

ANNUAL REPORT

Brussels

A large-scale industrial gas processing plant at night, featuring numerous tall distillation columns, complex piping, and large storage tanks. The scene is illuminated by artificial lights, creating a blue and white color palette. The image is partially obscured by a white diagonal shape on the left side.

20
22

ABOUT EASEE-GAS

EASEE-gas, the European Association for the Streamlining of Energy Exchange – gas promotes and develops solutions for the simplification and streamlining of the trading and physical transfer of gas.

EASEE-gas was set up in 2002 and currently comprises more than 80 companies active in the European gas market. The association is registered in France (Law of 1901 Registration) and managed in Brussels, Belgium.

MEMBERS ACROSS EUROPE

- Producers
- Transmission System Operators
- Distribution System Operators
- Storage System Operators
- LNG System Operators
- Traders & Shippers
- Suppliers
- End-users
- Prosumers
- Service Provider



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FOREWORD

March 2023

Dear Members,

2022 proved the power of collaboration amongst the gas value chain and what we can achieve together within our association. I will start my foreword by thanking the ones who travelled to Brussels last year to celebrate our 20th Anniversary at the BELvue museum at the heart of Europe. Over the past 20 years we have worked together on a number of solutions that support business processes across the different actors in the gas value chain. The success of EASEE-gas truly depends on the involvement of our members, and the anniversary event was a great example of what we can achieve together now, and in the future.

In 2022, our association met many milestones. Let me start out with the launch of EASEE-connect. The Technology Standards Working Group have worked hard on this launch throughout 2021 and 2022. EASEE-connect has been developed to make the gas market more efficient. By using EASEE-connect, companies can expect to increase efficiency and quality of information, save time, money and avoid mistakes and security risks. I know some of our members have already joined EASEE-connect and I look forward to see more members join in the coming year. EASEE-connect will also be open for non-members in the future.

In February 2022, the Message and Workflow Design Working Group published the latest Edig@s version 6.1 which is the next major step in improving the landscape of harmonised message gas formats across Europe. Furthermore, a new status report on the alignment of the Harmonised Gas Role Model and the Harmonised Electricity Market Role Model was published. The report truly demonstrates the similarities between the mapped roles. I am very happy to see the strong collaboration we have established with the electricity sector and I look forward to more collaborations in the future.

The Gas Quality Harmonization Working Group published a CBP Hydrogen Quality Specification. With the publication of the CBP Hydrogen Quality Specification, the working group made the values available to the market and with the accompanying document they provided the background information on how they came to these values.

Our Working Groups achievements in 2022 are explained in more detail later in this Annual Report.

At a Board level, 2022 was a year where we followed global politics closely. We still do. Our roles within the Board are very clear and we have a strong collaboration with each other. Relationships are key in this challenging world and especially for our sector at this time. I want to personally thank my fellow Board members for the strong cooperation over the past twelve months.

The Board and the Secretariat ensured a smooth transition of our new Secretary General, Nele Devolder. I would like to thank her and the whole Secretariat for good collaboration and ensuring the mission of EASEE-gas is at the core and that our members continue to be as engaged as they have been for the last 21 years.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of EASEE-gas, I thank you for your continued trust and dedication. I look forward to a productive and successful 2023! I am also looking forward to welcoming you in Barcelona for two days of meetings, networking and insightful presentations.

Yours Sincerely,
Michael Sostmann
Chair of the EASEE-gas Board of Director



By Michael Sostmann,
Chair of the EASEE-gas Board of Directors

MEMBERSHIP

On 9th March 2023, EASEE-gas had 66 full members and 16 service provider members

New members that joined EASEE-gas since the GMoM in 2022:

Full members:



Service providers:



Resignations received since the last GMoM:



The full list of members is available on the website: easee-gas.eu/members-list

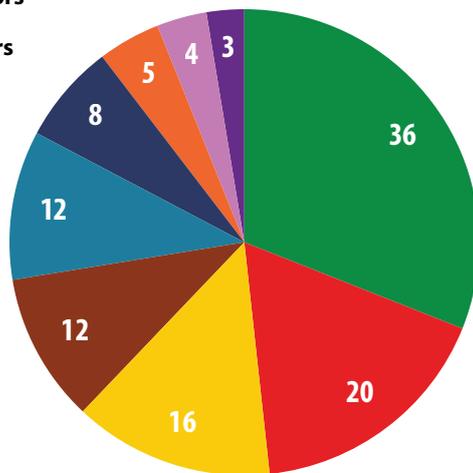
MEMBERSHIP BY CATEGORY

66
FULL MEMBERS

16
SERVICE PROVIDER
MEMBERS



- Producers
- Transmission System Operators
- Distribution System Operators
- Storage System Operators
- LNG System Operators
- Traders & Shippers
- Suppliers
- End-users
- Prosumers
- Service Provider



