

# 2022

ANNUAL REPORT

european  
affairs division

## TABLE OF CONTENT

• FOREWORD	2	• ACCELERATING ELECTRIFICATION AND THE SMART USE OF H <sub>2</sub> AND E-FUELS	15
• EUROPEAN UNION LOBBYING PRINCIPLES	3	• JUST TRANSITION	17
• 2022 FACTS & FIGURES	5	• MARKET DESIGN	18
• WORKING WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	7	• DIGITAL STRATEGY	19
• CLIMATE ACTION	8	• RESEARCH & INNOVATION	20
• PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY	10	• STAKEHOLDERS	22
• PROMOTING A DIVERSIFIED LOW CARBON ENERGY MIX	11	• COMMUNICATION	25
• SUSTAINABLE FINANCE & INVESTMENT FRAMEWORKS	13		



# Foreword

**2022 may go down in history as among the worst energy crises: Russia's invasion of Ukraine has been a tough reminder of the impact of Europe's dependence on fossil fuel imports from third countries on the Union's energy markets and security of supply. This**

**unprecedented rise in energy prices is severely affecting European households as well as industry competitiveness. Despite the ambitious "Fit for 55 package" and Repower EU plan, the current crisis could threaten the ability to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050.**

## Erkki Maillard, Senior Vice President, EDF European Affairs

Against this background, EDF has reaffirmed its ambitions and commitment to an energy model that truly addresses the climate crisis: low-carbon, more efficient, with a reduced impact on the environment and on people. As stated in our *"raison d'être"*, adopted in 2020, we want to build a net-zero energy future with electricity and innovative solutions and services, to help save the planet and drive wellbeing and economic development.

In this current situation that emphasises the fundamental role of energy and in particular electricity, EDF is actively involved in the European political debates around three dimensions that should be addressed in the coming year.

Firstly, a pivotal issue is to design market rules that will satisfy at least three broad objectives:

- ensure the security of supply with an optimal dispatch mechanism and sufficient price signalling to spur demand response and flexibility mechanisms;
- foster long-term investment in non-fossil low-carbon technologies;
- give visibility and transparency and empower consumers to help them reduce their consumption and increase energy efficiency.

Secondly, to meet its net-zero objective, the EU will need all low-carbon technologies. Opposing renewables and nuclear is counterproductive. Neglecting the storage capacity of hydropower would be detrimental to the integration of variable renewables into the European grid. Refusing to support all low-carbon e-fuels or hydrogen will harm the decarbonisation of hard to abate sectors. We need a more technology-neutral approach towards all

low-carbon solutions in order to foster decarbonisation and the electrification of uses.

Finally, we must define a satisfactory balance between environmental protection, biodiversity preservation and the massive roll-out of renewables and other low-carbon technologies. This is already the focus of some useful proposals made by the EU to simplify permitting, however more needs to be done.

We are committed to working with our partners that share the same objectives. All stakeholders and contributions are required to have a well-informed and transparent decision-making process. We'll pursue our activities fully complying with EDF's *"raison d'être"*, our Ethics principles and the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Brussels, March 2022

# European Union lobbying principles

**EDF's EU lobbying refers to the promotion or the defence of the company's interests by its representatives within the European institutions (European Commission, European Parliament, Permanent Representations of Member States) with the aim of directly or indirectly influencing proposals or decisions which are likely to impact the EU's climate and energy framework and more specifically the company's activities.**

Sharing our ethical values and complying with laws and regulations are at the heart of our commitment and reflect our corporate responsibility.

While conducting its EU lobbying, EDF is committed to behave in a transparent and responsible manner.

EDF is duly referenced in the EU transparency register (n°39966101835-69) and is bound by its code of conduct (Annex 3 of the 2014 Interinstitutional Agreement) in its relations with the EU Institutions.

*“ A dynamic process has been put in place which triggers - when needed - follow-up actions. Ultimately, the process may result in EDF opting out of some organisations, or considering joining new ones. ”*



EDF also complies with applicable international conventions, does not seek information or decisions dishonestly, or by use of undue pressure or inappropriate behaviour, and provides, to the best of its knowledge, EU representatives and stakeholders with complete, accurate and up-to-date information.

In addition, EDF follows the rules of its own *Code of Ethics and Compliance*. The EU Affairs Division has also adopted its specific ethical charter “European Union Lobbying principles”, which is a public document, displayed in our premises and distributed to new staff.

Staff are made aware of ethical issues through dedicated meetings, and the issuance of relevant documents and training is strongly encouraged, for instance in the field of anti-corruption, where 100% of staff have completed the internal in-depth anti-corruption programme in 2022.

**When lobbying the EU institutions, employees and representatives contracted by EDF must behave in a transparent and responsible manner, respecting the following principles:**

- Identify themselves as EDF employees or as acting on behalf of EDF before engaging in a lobbying action or any public intervention;
- Develop arguments always based on reliable, verified and up-to-date information;
- Respect the positions of other stakeholders;
- Comply with EU laws, regulations, conventions etc. governing lobbying, and follow the codes of conduct of the institutions being lobbied;
- Communicate and defend positions that are in line with EDF’s strategic framework and “*raison d’être*”;
- Be identified by the European Affairs Division.

**They must never:**

- Attempt to influence the position of a public official by offering him or her undue advantages, or by encouraging a breach of the ethical rules of the institution;
- Use, for commercial or advertising purposes, information obtained from an EU institution, or sell copies of such information to third parties;
- Seek information or decisions dishonestly, or by use of undue pressure or inappropriate behaviour;
- Deceive or mislead third parties and/or public officials, or claim any formal relationship with the EU or any of its institutions in their dealings with third parties.

**EDF subscribes to:**

- \* **The Universal Declaration of Human Rights**
- \* **The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**
- \* **The International Convention on the Rights of the Child**
- \* **The Convention of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development on the fight against the corruption of foreign public agents in international commercial transactions**
- \* **The Conventions of the International Labour Organisation guaranteeing the fundamental principles and rights of employment and tackling discrimination**
- \* **The Guidelines of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development for Multinationals**
- \* **The United Nations Convention against Corruption**
- \* **EDF’s European Affairs Division monitors closely its engagement with trade associations and think tanks and in particular how closely their values align with EDF’s “*raison d’être*”.**

# 2022 facts & figures

**Among global leaders in low-carbon energy, the EDF Group is active across the low-carbon energy value chain, from generation to retail, from energy efficiency to trading.**

EDF's activities are mainly located in Europe, which accounts for 90% of its turnover.

EDF is the European leader in carbon-free electricity, being the largest EU nuclear and renewables producer.

Its electricity emits 50 g CO<sub>2</sub><sup>1</sup> per produced kWh compared to an EU27 average of around 265 g CO<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup>.

EDF Group supplies electricity and gas to nearly 40 million residential consumers, businesses and local authorities in Europe, being number one in France and number 2 in the UK, Italy and Belgium. In line with EU energy policies, EDF considers electrification as a major way forward to decarbonise the EU economy.

The EDF Group aims to champion of low-carbon growth and is committed to meeting the new expectations of customers, as well as of all stakeholders, by offering them value-added goods and services.

In 2022, 2,000,000 euros were spent on representation activities. EDF's responses to EU consultations are publicly available on the EU register. Moreover, EDF communicates publicly on its standpoints and messages on its key areas of interest on social media (LinkedIn & Twitter).

