



Union Database

State of play & Next steps

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Background and context of UDB deployment

Past stages

- ❖ **Scoping study for the Union database (UDB)** by Navigant on behalf of European Commission: starting point of our reflection for the development of the UDB;
- ❖ **Finalisation of the UDB concept**, based on the options & recommendations in the scoping study and further fact- finding by the by ENER/ IT team of the European Commission;
- ❖ **Legal Basis:** new article 31a of the revised Renewable Energy Directive (RED II) entered into force in November 2023 (including an empowerment for the Commission to supplement the RED on extending the traceability scope of UDB);

Current work

- ❖ **Draft Delegated Act** to extend the traceability of the UDB to also cover raw materials from point of production/ collection).
- ❖ **Revision of the Implementing Act on sustainability certification rules for voluntary schemes:** Support the development of the UDB by stipulating legal obligations for economic operators, certification bodies, voluntary schemes and member states in accordance with the RED II obligations (planned chapter on UDB to provide more detailed legal basis to be complementary to the rules on tracing raw materials);

Objective(s) of the Delegated Regulation

- Extend the scope of traceability to transactions of raw materials used for the fuel production from the point of collection of the raw materials;
- Provide a vital contribution to ensure full traceability of consignments of the raw materials and the fuels produced, bringing about transparency and mitigating the risks of irregularities and fraud in the supply chain.
- Digitize proof of sustainability with unique reference PoS Identifier (per trade or Batch) generated by UDB for both raw materials and fuels that are linked.

Objective(s) of the Delegated Regulation

- Support auditing/ certification by verifying the accounting of raw materials/fuels (implementation of the mass balancing rules).
- Support National Authorities & EC in monitoring dynamically the whole supply chain with possibility for applying more effective ex-ante and ex-post policy measures.
- Setting out responsibilities and rights of stakeholders responsible for data provision, data collection, data entry, or data verification at each of the upstream stages along the supply chains.

Proportionate approach in extending of the UDB traceability scope

- All preparatory and design work carried out (initial scoping study and the subsequent work on the design and scope of the Union database carried out by the Commission) shows that the sustainability of the fuels can be ensured only if UDB also traces the raw materials from which they are produced.
- However, the UDB scoping design starts the traceability from the 1st point of collection not production of the raw materials. Points of origin are nevertheless covered by the data entered by 1st collection/ gathering points.

Initial registration of economic operators in the Union database by the voluntary and national schemes

Type of economic operators covered by the extension:

- (a) all individually certified points of origin;
- (b) first collection or first gathering points of waste or non-waste biomass; and
- (c) traders of raw materials from biomass.

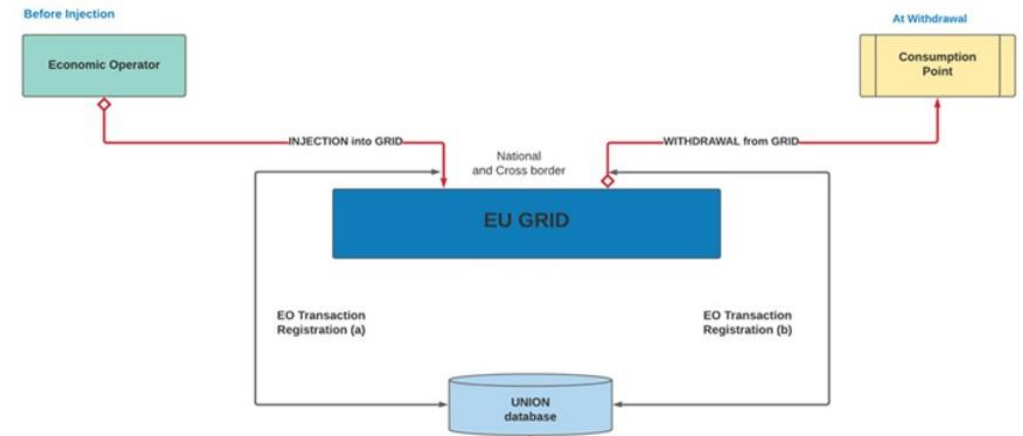
Revision of the IR on sustainability certification

New UDB Chapter: rules on UDB implementation (to complement the DA on extension of traceability)

- Responsibilities and rights of lead users;
- Initial registration of EOs and maintenance of data;
- Transaction registration;
- Cyber security and data protection;
- Use of service providers;
- Specific rule on gaseous fuels;
- Provisions on trainings.

