STREAM

8TH NEWSLETTER | November 2026

After four years, STREAM has come to an end. The past months were about bringing the project's results to the people who can use them. This last edition covers the closing event at FLEXCON, the final pilot events, publications and the videos that summarise what each pilot site demonstrated.

STREAM closed at FLEXCON 2026 in Antwerp

STREAM held its closing event on 23 September at FLEXCON 2026, the European conference on demand-side flexibility, which this year brought 520 attendees to Antwerp. Project coordinator Dr. Tomi Medved opened with **a keynote on the missing blocks to using low-voltage flexibility and presented the STREAM Device Registry.** In the afternoon, speakers from the **four pilot sites discussed what they learned in deployment.** Topics included bringing asset owners on board, the data and forecasting DSOs still lack, the regulatory conditions for local flexibility markets, and what remains once project funding ends. The official FLEXCON 2026 aftermovie is now available on YouTube.

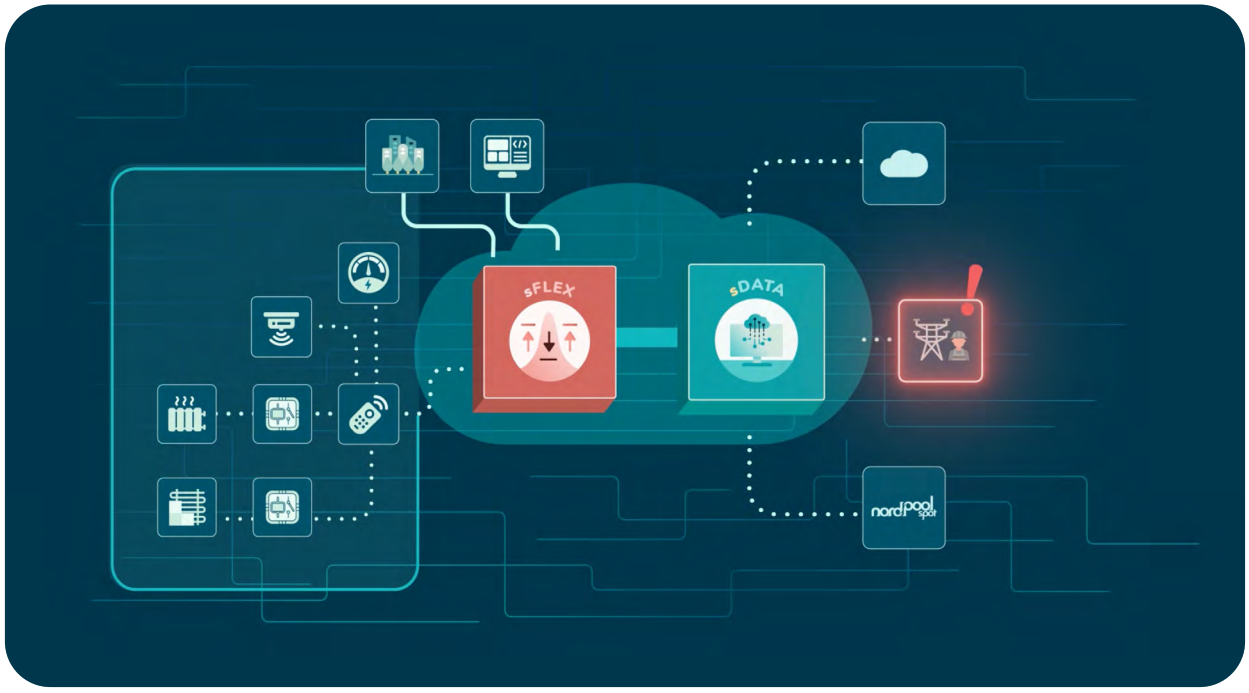


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Four pilot site videos now available

STREAM has released four short animated videos, one for each pilot site: Finland, Italy, Slovenia and Spain. Each video explains what the pilot set out to test and what the demonstration showed.

