

---

# An update on TPWind: past and future



European Wind Energy  
Technology Platform

---

## TPWind – The road so far

- ❑ TPWind is an EU network of approximately 150 wind energy experts created in 2005, officially launched in 2006 and funded by the EC since 2007
- ❑ Over the last 3 years it grew rapidly, going through all the stages of developments of an ETP:
  - STAGE 1: Emergence and setting up. At this stage, stakeholders are brought together with the aim of achieving a common vision for the way forward. The main deliverable is a “Strategic Vision Document” (published in September 2006);
  - STAGE 2: Development of the Strategic Research Agenda. During this phase, TPWind members develop the research agenda, which essentially defines the R&D and technological development priorities of the wind energy sector for the medium to long term (SRA/MDS published in July 2008);
  - STAGE 3: Implementation of the SRA/MDS. During this phase, the research agenda is implemented, also thanks to the support of a range of Institutions, including the EC, the EIB, Member States and private investors.

## TPWind – Main deliverables so far

- ❑ Vision document on wind energy up to 2030 (published in September 2006)
- ❑ Strategic Research Agenda / Market Development Strategy (SRA/MDS - published in July 2008)
- ❑ SRA/MDS Implementation Plan (finalized in September 2009 and submitted to the EC). This document was then used to develop the 2010 – 2012 Wind Energy Roadmap Implementation Plan
- ❑ “European Wind Initiative” (EWI), developed in cooperation with the European Commission. The EWI was finalized in the summer of 2009 after two years of work in cooperation with the EC and Member States
- ❑ The EWI gave birth to the Wind Energy Roadmap, published by the EC in October 2009. The Roadmap is set to become one of the most important instruments for the development of wind power in the next decade, with a total budget of € 6 bn for the 2010 – 2020 period (public and private resources)
- ❑ The 2010 – 2012 Roadmap Implementation Plan was finalized in February 2010: its development represents a major achievement for the Platform

## TPWind – past and future

- ❑ With the beginning of the implementation phase, the Platform has gained new responsibilities
- ❑ TPWind members will keep discussing relevant R&D issues (which remains the primary objective of the Platform), but will be more and more involved in the identification of strategies for the development of wind power (as it is happening now with the discussions on the new Wind Energy Roadmap and of its Implementation Plan)
- ❑ So far, the costs of the TPWind Secretariat have been covered by the successful FP6 WINDSEC project (2007 – 2010). The project officially ended on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010
- ❑ A new project, called TOP Wind (Technology platform Operational Programme Wind), which takes into account the new role of the Platform, has been submitted to the EC on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010, in order to renew funding for the 2010 – 2013 period (targeted topic: ENERGY.2010.2.3-2 “Support to the coordination of stakeholders’ activities in the field of wind energy”)
- ❑ TOP Wind should be launched in October 2010 and be funded by the FP7

