



Elia Group's Sustainability Report wins award for best report produced by a listed company

BRUSSELS | The Belgian Institute of Registered Auditors (IBR-IRE) has recognised the work Elia Group has invested in sustainability reporting. During the Belgian Awards for Sustainability Reports (BAS), Elia Group's report was honoured as the best sustainability report to be published by a listed company. The judges praised the steady improvements the Group has made in terms of integrating sustainability into its strategy and the numerous interactions that Elia Group has with its stakeholders.

As a large EU company with over 500 employees, Elia Group falls under the EU's Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD). The latter includes strong rules about the social and environmental information that companies have to report on. This enhanced reporting is aimed at ensuring that investors and other stakeholders have the information they need to assess the impact of companies on people and the environment. It is also aimed at ensuring that investors can assess the financial risks and opportunities linked to climate change and other sustainability issues.

'**Fully charged for change**' is Elia Group's very first fully integrated annual report (2023) that combines financial and sustainability information in one document. Integrated reporting is quite a complex process. Elia Group's report provides a broad view of its business strategy and performance, mapping out all opportunities and risks linked to its activities. It communicates the essence of the organisation – its purpose - and how it can create sustainable value for itself and all of its stakeholders.



The jury described Elia Group's integrated report as a very good report which demonstrated continuous improvement, as part of which sustainability is integrated into the Group's strategy and strong examples of stakeholder management are provided. The fact that the report addresses double materiality (financial and impact materiality) and that the Group began aligning the report with the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS, required by the CSRD) was described as exemplary. The report was described as being well structured, with user-friendly navigation and photos linked to the Group's core activities.

72 Belgian companies submitted their sustainability reports for consideration as part of the awards, of which 27 are large listed organisations. Elia Group has previously been honoured with the following prizes: '*Best First Sustainability Report*' (2018) and '*Best Sustainability Report on Stakeholder Inclusiveness and Engagement*' (2020). Receiving the '*Best Sustainability Report*' award means that Elia Group's work has now received the highest level of recognition.

About Elia Group

One of Europe's top five TSOs

Elia Group is a key player in electricity transmission. We ensure that production and consumption are balanced around the clock, supplying 30 million end users with electricity. Through our subsidiaries in Belgium (Elia) and the north and east of Germany (50Hertz), we operate 19,460.5 km of high-voltage connections, meaning that we are one of Europe's top 5 transmission system operators. With a reliability level of 99.99%, we provide society with a robust power grid, which is important for socioeconomic prosperity. We also aspire to be a catalyst for a successful energy transition, helping to establish a reliable, sustainable and affordable energy system.

We are making the energy transition happen

By expanding international high-voltage connections and incorporating ever-increasing amounts of renewable energy into our grid, we are promoting both the integration of the European energy market and the decarbonisation of society. We also continuously optimise our operational systems and develop new market products so that new technologies and market parties can access our grid, thus further facilitating the energy transition.

In the interest of society

As a key player in the energy system, Elia Group is committed to working in the interest of society. We are responding to the rapid increase in renewable energy by constantly adapting our transmission grid. We also ensure that investments are made on time and within budget, with a maximum focus on safety. In carrying out our projects, we manage stakeholders proactively by establishing two-way communication channels between all relevant parties very early on in the development process. We also offer our expertise to different players across the sector in order to build the energy system of the future.

International focus

In addition to its activities as a transmission system operator, Elia Group provides consulting services to international customers through its subsidiary Elia Grid International. In recent years, the Group has launched new non-regulated activities such as re.alto - the first European marketplace for the exchange of energy data via standardised 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.

The legal entity Elia Group is a listed company whose core shareholder is the municipal holding company Publi-T.

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