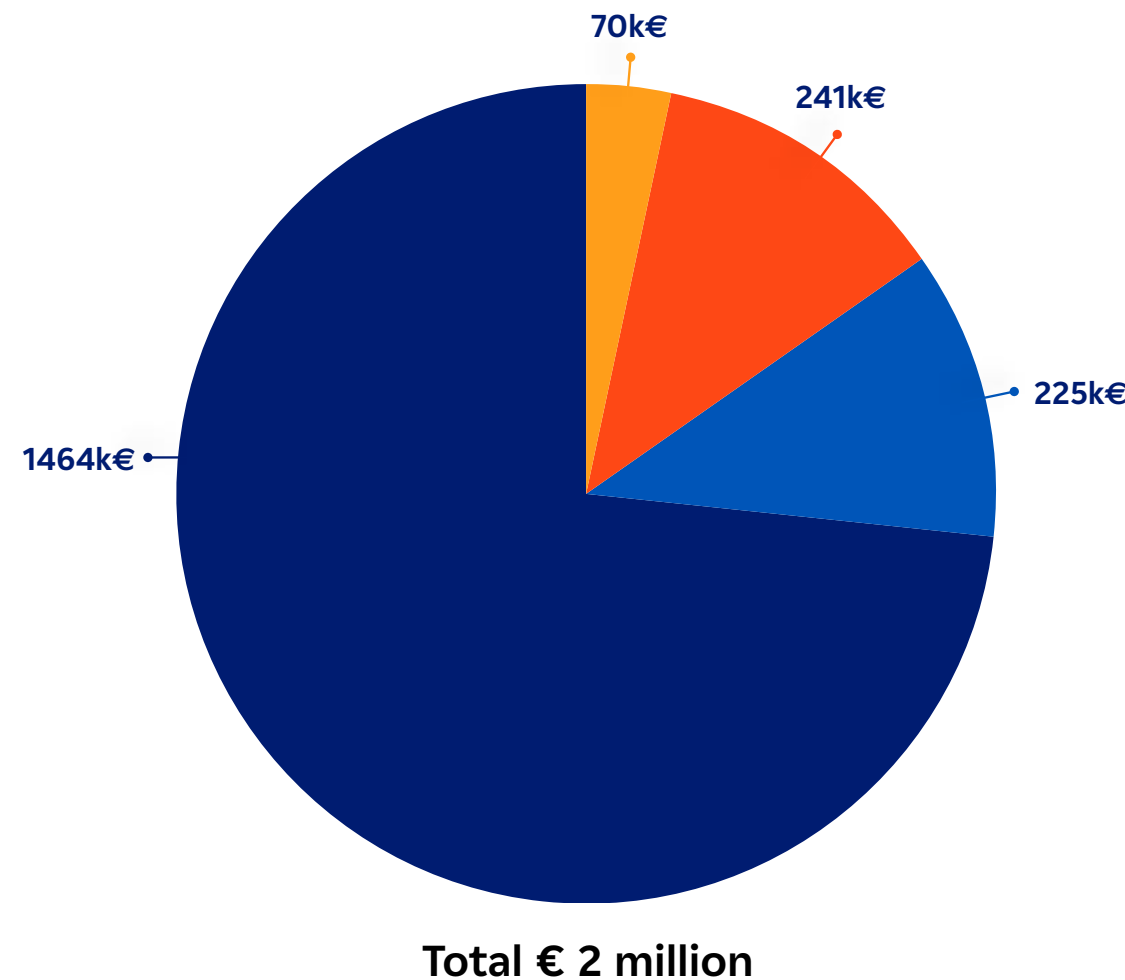
The main financial contributions of the European Affairs Division to think tanks in 2022 went to Bruegel (€50,000), with €25,000 going to the Centre on Regulation in Europe (CERRE) and €20,000 to the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS).

In addition to these membership fees, the European Affairs Division financed dedicated actions in support of the lobbying priorities presented in this annual report: the improvement of the electricity market design, climate action promoting a low-carbon energy mix with all renewables including biomass, accelerating electrification, and the smart use of hydrogen. The main initiatives which EDF EU Affairs supported in 2022 are a market design study coordinated by CERRE (€25k), a market design study coordinated by Eurelectric (€10k contribution of EDF EU Affairs) as well as workshops on market design with EPC (€10k).

Other communication actions and related costs incurred by EDF are detailed in the "Communication" chapter.

## European Affairs budget

- Advisory fees
- Trade associations membership, think tanks and studies  
(Inclusief EEF and Energy Solutions)
- Events and communication
- Operating expenses



1. <https://www.edf.fr/sites/groupe/files/2023-02/resultats-annuels-2022-cp-fr-2023-02-17.pdf>  
 2. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/ims/greenhouse-gas-emission-intensity-of-1>

# 4 MAIN LOBBYING ACTIONS IN 2022

## Calling for a fit-for-purpose electricity market design:

In the context of the energy crisis, political pressure from Member States increased on the European Commission to propose a review of the electricity market design to better protect consumers, incentivise investments in decarbonisation, and ensure security of supply. Beyond the emergency measures, voices emerged in favour of a more structural reform. In this context, EDF sponsored several studies (Eurelectric, CERRE), organised a workshop (with EPC) and participated in debates organised by stakeholders. EDF also held bilateral meetings with Commission officials, MEPs and stakeholders.

## Supporting the development of all low-carbon electricity sources to achieve decarbonisation in alignment with our commitment to CO<sub>2</sub> pollution pricing:

EDF actively supported improvements to permitting procedures for renewables both in the renewables directive (RepowerEU proposals) and in the emergency measures. EDF joined coalition letters (Eurelectric, EU hydro players) against the exclusion of hydro power from the renewable objectives and from go-to-areas and the principle of overriding public interest. Regarding nuclear, EDF supported the EU taxonomy as an instrument to provide investors with reliable, science-based and harmonised EU information on the range of technologies needed to comply with Paris-aligned investment scenarios. EDF advocated to be guided by common principles and indicators guaranteeing a similar level of ambition across technologies. These messages were conveyed through contacts with the institutions and through several associations, such as Eurelectric and Foratom.

## Calling for the recognition of low-carbon electrolytic hydrogen:

EDF called for low-carbon hydrogen produced with electricity from the grid to be recognised and permitted to contribute to hydrogen sectoral targets (renewable directive, gas and hydrogen package). EDF signed a joint industry letter in November 2022, which was sent to Commissioners. EDF also asked for robust and sound methodologies to calculate hydrogen emissions (Delegated Act REDII), through a public consultation and interactions with the European Commission. The Group insisted on the fact that all electrolysis projects, renewable and low-carbon, should be included in the EU ETS and supported by EU funds.

## Supporting a balanced approach for woody biomass in the renewable directive:

EDF, through its subsidiary Dalkia, uses sustainable woody biomass in industrial boilers and district heating systems. EDF expressed concerns over the proposal of the European Parliament to introduce new definitions, to ban this type of biomass from the renewable category, to cap its use and to exclude it from subsidies. EDF organised a dedicated event to debate this issue (sponsored event with Euractiv), signed coalition letters (with Euroheat and Power) and held bilateral meetings with the Commission and MEPs.

# Working with the European Parliament

2022 was a particularly intense year from a legislative point of view, with a great deal of work in the parliamentary committees of importance for the EDF Group. The proposals for the “Fit for 55” package presented in July 2021 by the European Commission, were at the heart of the Group’s actions in the EP with a focus on an ambitious reform of climate tools and the contribution of electrification to the decarbonisation of the European economy. The Group prioritised targeted and specific contacts on the proposals.

In addition, discussions with MEPs continued on the role of nuclear energy in the decarbonisation of the European energy mix through debates on the Taxonomy Delegated Act and initial discussions on SMRs.

Finally, in the context of the energy crisis, the reform of the electricity market was a subject that emerged in the second half of 2022 with initial educational meetings.

## Actions with MEPs and their teams:

**Meetings and exchanges with key stakeholders** throughout the legislative process;

- **Working on amendments and exchanges of information and analysis;**
- **Capitalizing on the EDF Group’s expertise** given the highly technical aspects of the discussions; **New working methods with participation in roundtables** bringing together MEP contacts on subjects involving a large number of actors (ETS, IA).

The key messages:

## “Fit for 55” legislative package

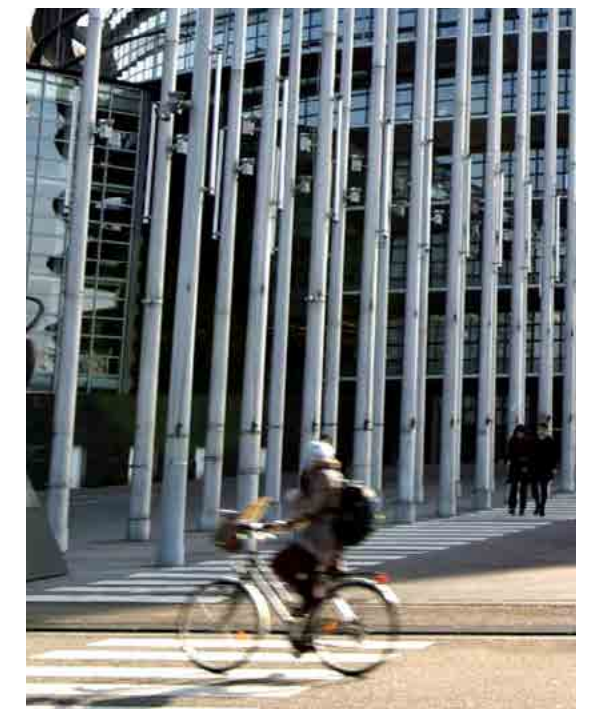
Regarding energy policies, the key messages were the role of electrification in the decarbonisation of the European economy (EED, EPBD, AFIR, Review of RED II) and the taking into account of all renewable sources (defence of hydropower and biomass).