## Objectives of TOP Wind (I)

### Project management and strategic action plans

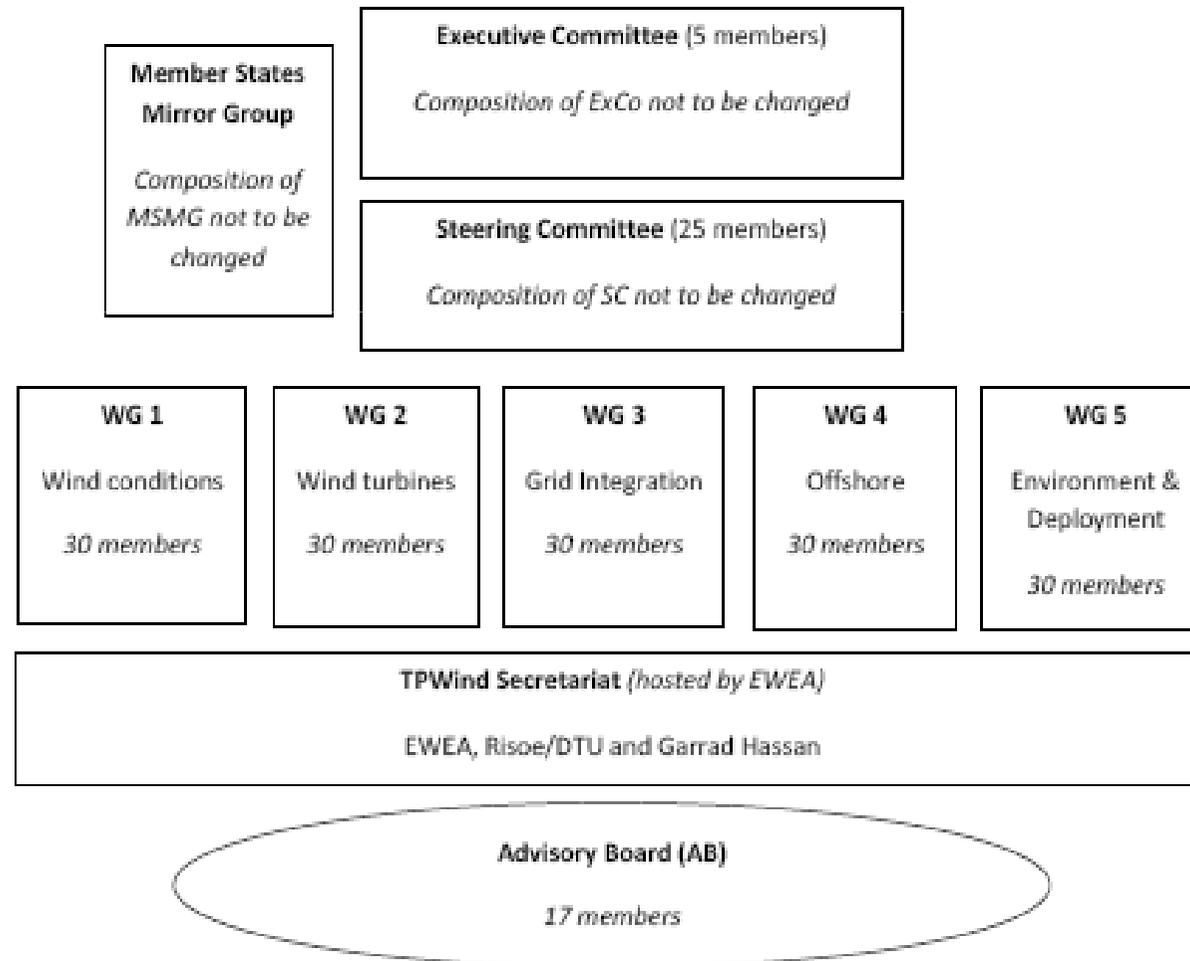
- ❑ Platform optimisation and management: TOP Wind will provide organisational and logistical support to the Platform and will ensure an effective management of its activities
- ❑ Wind Energy Initiative implementation and monitoring: TOP Wind will put the Platform in the condition to contribute effectively to the implementation and monitoring of the Wind Energy Roadmap, by ensuring that the inputs EU wind energy industry and R&D community will be taken into consideration by the funding authorities.
- ❑ Effective strategic action plans: TOP Wind will allow the Platform to develop new pathways for the development of wind power in Europe and its effective and efficient integration in the electricity systems (also in view of the 2020 targets set by the new EU Renewables Directive)

## Objectives of TOP Wind (II)

### External representation and internal communication

- ❑ A voice for the EU wind energy industry & R&D community: TOP Wind will allow the Platform to represent the wind energy industry and R&D community efficiently and effectively, to communicate its findings properly and to reach out to all relevant stakeholders at both EU and national level
- ❑ A permanent networking and R&D forum: TOP Wind will create the conditions for the EU wind energy sector to rely on a powerful and permanent networking and R&D forum (TPWind), which will streamline the communication between relevant players and facilitate the development of cooperation activities
- ❑ A docking station: TOP Wind will allow the Platform to collect all relevant information on the developments of wind energy research and to disseminate them
- ❑ Improved cooperation between wind, ocean, oil & gas, grid and other relevant operators: TOP Wind will ensure the development of tighter links between the Platform and ocean, oil & gas, grid and other relevant operators

# Proposed new structure of TPWind (as from November 2010)



## Main changes in the structure of TPWind (I)

- ❑ Former policy WGs (“Wind Market & Economics” and “Policy & Environment”) will be merged into a new WG, called “Environment & Deployment”. This strategy aims at refocusing the Platform on R&D issues
- ❑ The “Finance Working Group” (FWoG), phased out in April 2009, will not be re-launched. The changes in the external environment (especially the launch of the European Energy Programme for Recovery and the publication of the Wind Energy Roadmap) have made its primary goals (i.e. to identify potential sources of funding for wind energy operators and analyzing Joint Technology Initiatives) not relevant. Thanks to its network, TPWind will however be in the position to get easily in touch with finance experts should their support be needed

## Main changes in the structure of TPWind (II)

- ❑ The number of Platform members will be increased to 175 (not including MSMG and AB members), i.e. 30 members per WG plus 25 Steering Committee members (up from approximately 150 during Windsec). The membership base will be renewed through a “call for expression of interest” published during the summer of 2010, i.e. prior to the launch of the TOP Wind project. The Steering Committee will be in charge of selecting new Platform members
- ❑ An Advisory Board (AB) will be introduced. This new body will be composed of external stakeholders (i.e. non-Platform members) who will help TPWind to increase its network and effectiveness by providing their advice and contacts. The AB will also act as an easy access point to the expertise of other key sectors (especially oil & gas, ocean energy and grids), which will be essential to reduce fragmentation of R&D activities. The AB will not be a decision-making body of the Platform but will have a consultative role

