

4th Brussels Hydropower Day

Energy security and digitalisation in Europe's power system

08.09.2026 | 09:00 AM - 16:45 PM

REGISTRATION _____ **09:00 - 9:25**

Networking Coffee & Exhibition opening

OPENING _____ **09:25 - 9:30**

Anton Schleiss – ETIP HYDROPOWER Coordinator (ICOLD-EPFL)

WELCOMING REMARKS _____ **09:30 - 9:40**

Denis Aelbrecht – ETIP HYDROPOWER Governing Board Chair
and Fellow Expert (EDF Hydro)

HIGH-LEVEL OPENING SPEECHES _____ **09:40 - 10:10**

Nicolás Gonzalez Casares – Member of ITRE Committee (European
Parliament)

Paula Rey García – Head of the Renewables and Energy System
Integration Policy Unit (DG ENER)

Bruce Douglas – CEO (Global Renewables Alliance)

PLENARY DEBATE _____ **10:10 - 11:10**

*“Securing Europe's power: hydropower's role in energy resilience
and strategic autonomy”*

Moderator: Marta Bottini – European Policy Lead (IHA)

Javier Lopez Nieto – Head of Development of New Hydroelectric
Capacity (Iberdrola)

Thomas Schleker – Policy Officer for Hydropower (DG RTD)

Antonio Hernandez García – Partner of Regulated Industries,
Economic Analysis and Sustainability (EY)

Antonio Iliceto – International Operations within Strategy, Planning
and Despatching (Terna Group)

AGENDA

NETWORKING COFFEE ————— 11:10 - 11:45

Some demos from hydropower projects will be running at the exhibition area

PLENARY DEBATE ————— 11:45 - 12:45

“Digitalising Hydropower for System Flexibility and Integration”

Moderator: Antonella Frigerio – Deputy Director (RSE)

Christina Papapostolou – Research & Funding Director (PPC)

Étienne Parkinson – Vice President Digitalisation Hydropower (ANDRITZ)

Oliver Froend – Senior Sector Engineer (EIB)

Danilo Moresco – Global Business Line Manager (ABB)

Laura Atienza – Head of Sector, Sustainable Energy (DG INTPA)

NETWORKING LUNCH ————— 12:45 - 13:45

TECHNICAL SESSION - Zinneke room ————— 13:45 - 15:00

“Enhancing Resilience and Digitalisation in Sustainable Hydropower”

- **Powering the Digital Water Future through Energy Harvesting**
 - Giovanna Cavazzini – H-HOPE project coordinator (University of Padova)
- **Energy harvesting to increase the resilience of water supply networks**
 - Edouard Doujak – Professor (TU Wien)
- **Staying in resonance across scales: from laboratory open-stream tests to full-scale open-channel demonstration**
 - Urban Lundin – Professor (Uppsala University)
 - Pavel Rudolf – Professor (Technological University of Brno)
- **Beyond the Flow: Social, Economic and Environmental Value of Self-Powered Digital Water Networks**
 - David Christian Finger – Associate Professor (Reykjavik University)

AGENDA

TECHNICAL SESSION - Guichets room ————— 13:45 - 15:00

“Digital Monitoring and Environmental Intelligence for Hydropower”

- **Introducing iAMP-Hydro and Di-Hydro: Towards Intelligent Hydropower Systems**
 - Aongus McNabola – Professor (RMIT University)
 - Alkiviadis Tromaras – Research Associate (CERTH)
- **Digital Environmental Monitoring for Sustainable Hydropower**
 - **Ecological Sensors:** Martin Enqvist – Researcher (NORCE)
 - **Water Quality Sensor Systems:** Vasa Radonic – Research Professor (BioSense Institute) and Miguel Placer Lorenzo – R&D Researcher (AIMEN)
- **From Data to Decisions: Digital Platforms for Hydropower**
 - **The iAMP Platform and Integrated Solutions:** Spiros Kousouris – Project Manager (Suite5 Data Intelligence Solutions Ltd)
 - **Decision Support Platforms:** Pietro Marzaroli – Software Engineer (MAS Consulting)
- **Joint Q&A: Sensors, Biodiversity, Digital & Data Tools**

NETWORKING COFFEE ————— 15:00 - 15:15

TECHNICAL SESSION - Zinneke room ————— 15:15 - 16:30

“Solutions for Flexible, Reliable and Environmentally Sustainable Hydropower”

- **Modernising Hydropower for Flexibility and Environmental Performance with SHERPA**
 - Ademir Suárez – Head of Electromechanical Engineering and Diego Castejón – Hydroelectric Power Plants Engineer (Iberdrola Generación)
- **Innovations in Turbine Refurbishment**
 - Joerg Necker – Head of Hydraulic Development (Voith Hydro) and Jorge Deus – Senior CFD Engineer and Jorge Arias – Senior Researcher Advanced Laser Processes (AIMEN)
- **Smarter Hydropower: Digital Twins in Operation**
 - Alberto González de la Torre – Mechanical Engineer (Innomerics)
- **Enhancing Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services**
 - Nicolás Marx – EU Renewables Technology Leader (EPRI Europe)
 - Marta Arenas Romasanta – Senior environmental and social impact advisor and Montserrat Real – Technical Director of the Aquatic Ecology Laboratory (AECOM)

AGENDA

TECHNICAL SESSION - Guichets room ————— 15:15 - 16:30

“Digital Twins and Forecasting for Flexible Hydropower”

- **Forecasting for System Resilience**
 - **Flow and Power Forecasting:** Raquel Lopez – Project Manager (CARTIF)
 - **Inflow Forecasting:** Fabio Pilotti – Hydrologist (WaterJade)
- **Digital Twins and Predictive Maintenance for Hydropower Assets**
 - **Condition Monitoring and Predictive Maintenance:** Bhavya Maheshwari – AI and Optimisation modeller (Easy Hydro Ltd)
 - **HPP Digitalisation. Digital Twin and Predictive Maintenance Features:** Vangelis Zikopis – Data Science and R&D Engineer (ATLANTIS Engineering)
 - **Di-Hydro Visualisation Tool:** Mihai Iovea – General Manager (Accent Pro 2000)
- **Shaping the Future of Intelligent Hydropower: Technology and Policy Needs**
 - Ingo Ball – Senior Project Manager (WIP Renewable Energies)
 - Alkiviadis Tromaras – Research Associate (CERTH)
- **Joint Q&A: Audience feedback**
 - Paul Coughlan – Professor (Trinity College Dublin)

CLOSING REMARKS ————— 16:30 - 16:45

Wrap up of the event and announcements

Denis Aelbrecht – ETIP HYDROPOWER Governing Board Chair and Fellow Expert (EDF Hydro)

Anton Schleiss – ETIP HYDROPOWER Coordinator (ICOLD-EPFL)

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