We defended the territorial characteristics for the energy transition: energy transition such as the role of bioliquids in the outermost regions. EDF highlighted the importance of low-carbon hydrogen and low-carbon hydrogen (RED II and hydrogen and gas package), as well as the need to accelerate the roll-out of renewable

energies (RED permitting component).

In the area of climate policies, our R&D expertise was used to provide MEPs with CO<sub>2</sub> pricing models in line with our target.

Finally, numerous meetings were organised with MEPs to raise the issue of low-carbon e-fuels for the decarbonisation of the maritime and aviation sectors, together with other associations and manufacturers.



# Climate Action



## 100% of climate policies were finalised before the end of 2022

Published in July 2021, the “Fit for 55” package aims to reduce the EU’s emissions by 55% by 2030 compared to 1990. The objective of the European institutions from the outset was to implement the Commission’s proposals as quickly as possible. That has been done for the texts concerning climate policies. The Emission Trading Scheme (ETS), Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR), Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF), Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and Social Climate Fund (SCF) were validated using the triilogue process before the end of 2022, raising the target set by the Commission to around -57%.

## An ambitious review of the carbon market

One of the main issues at stake for the EDF Group was the revision of the ETS, the CO<sub>2</sub> trading scheme which, in order to align with the “Fit for 55” objectives, had to revise its emissions reduction path from -43% to -61% by 2030 (versus 2005). The co-legislators agreed on a target of -62% emissions.

Throughout the negotiation process DAE lent its support to an ambitious carbon budget reduction process, based on re-basing and increasing the linear reduction factor (LRF), as well as strengthening the market stability reserve. These topics were the subject of difficult negotiations, especially in the midst of an energy price crisis. The outcome was nevertheless positive. The ETS is revised in two stages, first by leaving industrial players a degree of flexibility between 2023 and 2027, and then more ambitiously in the period up to 2030 (two rebasing stages and a two-phased increase in LRF). The MSR will be strengthened, but not to the extent that the Group had wanted.





We also advocated the inclusion of low-carbon electrolytic hydrogen in the system to ensure fair treatment with grey hydrogen by also receiving free allowances. Another example is the continued participation of financial players in the ETS market, which is necessary for the Group's hedging strategy.

### A new ETS comes into play

Despite many reservations since its publication, ETS II, a separate extension of the original ETS, applied to the transport and heating/cooling sectors, has been adopted.

EDF was in favour of such an extension, provided that a fair transition and a fair redistribution of income from the ETS II were guaranteed. This was also the position of the Parliament, which succeeded in making the implementation of this mechanism subject to several safeguards. Thus, the ETS II will apply from 2027 but can be postponed for one year in case of high energy prices and a ceiling price of €45 cannot be exceeded. Finally, the implementation of this ETS II goes hand in hand with the creation of a Social Climate

Fund. This fund's role is to redistribute income to the most vulnerable through direct aid and the financing of renovation projects or projects for the development of sustainable fuels. It represents a new financing opportunity for the Group's projects.

### Introduction of the CBAM

A border carbon adjustment mechanism will be put in place to align the carbon price paid for EU products via the ETS with that of imported goods. In addition to steel, cement, fertilizer, aluminium and electricity, hydrogen will also be covered. The mechanism will be implemented gradually between 2026 and 2034. In order to avoid double protection of EU industries, this timetable is linked to the pace of removal of free allowances for the sectors concerned. As hydrogen has been included in the CBAM, the free allowances from which projects can benefit will disappear in 2034. This will have a small impact but at the same time will ensure a level playing field between EU produced hydrogen and imported hydrogen.

## 2023 Outlook

These "Fit for 55" landmark texts will now be implemented. Publications are planned to refine some of the details, which DAE will follow closely (revision of ETS benchmarks for hydrogen, Commission's report on the extension of the CBAM to indirect emissions). EDF is also working on other trending topics, including a regulation on carbon sink certification and upcoming publications on calculation methods for CO<sub>2</sub> capture, storage and use.

# Protecting the environment and biodiversity



The protection of the environment and biodiversity was one of the year's key themes for the European Commission. In parallel with the publication of a "Circular Economy Package" and a "Zero Pollution Package", the European Union published a Nature Restoration Law, as part of its "Biodiversity Strategy".

Concerning nature protection, the European Union's objective is to restore 30% of terrestrial and marine ecosystems by 2030 and reach 100% by 2050. One of the first steps is to collect the data necessary for this restoration, as well as good practices to improve the state of ecosystems and ensure their non-degradation. EDF supports this overall objective, as well as the targets by ecosystem, while emphasising the synergies between nature protection and the development of renewable and low-carbon energies. EDF is also keen to defend the role of hydropower, which is the only flexible renewable energy and accounts for 12% of the European energy mix.

From the start of the preliminary discussions on the subject, EDF has provided input by sharing examples of best practices for the roll-out of renewable energies (agrivoltaism, floating wind turbines). The organisation of a panel on the subject in October was an opportunity for EDF Renewables to exchange ideas with institutional representatives and an environmental NGO. On this occasion, we were able to reassert EDF's purpose: *"by limiting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, renewable and low-carbon energies help tackle climate change and protect biodiversity"*.



# Promoting a diversified low carbon energy mix

## A dual European imperative: reduce emissions and dependencies

Marked by a profound energy crisis that shook Europe, 2022 highlighted the urgent need for the European Union to strengthen its energy independence by maintaining its decarbonisation objectives and strengthening its own energy production infrastructure.

In this context, it is essential to diversify the low-carbon energy mix, based on controllable, low-carbon and renewable means of production. The combination of nuclear energy and renewable energies, including hydropower, which - in addition to being sustainable - allows energy to be stored on a large scale, is an appropriate response to the European challenges.



This is the approach adopted by several EU Member States. 2022 was thus marked by numerous announcements in favour of the development of nuclear technologies. Encouraged by the inclusion of nuclear power in the taxonomy (see below) and by concerns about the security of supply and energy independence, Member States that had put their programme on hold, such as Czechia, Sweden, the Netherlands, Romania and Slovenia, are planning to resume them at the same time as France, while other States, such as Poland, have expressed their interest in possessing civilian nuclear technology. Italy is also rethinking its energy policy. This phenomenon concerns the existing technology of power reactors (medium and high), but also projects, currently under development, for small modular reactors (SMRs) which are attracting increasing interest.

SMRs are designed to meet a variety of needs: carbon-free electricity generation that could replace coal-fired power plants, heat or cold production or hydrogen production. The appetite of Member States for this technology has led the European Commission to set up, in con-

junction with Nucleareurope and SNETP, the pre-Partnership whose objective is to mobilize the entire European ecosystem. This initiative, which deserves high-level political support from the European institutions, makes it possible to highlight the synergies between authorities and the European nuclear industry, widely spread across the European Union.

In addition, as part of its RepowerEU strategy, the European Commission has strengthened Europe's ambitions in terms of renewable energies and has proposed new amendments to the Renewables Directive (RED II) aimed at accelerating permitting procedures. These welcome proposals will facilitate the roll-out of renewable energies in order to make them the essential ally of the European electricity system by 2030, while guaranteeing a strict framework for the protection of biodiversity. In addition, the emergency provisions adopted under Council Regulation 2022/2577 will make it possible to speed up permitting prior to the implementation of the RED II revision.

### The European Commission's proposed 40% renewable energy take-up target has also been revised upwards to 45%.

At the same time, legislative work on the revision of the Renewable Energy Directive (RED II) has intensified, with important issues at stake for the EDF Group and its activities, in particular the role of renewable hydrogen and its production methods, and the recognition of the renewable nature of solid forest biomass and hydroelectric plants. In this context, EDF has conveyed the need to facilitate the transition in all EU territories, in particular by allowing the use of bioliquids for the conversion of fossil power plants in the outermost regions.

## 2023 Outlook

- During 2023, progress on the European partnership around SMRs should enable the EU to position its industrial strength in this sector and enhance synergies between European actors.
- As far as renewables are concerned, the first half of 2023 will be marked by the finalisation of the inter-institutional negotiations on the revision of the renewables directive. The Group will remain highly committed to tackling the crucial issues relating to the role of woody biomass and renewable, low-carbon hydrogen in the decarbonisation of the European economy.

