

Green Financing Framework



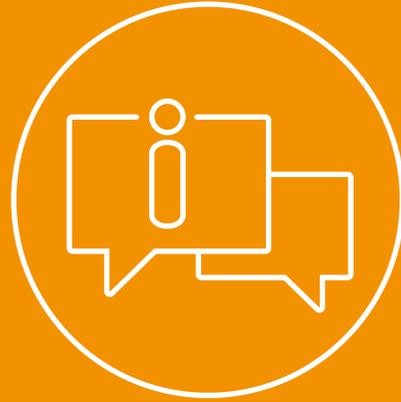
November 2022





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1. INTRODUCTION

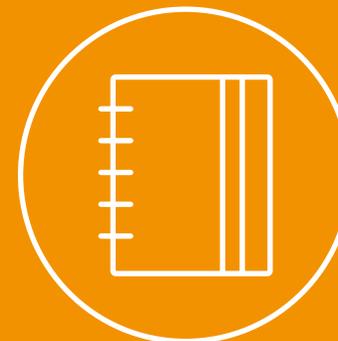
1.1 ZSE Group

Západoslovenská energetika, a.s. along with its subsidiaries, (“ZSE”), is a leading electricity company in Slovakia and is part of E.ON SE (“E.ON”), one of the largest operators of energy networks and energy infrastructure in Europe. E.ON holds 49% of ZSE shares, while the remaining 51% are owned by the Slovak Republic represented by the Ministry of Economy. ZSE is the largest electricity Distribution System Operator (“DSO”) in Slovakia and a natural monopoly in the Western Slovakia territory. ZSE has been a key actor in the Slovak energy market for a century, and in 2022 celebrated its 100th anniversary.

In addition to electricity distribution, the company’s activities include electricity and gas supply, electricity generation, customer solutions focusing on the use of renewable resources and technologies for smart homes, and the installation of charging stations and development of e-mobility over the entire territory of the Slovak Republic. Our mission is to become our customers’ key sustainable partner by offering them tailor-made solutions for a greener, more connected, and digital energy world.

ZSE is among the corporate social responsibility leaders in Slovakia and these principles are at the core of our daily business decisions and strategy. We aim to provide our customers with the best quality of services possible, while considering clean energy sources, reducing our environmental impact and eliminating work-related safety hazards.

On 8 April 2022, the shareholders of ZSE and Východoslovenská energetika Holding a.s. (“VSEH”), which operates in Eastern Slovakia, entered into a Future Consolidation Agreement to consolidate ZSE with VSEH¹.



ZSE Group’s key figures

- Over 2,100 employees
- 1.2 million supply points
- Distribution of approximately 10 TWh (excluding grid losses)
- 39,444 km of distribution network
- Electricity supply: 6.8 TWh for over 1 million customers
- Gas supply: 3.5 TWh for 89,400 customers
- Power generation 2,442 GWh
- 264 public charging points for e-vehicles

¹ The press release is available on the investor section of our website [here](#)

1.2 Sustainability Strategy

**7 AFFORDABLE
CLEAN ENERGY**



**11 SUSTAINABLE
CITIES AND
COMMUNITIES**



**13 CLIMATE
ACTION**



Climate Change is the biggest and one of the most urgent challenges of our time. In the middle of 2021, the European Commission released the “The Fit for 55” package², which introduces the EU’s target of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030 (compared to 1990). The proposed package aims to bring EU legislation in line with the 2030 goal. ZSE fully supports the EU’s objectives and aspires to play a key role in propelling progress to achieve them. A successful transformation to a low-carbon economy will require far-reaching and permanent structural changes across society and industries. To that effect, ZSE has developed a strong sustainability strategy to guide its action across all subsidiaries. Climate protection is not an afterthought at ZSE, and is gradually becoming an integral part of business operations and governance.

Our core businesses enable us to help our customers to use energy more efficiently and to generate their own low-carbon energy, both of which are key levers to achieve the EU’s targets. We offer access to renewable energy and energy efficiency services in Slovakia, participate in the development of clean transportation through the installation of charging stations and innovative solutions, renovate our own buildings to make

cities more sustainable, and help build a fair society through awareness, education and solidarity programs. All of ZSE’s activities support the UN Sustainable Development Goals (“SDGs”), with ZSE’s core business having the biggest impact on SDGs 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and 13 (Climate Action).

