Teknologi- og prosjektsamarbeid



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ARGENTUM























Government













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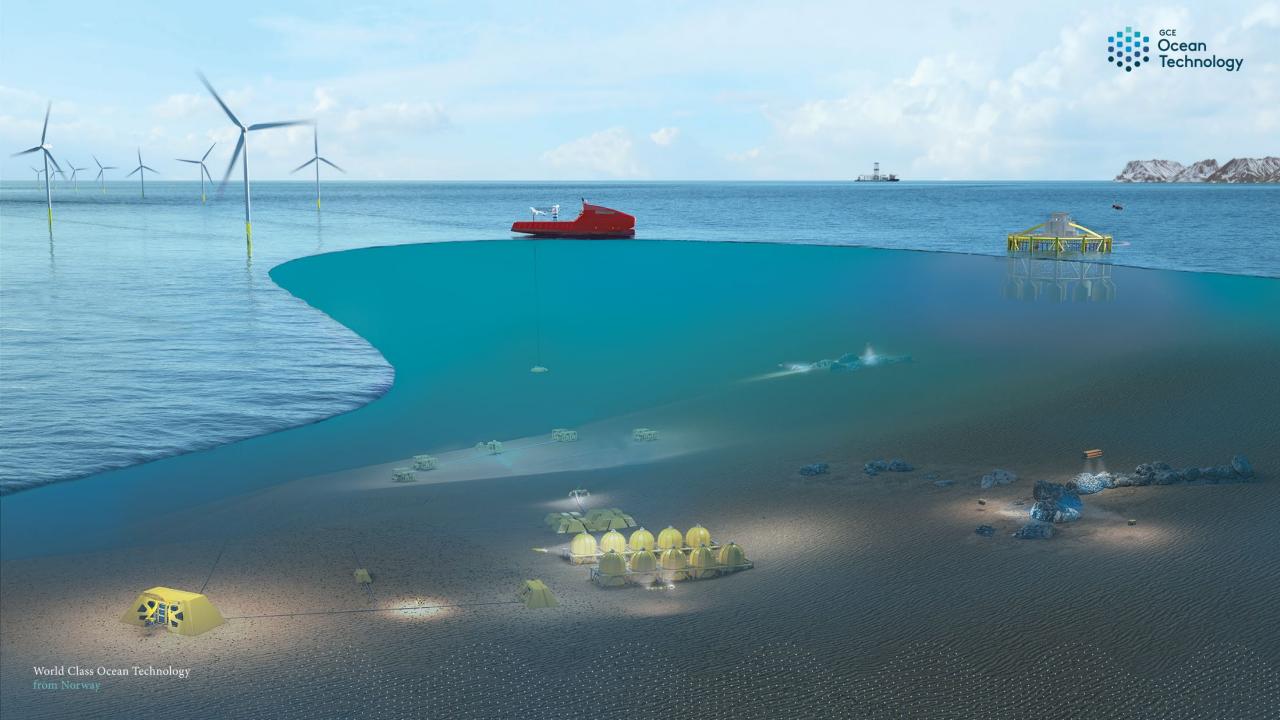












Collaboration projects, key legal considerations

GCE Ocean Technology

Christian James-Olsen and Knut Hausken Magnussen

11 November 2021



Agenda

- Introduction and background
- An overview of collaboration projects
- Key legal considerations

The trend – from goals to regulatory duties

- Goals are converted to regulatory duties:
 - The European Union's "Fit for 55"-package
 - IMO's Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index (EEEI) and Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII)
 - New regulations within offshore wind preparing for auctions and development
 - Future developments new regulations likely to come into force
- Pressure and expectations from the market
 - "Equinor supports the Paris Agreement and a net-zero future"
 - "Maersk Hybrid Drilling Rig Starts Up Offshore Norway"
 - "Amazon, Ikea and Unilever pledge zero-carbon shipping by 2040"
 - "Shipping industry calls for new global carbon tax"
 - "Norwegian shipping climate neutral by 2050"
 - "EU Taxonomy" and "EU funding programmes"



