

# **Biogas Partnership: co-creating a pathway to boost biogas solutions in the Baltic Sea Region**

*Challenges to cross-border trade  
biomethane*

*15 April 2025*



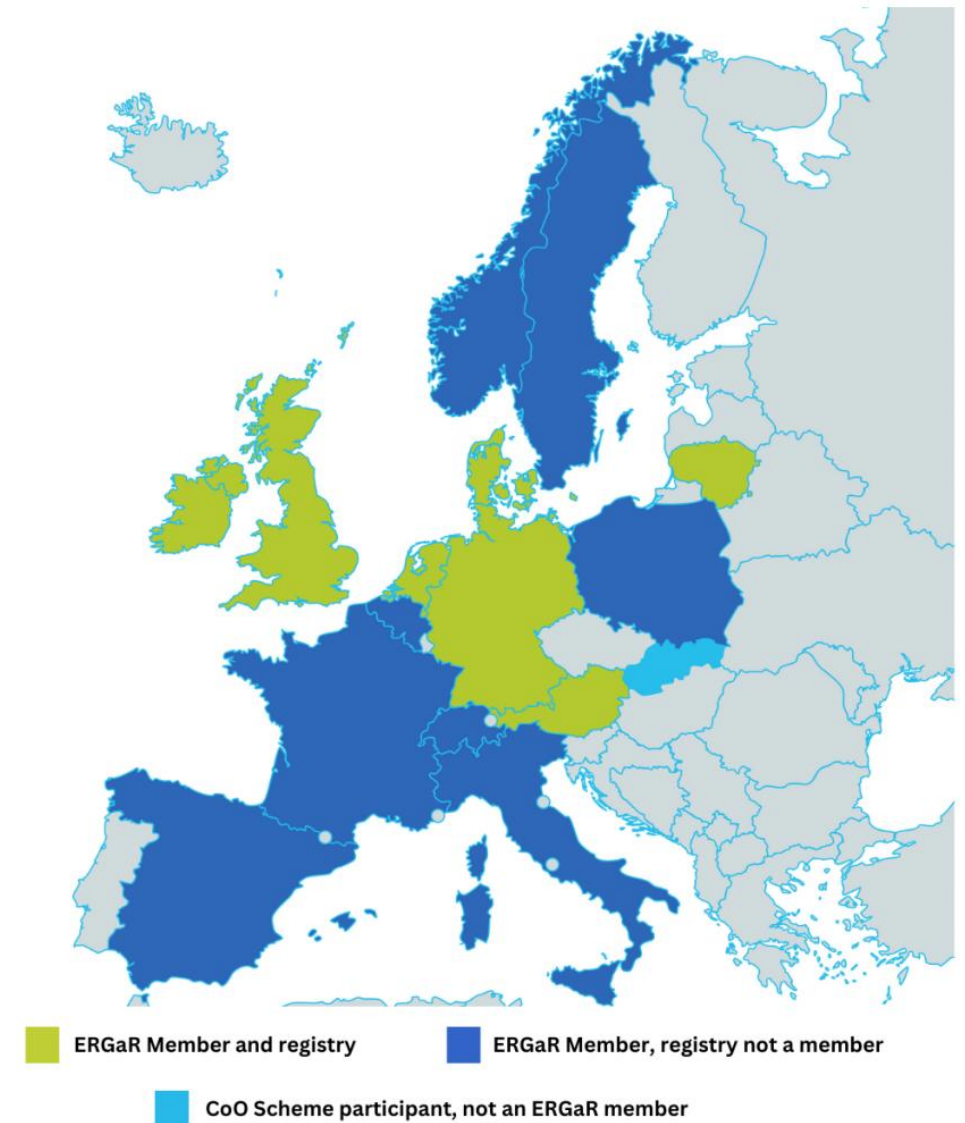
**Visit Our Website**  
[www.ergar.org](http://www.ergar.org)



# Introducing ERGaR

---

- ERGaR is the **European Renewable Gas Registry**
- What do we do?
  - Facilitate the cross-border transfers of renewable gas certificates (Certificates/Guarantees of Origin)
  - Provide a forum for the collaboration of renewable gas registries and market participants in Europe



