



European Wind Energy Technology Platform

Call for expression of interest

Selection of new TPWind Working Group members

GUIDELINES

October 2013

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Date of publication of the call

This call for expression of interest was published on 28 October, 2013.

Purpose of the call

The purpose of this call for expression of interest is to select new Working Group members of the European Wind Energy Technology Platform (TPWind), the leading EU wind energy R&D network and forum.

Members of the TPWind Steering Committee will not be re-selected. This call for expression of interest targets only members of TPWind Working Groups, i.e.:

- WG1: Wind conditions;
- WG2: Wind turbines;
- WG3: Grid integration;
- WG4: Offshore;
- WG5: Environment & deployment.

More information on the application procedure as well as on the history, goals and structure of TPWind are provided in the following paragraphs.

Background information on TPWind

What is TPWind?

The European Wind Energy Technology Platform (TPWind - <http://www.windplatform.eu/>) is a permanent network and R&D forum composed of more than 150 wind energy experts representing the EU wind power sector (industry and R&D community).

TPWind is capable of representing the entire sector because:

- It is not a sectoral organisation: members do not pay a fee to be involved in TPWind activities. Consequently, TPWind conclusions are not influenced by its wealthiest members.
- TPWind membership is personal: Platform members are selected every 3 years on the basis of their expertise and remain members also when changing employer or career.
- It is not driven by its wealthiest members: every deliverable and official position has to be approved by its Steering Committee (the Platform's decision-making body), composed of 25 senior industry and R&D community representatives.
- It has a clear set of rules: the Platform's Terms of Reference is publicly available and can be downloaded from the TPWind website (<http://www.windplatform.eu/structure/>).

What does TPWind do?

TPWind has been set up to advise European Institutions and Member States on the R&D priorities of the EU wind power sector. It also provides them with funding recommendations on relevant wind energy R&D projects to ensure that public resources are allocated where the sector most needs

them. This maximises the value for money of public funding schemes, hence contributing to a proper support of the sector and to a better management of taxpayers' money.

As a result, TPWind is a very important link between wind energy players and public authorities.

To achieve these goals, TPWind develops programmes that are discussed and implemented in cooperation with EU and national bodies:

- The 2008 "Strategic Research Agenda / Market Deployment Strategy" (SRA/MDS). The SRA/MDS describes wind energy R&D challenges (available on the Platform's website <http://www.windplatform.eu/92.0.html>). TPWind is currently updating its SRA/MDS, a new version will be published in early 2014. The SRA/MDS determines macro R&D priorities of the European Wind Initiative: it is, therefore, its starting point.
- The 2009 "European Wind Initiative" (EWI). The EWI is one of the Industrial Initiatives of the Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan). It is a large-scale, long-term R&D programme capable of accelerating the development and deployment of wind energy (http://ec.europa.eu/energy/technology/initiatives/initiatives_en.htm). Launched in 2010, it is now the main EU instrument for the development of wind power. Thanks to the EWI, TPWind is one of the main players in the EU energy policy framework.

What is the EWI and how does it relate to the SET-Plan?

The Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) is an EU blueprint for developing low-carbon energy technologies.

One of its goals was to launch European Industrial Initiatives (EIs): long-term (up to 2020), large-scale programmes capable of accelerating the development of selected technologies with the potential of effectively contributing to the decarbonisation of the European economy and energy system.

The EWI is wind power's Industrial Initiative. It was developed by TPWind on the basis of a Strategic Research Agenda/Market Deployment Strategy (SRA/MDS) and in cooperation with the European Commission and Member States. It is therefore the expression of the entire EU wind energy community and the result of an open and transparent process.

The EWI is the main EU instrument for the development of wind power. It aims to:

- Enable a 20% share of wind energy in final EU electricity consumption by 2020;
- Create 250.000 new skilled jobs in the EU by 2020;
- Achieve an average 20% reduction of wind energy electricity production costs by 2020, compared with the state-of-the-art in 2009.

EWI's total budget for the 2010 to 2020 period is €6bn, composed of both public and private funds (with an approximate 50/50 split).

How do TPWind members contribute to the Platform work at EU level?

To become concrete, the EWI needs to be translated into EU and national calls for proposals and budget allocations. TPWind is in charge of putting forward relevant funding recommendations.

