



Mr. Tim Hamers

Global Biofuels Alliance knowledge webinar

*Renewable Gas Certificate for
biomethane*
25 June 2025

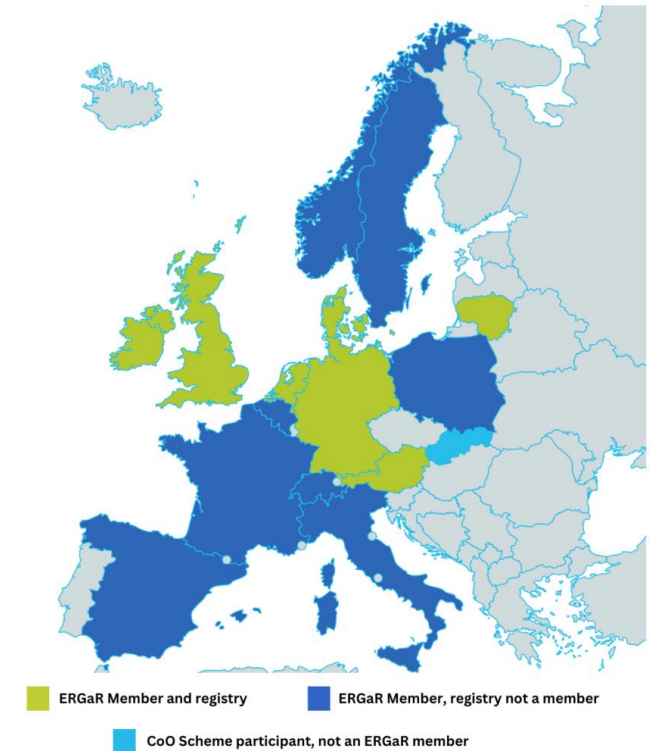


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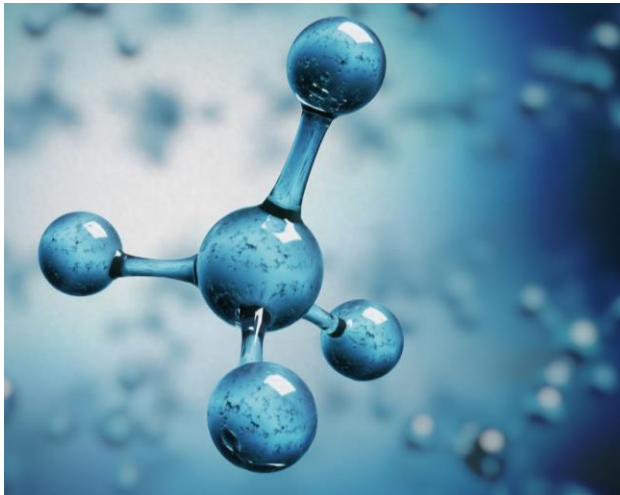
Introducing ERGaR

- ERGaR is the **European Renewable Gas Registry**
- What do we do?
 - Facilitate the cross-border transfers of renewable gas certificates (Certificates/Guarantees of Origin)
 - Provide a forum for the collaboration of renewable gas registries and market participants in Europe



Why certification?