The EASEE-gas Board encourages members to promote the association and to invite companies in the segments with lower representation to join the association and ensure that their views and concerns are taken into account in the various initiatives of the Working Groups and Board. If you need any promotion material or have questions on how to approach the companies please contact the Secretariat for assistance.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Michael Sostmann
Chairman

Company: **Open Grid Europe**
Gas Industry Segment: **TSO**



Michael Pustlauk
Vice Chairman

Company: **Equinor**
Gas Industry Segment: **Producer**



Guillaume Vens
Treasurer

Company: **GRTgaz**
Gas Industry Segment: **TSO**



Luis Ignacio Parada
Director

Company: **Enagas**
Gas Industry Segment: **LNG SO**



Bart Cornelis
Director

Company: **Eni**
Gas Industry Segment: **Supplier**



Anita Nyvold
Director

Company: **Yara International**
Gas Industry Segment: **End user**

Since April 2022, Gazprom Export has not been an active member of the EASEE-gas Board. It was agreed with Gazprom Export that they would take a temporary standby position with regards to the board seat, board information exchange and decision making until the EASEE-gas GMoM in 2023, which is the end of the term.

The EASEE-gas Board met regularly throughout the year - 6 virtual meetings and 3 in-person were organised in Brussels and Essen.

Overview of Board meetings in 2022

- 25th January 
- 9th March 
- 22nd March 
- 13th April 
- 4th May 
- 5th May 
- 12th July 
- 29th September 
- 23rd November 

 = Virtual  = In person

2022 Activities

-  New Secretary General to EASEE-gas
-  The 20th Anniversary of EASEE-gas
-  The launch of EASEE-connect
-  Oversight over Working Groups and Strategic Plan

COORDINATION COMMITTEE



Board liaison

Bart Cornelis

Company: **Eni**

Gas Industry Segment: **Supplier**



Gas Quality Harmonisation WG

Peter Van Wesenbeeck

Company: **Nederlandse Gasunie**

Gas Industry Segment: **TSO/SSO**



Chair of the
Technology Standards WG

Dirk Serruys

Company: **Fluxys**

Gas Industry Segment:
TSO/SSO/LNG SO



Chair of the
Message & Workflow Design WG
| Gas Role Model Task Force

Oliver Schirok

Company: **VNG Handel & Vertrieb**

Gas Industry Segment: **Trader &
Shipper / Supplier**

The Coordination Committee is a committee connecting the chairs of the Working Groups of EASEE-gas together with one representative from the Board. The WG' secretaries and the chairs of Task Forces are also invited to take part in the meetings when relevant and possible. The committee's main purpose is to ensure a regular and updated information exchange about the activities performed by the Working Groups in relation to the objectives listed in the Strategic Plan of EASEE-gas. The chairs of the Working Groups are also invited to take part in some of the Board meetings to report directly to the Board on the status of the Working Group activities.

The group had three virtual meetings in 2022. Discussions focused on:

- Development of EASEE-connect
- EASEE-gas certificates
- GMoM 2022
- ENTSO-G cooperation agreement
- Hydrogen and how it is handled in the working groups
- CBP on Hydrogen

Participation in the Working Groups is only open to EASEE-gas member companies. If you are a member and want to get involved in one or several Working Groups, please contact the EASEE-gas Secretariat or the chair of the Working Group

WORKING GROUPS

MESSAGE AND WORKFLOW DESIGN WORKING GROUP

The Message and Workflow Design Working Group (MWDWG) was chaired by Oliver Schirok from VNG with the support of Marius Fornæss from Cegal.