New markets and need for developments

- The transition requires development of new technology
 - Existing projects / vessels need to be able to transition and make use of new technology
 - New offshore projects need to be more sustainable / less impact on the environment
 - Newbuilds need to take into account (potential) future requirements
- The transition also creates new market opportunities:
 - New technology and new designs
 - New fuels and energy carriers
 - New (Norwegian) markets within e.g. offshore wind and energy
- Complex to achieve this, but some things are clear:
 - The need to involve different companies with different expertise / current business
 - The need for financial aid / financing of projects
 - The need to protect and agree on intellectual property rights / commercialisation
 - The complexity and scope of the projects necessitate collaboration





Different types of collaboration projects

- Technology development / FoU-projects
 - Companies with different competence collaborate in order to develop new or improved technology
 - From a legal perspective, the key concern is normally protection and ownership of IPR
 - · Many "standard forms / templates" which may be used directly, or tailored to specific needs
- Alliance agreements / non-incorporated collaboration
 - Normally not development of new technology, rather a focus on combining resources from different companies
 - Separate types of agreements, different key considerations compared to other collaboration agreements
 - Who does what, obligation to provide resources, exclusive or non-exclusive, execution-phase and liability
 - Key principle; distributing risk among participants, sharing profits (and losses)
- Complex collaboration- / "value chain"-projects
 - More complex than technology development agreements
 - Typically includes participants from different levels / involved in different activities
 - May include / cater for the possibility to have sub-projects, with separate agreements
 - May contain certain elements from alliance agreements, e.g. sharing risk in commercialisation (joint venture)







Illustration of a project "life-cycle" – example

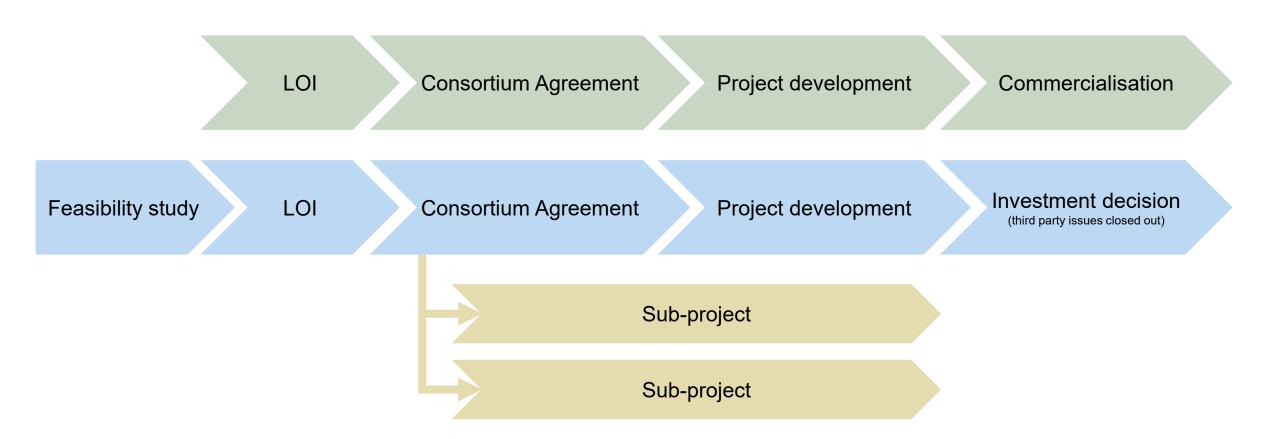
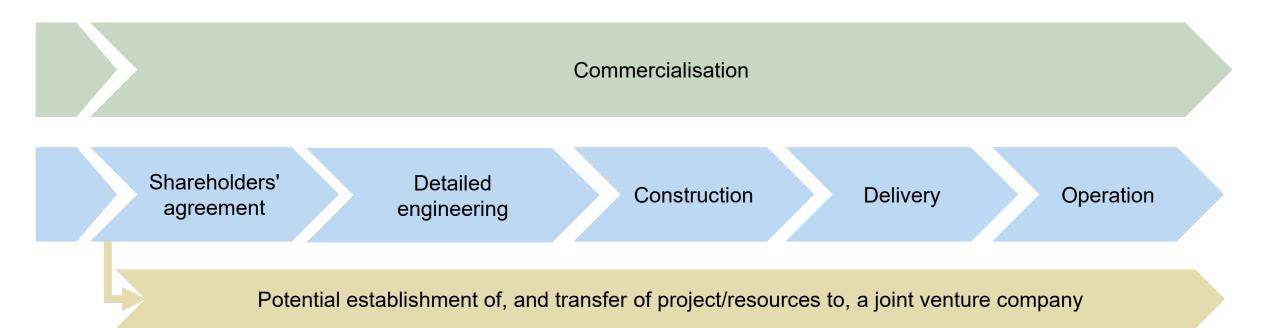