The Platform follows the following process:

- STEP 1: TPWind members meet in their Working Groups and identify the R&D priorities to be tackled over a 3-year period, their budgets and relevant key performance indicators.
- STEP 2: The Platform's Secretariat collects Working Groups' inputs (organised by their Secretaries and Chairs) and develops a first draft of EWI three-year Implementation Plans.

- STEP 3: The Steering Committee, TPWind’s decision-making body, reviews and validates EWI Implementation Plans.
- STEP 4: On the basis of three-year EWI Implementation Plans, the Platform’s Secretariat develops annual EWI Work Programmes, outlining specific funding recommendations for EU and national authorities.
- STEP 5: The Steering Committee reviews and validates EWI Work Programmes.

Annual EWI Work Programmes are, therefore, based on three-year EWI Implementation Plans, whose contents are identified by TPWind members.

Moreover, the EWI, its macro R&D priorities and consequently its three-year Implementation Plans, stem from the Platform’s SRA/MDS, also developed by TPWind members.

Each Platform member can therefore influence how EU and national funds will contribute to wind energy R&D.

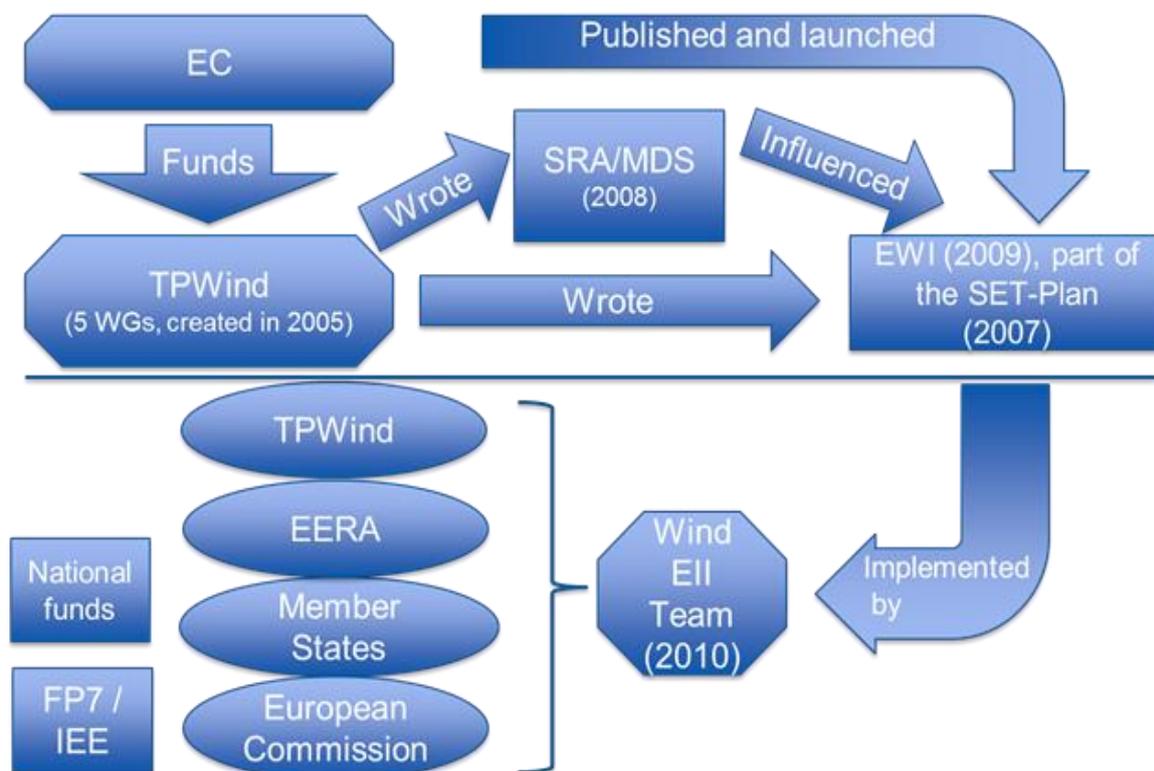
Once EWI Implementation Plans and Work Programmes are approved by the TPWind Steering Committee, they are submitted to the European Commission and discussed with EU Institutions and Member States.

This is done through the Wind European Industrial Initiative Team (Wind EII Team), composed of TPWind, European Energy Research Alliance (EERA), EU and Member States representatives.

