



Monthly TPWind Newsletter
December 2010

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Produced for TPWind by the European Wind Energy Association

If you have any **feedback or questions** about the newsletter, or to **unsubscribe**, please contact Filippo Gagliardi (filippo.gagliardi@ewea.org, +32 2 2131813).

Section 1 – Funding opportunities

7th Framework Programme for Research and Development

More information on FP7 calls is available here: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm>.

Call deadline: 18 January 2011

OCEAN.2011-1: Multi-use offshore platforms

Call: FP7-OCEAN-2011

Increasingly, energy, fisheries and transport infrastructures are being established offshore.

Facilities such as offshore wind farms may occupy large areas and compete with other users of the maritime space. Offshore platforms that can combine many functions within the same infrastructure could offer significant benefits in terms of economics, optimising spatial planning and minimising the impact on the environment.

This topic aims to develop novel innovative designs for multi-use offshore platforms and assess the technical, economical and environmental feasibility of constructing, installing, operating, servicing, maintaining and decommissioning together with the related transport aspects. The platforms shall target ocean renewable energy and in particular offshore wind, aquaculture and the related transport maritime services.

The work shall determine the optimal locations for multi-use offshore platforms taking into account renewable (in particular wind) energy resources, appropriate aquaculture, transport issues, and other platform-related activities including accessibility and possible use as offshore terminals. Model validations should be employed on several sites using field measurements.

Innovative designs for multi-use offshore platforms shall be developed that allow optimal coupling of the various activities and services. Research shall include safe, efficient installation, operation maintenance and monitoring (including possibly remotely) together with specialised transportation to optimise efficiency, operation and installation.

Designs of large structures shall be developed that allow coupling of ocean renewable energy with aquaculture, offshore transport facilities, environmental monitoring and other relevant activities. These should lead to optimised spatial use and improved economic viability. "Offshore" is considered to be "out of sight" from the coast.

Physical modelling shall be employed at an appropriate scale for experimental validation of the proposed platforms.

Research into relations between the combined activities shall in particular address the interaction between wind energy and other platform users, innovative containment systems and related technology for optimal aquaculture operation, the development of transport solutions for optimised installation, maintenance, operation and services to shipping (breakwater, terminals etc). Compatibility of current aquaculture equipment and techniques (handling, husbandry, feeding, etc) with establishment on a multi-use platform and possible innovations should also be considered.

An assessment of the economic viability and value to the various stakeholders shall be undertaken. This shall include consideration of costs for construction, operation, servicing and decommissioning. This assessment should include a comparison to non multi-use platforms.

The project shall include a comprehensive environmental impact methodology and assessment, including a comparison to non multi-use solutions.

When appropriate, knowledge shall be drawn from pre-existing research and data.

OCEAN.2011-4: Knowledge-base and tools for regional networks of MPAs, integrated management of activities together with assessment of wind energy potential in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

Call: FP7-OCEAN-2011

Due to the specific nature of the Mediterranean and Black Sea and the rapid expansion of sea-based activities, there is a need to create new knowledge to support the development of decision makers' tools for optimising the management of human activities, within an integrated coastal and marine space system.

The objective of the project is to build up scientific basis firstly for establishing regional or sub-regional wide networks of marine protected areas (MPAs) for conservation and better management of marine living resources, secondly for assessing offshore wind energy potential while evaluating possible synergies and conflicts of use with other marine activities.

Research on MPAs will concern the establishment of scientific guidelines, criteria, models and tools for the design, mapping, management, monitoring and control of regional or sub-regional networks of MPAs including deep-sea habitats and areas beyond national jurisdictions. These networks of MPAs should respond to clearly established

objectives, from protecting biodiversity (strict reserves) to achieving a sustainable exploitation of aquatic living resources by preserving nursery grounds and juveniles (restricted areas).