# Sustainable finance & investment frameworks

Achieving the European climate objectives will require massive investment, in particular in energy infrastructure, in the coming decades. To channel financial flows to relevant activities, the European Union relies on two tools: sustainable finance, which primarily targets private funding, and the State aid scheme, which targets public funding.

During 2022 several sustainable finance projects under the three pillars of this field were completed: reporting, taxonomy and financial tools. The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) was finally adopted at the end of the year, paving the way for companies to publish indicators from 2025 (for the year 2024) on how their business model affects their sustainability and how external sustainability factors (such as climate change and human rights

issues) influence their activities. This will enable investors and other stakeholders to make informed decisions.

The taxonomy was supplemented by a new delegated act enshrining the inclusion of certain nuclear activities. After an intense political battle, nuclear power generation has been classified as a transitional sustainable activity, thereby recognising its substantial contribution to the fight against climate change. The first reporting exercise will take place in early 2023 and will permit the implementation of the technical criteria. In addition, the draft delegated act on the four environmental objectives (Taxo 4) is expected to be ready in the first half of 2023. It will be used to establish the technical criteria required for the contribution of an economic activity to be recognised in favour of pollution





prevention, the conservation of biodiversity, the circular economy and the preservation of water resources.

The European institutions have also reached an advanced stage in their discussions on the regulation concerning European standards applicable to green bonds. This text should be adopted during the first half of 2023.

In addition to its work on sustainable finance, the Commission has extensively

reviewed its State aid instruments, particularly in the light of the war in Ukraine and its implications for energy market players. The new guidelines on State aid for the climate, environmental protection and energy were published in February 2022. They provide a renewed framework allowing for public support for decarbonised energies, thus giving project developers the visibility they need to mitigate the risks associated with market price volatility and to control costs.

The war in Ukraine has led the Commission to put in place a temporary framework to allow Member States to support companies affected by rising energy prices. In this context, EDF has argued and continues to argue for technology-neutral mechanisms that provide long-term signals and strengthen the EU's energy independence. Long-term contracts, applicable in the form of CfDs (Contract for Differences) to support renewable energies, should be more widely accepted and in various forms to respond effectively to European challenges.

## 2023 Outlook

As a follow-up to its legislation on sustainable financial reporting, the European Commission published this year a directive aimed at establishing a harmonised due diligence framework. The potential human rights and environmental impacts of a company's entire value chain should be monitored and mitigated. EDF, largely through the business associations present in Brussels, supports the European ambition and the implementation of harmonised rules between Member States. These discussions will be concluded in 2023.

# Accelerating electrification and the smart use of H<sub>2</sub> and e-fuels

## The EU regulatory framework for hydrogen must support H<sub>2</sub> produced with low-carbon electricity

EDF considers that electrification is the most energy-efficient and cost-effective way to decarbonise many sectors of the economy. But in hard-to-abate industrial sectors, as well as in aviation and maritime, renewable and low-carbon electrolytic hydrogen will be needed to achieve carbon neutrality.

EDF's Hynamics was launched in 2019 to develop renewable and low-carbon electrolytic on-site hydrogen solutions. It is submitting several projects aiming for the hydrogen IPCEI (Important Project of Common European interest) launched in 2020, primarily in France and in Germany. In 2022, EDF's CEO Jean-Bernard Lévy was co-chair of the production roundtable of the EU Clean Hydrogen Alliance, which helped shape the debate with EU institutions.

In November 2022, together with 40 industrials and professional associations, EDF *called for hydrogen* produced with low-carbon electricity, including hydro power and nuclear, to be able to contribute to sectoral renewable hydrogen

targets (renewable directive and gas and hydrogen package debates). EDF also supported the eligibility of low-carbon electrolytic hydrogen to EU funds and post-Kiev support frameworks.

2022 was also supposed to be the year when the European Commission published its delegated acts finalising the definition of renewable hydrogen and the establishment of the renewable additionality principle. EDF voiced its views on this important topic, calling for robust methodologies to calculate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for hydrogen produced with electricity from the grid (public consultation answer and bilateral exchanges with the Commission).

## Follow-up of the proposals for the "ReFuel EU Aviation and Fuel EU Maritime" regulations

Through the projects of its subsidiaries (Hynamics' Hynovi project) and R&D projects (Take Kair), EDF is taking an interest in the development of low-carbon e-fuels for maritime and aviation purposes. Thus, EDF welcomes the two "Fit for 55" texts encouraging the competitive development of sustainable fuels (ReFuel EU Aviation and Fuel EU Maritime), but wishes to

emphasise the principle of technological neutrality. Therefore, 2022 was devoted to highlighting the potential of e-fuels produced from electrolytic hydrogen from the electricity grid that meet the same emission reduction criteria as renewable e-fuels. Intense negotiations are expected in 2023 on this crucial point for the continuation of our projects.

## Energy efficiency: reducing GHG emissions with low-carbon energy

In 2022, the two legislative revision proposals on energy efficiency were under discussion between the European Parliament and the European Council: the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED), and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD). In 2021 and 2022, EDF responded to several consultations from the European Commission, connected to these two texts. EDF also expressed its standpoints in sectorial associations and participated in discussions led by think tanks.

EDF fully supports the EED and EPBD revisions as part of the "Fit for 55 package". This is an opportunity to ensure that these texts are fully aligned with Green Deal climate objectives and coherent with other

strategies or legislations. Considering the target of at least -55% of GHG emission reduction by 2030, rapid and profound changes are needed to expedite the emissions reduction, particularly in the building sector: a fully decarbonised building stock has to be the primary target.

Nevertheless, these legislative works must be undertaken with a focus on affordability, taking into account the most cost-effective way to attain the climate targets. To that end, EDF supports measures to ensure an inclusive transition and welcomes energy efficiency measures aimed at low-income households and financed via dedicated instruments.

EDF believes that carbon content should be our compass while fighting EU emissions. Electrification of buildings reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, as a substitute to fossil fuels and as a way to reduce total energy consumption thanks to high energy efficiency. However, the EED revision proposal is not focused sufficiently on GHG emissions reduction: the energy efficiency first principle must incorporate a carbon non-regression principle as a sort of “climate safeguard”, to ensure that any energy efficiency solutions lead to GHG emissions

reduction per unit of consumption. In connection with this directive, EDF also called to reduce the default value of PEF (Primary Energy Factor), in order to better take into account the decarbonisation of the European production fleet.

EDF welcomes the EPBD revision proposal as an ambitious text, and a first step towards decarbonised buildings, with the goal to have a zero-emission building stock in 2050. It creates favourable conditions to push forward electrification, coupled with full decarbonisation of the power sector. With their high efficiency rate, heat pumps will considerably reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for heating and cooling buildings, just as the electrification of transportation will be supported by the roll-out in buildings of EV charging infrastructure. Nevertheless, all renewable energy sources must be considered, including those originating from networks (especially the electricity grid and district heating and cooling networks).