Non-renewable methane from grid



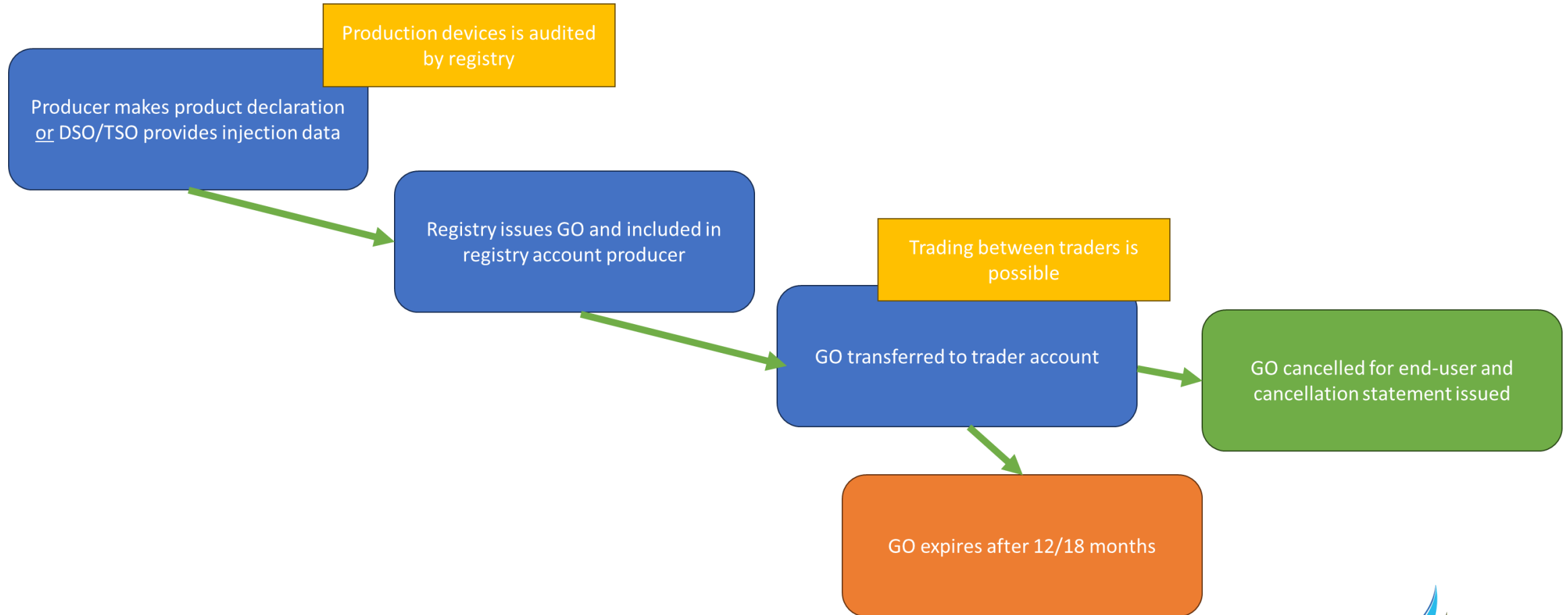
Biomethane from grid



Types of certificates

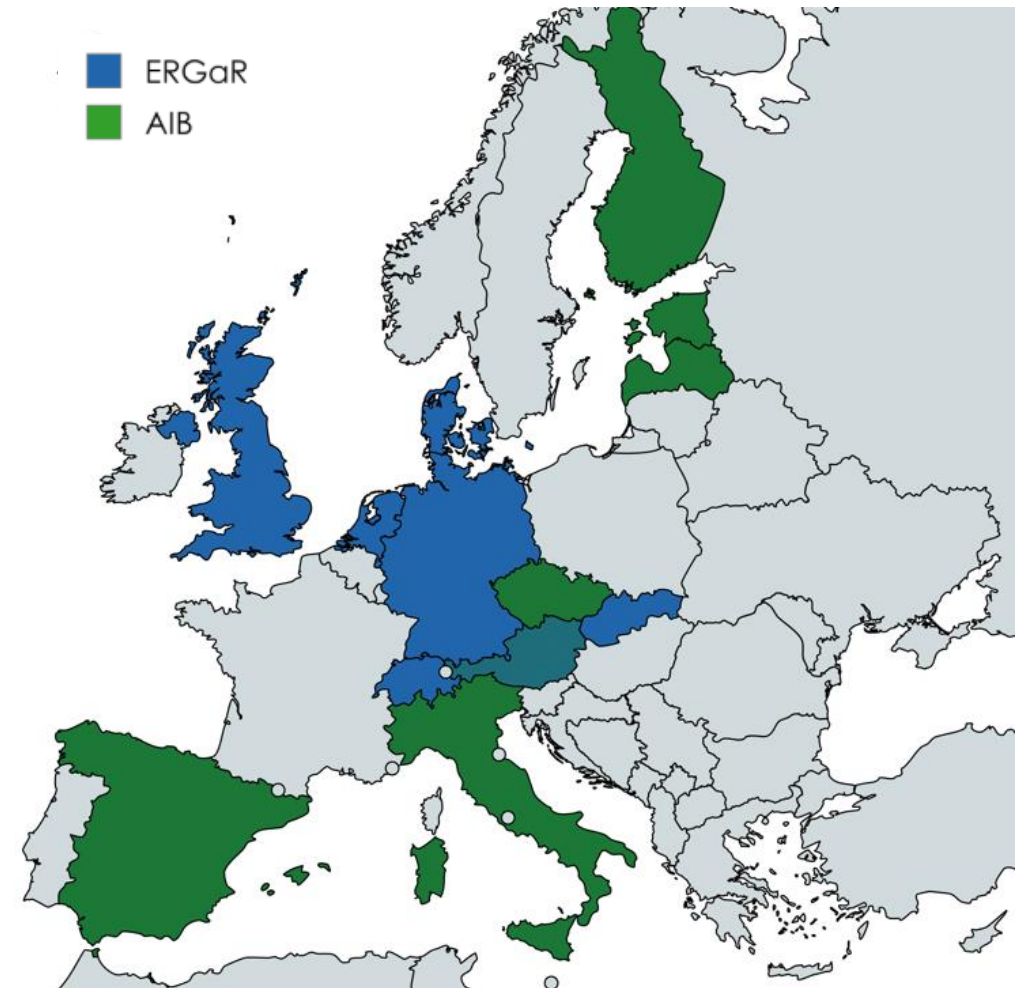
Key characteristics			
Certificates	Guarantee of Origin (GO)	Proof of Sustainability	Others (e.g. Certificate of Origin)
Legal basis	Art. 19 RED II	Art. 25-31 RED II	None, national legislation
Purpose	Consumer disclosure	Target counting	Renewable obligations, disclosure
Verification	EN 16325	Recognised voluntary schemes	National legislation
Issuing body	Government appointed	Sometimes national databases, none	Differs (e.g. dena)
System	Book & claim	Mass balancing	(Generally) book & claim

