



## 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.

12:25 – 12:30 **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 – Strategic Considerations to Develop Environmentally Friendly Hydropower**

**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**, President, Polish Association for Small Hydropower Development & **Ewa Matek-Laska**, Office Manager, Foundation for Sustainable Energy

**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

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