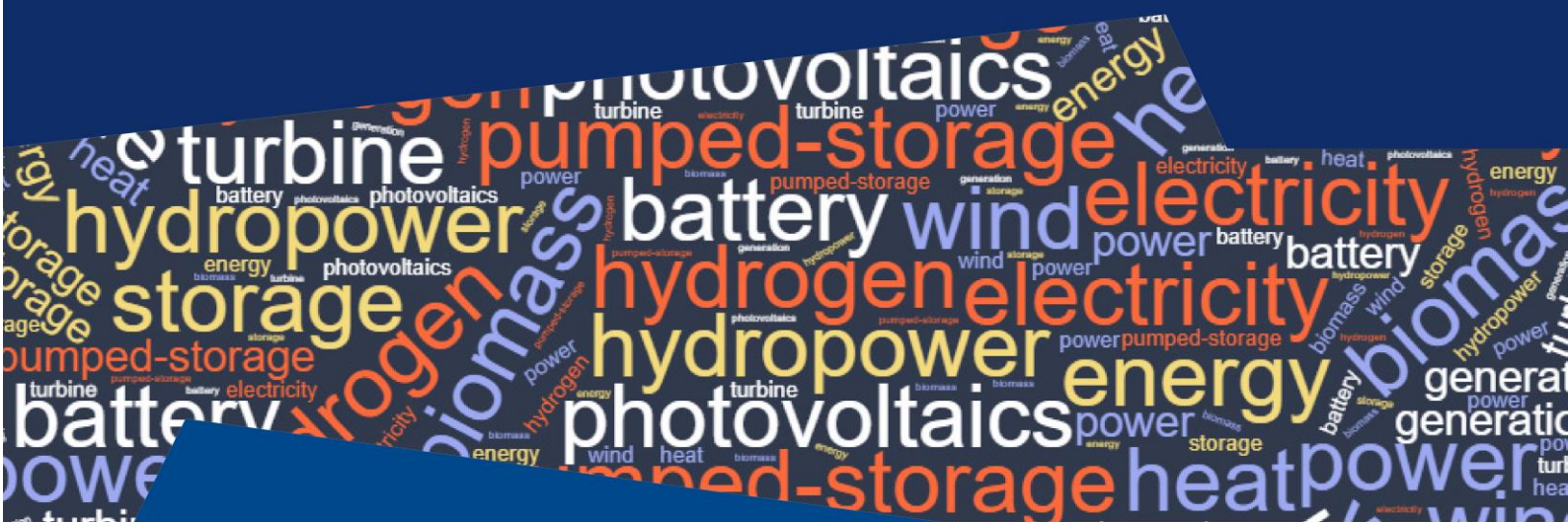


Technical Programme | Technisches Programm

Implementing the EU Taxonomy in the Energy Industry: Part I - the Climate Delegated Act

Umsetzung der EU-Taxonomie in der Energieindustrie: Teil 1 – der delegierte Klimarechtsakt



"As policymakers and the private sector hone in on climate finance we need a shared language and set of metrics. This doesn't just apply to green bonds – this market is a litmus test for wider climate finance."

Aldo Romani,
Deputy head of Euro funding at the European Investment Bank



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* vgbe energy is VGB PowerTech's new brand identity.

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* vgbe energy ist der neue Markenauftritt des VGB PowerTech.

Implementing the EU Taxonomy in the Energy Industry: Part I – the Climate Delegated Act

1. Background

The EU Taxonomy Regulation is a classification system, establishing a list of environmentally sustainable economic activities. It aims at helping the EU scale up sustainable investment and implement the European Green Deal. The EU Taxonomy Regulation provides definitions and criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities and simultaneously, introduces new reporting duties to companies. By this, it will create security for investors, protect private investors from greenwashing, help companies to become more climate-friendly and help shift investments where they are needed the most. Optimization

The EU Taxonomy Regulation (2020/852) was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 22 June 2020 and entered into force on 12 July 2020. It sets out 4 overarching conditions that an economic activity has to meet in order to qualify as environmentally sustainable, i. e. the activity:

- i) contributes substantially to one or more of the environmental objectives (climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, transition to a circular economy, pollution prevention

Umsetzung der EU-Taxonomie in der Energieindustrie: Teil 1 – der delegierte Klimarechtsakt

1. Hintergrund

Die EU-Taxonomie Verordnung ist ein Klassifizierungssystem, das eine Liste umweltverträglicher Wirtschaftstätigkeiten erstellt. Die Verordnung zielt darauf ab, die EU bei der Ausweitung nachhaltiger Investitionen und der Umsetzung des europäischen Green Deals zu unterstützen. Die EU-Taxonomie Verordnung liefert Definitionen und Kriterien für ökologisch nachhaltige Wirtschaftsaktivitäten und führt zugleich auch neue Reportingpflichten für Unternehmen ein. Auf diese Weise wird sie Sicherheit für Investoren schaffen, private Anleger vor Greenwashing schützen, Unternehmen dabei helfen, klimafreundlicher zu werden und dazu beitragen, Investitionen dorthin zu lenken, wo sie am dringendsten benötigt werden.

Die EU-Taxonomie-Verordnung (2020/852) wurde am 22. Juni 2020 im Amtsblatt der Europäischen Union veröffentlicht und ist am 12. Juli 2020 in Kraft getreten. Sie legt vier übergeordnete Bedingungen fest, die eine Wirtschaftstätigkeit erfüllen muss, um als ökologisch nachhaltig zu gelten:

- i) wesentlicher Beitrag zur Verwirklichung eines oder mehrerer Umweltziele (Klimawandelvermeidung, Anpassung an den Klimawandel, nachhaltige Nutzung und der Schutz von Wasser- und Meeresressourcen,

and control, protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems);

- ii) does not significantly harm any of the environmental objectives set out above;
- iii) is carried out in compliance with minimum safeguards; and
- iv) complies with technical screening criteria that have been established by the Commission via the delegated acts.

Under the Taxonomy Regulation, the Commission has to come up with the actual list of environmentally sustainable activities by defining technical screening criteria for each environmental objective through delegated acts.

A first Delegated Act (Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2139 of 4 June 2021) on sustainable activities for climate change adaptation and mitigation objectives ("Climate Delegated Act") applies from 1 January 2022. A second Delegated Act for the remaining environmental objectives will be published in 2022.