In addition, ZSE is a member of the PartnerForSustainability³ initiative under the auspices of the German-Slovak Chamber of Industry and Commerce (“**AHK Slowakei**”) since May 2021. Thirteen partners, including ZSE and VSEH, are joining forces to achieve one goal: a sustainable economy in Slovakia.

In 2021, ZSE also became an official partner of the second year Climathon (Bratislava hackaton). Climathon is a global initiative that involves more than 145 cities from 56 countries. It aims to raise awareness of climate change, provide an active response to combat it, and build a sustainable world together under the umbrella of the EIT Climate KIC, which supports the implementation of innovative green solutions within the EU.

More information on our Sustainability strategy, and its key aspects within the different business

² For more information see [here](#)

³ For more information, see [here](#)

areas and projects, is available in our annual [Sustainability Reports](#).

Climate action

At ZSE, we are aware of our position and responsibility to reach carbon neutrality within our activities. The production or provision of all goods and services as well as customers' use of our products results in greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions. We therefore need to take action to reduce our climate impact across our value chain, both upstream and downstream.

In 2020, we began disclosing the annual carbon emissions from our activities that are transparently traceable. We conducted the full assessment of our carbon footprint, according to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard ("GHG Protocol"), in order to direct our action and put in place a strong climate plan. To limit global warming to 1.5°C as agreed in the Paris Agreement, global emissions need to be halved by 2030. As part of this global objective, ZSE has set its best efforts towards gradual reduction of its CO₂e GHG emissions⁴ as follows:

Scope 1 and Scope 2:

-75% by 2030 and -100% by 2040

Scope 3:

-50% by 2030 and -100% by 2050.



⁴ Compared to a 2020 baseline



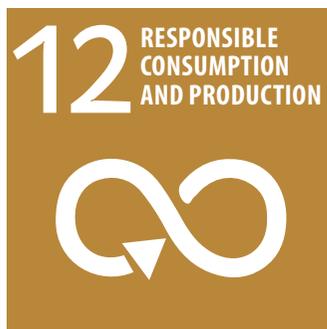
Most of our Scope 2 GHG emissions come from the distribution system operation losses. ZSE continuously invests in the modernisation of its distribution system⁵, which results in the progressive decrease in grid losses.

At present, the two largest contributors to our Scope 3 GHG emissions are the electricity sold to end customers (excluding distribution losses) and gas sold to end customers, representing 35% and 28% of our carbon footprint respectively. We are currently working on the overall Scope 3 emissions reduction strategy, including engagement with our suppliers on how to gather, calculate and reduce the emissions from our supply chain.

Our detailed GHG emissions balance and air pollution indicators, along with the methodology used, are published as part of our annual Sustainability Report.

Environmental protection

ZSE has been focusing on the long-term protection of the environment. Through our actions, we contribute to the mitigation of



The majority of our Scope 1 GHG emissions result from the electricity generation at our Malženice steam-gas combined cycle power plant, a highly efficient power plant. In addition to efforts to reduce emissions from the plant, ZSE is consulting with experts on a plan of compensatory measures or the application of biomethane certificates in order to cover for residual emissions that the company generates for this operation.

⁵ For more information on these investments, and in particular on ACON and Danube InGrid projects, see [here](#) and [here](#), or refer to ZSE's 2021 Sustainability Report, [here](#)



adverse impacts the energy sector has on birds, water, land, soil, and air. More details on our specific actions are available in the relevant sections of our annual Sustainability Reports.

ZSE and its subsidiaries have an Environmental Management System certification (ISO 14001) in place since 2010. A supervisory audit is conducted every year with recertification obtained every three years.

Occupational Health and Safety (“OHS”), diversity and community engagement

“Safety F1rst – Safety at the first place” is our motto, which spans across the entire company. Top quality OHS standards are a principal pillar through which the company seeks to ensure health and safety for its employees and suppliers to the maximum extent possible. The main OHS guidelines of E.ON are followed by ZSE and are implemented in internal managing acts.

The measures undertaken are described in more detail in our annual Sustainability Reports and relate to all material OHS issues, including continuous inspection of contractors, investigation of work injuries, unsafe conditions and occupational illnesses in the company, rules for working with dangerous chemical factors, minimum safety and health conditions onsite, drinking regime, and protection against fire.

ZSE and its subsidiaries also benefit from a Safety Management System certification (ISO 45001), which is subject to a supervisory audit every year with recertification obtained every three years.