The focus will be on the identification of priority areas in both basins through a hierarchical approach based on ecological and socio-economic criteria in underrepresented or poorly studied areas and ecosystems (e.g. the high seas and the deep seas). Sizing, spacing and ecological connectivity and interdependency between sites will be studied for optimal maintenance of species populations and biodiversity (spill over effect), considering possible genetic exchange, larval behaviour patterns and larval dispersal and making the best use of molecular science and multidisciplinary approaches between marine genomics and ecosystem science. Habitat discontinuity and fragmentation, and physical oceanography, should also be considered. The development of management strategies for implementing the regional networks such as regulation measures to limit and ban certain practices, dynamic closures, legal issues for managing trans-boundary areas and high seas MPAs are key elements of the project. The project should also promote innovative communication strategies between scientists, managers, fishermen, shippers, NGOs, potential users and the public at large.

Research on wind energy will provide a scientific basis for assessing offshore wind potential in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, focusing on areas already identified as promising with respect to wind regimes. The project should assess the potential for offshore wind power production based on the use of existing models. It will also evaluate potential conflicts with other uses of the space (MPAs, maritime transport, onshore large desalination plants, dredging, fishing, aquaculture, sub-sea cables, pipelines, tourism, etc). The project should deliver scientific guidelines for an enriched "wind atlas" for decision-makers and planners.

Moreover the project shall launch two pilot studies, at least one in the Mediterranean and one in the Black Sea, addressing the establishment of regional networks of MPAs, also combining if possible wind energy development, and considering all the possible conflicts from other maritime activities. The pilot studies should address selected areas within regions or sub-regions of the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea as defined in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

The project should reinforce capacity building in support of international cooperation by transferring and making compatible methods across the two basins and by promoting common rules and practices in particular with non-EU countries from the Balkans, Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Europe bordering the two seas.

Call deadline: 7 April 2011

Topic ENERGY.2011.2.3-1: Demonstration of innovative offshore wind electricity generation structure
Open in call: FP7-ENERGY-2011-2

Contents/scope: A strategic objective of the industrial initiative of the SET Plan on wind energy is to enable the exploitation of offshore resources, including in deep water environments, and to facilitate the grid integration of wind power. Beside the development of the new generation of highly reliable large scale turbines, demonstration of cost competitive concepts for floating structures distant from shore in deep water (> 60 meters) is needed to extend the exploitation of deep offshore wind resources and to bring costs for far offshore wind electricity generation down to a competitive level.

Deep offshore floating structures hosting multi-MW wind energy converters shall be demonstrated. The projects shall address integrated concepts including large cost-efficient floating structures, multi-MW wind energy converters and related equipment designed for wind farm management and for compliance with easy connectivity to the offshore grid.

Demonstration should include access systems and safety aspects, logistics, operation and maintenance issues, installation methods and concepts, environmental impacts, reliability at wind turbine and wind farm level, and cost analysis based on market projections.

This topic contributes to realising the Implementation Plan (2010-2012) and the Technology Roadmap (2010-2020) of the European Wind Industrial Initiative and the resulting project(s) will form part of the EII.

Topic ENERGY.2011.7.3-2: Storage and balancing variable electricity supply and demand
Open in call: FP7-ENERGY-2011-2

Contents/scope: Flexible, reliable and low cost energy balancing continues to be a barrier to deployment of most renewable energy technologies. The projects shall demonstrate advanced and cost effective systems which would bridge the source availability and the power demand.

The projects should be based on storage devices, flexible generation from renewable sources, ICT tools or grid management systems, alone or in combination. The innovative aspects may be on the technology, the tools or system integration. The projects should improve the energy management addressing several functions to broaden the use of renewable power generation plants also in terms of power quality (security, improved grid interface, etc).

The projects should also assess environmental aspects in relation to their proposed solutions. Storage systems (ideal range of GWh) may address large scale centralised renewable energy systems (e.g. large wind parks, etc.) or larger systems based on distributed energy supply coupled with many smaller storage systems.

The projects will notably contribute to better transmission and control large amount of powers over long distances, generated from various sources (especially the variable renewable energy sources), with new monitoring and control systems in order to ensure power quality and voltage.

This topic contributes to realising the Implementation Plan (2010-2012) and the Technology Roadmap (2010-2020) of the European Electricity Grids Industrial Initiative and the resulting project(s) will form part of the EII.

NER300

Call deadline: 9 February 2011

The New Entrants Reserve 300 call for proposals, created by the Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) directive, was published on 9 November 2010.

