



HYDROPOWER EUROPE WORKSHOP 12-13 Oct 2020, ONLINE WORKSHOP

Addressing technical, environmental and social challenges for hydropower as a catalyst for the clean energy transition in Europe

Due to its flexibility in generating, storing and releasing energy, hydropower can be a catalyst for the clean energy transition in Europe. However, hydropower faces a complex set of policy, environmental, societal, technological and market **challenges**. While hydropower is a catalyst for a carbon-neutral economy and a boost to regional development, its benefits are currently not valued in the market. Therefore, hydropower needs to become more cost-competitive and find novel and acceptable approaches to future development in accordance with evolving environmental and social demands.

The HYDROPOWER EUROPE (HPE) project is built on the ambition to achieve a ***Research and Innovation Agenda (RIA)*** and a ***Strategic Industry Roadmap (SIR)*** for the hydropower sector, based on the synthesis of technical fora and transparent public debates through a forum that gathers all relevant stakeholders of the hydropower sector. Through a detailed **consultation process** (expert workshops, online consultations, regional workshops), HYDROPOWER EUROPE already collected views and inputs from a wide range of stakeholders.

This **Interactive Workshop is the last opportunity for hydropower stakeholders to engage in the current HYDROPOWER EUROPE consultation process**. The workshop aims to bring together EU policymakers, hydropower industry and civil society organisations to discuss **key points and preliminary conclusions** of the consultation findings to date. This will allow participants to share different opinions on policy and regulatory issues, technical challenges, and environmental and social issues, which will be used to help finalise recommendations for the future direction and role of hydropower in Europe.



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 The HYDROPOWER EUROPE Forum is supported by a project that has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 826010

Participation in this event is free of charge, but registration is required. For more information and to register: <https://hydropower-europe.eu/upcoming-events>



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

MONDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2020 - 9:00 – 12:30

Is hydropower ready to be a catalyst for the clean energy transition?

9:00 – 9:20 Opening remarks

Introduction to HYDROPOWER EUROPE and aims of the workshop

Anton Schleiss, Honorary President, International Commission on Large Dams and HYDROPOWER EUROPE Project Coordinator

Patrick Clerens, Secretary General, EASE – The European Association for Storage of Energy

9:20 – 9:55 Session 1 – Policy and Regulatory issues: Designing a supportive EU framework for the hydropower sector

9:20 – 9:25 – Introduction by the Moderator

Martin Schönberg, Advisor, Hydropower & Public Affairs Coordination, Eurelectric

9:25 – 9:35 – Hydropower and energy legislation

Jan Steinkohl, Policy Officer, European Commission DG ENER

9:35 – 9:45 – EU environmental policies relevant for hydropower

Jeanne Boughaba, Policy Officer, European Commission DG ENV

9:45 – 9:55 – Carbon price signals for renewables? The prospects of the European Emission Trading System under the European Green Deal

Sabine Frank, Executive Director, Carbon Market Watch

9:55 – 10:10 Discussion time

Q&A session with the audience

10:10-10:20 Coffee Break

10:20 – 10:55 Session 2 – Technical challenges and R&I priorities: Developing innovative concepts and technologies to boost hydropower potential

10:20 – 10:25 – Introduction by the Moderator

Atle Harby, Senior Research Scientist, SINTEF

10:25 – 10:35 – Hydropower R&I: The European viewpoint

Thomas Schleker, Policy Officer, European Commission DG RTD

10:35 – 10:45 – Increasing the flexibility of hydropower – examples from the HydroFlex project

Ole Gunnar Dahlhaug, Professor, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

10:45 – 10:55 – Hybrid Systems in Hydro Plants – As easy as it gets

Miguel Patena, Director, Equipment Engineering and Innovation, EDP

10:55 – 11:10 **Discussion time**
Q&A session with the audience

11:10 – 11:20 **Short Break**

11:20 – 12:05 **Parallel groups**

Group 1: Market structure and regulatory mechanisms to support hydropower development in Europe

Group 2: Improving the funding offer for hydropower R&I in Europe

Group 3: Hydropower, a key flexibility asset of the future European energy system?

Group 4: Performance and resilience of infrastructures (refurbishment of plants, digitalisation, new materials, increase of efficiency, etc)

Timing will be as below:

- Introduction and Presentation from an external expert – 5mn
- Discussion with feedback by group members – 30mn
- Wrap up and conclusions/recommendations – 10mn

12:05 – 12:25 **Conclusions from the parallel groups**

The chairs of each group will present the conclusions from the group discussion during 5 minutes presenting the main recommendations that emerged from the group.

11:55 – 12:00 **Closing Remarks**

Anton Schleiss, Honorary President, International Commission on Large Dams and HYDROPOWER EUROPE Project Coordinator

TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2020 - 9:15 – 12:30

Hydropower: A missing piece in the Green Deal?

9:15 – 9:20 **Opening remarks**

Introduction of the aims of the workshop 2nd day

Jean-Jacques Fry, President European Club (EURCOLD), International Commission on Large Dams

9:20 – 9:55 **Session 3 – Hydropower impacts on the environment: Best practices and solutions to make hydropower energy more environmentally-friendly**

9:20 – 9:25 – Introduction by the Moderator

Claus Till Schneider, Asset Management / Ecological Aspects of Hydropower, RWE Generation SE

9:25 – 9:35 – Freshwater ecosystems and hydropower in the EU - WWF lessons learned

Claire Baffert, Senior Water Policy Advisor, WWF

9:35 – 9:45 – Title to be confirmed

James Dalton, Director, Global Water Programme, IUCN

9:45 – 9:55 – Eco Run-off-River Hydropower – Innovations and Mitigations

Peter Rutschmann, Professor, Technical University of Munich

9:55 – 10:10 **Discussion time**
Q&A session with the audience

10:10–10:20 Coffee Break

10:20–10:55 Session 4 – Social acceptance of hydropower: Bridging the gap between industry and civil society

10:20 – 10:25 – Introduction by the Moderator

Chris Foulds, Facilitator H2020 Energy-SHIFTS; Principal Research Fellow at Anglia Ruskin University

10:25 – 10:35 – Bottom-up small hydropower projects in the Netherlands

Leon Claassen, Project Leader, Dutch Province of Gelderland

10:35 – 10:45 – RESTOR Hydro & Co2mmunity projects

Ewa Malicka & Ewa Małek-Laska, President, Polish Association for Small Hydropower Development

10:45 – 10:55 – System-Scale Planning: Low-carbon, low-cost, low-conflict development of renewables

Igor Vejnović, Southeast Europe Energy Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy

10:55 – 11:10 Discussion time

Q&A session with the audience

11:10 – 11:20 Short Break

11:20–12:05 Parallel groups

Group 1: Best practices and solutions to increase public acceptance (by local communities and/or other organisations) of hydropower.

Group 2: Environmental-compatible solutions and benefits of hydropower projects

Group 3: Mitigating the environmental impacts of hydropower – Impacts on rivers' flow

Group 4: Mitigating the environmental impacts of hydropower – Impacts on biodiversity

Timing will be as below:

- Introduction and Presentation from an external expert – 5mn
- Discussion with feedback by group members – 30mn
- Wrap up and conclusions/recommendations – 10mn

12:05–12:25 Conclusions from the parallel groups

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