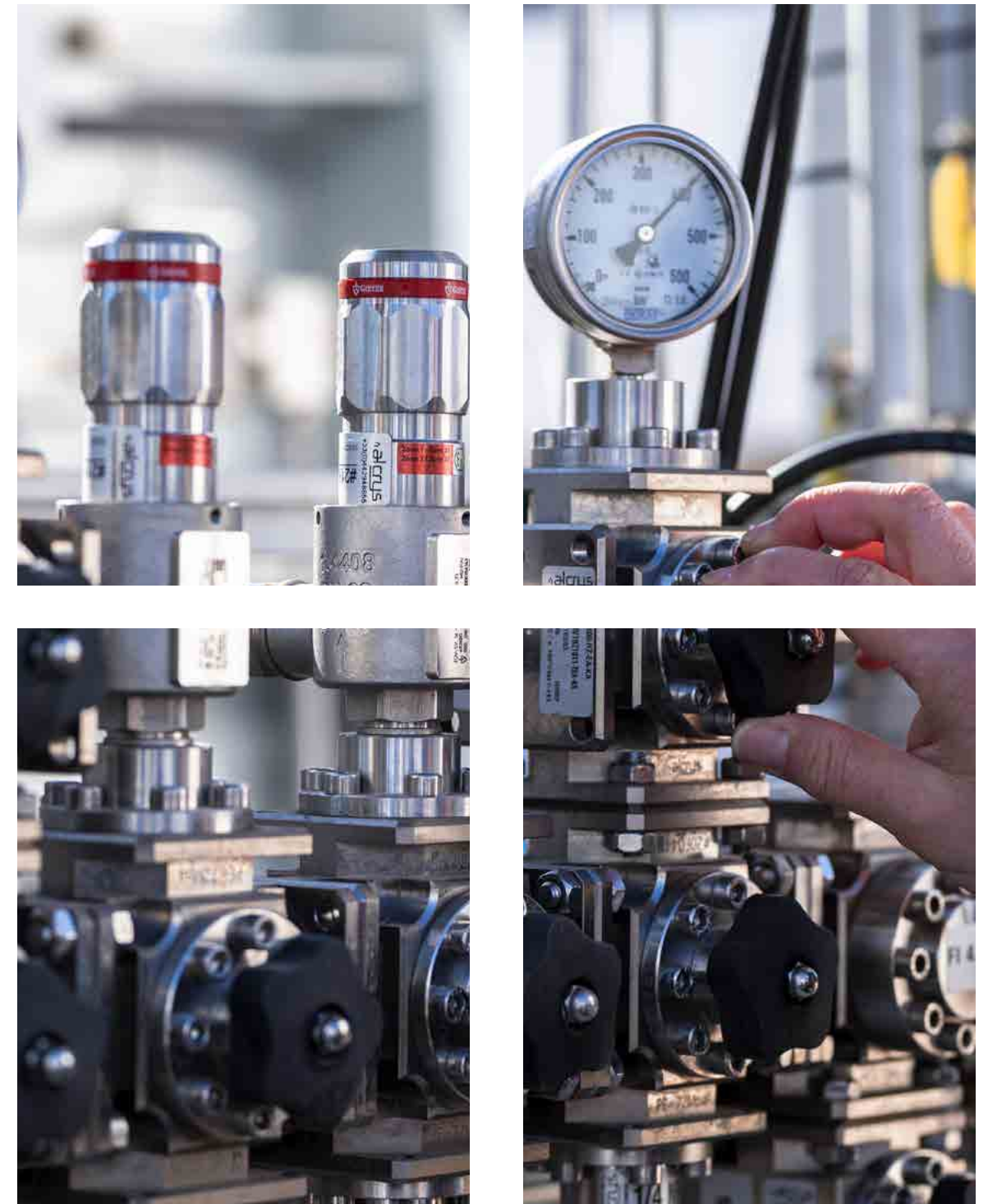
### Electric mobility

2022 was marked by a strong acceleration of the negotiations in the European Parliament and the Council on the future Regulation for the deployment of an alternative fuels infrastructure (AFIR). The

Council adopted its general approach in June. Reaffirming the principle of binding targets for the deployment of charging stations as proposed by the Commission, the Council has introduced several criteria to give Member States room for manoeuvre in the implementation of these targets. In its report adopted in October, the Parliament supported the introduction of more ambitious targets, particularly in terms of the charging power made available to electric vehicles on the road.

Throughout these negotiations, EDF has supported ambitious targets to ensure that the deployment of the infrastructure keeps pace with the increase in electric vehicle sales seen in recent years. Special attention was also given to the “Fit for 55” provisions for accelerating smart charging. These messages were conveyed directly to policymakers, via trade associations and at communication events.

The AFIR dialogues are expected to be completed in 2023. New legislative proposals in the area of mobility are also expected: decarbonisation targets for heavy-duty transportation, easier access to vehicle data, and an initiative on the electrification of corporate fleets.





# Just transition

## A just and inclusive energy transition

EDF's commitment to a just and inclusive energy transition is based on UN guiding principles on business and human rights. We strive to ensure safe and fair working conditions for everyone.

Undertaking a just transition towards our key affected stakeholders (customers, employees, communities and territories, suppliers and the planet's resources) takes commitment, planning and enactment. Towards all these stakeholders, EDF has developed 14 concrete actions to apply the principles of just transition, for instance, to supply low-carbon electricity at low-cost, to provide quality employment paying fair and competitive wages, to encourage development in impoverished areas, to support local and small suppliers, and to manage waste and promote the circular economy.

## The 2022 energy crisis, a live test for a just transition for customers

Although in France, domestic customers could be protected from soaring electricity prices thanks to the regulated electricity tariffs, this was not the case for the rest of the economy, and inflation has affected many individuals, leading to a considerable increase in energy poverty in the country.

## Handling the emergency...

As electricity is a basic necessity, since 1 April 2021, in order to do more to support its customers with unpaid bills, EDF has put an end to power cuts. EDF is going beyond its regulatory obligations by maintaining a power of 1 kVA (1,000 W), to meet the basic needs of households. Much more supportive and responsible than cutting power off, the power limitation is a last resort for customers to regularise their situation. In so doing, EDF reaffirms its

commitment to work towards universal energy access by supporting its vulnerable customers and securing its position as a preferred energy supplier, always there for its customers, whatever the circumstances.

## ...but also taking long-term action to combat energy poverty

EDF is developing initiatives to encourage the emergence of innovative solutions for the most vulnerable consumers and to mitigate energy poverty: energy donations from our customers and employees to benefit vulnerable customers in partnership with the *Abbé Pierre Foundation*, digital tools to help individuals use less energy, mobile learning spaces in regions, etc.

In 2022, as part of a co-creation partnership with the international NGO Ashoka, EDF worked with Réseau Eco-Habitat to develop innovative solutions to combat energy poverty. By identifying individuals in need, drafting a diagnosis and seeking financing, the aim of this collaboration is to help those experiencing fuel poverty to reduce their long-term energy debt by improving the energy performance of their home.

“  
*Fighting energy poverty requires cooperation, perseverance and collective intelligence. [...] This brings together players of different sizes and from different sectors and leverages our complementary resources to brainstorm new solutions.*”

Carine de Boissezon, Director of the EDF Group Impact Department



# Market Design

## 2022, annus horribilis for energy prices...

In 2021, the recovery of the economy after two years of pandemic triggered an initial increase in gas and electricity prices. With the war in Ukraine, Europe's energy supply looked to be under threat in 2022 and has provoked the immediate skyrocketing of gas and consequently electricity prices. The energy issue has topped the agenda of every European Council in 2022, triggering several emergency measures and increasing political pressure to reduce gas and electricity prices for end consumers. This has led to an anticipated agenda to revise the electricity market design.

## ... that accelerates the need for real reform of the electricity market design

For EDF, revising this design was not a new induced by the energy crisis but a need driven by the EU 2050 climate-neutral objective. Europe faces an investment cliff, in generation but also in electrification of final uses and networks.

Financing these investments means examining the electricity market design, keeping in mind the historical perspective: prior to 2000, there was no State aid to finance power plants. Since 2000, Member States have contributed increasingly to these investments, while market-based investments have been very rare. Before the energy crisis, the EU market design, organised around short-term markets, did not generate sufficient financial flows to attract private investments with no State guarantees.

## Key questions to be addressed when reforming the electricity market design

To complement the well-functioning short-term market based on marginal pricing, a set of tools could help develop long-term arrangements:

- Current forward markets have a maximum time horizon of 2-3 years. Why not extend this to 7-10 years?
- Private, freely negotiated long-term contracts (with durations of approximately 10 to 20 years) should be encouraged.

- When needed, introduction of long-term contracts with state guarantee for new carbon-neutral assets.
- For Member States that want it, an opt-in in regulated tariffs should be preserved in order to protect consumers.

As well as improving long-term contracts, the clean energy package needs to be strengthened when it comes to demand response and reduction, adopting capacity mechanisms as the default option of the market design, rather than the exception.

The reform of the market design should avoid two risky strategies: (a) not changing anything by refusing to develop long-term markets and (b) re-regulating the entire sector via generalised CfDs. The EU would then certainly fail to achieve its climate, security of supply and affordability objectives.

# Digital strategy



Legislative work in the digital field, which is the Commission's second major priority with the Green Deal, accelerated in 2022.

Primary area of interest for EDF: cybersecurity. A triilogue agreement was reached in May 2022 on the revision of the NIS Directive, a core component of the EU's strategy in this area. EDF welcomed the adoption of this text, which should lead to an increased level of cybersecurity within the EU in strategic sectors, including electricity. The Group welcomes the harmonisation of reporting requirements and the fact that the level of risk and the cost of implementation are taken into account in the definition of measures.

The Parliament and Council's review of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) regulation also continued in 2022. The Council adopted its general approach at the end of December and MEPs tabled numerous amendments to the text. EDF supports the overall goal

of the regulation to establish a framework for AI systems using a risk-based approach, while calling for compliance requirements for "high-risk" AI systems to be streamlined. Taking into account the unique characteristics and regulations of the sector is also a priority for EDF. EDF's EU Affairs Division has stepped up contacts with decision-makers to promote these positions on the subject.