Guarantee of Origin – in practice



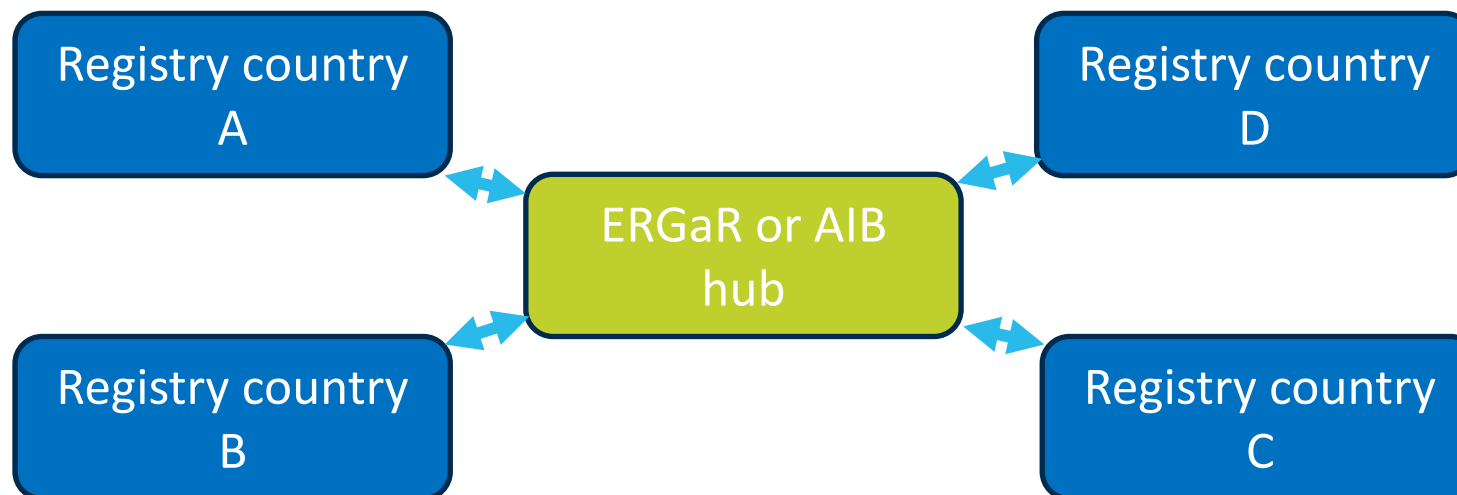
ERGaR CoO Scheme

- Launched in Q1 2021
- 7 system participants at the moment
 - Sometimes government approved (e.g. NL, DK, SK, CH) with a GO, sometimes not (e.g. DE, UK, AT) with a CoO

