



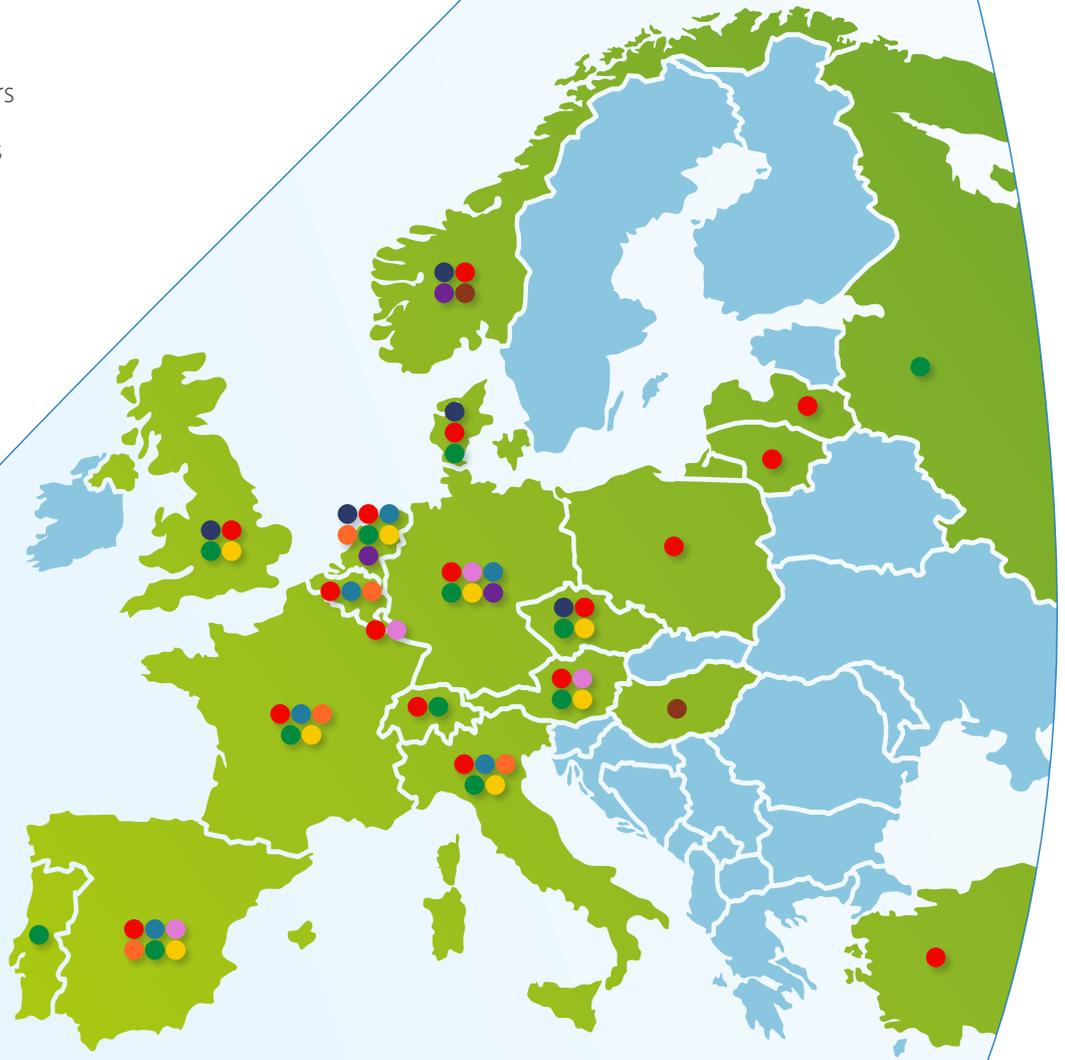
ANNUAL REPORT • 2023

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).