Illustration of a project "life-cycle" – example





Introduction – different legal set-ups

- Different names on agreements, same meaning?
 - Consortium Agreement / Collaboration Agreement / Alliance Agreements
 - Shareholders' Agreement / Joint Venture Agreement / Partnership Agreement
- Simplified structure in Consortium / Collaboration Agreements:
 - Description of the Project / Work
 - Contributions by each of the Parties / financing and state aid
 - Organisation of the Project
 - · Obligations, default and consequences of default
 - Term and termination
 - (Limitation of) Liability and Warranties
 - Intellectual Property Rights (and Commercialisation)
 - "Boilerplate clauses", for example confidentiality, amendments, competition law, etc.
 - Dispute resolution and choice of law

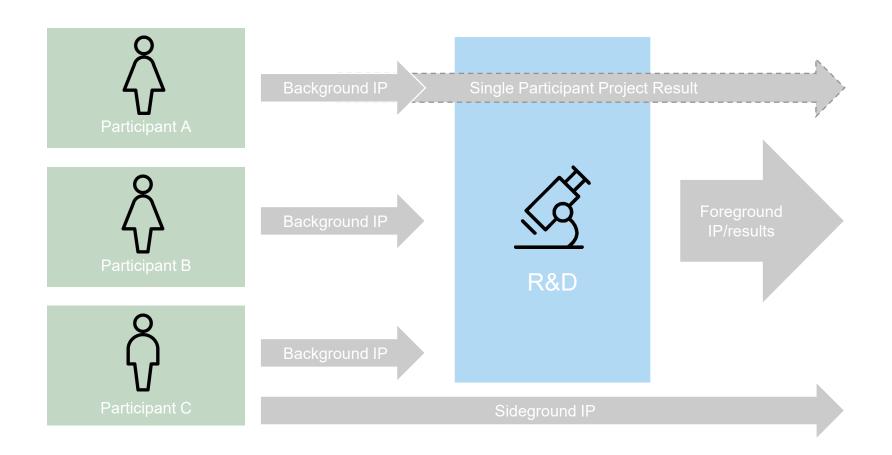


Same model for all, or tailored approach?

- Key considerations at an early stage:
 - Are the participants actual or potential competitors?
 - Avoid structuring the project which is in breach of competition law
 - Not necessarily a problem that the parties are actual or potential competitors
 - But needs to be taken into account and handled accordingly during the project
 - Development of new or improved technology?
 - Legal framework to ensure sharing and development
 - Important to consider and have a view on use / commercialisation
 - Agree to transfer intellectual property rights, or secure user rights / licences?
 - Secure no need for future "third party willingness"



Intellectual property rights – models



Key considerations and principles – IPR

- Background IPR:
 - No transfer of Background IPR, but Background IPR is made available during the Project
 - A need for licences in order to make use of Foreground IPR?
- Foreground IPR:
 - Model depends on type of project and interests of each Party, examples:
 - Ownership distributed dependant on connection to Background IPR
 - "Improvements", "mainly based on", or similar terms
 - Ownership distributed to one or more specific Parties
 - With obligation to commercialise?
 - Ownership distributed based participation in work packages
 - Irrespective of Background IPR / efforts?
- Alternatives to ownership in Foreground IPR:
 - A perpetual right to use / licence?
 - A "preferred customer" status?