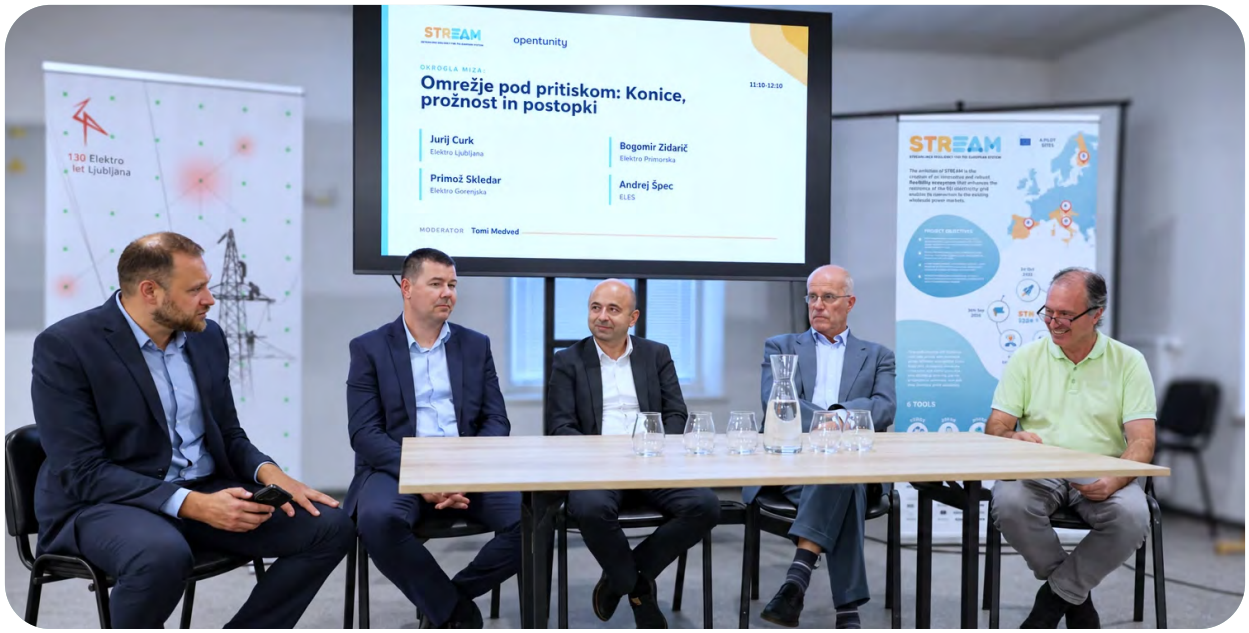
- **Finland:** Electric heating in homes and holiday cottages responded automatically to grid frequency changes, providing balancing services without noticeable effects on comfort.
- **Italy:** In Terni, coordinating water pumping and EV charging with the electricity network helped avoid congestion, lowered operating costs and made better use of local solar energy.
- **Slovenia:** In the Ajdovščina industrial zone, around 2.8 MW of industrial flexibility was activated through the sMART local market in three live demonstrations, with measurable impact on the grid.
- **Spain:** The Enercoop energy community in Crevillent pooled members' solar panels, batteries and EV chargers and offered their flexibility on a local market to help the grid operator manage congestion and voltage.



Watch the Video

Final event of the Slovenian pilots

On 10 September, Elektro Ljubljana and the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University of Ljubljana, held the event **“Smart Grids in Practice: Experiences from Slovenian Pilot Projects”.** It closed the Slovenian pilot activities of STREAM and OPENTUNITY. Experience from the Ajdovščina industrial zone showed how flexibility can reduce or postpone grid reinforcement, and also how hard it is to identify and activate flexibility with limited data. Two roundtables, on network congestion and on e-mobility, reached a shared conclusion: flexibility complements grid development but does not replace it.