Concept of Union Database (UDB) for gaseous fuels

- EU Grid is a single logistical facility from a mass-balance perspective
- Local grids- subject to separate mass-balancing.
- Any trades between grids will be reported to UDB as a trade transaction.
- Option to link a national GO registry with UDB.
- PoS to be transferred only together with evidence on Gas volume traded!



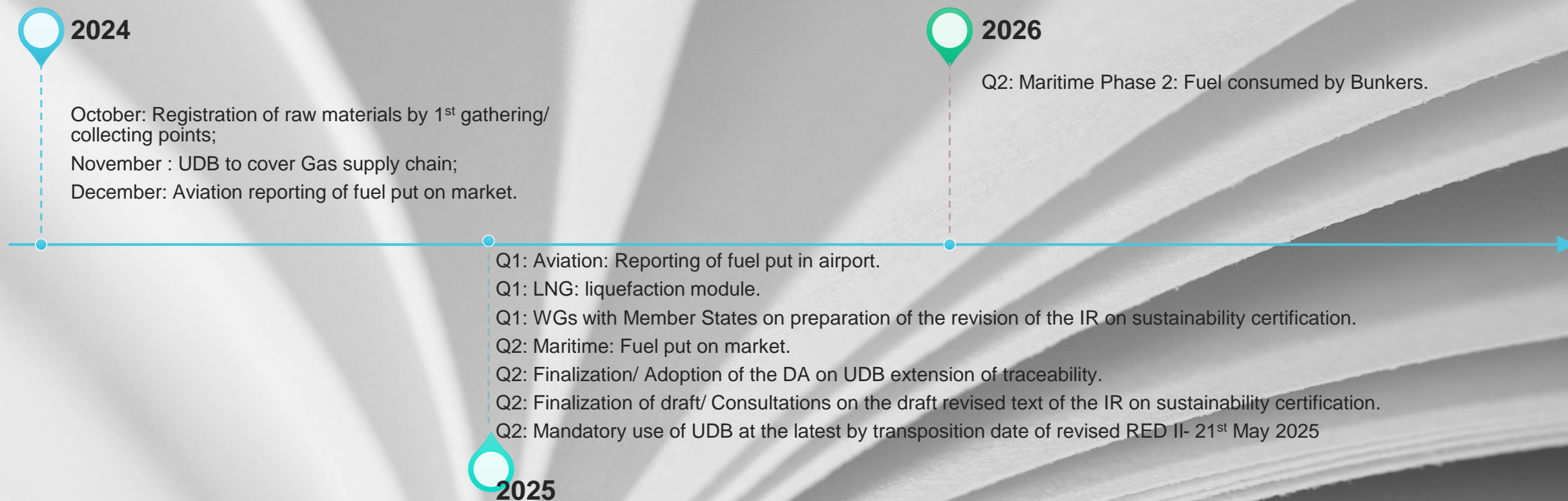
Process and Next Steps

- The Commission is carrying out technical meetings/ trainings on how to use the UDB specifically dedicated to gathering/ collecting points and raw materials traders;
- Similar technical meetings are organised with MSs to demonstrate the design and functioning of the UDB application in parallel to the policy discussions in different WGs on improving the robustness of the global certification & traceability system;
- The DA on the extension of the traceability of UDB and the chapter on general provisions on UDB in the revision of the IR on certification will be discussed with Member States.

Process and Next Steps

- Gas: Pilot testing started in Q4 2024 & ongoing.
- UDB Onboarding of TSOs/DSOs, and non-certified Gas traders and Suppliers will have to be completed.
- Collection of data on Certified EOs/ Gas injection points, registered in UDB.

Union Database Roadmap



Thank you



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