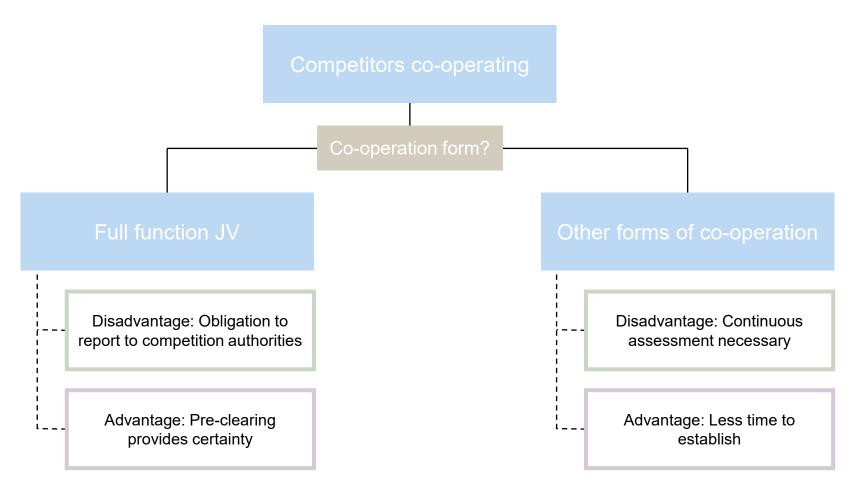


Competition law – early considerations

- Consortiums may include companies which are actual or potential competitors
- While due care is necessary at all stages, the risk of breach is normally low in the development-phase and before commercialisation
- Primarily necessary to take into account in the commercialisation-phase
 - Two or more actual or potential competitors to jointly commercialise?
- How should the cooperation be structured (in the future)?
 - Full function joint venture?
 - Other (non-incorporated) basis of cooperation?
- Advantages and disadvantages with both models:
 - Full function joint venture; requirements to joint venture, notification and "stand-still period"
 - Other (non-incorporated) basis of cooperation; continuous assessment
- Key strategic decision, necessary to be taken early on in order to avoid "surprises"



Competition law



Other practical (legal) issues

- Many factors may impact efficient negotiations:
 - Participants with cultural, organizational and legal differences
 - Examples; Norway, Russia and China
- Agree on key terms, principles and contractual basis:
 - Easier to agree on key terms and principles
 - More important than "getting into the details" early on
 - Which agreement should form the basis for negotiations?
- Coordinating the different workstreams and processes:
 - Who does what, when will it be delivered, consequences if not delivered?
 - Representatives with power to act and make decisions during execution





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av LMG Marin.