The publication of the first Delegated Act was accompanied by the adoption of a Commission Communication on "EU taxonomy, corporate sustainability reporting, sustainability preferences and fiduciary duties: Directing finance towards the European green deal" as well as a Delegated Act supplementing Article 8 of the Taxonomy Regulation, specifying the content, methodology and presentation of information to

Übergang zu einer Kreislaufwirtschaft, Vermeidung und Bekämpfung von Umweltverschmutzung, Schutz und Wiederherstellung der biologischen Vielfalt und der Ökosysteme);

- ii) keine erheblichen Beeinträchtigungen eines oder mehrerer der (oberhalb) genannten Umweltziele;
- iii) Ausübung unter Einhaltung des festgelegten (sozialen) Mindestschutzes; und
- iv) Einhaltung der technischen Bewertungskriterien, die die Kommission mittels delegierter Rechtsakte festlegt.

Basierend auf der entsprechenden Ermächtigung durch die EU-Taxonomie Verordnung muss die Kommission die tatsächliche Liste umweltverträglicher Tätigkeiten erstellen, indem sie über delegierte Rechtsakte technische Kriterien für jedes Umweltziel festlegt.

Ein erster delegierter Rechtsakt (Delegierte Verordnung der EU Kommission (EU) 2021/2139 vom 4. Juni 2021) ist ab 1. Januar 2022 anwendbar. Dieser sog. „delegierte Klimarechtsakt“ schreibt die Kriterien für ökologisch nachhaltige Aktivitäten im Bereich Anpassung an den Klimawandel und Klimaschutz fest. Ein zweiter delegierter Rechtsakt für die verbleibenden Umweltziele wird 2022 veröffentlicht.

Die Veröffentlichung des ersten delegierten Rechtsakts ging mit der Annahme einer Mitteilung der Kommission zum Thema „EU-Taxonomie, Nachhaltigkeitsberichterstattung von Unternehmen, Nachhaltigkeitspräferenzen und treuhänderische Pflichten: Ausrichtung der Finanzierung auf den europäischen Green Deal“ sowie eines delegierten Rechtsakts zur Ergänzung von

be disclosed by financial and non-financial undertakings.

Since the EU Taxonomy is dynamic, constant changes, i. e. specifications and extensions are expected.

2. Challenges

The EU Taxonomy applies to financial institutions as well as to non-financial companies that already have to submit a non-financial statement under the Non-Financial Reporting Directive, NFRD (2014/95/EU). Especially the Energy Industry is confronted with various challenges when implementing the EU Taxonomy Regulation:

- **Meeting the regulations**
To comply with the new non-financial reporting obligations, companies are required to invest in transforming data, operational and reporting systems.
- **New regulatory standards**
Significant effort will be required to understand, apply and implement the new standards and produce the data required by the EU Taxonomy and the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR).
- **No off-the-shelf solution**
No automated, systematic solution exists to perform taxonomy screening in

Artikel 8 der Taxonomie-Verordnung einher, wobei durch diesen Rechtsakt Inhalt, Methodik und Darstellung der von Finanz- und Nichtfinanzunternehmen offenzulegenden Informationen festgelegt werden.

Da die EU-Taxonomie dynamisch ist, werden laufend Spezifizierungen und Ausdehnungen erwartet.

2. Herausforderungen

Die EU-Taxonomie betrifft Finanzinstitutionen sowie nichtfinanzielle Unternehmen, die auch bereits eine nichtfinanzielle Erklärung nach der Non-Financial Reporting Directive, NFRD (2014/95/EU) erstellen müssen. Besonders die Energieindustrie ist jedoch bei der Umsetzung der EU-Taxonomie Verordnung mit verschiedenen Herausforderungen konfrontiert:

- **Erfüllung der Vorschriften**
Um die neuen nichtfinanziellen Berichtspflichten zu erfüllen, sind Unternehmen gefordert, in die Umstellung von Daten, Betriebs- und Berichterstattungssystemen zu investieren.
- **Neue Regulierungsstandards**
Um die neuen Standards zu verstehen, anzuwenden und umzusetzen und die von der Taxonomie und EU-Verordnung über nachhaltigkeitsbezogene Offenlegungspflichten im Finanzdienstleistungssektor (Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation, SFDR) geforderten Daten zu erstellen, wird ein erheblicher Aufwand notwendig sein.
- **Keine Lösung von der Stange**
Es existiert keine automatisierte, systematische Lösung, um das

companies. Each company and economic activity must ultimately be considered as an individual case.

- **Lack of time**

Companies often do not have the time or human capacity to perform the screening of the own economic activities, discuss, interpret and document the data required by the EU Taxonomy.

- **Lack of experiences**

Sustainability experts with knowledge of the EU Taxonomy are scarce and costly, so it is advisable to tackle issues together.

Taxonomie-Screening in Unternehmen durchzuführen. Jedes Unternehmen mit ihren Wirtschaftsaktivitäten ist letztendlich als Einzelfall zu betrachten.

- **Mangel an Zeit**

Unternehmen haben oftmals weder die Zeit noch die personellen Kapazitäten, um das Taxonomie-Screening durchzuführen und die von der Taxonomie geforderten granularen Daten zu erstellen.

- **Fehlende Expertise**

Nachhaltigkeitsexperten mit Kenntnissen der EU-Taxonomie sind rar und kostspielig, daher empfiehlt es sich, gemeinsam die Herausforderungen zu bewältigen.

3. Programme

3.1. Objective

The aim of vgbe energy's technical programme "Implementing the EU Taxonomy in the Energy Industry: Part I - the Climate Delegated Act" is to support the energy industry (utilities, manufacturers, etc.) in assessing their environmentally sustainable activities based on the requirements of the Climate Delegated Act under the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

3.2. Implementation

The programme is structured into three phases, (phases II and III are optional):

3. Programm

3.1. Ziel

Das Ziel des technischen Programms „Umsetzung der EU-Taxonomie in der Energieindustrie: Teil 1 – der delegierte Klimarechtsakt“ von vgbe energy ist die Energiewirtschaft (Energieversorger, Hersteller, etc.) bei der Bewertung ihrer ökologisch nachhaltigen Aktivitäten zu unterstützen, basierend auf den Vorgaben des delegierten Klimarechtsakts der EU-Taxonomie-Verordnung.