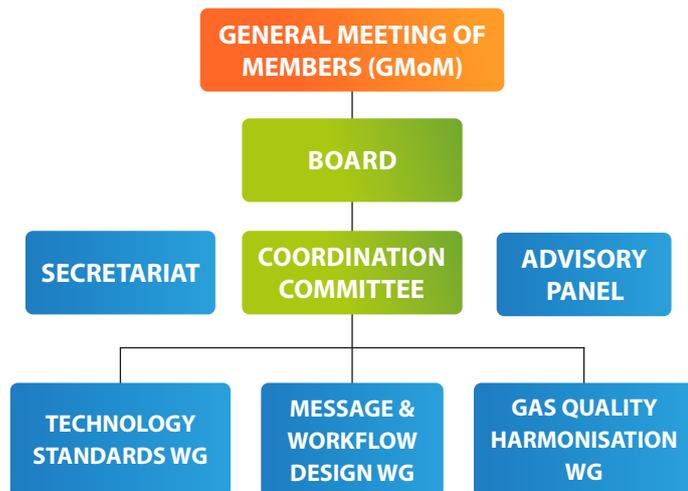
- Producers
- Transmission System Operators
- Distribution System Operators
- Storage System Operators
- LNG System Operators
- Traders & Shippers
- Suppliers
- End-users
- Prosumers
- Service Providers

Cover image (right) : Enagás



About EASEE-gas (continued)

Organisation chart



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European Union Transparency Register:
807289724401-47

The Secretariat

The EASEE-gas Secretariat is run by Kellen, an association management company. The Secretariat is composed of:



Nele Devolder
General Manager



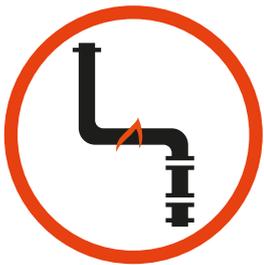
Eva Palka
Senior Assistant



Isabella Beck Jørgensen
Senior Communications
Manager

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Foreword – Michael Sostmann, Chair

Dear EASEE-gas members,

I am honoured for your trust and the re-election as the Chair of EASEE-gas. Together with the Board, I will continue to take EASEE-gas to the next level and ensure value to our members and the European gas sector.



Looking back at 2023, I enjoyed meeting many of you in Barcelona where our yearly General Meeting of Members, better known as the GMoM, took place. It was three days of constructive working group meetings, Board meetings, and great opportunities to network with old and new colleagues from the gas sector.

// GMoM was three days of constructive working group meetings, Board meetings, and great opportunities to network with old and new colleagues from the gas sector. **//**

In October 2023, ENTSOG and EASEE-gas signed a collaboration agreement. The collaboration agreement will ensure the continued maintenance and development of Edig@s® XML for the next five years and beyond. The updated collaboration agreement creates value to Edig@s® XML by giving the gas community the knowledge that their investment in the messaging guides is secure and they can comply with the EU INT Network Code and Regulation. This was a great milestone for EASEE-gas.

EASEE-gas was also present at this year's Madrid Forum where our yearly Advisory Panel took place. It is key for EASEE-gas to connect with stakeholders and ensure collaboration, especially amongst other gas associations. We will continue to prioritise this in the coming years. I would like to thank Luis Ignacio Parada, chairing this Advisory Panel for his dedication to the Advisory Panel alongside his work as Board member.

One of the main energy sources for the existence of EASEE-gas, is our working groups. The Chairs, Oliver Schirok, Dirk Serruys, and Peter van Wesenbeeck have done phenomenal work ensuring that members get the opportunity to get involved in our constantly changing energy system whilst gaining knowledge on key topics.

EASEE-connect is one of the great results of the work of our working groups. EASEE-connect is the digital platform for the creation and management of AS4 and AS2 profiles. EASEE-connect ensures that setting up a data exchange connection with partners brings cost and time savings. EASEE-gas will roll out a promotional campaign in 2024 to ensure more registrations from both members and non-members. EASEE-connect can make a significant difference and we now need more gas companies on board to make the difference, so I highly recommend you to register.

// EASEE-connect is one of the great results of the work of our working groups. It ensures that setting up a data exchange connection with partners brings cost and time savings. **//**

I would like to thank my fellow Board members for the great collaboration. Michael Pustlauk has informed the Board that

he has been given new responsibilities within Equinor and will therefore no longer be Vice Chair and Board member as of March 2024. Michael has done an outstanding job, and I am happy to have Equinor as a continued dedicated member.