The European Commission published a Data Act in February 2022 to promote the exchange of industrial data, especially from connected devices. EDF welcomed this proposal, particularly the provisions aimed at protecting European companies' data from illicit transfers and at strengthening interoperability. These are two areas of work of Gaïa-X, of which EDF is a founding member. In addition, EDF proposes to strengthen the provisions to protect sensitive data and data valued by companies in the context of negotiations.

## 2023 Outlook

2023 will see ongoing negotiations on the AI Act and the Data Act. The Commission is also expected to initiate the first actions of the "Digitalising the energy system – EU action plan" published in October 2022. EDF will closely follow this work, and in particular the measures aimed at creating an energy data space at EU level.

# Research & Innovation



## EDF'S R&D

EDF's contribution to the transition to a low-carbon economy builds on the know-how and expertise of its R&D department.

At the heart of EDF's "*raison d'être*", Research & Innovation activities are key for all EDF's business lines, units and subsidiaries, focusing on improving performance in all current activities and preparing the future by working on innovative technologies serving energy, digital and societal transition.

EDF R&D is present worldwide, with three main research centres in France (Saclay, Chatou, Renardière), but also in the UK, Germany, Italy, Singapore and China. The EDF Group R&D laboratories, staffed by around 2,000 researchers across 14 sites in France and worldwide, are at the heart of the Company's major challenges. They cover all trades and activities of the energy sector. They provide day-to-day support to EDF's business lines and subsidiaries.

## EDF R&D in Europe

EDF Group welcomes next generation EU as well as instruments such as the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the Just Transition Fund and REACT-EU, and aims to play a major role in this process through the implementation of projects in the field of renewables, hydrogen, clean transport, and energy efficiency.

R&I is a key vector for bringing EDF expertise to the EU institutions, increasing understanding of the challenges of the energy and digital transition, and shaping the Commission's R&I roadmap.

EDF also contributes to the activities of the European Technology and Innovation Platforms (ETIP) and Public Private Partnerships (PPP) at European level, collaborating with academic and industrial organisations to define the R&I priorities and objectives to be met to achieve the EU's energy and climate goals.

## EDF'S ENFIN FINANCING PLATFORM

Closely working with EDF R&D, and in charge of supporting the implementation of innovative projects in different fields such as renewables, smart cities, energy efficiency, storage, hydrogen, alternative fuels for mobility and flexibility, the European Financing Team experts (ENFIN) are a valuable support to R&D activities in Brussels.

ENFIN backs EDF's efforts by identifying funding programmes to unlock the implementation of innovative projects. It also works on the preparation and submission of proposals to the IPCEI framework and European programmes such as Horizon Europe, ERDF, INTERREG, Connecting Europe Facility, Innovation Fund and LIFE, whose aim is to provide the financial support needed to design, develop and test solutions and key technologies in the achievement of EU's climate and energy targets.

Aligned with EDF's "raison d'être" and objectives focusing on building a net-zero energy future with electricity and

innovative solutions and services, ENFIN has contributed to the financing and implementation of numerous projects spanning several fields: V2G (vehicle to Grid), photovoltaic (PV) self-consumption, heat recovery, positive energy blocks, fast charging stations for electric vehicles (EV), heating networks and hydrogen infrastructures for mobility purposes.

The ENFIN team actively contributes to the EDF Group's involvement in many collaborative projects. Below are some examples of Horizon Europe projects awarded in 2022 in which EDF is involved: from nuclear to renewable generation, from sustainable farming to cyber security, from district-heating and cooling and energy storage to system integration.

- **CLIENFARMS:** demonstrate, evaluate and improve technical, organisational and financial solutions at farm level that will contribute to achieving climate neutrality in European agriculture by 2050.
- **GLOCALFLEX:** to demonstrate replicable solutions for a cross-sector compliant energy ecosystem.

- **TANDEM:** On SMR (Small Modular Reactors) for the nuclear sector.
- **FLOW:** on the estimation of the wind power production potential for off-shore farms.
- **PRAETORIAN:** tools that will help critical infrastructure security managers taking decisions to anticipate and withstand potential cyber, physical or combined security threats.
- **REWARDHEAT:** develop a new generation of innovative, high-efficiency district heating and cooling networks serving a sustainable urban energy mix (waste heat and renewables).
- **SENERGY NET:** demonstrating the technical and economic capability of multi-energy systems to decarbonize the heating and cooling, power and gas sectors through renewable energy sources produced locally.
- **STORIES:** foster the creation of a European ecosystem of companies and research organisations on innovative energy storage technologies.

## Other projects awarded in 2022 include:

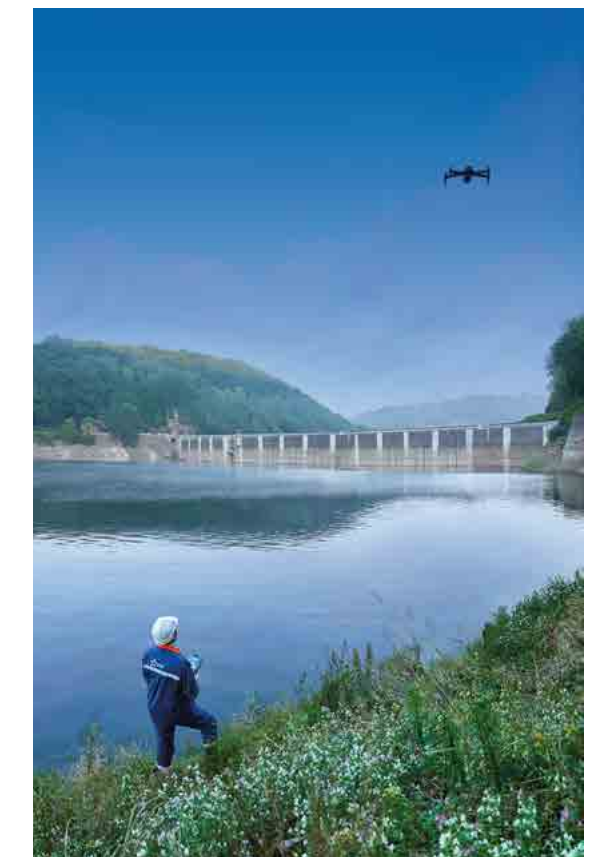
- **EVVE** (Innovation Fund): the first European large-scale vehicle-to-grid (V2G) demonstrator .
- **MULTICIT'HY** (CEF-T Fund): develop hydrogen generation and distribution stations for roads, inland waterways and maritime transport.
- **HYPUSH** (Innovation Fund, Small scale): transport boat powered by hydrogen fuel cells for bulk transports on inland waterways transport in the Paris metropolitan region.
- **MOB'HYZEE** Hydrogen Ecosystems for Zero-Emission Mobility (CEF-T): deploying a network of four Hydrogen Refuelling Stations (HRS) for buses and heavy-duty vehicles in Dunkerque, Vallée Sud Grand Paris and Cannes.

After its successful involvement in the Horizon 2020 programme, EDF plans to contribute actively to Horizon Europe, the new framework programme of the European Commission.

Within the European Affairs Division, EDF's European Financing Team (ENFIN)

is also responsible for analysing trends in European R&I and contributing to the influence of EDF R&I at European level.

ENFIN supports the development and implementation of European R&I collaborative projects to promote synergies with its European counterparts (research laboratories, R&D centres, etc.) and contribute to the dissemination of the EDF Group's innovative solutions at European level.



# Stakeholders

## EDF relations with trade associations and lobbying process review

In 2022, EDF continued to advocate its climate-related positions in support of the Paris Agreement and the EU climate neutrality target in all its trade associations.

More specifically, EDF strongly supported the Fit for 55 and RepowerEU ambitions regarding notably:

- Ambitious targets on energy efficiency. Associations such as SmartEN and EHPA adopted stances on the revision of this directive.
- The development of low-carbon generation assets, such as renewables, through the acceleration of permitting procedures. Wind Europe, EASE, Bioenergy Europe are aligned with these goals.
- An ambitious revision of the EU-ETS directive and the development of a carbon border adjustment mechanism.

The association SGI-Europe published position papers on both topics.

- The acceleration of electrification of use, notably of transport through the AFIR (Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation) directive. EDF, through UFE, took part in the internal discussions within Eurelectric.
- The promotion of low-carbon and renewable hydrogen to decarbonise economies, which is the commitment of the association Hydrogen Europe.