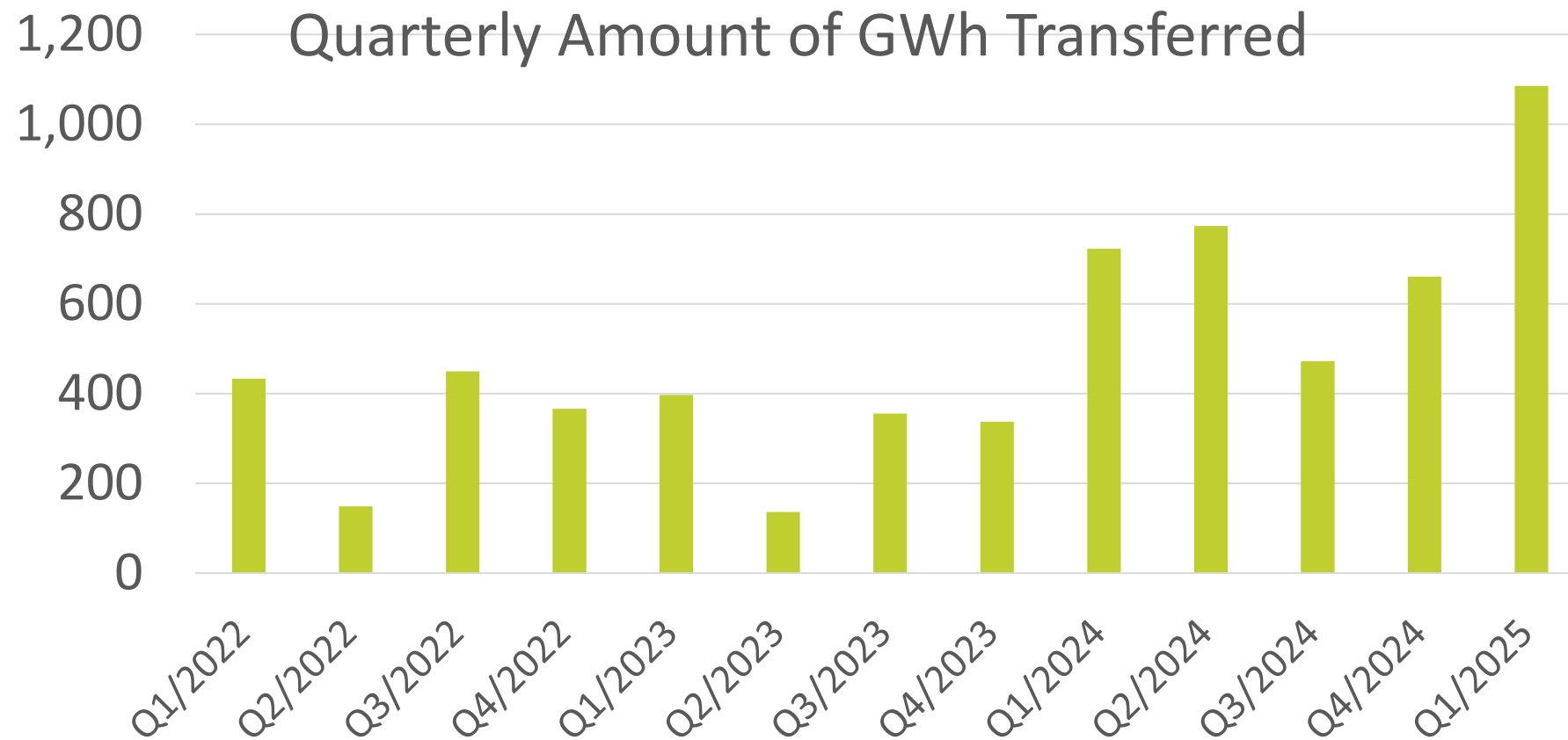


Cross-border trading GOs/COs

- Cross border trade via ERGaR or AIB for member countries
 - Easier with one centralised hub than bilateral agreements between all countries
 - Ongoing discussions on cooperation with AIB
 - AIB Gas Scheme members: Spain, Italy, Austria, Czech Republic, Latvia, Brussels & Finland