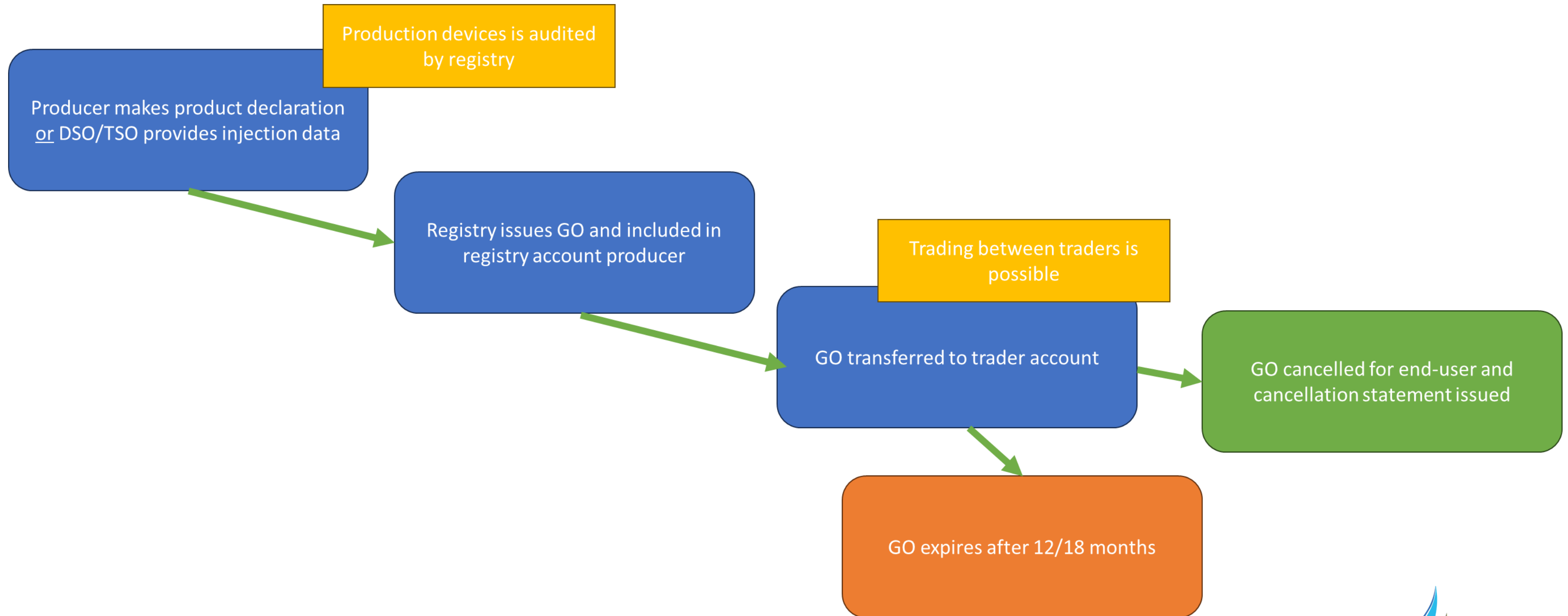




# Types of certificates

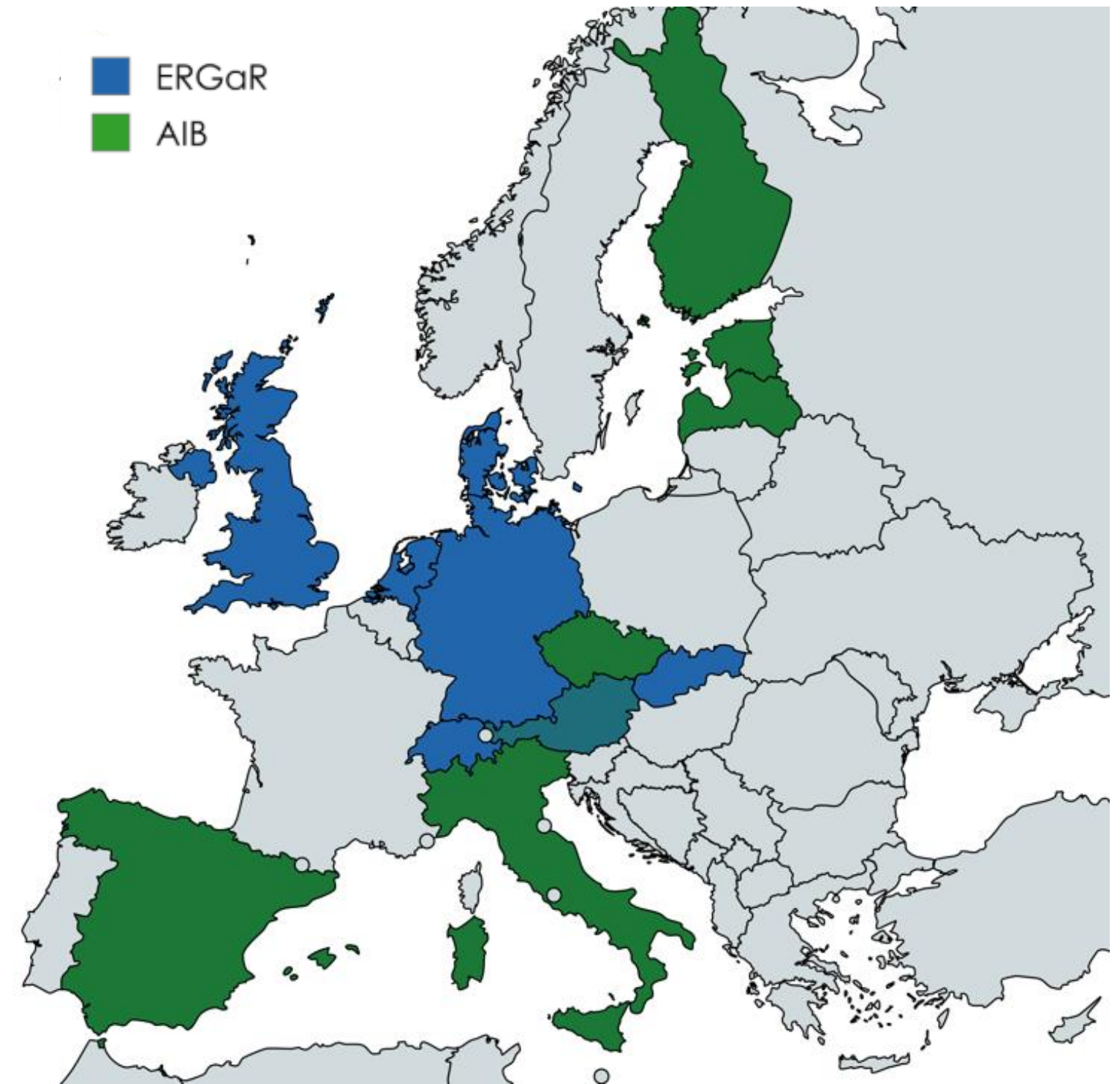
Key characteristics			
Certificates	Guarantee of Origin (GO)	Proof of Sustainability	Others (e.g. Certificate of Origin)
Legal basis	Art. 19 RED II	Art. 25-31 RED II	None, national legislation
Purpose	Consumer disclosure	Target counting	Renewable obligations, disclosure
Verification	EN 16325	Recognised voluntary schemes	National legislation
Issuing body	Government appointed	Sometimes national databases, none	Differs (e.g. dena)
System	Book & claim	Mass balancing	(Generally) book & claim

