

First meeting of the CORE LNGas hive project stakeholders group

The kick off meeting of the project stakeholders group took place in Madrid on March 2nd 2018, counting with the representatives of 77 companies, including shipbuilders, engineering firms, shipping companies, public administrations, universities, port authorities and associations.

Organized by Enagás, as coordinator of the project, the meeting pursued the aim of presenting to the attendees CORE LNGas hive, the studies and pilots that it proposes, and the stakeholders' engagement plan defined in order to take on board external feedback, considered as elemental in order to maximize the project impact.

Enagás Gas Assets General Manager, Claudio Rodríguez, opened the meeting by stressing the importance of the project as an "opportunity within the framework of the European Union that values the role of liquefied natural gas as fuel". He thanked the stakeholders for their participation and highlighted the protagonist role of shipping companies and, in general, all different sectors involved as key "for the project to become known and be part of the strategy of the entities invited." The project coordinator and Enagás Entrepreneurship General Manager, Fernando Impuesto, presented the general aspects of the action and the new opportunities offered by LNG, notably within maritime transport, as well as the forecasted evolution of the demand for liquefied natural gas. Puertos del Estado (the Spanish government agency in charge of the state-owned port system), represented by Antonio Góngora, Head of logistics and intermodal area, shared with the attendees the progress of the "National Action Framework for Alternative Energy in Transport", approved last October 2016 and the actions that are forecasted in order to perform its triennial review.

José Enrique Murcia, Project Technical Leader and Mar Casado and Enrique Olarte, Project Technical Officers, presented the details of CORE LNGas hive, explaining the efforts of the 42 project partners in the development of feasibility studies and pilots covering different typologies of infrastructures (including barges, jetties, tugs, straddle carriers, mobile OPS and LNG/CNG stations).

The final part of the meeting represented an opportunity for the stakeholders to take the floor, introduce themselves and briefly explain what they expected from the stakeholders group, constituting a great networking opportunity for all the attendees.