



Offshore Wind, from Belgium to Japan

The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to Japan, HE Mr. Antoine Evrard, requests the pleasure of your company at an offshore wind seminar at the Embassy of Belgium on May 27th. Japan's ambitious goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 presents a tremendous opportunity for the clean energy sector, with offshore wind playing a key role. Belgium is a global leader in offshore wind, boasting extensive experience going back more than 20 years. Come and discover what partnering with Belgium can offer the Japanese offshore wind sector.

- ✓ Unparalleled expertise: gain insights from a country at the forefront of offshore wind development since 1999.
- ✓ Strong track record: hear Belgian success stories, including the Princess Elisabeth Island, the world's first energy island and a great example of offshore innovation.
- ✓ Investment opportunities: discover future plans for the Belgian offshore wind zone and how foreign companies can participate.
- ✓ Networking: meet Belgian companies active in offshore wind during a reception after the seminar.

Date:

Monday May 27, 2024

Venue:

Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium in Japan, 5-4 Nibancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0084

Registration:

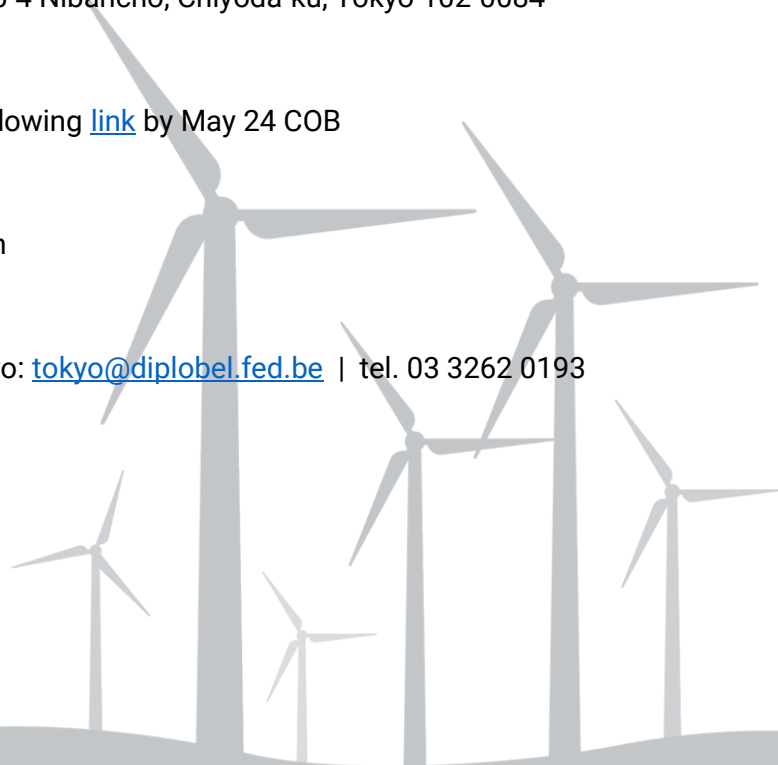
Please confirm your attendance through the following [link](#) by May 24 COB

Language:

English and Japanese, simultaneous translation

Inquiries:

Economic Section, Embassy of Belgium in Tokyo: tokyo@diplobel.fed.be | tel. 03 3262 0193



Program

04:30 PM

Doors Open

05:00 PM

Opening Remarks
-
Antoine Evrard
Ambassador of Belgium to Japan

05:03 PM

Video Message: Belgium's Ambitions in Offshore Wind
-
Alexander De Croo
Prime Minister of Belgium

05:05 PM

Offshore Wind in Belgium (online)
-
Benjamin Heylen
Director of the Molecules, Offshore and Permits Department, DG Energy
&
Frank Vanvuchelen
Chief Legal Advisor, DG Energy
Belgian Federal Ministry of Economy

05:20 PM

Powering the Future: Exploring the Offshore Wind Industry in Belgium
-
Els Verhulst
Science and Technology Counselor
Flanders Investment and Trade Tokyo

05:35 PM

JERA's Journey In Renewables
-
Nathalie Oosterlinck
Managing Executive Officer and Head of the Renewable Energy & Overseas
Power Development Division
JERA