## Main deliverables of TOP Wind (I)

- ❑ The main deliverables of the TOP Wind project will be the following (in chronological order):
  - Work Plans for every Platform Working Group (2011) - These documents will outline the yearly tasks of each Working Group and their timing. They will be updated regularly in order to reflect the needs and interests of each Working Group and will encourage the development of autonomous activities and synergies (such as workshops and publications)
  - List of Platform flexible task-forces (2011) - Working Groups task-forces will group Platform members with the same expertise. These flexible, non-compulsory mechanisms will increase the effectiveness of the Platform by clarifying the role of each member and encouraging cooperation between different Working Groups
  - Yearly Wind Energy Roadmaps Implementation Plans - Thanks to the Implementation Plans, Member States, the EC and the EIB will be in the position to know which activities should be funded every year, which funding schemes should be used and how many resources should be allocated in order to ensure a proper implementation of the Roadmap

## Main deliverables of TOP Wind (II)

- Yearly General Assembly – The yearly GA (there will be only one per year as from 2010) will represent the main meeting of the Platform, where WGs will discuss relevant issues and members will be updated on the latest developments
- Yearly cross-sectoral energy R&D event - These events will be open to the general public. Their goals will be to raise awareness on cross-sectoral R&D challenges faced by wind, ocean, oil & gas and grids operators, to increase the visibility of the Platform, to inform on relevant EU policies and initiative and to tighten relationships between the Platform and key energy stakeholders
- Action Plan on potential clustering activities with relevant European Technology Platforms (2011) - This document will outline how the ETPs cluster, which should have enough critical mass to address grand societal challenges, should be structured and should work. Climate change and clean energy are two challenges that could be addressed by an ETPs cluster

## Main deliverables of TOP Wind (III)

- Report on training needs of EU wind energy operators (2012) - The objective of this study is to provide a comprehensive overview on EU wind energy training opportunities as well as on the needs of wind energy players. The study could represent the starting point for identifying gaps in the current EU wind energy training offer and developing adequate initiatives to bridge those gaps
- Updated version of the SRA/MDS (2012) - The first version of the SRA/MDS, published in 2008, was very successful. However, economic and political conditions have changed dramatically, because of the progresses in wind power, the financial crisis, the approval of the new RES Directive and the launch of the Roadmap. A new version of the SRA/MDS will therefore be developed. The new SRA/MDS will include an annex on R&D issues shared by wind, grids, ocean and oil & gas operators
- Platform post-2013 developments (2013) - This report, which will focus on the development of the Platform after the conclusion of the TOP Wind project and will take into consideration the technological and political environment in 2013, will ensure its long-term growth and will represent the basis for planning future activities

## The selection of new TPWind Members

- ❑ Before the launch of TOP Wind, the Platform will publish a “call for expression of interest” in order to renew and enlarge the membership base of the Platform (up to 175 members), which is the same since the launch of Windsec in 2007
- ❑ The call should be published in June 2010 and close in August 2010
- ❑ The composition of the ExCo, SC and MSMG will not change (only WGs)
- ❑ Candidates willing to answer the call will have to submit their CV and a cover letter explaining the contribution they can provide to the Platform, the reasons why they wish to join it, their area of expertise and the Working Group they would like to join. All applications will be reviewed by the SC, which will also be in charge of selecting new members, to be announced by October 2010
- ❑ New members, who will include oil & gas, grid and ocean energy operators, will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:
  - Candidate’s years of experience;
  - Candidate’s specific areas of technology interest;
  - Candidate’s motivation;
  - Balance of private and public organizations represented in the Platform;
  - Balance of large companies and SMEs;
  - Balance of Countries;
  - Gender balance.

## The future of TPWind – conclusions

- ❑ TPWind is a successful, well established and broadly recognized network, which managed to deliver key results (e.g. the SRA/MDS, the Roadmap and its 2010 – 2012 Implementation Plan) in a very limited amount of time and to develop strong relationships with Member States and EU Institutions
- ❑ The role of TPWind and the scope of its activities are now likely to expand, with the launch of the Wind Energy Roadmap and, if selected for funding, of the TOP Wind project
- ❑ TPWind will focus its attention primarily on the launch and implementation of the Wind Energy Roadmap, in order to ensure its proper implementation and reinforce its position as a key player in the EU energy policy framework

Thank you for your attention!



European Wind Energy  
Technology Platform

<http://www.windplatform.eu/>

Filippo Gagliardi, [fg@ewea.org](mailto:fg@ewea.org) , +32 2 546 1982