I would also like to thank the EASEE-gas Secretariat for their professionalism and dedication towards EASEE-gas. EASEE-gas has come a long way since 2002, and with more than 80 members across Europe, we are making a difference in streamlining and simplifying the trading and physical transfer of gas. Let's continue the collaboration and please take the

opportunity to let us know what you want to get out of your membership or which areas we should focus more on.

On behalf of the EASEE-gas Board of Directors, I thank you for your trust and dedication. We are looking forward to 2024 and to seeing many of you in Nice for an exciting GMoM.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Sostmann, Open Grid Europe
Chair of the EASEE-gas Board of Directors

Foreword – Nele Devolder, General Manager

Dear EASEE-gas members,

Since 2022 I have had the pleasure of being the General Manager of EASEE-gas. The association was created in 2002, so it makes it even more unique to enter an association with such a strong foundation and membership commitment.



A successful association is built on three pillars, a strong board, a well-functioning secretariat and an engaged membership. EASEE-gas ticks all of these boxes and the work carried out by the working groups plays a significant role in that. I would like to thank our Working Group Chairs for their dedication and hard work and the Board for their strategic approach and commitment. I would also like to congratulate Michael Sostmann on his re-election as Chair at the GMoM in Barcelona in 2023. Michael Sostmann has done a remarkable job and contributed to the growth of EASEE-gas. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Michael Pustlauk, who steps down from the board at the GMoM in March, for his valuable

contribution and continued support and guidance over the past years. At EASEE-gas, we have members from across Europe representing 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 simplifying the gas market. At their yearly strategy meeting in January 2024, the Board developed a vision for EASEE-gas and approved a revised mission and objectives to ensure that EASEE-gas is future-proof and ready to adapt to the developments in the sector. Our main priority will continue to be working towards streamlining the exchange of gas.

I hope you will enjoy reading about our activities from the past year. I truly look forward to meeting many of you in Nice for our yearly GMoM, which is taking place from 20–22nd March 2024.

I encourage you to contact us if you have any ideas for events, or initiatives or if you have feedback in general. We are here to help you and ensure that our association reaches new heights and continues to create value for its members.

Kind regards,

Nele Devolder
General Manager

Membership

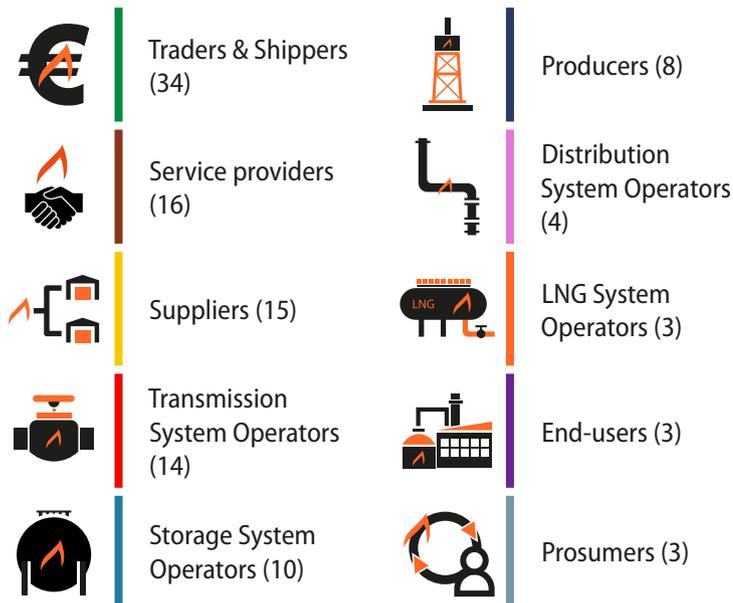
On 9th March 2023, EASEE-gas had 69 full members and 16 service provider members

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.