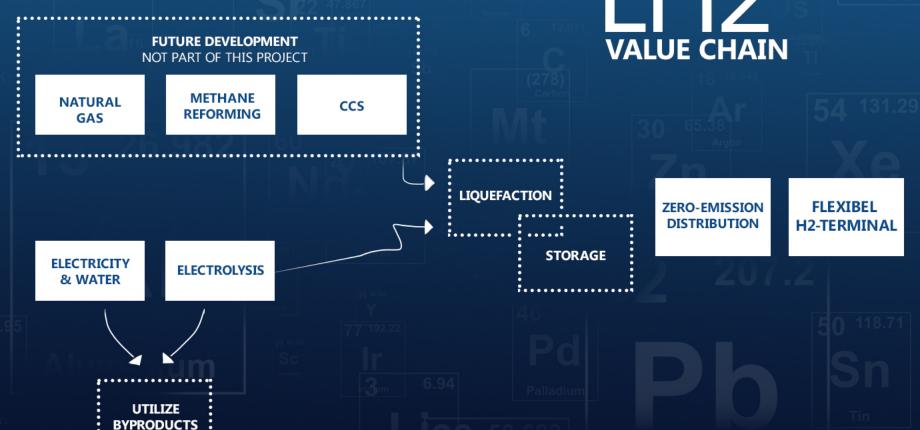














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AND OTHER PORT

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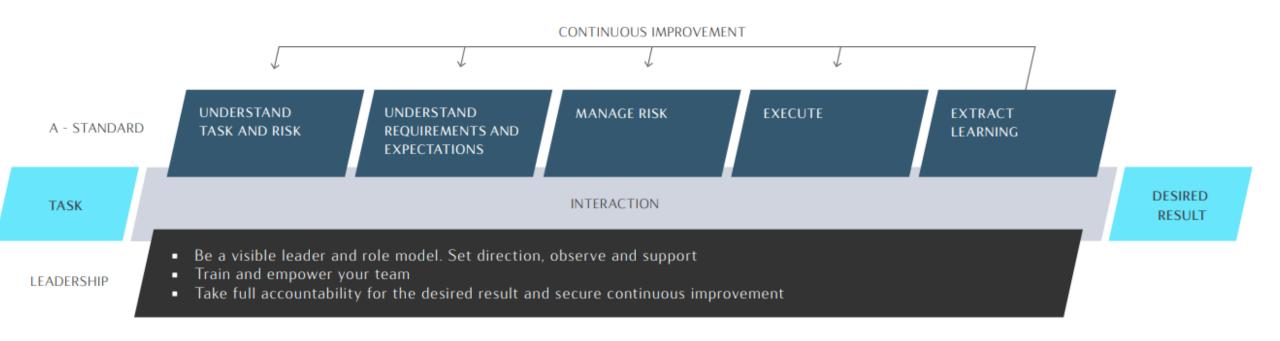


"TRUST is like the air we breathe. When it's present, nobody really notices. But when it's absent, everybody notices."