Statistics



Challenges cross-border GO trading

- No GO registry in each country
- Not all GO registries connected to same Hub
- Requires account in various GO registries

Proof of sustainability

- Document that confirms the production is sustainable according to RED II rules
- PDF document can be sent by email across all borders
 - No capacity bookings required on EU gas grid

Proof of Sustainability (PoS) for Biofuels and Bioliquids V4.2

For biofuels and bioliquids according to the Renewable Energy Directive (RED) and the Fuel Quality Directive (FQD), both amended through Directive (EU) 2015/1513

Unique Number of Sustainability Declaration:

Place and date of dispatch:

Date of issuance:

 **ISCC**
International Sustainability
to Carbon Certification
www.iscc-system.org

Supplier	Recipient
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Certification System: ISCC EU	Contract Number:
Certificate Number:	

1. General information

Type of Product:

Type of Raw Material:

Additional Information (voluntary):

Country of Origin (of the raw material):

Quantity: ☐ m³ ☐ metric tons

Energy content (MJ): MJ

2. Sustainability criteria of the biomass according to Article 17 RED:

The raw material complies with the sustainability criteria according to Art. 17 (3), (4) and (5) RED¹ ☐ Yes ☐ No

The raw material meets the definition of waste or residue according to the RED, i.e. it was not intentionally produced and not intentionally modified, or contaminated, or discarded, to meet the definition of waste or residue² ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Information

Total default value according to RED applied ☐ Yes ☐ No

E = Total GHG emissions from supply and use of the fuel (gCO₂eq/MJ) gCO₂eq/MJ

E = $E_{ec} + E_l + E_p + E_{td} + E_u - E_{sca} - E_{ccs} - E_{cor} - E_{ee}$ gCO₂eq/MJ

GHG emission saving³:
0,0% (for biofuels 83,8 gCO₂eq/MJ)
0,0% (for electricity production 91 gCO₂eq/MJ)
0,0% (for heat production 77 gCO₂eq/MJ)
0,0% (for cogeneration 85 gCO₂eq/MJ)