Resignations:

- Navitasoft, Service provider, Hungary
- edp, Full Member, Trader & Shipper, Portugal

Membership by category



New full members:

EnBW Energie Baden-Wuerttemberg AG
Trader & Shipper, Germany



STORENGY
Trader & Shipper, France



EBN N.V.
Trader & Shipper, Netherlands

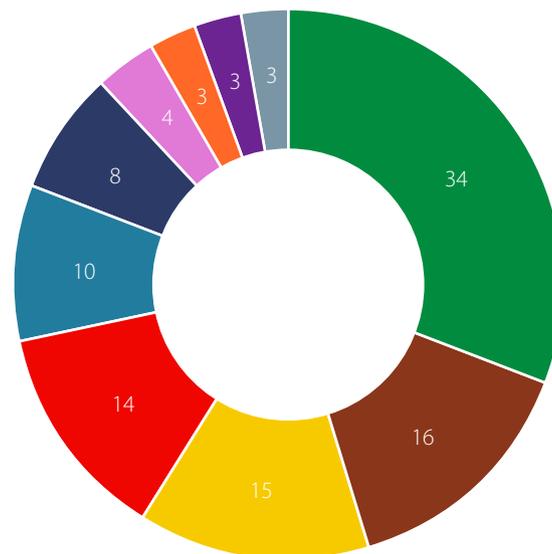


Dortmunder Energie- und Wasserversorgung GmbH. Supplier, Germany



New service provider member:

EXXETA



Board of Directors



**Michael Sostmann,
Open Grid Europe**

Chair of EASEE-gas representing the
Transport System Operator segment



Guillaume Vens, GRTgaz

Treasurer of EASEE-gas Board,
representing the Transmission
System Operator segment



Michael Pustlauk, Equinor

Vice-Chair of EASEE-gas representing
the Producer or Production
Facility Operator segment



Bart Cornelis, Eni

Board Member, representing
the Supplier segment



Anita Nyvold, Yara International

Board Member & Secretary,
representing the End-user or
Final Customer segment



Luis Ignacio Parada, Enágas

Board member representing the
LNG System Operator segment

The EASEE-gas Board met regularly throughout the year – 3 virtual meetings and 4 in-person ones were organised in Barcelona and Brussels.

Board meetings

- Tuesday 24th January 2023 – Virtual
- Friday 10th February 2023 – Virtual
- Thursday 23rd March 2023 – In person in Barcelona
- Friday 24th March 2023 – In person in Barcelona
- Tuesday 6th June 2023 – In person in Brussels
- Thursday 5th October 2023 – Virtual
- Thursday 30 November – Hybrid in Brussels

Activities

- GMoM 2023 in Barcelona
- Michael Sostmann re-elected as Chair
- An updated collaboration agreement between ENTSOG and EASEE-gas creates value for Edig@s[®] XML
- Madrid Forum 2023
- New publication: Cloud endpoints for communication
- EASEE-connect launch for non-members



Coordination committee

Members



Bart Cornelis
Board liaison
Company: Eni



Peter van Wesenbeeck
Chair of the Gas Quality
Harmonisation Working Group
Company: Nederlandse Gasunie



Dirk Serruys
Chair of the technology
Standards Working Group
Company: Fluxys



Oliver Schirok
Chair of the Message &
Workflow Design WG & Gas
Role Model Task Force
Company: VNG Handel & Vertrieb

Gas Industry Segment:
Supplier



Gas Industry Segment:
TSO, SSO



Gas Industry Segment:
TSO, SSO, LNG SO



Gas Industry Segment:
Trader & Shipper, Supplier



About

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.

Participation

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.

The group had 3 virtual meetings in 2023 and the discussions focused on:

- EASEE-connect release and promotion
- Edig@s 6.1 release
- ENTSOG cooperation agreement signed
- EASEE-gas certificates renewal
- Finalisation and release of CBP on Hydrogen



Message and Workflow Design Working Group

The Message and Workflow Design Working Group analyses business requirements and transcribes them into message content/application definitions, including modifications and enhancements of the existing Edig@s messages. The working group is Chaired by Oliver Schirok from VNG Handel & Vertrieb GmbH.