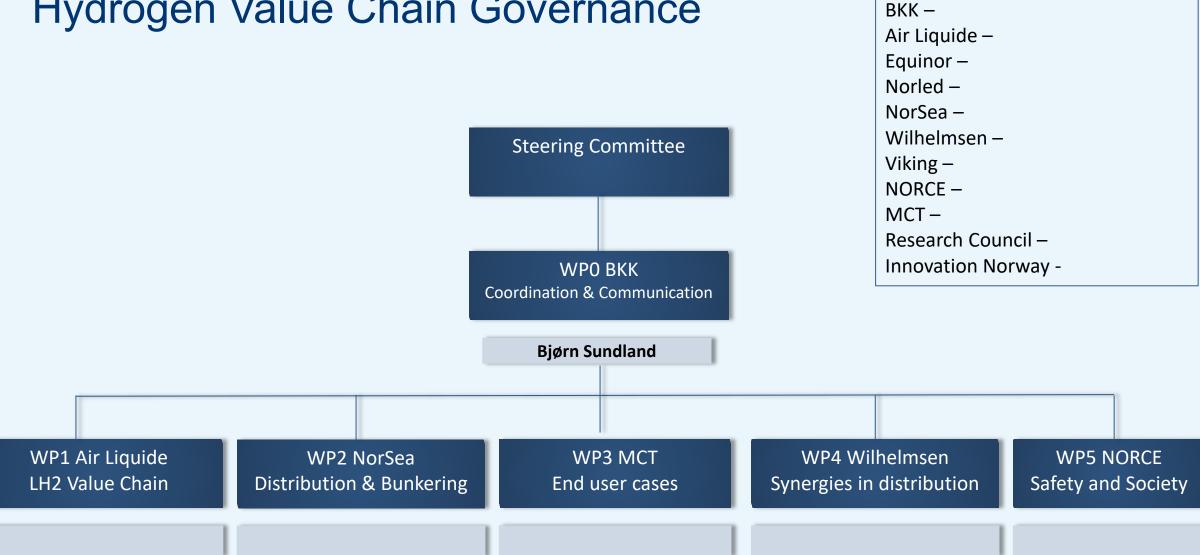
-Warren Buffett



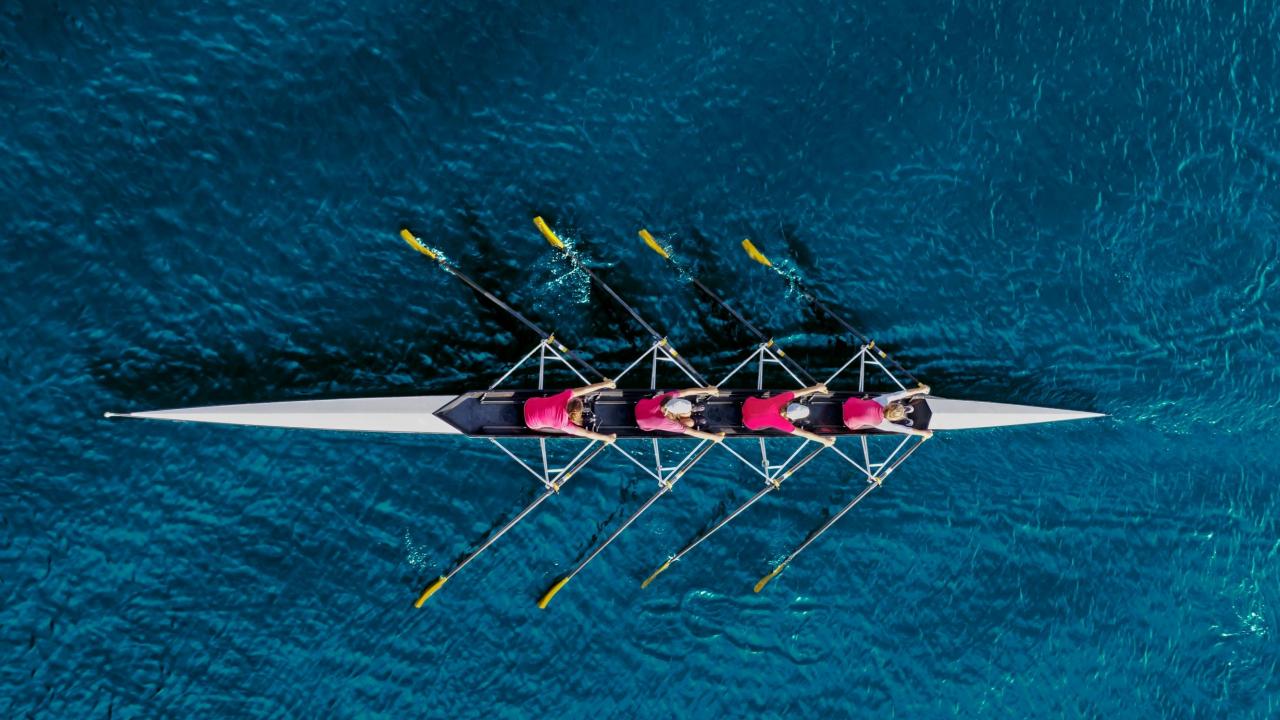
- Viktig å bruke tid på en felles forståelse av oppgaven risiko, forventinger og krav
- Viktig å ha god forståelse for partenes posisjoner og interesser
- Med ulike interesser og ulike bedriftskulturer tar det tid å bygge tillit
- Rett kompetanse i forhandlinger gir effektive prosesser
- Juridisk bistand er viktig for å komme frem til gode løsninger
- Bruk tilstrekkelig tid på avtaler for å bygge sterke partnerskap med tillit og felles mål
- Målsetningen er å etablere avtaler som best mulig ivaretar partenes ulike interesser.
- Målet med avtalen er å bidra til å redusere risiko for fremtidige konflikter



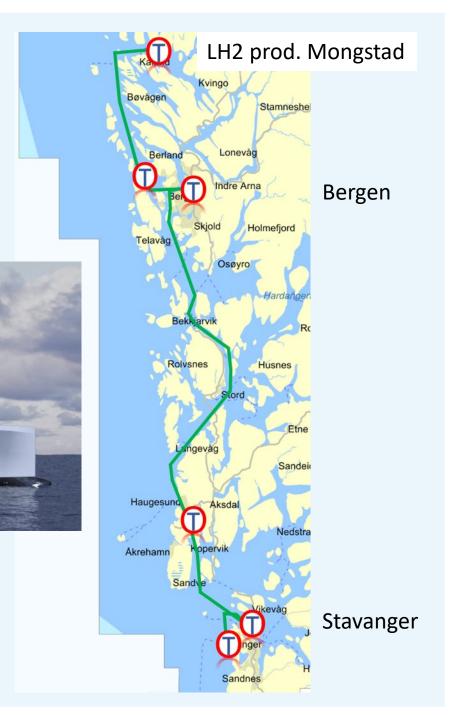
Hydrogen Value Chain Governance



Steering Committee Participants:



Topeka Overnight RoRo service; the zero emission seaborn alternative





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