

OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY STRATEGY

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The European Green Deal sets out the ambition to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, while addressing other environmental-related challenges, boosting the economy, improving people's health and quality of life, and ensuring an inclusive and just transition.

As part of the efforts to implement the transition to a climate-neutral and environmentally friendly society, the Commission will propose a new approach for exploiting Europe's offshore renewable energy potential in a sustainable and inclusive way. This will help all Europeans to have access to more affordable clean energy and contribute to the EU's security of energy supply. Furthermore, the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, in particular through the "Next Generation EU" instrument, will be based on investments in line with the Green Deal priorities as key drivers for European jobs and economically sustainable and inclusive growth. EU-wide deployment of offshore renewable energy is also in line with the recovery priorities of digital transition and enhancing resilience with related value chains being highly relevant in this perspective. Investments will respect the "no harm" principle.

As part of the Green Deal, the Commission will adopt a European offshore renewable energy strategy to give a strategic direction for the ambitious development and integration of this type of energy by 2030 and 2050. This way forward is important for all stakeholders, ranging from national, regional and local authorities to businesses, social partners, civil society organisations, research and innovation organisations, as well as individual citizens, and it will be a fundamental driver for investment. Please note that the scope of the strategy includes all European seas (North Sea, Baltic Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea) and the Atlantic Ocean.

Recognizing the developments achieved so far, the European offshore renewable energy strategy will build on and facilitate existing activities and projects, as well as trigger and foster new ones. The strategy will guide and enable a larger and a faster development of sustainable offshore renewable energy in Europe by offering certainties and opportunities to stakeholders from all sectors of our society and economy. Notably, the strategy will address a wide range of policy fields aiming at:

- supporting and better adapting the deployment and development of large scale offshore renewable energy by developing the grid and energy system, market arrangements and related renewable policies;
- ensuring sustainability and environmental and biodiversity protection;
- enhancing public information and engagement at EU and local level;
- grasping the whole potential of the blue economy by addressing maritime spatial planning policies and fostering the development of new business models where relevant;
- steering industrial development, jobs creation and human capital formation and capacity building to grasp the offshore energy potential to drive growth across the whole EU ;
- cultivating Europe's global leadership in the sector and supporting businesses;

- promoting investment and supporting value chain integration and trade;
- supporting research and innovation of innovative critical technologies;
- promoting regional and transnational development and cooperation policies, including with third countries.

Guidance on the questionnaire

Thank you for taking part in this consultation.

We want to hear your views on how to make the European offshore renewable energy strategy as sustainable, effective, inclusive and ambitious as possible. Share with us your ideas, advice or practical examples related to the proposed topics, existing activities you know of or are involved in, and possible new activities in the context of offshore renewable energy.

All replies to the questionnaire as well as uploaded position papers and policy briefs will be published online. Please read the privacy statement on how personal data and contributions will be processed.

Following some introductory questions about yourself, the questionnaire continues with questions about the European offshore renewable energy strategy. The estimated time for completion is 25 minutes. The questions cover the following topics:

1. Your involvement in offshore activities and interest in the strategy
2. Sustainability and environmental aspects
3. Public information
4. Marine Resources and Human activities at sea (Maritime Spatial Planning)
5. Energy grid, markets and renewable policy
6. Industrial development, employment and human capital development
7. Research and innovation
8. Funding and Financing
9. Regional and transnational development policy and cooperation, including with 3rd countries
10. Ideas and suggestions for further development

To ensure that all opinions are heard and taken into account, some sections include two parts: the first part is accessible to all participants; the second one includes specific questions targeting only the stakeholders of the offshore renewable energy sector.

Please note there is a session timeout for the submission of your contribution after 60 minutes; this is an automatic security feature. In order to avoid any loss of data, do not forget to use the “Save as Draft” option on the top right side of your screen before the 60 minutes expire. You can subsequently resume work on your contribution, and submit once completed.

About you

* Publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

Anonymous

Only your type of respondent, country of origin and contribution will be published. All other personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number) will not be published.

Public

Your personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number, country of origin) will be published with your contribution.

* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- Gaelic
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

* I am giving my contribution as

- Academic/research institution
- Business association
- Company/business organisation
- Consumer organisation

- EU citizen
- Environmental organisation
- Non-EU citizen
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

* First name

* Surname

* Email (this won't be published)

* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

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| <input type="radio"/> Afghanistan | <input type="radio"/> Djibouti | <input type="radio"/> Libya | <input type="radio"/> Saint Martin |
| <input type="radio"/> Åland Islands | <input type="radio"/> Dominica | <input type="radio"/> Liechtenstein | <input type="radio"/> Saint Pierre and Miquelon |
| <input type="radio"/> Albania | <input type="radio"/> Dominican Republic | <input type="radio"/> Lithuania | <input type="radio"/> Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |
| <input type="radio"/> Algeria | <input type="radio"/> Ecuador | <input type="radio"/> Luxembourg | <input type="radio"/> Samoa |
| <input type="radio"/> American Samoa | <input type="radio"/> Egypt | <input type="radio"/> Macau | <input type="radio"/> San Marino |
| <input type="radio"/> Andorra | <input type="radio"/> El Salvador | <input type="radio"/> Madagascar | <input type="radio"/> São Tomé and Príncipe |
| <input type="radio"/> Angola | <input type="radio"/> Equatorial Guinea | <input type="radio"/> Malawi | <input type="radio"/> Saudi Arabia |
| <input type="radio"/> Anguilla | <input type="radio"/> Eritrea | <input type="radio"/> Malaysia | <input type="radio"/> Senegal |
| <input type="radio"/> Antarctica | <input type="radio"/> Estonia | <input type="radio"/> Maldives | <input type="radio"/> Serbia |

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Aruba
- Australia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Belize
- Benin
- Bermuda
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Bouvet Island
- Brazil
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Falkland Islands
- Faroe Islands
- Fiji
- Finland
- France
- French Guiana
- French Polynesia
- French Southern and Antarctic Lands
- Gabon
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Gibraltar
- Greece
- Greenland
- Grenada
- Guadeloupe
- Guam
- Guatemala
- Guernsey
- Guinea
- Mali
- Malta
- Marshall Islands
- Martinique
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mayotte
- Mexico
- Micronesia
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Montserrat
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar /Burma
- Namibia
- Nauru
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Sint Maarten
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
- South Korea
- South Sudan
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Svalbard and Jan Mayen
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania

- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Brunei
- Bulgaria

- Burkina Faso
- Burundi

- Cambodia

- Cameroon

- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Cayman Islands

- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China

- Christmas Island
- Clipperton
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands

- Colombia
- Comoros

- Congo

- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan

- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Niue

- Norfolk Island
- Northern Mariana Islands
- North Korea
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Palestine
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Pitcairn Islands
- Poland
- Portugal

- Thailand
- The Gambia
- Timor-Leste
- Togo

- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States
- United States Minor Outlying Islands
- Uruguay
- US Virgin Islands
- Uzbekistan

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| <input type="radio"/> Cook Islands | <input type="radio"/> Kenya | <input type="radio"/> Puerto Rico | <input type="radio"/> Vanuatu |
| <input type="radio"/> Costa Rica | <input type="radio"/> Kiribati | <input type="radio"/> Qatar | <input type="radio"/> Vatican City |
| <input type="radio"/> Côte d'Ivoire | <input type="radio"/> Kosovo | <input type="radio"/> Réunion | <input type="radio"/> Venezuela |
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| <input type="radio"/> Cuba | <input type="radio"/> Kyrgyzstan | <input type="radio"/> Russia | <input type="radio"/> Wallis and Futuna |
| <input type="radio"/> Curaçao | <input type="radio"/> Laos | <input type="radio"/> Rwanda | <input type="radio"/> Western Sahara |
| <input type="radio"/> Cyprus | <input type="radio"/> Latvia | <input type="radio"/> Saint Barthélemy | <input type="radio"/> Yemen |
| <input type="radio"/> Czechia | <input type="radio"/> Lebanon | <input type="radio"/> Saint Helena Ascension and Tristan da Cunha | <input type="radio"/> Zambia |
| <input type="radio"/> Democratic Republic of the Congo | <input type="radio"/> Lesotho | <input type="radio"/> Saint Kitts and Nevis | <input type="radio"/> Zimbabwe |
| <input type="radio"/> Denmark | <input type="radio"/> Liberia | <input type="radio"/> Saint Lucia | |

* Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

* Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

* Scope

- International
- Local
- National
- Regional

Transparency register number

255 character(s) maximum

Check if your organisation is on the [transparency register](#). It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

Questions

1. Your involvement in offshore activities and interest in the strategy

The strategy aims at better exploiting Europe's sustainable offshore renewable energy potential.