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Slovenian pilot featured in a European Commission study

The study ***Specification and design criteria for Local Flexibility Markets,*** published by DG ENER and VITO, includes STREAM’s Slovenian pilot among the European cases it reviews. The study is intended as a reference

for Member States while the Network Code on Demand Response is being finalised. Its chapter on Slovenia describes Elektro Primorska's pilot in the Ajdovščina industrial park, built on two STREAM tools: sGRID for grid observability and sMART for flexibility trading.

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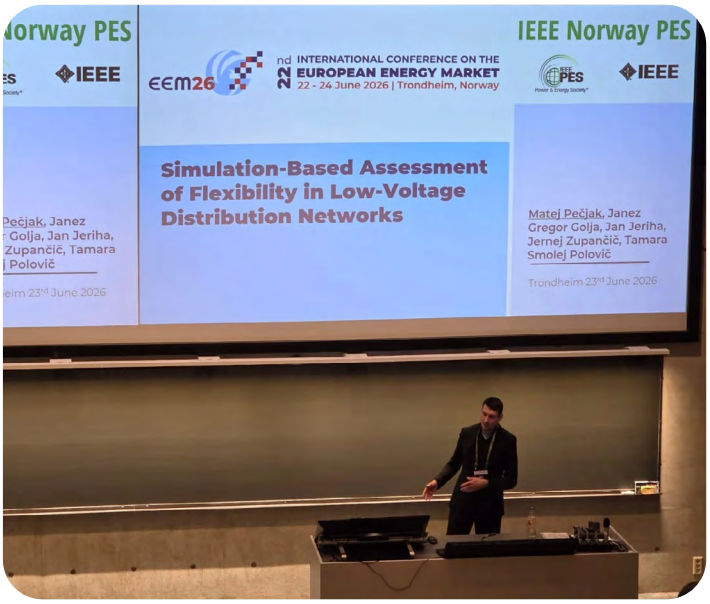
STREAM on Enlit: podcast and policy article

In an episode of the **EU Energy Projects Podcast,** Tomi Medved discussed with host Jonathan Spencer Jones why flexibility on the low-voltage grid remains hard to unlock, and **how STREAM's Device Registry prototype anticipates requirements expected under upcoming EU rules.** A follow-up article on Enlit World looks at what it takes to move local flexibility markets from pilot to permanent practice. It finds that DSOs in all four pilot countries face the same barriers: no clear mandate to procure flexibility, no cost recovery that treats flexibility and reinforcement equally, and no agreed DSO–TSO coordination rules. Country-specific recommendations are published in the STREAM whitepaper.



Listen to the podcast

Two STREAM papers at EEM26 in Trondheim



Two papers were presented at the 22nd International Conference on the European Energy Market in Trondheim on 22–24 June. University of Ljubljana presented **a simulation of a real low-voltage network comparing grid reinforcement with flexibility from EV charging, heat pump load shifting and solar curtailment.** Flexibility proved a lower-cost option that complements reinforcement. ELES presented **a method for forecasting congestion revenues from cross-zonal capacity allocation in Slovenia, which matched realised revenues closely in 2024 and 2025.**

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STREAM as a good-practice example for EU proposals

On 15 October, **CIGRE-CIRED Slovenia's Women in Energy** section held a workshop on the green transition and EU funding for 2028–2034. Tamara Smolej Polovič from the STREAM coordination team used STREAM as the main example of a successful proposal; it scored the maximum 15/15 under Horizon Europe. Darja Skrt Georgiev from partner CyberGrid spoke about implementing Horizon projects, including CyberGrid's work on the STREAM Device Registry.



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Thank you!

This is the last STREAM newsletter. We thank all partners, the pilot teams in Finland, Italy, Slovenia and Spain, and everyone who followed the project over the past four years. STREAM's public deliverables, tools, publications and videos remain available on the project website and YouTube channel.

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