3.2. Umsetzung

Das Programm ist in drei Phasen gegliedert, wobei Phasen II und III als Option angeboten werden:

Phase I: Workshops on practical implementation of the EU Taxonomy

Phase II: Workshops with financial and legal experts (optional)

Phase III: Workshops offering individual support (optional)

Phase I: Workshops on practical implementation of the EU Taxonomy

Phase I involves three moderated workshops, each of them targeted to the economic activities of the participating companies:

- Workshop 1: The technology-specific criteria (Technical Screening and Do No Significant Harm Criteria of the Climate Delegated Act), ways of fulfilment and documentation;
- Workshop 2: The extent and experience with the 2021 non-financial reporting as well as future duties, such as the preparation of the 2022 reporting;
- Workshop 3: Exchange and discussion of different approaches, experience and expectations. Focus on specific topics of the first and second workshop (fulfilment, criteria, etc.) as wished by the participants.

The Climate Delegated Act lists economic activities (EU taxonomy: "eligible activities"), which will be the emphasis of the workshops (each participant selects the focus in advance):

Phase I: Workshops zur praktischen Umsetzung der EU-Taxonomie

Phase II: Workshops mit Finanz- und Rechtsexperten (Option)

Phase III: Workshops mit individueller Betreuung (Option)

Phase I: Workshops zur praktischen Umsetzung der EU-Taxonomie

Phase I besteht aus drei moderierten Workshops, die auf die wirtschaftlichen Tätigkeiten der teilnehmenden Unternehmen ausgerichtet sind:

- Workshop 1: Die technologie-spezifischen Kriterien (Technical Screening und Do No Significant Harm Criteria des Climate Delegated Act), Erfüllungswege und Dokumentation;
- Workshop 2: Umfang und Erfahrungen mit der nicht-finanziellen Berichterstattung 2021 sowie zukünftige Aufgaben, wie die Vorbereitung der Berichterstattung 2022;
- Workshop 3: Austausch und Diskussion unterschiedlicher Vorgehensweisen, Erfahrungen und Erwartungen. Fokus auf spezifische Themen des ersten und zweiten Workshops (Erfüllung, Kriterien, etc.) je nach Wunsch der TeilnehmerInnen.

Der delegierte Klimarechtsakt enthält eine Auflistung wirtschaftlicher Tätigkeiten (EU-Taxonomie: "förderfähige Tätigkeiten"), nach denen auch die Schwerpunkte der Workshops ausgerichtet werden (von jedem Teilnehmer im Voraus auszuwählen):

- i. Electricity generation from hydropower & storage of electricity
- ii. Electricity generation from wind power & solar photovoltaic technology
- iii. Transmission and distribution of electricity
- iv. Transmission and distribution networks for renewable and low-carbon gases
- v. Manufacture of renewable energy technologies
- vi. Other (to be agreed upon with vgbe energy)

- i. Elektrizitätserzeugung aus Wasserkraft und Speicherung von Strom
- ii. Stromerzeugung aus Windkraft & Solar-Photovoltaik-Technologie
- iii. Übertragung und Verteilung von Strom
- iv. Übertragungs- und Verteilungsnetze für erneuerbare und kohlenstoffarme Gase
- v. Herstellung von Technologien für erneuerbare Energien
- vi. Sonstige (in Festlegung mit vgbe energy)

In case there are at least 4 registered participants for a group of economic activities (i - vi), 3 Taxonomy Workshops (each about 3 hours) will be organised.

Wenn mindestens 4 Teilnehmer für einen bestimmte Gruppe von Wirtschaftsaktivitäten (i - vi) registriert sind, werden 3 Taxonomie-Workshops (jeweils ca. 3 Stunden) organisiert.

Phase II: Workshops with financial and legal experts (optional)

If required, more in-depth workshops can be offered, e. g. with experts on the topic of "Taxonomy - Accounting & Reporting" or on the legal interpretation of specific criteria. This offer is optional and must be agreed individually with vgbe energy.

Phase II: Workshops mit Finanz- und Rechtsexperten (Option)

Bei Bedarf können noch vertiefende Workshops z. B. mit Top-ExpertInnen zum Thema „Taxonomie – Accounting & Reporting“ oder zur rechtlichen Interpretation von spezifischen Kriterien angeboten werden. Dieses Angebot ist optional und ist individuell mit vgbe energy zu vereinbaren.

Phase III: Workshops offering individual support (optional)

Together with external partners, vgbe energy can also assist companies with their documentation efforts (fulfillment of taxonomy criteria). This offer is optional and must be agreed individually with vgbe energy.

Phase III: Workshops mit individueller Betreuung (Option)

Ebenfalls kann vgbe energy gemeinsam mit externen Partnern Unternehmen bei der Dokumentation (Erfüllung von Taxonomiekriterien) unterstützen. Dieses Angebot ist optional und ist individuell mit vgbe energy zu vereinbaren.

3.3. Benefits

The benefits of joining the workshops are

- to get support in assessing the own company's environmentally sustainable activities, applying the Climate Delegated Act of the EU Taxonomy;
- to be part of a platform that enables participants to exchange and discuss approaches, experience and expectations related to the EU Taxonomy and to align ways of fulfilment and documentation;
- that the sector has a uniform understanding of the EU Taxonomy; and
- that the energy industry speaks with "one voice" and pursues the same approach in implementing the EU Taxonomy.

Outcome of the Workshops

- Explanation of the EU Taxonomy criteria and possible ways of fulfilment and documentation
- A platform to exchange and discuss approaches, experience and expectations
- Documentation templates (Excel) for the specific economic activities (Technical Screening Criteria and Do No Significant Harm Criteria) to proof the conformity with the Climate Delegated Act of the EU Taxonomy Regulation

3.3. Nutzen

Der Nutzen einer Teilnahme an den Workshops besteht vor allem darin, dass

- eine Unterstützung bei der Bewertung der ökologisch nachhaltigen Aktivitäten des eigenen Unternehmens, unter Anwendung des delegierten Klimarechtsaktes der EU-Taxonomie, angeboten wird;
- man Teil einer Plattform wird, die es Teilnehmern ermöglicht, Ansätze, Erfahrungen und Erwartungen in Bezug auf die EU-Taxonomie auszutauschen und zu diskutieren sowie Möglichkeiten der Erfüllung und Dokumentation abzustimmen;
- der Sektor ein einheitliches Verständnis über die EU-Taxonomie entwickelt; und
- die Energiewirtschaft mit „einer Stimme“ spricht und den gleichen Ansatz bei der Umsetzung der EU-Taxonomie verfolgt.

