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BLOG ARTICLE

Women in Energy Brunch at Future of Utilities Energy Transition Summit - Amsterdam, March 19th 2026

Women Energize Women is pleased to reflect on its successful participation at the Future of Utilities Energy Transition Summit 2026, held on March 18-19 in Amsterdam. For the first time, Women Energize Women hosted the “Women in Energy Brunch”, which became one of the summit’s most engaging and widely discussed sessions. Bringing together over 30 mentors from across Europe’s energy sector alongside numerous mentees and professionals at all career stages, the event provided an inspiring forum for exchange on leadership, professional development, and career advancement within an industry that continues to evolve toward greater inclusivity.

The session was opened by Silja Dressel and Amelie Menzel of GIZ, in conversation with Valentyna Beliakova, Co-Founder of the Women’s Energy Club of Ukraine. As noted by the summit’s organisers, the discussion set “a tone that was warm, direct and — for many in the room — genuinely moving.”

Reflecting on the profound changes since the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, Ms. Beliakova shared insights into its impact on women’s participation in the energy sector, particularly in technical and leadership roles. The conversation further underscored the importance of mentorship and strong professional networks. Drawing on her own career journey, Ms. Beliakova discussed challenges she has faced and spoke with enthusiasm about overcoming them. She now actively engages in mentorship to empower and support women in the sector. Her reflections emphasized the value of mutual support in building resilient professional communities, especially under challenging conditions.

The mentors participating in the brunch included senior representatives from EDP, SSEN Transmission, COGEN Europe, Eurogas, EnBW, Vattenfall, ENERTRAG, Bundesnetzagentur, Hydrogen of Dutch Origin (H2DO), Deep Science Ventures, Skytree, and others. Together with attendees, they contributed to meaningful dialogue and fostered new connections across the European energy community.

Women Energize Women extends its sincere gratitude to all mentors, mentees, and participants, as well as to the MarketForce Live team that organized the Future of Utilities Energy Transition Summit, for their partnership in creating this dynamic and empowering space for women in energy. The initiative looks forward to building on this momentum and continuing to advance dialogue on diversity, inclusion, and leadership within the global energy transition.