TPWind delegates in the Wind EII Team, speaking on behalf of the EU wind energy sector, are Platform’s Executive Committee members and selected Secretariat staff.

With inputs from EU Institutions and Member States, EWI Implementation Plans and Work Programmes are further amended before final adoption and publication by the European Commission on the SET-Plan website (<http://setis.ec.europa.eu/activities/initiatives>).

The following diagram summarises TPWind’s role and position in the EU energy policy framework:



What is TPWind's background?

TPWind's origins lie in the 2002 Barcelona European Council, when the European Union set the goal of increasing its research effort to 3% of GDP by 2010. One of the instruments developed to reach this objective was the Technology Platforms, which were designed to bring together public and private organisations to define a common R&D agenda in strategic sectors including wind energy.

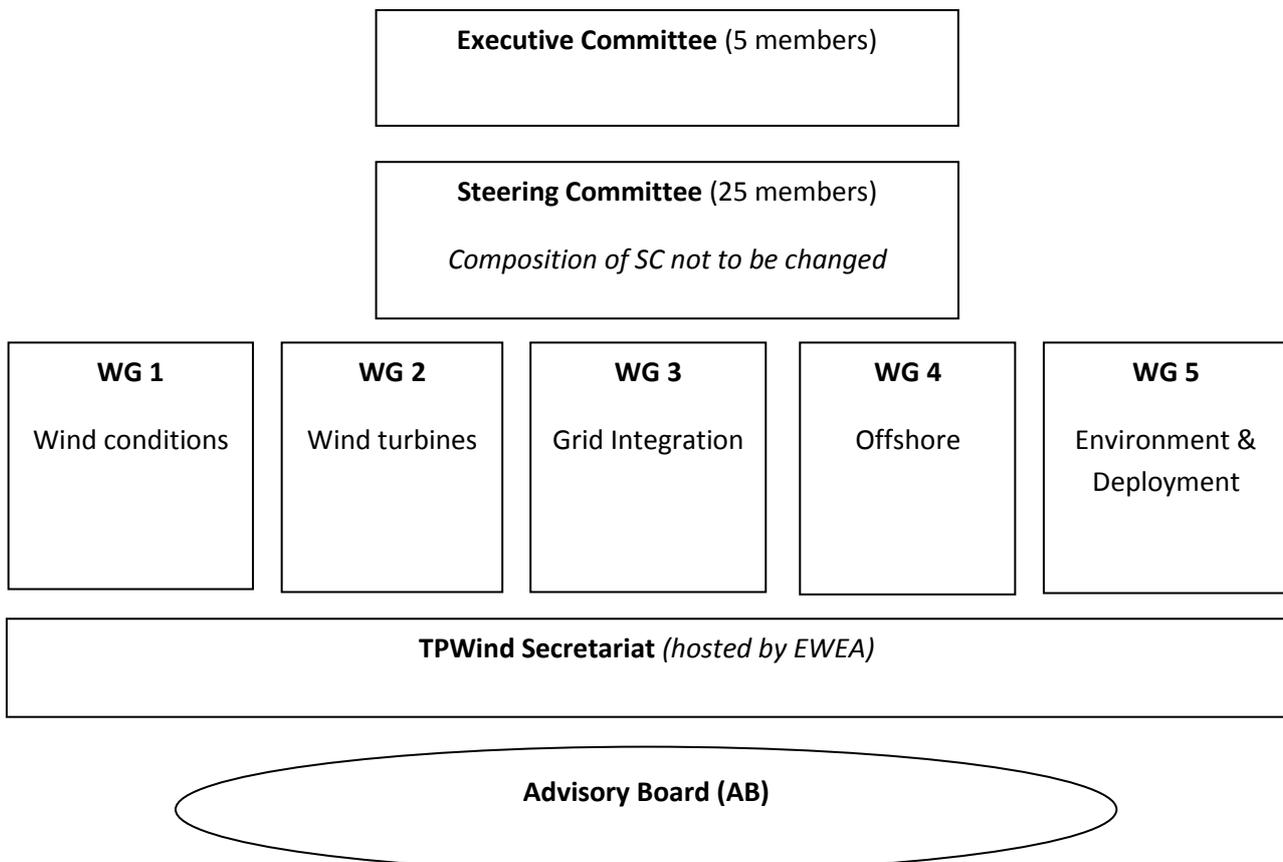
These agendas aimed at mobilising a critical mass of public and private investments, which in turn have contribute to strengthening European global economic and technological leadership.