Ergebnisse aus den Workshops

- Erläuterung der EU-Taxonomie-Kriterien und mögliche Wege zur Erfüllung und Dokumentation
- Eine Plattform zum Austausch und zur Diskussion von Ansätzen, Erfahrungen und Erwartungen
- Dokumentationsvorlagen (Excel) für die spezifischen wirtschaftlichen Aktivitäten (Technical Screening and Do No Significant Harm-Criteria) zum Nachweis der Konformität mit dem delegierten Klimarechtsakt

der EU-Taxonomie-
Verordnung.

4. Prerequisite for the Organisation of the Workshops

At least four companies are required per economic activity in order that the programme can take place for the selected economic activity.

The workshops can be organised either in English or in German (depending on the requests of the participants). Documentation templates are offered exclusively in English.

5. Timeline

The three planned workshops (about 3 hours each) will take place between the first and third quarter of 2022. A detailed schedule for the implementation of the programme will be agreed upon with the participating companies.

6. Participation Fee for Phase I

The participation fee for phase I is a fixed amount per selected economic activity:

- **vgbe member**
€ 3,500.-- / economic activity
- **vgbe non-member**
€ 4,500.-- / economic activity

4. Voraussetzung für die Durchführung der Workshops

Pro Wirtschaftszweig sind mindestens vier Unternehmen erforderlich, damit das Programm für die ausgewählte Wirtschaftsaktivität beginnt.

Die Workshops können entweder auf englisch oder deutsch durchgeführt werden (abhängig vom Wunsch der teilnehmenden Unternehmen). Dokumentationsvorlagen werden ausschließlich auf englisch zur Verfügung gestellt.

5. Zeitrahmen

Die drei geplanten Workshops (jeweils zu etwa 3 Stunden) werden zwischen dem ersten und dritten Quartal 2022 stattfinden. Ein detaillierter Zeitplan für die Durchführung des Programms wird mit den teilnehmenden Unternehmen vereinbart.

6. Teilnahmegebühr für Phase I

Die Teilnahmegebühr für Phase I ist ein fester Betrag pro gewählter Wirtschaftsaktivität:

- **vgbe Mitglieder**
€ 3.500,-- / je Wirtschaftsaktivität
- **vgbe Nicht-Mitglieder**
€ 4.500,-- / je Wirtschaftsaktivität

All amounts stated are net amounts plus the value added tax.

If a company chooses more than one economic activity, a discount of 10 % will be granted on the total amount (in case the selected workshops take place).

7. Confirmation of Participation

Please use our contact form (see page 14) to express your interest in participating and to receive the contract.

Participation is confirmed by signing the contract by **11th February 2022** at the latest.

8. Compliance

vgbe energy, vgbe energy's contract partners related to this Technical Programme and the companies participating commit themselves to engage in fair business practices and reject any and all forms of corruption and bribery. Based on this understanding, vgbe energy, vgbe energy's contract partners and the companies participating agree to strictly comply with their respective internal compliance rules and procedures and with statutory anticorruption provisions. Thus, vgbe energy, vgbe energy's contract partners and the companies participating as well as their employees agree to neither offer, promise or grant, nor to demand, make promise or accept any unjustified benefits of whatever kind in connection with the signing and performance of this contract and the resulting contractual relationship. vgbe energy, vgbe energy's contract partners and the companies participating also expect third

Alle angegebenen Beträge sind Nettobeträge zuzüglich der gesetzlichen Mehrwertsteuer.

Entscheidet sich ein Unternehmen für mehr als eine Wirtschaftsaktivität, wird ein Nachlass von 10 % auf den Gesamtbetrag gewährt (wenn die gewählten Workshops stattfinden).

7. Teilnahmebestätigung

Nutzen Sie unser Kontaktformular (siehe Seite 14), um ihr Interesse an einer Teilnahme zu bekunden und den Vertrag zu erhalten.

Die endgültige Teilnahmebestätigung erfolgt durch Vertragsunterzeichnung bis spätestens **11. Februar 2022**.

8. Compliance

vgbe energy, die Vertragspartner von vgbe energy bezogen auf dieses Technische Programm und beteiligte Unternehmen verpflichten sich zu fairen Geschäftspraktiken und lehnen jegliche Form von Korruption und Bestechung ab. Auf der Grundlage dieses Verständnisses verpflichten sich vgbe energy, die Vertragspartner von vgbe energy und die beteiligten Unternehmen, ihre jeweiligen internen Compliance-Regeln und Compliance-Verfahren sowie die gesetzlichen Antikorruptionsvorschriften strikt einzuhalten. vgbe energy, die Vertragspartner von vgbe energy und die beteiligten Unternehmen und deren Mitarbeiter verpflichten sich daher, im Zusammenhang mit dem Abschluss und der Durchführung dieses Vertrages sowie auch des sich daraus ergebenden Vertragsverhältnisses weder unberechtigte Vorteile

parties involved in the performance of this contract to act accordingly and undertake to urge them to comply with relevant legal requirements.

gleich welcher Art anzubieten, zu versprechen oder zu gewähren noch zu fordern, zu versprechen oder anzunehmen. vgbe energy, die Vertragspartner von vgbe energy und die beteiligten Unternehmen erwarten auch von Dritten, die an der Durchführung dieses Vertrages beteiligt sind, ein entsprechendes Verhalten und verpflichten sich, diese auf die Einhaltung der Gesetze hinzuweisen.

9. Disclaimer

The workshops will reflect the best knowledge of vgbe energy and vgbe energy's contract partners, being based on the current legal framework, international standards, scientific publications and publicly available documents. The workshops will not include any legally binding assessment or external verifications of the conformity of economic activities under the EU Taxonomy. Any authoritative reading of the law should only be derived from Regulation (EU) 2020/852 itself and other applicable legal texts or principles. Only the Court of Justice of the European Union is competent to authoritatively interpret Union legislation. As the EU Taxonomy and its criteria are dynamic, also the interpretation and legal understanding might change during the Technical Programme.