2022 Activities:



Publication of Edig@s version 6.1, including the new business processes for System Operation and message examples for all message types



Codelist updates for REMIT requirements from ACER and Hydrogen/new gases requirements from EASEE-gas CBP on Hydrogen



Preparations of REMIT message package update in Edig@s version 5.1 for ACER



A presentation of Edig@s version 6.1 was given at the joint ENTSOG/EASEE-gas/GIE workshop



Intensified the collaboration between EASEE-gas and ENTSOG



Restarted with physical meetings, 5 physical meetings held



Reached a solution note from the FUNC platform regarding Balancing and Settlement



Reached a consensus in the working group about best practices for capacity curtailment

The MWDWG task force activities were:



- Task force for capacity process analysed further requirements
- Task force for Gas Role Model published an interim report on the harmonisation with the electricity sector
- Task force for version 6.1 implementation initiated and planned

WORKING GROUPS

2022 Activities:

GAS QUALITY HARMONISATION WORKING GROUP

The Gas Quality Harmonisation Working Group (GQHWG) is chaired by Peter van Wesenbeeck from Nederlandse Gasunie with the support of the secretary Charlotte Besnier (GRT Gaz). The activities carried out in 2022 were focused on finishing the work on the Common Business Practice “Hydrogen Quality Specification” and starting the work on gas quality



In 2022, we worked on the accompanying document to the CBP “Hydrogen Quality Specification”. Since it is not possible in a CBP to provide extensive background information on the choices made for the various limiting values, it was during the development of the CBP decided by us to draft a separate document in which this information would be made available to the public. This accompanying document was published on July 2022. The contribution of the GQHWG to the plenary meetings of CEN TC234 and the working group meetings.



CEN TC234 WG11 ‘Gas Quality’ continued in 2022 with the revision the reviewing process of the European H-gas standard EN 16726 which amongst other changes, includes the introduction of a Wobbe index range. In the current planning, it is foreseen that the revised standard will become available in 2025. Furthermore, CEN TC234 WG11 continued drafting a Technical Specification for a hydrogen quality specification in repurposed pipelines. For the latter, much of the limit values provided in the EASEE-gas CBP were taken over, although for a few trace components other limit values were chosen and also some additional parameters were added to the specification. It is expected that this CEN Technical Specification, which will be send around this year for the official CEN voting process, becomes available at the end of this year or the beginning of next year.



In recent discussions on gas quality, it is often mentioned that end users of sensitive applications could benefit from information on the actual gas quality to at least partly mitigate the effects of variations in the gas quality. However, it is not clear what kind of information, in which format and at what time scale is needed to facilitate end users to (partly) mitigate the effects of gas quality fluctuations. Since all stakeholders in the gas chain are represented in our working group, in a first step, we started to investigate the end user requirements on gas quality information. In a second step we will identify which stakeholder(s) are able to deliver the necessary information. Depending on the requirements, the set-up and operation of systems to provide the necessary gas quality information incur costs. Therefore, in a later stage, a cost benefit analysis is also planned.

WORKING GROUPS

TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS WORKING GROUP

2022 Activities:

The Technology Standards Working Group (TSWG) is chaired by Dirk Serruys from Fluxys and the secretariat is managed by Wim de Olde from Gasunie. The focus of the work in 2022 was around follow-up of the launch of easee-connect, the preparation of the MoC 2023, the development of a brief on 'cloud endpoints' and the pursuit of the adoption of the AS4 Agreement update and Certificate exchange protocol extension.



At the GMoM 2022 we announced the official launch of the EASEE-connect platform, a new digitalised service for management of exchange profile parameters. Currently 18 EASEE-gas members are active on the platform. We look forward to see more gas companies join EASEE-connect in 2023.



We started preparing the MoC 2023. The migration of certificates is a project we run each 3 years to renew EASEE-gas certificates before the end of their validity period. This is to guarantee the needed level of security requested by the business processes they support. Like last time, the change process will be managed by PSvdL. We are looking forward to work with the members to make it a success again.



A 'brief' was composed on the topic of 'cloud endpoints' for messaging. Moving communication systems to the cloud can give some supplemental challenges in terms of impact it can cause for parties with whom you have operational document exchanges. It could require changes to the security context of these counterparties. This brief aims at giving some contextual elements which can help member organizations in evaluating such move. It focusses on elements that could influence interoperability.



We also continued work in the context of the AS4 Agreement update and Certificate exchange area. We see some companies adopting this protocol extension but are concerned about the speed of implementation. We feel that the need for adhering to this specification is underestimated. We will need to sharpen communication around this theme and continue our work in trying to convince members that security will benefit from implementing this extension.