In this section, we would like to ask you some questions regarding your interest in offshore activities and your perceptions of the current and emerging needs that would enable a large and sustainable development of the offshore renewable energy sector.

1.1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following assertions related to your knowledge and perception on offshore renewable energy?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	I do not know
I have a good knowledge on the existing offshore renewable energy technologies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think offshore renewable energy is not sufficiently exploited today in Europe	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think my Member State/the Member State where my organisation is active should foster the deployment of offshore renewable energy with adequate policies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think the European Union should foster the deployment of offshore renewable energy with adequate policies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think the development of the offshore energy sector in the EU could play a major role in recovering from the current Covid-19 related economic crisis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

I think the deployment of offshore renewable energy needs to be accelerated in Europe	<input type="radio"/>					
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Please elaborate your answers if you deem necessary

500 character(s) maximum

1.2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following assertions?

The deployment of offshore renewable energy...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	I do not know
...will benefit the EU's security of energy supply	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...will benefit the EU's industries and companies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...will benefit EU consumers and local communities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...will benefit EU employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please elaborate your answers if you deem necessary.

500 character(s) maximum

1.3. Are you or your organisation involved or have an active interest in offshore activities?

- Yes
- No

If yes, what is your interest (oil and gas, ocean energy manufacturer, ocean energy financier, ocean energy project developer, maritime transport, fishery, NGOs, coastal communities...)?

100 character(s) maximum

1.4. On an annual basis, what part of your personal / your organisation's business activities (allocated budget) are related to offshore renewable energy?

- Very few - less than 5%
- Some activities - between 5% and 50%
- Many activities - more than 50%
- Most activities - more than 90%
- Do not know

1.5. How would you qualify the following actions related to the deployment of offshore renewable energy in the EU?

	Not necessary	Neutral	Necessary but does not require EU measures /initiatives	Necessary and requires EU measures /initiatives	Do not know
Improving access to and use of sea for offshore energy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Implementing a more suitable market regulatory framework	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Developing/Improving onshore and offshore grid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improving financing conditions, support and incentives, and developing new business models	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fostering training, human capital development and capacity building	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting the development of the industrial infrastructure and supply chain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting research and development, innovation and technology development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improving regional and transnational cooperation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Improving public understanding
and support



1.6. What initiatives could incentivize you/your organisation most to increase your offshore renewable energy activities?

at most 3 choice(s)

- Facilitating permitting and authorisation
- Cross-border cooperation to allow a long-term maritime plan that foresees enough room for offshore renewable energy
- Support the adaptation of the energy network to the large scale-up of offshore renewables
- Support to research and innovation and for commercial scale demonstration plants
- Stronger harmonisation of technical requirements and/or regulatory frameworks at EU level
- Greater knowledge of existing support measures which I/my organisation can benefit from
- More regional and transnational cooperation including with countries outside the EU
- Renewables policies setting [sector specific] targets and trajectories
- Improved financing conditions, support and incentives
- Availability of skilled workers and targeted retraining opportunities
- Other

Other

100 character(s) maximum

Please elaborate your answers if you deem necessary.

500 character(s) maximum

2. Sustainability, environmental protection

2.1. To what extent are the environmental impacts of offshore renewable energy activities currently considered by project developers in your country?

