

WORLD ENERGY CONGRESS 2025

WE INVITE YOU TO ROTTERDAM, THE CENTRE OF ENERGY TRANSITION AND DECARBONISATION.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ROTTERDAM.
MAKE IT HAPPEN.


City of Rotterdam

WORLD
ENERGY
COUNCIL

THE NETHERLANDS



Ministry of Economic Affairs
and Climate Policy

ROTTERDAM
PARTNERS

WEC2025

**CENTRE OF
EUROPE'S
ENERGY
TRANSITION**



**STRONG
SUPPORT**

- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRY
- KNOWLEDGE INSTITUTES



Most **green**,
inclusive and
**technologically
driven** congress

OUR VISION FOR WEC2025:

**SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY
FOR ALL**



Contributes to the
United Nations
**Sustainable
Development
Goals (SDGs)**

WEC2025 LEGACY:

Increasing knowledge,
awareness & involvement
and pushing forward
exciting projects

Safety first in
hybrid congress
options and in
physical **delegate
participation**



**WORLD ENERGY
CONGRESS 2025**
CONGRESS DATES (1ST OPTION):

6-9 OCT. 2025

WHY ROTTERDAM

Rotterdam: leading in many sectors.

Maritime & Offshore, Energy, Logistics, CleanTech, Life Science & Health, Agro Food, Innovation.



CNN's CAPITAL OF COOL

Lonely Planet's MUST SEE CITY



A bustling mix of innovative architecture, lively festivals and challenging art and culture.



SECOND TIER CITY WITH COMPETITIVE RATES



EASILY ACCESSIBLE

by air, train, car or boat

26 MINUTES

Schiphol International Airport ▶ Rotterdam Central Station



PERFECT DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY + OWN INTERNET EXCHANGE (R-IX)



VENUES AND HOTELS WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OR BY DIRECT METRO LINES



Rotterdam has over

9,000

bedrooms in 3-star, 4-star and 5-star hotels, plus hostels.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



BID THE NETHERLANDS, ROTTERDAM

The world is confronted with climate change. Countries, cities, institutions and companies around the globe are dealing with it by bringing about an all-important energy transition. The sharing of knowledge, expertise and best practices has become more important than ever. The World Energy Congress is a paramount means of connecting international policy makers and public officials, researchers, companies and other stakeholders in the fields of energy, sustainability and circularity.

The Netherlands and Rotterdam together with World Energy Council The Netherlands and supporting partners are proud to put forward this joint bid for hosting the World Energy Congress in 2025 (WEC2025) and helping the World Energy Council in their aim to promote the sustainable supply and use of energy for the greatest benefit of all people. Our proposed theme for the WEC congress, which we will be happy to host in October 2025, is **'Sustainable Energy for all'**.

IDEAL LOCATION, ENERGY TRANSITION MIDWAY TO 2030

The Netherlands and Rotterdam are the perfect location for hosting this important event. Following the Paris Agreement our country is committed to reaching the agreed international goals of reducing CO2 emissions to 49% in 2030 compared to 1999. As declared in the National Climate Agreement (2019) our goals extend even further and aim to increase the European target to 55%. Rotterdam is taking a daring frontrunner role with its goal of becoming a climate neutral city by 2050.

It's not only this lofty goal that sets Rotterdam apart as the ideal location for WEC2025. Rotterdam is at the centre of Europe's Energy Transition, with its world-leading smart port and an energy intensive economy with strong logistical, chemical and other industry clusters. It is also an openminded and multicultural city where the local government actively reaches out and includes its people in important transitions. Rotterdam is about innovation, collaboration and getting things done. We recognize the challenges that face our world and see our city as a real life testing ground for important transitions, including 'greening' its own urban and highly

industrialised environment. In Rotterdam, many innovations come to life and from here they find their way around the world. This document presents some exciting examples, such as the Dutch Windwheel, CO2 storage beneath the North Sea, hydrogen powered water taxis and gas free urban neighbourhoods. The innovative qualities of Rotterdam also extend to the congress format.

GREENEST AND MOST INCLUSIVE EDITION EVER

Of course we follow all the latest sustainable trends and it is our goal to make WEC2025 the greenest edition ever. As you will read in this bid, many elements together support this claim: Rotterdam's ambition of and road to becoming energy neutral in 2050; a flexible, hybrid congress format including the latest technologies like streaming; a sustainability oriented congress venue Rotterdam Ahoy; targeted local programmes and developments like the greening of inner-city transport and mobility; but also actively tapping into the potential and the willingness of the local populace to help shape a better tomorrow. And last but not least the aim to create a WEC2025 legacy, pushing forward exciting and promising projects and increasing the general awareness and knowledge of the sustainability and energy transition themes.

GREAT VENUE, EXPERIENCED PCO

The geographic location and accessibility, safety and open culture, the best digital connectivity, the availability of good public transport in a compact city, a wide variety of hotels and restaurants in all price ranges and our world-class congress venue of Rotterdam Ahoy with its newly opened, state-of-the-art Convention Centre. These are all aspects that we hope will convince you about the strength of our proposal. The practical organisation of the congress will be in the safe hands of MCI The Netherlands. One of the most experienced and professional event organisers in the country.

SUPPORT

Besides information about our country and the proposed host city of Rotterdam, a budget indication, all the necessary practical information about venues, transport options and hotels, this document contains letters of support from mr. Eric Wiebes, Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy, mr. Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor of Rotterdam and many others. You will also find a letter from the NBTC (Netherlands Board of Tourism & Conventions) guaranteeing visas for all participants (providing fulfilment of general conditions governing entry).

We would like to conclude by stating that all collaborating partners who are submitting this bid together are looking forward to making WEC2025 a success and

the greenest edition ever. Should you wish any further information, we will of course be happy to provide.

AGILE CONGRESS FORMAT

Over time and with new technologies becoming rapidly available, the way we organise congresses and events is changing. Expectations, goals and technologies with respect to sustainability and circularity affect this process. That is why Rotterdam, together with many partners and stakeholders is actively developing new, hybrid ways of hosting and organising congresses and events, combining physical and virtual elements and the possibilities of new technologies like streaming. This will provide the flexibility to make choices based on the latest situation and developments.