TPWind's agenda is its 2008 SRA/MDS.

TPWind was established with the support of the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) in 2005 and officially launched in 2006. From 2007 it is funded by the European Commission.

The Platform's Secretariat is hosted and coordinated by EWEA.

The TPWind structure



The TPWind bodies are:

- The Secretariat is hosted and coordinated by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA). The role of the Secretariat is to provide coordination to the Platform, supervise its activities and process all inputs coming from Platform members into effective documents and action plans;
- The Executive Committee is the primary link with the Secretariat and guides it in the overall planning and coordination of Platform activities. Executive Committee members (5 in total) are selected among Steering Committee members with a mandate of 18 months;
- The Steering Committee is the decision-making body of the Platform and is responsible for defining the overall strategy of the Platform, validating its deliverables and building consensus. Its members represent both the EU wind energy industry and R&D community. Steering Committee members will not change and will therefore not be affected by this call for expression of interest (an ad-hoc all will be launched in 2014 to renew the Steering Committee);
- Working Groups (WG) represent the brain of the Platform and are composed of wind energy experts capable of delivering high-level inputs. Every Working Group focuses on a specific issue that is relevant for the development of wind power: WG1 on wind conditions, WG2 on wind turbines, WG3 on grid integration, WG4 on offshore and WG5 on environment & deployment, including the economic impact of R&D and innovation (WG5 is the only non-technological Working Group). Each Working Group is currently composed of 30 members, although this might change in the future.
This call for expression of interest aims at selecting new WG members;
- The Advisory Board (AB) composed of external stakeholders (i.e. non-Platform members) who help the Platform to improve its network and increase its effectiveness by providing it with their advices and contacts. They represent an essential and easily accessible link between the Platform and other relevant sectors and stakeholders. They also act as a quick access point for the Platform to the expertise and know-how developed by other key sectors, which are essential to reduce fragmentation of R&D activities.
The AB is not a decision-making body of the Platform, but has a consultative role. It is managed by the Steering Committee and the Secretariat.

Every TPWind Working Group is managed by a Chair, who is also a Steering Committee member. Every Chair is supported by 2 Vice-Chairs selected within the Working Group.

Vice-Chairs replace him/her whenever needed. This ensures strong coordination between the Steering Committee and Working Groups.

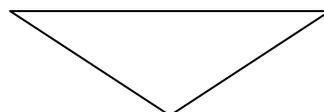
Moreover, Chairs are supported by Secretaries (one per WG, provided by the Secretariat), who are in charge of preparing, and following-up on WG meetings.

Secretaries therefore develop relevant agendas and background material (including presentations), draft meeting minutes and manage any relevant follow-up.

The relationship between Chairs, Secretaries and Secretariat will therefore represent the beating heart of the Platform and will ensure a proper management of all its inputs and meetings:

WG Chairs

(and Vice-Chairs)



Secretariat

Secretaries

Deadline of the call

This call for expression of interest will close on 31 January, 2014, at midnight (Brussels time).

Any application received after the deadline will be disregarded.

How to apply

Candidates willing to answer this call for expression of interest to be considered as members of the European Wind Energy Technology Platform will have to:

1. Fill in online the “Application Form”;
2. Develop an updated version of their CV (max 3 pages) and attach it to the “Application Form”;
3. Submit both documents through the online tool.

To be valid, an application has to be complete. Candidates therefore have to fill in all sections of the “Application Form” and attach an updated version of their CV.

Any incomplete application will be disregarded.

A candidate cannot submit more than one application: every application submitted after the first one will not be taken into consideration.

In case of any question on the contents of this call for expression of interest, candidates can contact Ms. Conconi (Email: manuela.conconi@ewea.org; +32 (0)2 2131856).

Selection procedure and TPWind rules

The Platform’s Steering Committee (SC) will be in charge of selecting new TPWind Working Group members. All valid applications will therefore be transmitted to the Steering Committee after the deadline. Candidates will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- Candidate’s education and working experience in the wind energy sector;
- Candidate’s scientific background;
- Candidate’s specific areas of technology interest;
- Candidate’s working experience in international environments;
- Candidate’s motivation;
- Balance of private and public organizations represented;
- Balance of large companies and SMEs;
- Balance of countries;
- Gender balance.