2023 achievements:

- Maintenance of version 6.1
- Implementation task force created
- Codelist and message implementation guideline updates
- EASEE-gas CBP updates for constraints and Edig@s “protocol”
- ENTSOG collaboration agreement signed
- Analysed market rules for capacity booking (over-nomination, UIOLI)
- A presentation of Edig@s version 6.1 was given at the joint data exchange and cybersecurity workshop
- Discussions on future hydrogen market design

What we want to achieve in 2024 and beyond:

1. Edig@s promotion & awareness

- Workshop with SSO's
- Engage with TSO's connected to existing Edig@s market
- Balancing process



2. Monitor the development of new gas markets

- Hydrogen network
- CO2
- Future market design

3. Review proposed network code changes

- CAM/CMP
- NC INT

4. Maintenance of version 6.1

5. Feasibility analysis for data exchange using API's

- Identify possible business scenarios
- Analyse existing technologies

6. Joint workshop with TSWG in conjunction with GMOM

- How to handle the current misuse of AS4
- Agreement reference roadmap/process
- German AS4 and ENTSOG version 4



Gas Quality Harmonisation Working Group

The Gas Quality Harmonisation Working Group (GQHWG) is chaired by Peter van Wesenbeeck from Nederlandse Gasunie. The activities carried out in 2023 were focused on compiling the Common Business Practice “Hydrogen Units” and formulating a questionnaire to inventory the requirements regarding gas quality information of industrial end user applications to cope with gas quality fluctuations.



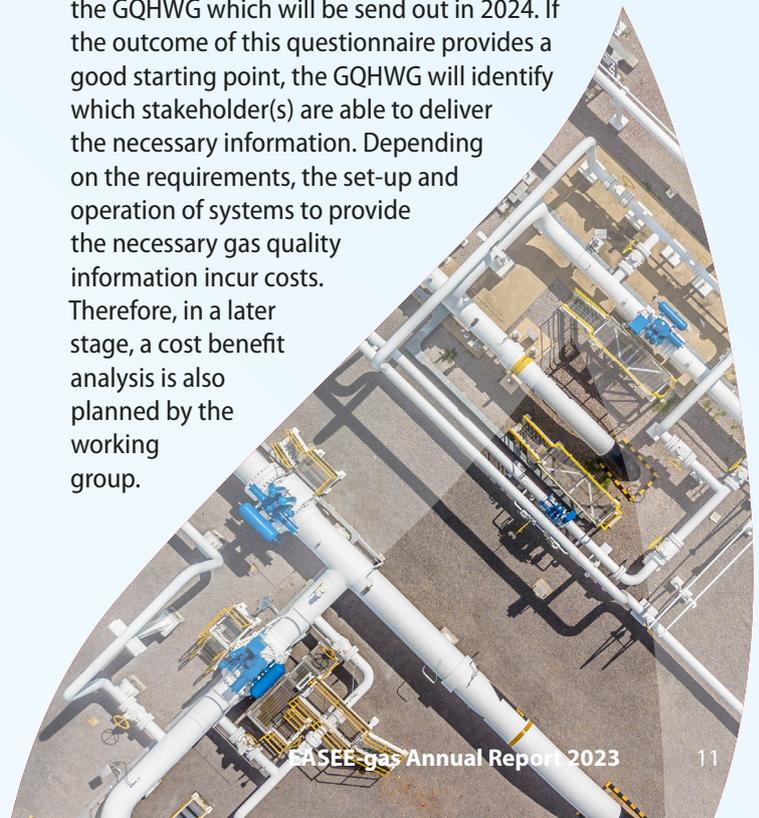
the introduction of a Wobbe index range. On 21 December 2023 the prEN 16726 was published and sent around for enquiry. This enquiry phase will end on 14 March 2024. It is foreseen that the revised standard will become available in 2025. In November 2023 the CEN Technical Specification TS 17977 “Gas infrastructure – Quality of gas – Hydrogen used in rededicated gas systems” was published. The information compiled in previous years by the GQHWG and provided in de CBP “Hydrogen Quality Specification” and the accompanying document was used during the drafting of this Technical Specification.

- To investigate the possibilities for end users of sensitive applications to benefit from information on the actual gas quality to at least partly mitigate the effects of variations in the gas quality, a questionnaire was prepared by the GQHWG which will be send out in 2024. If the outcome of this questionnaire provides a good starting point, the GQHWG 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 by the working group.