9. Ausschlussklausel

Die Workshops spiegeln die besten Kenntnisse von vgbe energy und der Vertragspartner von vgbe energy wider, basierend auf den aktuellen gesetzlichen Rahmenbedingungen, internationalen Standards, wissenschaftlichen Publikationen und öffentlich zugänglichen Dokumenten. Die Workshops beinhalten keine rechtsverbindliche Bewertung oder externe Überprüfung der Konformität von Wirtschaftsaktivitäten mit der EU-Taxonomie. Eine maßgebliche Auslegung des Gesetzes kann nur aus der Verordnung (EU) 2020/852 selbst und anderen anwendbaren Rechtstexten oder -grundsätzen abgeleitet werden. Nur der Gerichtshof der Europäischen Union ist für die verbindliche Auslegung des Unionsrechts zuständig. Da die EU-Taxonomie und ihre Kriterien dynamisch sind, können sich auch die Auslegung und das Rechtsverständnis während des Technischen Programmes ändern.



“Implementing the EU Taxonomy in the Energy Industry: Part I - the Climate Delegated Act”

Technical programme website: <https://www.vgbe.energy/en/hydropower/>

1. Focus

The EU Taxonomy Regulation (2020/852) establishes a classification system of environmentally sustainable economic activities. As detailed technical criteria have to be fulfilled and documented, vgbe energy supports the energy industry in assessing their environmentally sustainable activities. Via activity-specific workshops participants will be enabled to exchange and discuss approaches, to share their experience and expectations related to the EU Taxonomy as well as to align ways of fulfilment and documentation.

2. Interest in participating

Please inform us if you are interested in participating by filling in the contact form below. We will then get back to you with more details on the programme and the contract. Participation is confirmed by signing the contract **by 11th February 2022** at latest.

3. Contact form

Company:			
Name:		Function:	
Address:		Postcode/City:	
E-mail:		Phone:	

Phase I: Workshops on practical implementation of the EU Taxonomy Please choose your focus (affected economic activities)

☐	i. Electricity generation from hydropower & storage of electricity	☐	ii. Electricity generation from wind power & solar photovoltaic technology
☐	iii. Transmission and distribution of electricity	☐	iv. Transmission and distribution networks for renewable and low-carbon gases
☐	v. Manufacture of renewable energy technologies	☐	vi. Other (to be agreed upon with vgbe energy):

Please tick the box(es), to express your preliminary interest in the optional phases II and III (the detailed programme and contents will be further elaborated and agreed upon with vgbe energy).

☐	Phase II: Workshops with international financial and legal experts (optional)
☐	Phase III: Workshops offering individual support (optional)

Contact:	Dr Hendrik Multhaupt (Advisor Hydropower)	E-Mail: hendrik.multhaupt@vgbe.energy Phone: +49 201 8128 207 Mobile: +49 170 5378677
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Please return this contact form for interest to vgbe-info-hpp@vgbe.energy



Technical Programmes

vgbe energy with its leading role in understanding about good and best practices in hydropower operation and development launches in cooperation with its members different Technical Programmes. These programmes are part of the comprehensive activities of vgbe energy for the hydropower sector to support the daily work in operation, maintenance and plant optimisation as well as in techno-economic, environmental and strategic challenges. Therefore, the programmes are open for vgbe members as well as vgbe non-members.

To learn more about the approach, expected types of analyses provided, participation, etc. please follow this [Link](#) and download the Technical Programmes.

Technical Programme: IT-/OT-security for energy and heat generating companies

The issues of IT-/OT-security for power and heat generating systems (generation systems) have increasingly become the focus of operators and manufacturers. In many countries, laws to increase the security of information technology systems (IT security law) with a specific framework have been introduced in recent years, which are specified in further legal and regulatory requirements and are constantly being developed.

vgbe energy also sees the need, on the one hand, to conduct a concrete exchange of experience on the implementation of legal and regulatory requirements from the perspective of plant operators and, on the other hand, to discuss new requirements at an early stage. These crucial points will be addressed in the programme.



Technical Programme

- **In preparation**
- **Start: Spring 2022**



Technical Programme: Workshop series on digital measures in hydropower

Numerous digital measures have been or are being tested by the companies or are already being used successfully. The workshop series brings together experts from leading operators to discuss the challenges and opportunities of digital transformation for the operation of hydropower plants.

- Workshop I: Digital Workforce Management
- Workshop II: Aerial Survey
- Workshop III: Sensor & Diagnosis Systems for Generators
- Workshop IV: 3D-Scanning
- Workshop V: Sensor & Diagnosis Systems for Turbines
- Workshop VI: Remotely Operated Vehicles

Using practical examples, you will gain insights into how digital solutions are already being successfully implemented and applied.



Technical Programme

- Downloadable
- March 2022 – Sep. 2024

Technical Programme: Value of Hydropower - A campaign to increase the awareness of the positive impact of hydropower for a sustainable energy future in Europe

The hydropower industry needs to raise awareness of the positive impact of hydropower on a sustainable energy future in Europe to ensure the efficient operation of existing plants as well as the development of new hydropower plants across Europe.

The aim of this programme is to underline the value of hydropower and the indispensability of hydropower for Europe in the context of climate neutrality and security of supply. The hydropower industry in Europe therefore needs a stakeholder-focused tool box consisting of a structured dissemination strategy "Thinking Outside the Bubble", a jointly agreed implementation plan and an image campaign based on existing data and publications.



Technical Programme

- Downloadable
- March 2022 – June 2023



Technical Programme: Implementing the EU Taxonomy in the Energy Industry: Part I - the Climate Delegated Act

The EU Taxonomy Regulation (2020/852) establishes a classification system of environmentally sustainable economic activities. As detailed technical criteria have to be fulfilled and documented, vgbe energy supports the energy industry (utilities, manufacturers, etc.) in assessing their environmentally sustainable activities, applying the Climate Delegated Act of the EU Taxonomy.

Via activity-specific workshops participants will be enabled to exchange and discuss approaches, to share their experience and expectations related to the EU Taxonomy as well as to align ways of fulfilment and documentation.



Technical Programme

- Downloadable
- March 2022 – Oct. 2022

Technical Programme: Occupational Health and Safety in hydropower

To meet the high expectations of modern health and safety standards in hydropower plants, the existing processes in the companies must be continuously reviewed and also adapted to new findings.

In this context, vgbe energy will start a new exchange-oriented platform that will become a driving factor to improve occupational Health & Safety in hydropower. The platform is aimed at operators, manufacturers and suppliers alike and will provide valuable insights on current developments in the industry. As a user-driven platform, it will expand the Health & Safety culture. In this way, experience and know-how can be shared to prevent safety risks and achieve the overarching goal of zero occupational accidents and work-related diseases.