ADVISORY PANEL

NAME	COMPANY / ASSOCIATION
Doug Wood	EFET
Michael Sostmann	Open Grid Europe (EASEE-gas Chair)
Luis Parada	Enagas (EASEE-gas Board Member)
Boyana Achovski	GIE
Kees Bouwens	IOGP
Manuel Coxe	Marcogaz
Sue Harrison	BEIS (UK)
Victor Bernabeu	Eurogas
Dirk Jan Meuzelaar	USG
Jochen Wagner	IFIEC
Markus Krug	E-Control
Hiltrud Schuelken	CEN TC 234 Secretary
Martin Winkeler	CEN TC 234 Chair
Cyril Harry	Eurelectric
Sonia Clarena Baron	EUTurbines
Annette Jantzen	EUGINE
Constantine Levoyannis	Hydrogen Europe
Hendrik Pollex	ENTSOG
Harmen Dekker	European Biogas Association

In 2020 the role of the Advisory Panel was reviewed and one of the objectives set by the Board was to leverage the Advisory Panel and to turn it into a platform for exchange of information and where possible coordination of action between the major industry associations in the gas sector. Hydrogen Europe, ENTSOG and the European Biogas Association were invited to join the group. In 2022 Luis Ignacio Parada served as acting chair of the group since Raquel Ponte Costa left EASEE-gas/Kellen for a new career opportunity. The group will be meeting in Madrid Thursday 11th May 2023 prior to the 37th Madrid Forum. The European Commission has announced that the Madrid Forum will take place from 11th May 2023 13:00 to 12th May 2023, 17:30 CEST.

COMMUNICATIONS

In 2022 there was an increased focus on the overall EASEE-gas communications efforts. This included communicating the achievements of the working groups both on the website, through LinkedIn and via the newsletter. Furthermore the Board website page was updated with new photos and a new Secretariat sub-page was added to the website. This was designed to make the contact points from EASEE-gas more visible.

Since we have new EASEE-gas members, we updated our EASEE-gas membership map. We have members from across Europe and across the whole value chain and this is important for us to visualise and communicate externally.

SharePoint has also been updated regularly by the secretariat and the members of the three different working groups. Throughout 2022, it was positive to see that this new platform was widely used by our EASEE-gas members.



WEBSITE

Our website traffic has grown by 22.7 % in 2022 compared to 2021. Our peaks on the website are directly linked to new website posts. These posts have been promoted through LinkedIn and the newsletter. We might want to explore updating the visual identity of our website in the coming years. The current website dates back to 2014, which means some of the technology is out of date.



LINKEDIN

LinkedIn is the place to be for associations and companies. LinkedIn is constantly evolving. New features are frequently added and algorithms are often updated. This makes it exciting but also challenging to produce good content for our EASEE-gas LinkedIn channel. It is very important to try and have the target audience in mind when developing content. Despite the fact that EASEE-gas is a network of highly technical people, the language must also be accessible for people outside the gas sector. Looking back at posts from 2022, it is clear that posts with a personal touch and high authenticity performed better than the normal updates. People like people. We will therefore continue the work on LinkedIn and ensure authentic posts with high quality information are more frequently used. In 2023, we will also look into producing videos both for internal and external use.

Our LinkedIn page grew with 78 new followers (measured from 14th March 2022 – 13th March 2023).