One of the strengths of the GQHWG is that almost all stakeholders involved in the gas value chain are present in our working group and therefore the GQHWG can focus on deriving solutions based on consensus. The GQHWG is a small group and new members are more than welcome to join. If you are interested in being more involved in gas quality issues there is still a vacancy for the position to become our Secretary.

2023 Activities:

- In 2023, the GQHWG worked on a new Common Business Practice “Hydrogen Units”. This CBP defines the units to be used in the market processes contracting, nomination, balancing, and allocation for hydrogen. In the CBP it is advised to take only the energy content of the hydrogen molecules present in the gas into consideration which means that the energy content of all other components is not taken into account.
- CEN TC234 WG11 ‘Gas Quality’ continued in 2023 with the revision of the reviewing process of the European H-gas standard EN 16726 which amongst other changes, includes



Gas Quality Harmonisation Working Group: planned activities 2024

The following activities are planned for 2024:

- Continue to inform and exchange information/knowledge with CEN, ENTSOG and Marcogaz

- To continue the investigation the possibilities for end users of sensitive applications to benefit from information on the actual gas quality to at least partly mitigate the effects of variations in the gas quality

- Review the new insights in the achievable hydrogen quality in repurposed pipelines. These new insights were introduced in the DNV/KIWA study carried out under the auspices of Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy. This study presented the value of 99,5 mol-% as the optimum minimum hydrogen concentration for the Netherlands resulting from a total cost optimisation approach. The GQHWG proposes to investigate with the help of DNV/KIWA the optimum minimum hydrogen concentration for Europe as a whole. In case the minimum value of 99,5 mol-% H₂ is also found to be the optimum value for Europe as a whole, work together with Marcogaz on a hydrogen specification that fulfils this requirement.

Invitation to participate in a Working Group

Participation in the Working Groups is 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.

Our Working Groups' achievements highly depend on the member's participation! We are always looking for new members and growing our working groups.

If you think a specific working group is missing, please get in touch with the Secretariat so we can get the right people involved.





Technology Standards Working Group

This group develops and supports communication standards for the exchange of gas business information between the various market players. The group is chaired by Dirk Serruys, Fluxys.



2023 activities

- The MoC 2023 successfully managed
- The number of registrations on EASEE-connect has risen but not to the level we were expecting

EASEE-connect

- We are closely monitoring the evolution of version 4 of the ENSO-g A profile
- Joint workshop with ENTSO-g 2023

Planned activities for 2024

- Managing a technological change on the security certificate platform
- Pursuing the implementation of the Agreement update and certificate exchange specification + solve the puzzle of handling certificate updates in the future (with or without MoC)
- Monitoring the evolution of EASEE-connect
- Cooperate to the joint workshop with ENTSO-g 2024



The Advisory Panel

In 2020 the role of the Advisory Panel was reviewed. One of the objectives set by the Board was to leverage the Advisory Panel and to turn it into a platform for the exchange of information and ensure coordination of actions between the major industry associations in the gas sector. Hydrogen Europe, ENTSOG and the European Biogas Association were invited to join the group. In 2023 Luis Ignacio Parada was elected as Chair of the Advisory Panel. In 2023 the Advisory Panel took place at Enagás.



- Gas quality in the energy transition, in the context of the incorporation of renewable and low-carbon gases
- New developments in the LNG markets and the future usage of LNG terminals

“Connecting with stakeholders is key and collaboration must be a top priority for everyone if we want to develop responsible solutions for the future.” – Stated Luis Ignacio Parada.

The Advisory Panel will be meeting in Madrid on Thursday 25th April 2024 before the 38th Madrid Forum. The European Commission has announced that the Madrid Forum will take place from Thursday 25 April 2024, 13:00 – Friday 26 April 2024, 17:30 (CEST).

At the Madrid Forum Luis Ignacio Parada was present and participated in the discussions on behalf of EASEE-gas and our members. During the Forum, Luis Ignacio Parada highlighted the contribution made by EASEE-gas to the development of the hydrogen market through the Common Business Practice of Hydrogen Quality Specification for dedicated hydrogen pipelines.