Responsible employer

As a responsible employer, we focus on positive employee experience, work-life balance and a non-discriminatory approach in all policies of human resources. But this social engagement goes beyond the scope of our employees: we also take constant action to support our community. ZSE offers a number of programmes to shape a diverse and inclusive company. For instance, we have been cooperating with secondary technical schools through dual programmes for several years, where students have the possibility to become young employees through the Power Programme within which ZSE experts hand over their precious experience and technical skills to future generations of ZSE colleagues.

1.3 Governance

ESG aspects continue to be systematically embedded into ZSE management processes. The Head of Corporate Development and Innovations is responsible for the ESG reporting to the Board of Directors, and reports to the Chief Executive Officer. Sitting within the Corporate Development and Innovations unit, the Sustainability Officer covers ZSE's sustainability agenda across the entire Group. The Board of Directors decides on the implementation of ESG related policies and measures. In addition, each business unit's management team is responsible for taking action to enhance sustainability and meet the sustainability targets that will lead the company towards carbon neutrality by 2050, as set out in the European Green Deal. The role of the Sustainability Officer was established in October 2020 to strengthen the coordination of processes relating to green transition and path to net-zero concerning ZSE's carbon footprint that follows the GHG Protocol.

For ZSE, compliance with legal and ethical standards is as crucial as the business itself. These standards represent the basis of good governance for the companies within the Group. We pay special attention to the development and implementation of the Compliance Programme, focused on compliance with law and ethical conduct of employees⁶. Through the implementation of this programme in all



our subsidiaries, we aim to avoid acting in a misleading or fraudulent way towards our customers, business partners, investors and stakeholders, while also acting to prevent any corrupt practices and enabling whistleblowing. We put a particular emphasis on corruption issues through our Zero Tolerance Plan for Corruption. In line with this, we conduct integrity checks on contractors to ensure that they meet our standards when it comes to corruption, money laundering, taxes, economic sanctions and financing of terrorism.

ZSE respects human rights in line with the E.ON updated Declaration on Principles of Human Rights of 2019, published on the E.ON website⁷. This declaration recognises the International Charter of Human Rights and the Declaration of the International Labour Organisation on the fundamental principles and rights at work, which

are reflected in the ZSE Supplier Code of Conduct. ZSE also recognises the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), and is working on becoming a signatory in the near- to medium-term. These principles play a leading role in the relationship ZSE has with its suppliers, and also accompany the Supplier Code of Conduct. ZSE is working towards the formalization of the human rights agenda and has a rollout of activities in the pipeline. For ZSE, good governance means conducting our activities in full compliance with the law and internal policies and guidance, in a way that will lead to the achievement of the UN development goals. The true outcome of good governance is the degree to which we deliver on our commitment on human rights in the way we conduct our business.

Our Group ESG policies are published on the [dedicated page](#) of our website.

⁶ As described in our 2021 Annual Report, [here](#)

⁷ See [here](#)



2. ZSE'S FRAMEWORK

Rationale for establishing a Green Financing Framework

Climate change is one of the biggest threats of our time and has disproportional impacts on the most vulnerable groups in society. As an energy company, we ought to use our potential to enable the transition to zero emission solutions, contribute to the goals of the Paris Climate Change Agreement and the European Green Deal, develop or upgrade ecosystems and build an inclusive society. That is why we aim to offer solutions which have a positive effect on every area of sustainable development.

We aim to give all our customers the opportunity to cover their consumption with electricity produced from renewable sources. We are improving the availability of installations for a broader group of consumers to enable their own environmentally friendly electricity generation. In our workplaces and offices, we take actions step-by-step to reduce consumption, waste and other environmental impacts. We have long been cooperating on corporate social responsibility projects focusing on environmental protection and environmental education. We are aware of our position and responsibility for fulfilling carbon neutrality within our activities.



In order to fulfil our commitments, and to be an active actor in the decarbonisation and social development of the energy sector, large investments need to be made. The issuance of green financing instruments enables us to reach our environmental targets through eligible expenditures, reinforces our commitment to contribute to the achievement of globally recognized carbon neutral goals, and sends a clear message to investors that ZSE is willing to engage in the decarbonisation of our economy. By establishing this Green Financing Framework (the "**Framework**"), ZSE intends to align its funding strategy with its ESG objectives.

The Framework allows ZSE to issue green bonds, loans, or any other financing instruments (collectively the "**Green Financing Instrument(s)**").