# Guarantee of Origin – in practice



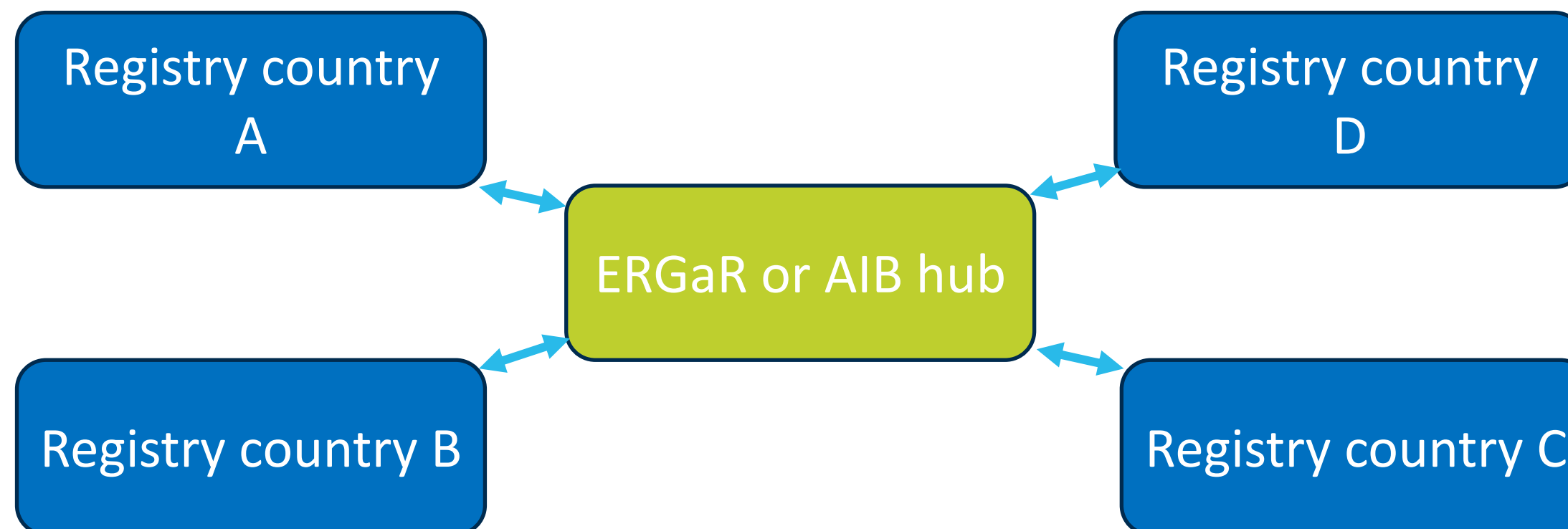
# ERGaR CoO Scheme

- Launched in Q1 2021
- 7 system participants at the moment
  - Sometimes government approved (e.g. NL, DK, SK, CH) with a GO, sometimes not (e.g. DE, UK, AT) with a CoO