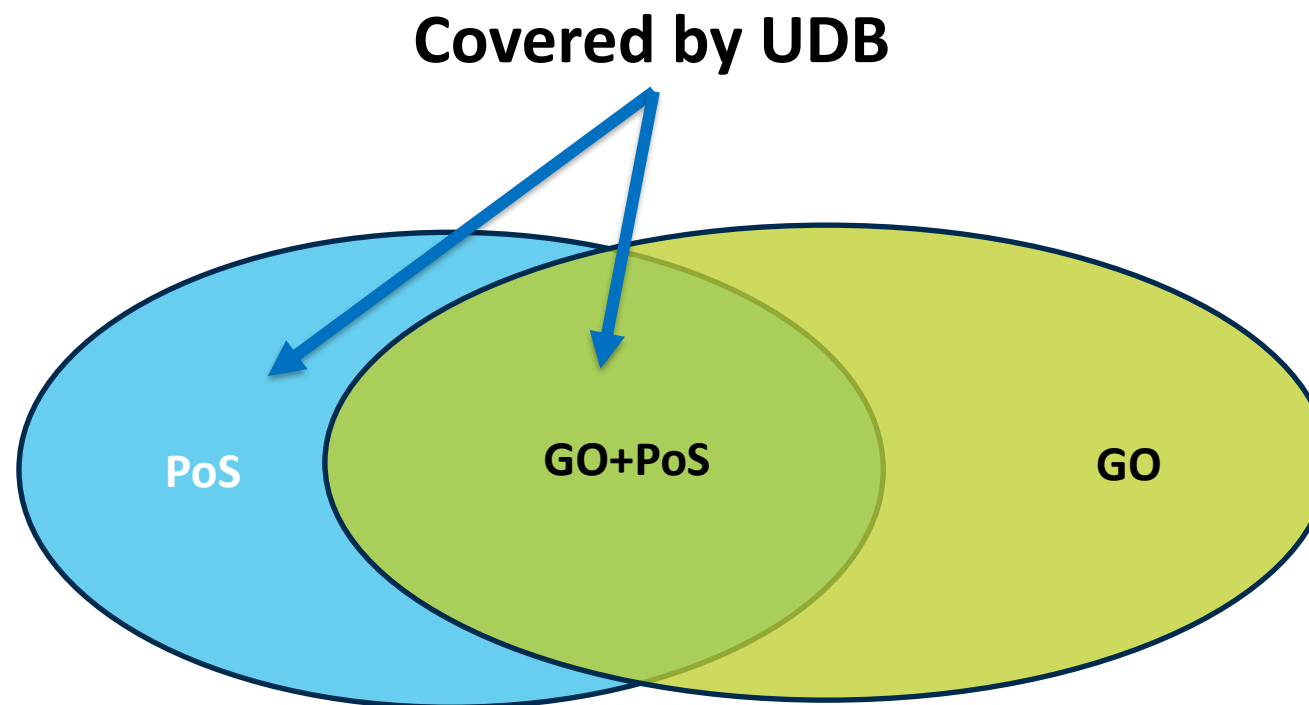
If the GHG emission savings are below 60%:
The installation where the final biofuel or bioliquid was produced started physical production of biofuels or bioliquids after 5 October 2015 ☐ Yes ☐ No

Not valid without ID number of the ISCC certificate above

Union Database

- New Union Database will replace current system of tracking and tracing ownership of PoS
 - Based on article 31a Renewable Energy Directive
 - Not a trading platform
 - Many questions still open -> **i.e. major disclaimer on presentation**

UDB scope



Impact UDB on cross-border trade

- More harmonized market for GO + PoS
- More clarity
- Problems with imports from 3rd countries

Biomethane markets

- Different use cases for biomethane (certificates)
 - Compliance markets
 - European Emission Trading Scheme (ETS)
 - Voluntary market

Biomethane compliance market

- Compliance markets (with PoS)
 - Transport sector
 - In each country based on EU Renewable Energy Directive
 - Blending obligations (e.g. Netherlands or France)
 - Certain percentage of methane/gas used needs to be biomethane
 - Starting to be implemented
 - Limits on using biomethane from abroad
 - German quotas (EEG, BeHG, etc)
 - Several types of quotas in Germany
 - Most commonly used is EEG to claim renewable energy production and increase expected for renewable heating

Biomethane ETS markets

- European Emission Trading Scheme allows use of sustainable biomethane
 - Biomethane with PoS considered zero-rated
 - According to EU guidance (MRR) PoS and GO should be used jointly to claim according to ETS
 - Differences in implementation in countries on where to send certificates or how to use subsidized biomethane
 - UDB should make this simpler

Biomethane voluntary markets

- Uncertainty on how biomethane can be used for voluntary market
 - Main guidance should come from GHG Protocol, but no clarity on how biomethane certificates can be used
 - Companies follow the GHG Protocol due to EU legislation or programme setting within SBTi
 - GHG Protocol guidance documents are currently being revised
 - Timeline: standard ready by end of 2028 with first document end of 2025
 - Depending on results GO and/or PoS can be used to reduce scope 1 and/or scope 3 emissions
 - Will have big impact on biomethane market

Biomethane support

- Biomethane market support mechanisms are different between European countries
- Support mostly needed and different in countries:
 - Investment support (e.g. Ireland)
 - Production support (e.g. France)
 - Quotas (e.g. Germany and soon Netherlands)
- Will impact price in each market with small differences in approach