ZSE commits to providing information with transparency, accuracy and integrity according to the four core components of the ICMA Green Bond Principles 2021 ("**GBP**")⁸, and the LMA Green Loan Principles ("**GLP**")⁹:

- i. Use of Proceeds
- ii. Process for Project Evaluation and Selection
- iii. Management of Proceeds
- iv. Reporting

The Framework is fully aligned with the ICMA Green Bond Principles and the LMA Green Loan Principles. Each of the eligible categories have been aligned with the relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals and EU environmental objectives. The Framework is also aligned where feasible with the EU Taxonomy Regulation¹⁰ and the EU Taxonomy Delegated Acts on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation¹¹ adopted in June 2021 (the "**EU Taxonomy**"). In addition, the Framework follows, where possible and relevant, the current version of the proposed EU Green Bond Standard.

2.1 Use of Proceeds

An amount equal to the net proceeds from any Green Financing Instrument issued under this Framework will be used to finance or refinance, in whole or in part, eligible green assets and capital expenditures that meet the eligibility

criteria detailed below, and together forming the "**Eligible Green Portfolio**". All the categories below respond to the EU environmental objective of Climate Change Mitigation.

⁸ ICMA Green Bond Principles 2021 [here](#)

⁹ LMA Green Loan Principles 2021 [here](#)

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088

¹¹ EU Taxonomy Delegated Act on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation published in April 2021 and adopted in June 2021 [here](#)

| Eligible Green Categories | Eligible Green Assets and Capital Expenditures and related Eligibility Criteria | EU Taxonomy and related EU Economic Activities | Alignment with the UN SDGs |
|---------------------------|--|---|---|
| Energy Networks | <p>Electricity distribution infrastructure and equipment that meet one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ over 67% of newly enabled generation capacity connected to our systems is below the threshold value of 100gCO₂e/kWh (measured on a life cycle basis, over a rolling 5-year period) ▪ the networks' average emissions factor is less than 100gCO₂e/kWh (measured on a life cycle basis, over a rolling 5-year period) <p>Excludes infrastructure dedicated to creating or expanding direct connection of power plants that are more CO₂ intensive than 100gCO₂e/kWh (measured on a life cycle basis)</p> | 4.9 (NACE: D.35.12, D.35.13) |     |
| Renewable Energy | <p>Renewable energy generation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Solar photovoltaic (PV) ▪ Hydropower¹² ▪ Hydrogen¹³ | 4.1 (NACE D35.11) 4.5 (NACE D35.11) 3.10 (NACE: C20.11) |     |