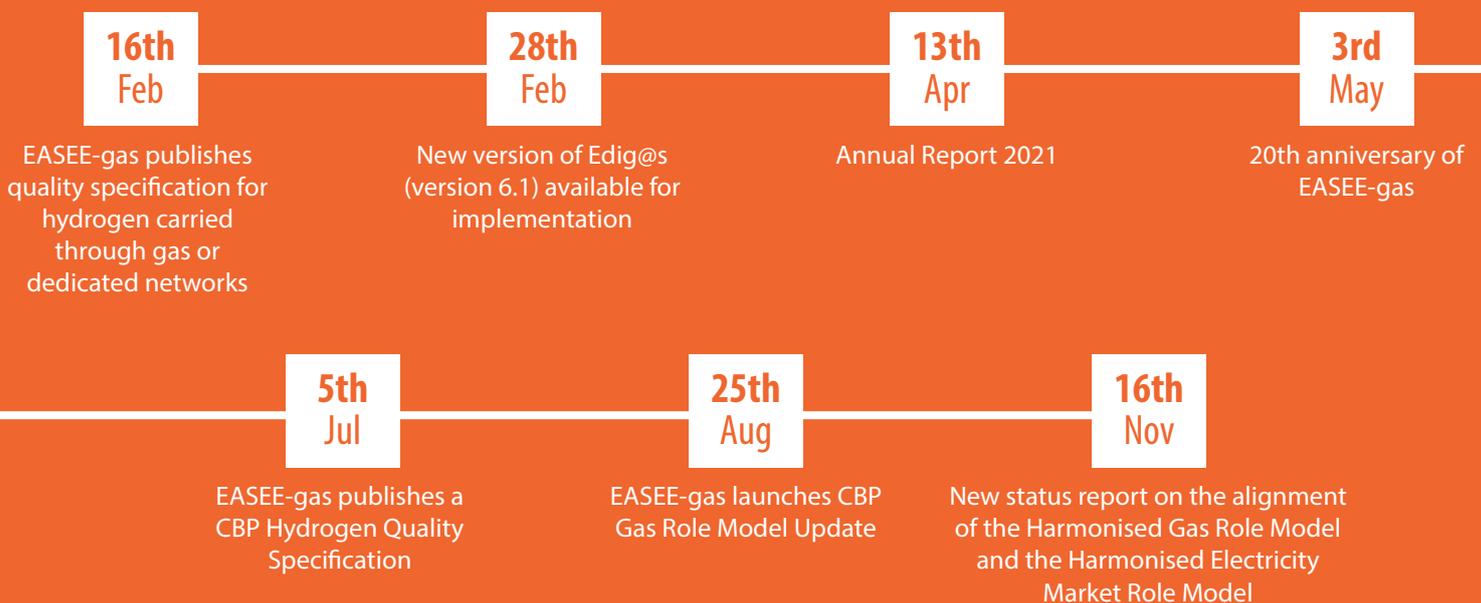
EASEE-gas currently has a total of 453 followers. The efforts will continue on LinkedIn in 2023, and we invite everyone to engage with our content.

COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS & NEWSLETTERS

In 2022, we posted an increased amount of news on the website. This was partially due to the achievements from the working groups. You can read the different news items by clicking on the different titles.

7 news items were published on the website in 2022:



Most of our newsletters focused on the 20th Anniversary of EASEE-gas, the GMoM which took place in Brussels and the achievements of the working groups. The newsletter also shared event information and relevant sector specific surveys.

13 newsletters were sent out in 2022: • Internal newsletters sent: 11 • External newsletters sent: 2

EVENTS

Data exchange & Cyber Security | Annual Workshop by ENTSOG, GIE & EASEE-gas

Together with ENTSOG and GIE, EASEE-gas was co-hosting the annual update on the challenges and opportunities related to Data Exchange and Cyber Security in the energy sector. The event took place on 3rd November 2022. Different experts were presenting on incident management, review of the next AS4 version 4 ENTSOG profile, NIS 1.0-2.0 Directives, edig@s® version 6.1 and real user experience in Data Exchange.

The event presentations are available for download [here](#)

EVENTS

2022 ACTIVITIES

New Secretary General to EASEE-gas

In March 2022 Nele Devolder, Vice President at Kellen took over the role as Secretary General of EASEE-gas. Nele has been working for Kellen for more than 20 years, is specialised in marketing and communications, and has extensive experience in the creation, set-up and management of European and global platforms, trade associations and alliances. Former EASEE-gas Secretary General, Raquel Ponte Costa, left Kellen and EASEE-gas for a new career opportunity. We would like to thank Raquel for her contribution to EASEE-gas throughout the years.

Furthermore, Isabella Beck Jørgensen joined EASEE-gas as the new Communications Manager. Isabella Beck Jørgensen holds a Master of Science (MSc) in Business Administration and Organizational Communication with a specialised focus on digital media and EU communication.

Eva Pelka continues her role as the Senior Assistant of EASEE-gas.



Eva Palka
Senior Assistant



Nele Devolder
Secretary General



Isabella Beck Jørgensen
Communications Manager

The 20th Anniversary of EASEE-gas

We would like to thank everyone that participated in our 20th anniversary event at the BELvue Museum in Brussels. It was great to be together again and to meet friends, old and new. As our chairman Michael Sostmann highlighted, collaboration has been key for EASEE-gas amongst the whole supply chain. Together we can find solutions.