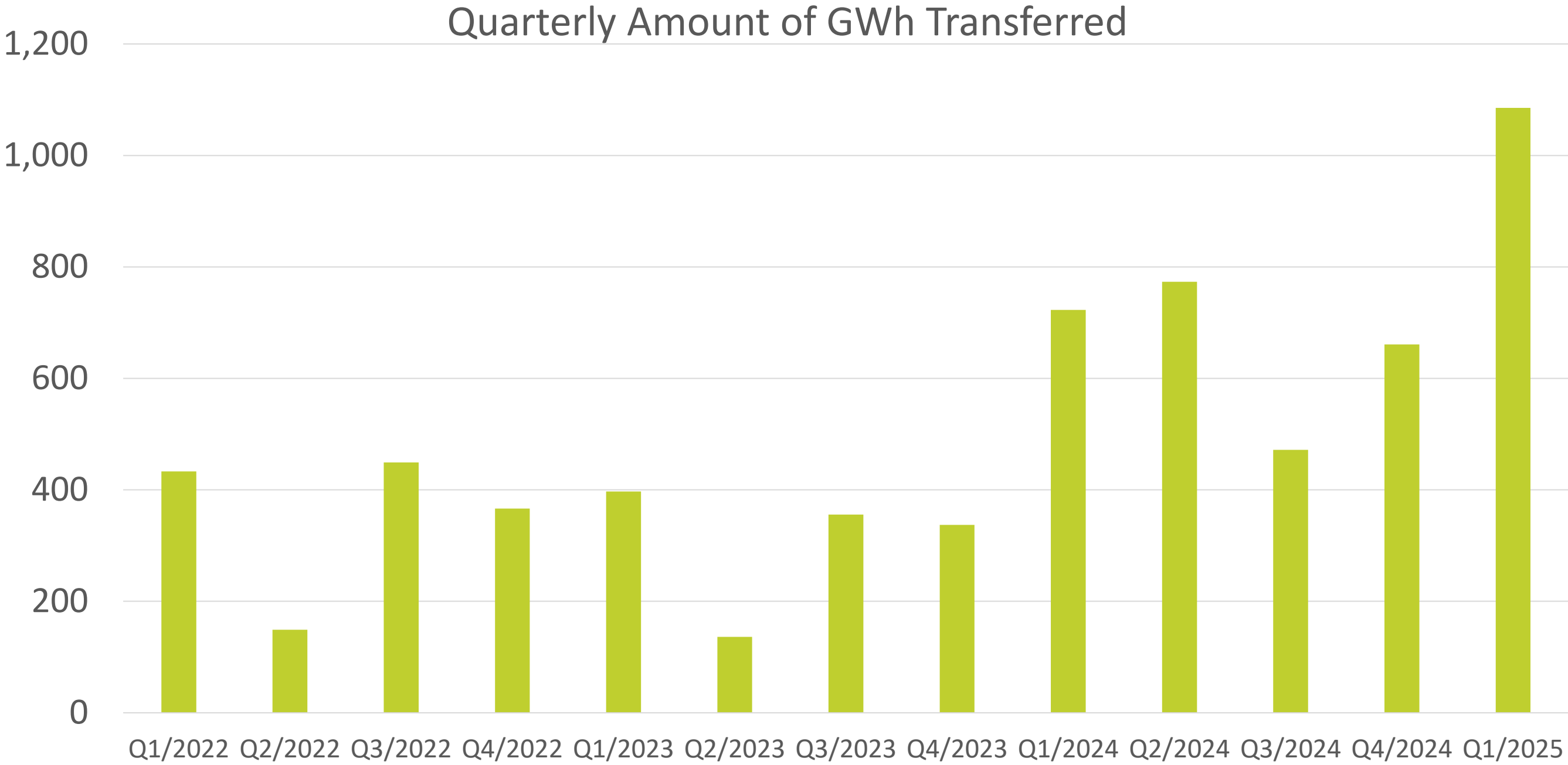


# Cross-border trading GOs/COs

- Cross border trade via ERGaR or AIB for member countries
  - Easier with one centralised hub than bilateral agreements between all countries
  - Ongoing discussions on cooperation with AIB
  - AIB Gas Scheme members: Spain, Italy, Austria, Czech Republic, Latvia, Brussels & Finland



# Statistics





# Challenges cross-border GO trading

---

- No GO registry in each country
- Not all GO registries connected to same Hub
- Requires account in various GO registries

# Proof of sustainability

- Document that confirms the production is sustainable according to RED II rules
- PDF document can be sent by email across all borders
  - No capacity bookings required on EU gas grid


**Proof of Sustainability (PoS) for Biofuels and Bioliqids** V4.2

For biofuels and bioliqids according to the Renewable Energy Directive (RED) and the Fuel Quality Directive (FQD), both amended through Directive (EU) 2015/1513

Unique Number of Sustainability Declaration:

Place and date of dispatch:

Date of issuance:

 **ISCC**  
International Sustainability  
In Carbon Certification  
[www.iscc-system.org](http://www.iscc-system.org)

Supplier	Recipient
Name: <input type="text"/>	Name: <input type="text"/>
Address: <input type="text"/>	Address: <input type="text"/>
Certification System: <b>ISCC EU</b>	
Certificate Number: <input type="text"/>	Contract Number: <input type="text"/>

**1. General information**

Type of Product:

Type of Raw Material:

Additional Information (voluntary):

Country of Origin (of the raw material):

Quantity:  ☐ m<sup>3</sup> ☐ metric tons

Energy content (MJ):  MJ

**2. Sustainability criteria of the biomass according to Article 17 RED:**

The raw material complies with the sustainability criteria according to Art. 17 (3), (4) and (5) RED<sup>1</sup> ☐ Yes ☐ No

The raw material meets the definition of waste or residue according to the RED, i.e. it was not intentionally produced and not intentionally modified, or contaminated, or discarded, to meet the definition of waste or residue<sup>2</sup> ☐ Yes ☐ No

**3. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) information**

Total default value according to RED applied ☐ Yes ☐ No

E = Total GHG emissions from supply and use of the fuel (gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/MJ)  gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/MJ

E = E<sub>ec</sub> + E<sub>l</sub> + E<sub>p</sub> + E<sub>td</sub> + E<sub>u</sub> - E<sub>sc</sub> - E<sub>cc</sub> - E<sub>ccr</sub> - E<sub>ee</sub> gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/MJ

+  +  +  +  -  -  -  -  =

GHG emission saving<sup>3</sup>:

0,0% (for biofuels 83,8 gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/MJ) 0,0% (for heat production 77 gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/MJ)

0,0% (for electricity production 91 gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/MJ) 0,0% (for cogeneration 85 gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/MJ)

If the GHG emission savings are below 60%:

The installation where the final biofuel or bioliquid was produced started physical production ☐ Yes ☐ No

of biofuels or bioliqids after 5 October 2015

Not valid without ID number of the ISCC certificate above

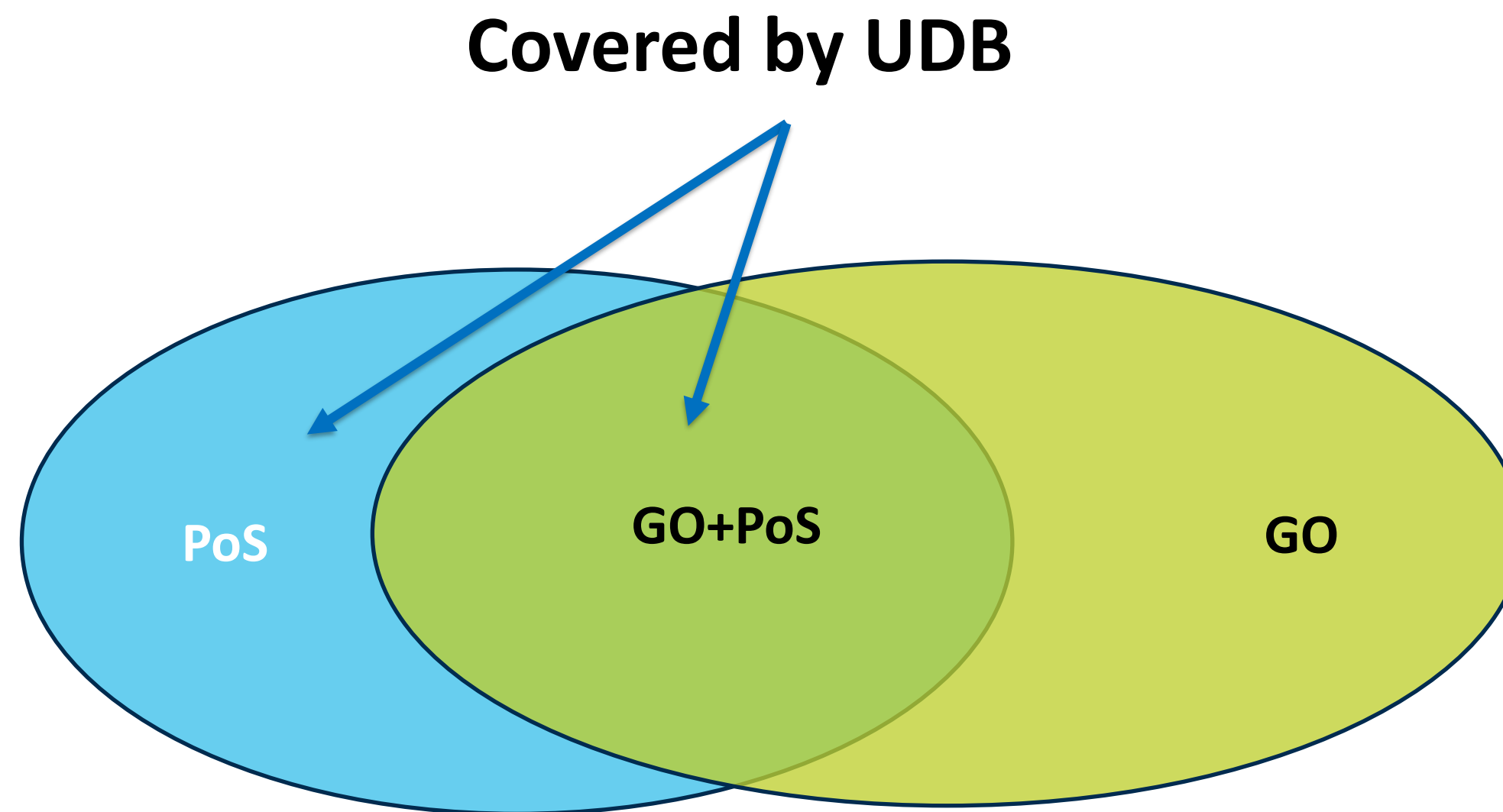
# Union Database

---

- New Union Database will replace current system of tracking and tracing ownership of PoS
  - Based on article 31a Renewable Energy Directive
  - Not a trading platform
  - Many questions still open -> **i.e. major disclaimer on presentation**

# UDB scope

---





# Impact UDB on cross-border trade

---

- More harmonized market for GO + PoS
- More clarity
- Problems with imports from 3<sup>rd</sup> countries