Technical Programme

- Downloadable
- Feb. 2022 – Dec. 2024



Technical Programme: Cost comparison for run-of-river power plants

A cost-comparison can help operators of power plants (such as hydropower operators) to maintain their competitiveness by not just relying on growth options, but through permanent improvement of their efficiency, which can be achieved primarily through optimisation.

The cost comparison for run-of-river power plants is based on a proven and unique methodology which assures an objective and best-in-class benchmarking of all O&M cost components taking into account the vast variety of such plants and their specifications. The objective of this cost comparison methodology is solely to establish a comparable basis for O&M cost performance and is designed to systematically analyse the complex relation of O&M cost types, cost drivers and resulting cost performance. The profitability of individual run-of-river plants is explicitly not taken into account in the analysis.



Technical Programme

- Downloadable
- Feb. 2022 – Sep. 2022

Technical Programme: Operations management comparison for storage and pumped storage power plants

The demands on operations management have changed over the last decade due to new technical achievements and changing market conditions. This new environment poses new challenges for operators in terms of operational management and adaptation of internal processes. A transparent qualitative comparison of different operational management concepts and the flow of relevant processes leads to the identification of improvement potentials.

vgbe energy starts the comparison of storage and pumped storage power plants with a moderated approach on operational management strategies and processes and their results. This approach offers a deep insight into the differences in operation and maintenance of such plants and thus helps to adapt and optimise one's own approaches and strategies.



Technical Programme

- Downloadable
- Sep. 2021 – Jan. 2022



Technical Programme: Digitalisation-Barometer for hydropower operators

Digital transformation is an ongoing process in many different areas, where established business models and processes are being significantly changed by new concepts, methods and models such as Industry 4.0, machine learning, the Internet of Things and the Internet of Services. Digitalisation will also have an impact on the maintenance and operation of hydropower plants and holds untapped potential for reducing costs and increasing the effectiveness of personnel deployment. With the developed "Digitalisation-Barometer for hydropower operators", the companies are provided with a tool for their digitalisation self-check, with which they can assess (i) their current status of digitalisation and (ii) their desired target status in digitalisation in three years compared to the industry average. In this way, the companies gain a comprehensive insight into their level of digitisation.



Technical Programme

- **Downloadable**
- **April 2019 – ongoing**

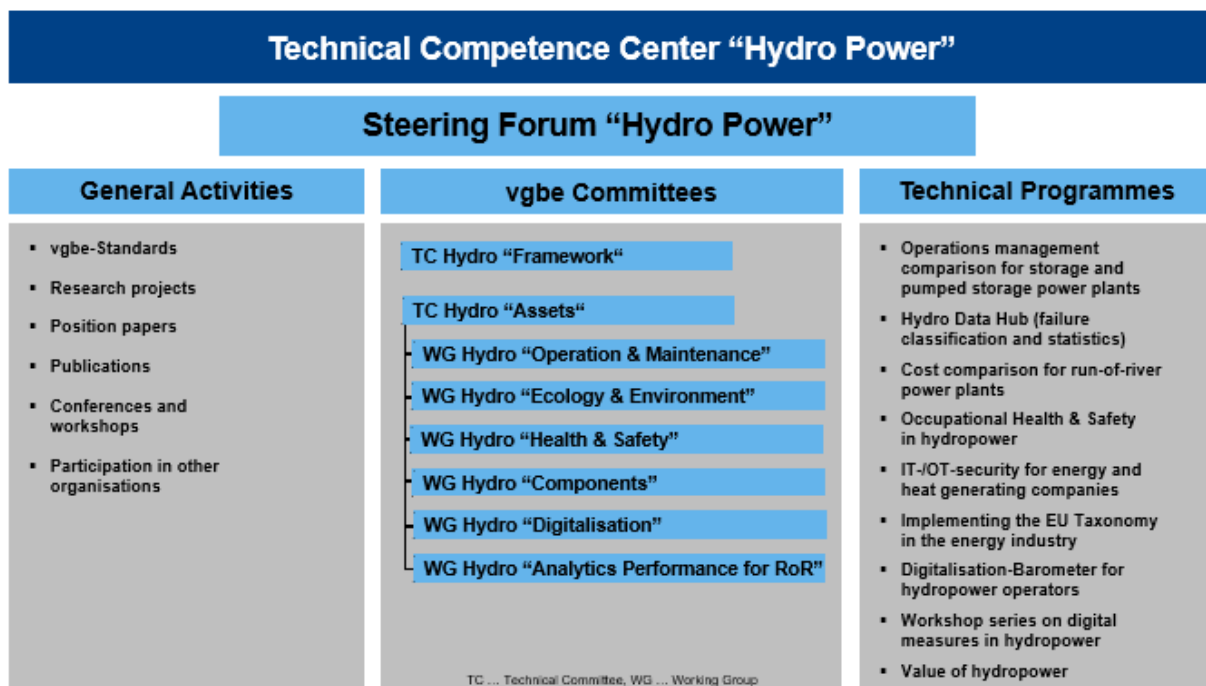


About vgbe energy

VGB PowerTech e.V. (vgbe energy) is the European technical association for electricity and heat generation with head office located in Essen (Germany). Currently vgbe energy has 437 members, comprising operators, manufacturers, and institutions connected with energy engineering. The members come from 33 countries and represent an installed power generation capacity of 302,000 MW.

vgbe energy | Hydro Power as part of vgbe energy is the first address for interested parties in techno-economic, ecological and strategic issues concerning hydropower and performs as the collective European platform and key representant for operators, manufacturers and suppliers of the hydropower community.

In this context, our hydropower community has been sharing experiences and knowledge on a high level of expertise since the year 2000. Currently, experts from 29 operating companies, 22 equipment suppliers and 18 consultants are actively participating in vgbe's Technical Competence Center "Hydro Power" and benefit from our offers as a member of the successful hydropower network.