The call will allocate 200 m carbon allowances for supporting CCS and innovative renewable energy projects. The remaining 100 m, plus non spent resources of the current call, will be allocated through a second NER300 call, to be published in 2012.

The European Commission will select projects through a competitive process which incorporates the following four-step evaluation procedure:

1. Eligibility Assessment - Member States will undertake an assessment of the Projects against the Eligibility Criteria of the call. Member States will submit those projects they consider eligible and wish to support to the EIB for further assessment.
2. Assessment of Projects - The EIB, which acts for the NER 300 process on the request of, on behalf of and for the account of the Commission, will undertake detailed technical and financial Due Diligence with respect to each submitted Proposal in accordance with specifications agreed with the Commission.
3. Ranking of Projects - The EIB will undertake a ranking of projects for which Due Diligence has been concluded positively based on least Cost Per Unit Performance (CPUP).
4. Award Decision - Determined by the Commission, after verifying the eligibility of the proposed projects, re-consulting the Member States concerned to confirm the value and structure of the total public funding contribution, and following an opinion from the Climate Change Committee (CCC). The Award Decision is conditional on issue of all national permits, approval of any State aid, and reaching of final investment decisions.

In principle, the financial contribution will not exceed 50% of relevant project costs.

Eligible technologies are the following:

CCS:

- Post combustion
- Pre-combustion
- Oxy Fuel
- Industrial

Renewables:

- Bioenergy
- Concentrated solar power
- PV
- Geothermal
- Wind
- Ocean
- Hydropower
- Distributed Renewable Management (smart grids)

6 projects in total should be funded in the field of wind power.

The deadline for the submission of project proposals to Member States is 9 February 2011 and the deadline for the submission of projects to the EIB (for Member States) is 9 May 2011. The final award decision of the European Commission should be communicated in the second half of 2012.

More information is available here: http://ec.europa.eu/clima/funding/ner300/index_en.htm.

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Section 2 – Secretariat news

Implementing the 2011 EWI Work Programme

The last version of the 2011 EWI Work Programme, submitted to the European Commission on 21 October and presented to the SET-Plan Steering group on 28 October, is now considered to be the final one.

Further to that, the key performance indicators (KPIs) of the EWI were also recently approved by the EU Joint Research Centre (JRC), which will be in charge of monitoring its implementation with TPWind support. According to what the JRC presented at the last SET-Plan Conference, held in Brussels on 15 and 16 November, the EWI is the most advanced Initiative in terms of development of KPIs: only a minor fine-tuning exercise might therefore be needed to ensure its proper monitoring, since all the indicators are already in place.

With the 2011 EWI Work Programme finalized and its KPIs defined, attention is now shifting towards the concrete implementation of the EWI.

To this purpose, TPWind will provide technical support to the European Commission and relevant Member States in order to prepare the calls for proposals and budget allocations that will ensure the implementation of the EWI in 2011.

Further to that, TPWind will support the European Commission in its effort to ensure an adequate level of joint-programming between EU Institutions and Members States for the implementation of the EWI, which is essential to mobilize all required funds in times of budget constraints.

Moreover, following a meeting with representatives of the EU Electricity Grid Initiative (EEGI) held in Berlin on 23 November (in the framework of EWEA's Grids Conference), TPWind will revise the "Grid Integration" part of the EWI in order to avoid overlaps with the EEGI. Grid R&D tasks that are clearly wind specific (e.g. short term wind forecast and design of virtual power plants amongst others) will remain within the EWI.

The new "Grid Integration" strand of the EWI should be ready in the beginning of 2011 and be published as an annex of the EWI.

Finally, next year TPWind will also focus on the development of the 2012 EWI Work Programme and of the 2013 – 2015 EWI Implementation Plan, which will replace the existing one (covering the 2010 – 2012 period).

Additional information on the implementation of the EWI will be provided in the upcoming issues of this newsletter.

Renewal and future of TPWind

The structure of TPWind was revised at its last Steering Committee meeting, held in Brussels on 10 November. During the meeting, new Executive Committee members and new Working Group Chairs have been appointed for the next 18 months (i.e. up to May 2012).