# Cross-border trade uses cases

---

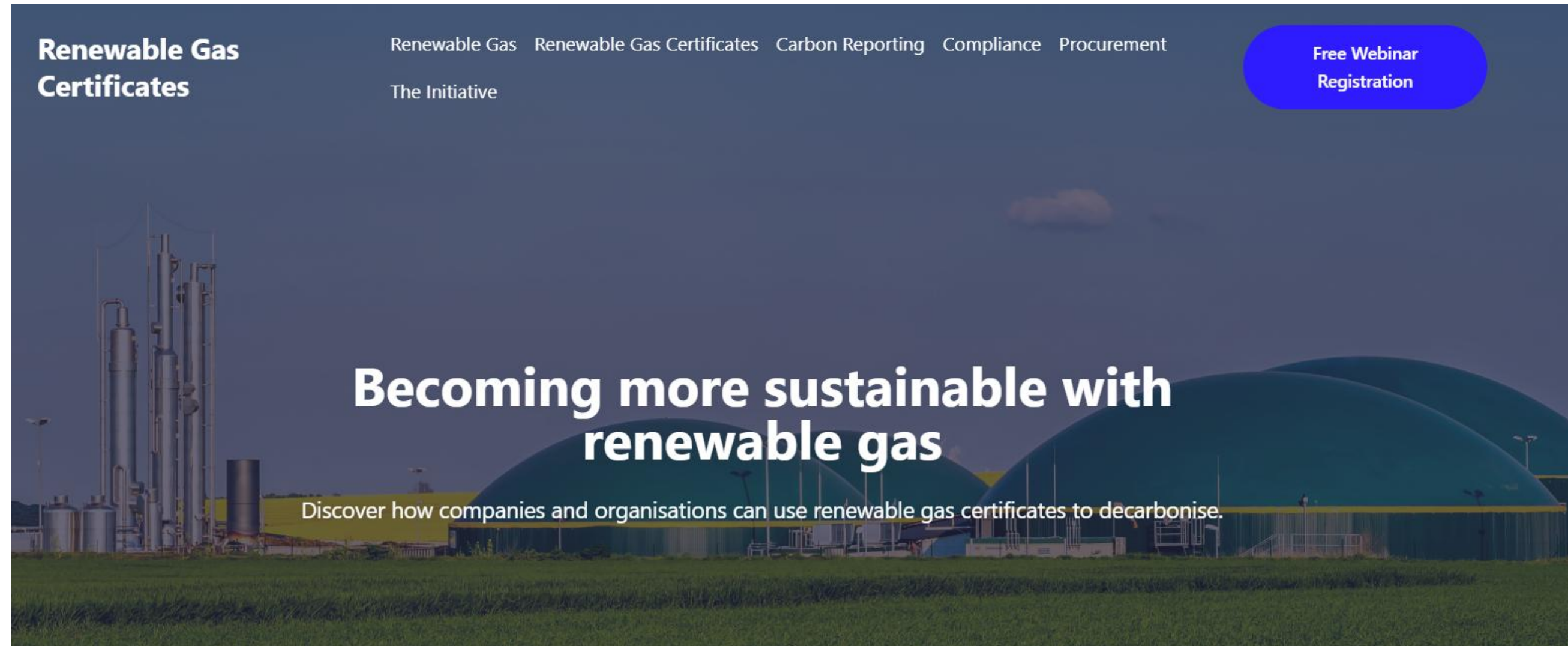
- Different use cases for biomethane
  - Compliance markets (e.g. transport or national quotas)
  - ETS
  - Voluntary market
- Rules and procedures differ per country
  - Sometimes rules on origin of biomethane (e.g. French CPB)
- Challenging to be aware of all differences per country

# Conclusions

---

- Various cross-border trading depending on angle
  - GO cross-border trading difficult because lack of harmonized market
  - PoS cross-border trading easier
  - Different rules on use cases, creates untransparent market for cross-border trading

# More information



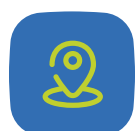
[www.renewablegascertificates.org](http://www.renewablegascertificates.org)



# THANK YOU & STAY IN TOUCH WITH US!



<https://www.ergar.org/>



Avenue de Cortenbergh 100  
B-1000 Brussels



**Follow us on LinkedIn**

ERGaR European Renewable Gas Registry aisbl