Individual success through exchange of experience within **vgbe energy | Hydro Power**

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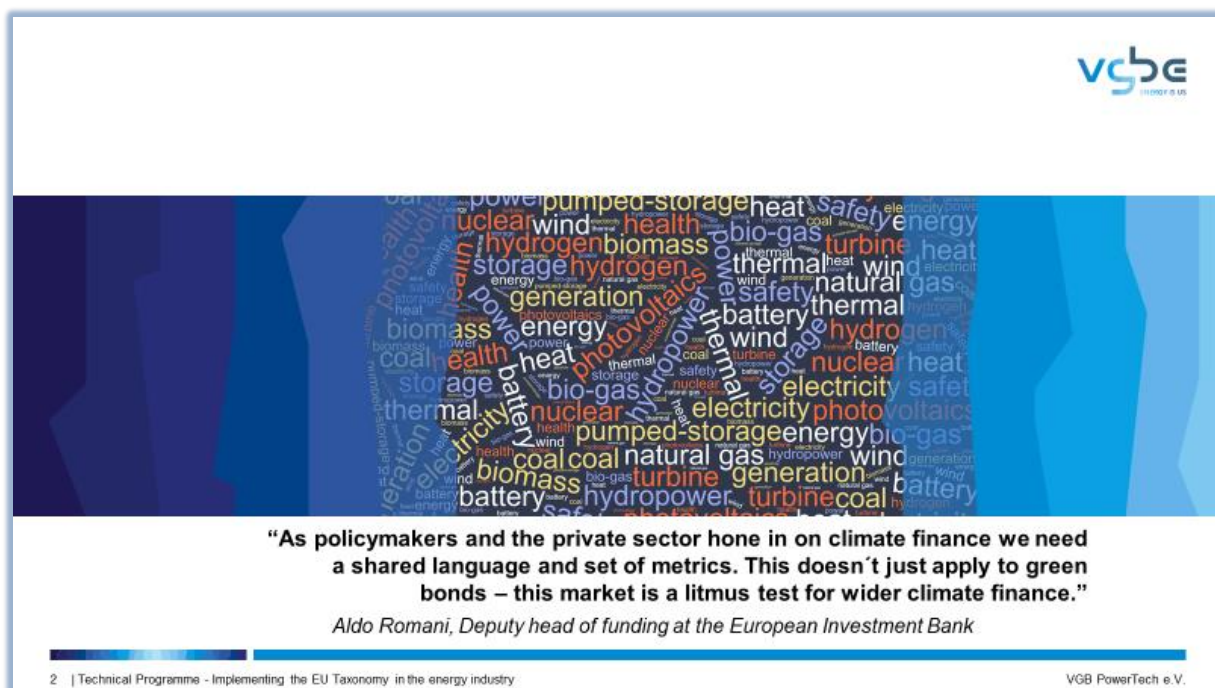
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VGB PowerTech e.V.



1 Initial situation

Background

One of the cornerstones of the EU Sustainable Finance is to provide clarity to the market which economic activities can be considered as ecologically sustainable in order to promote sustainable investment and to prevent green-washing. The EU Taxonomy Regulation is an ambitious attempt to define these activities and the associated technical criteria for six environmental objectives:

- Climate change mitigation
- Climate change adaptation
- The sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources
- The transition to a circular economy
- Pollution prevention and control
- The protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems



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2 Objective and Benefits



Objective

The aim of this Technical Programme "Implementing the EU Taxonomy in the Energy Industry: Part I - the Climate Delegated Act" is to support the energy industry (utilities, manufacturers, etc.) in assessing their environmentally sustainable activities based on the requirements of the Climate Delegated Act under the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

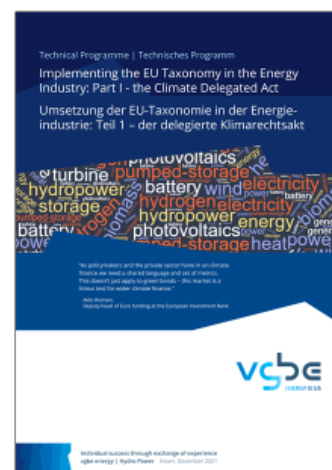
The programme is structured into three phases (phases II and III are optional):

- Phase I: Benchmark workshops
- Phase II: Economic and legal expert workshops (option)
- Phase III: Individual workshops (option)

Benefits

The benefits of joining the benchmark workshops are

- to get support in assessing the own company's environmentally sustainable activities, applying the Climate Delegated Act of the EU Taxonomy;
- to be part of a platform that enables participants to exchange and discuss approaches, experience and expectations related to the EU Taxonomy and to align ways of fulfilment and documentation;
- that the sector has a uniform understanding of the EU Taxonomy; and
- that the energy industry speaks with "one voice" and pursues the same approach in implementing the EU Taxonomy.



3 Challenges



Challenges for affected companies

Meeting the regulations

- To comply with the new sustainability regulations, companies are required to invest in transforming data, operational and reporting systems.

No off-the-shelf solution

- No automated, systematic solution exists to perform taxonomy screening in companies. Each company must ultimately be considered as an individual case.

New regulatory standards

- Significant effort will be required to understand, apply and implement the new standards and produce the data required by the taxonomy and SFDR.



Lack of time

- Companies often do not have the time or human capacity to manually perform taxonomy screening and create the granular data required by the taxonomy.

Lack of experiences

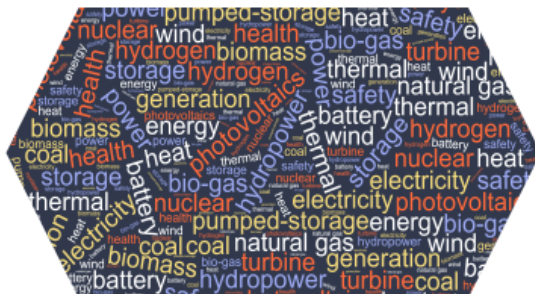
- Sustainability experts with knowledge of the EU Taxonomy are scarce and costly, so it is advisable to tackle issues together.

Phase	I	II	III
	Workshops on practical implementation of the EU Taxonomy	Workshops with financial and legal experts (optional)	Workshops offering individual support (optional)
Description	▪ Workshop 1: The technology-specific criteria (Technical Screening and Do No Significant Harm Criteria of the Climate Delegated Act), ways of fulfilment and documentation; ▪ Workshop 2: The extent and experience with the 2021 non-financial reporting as well as future duties, such as the preparation of the 2022 reporting; ▪ Workshop 3: Exchange and discussion of different approaches, experience and expectations. Focus on specific topics of the first and second workshop (fulfilment, criteria, etc.) as wished by the participants.	▪ If required, more in-depth workshops can be offered, e.g. with experts on the topic of "Taxonomy - Accounting & Reporting" or on the legal interpretation of specific criteria.	▪ Together with external partners, vgb energy can also assist companies with their documentation efforts (fulfilment of taxonomy criteria).

