

TPWind session description (5 February 2013 – from 3.30 to 5 PM)

TITLE: “Wind energy: a smart investment in times of crisis”

In times of crisis it is all the more important to make smart investments, capable of creating jobs and defending the European Union’s competitiveness.

Wind energy clearly has all the characteristics to be the recipient of such investments: it is a sector in which the EU enjoys a genuine global technological leadership, it creates new skilled jobs and it contributes to fighting climate change and increasing Europe’s security of energy supply.

Continuous support to wind power should be a priority for EU and national policy-makers, especially in today’s difficult economic circumstances.

This event will provide participants with an update on how the European Union supports wind power R&D and fosters the development of the sector. Relevant training needs will also be analysed, since the lack of specialised human resources could become a major bottleneck to the development of wind energy in the near future. Finally, wind power’s role as a smart investment in Europe in times of crisis will be discussed by a selected group of panellists.

Participants will be actively invited to contribute with questions and ideas on the future of EU support to wind energy.

The event is organised by the European Wind Energy Technology Platform (TPWind – www.windplatform.eu).

TPWind is a permanent wind energy R&D forum and network, funded by the European Commission and composed of more than 180 experts.

Agenda

- **Introduction by the Chair (5’)**
Henning Kruse, Siemens - TPWind Chairperson
- **R&D: EWI achievements and funding recommendations (10’)**
Filippo Gagliardi, EWEA - TPWind Secretary General
- **Training: TPWind training report (10’),**
Oscar Fitch-Roy, GL Garrad Hassan - TPWind Secretariat
- **Supporting wind power: an EU perspective (10’)**
Norela Constantinescu, European Commission – Directorate General for Energy, “Energy Technologies and Research Coordination” Unit
- **Panel discussion**
“Wind power in times of crisis: the importance of smart energy investments” (55’)
Chaired by Peter Tavner, Emeritus Professor at Durham University (TPWind Executive Committee member).
Panellists:
 - Peter Wibæk Christensen, Vestas
 - Takis Chaviaropoulos, CRES (TPWind Steering Committee member)
 - Norela Constantinescu, European Commission
 - Melchior Karigl, European Investment Bank
 - Lyn Harrison, InsightWind