New ExCo members are:

- Henning Kruse, Siemens
- Angeles Santamaria, Iberdrola
- Takis Chaviaropoulos, CRES
- Christian Nath, GL
- Pep Prats, Alstom
- Allan MacAskill, Seaenergy Renewables

New WG Chairs are:

- WG 1: Erik Lundtang, Risoe/DTU
- WG2: Jos Beurskens, ECN
- WG 3: Hannele Holttinen, VTT
- WG 4: John Tande, Sintef
- WG 5: Carlos Gasco, IEA

Starting from December 2010, TPWind will have only 5 Working Groups instead of the original 7, since the Finance Working Group was phased out as from April 2009 and the two policy Working Groups (i.e. WG 5 and 6) were officially merged in November 2010 following a decision of the Steering Committee.

Further to that, a new Advisory Board to ensure better communication between TPWind and relevant stakeholders will be established in the coming weeks.

A full description of the new TPWind structure will be provided on the Platform's website soon.

As for the selection of new TPWind Working Group members, which started with the publication of an ad-hoc call for expression of interest in July 2010, it is currently being finalized.

New WG members will therefore be announced before the end of the year and their names will be published on the Platform's website.

Finally, Filippo Gagliardi was appointed new TPWind Secretary General to replace Nicolas Fichaux, who left the European Wind Energy Association at the end of July.

In 2011 the TPWind Steering Committee will also be renewed: relevant modalities and procedures will be announced next year.

This step will complete the renewal of the Platform, which will continue to be funded (at least up to the end of 2013) by the European Commission through the 7th Framework Programme.

In order to reflect all the changes introduced to the structure of the Platform, a new version of its Terms of Reference will be developed and published online in the coming weeks.

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Section 3 – Members’ news

Powering Europe – new report sets out vision for the future European grid and markets

The European Commission recently said: “The EU pays the price for its outdated and poorly interconnected energy infrastructure”. On 24 November the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) published a new report with a vision for a modern renewable energy power system, which sets out how the grid can integrate increasing amounts of wind energy.

‘Powering Europe’, launched at the GRIDS 2010 conference and exhibition in Berlin organised by EWEA, argues there are no major technical barriers – but there are major economic benefits - to integrating large amounts of fuel- and pollution-free wind energy into Europe’s electricity grid.

The new report identifies infrastructure and markets as the two key barriers to hugely increasing the amount of wind power in Europe’s electricity supply.

In order to deliver the onshore and offshore wind energy from where it is produced to where it will be consumed, Europe needs:

- Extended, upgraded and better connected grids,
- Fair and effective competition in a truly internal European market in electricity.

The economic benefits of creating a single market in electricity and improving the infrastructure are substantial, according to the new EWEA report. The benefits of a better interconnected grid include a €1,500 million yearly reduction in total operational costs of power generation due to increased availability of all generation capacity.

The benefit of integrating 265 Gigawatt (GW) of wind into Europe’s grids by 2020 – compared to no further growth in wind power capacity - would be a saving of €41.7bn per year in the cost of electricity. This is a ‘merit order’ effect of €11 for every MWh produced not just those MWh produced by wind turbines. And if our electricity markets are functioning that is a saving that could be passed on to consumers.

The electricity grid infrastructure needed to accommodate increasingly large amounts of renewable energy and create effective competition in a single market in electricity includes a new offshore grid in Europe’s Northern Seas (North Sea, Irish Sea and Baltic Sea), as well as a number of improved interconnections across continental Europe (especially between Spain and France but also between Germany and its neighbours, across the Alps and in eastern and south-eastern Europe).

HVDC cables are an attractive new technological option for long-distance electricity superhighways such as the offshore grid that is required in the near future, says the new report.

The report also reveals that flexibility will need to be a key feature of European power systems in the future. This means power generation will have to be more flexible to take into account variable sources of power such as wind and solar. Smart grids will be needed to allow management of demand as well as improved management of supply, and largely national grids will have to be better interconnected. EWEA’s new report shows how Denmark, Germany, Spain, Ireland and the Netherlands have managed their power systems much more flexibly than in the past.

