



About the speakers

Edouard Sauvage

CEO of GRDF (Gas Distribution System Operator in France)



Edouard Sauvage is the CEO of GRDF since January 2016. He has worked at the heart of the energy distribution system and natural gas supplies in France. After different positions as public servant, notably as Technical Advisor to the Prime Minister, Edouard Sauvage joined EDF GDF Services in 1997, where he worked first as Head of Agency in Seine-et-Marne and later as Director of the Rouen Center.

In 2002, he joined the Strategy Department of Gaz de France as Representative for Strategic and European Affairs. The year after, he became co-Director of the International Division of Gaz de France. In 2005, he was appointed Director of Gas Supply and in 2013 Strategy Director of the GDF Suez Group and member of the Executive Committee.

Edouard Sauvage is a graduate of Ecole Polytechnique, and of the Corps des Ponts.

Mark van Stiphout

Deputy Head of Unit for New energy technologies, innovation and clean coal at DG Energy, European Commission



Mr van Stiphout is Deputy Head of Unit for New energy technologies, innovation and clean coal at DG Energy, European Commission. Until October 2014, he was a member of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for Energy, Günther H. Oettinger, as advisor on nuclear energy and energy research, as well as smart grids, retail markets and the relations with Russia.



Prior to this, he worked as assistant to the Director-General for Energy. From 2006 to 2010 he was Policy Officer in the Electricity and Gas Unit of DG Energy. As coordinator of the gas team, he was responsible for the liberalisation of the internal market for natural gas, including the preparation and negotiation of the 3rd internal energy market package.

Previous roles include consultancy on renewable energy projects, at Ecofys, with a focus on generating energy from biomass, and market analyst at Cogas Energie.

His academic career contains post graduate studies in Economics of the Environment and Natural Resources in Paris and an MSc in Technology and Society (at Eindhoven University of Technology).