- Not at all
- Very little
- Somewhat
-

Significantly

- Very much
- Too much
- Don't know

2.2. What could be the main environmental issue related to the deployment of offshore renewable energy?

- There are no major environmental issue related to the deployment of offshore
- Issues are compensated by positive impacts (reserve / biomass effects, reef effects...)
- Wildlife environmental negative impact: impact on fish, birds...
- Marine ecosystem negative impact: impact on the marine flora and fauna.
- Pollution and climate negative impacts
- Other [100 characters maximum]

Other

100 character(s) maximum

2.3. What measures at EU level could help the most to ensure the sustainable development of offshore renewable energy?

at most 3 choice(s)

- Sustainable building and installation of offshore assets
- Sustainable operation and maintenance activities
- Sustainable management of assets end-of-life: decommissioning, recycling of components
- Sustainable supply chain (decarbonisation of externalities, use of raw materials)
- Mitigation measures of the impact on marine ecosystems
- Maritime plans with clear determination of areas that are suitable for offshore wind
- Planning of optimized offshore electric grid infrastructures at regional /transnational level
- Other [300 characters maximum]

Other

300 character(s) maximum

Please explain your answer

500 character(s) maximum

3. Public Information

3.1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following assertions related to consulting the public when developing offshore renewable energy projects?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	I do not know
Information (technical, financial, regulatory) is easily available to public	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public consultation is sufficiently taken into account within projects development processes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additional measures/regulations need to be taken at EU level to strengthen public consultation processes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

3.2. What measures at EU level could help the most to inform the public on offshore renewable energies?

at most 3 choice(s)

- Better public information on offshore technologies
- Better public information about the general energy choices needed to decarbonise the EU economy
- Better public information on the environmental impact (negative and positive) of offshore renewable energies (construction and installation activities, material uses...)
- Better public information on the potential for industry and workers in Europe (growth, employment...)
- Better public information on economic models of offshore renewable energy (costs, impact on electricity prices for consumers...)
- Other [300 characters maximum]
- No need to increase public support to offshore renewable energy

Other

300 character(s) maximum

4. Marine Resources and Human activities at sea (Maritime Spatial Planning)[1],[2]

The ability to secure, access, use and share maritime space in a sustainable way will be crucial for the large scale development of offshore renewable energy in Europe. To that end, maritime spatial planning is required and multi-use of marine space might be beneficial for all sectors involved in the mid- to long-term perspective.

[1] Within this questionnaire, the term "marine" is used to refer to the natural sea ecosystem at large whereas the term "maritime" is used to refer to human activities related to the sea.

[2] Maritime Spatial Planning- DIRECTIVE 2014/89/EU.

4.1. Do you think the access to sea is a limiting factor to the development of offshore renewable energies?

- Not at all
- Very little
- Somewhat
-

- Significantly
- Very much
- Don't know

4.2. Have you or your organisation been confronted with space issues at seas related to offshore renewable energies?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please explain your answer. How? Where? With which other sector? What issues?

500 character(s) maximum

4.3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following assertions related to use and sharing of seas for renewable energies activities?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	I do not know
Integrated sea-basin strategies are crucial for the development of offshore renewable energies and grid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting and fostering multi-use of sea is crucial for offshore renewable energy deployment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Compensation should be provided to activities that might be excluded because of offshore renewable developments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Energy grid, market and renewable policy

The deployment of large-scale offshore renewable energy will require some adaptation to the EU energy system in terms of infrastructures, market arrangements and renewable policies. Notably, considerable offshore and onshore grid development will be needed to ensure the transport of large amounts of energy to shore and, from there, to cities inland and large consumption sites.

5.1. How would you rate the importance of the following objectives to steer the development of European offshore energy infrastructure?

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	Not Important	Important to a small extent	Important to a large extent	Important	I do not know
Enable decarbonisation of EU energy sector	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Enable a competitive and properly functioning integrated energy market	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Strengthen EU energy security of supply	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5.2. In what order of priority should the European Commission consider the following measures related to the deployment of offshore renewable energy? / 1 being the highest priority, 4 the lowest]

	4	3	2	1
EC action should deliver significant contribution to renewables targets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EC action should keep overall system costs to consumers as low as possible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EC action should integrate renewables efficiently and sustainably in the energy system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EC action should bring certainty on project revenues for developers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

5.3. Regarding the regulatory framework, what measures could help most with the deployment of offshore renewable energy in the EU?

at most 2 choice(s)