Daniel Dobbeni, President of ENTSO-E, said: “this report is a very welcome publication with a clear view towards 2020, 2030 and 2050. Together with our Ten Year Network Development Plan, it helps building a common understanding on the major issues surrounding the integration of wind energy in the European grids. The report also provides arguments that will certainly be in the centre of policy debate as we can presently observe from the publication of the Commission’s blueprint for an integrated European energy network”.

Read the report: [Powering Europe: wind energy and the electricity grid](#)

For more information please contact Peter Sennekamp, EWEA’s Media Officer: +32496919315

*In this section of the newsletter **articles produced directly by TPWind members are published**, providing members with the opportunity to inform the Platform of their most recent achievements, plans, products, studies or R&D efforts.*

Every month, two to four short articles (maximum 250 words) will be selected by the Executive Committee or the Secretariat and will be included in this section of the newsletter, along with the contact details of the person or company publishing the article.

The Secretariat invites all TPWind members who would like to publish an article in the next issue of this newsletter to contact Filippo Gagliardi and send him their contribution by 17 December at the latest (filippo.gagliardi@ewea.org; +32 2 2131813).

The Secretariat would like to remind all readers that this newsletter is sent to all TPWind members, to those included in the reserve lists of the Platform as well as to selected EC and EWEA representatives (approximately 300 people in total).

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Section 4 – Events

December 2010

EWEA webinar: environmental impacts information tool

13 December 2010, 14:30 – 15:30 (CET - e.g. Brussels, Paris, Berlin)

Presentation of the recently launched “Environmental Impact Information Tool (EIIT)” followed by debate with recognised experts on the potential environmental impacts of wind energy.

Participation is free of charge. All you need to take part is an internet connection plus headset or telephone.

[Register to take part from wherever you are!](#)

January 2011

OffshoreGrid workshop

25 January 2011 – Athens, Greece

OffshoreGrid project provides policy recommendations for the process towards an offshore electricity grid in Northern Europe, including cost-benefit analyses. The project has gone into its second phase, with the modelling of extra designs and a qualitative transfer of results to the Mediterranean Region.

The OffshoreGrid’s Mediterranean Workshop will take place on 25 January 2011 in Athens, Greece, and attendance is free of charge.

For more information please visit www.offshoregrid.eu or contact sharon.wokke@ewea.org.

March 2011

EWEA 2011 (formerly known as EWEC): Europe’s premier wind energy event

14-17 March 2011 - Brussels, Belgium

The EWEA Annual Event is widely regarded as the most professional and informative wind energy event by the international wind community and is “un-missable” for any business serious about its future. In 2011, the major meeting for the European wind energy market will take place in Brussels, the heart of European policy making.

The **2011 edition will be the biggest ever**, bringing **10,000 key players** together; corporate leaders, investors, policy makers and scientists. It is a unique combination of business opportunities, technical discussions and political debates.

[Registration](#) for conference delegates is now open!

The conference will ignite high level discussion and debates with speakers from across the industry. Moreover, unique networking opportunities are guaranteed through the numerous social and side events.

Exhibition: The exhibition at EWEA 2011 will be the biggest ever. Covering a total of almost 13,000m², it will feature key players in wind power from Europe, North America and Asia – including the world’s foremost manufacturers, developers, engineering and construction companies, power generators and utilities.

85% of space already sold! [Book your exhibition space now](#) to ensure the best visibility for your organisation.

For more information, contact: Sanna Heinonen at she@ewea.org

Full information: www.ewea.org/annual2011

November 2011

OFFSHORE 2011: The world's largest offshore wind event

29 November – 1 December 2011 - Amsterdam, The Netherlands

EWEA holds its offshore wind energy conference and exhibition once every two years. OFFSHORE 2011 in Amsterdam will build on the huge success of the previous edition that took place in Stockholm, Sweden, in 2009 and attracted over 4,850 people coming to see over 260 exhibitors and participate in the 23 conference sessions and numerous side events.

The call for abstracts for OFFSHORE 2011 will be launched by the end of 2010.

[Exhibition and sponsorship opportunities](#)

Full information: www.ewea.org/offshore2011

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All EWEA events are organised by the Industry for the Industry and represent real value for money:
EVERY EURO SPENT ON THESE EVENTS IS PUT TO WORK PROMOTING WIND ENERGY.