

Commission

Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy

19 November 2020 #EUGreenDeal



The EU is raising its climate targets for 2030 and is committed to becoming climate-neutral by 2050.

Renewable energy will play an important role in reaching this higher ambition – including the **generation of more energy at sea and from the sea**.

The EU is already **a world leader** in offshore renewable energy production and technologies. And there is potential for further development in a cost-effective way.

The European Commission's Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy will help to make this happen and **maintain the EU's leadership in this sector**.

This EU Strategy will:

- > set **ambitious targets** for the growth of the offshore renewable energy sector
- > encourage **public and private investment** in new infrastructure and research
- > make it easier for different regions to **work together more efficiently**
- provide a clear and stable legal framework

How it started, how it's going, what's the future

	1991.	2010"	Today	2030	2050
Average power capacity of offshore wind turbine	0,45 MW	3MW	7,8MW	1	1
	[
EU offshore wind energy capacity	5MW	3GW	12GW	≥60GW	300GW
				[
Ocean energy capacity (e.g. wave, tidal)		3,8MW	13MW	≥1GW	40GW

* First offshore wind farm: Vindeby, Denmark.

** Including UK

Offshore Renewable Energy is good for Europe's economy, environment and society



ECONOMY

- Investment, growth and **export** opportunities for European industry;
- Green jobs for citizens in coastal regions and inland, for example in manufacturing and research;
- Reduced dependence on imported energy, including fossil fuels.



ENVIRONMENT

- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions:
- Increased production of clean and renewable energy:
- Protection of the environment and **biodiversity**.



- More affordable energy for European consumers;
- A more **stable energy** supply:
- Improved health and well**being** of citizens through decreased air pollution.

Main elements of the strategy



Investment

- Encourage the necessary investment to effectively develop offshore renewable technologies - estimated at almost €800 billion between now and 2050
- Increase certainty for investors and smooth the path for investments, ease bottlenecks. and find the best combination of public and private finance



Regional Cooperation

- > Promote cross-border cooperation, in particular in the North Sea, Baltic Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea, Atlantic Ocean, and outermost regions and overseas territories
- Promote a pan-European supply chain involving multiple regions, in coastal and inland areas
- Enhance maritime spatial planning for a successful large-scale deployment of offshore renewable energy and the sustainable use of our sea space and resources

Predictable Legal Framework

- Promote innovative projects that will ensure a cost-effective deployment of offshore renewable energy
- Give certainty to promoters and reduce risk for investors

Strengthening Supply Chains and Supporting Continuous Innovation

- Maintain and develop European technological and research leadership
- Upgrade port infrastructure to support deployment and connection of offshore energy
- Boost the full industrial value chain in Europe, including skills and labour support

Reuse of this document is allowed, provided appropriate credit is given and any changes are indicated (Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license). For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders. All images © European Union, unless otherwise stated. Icons © iStock – all rights reserved.

Print ISBN 978-92-76-26115-5 PDF ISBN 978-92-76-26112-4 doi:10.2833/756349 doi:10.2833/219143

MJ-03-20-788-EN-C

MJ-03-20-788-EN-N