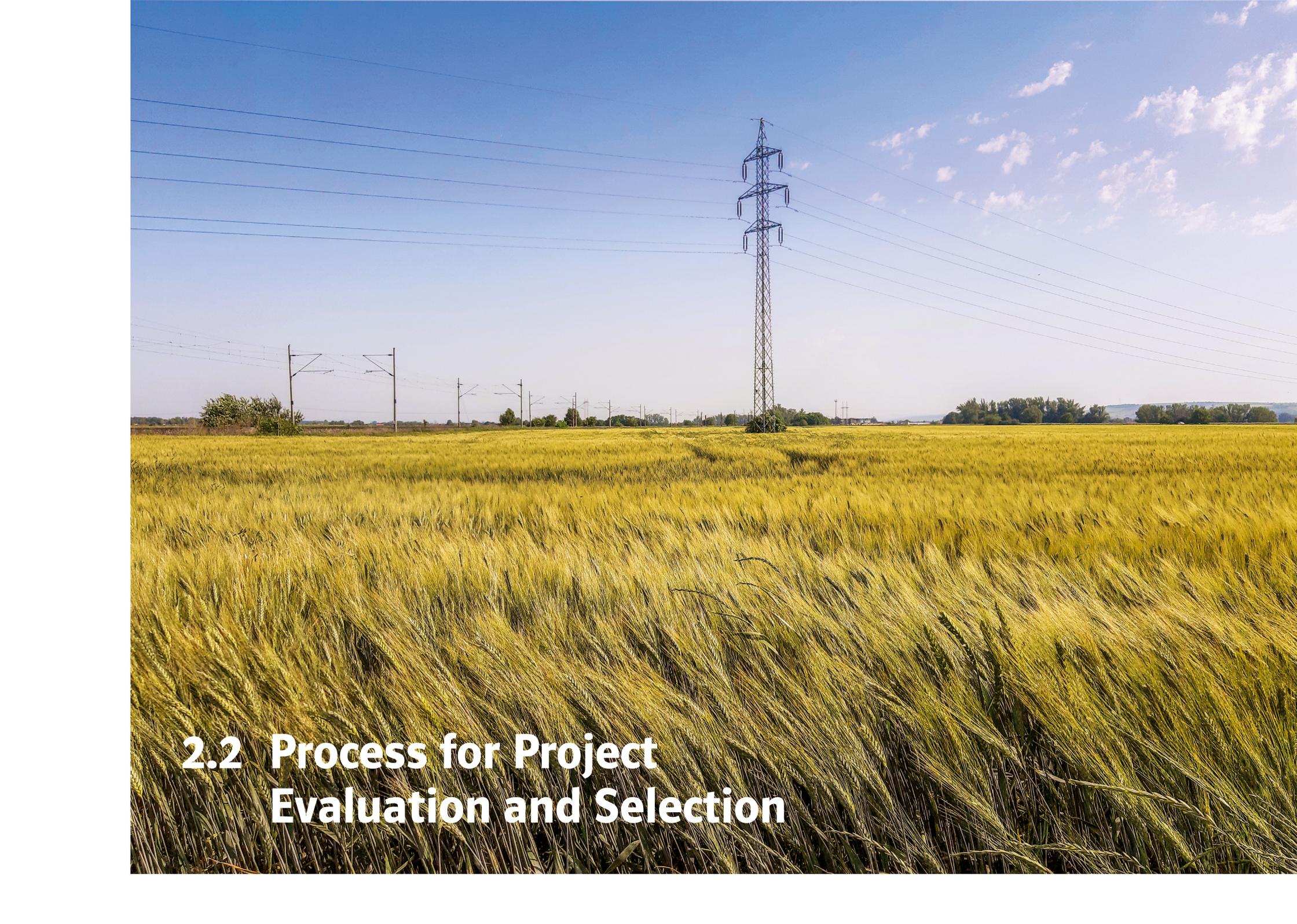
¹² Following either of the below criteria:

- the electricity generation facility is a run-of-river plant and does not have an artificial reservoir;
- the life-cycle GHG emissions from the generation of electricity from hydropower, are lower than 100gCO₂e/kWh. Quantified life-cycle GHG emissions are verified by an independent third party.

¹³ The activity complies with the life-cycle GHG emissions savings requirement of 73.4% for hydrogen [resulting in 3tCO₂eq/tH₂] and 70% for hydrogen-based synthetic fuels relative to a fossil fuel comparator of 94gCO₂e/MJ].

Where the CO₂ that would otherwise be emitted from the manufacturing process is captured for the purpose of underground storage, the CO₂ is transported and stored underground, in accordance with the technical screening criteria set out in Sections 5.11 and 5.12, respectively, of the technical annex on climate change mitigation of the EU Taxonomy.

| Eligible Green Categories | Eligible Green Assets and Capital Expenditures and related Eligibility Criteria | EU Taxonomy and related EU Economic Activities | Alignment with the UN SDGs |
|---------------------------|--|---|---|
| Energy Efficiency | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Projects that contribute to the reduction of energy losses and improvement of the overall efficiency of the operation of assets, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> smart grids, smart meters power control devices and equipment to increase the controllability and observability of the electricity system District heating/cooling distribution | <p>4.9 7.3 (NACE C27.12; D35.12; D35.13; F43.21; M71; S95.21)</p> <p>4.15 (NACE: 35.30)</p> |     |
| Clean Transportation | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Electric vehicle (EV) charging stations and supporting electric infrastructure Electricity grid connection upgrades for the electrification of transport | <p>4.9 6.15 7.4 (NACE: D.35.12, D.35.13, F42.22)</p> |     |



2.2 Process for Project Evaluation and Selection

The Eligible Green Portfolio is evaluated and selected based on the compliance with the eligibility criteria described above, the EU Taxonomy criteria (including Do No Significant Harm provisions), ZSE's sustainability strategy and objectives, as well as applicable national, European and international laws and standards.

In particular, the Energy Networks category is subject to a narrower eligibility definition. While under the EU Taxonomy, the entire European Interconnected System (to which all of ZSE's fully consolidated grids belong) is eligible, ZSE applies the EU Taxonomy's general thresholds, applicable to any grid outside the European Interconnected System.