The main conclusions from the Madrid Forum are available and focus on:

- The implementation and future challenges of gas network codes
- Scaling up the EU hydrogen market: the development of technical standards for hydrogen
- The decarbonation of the natural gas system

Members

Energy Traders Europe	Eurelectric
IOGP	Eugine
Eurogas	EUTurbines
USG	GIE
IFIEC	Marcogaz
E-Control	ENTSOG
CEN TC 234 Secretariat	Hydrogen Europe
CEN TC 234 Chair	European Biogas Association



Communications

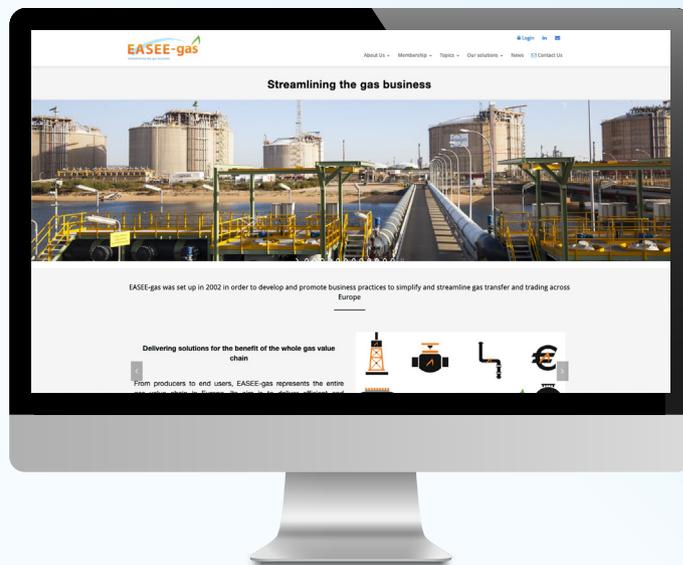
In 2023 there was a continued focus on the overall EASEE-gas communications efforts. This included communicating the achievements of the working groups both on the website, through LinkedIn, and via the newsletter. Furthermore, the Board decided to launch a campaign focusing on promoting EASEE-connect to ensure more registrations throughout 2023. The campaign will be rolled out in Q1 of 2024 and evaluated in Q3.

// In 2023 there was a continued focus on the overall EASEE-gas communications efforts. This included communicating the achievements of the working groups. //

SharePoint has also been updated regularly by the secretariat and the members of the three different working groups. If you don't have access yet, please get in touch with the secretariat.

Website

We ensured that our website was migrated from Universal Analytics to Google Analytics 4. The current website dates to back 2014, which means some of the features are out of date. It has been decided not to invest in a new website in 2024, but to continue to work and optimise the current pages since the current website still serves its purposes. In the future, we will investigate a new website that is more friendly when visiting from the mobile.



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. Even though EASEE-gas is a network of highly technical people, the language must also be accessible to people outside the gas sector. Looking back at posts from 2023, 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 2024, we will also be producing more videos to ensure we communicate the benefits of an EASEE-gas membership and explain the current topics we cover within our working groups.

Our LinkedIn grew with 79 new followers (measured from 7 March 2023 to 5 March 2024).

EASEE-gas currently has a total of 527 followers. The efforts will continue on LinkedIn in 2024, and we invite everyone to engage with our content, follow, like and share.

News & Newsletters

In 2023, we published five articles on the website. The articles focused on the updated collaboration agreement between ENTSOG and EASEE-gas creates value for Edig@s[®] XML, Madrid Forum, the new publication on endpoints for communication, the GMoM and EASEE-connect.

A total of 8 newsletters were sent out in 2023. Please get in touch with the Secretariat if you or your colleagues would like to be included in the list for the EASEE-gas newsletter or have exciting news relevant to the EASEE-gas membership that should be featured.



From left, Douglas Hill, ENTSOG ITC Chair, Hendrik Pollex, Director, System Operation at ENTSOG, Michael Sostmann Chair of EASEE-gas & Oliver Schirok, Chair of the Message and Workflow Design Working Group



Isabella Beck Jørgensen oversees the EASEE-gas internal and external communications. Please get in touch with Isabella if you have any suggestions or ideas for events or news items for 2024!