05:50 PM

The Princess Elisabeth Island (online)
-
Elia Group

06:15 PM

Networking Reception with Belgian Food & Beers



Speaker Profiles



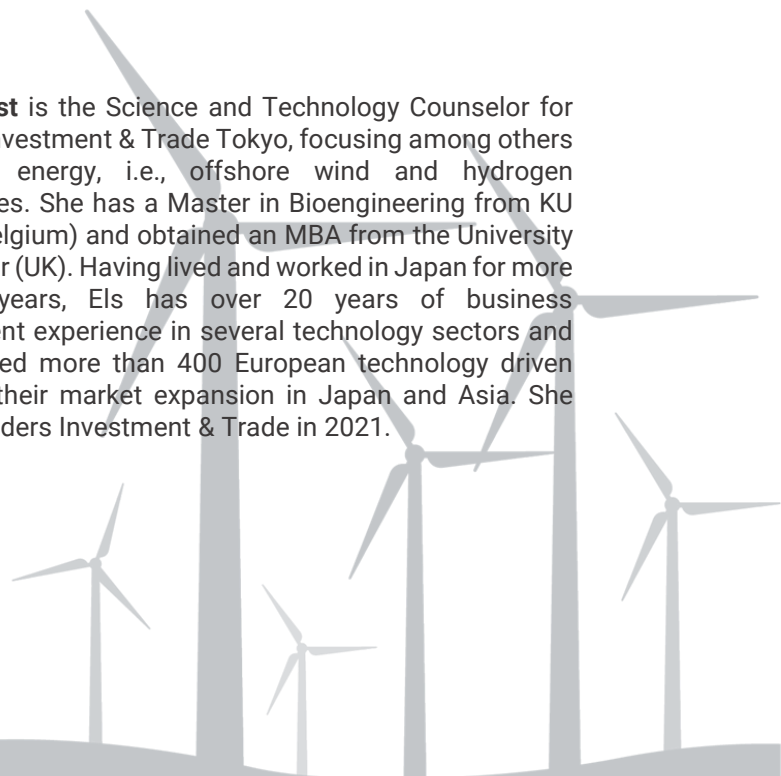
Benjamin Heylen is head of the Molecules, Offshore and Permits department within the DG Energy of the FPS Economy. Together with Frank Vanvuchelen, Benjamin heads the offshore team of DG Energy. Benjamin is an engineer and coordinates projects relating to the security of supply of natural gas, the development of hydrogen as an energy carrier, the permits for energy infrastructures including offshore installations and the safety of pipeline transport facilities. Benjamin graduated in 2011 with a Master in polytechnical engineering in process and materials science at the UCL (Université Catholique de Louvain). He worked three years as a process engineer in the petrochemical sector prior to joining DG Energy in 2014.

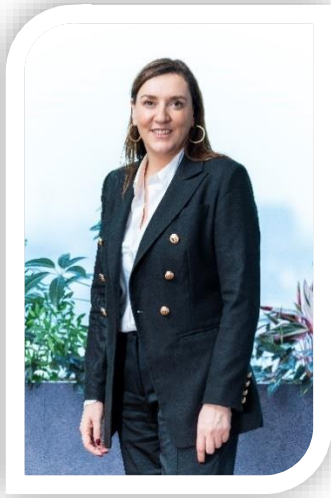


Frank Vanvuchelen is the chief legal adviser within the DG Energy of the FPS Economy, with a special focus on offshore renewable energy. Together with Benjamin Heylen, Frank heads the offshore team of DG Energy. Frank is an energy law expert and has extensive experience as regards security of supply (capacity mechanism, strategic reserves), offshore domain concessions, cable permits, subsidy mechanisms, the related national and European legal framework and in particular EU state aid rules. He has been involved in European notification procedures and state aid cases related to several offshore renewable energy projects in Belgium. Frank graduated in 2010 as a Master in Law at the Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven) and worked for five years as a consultant prior to joining DG Energy in 2015.



Els Verhulst is the Science and Technology Counselor for Flanders Investment & Trade Tokyo, focusing among others on green energy, i.e., offshore wind and hydrogen technologies. She has a Master in Bioengineering from KU Leuven (Belgium) and obtained an MBA from the University of Leicester (UK). Having lived and worked in Japan for more than 30 years, Els has over 20 years of business development experience in several technology sectors and has coached more than 400 European technology driven SMEs for their market expansion in Japan and Asia. She joined Flanders Investment & Trade in 2021.





Nathalie Oosterlinck is Managing Executive Officer and Head of the Renewable Energy & Overseas Power Development Division at JERA Co Inc. She has 20 years of experience in the energy and infrastructure sector and has been involved in project development, management of companies and multi-technology generation assets and teams. She has been active in the offshore wind sector since 2012. Before joining JERA in 2021, she served as the CEO of Otary where she was responsible for the development, construction, execution and operation of offshore wind, playing an active role in shaping the regulatory framework for renewables and offshore wind in Europe, and management of stakeholders and government relations. She also headed the Special Projects division at Deme Group, a world leader in marine contracting and engineering, where she was responsible for the offshore renewable portfolio, decarbonization projects and innovation. Earlier she held leadership positions and management roles in finance, M&A and technology start-ups.



Elia Group is one of Europe's top five transmission system operators (TSOs). Elia Group manages 19,000 kilometers of high-voltage connections through two subsidiaries: Elia in Belgium and 50Hertz in northern and eastern Germany. The company offers consulting services to international clients through Elia Grid International. In recent years, the group has launched new activities such as re.alto - the first European marketplace for the exchange of energy data via standardized energy APIs - and WindGrid, a subsidiary which will continue to expand the group's overseas activities, contributing to the development of offshore electricity grids in Europe and beyond.

Supporting Organizations