ZSE has established a dedicated internal Green Financing Committee (the "**Committee**") to oversee the governance of its Green Financing Programme. The Committee is chaired by the CFO and comprises representatives from Sustainability, Energy Networks, Customer Solutions and Group Finance and other parties to be nominated as subject matter experts. The Committee meets at least on an annual basis.

The primary responsibilities of the Committee are:

1. Ensuring the compliance of the assets and expenditures forming the Eligible Green Portfolio with the eligibility criteria set out in this Framework;
2. Deciding on the inclusion of assets and expenditures in the Eligible Green Portfolio, and reviewing and monitoring the Eligible Green Portfolio on at least an annual basis;
3. Excluding assets and expenditures that no longer comply with the eligibility criteria, or that have been disposed of, replacing them as soon as reasonably practicable and within 24 months;
4. Monitoring and approving the annual allocation and impact report;
5. Overseeing the Framework and future updates to ensure alignment with best market practices, evolving regulation, and investor expectations.

The list of selected eligible assets and expenditures will be identified by the Finance team, with the support of the Customer Solutions and Energy Networks teams, and submitted to the Committee for individual assessment against the eligibility criteria set out in the Framework and validation.

The Eligible Green Portfolio may include tangible or intangible assets, capital expenditures, as well as acquisitions of a 'pure player'¹⁵:

- Assets will be included in the portfolio at their current IFRS balance sheet value, which will

be updated annually to reflect investment and depreciation under IFRS.

- Capital expenditures will be included in the portfolio for the amount of the initial expenditure, subject to annual depreciation on a straight-line basis in accordance with the expected useful life of the investment.

Eligible green assets and capital expenditures shall qualify for refinancing without a specific look-back period, provided that at the time of issuance they follow the relevant eligibility criteria and provide meaningful impact.

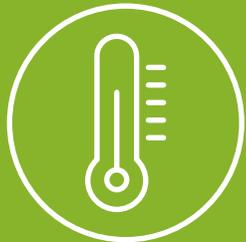
¹⁵ 'Pure player': At least 90% of the revenues of the acquired company are derived from activities falling in any of the above Eligible Green Categories

Compliance with the Do No Significant Harm Criteria

The assets and expenditures of the Eligible Green Portfolio financed and/or refinanced through the Green Financing Instruments are evaluated and selected based on compliance with the relevant metrics, thresholds and requirements of the EU Taxonomy Do No Significant Harm criteria, as

well as with applicable national, European and international environmental and social standards.

We aim to manage and eliminate any potential negative environmental and social impacts of our projects. The reduction of negative impacts on the environment is implemented through the certified ISO 14001 Integrated Management System of ZSE and its subsidiaries



Západoslovenská distribučná, a.s. as the largest distribution system operator and ZSE Energia, a.s. as supplier of gas and electricity and provider of customer solutions, as detailed in the "Environmental Protection" section of this Framework. In addition, we develop and operate our network based on internal guidelines, where rules, principles, procedures for managing the low voltage network, high voltage network and transform stations are defined with the goal to minimize relevant climate hazards, such as temperature variability, changing wind patterns, changing precipitation patterns and types (rain, hail, snow/ice), precipitation or hydrological variability, water stress and soil erosion.

In compliance with EU law, all new and existing assets and activities follow the EU Water Framework Directive and environmental impact assessments are conducted. Special attention is paid to protected water management areas and zones of hygienic protection of water sources, as well as to biodiversity protection.

With regards to pollution, ZSE performs regular inspections of equipment, ensures appropriate record keeping, and ensures that the applicable regulations and requirements for the storage and use of such substances are being followed.

All new eligible assets and expenditures are compliant with EU law, and, when required, ZSE implements the appropriate monitoring and management plans, such as environmental and social management and monitoring plans, occupational health and safety management plans and biodiversity management plans.

2.3 Management of Proceeds

ZSE intends to allocate an amount equivalent to the net proceeds from the Green Financing Instruments to all or part of the Eligible Green Portfolio, selected in accordance with the use of proceeds criteria and evaluation and selection process presented above. The Finance team / Treasury will ensure, on a best efforts basis, that the Eligible Green Portfolio exceeds, or

is at least equal to, the net amount of Green Financing Instrument proceeds raised under this Framework.