Events

GMoM 2023

The biggest yearly event for EASEE-gas is our General Meeting of Members, better known as the GMoM. In 2023, the GMoM took place in Barcelona at Hotel Condes de Barcelona from 22 – 24th March. The event was a great success, and we were happy to welcome more than 50 EASEE-gas members from across Europe.

// The 2024 GMoM will take place in Nice, France from 20–22nd March 2024. //

We invited two external speakers, Maryna Hritsyshyna, Senior Manager Regulatory Affairs at Hydrogenious LOHC who gave an insightful presentation focusing on the EU regulation of hydrogen supply chain. Wout van Voornveld, Data Architect at Gasunie presented The EDDIE Project that EASEE-gas is a part of. Wout had titled his presentation “Europe: smart grids, energy data space and Hydrogen Village: a look into the future”. A very insightful presentation reminding us of the importance of collaborating with the electricity sector as well.



Third Workshop on Data Exchange and Cybersecurity in the Energy Sector

Together with ENTSOG and GIE, we hosted the third hybrid workshop that took place on 17 and 18 October at the GIE and ENTSOG offices. The workshop focused on the latest updates, opportunities and challenges related to Data Exchange and Cybersecurity in the energy sector. We invited experts from the European Commission and the gas and electricity sector to present how the landscape of cyber-attacks has evolved rapidly over the past years and what gas companies can do to prevent attacks.

We look forward to hosting another workshop with GIE & ENTSOG in 2024.



Project EDDIE: One year on

Project EDDIE (*European Distributed Data Infrastructure for Energy*) is now in its second year, having started in January 2023. Project EDDIE builds a European Data space for Energy with EASEE-gas being one of 16 official partners. This initiative is funded by the European Union as part of the Horizon project (2021–2027).



Part of the EDDIE scope is based on the Implementing Regulation for access to metering and consumption data C(2023)3477 which is published in June 2023. This legal document empowers consumers to download and share their metering and consumption data free of charge.

Furthermore, the scope is extended to synchronise with the next generation implementing acts of supplier switching and demand side flexibility. These regulations target the final consumer (including industrial ones) to be able to become energy consumption aware and play an active role in congestion management. With the Network Code and Implementing Acts for demand side flexibility still in progress, Project EDDIE is running ahead of the game in designing for these future developments.

Finally, Project EDDIE addresses intersectorial challenges in one of the project's demonstrators, Hydrogen Village in Greece. As a preparation for the data exchange part of the demonstrator, project EDDIE has successfully demanded a maintenance request to extend the energy data standard CIM to be able to model hydrogen fuel cells and hydrogen hot water boilers.

Where other EU funded projects tend to focus on conceptualising, Project EDDIE has started working on implementation solutions from day one. In the past year we have successfully connected Austria, France, Spain and

Denmark with more to follow this year. Additionally, the development team is progressing on an Administrative Interface for In-house Data Access (AIIDA) which ensures secure and reliable access to valuable real-time data based on customer consent.

Project EDDIE made a successful appearance in the European Projects section of the ENLIT conference in Paris this year. Our booth was a hub of activity, where we had the chance to present our cutting-edge solutions, products, and services. The positive feedback and interactions with attendees reaffirmed the value of our contributions to the industry, and we are grateful for the opportunity to connect with so many passionate individuals.

To ensure that our objectives and deliverables stay aligned with the initiative's stakeholders' requirements and needs at a broader scale, Project EDDIE features two official and open engagement platforms – a Best Practices Round-Table for Data-Sharing Infrastructure Operators and a Best Practices Round-Table for Data-Driven Services

EASEE-gas also lectured on energy data standards at the University of Vienna to a group of Computer Science students working on a semester project dealing with Project EDDIE related challenges. A fine example of education meeting research.

Wout van Voornveld
Data Architect





Contact

The EASEE-gas is run by Kellen, an association management company.

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

 easee-gas@kellencompany.com

 easee-gas.eu

 [EASEE-gas](https://www.linkedin.com/company/easee-gas)

