

EirWind

Ireland



MaREI EirWind research team, industry partner representatives and technical advisors, Cork, August 27, 2019.

Overview

EirWind is an industry-led collaborative research project, co-designing the opportunity around the **sustainable development of Ireland's marine resources**, using offshore wind as the catalyst for innovation and impact.

It has been funded by industry partners and Science Foundation Ireland as part of the MaREI Centre. The project utilises the concepts of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), including interactive use of advanced data-analysis, strategic planning, Irish marine and renewable energy policy initiatives and stakeholder engagement.

This two-year project, launched in 2018, consists of five interactive technical work packages.

Results

- **Develop a stakeholder engagement and data management framework**, in the study of strategic areas for the development of offshore wind, off Ireland's east, south and west coasts;
- Review the challenges associated with consenting offshore wind projects and improve cost optimization tools and cost reduction solutions, in order to **develop an advanced approach to planning future development sites and co-location of activities**;
- Review stakeholder engagement, policy and legislative frameworks and previous practice, and, where relevant, **suggest new and improved methods for planning of stakeholder management** in the study area to identify issues and their relative importance at an early stage. That includes informing developers and policy makers about potential risks to seabirds, as well as potential mitigation measures;
- Provide a **status review of the electricity and gas networks**, relevant to the region, as well as development strategies for the distribution and storage of energy, including export market possibilities;
- **Assess impacts from the development of renewable energies offshore** in as much detail as possible, from a biological, environmental, infrastructural and sociological point of view. Cumulative and proximity-effects will be considered. Where possible, mitigations will be suggested.

Further info

Total cost: Approximately €1,200,000 for the first two-year phase, plus in-kind from academics and industry partners.

Project logo:



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