Over the past year, EDF also supported the need to redesign the electricity market and participated in discussions within associations such as Eurelectric

These associations, and others in which EDF is involved, such as NuclearEurope and Euroheat and Power, are fully committed to the climate neutrality target, with the full backing of EDF membership.

EDF will continue to actively engage in discussions on an enabling policy frame-

work to achieve net-zero emissions in the EU by 2050.

## Associations and lobbying process review

The diversity of the Group's businesses means that EDF has a strong presence in several professional associations, from general bodies such as Eurelectric (via the Union Française de l'Electricité), to much more specialised organisations such as ECSO, *the European Cyber Security Organisation*.

EDF's European Affairs Division leads the network of EDF Group members that are active in these various associations, sharing the Group's positions and regularly reminding them of the ethical rules that must be respected in responsible lobbying.

EDF's European Affairs Division animates closely all engagement of EDF's entities with trade associations including their alignment with EDF's "raison d'être".

All lobbying activities are therefore conducted in line with the principles of the just transition as well as the goals of the Paris Agreement, and EDF also monitors partner associations to align their actions with these.

A review process has been put in place which triggers - when needed - follow-up actions. It notably consists in yearly reviews and assessments of EDF's partner associations, based on their alignment with the Paris Agreement and with just transition principles. Each entity examines EDF's role in the association and the extent to which they align with the Group's "raison d'être".

Should a gap be identified between the association's principles and what the Group stands for as described in its "raison d'être" and its commitment to the Paris Agreement, EDF provides analysis on the way in which, while remaining a member of the association, it can continue to promote its values.

“  
The Renewable jackpot for all Europeans can be organised with the electricity markets we have jointly developed over the past two decades. We “only” have to complete these markets, and we have to combine them with a few instruments that have already proven their usefulness during the current crisis.”

Leonardo Meeus, Director of the Florence School of Regulation

Each entity/business line is responsible for the associations of which it is a member.

Once complete, if this review process sheds light on clear misalignment, EDF's stance is to encourage the associations to take a more proactive approach to climate advocacy. EDF is convinced that it can sometimes more efficiently bring change from within, rather than from outside.

However, if we feel that there is little likelihood of change, our review process may result in the decision to leave some organisations and consider joining new ones.

The so-called “Brussels bubble” is made up of a myriad of professional associations and partnerships as well as several think tanks. In conjunction with the European institutions, this wide range of participants taking part in the democratic debate constitutes an environment that helps build a consensus that is key to European legislative and regulatory decision-making.

The think tanks of which EDF is a member, CERRE, Bruegel, ERCST, FSR and EPC, largely cover the spectrum of the Group’s activities and are the ideal place for debates that help to build constructive arguments for the European Union’s regulatory choices. For example, the CERRE (Centre on Regulation in Europe) launched at the beginning of 2022 a front-runner study analysing the impact of the energy crisis and climate goals on Europe’s wholesale and retail electricity markets, with high-level academic partners. This work led to the publication in December 2022

of a report titled “Recommendations for a Future-Proof Electricity Market Design” and to a list of both short- and long-term recommendations to shape a market design resilient to shocks and to the coming evolutions in the electricity system.

The think tank EPC (European Policy Centre) organised a first workshop at the beginning of 2022 on the new Guidelines on State Aid for Climate, Environmental Protection and Energy. At the end of 2022, a workshop brought together utilities companies (Iberdrola, Statkraft and EDF) and the European Commission to debate on the subject “The EU internal electricity market: Reflections on market design”.

Additionally, Jean-Bernard Lévy was President of the Eurelectric association until the end of his term as the CEO of EDF in November 2022. He notably strove for propositions from the association, in the midst of the energy crisis.

More globally, EDF sits on the board of several associations, such as Nuclear Europe, EFET, SmartEN, and EFIEES.

## Complete list of EDF memberships

### Associations/Federations:

- BioEnergy Europe
- CLG Europe
- COGEN Europe
- EASE
- ECSO
- EFET
- EFIEES
- EHPA
- Euroheat and Power
- EuroHeat&Power
- France Industrie
- Hydrogen Europe
- IETA
- Nuclear Europe
- SIG Europe
- SmartEn
- UFE - Eurelectric
- WindEurope

### Think tanks:

- Bruegel
- Florence School of Regulation
- CERRE
- ERSCT
- European Policy Center

### Others

- Friends of Europe

## 2023 Outlook

The main focus of the trade associations’ work in 2023 will be the revision of the European electricity market design. Through its network, EDF intends to contribute actively to the discussions in order to obtain legislation that promotes energy efficiency and a market-compatible investment framework for the development of all low-carbon technologies that meets the needs of security of supply, energy independence and decarbonisation targets. All consumers, both domestic and industrial, should benefit from the energy transition with predictable and stable power prices.



### Focus on CERRE (Centre on Regulation in Europe)

CERRE is a Brussels-based think tank specialised in the regulation of network industries: energy, mobility, telco/tech. Its membership brings together corporates and national regulators operating in these sectors, to facilitate exchanges between the two and reflect their views in the think tank's written output. CERRE has a bench of senior European Profs of economics and law specialised in these three fields, based across Europe, and now also in the US.

During 2022, CERRE produced a series of reports and recommendations for the reform of Europe's electricity markets to feed into the European Commission's work on the issue. The CERRE team also produced reports on the digitalisation of the energy sector and energy data sharing, and the future role of distribution system operators (DSOs). Ongoing projects include reports on the role of hydrogen and renewable gases, the future of offshore wind energy, and the resilience of energy infrastructure.



### Focus on FSR (Florence School of Regulation)

The Florence School of Regulation (FSR), an entity of the European University Institute, has been active for years, being a reference in research and teaching on energy regulation, but also on water and transport. In 2022 the FSR saw an important event, with the nomination of its new director, Leonardo Meeus, successor to Jean-Michel Glachant, who retired, while remaining an active researcher. At the core of the European debates, the FSR took a stance in December 2022 on the reform of the electricity market design, sending a clear message from the academic world.



### Focus on SNETP (Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform)

The Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform (SNETP), launched in 2007, is recognised by the European Commission as an ETIP within the SET Plan (European Technology and Innovation Platform). With the objective to represent the nuclear fission related technologies, the SNETP Association today incorporates three pillars: NUGENIA (Nuclear Generation II & III technologies), ESNII (European Sustainable Nuclear Industry Initiative) and NC2I (Nuclear Cogeneration Initiative). The SNETP is composed of around 110 members from 25 countries, gathering nuclear power plant operators, research centres, nuclear industry and technical support organisations. The Governing Board is chaired by a President (Bernard Salha, CTO of EDF group and director of EDF R&D) and a Vice President composed of 18 elected representatives (nine from the private sector and nine from R&D centres, in-

cluding TSOs) and three representatives appointed by every pillar. Against a backdrop of climate change and global competition, SNETP is convinced that nuclear energy can play a significant role in meeting climate objectives as a

zero-greenhouse gas emissions energy source, especially in sectors where decarbonisation poses a challenge, such as industry and transportation.

### Jean-Bernard Lévy's term of office as President of Eurelectric ended in November 2022.

Eurelectric is the association representing the entire European electric industry, bringing together 3,500 companies throughout 32 national federations, including the UFE (Union Française de l'Electricité) in France. This is a key association in the framework of the energy transition because it is through electrification that the decarbonisation of the European Union will be achieved. Jean-Bernard Lévy's presidency of Eurelectric, which began in May 2021 in the midst of discussions on the Fit for 55 package and on taxonomy, was quickly disrupted by the surge in gas prices and its contagion to electricity prices in the wake of the post-conflict economic recovery. The outbreak of war in Ukraine, followed by the gradual drying up of gas supplies from Russia, put the issue of energy supply security, like that of inflation, firmly at the top of the political agenda. Under the impulse of Jean-Bernard Lévy, Eurelectric has endeavoured to remind European decision-makers of the importance of electrification in order to overcome the pitfall of our dependence on fossil fuels and to meet our carbon neutrality objectives. At the same time, the work initiated at the beginning of the mandate on the improvement of the market design rules around a long-term approach has been intensified to position the association in the European debate. The results are expected in the first quarter of 2023.





# Communication

In 2022, the end of the pandemic paved the way for a return to more traditional communication activities, with an increase in in-person events and meetings/exchanges with stakeholders and the media, and a partial abandonment of virtual and hybrid events.