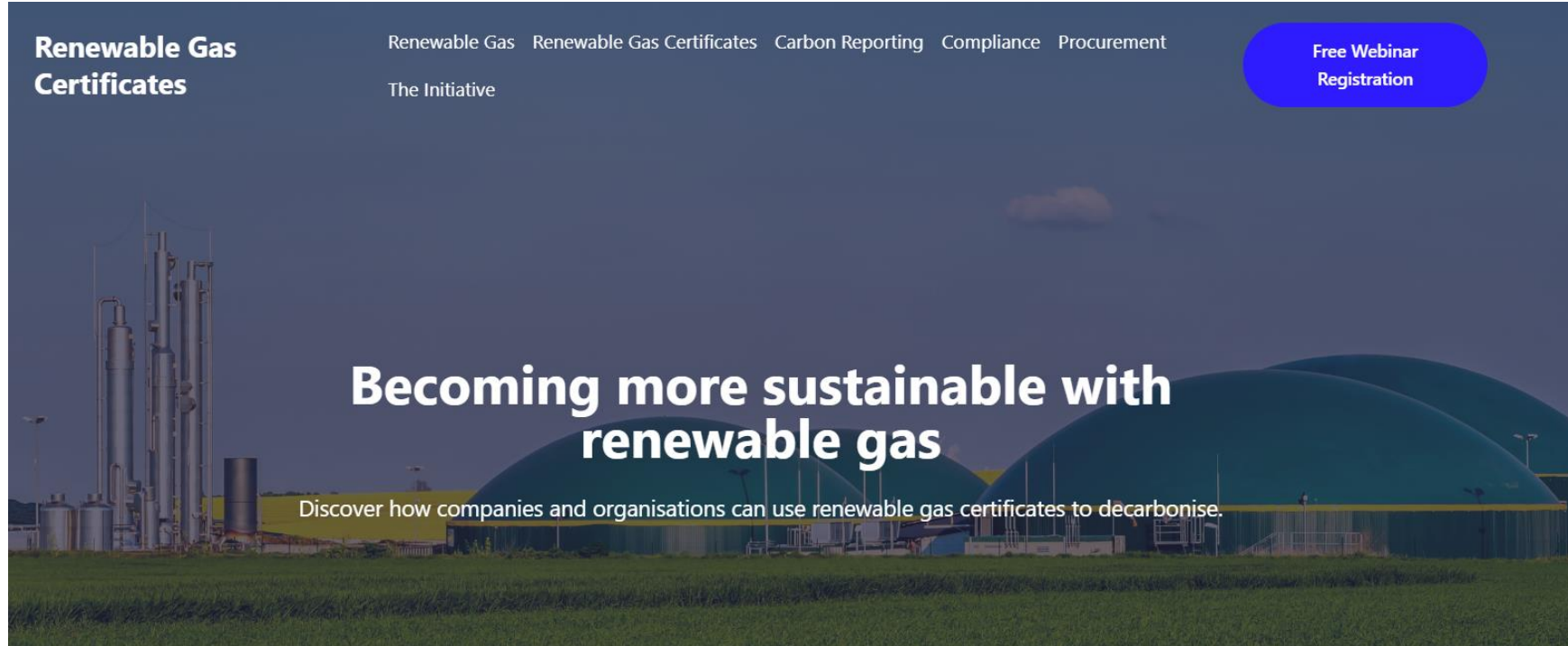
Biomethane price drivers

- Carbon intensity score (i.e. GHG emissions)
 - CI-score can be minimum threshold (e.g. German transport) or be part of total calculations (e.g. Dutch blending obligations)
 - Manure and other waste has lower CI score than crops
- Subsidised/unsubsidized biomethane
 - Depending on national rules subsidized biomethane cannot be used for transport market and/or ETS
- Guarantee of Origin – Proof of Sustainability
 - Biomethane that is considered sustainable with a PoS is higher in price
- Feedstock
 - Waste often higher price due to limitations on crop use to quality for subsidies or quotas in certain countries

Key developments expected coming years

- Continue trend of stable and significant growth
- Movement towards single European market
 - EU Union Database will create more harmonization and trust in system
 - More certificate registries connected
- Expected more voluntary demand
 - Revision GHG Protocol guides (hopefully) with more clarity on role biomethane
 - Increased interest from corporates
- Continued support systems with more attention to quotas and blending obligations

More information



www.renewablegascertificates.org

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