- Making the access to finance and funding, and support schemes and incentives easier
- A more integrated and cross-sectorial energy strategy
- A clearer market regulatory framework
- A concrete EU development plan with clear commitments and capacity targets
- Clarify and facilitate permitting and authorisation of offshore grids and assets
- Other [100 characters maximum]

Other

100 character(s) maximum

Please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

5.4. Regarding the regulatory framework...

5.4.1 Do you think EU guidance on how to apply market rules in the offshore renewable energy sector is required?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

5.4.2. Do you think a stronger market regulatory harmonisation, e.g. of system operation or grid connection rules, is required?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

5.4.3. Do you think the current regulatory environment in my home country is ensuring that investments into offshore fixed bottom /floating wind or other technologies (please indicate in your answer) are sufficient and allow a return on investment in a reasonable time?

- Yes
- No

Please explain your answer

500 character(s) maximum

5.5. Offshore wind/other technology (please indicate which in your answer) are best promoted through...

- Market premiums and/or contracts for difference
- Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)
- Sharing arrangements for grid connection costs
- New local or regional level business models, incl. cooperative approaches
- Other...

Please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

6. Industrial development, employment and human capital development

Developing offshore renewable energy requires a suitable industry and infrastructure, while a workforce with the necessary knowledge, skills and training is essential.

6.1. What measures could help the most to develop the offshore renewable industry in the EU?

at most 2 choice(s)

- Improved access to existing financing, support and incentives /Develop new financing, funds, incentives
- A more integrated, cross-sector industrial strategy
- A clearer market regulatory framework
- Development of skills and occupational safety and health across the value chain
- Other [100 characters maximum]

Other

100 character(s) maximum

6.2. In your opinion, what are the biggest obstacles to the development of an offshore renewable industry in the EU?

at most 3 choice(s)

- Political buy-in and long-term investment certainty
- Procurement of raw and critical materials
- Lack of skilled staff and/or human capacity building provision
- Lack of industrial infrastructures (manufacturing, transport, building)

- Unawareness of/Difficulties to have access to funds
- Financing costs
- Uncertainty about an EU offshore development plan
- Uncertainty regarding the legislative framework
- Uncertainty regarding the long-term economic benefits
- Regulatory obstacles
- Lack of support to SMEs
- Other [100 characters maximum]

Other

100 character(s) maximum

6.3. Which categories of qualified workers with specific offshore renewable energy knowledge are most needed today?

at most 2 choice(s)

- Technicians
- Engineers
- Researchers
- Sustainable finance experts
- Other [100 characters maximum]

Other

100 character(s) maximum

6.4. In which sectors of the offshore renewable energy industry is the development of knowledge and skills most needed today?

at most 2 choice(s)

- Manufacturing of critical components (including infrastructure components)
- Research and development
- Onshore and/or offshore transport of critical components
- Installation, Operation and Maintenance
- Other [100 characters maximum]

Other

100 character(s) maximum

7. Research and Innovation

7.1. What are the main areas of technology on which Research and Innovation should focus in order to help the development of large-scale offshore renewable energy in the EU?

at most 4 choice(s)

- Wind Turbines technology
- Tidal stream technology
- Wave energy technology
- Ocean thermal energy conversion, Sea-Water Air Conditioning
- Salinity gradient technology
- Floating PV
- Maritime transport innovations
- Infrastructure and supply chain innovations
- Recycling and decommissioning solutions
- Offshore energy conversion and storage innovations (power-to-X, energy islands concept...)
- Environmental and biodiversity protection related technologies
- Control and monitoring systems innovations for offshore assets
- Resource assessment
- Other

Other

100 character(s) maximum

Please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

7.2. Have you ever been involved in a Research and Innovation project related to offshore renewable energy?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, how?

500 character(s) maximum

7.3. What should be the main focus of a strategy supporting Research and Innovation in offshore renewable energy?

at most 2 choice(s)

- Better links and coordination with the industry
- Easier access to financing
- Providing more exposure to the results
- Access to relevant infrastructures and material
- Better cooperation with research institutes and universities
- Better cooperation between EU-countries
- Other

Other

100 character(s) maximum

Please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

8. Funding & Financing

8.1. To what extent are you aware of EU funding or financing programmes supporting offshore renewable energy development?

