



**Programme & Registration**

# River Management and Ecology 2025

European Policies | River Restoration | Hydropower



Salzburg | Austria

27/28 March 2025



In cooperation with:

**RENEXPO  
INTERHYDRO**





# River Management and Ecology

European Policies | River Restoration  
Hydropower

Conference is embedded  
within the trade fair  
RENEXPO® INTERHYDRO



vgbe/VÖU Expert Event

27/28 March 2025  
Salzburg | Austria

## vgbe | VÖU Expert Event River Management and Ecology

The joint Expert Event of vgbe energy and VÖU brings together experts from policy, authorities, operators, manufacturers and suppliers, scientists, NGOs and other relevant stakeholders to discuss crucial issues in the fields of river management, restoration and ecology.

Rivers serve as vibrant hubs of biodiversity, providing essential water for domestic, agricultural, industrial, and energy needs, as well as supporting various ecosystem services. Effective river management optimizing these diverse benefits is pivotal for ensuring water security and addressing multiple policy objectives. Challenges related to environmental conservation, ecosystem preservation and restoration extend beyond specific industries, encompassing our entire society.

There exists a pressing need to bolster capacity, exchange knowledge, and facilitate information sharing to address these challenges using current research as well as widely accepted best practices beyond disciplines. This year's event will explore the ongoing discussions on free-flowing rivers, hydropeaking and the related ecological impacts.

### CONFERENCE VENUE

Messezentrum Salzburg  
Am Messezentrum 1  
5020 Salzburg | Austria

### CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

English

### EVENING EVENT

On Thursday, 27 March 2025, starting at 17:00, all conference participants are invited to a get-together at RENEXPO® INTERHYDRO's Evening Networking Event.

### IN COOPERATION WITH



**RENEXPO  
INTERHYDRO**

### CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Members of vgbe or VÖU	325.- €
Non-members of vgbe or VÖU	400.- €
Universities, Authorities	225.- €

The participation fees include the conference presentations (after the conference), coffee breaks, lunch on first day, participation in the Evening Networking Event and a two-day ticket to the trade fair RENEXPO® INTERHYDRO.

Austrian VAT will be shown in the invoice.

### ONLINE REGISTRATION

All participants of the conference are requested to register online. It is not possible to accept credit cards or currency at the conference office.

Please make your registration online at:

<https://t1p.de/vgbe-rme25> (external shortlink)

### vgbe energy e.V.

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Event [website](#).

### CONFERENCE OFFICE

On Thursday, 27 March 2025, the conference office will open from 9:15.

### PRIVACY POLICY & GENERAL TERMS

Detailed information on data protection as well as the general terms and conditions can be found at:

<https://t1p.de/vgbe-vsAGBen>

## European Policies | River Restoration | Hydropower

CET	THURSDAY, 27 MARCH 2025
10:00	Welcome and opening of the Expert Event <i>Lee Estrellado, vgbe energy e.V., and Martin Schönberg, VÖU</i>
10:15	<b>SESSION 1</b>
Lecture 1	Free-flowing rivers in the Nordics – policies, challenges and practical examples <i>Minna Hanski, Fortum</i>
Lecture 2	New Austrian Guidance on hydropeaking – Schwalleitfaden: National Implementation Plans <i>Gisela Ofenböck, Austrian Ministry, and Franz Greimel, BOKU</i>
Lecture 3	Ecological impacts of innovative hydropower: Fish passage, mortality and habitat effects <i>Juergen Geist, TUM</i>
12:00	Lunch break and visit to trade fair
14:00	<b>SESSION 2</b>
Lecture 4	Improving Fish Passage by an Unstructured Block Ramp <i>Robert Feurich, Flow Science Deutschland GmbH</i>
Lecture 5	Identify effective hydropeaking mitigation measures <i>Veronique Gouraud, EDF</i>
Lecture 6	Hydropeaking – the reliable flexibility partner. Challenges and opportunities in the course of energy transition - a Bulgarian perspective <i>Danail Nikolov, NEK</i>
Lecture 7	Repeated hydropeaking reveals fine scale movement responses of juvenile fish <i>Robert Naudascher, ETHZ (Dr. Stud.)</i>
16:15	Q&A and closing words
17:00	Start of RENEXPO®'s Evening Networking Event

CET	FRIDAY, 28 MARCH 2025
09:00	Welcome <i>Martin Schönberg, VÖU, and Lee Estrellado, vgbe energy e.V.</i>
09:00	<b>SESSION 3</b>
Lecture 8	Combining ecology and hydraulics to develop informed strategies for mitigating hydropeaking impacts on freshwater fish <i>Maria João Costa, Forest Research Centre, Associate Laboratory TERRA, ISA, University of Lisbon</i>
Lecture 9	Ecohydraulic modelling at the hydropeaking scale: challenges and opportunities for river restoration <i>Dr. Davide Vanzo, KIT</i>
Lecture 10	Hydropeaking: How VERBUND navigates these waters <i>Walter Reckendorfer, VERBUND</i>
Lecture 11	FishSafe hydropower turbines: Natel Energy's Solutions <i>Abe Schneider, Natel Energy</i>
11:00	Closing words and opportunity to visit the research session and trade fair

CET	FRIDAY, 28 MARCH 2025
11:30	RESEARCH SESSION (Grand Hall) <i>Mario Bachhiesl, vgbe energy</i>
<p>The research session will delve into the latest research outcomes from European projects. Attendees will gain insights into breakthrough technologies, innovative methodologies, and key findings that are shaping the future of river management, ecology and hydropower. By showcasing these research projects, the session aims to provide valuable knowledge to enhance the operation, maintenance, and overall performance of hydropower plants while also reducing environmental impacts. Join us to explore how these research outcomes drive progress and foster innovation.</p>	
11:40	Lecture 1 ETIP Hydropower <i>Lee Estrellado, vgbe energy e.V.</i>
11:50	Lecture 2 Hidden Hydro Oscillating Power for Europe (H-HOPE) <i>Eduard Doujak, TU Wien</i>
12:10	Lecture 3 Life Streams <i>Antonella Carosi and Massimo Lorenzoni, University of Perugia</i>
12:30	Closing words and opportunity to visit the trade fair
15:00	End of RENEXPO® INTERHYDRO

Technical Competence Center Hydro Power  
Essen, Germany, December 2024