For two decades, members of EASEE-gas have collaborated and worked together towards achieving a number of solutions to support business processes across the different actors in the gas value chain. All the efforts have led to a more streamlined, efficient and secure gas market in Europe.

A small group of companies founded Edigas in 1983 and following its growth and success decided to set up the EASEE-gas association in March 2002 in Paris, France.

Today, EASEE-gas members across Europe represent the complete value chain from producers to end users. The strong collaborative drive from the members is at the core of why EASEE-gas has continued to grow and work towards the vision to simplify the gas market. This has led to the sharing of industry knowledge and best practices.

The anniversary truly reminded us of the power of collaboration and dedication from all members.



The launch of EASEE-connect

EASEE-connect is the solution for the management and secure exchange of digital parameters and identifiers prerequisite for engaging in an AS4/AS2 communication with business partners in the European gas market. EASEE-connect has been developed and launched to make the gas market more efficient for members and non-members of EASEE-gas.

AS4 is a popular standard in the gas market and to implement it correctly a series of parameters must be set up and exchanged by different partners. Gas companies usually collect and maintain this data on their own. The whole process is often manual which can lead to a series of errors whilst being extremely time consuming. By using EASEE-connect, companies can expect to increase efficiency and quality of information, save time, money and avoid mistakes and security risks.



New status report on the alignment of the Harmonised Gas Role Model and the Harmonised Electricity Market Role Model

Since April 2021 representatives of both the European gas sector and the European electricity sector involved in the development and maintenance of the respective role models HEMRM and HGRM have come together in an effort to align both role models.

The European Commission called for a regulatory framework that is designed to create awareness of sector couplings and highlight the similarities between the sectors for an easier implementation. Both sectors recognised the call for a common understanding of actors in the market.

The status report on the alignment prepared by EASEE-gas and the harmonisation group for the electricity market role model (ebIX®, EFET and ENTSO-E), with technical input from ENTSOG is available to read on the EASEE-gas website.

The event presentations are available for download: [here](#)

THE EDDIE PROJECT

BY WOUT VAN VOORVELD,
DATA ARCHITECT

EASEE-Gas has been active in the Smart Grids Task Force since 2017. The taskforce works on procedures for data access and exchange for both electricity and gas, with the task of collecting information and investigating the way towards interoperable practices in the EU. Expert group 1 of this taskforce worked on secondary legislation to establishing the rights to access energy data to customers and share it with eligible parties of their choice. This resulted in a concept Implementation act which currently is in the process of being converted into law.

The European Commission asked the Expert group 1 to participate in a European tender to establish a common ground for a common European energy dataspace under the Horizon Europe Framework Program. The project EDDIE (European Distributed Data Infrastructure for Energy) started in January 2023 and the project will run until December 2025, with 16 official partners from 8 EU Member States. The partners represent a wide variety of actors, from scientific and educational institutions to software developers, and from data-sharing infrastructure operators to energy service companies. Two of the partners represent the gas industry, DEDA, a Greek Distributed System Operator and EASEE-Gas.



[Photo: Wout van Voornveld (left) with Oliver Hödl, project Coordinator from Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT) and Georg Hartner, technical coordinator of Entarc, during the kick-off in Vienna on the 1st of February.]

EDDIE enables new energy data-based services within and beyond the energy sector. The main barrier for such solutions is the lack of large-scale and uniform procedures in the EU. Actors are tied to national practices, which limits their interoperability and growth perspective. These constraints have an industrial, economic and social dimension on a European level and beyond.

As a solution, EDDIE creates a de-centralised, distributed, open-source Data Space. This Infrastructure lowers data integration costs drastically because the resulting EDDIE Framework lets energy service companies work and compete in a common European market.

Being part of this consortium allows EASEE-Gas to stay in tune with the digitalisation developments within the European Union. As the role of (green) hydrogen and bio-gas in the energy transition grows, this is an important step in playing a mature part in the coming decade.

CONTACT

The EASEE-gas office is run by Kellen, an association management company based in Brussels



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Would you like to join EASEE-gas or do you have questions? Please contact the Secretariat directly via the email below.

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