- I am not aware of any relevant EU funding or financing programmes
- I am aware of some relevant EU funding or financing programmes
- I am well aware of relevant EU funding or financing programmes

8.2. Which sectors do you think EU funding or financing programmes should prioritise in order to promote the development of renewable offshore energy in the EU?

at most 2 choice(s)

- Research and Innovation
- Pilot and pre-commercial projects
-

Upscaling and faster deployment supporting national deployment

- Industrial capacity and infrastructure
- Skills, knowledge and vocational education training
- Maritime transport and ports upgrading
- Export support
- Other [100 characters maximum]

Other

100 character(s) maximum

Please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

8.3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following assertions related to funding and financing in the context of offshore renewable energy projects development?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	I don't know
Access to dedicated revenue support at national level is essential to unlock pilot and pre-commercial projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EU instruments are needed to reduce financing costs of innovative offshore renewable energy by providing grants, guaranteed loans, or concessional lending.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Targeted EU instruments are needed to support training, reskilling and upskilling to ensure availability of a skilled workforce	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Channel existing EU R&I funding into offshore renewable energy is required	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Streamlining due diligence and similar timelines to access						

different financial instruments is required	<input type="radio"/>					
Building international partnerships with 3rd countries to mutualise investments is required	<input type="radio"/>					
Financing support for development of European value chains and production of equipment within the EU for deployment internationally.	<input type="radio"/>					
Support provided in the EU programmes suffices but should be better utilised by the offshore renewable energy sector.	<input type="radio"/>					

9. Regional and transnational development policy and cooperation

9.1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following assertions related to regional and transnational issues in the context of offshore renewable energy deployment?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	I don't know
Offshore renewable energy development could be relevant and positive for the region in which my organisation is active (specify which region in the box available below this table)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Offshore renewable energy development could be relevant and positive for any region of the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The lack of transnational cooperation might be an obstacle to the development of the offshore renewable energy in the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The EU should play a major role in steering the cooperation between countries and regions to foster the development of offshore renewable energy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please explain your answer.

500 character(s) maximum

9.2. In which areas do you believe that transnational and regional cooperation is the most crucial to contribute to the deployment of offshore renewable energy?

at most 3 choice(s)

- Energy grid development
- Maritime spatial planning
- Integration of the supply chain
- Development of clusters and new industrial ecosystems
- Transport
- Support schemes
- Tender procedures
- Research and Innovation
- Financing
- Permitting
- Other [100 characters maximum]

Other

100 character(s) maximum

9.3. What are the main obstacles of cross-border cooperation at the moment in grids, markets and offshore renewables?

500 character(s) maximum

10. Ideas and suggestions for further development

The European offshore renewable energy strategy will build as much as possible on existing frameworks and initiatives to enable the massive development of offshore renewable energy.

10.1. How do you believe the strategy can best complement or scale-up existing national and EU frameworks and initiatives and add value? Please refer to the specific frameworks/initiatives considered (maximum two)

400 character(s) maximum

10.2. Do you believe there are excessive regulatory burdens or regulatory inconsistencies that need to be addressed to support the development of offshore energy?

If so can you specify precisely which and at which level (EU or national).

500 character(s) maximum

10.3. Are you aware of any material/documentation (position papers, databases, studies) that would be relevant for further information? Could you please list relevant sources of information?

400 character(s) maximum

10.4. Documents upload and final comments

Please feel free to upload a concise document. The maximum file size is 1 MB. The uploaded document will be published alongside your response to the questionnaire which is the essential input to this public consultation. The document is optional and serves as additional background reading to better understand your position.

Please upload your file.

The maximum file size is 1 MB

Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

10.5. If you wish to add further information — within the scope of this questionnaire — please feel free to do so here.

750 character(s) maximum

Thank you for participating in this public consultation. Your views, ideas and suggestions are valuable to us. All replies will be analysed and receive due consideration. We will prepare a written summary of the results. We will publish this summary online, together with any uploaded position papers and policy briefs. Please stay informed by consulting the website of the European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/info/index_en