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Technology Focus



- i. Electricity generation from hydropower & storage of electricity
- ii. Electricity generation from wind power & solar photovoltaic technology
- iii. Transmission and distribution of electricity
- iv. Transmission and distribution networks for renewable and low-carbon gases
- v. Manufacture of renewable energy technologies
- vi. Other (to be agreed upon with vgbe energy)

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VGB PowerTech e V

6 Advantages for Participating Companies



Benefits and outputs

Benefits of the Workshops

The benefits of joining the workshops are:

- Explanation of the EU Taxonomy criteria and possible ways of fulfilment and documentation
- A platform to exchange and discuss approaches, experience and expectations
- Documentation templates (Excel) for the specific economic activities (Technical Screening Criteria and Do No Significant Harm Criteria) to proof the conformity with the Climate Delegated Act of the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

Output of the Workshops

The output of joining the workshops are

- to get support in assessing the own company's environmentally sustainable activities, applying the Climate Delegated Act of the EU Taxonomy;
- to be part of a platform that enables participants to exchange and discuss approaches, experience and expectations related to the EU Taxonomy and to align ways of fulfilment and documentation;
- that the sector has a uniform understanding of the EU Taxonomy; and
- that the energy industry speaks with "one voice" and pursues the same approach in implementing the EU Taxonomy.

7 Organisation



Mag. Martin Schönberg, MA, MSc

has extensive experience in putting normative and legal acts into practice.



VUM Verfahren Umwelt Management GmbH

- Determine and detail approach
- Guide/lead work groups
- Programme management
- Provide data and conduct analyses
- Create information basis and check plausibility
- Discuss about content and explanation of differences
- Derive conclusions
- Develop improvement suggestions
- Discuss provisions of reasoning for suggested changes



Dr. Hendrik Multhaupt

is experienced in leading complex projects and workshops.



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8 Prerequisite and participation fee



Prerequisite for the start of phase I

At least four companies are required per economic activity, in order that the programme for the implementation of the EU Taxonomy Regulation in the Energy Industry can start for a specific preselected economic activity.

- Electricity generation from hydropower & storage of electricity
- Electricity generation from wind power & solar photovoltaic technology
- Transmission and distribution of electricity
- Transmission and distribution networks for renewable and low-carbon gases
- Manufacture of renewable energy technologies
- Other

Participation fee for phase I

The participation fee for phase I is a fixed amount per selected economic activity, discounts are offered for current vgbe members:

- vgbe member € 3,500.-- / economic activity
- vgbe non-member € 4,500.-- / economic activity

All amounts stated are net amounts plus the value added tax.

9 Confirmation to participate



Confirmation of interest to participate

Use our contact form (see Technical Programme; page 15) to express your interest in participating and to receive the contract.

- Contact data
- Choose your focus (affected economic activities)

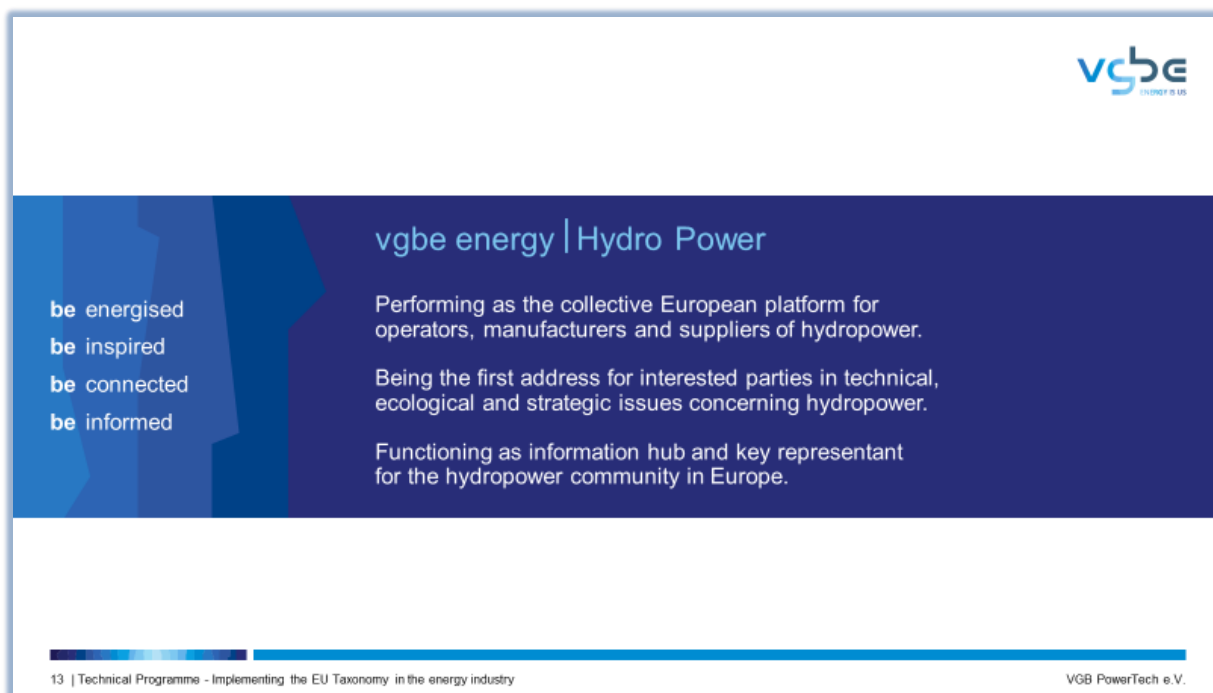
Confirmation of participation by signing the contract

The final confirmation to participate by signing the contract is possible until **11th February 2022** at the latest.



“As policymakers and the private sector hone in on climate finance we need a shared language an set of metrics. This doesn’t just apply to green bonds – this market is litmus test for wider climate finance.”

*Aldo Romani,
Deputy head of funding at the European Investment Bank*



The slide features a dark blue background with a lighter blue abstract graphic on the left side. The graphic consists of several overlapping, semi-transparent shapes that resemble stylized human figures or energy flows. The text is white and arranged in a clean, modern layout. The vgbe logo is in the top right corner, and the footer contains a horizontal bar with a gradient from dark blue to light blue.

vgbe
ENERGY IS US

vgbe energy | Hydro Power

be energised
be inspired
be connected
be informed

Performing as the collective European platform for operators, manufacturers and suppliers of hydropower.

Being the first address for interested parties in technical, ecological and strategic issues concerning hydropower.

Functioning as information hub and key representant for the hydropower community in Europe.

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VGB PowerTech e.V.