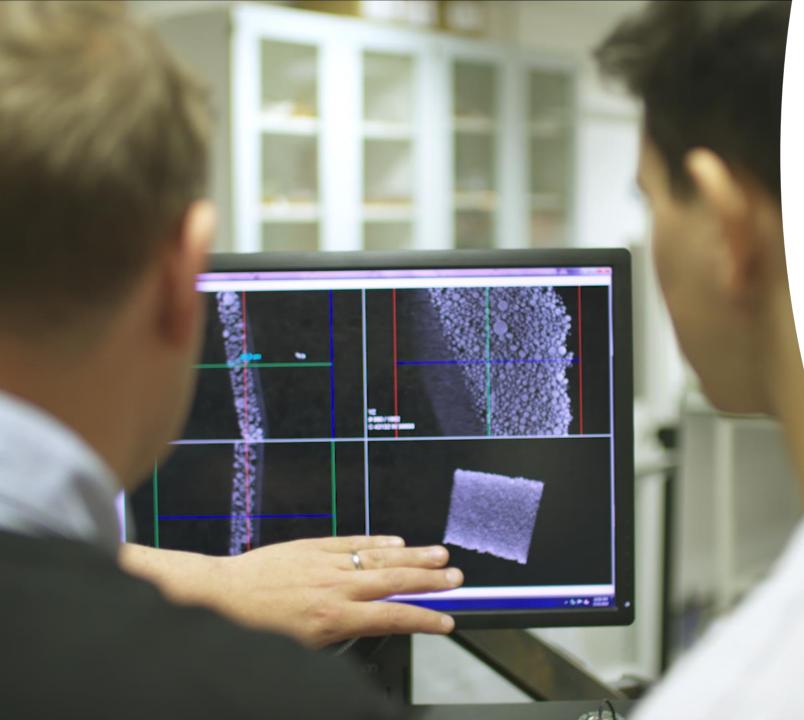
- The automotive is on the cusp of a revolution
- Emerging markets might reap benefits from the momentum
- The Northern Europe market is large and transformation



## Thank you







### INDUSTRY FELLOWSHIPS



#### Fostering relationships between industry & academia

Establishing collaborative research with benefit to UK battery industry

Advancing defined research project with commercial potential

Facilitating university researchers to work in industry settings or vice versa

## OUR COMMUNITY – RESEARCH PARTNERS







### **OUR COMMUNITY – INDUSTRY PARTNERS**