## OUR KEY EVENTS OF THE YEAR

23 February



### Eurelectric roundtable

“Prospects for Small Modular Reactors in a Decarbonised Energy System”

On 23 February 2022, after COP26 and the publication of the complementary delegated acts for the EU taxonomy, Eurelectric brought together a group of stakeholders for an informal discussion on the economic, regulatory and societal challenges and opportunities for small modular reactors (SMRs) in Europe. EDF illustrated the potential of a low-carbon solution for reliable

power generation as an attractive investment option for some countries compared with large reactors. EDF also cited the need for increased cooperation between the European authorities and the industry.

**(Investment €15k)**

## 29 March



**Alexandre Perra,**  
EDF Group Senior Executive Vice-President,  
Innovation, Strategy and Planning

### EBS Clean Energy Summit 2022

#### “Europe’s ambitious shift towards Renewables”

The Clean Energy Summit is one of the most important events of the Brussels bubble, with more than 2,000 participants and high-level speakers from the European Institutions.

The Renewable Energy Directive (RED) and the European ambition to increase the percentage of renewable energies from 32% to 40% were the

main focus of the 2022 edition, as companies face the challenges of the new energy market realities.

On this occasion, EDF affirmed its support to the Commission for maintaining the ambitions and raising the renewable target for 2030, insisting on the difficulties linked to permitting and the length of administrative procedures and highlighting the complementarity between the different low-carbon sources, also mentioning the key role of hydropower as a renewable and controllable energy.

**(Investment €20k)**

## 14 June



**Xavier Girre,**  
EDF Group Senior Executive Vice-President,  
Finance

### Friends of Europe Climate & Energy Summit

#### “Financing the transition to climate neutrality”

Since its inception, the annual summit of the think tank Friends of Europe dedicated to energy and climate has attracted a high-level European audience and top-notch speakers from the political world, European institutions, industry, associations and academia.

The financing of the transition to carbon neutrality through taxonomy and green bonds was on the

agenda of the 2022 edition. EDF illustrated its vision of carbon neutrality based on all decarbonised, transitional, and intermittent but also controllable means of generating electricity, as is the case with nuclear assets, a powerful lever for strengthening the Union’s security of supply and energy independence.

**(Investment €23k)**

## 28 September



**Frederic Fontan,**  
EDF Head of Regulation,  
Strategy and Development Division Customers,  
Services and Territories Branch

### EHPA Heat & Pump European Forum

**“Ambition requires action: Heat Pumps to accelerate RePowerEU”**

On 28 September 2022, the European Heat & Pumps Association (EHPA), with the support of several sponsors, including EDF, organised its annual Forum with as the main topic “The role of heat pumps in the REPowerEU package”. On this occasion EDF stressed the need for a complete conversion of the heating and cooling sector and a rapid roll-out of heat pump solutions with the support of public authorities. A

challenge that is also an opportunity for Europe to look ahead to a future in which buildings and industries become active nodes in an electrical network powered mainly by renewable and low-carbon energies.

**(Investment €10k)**

## 1 December



**Pierre de Montlivault,**  
President of French Federation of Energy  
and Environmental Services

### EURACTIV DEBATE SERIES

**“The wood-energy sector - An ally for the sustainable management of EU forests?”**

In July 2021, the European Commission submitted a new proposal for the revision of the Renewable Energy Directive (RED II) to the European Parliament. The position adopted by the latter introduced a new definition of primary woody biomass that refers to all wood taken directly from forests, including residues from responsible forest management. A definition used to cap the use of “primary woody biomass” and make it ineligible for financial support. This position contrasts with the objective to increase the target

for renewable energies to 45% by 2030.

EDF emphasised the importance of biomass – a renewable, low-carbon energy source – in anticipation of climate targets. From its contribution to sustainable development objectives to its role as a major employer, the sector also contributes to responsible forest management.

**(Investment €20k)**

# Press



18/05/2022 - Energy Industry Review - Talking with the expert - Interview with Jean-Bernard Lévy, EDF's CEO "Decarbonising Energy Systems, Part of the Solution to the Fight Against Climate Change"

"Across the EU, 36% of GHG emissions come from buildings. The integration of electric technologies (for example heat pumps) can lower the carbon footprint of buildings, while increasing energy efficiency, reducing air pollution, and improving living conditions. Europe must protect itself against fossil fuel price volatility through electrification that is not only the best solution to meet Europe's decarbonisation targets, but it will also ensure energy sovereignty."

**Jean-Bernard Lévy,**  
Chairman and CEO EDF Group

## Energy Monitor

25/05/2022 - Energy Monitor: "French utility EDF centres innovation strategy on AI and blockchain"

"EDF is one of the biggest energy R&D spenders in the world, not just on nuclear, but also on renewables, hydrogen, AI and blockchain. EDF is one of the few companies able to address energy innovation right across the value chain, from upstream to downstream. Our corporate venture capital arm has invested in over 25 start-ups. These investments cover nearly the whole range of our strategic goals as carbon-neutral solutions, electric mobility, energy efficiency and hydrogen development."

**Julien Villeret,**  
Chief Innovation Officer EDF Group



24/06/2022 - ForesightDK: "Hydrogen sector targets production boost"

"At EDF Group we expect that for some time green hydrogen will be mostly used for activities that cannot be decarbonised otherwise, such as plastics, fertilisers or petroleum refining for heavy transport. The inefficiency of the production process means that using green hydrogen to replace gas in power plants or as storage for renewable energy - both for which alternatives are technically possible - will not make economic sense before 2040 or 2050, by which time, alternatives may have matured."

**Marion Labatut,**  
Deputy Director EU Affairs EDF Group

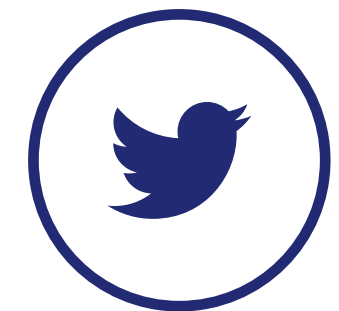


20/12/2022 - Euractiv: France slams "hypocrisy" of "low-carbon hydrogen critics"

"Nuclear electricity is useful when electricity is needed, but when it has to be put in the texts, it is no longer there," said French Minister Pannier-Runacher at Monday's Energy Council meeting in Brussels. "Torpedoing the French hydrogen strategy is totally counterproductive and will only increase dependence on imports," Marion Labatut, EDF's deputy director for European affairs, told EURACTIV France.

**Marion Labatut,**  
Deputy Director EU Affairs, EDF Group

## Social Media figures @EDF\_EUAffairs



**1740 followers**  
(+15% vs 2021)  
**More than 600K impressions in 2022**



**35 620 followers**  
(+3% vs 2021)  
**300.5K impressions in 2022**

# Sponsored content

23/03/2021 – POLITICO: “Energy prices, geopolitical crisis and net-zero goals: a brave new Europe towards energy independence”

*“A net-zero Europe is an evolving process. But we have almost run out of time. 2050 is only one investment cycle away. We strongly believe that this energy crisis is the impetus to accelerate Europe’s energy transition. The direction is clearly irreversible. We need to deploy more renewables much faster, by ensuring swift permitting and licensing procedures at EU level.”*

**by Jean-Bernard Lévy,**  
Chairman and CEO of EDF Group

**Francesco Starace,**  
CEO of ENEL

**Ignacio S. Galán,**  
Chairman and CEO of Iberdrola

11/05/2022 – Euractiv “Towards the mass adoption of smart and bidirectional charging, the key contribution of the Fit for 55 package”

*“Electrification will be the main driver of decarbonisation in the transport sector, which represents 30% of EU CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. EDF strongly supports increased deployment targets for public recharging infrastructure based on their contribution to the flexibility of the electricity system in the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation. We now need to keep this level of ambition all along the legislative process and thus make electric mobility an ally of the EU’s energy transition.”*

**Jean-Philippe Laurent,**  
President of IZIVIA  
and Strategy and Development Director of EDF

6/12/2022 – EURACTIV “Wood-energy sector worried by EU attempt to limit biomass use”

*“We need biomass to be able to reach our objectives in France for decarbonising the heating sector,” said Pierre de Montlivault, president of the French Federation of Energy and Environmental Services (Fedene). But the best way to do that with the minimum quantity of wood is to make energy savings,” he added, underlining that energy savings should be the first priority of energy policy in Europe.”*

**Pierre de Montlivault,**  
President of the French Federation of Energy and Environmental Services (Fedene)

# 2022

ANNUAL REPORT

european  
affairs division

Editorial:

**EDF European Affairs Division | Communication**

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