ZSE will strive to maintain a level of allocation for the Eligible Green Portfolio which, after adjustments for intervening circumstances including, but not limited to, divestments,

matches or exceeds the balance of net proceeds from its outstanding Green Financing Instruments within a timeframe of 24 months after issuance.

If an asset or expenditure is no longer eligible, for example following disposal prior to the bond maturity, the proceeds initially allocated shall be reallocated to another eligible asset or expenditure held by ZSE, based on the same process for evaluation and selection. Replacement of assets and/or expenditures will be done on a best effort basis, within a reasonable period of time of 24 months following the ineligibility event.

Pending the full allocation to the Eligible Green Portfolio, ZSE will hold and/or invest the balance of net proceeds not yet allocated, at its own discretion, in its treasury liquidity portfolio in cash or cash equivalents, money market funds, or other liquid financing instruments which will not include GHG intensive nor controversial activities. Unallocated proceeds will not affect the delivery of the environmental objectives as set out in this framework.



2.4. Reporting

ZSE will report, annually and until full allocation, on the allocation of net proceeds to the Eligible Green Portfolio. ZSE will also report, where feasible, on the environmental impact of the Eligible Green Portfolio, at least at category level throughout the tenor of the bond. The reporting will be published as part of, or concurrently along with, ZSE’s annual Sustainability Report. Any material developments, such as modification of the framework or allocation portfolio, will be reported in a timely manner. ZSE intends to provide aggregated reporting for all of ZSE’s Green Financing Instruments outstanding. Reports will be available on the [Investors page](#) of ZSE’s website.

Allocation Report

ZSE will include the following in its reporting:

- The total amount of assets and capital expenditures in the Eligible Green Portfolio, specified on at least category level;
- Breakdown of the Eligible Green Portfolio by nature of what is being financed (assets, capital expenditures);
- The mapping of the EU Environmental Objectives pursued by the assets and capital expenditures in the Eligible Green Portfolio;
- The amount and / or percentage of new and existing projects (share of financing and refinancing), indicating the amount and percentage of assets and expenditures in the total Eligible Green Portfolio corresponding

respectively to assets and expenditures disbursed during the reporting year and to projects disbursed during previous reporting years;

- The balance of unallocated proceeds, if any.

Impact Report

ZSE intends to align the reporting, on a best effort basis, with the portfolio approach described in the “Handbook - Harmonised Framework for Impact Reporting (June 2022)¹⁶”. Potential impact indicators may include:

| Eligible Green Categories | Potential impact indicators |
|---------------------------|---|
| Energy Networks | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Renewable capacity connected to the grid (in GW and relative share of total capacity in %) 2) Renewable capacity added (versus previous year, in MW) 3) Efficiency improvements by smart meters (%) 4) Avoided emissions p.a. (kt CO₂e/y) 5) Smart grid components installed, e.g. as smart meters (in pcs) |
| Renewable Energy | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Added renewables capacity (MW) 2) Total renewables capacity (MW) 3) Avoided emissions p.a. (kt CO₂e/y) |

¹⁶ Handbook - Harmonised Framework for Impact Reporting (June 2022)

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Energy Efficiency | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Annual energy consumption savings by clients, indirect impact 2) Efficiency improvements (%) 3) Avoided emissions p.a. (kt CO₂e/y) |
| Clean Transportation | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Number of EV charging points (#) 2) New EV charging points in reporting year 3) Green share of energy delivered through charging points 4) Avoided emissions p.a. (kt CO₂ e/y) |

The indicators listed above may be supplemented by qualitative and/or case-study reports on outcomes and impacts of selected assets and expenditures funded. Where relevant, information will be provided on data reporting and impact assessment methodologies, to increase transparency.

2.5. External Review



Pre-issuance review: Second Party Opinion

ISS ESG has been appointed to review this Green Financing Framework and ultimately verify its alignment with the ICMA Green Bond Principles 2021, the LMA Green Loan Principles 2021, and the EU Taxonomy. The Second Party Opinion can be found here: [SPO](#)

Post-issuance review

An independent auditor or verifier will be appointed to provide an independent review on the allocation and impact reports. The auditor or verifier's report will be made available on ZSE's website: [ZSE Green Financing](#)

Amendments to this Framework

The framework may be amended from time to time to reflect market developments, shifting expectations, best market practices and regulatory landscape, in particular related to the EU Taxonomy or EU GBS. Any new issuance will be aligned with the latest version of the framework. For any material revision of the Framework, ZSE will seek to obtain a refreshed SPO.

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