In greater details, every Steering Committee member will receive an even share of valid applications to score.

Steering Committee members will score every valid application on the basis of the following grid:

Criteria / Score	0 points	1 point	2 points	3 points	4 points
Years of experience in the wind energy sector – both education and working experience (as indicated in the candidate’s CV)	<i>The candidate has less than 3 years of experience in wind energy (education and working experience)</i>	<i>The candidate has from 3 to 5 years of experience in wind energy (education and working experience)</i>	<i>The candidate has from 5 to 10 years of experience in wind energy (education and working experience)</i>	<i>The candidate has from 10 to 20 years of experience in wind energy (education and working experience)</i>	<i>The candidate has more than 20 years of experience in wind energy (education and working experience)</i>
Scientific background – both education and working experience (as indicated in the candidate’s CV)	<i>The scientific background of the candidate is inadequate / not in line with the needs of the Platform or with those of the candidate’s selected Working Group(s)</i>				<i>The scientific background of the candidate is fully in line with the needs of the Platforms and with those of the candidate’s selected Working Group(s)</i>
Working experience at international level – i.e. involving active cooperation with foreign organizations (as indicated in the candidate’s CV)	<i>The candidate has no working experience in international environments / projects</i>	<i>The candidate has less than 3 years of working experience in international environments / projects</i>	<i>The candidate has between 3 and 5 years of working experience in international environments / projects</i>	<i>The candidate has between 5 and 10 years of working experience in international environments / projects</i>	<i>The candidate has more than 10 years of working experience in international environments / projects</i>
Areas of technology interest (as described by the candidate in the “Application Form”)	<i>The area(s) of technology interest of the candidate are not in line with the needs of the Platform or with those of the candidate’s selected Working Group(s)</i>				<i>The area(s) of technology interest of the candidate are fully in line with the needs of the Platform and with those of the candidate’s selected Working Group(s)</i>

Motivation (as described by the candidate in the “Application Form”)	<i>The candidate’s reasons to join the Platform are not in line with the objectives of TPWind and do not reflect an open and cooperative attitude that would benefit the entire wind energy sector</i>				<i>The candidate’s reasons to join the Platform are fully in line with the objectives of TPWind and reflect an open and cooperative attitude that is likely to benefit the entire wind energy sector</i>
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Every candidate will therefore receive between 0 to 20 points. However, only those with a minimum of 13 points will be shortlisted and considered for membership.

Following this step, the Steering Committee will develop the final list of new TPWind members. The list will be developed by taking into account:

- The individual score of each candidate (those with higher scores will be given priority, to be balanced however with the criteria below);
- The balance of private and public organizations represented in each Working Group and in the Platform as a whole;
- The balance of large companies and SMEs represented in each Working Group and in the Platform as a whole;
- The balance of countries represented in each Working Group and in the Platform as a whole;
- Gender balance.

This phase will therefore be characterized by a qualitative analysis, as opposed to the first one, which will follow a quantitative approach.

The Steering Committee will develop a final list of members for every TPWind Working Group (WG). Every WG list will include up to 10 reserve members (in case one or more of selected candidates decline the invitation to join TPWind).

The final decision of the Steering Committee is irrevocable.

The invitation to join TPWind is personal and exclusive: selected members will therefore not have the possibility to nominate replacements or alternate members. If, for any reason, the active participation to Platform’s activities of any selected candidate/member will become impossible, the candidate will be replaced by one of the members of the reserve list.

For the same reason, if a candidate will change employer after being appointed TPWind member, he/she will keep his/her position in TPWind.

TPWind Working Group members do not receive any financial compensation for the work they perform in the Platform. For the same reason, they cannot request from the Secretariat or any other party the reimbursement of travel expenses incurred to join TPWind meetings.

The work performed by Working Group members for the Platform is therefore entirely voluntary and unpaid.

Finally, even if this call is open to candidates of all countries, every TPWind Working Group will not have more than 2 members with a non-EU nationality and/or based in non-EU countries¹.

The selection procedure is expected to be completed by March 2014, when new TPWind members will be officially announced and invited to join the Platform.

¹ EU Member States are the following: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.