



PRESS RELEASE

EU and India join hands to facilitate Offshore Wind

Facilitating India's transition towards low carbon development by supporting implementation of national policies and programs for offshore wind power

27th January 2014, New Delhi - The Global Wind Energy Council and partnersⁱ announced today the launch of a four year project to develop a roadmap for offshore wind development in India, with a focus on the states of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. Supported by a €4 million contribution through the European Union's Indo-European Cooperation on Renewable Energy programme, the project will work in close cooperation with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, State governments and other relevant offices of the Indian government to look at the challenges and opportunities presented by offshore wind.

"The Offshore Wind Power Development project supported by European Union's Indo-European Cooperation on Renewable Energy programme falls perfectly in line with the vision of the Government of India for development of offshore wind power in the country. The project is being launched when the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy is also working towards the introduction of National Offshore Wind Energy Policy in India", said **Alok Srivastava, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy.**

"We in Europe are committed towards reducing emissions and moving towards sustainable forms of energy, thereby lowering the dependency on fossil fuels and working towards a cleaner climate. This project on Wind Energy in partnership with our Indian counterparts is driven by the same philosophy – secure, affordable and clean energy for all," said **Dr. João Cravinho, Ambassador of the European Union.**

Globally, although onshore wind is now a mature, competitive and mainstream energy generation source, offshore wind is still in a relatively early stage of development. Most of the 6 GW of capacity installed is in the North Sea, Baltic and Irish Seas. The only other substantial market is in China, although there are exciting developments happening in Japan, Korea, Taiwan as well as early movement in the United States. As with all new technologies, the capital costs are high, and there is still a great deal of technical and management learning required to bring costs down to competitive levels. One of the goals of the project will be to learn as much as possible from the European experience, to ensure that when India ventures offshore, it does so in the most effective way possible.

"We look forward to working with our Indian and European partners to help fuel India's development with clean renewable energy. We believe that with careful analysis and thorough preparation drawing on our global network, offshore wind can make a significant contribution to ensuring that clean energy plays the dominant role in supplying India's growing energy needs," said **Steve Sawyer, GWEC Secretary General.**

The partners bring a wealth of experience to the project: The World Institute for Sustainable Energy (WISE), based in Pune, will host the project management unit, and focus on the state of Gujarat; The Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), based in Bangalore will focus on the State of Tamil Nadu; DNV-GL, the world's largest renewable energy consultancy, will, through its Bangalore based subsidiary, provide its long expertise in the offshore industry, as well as its experience in technology assessment, project design, due diligence and other areas; and we are pleased to have the support and participation of the Gujarat Power Corporation Limited.

The specific objectives of the project are to create an enabling environment for offshore wind through resource mapping, policy guidance and capacity building measures, and to assess the infrastructure base and identify improvements required. In addition, the project will seek to build partnerships at a technical, policy and research level, both within India, and between India and EU companies, research groups and institutions, with a final goal of developing an Offshore Wind Outlook and development pathway for India up to 2032.

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About the project partners:

Global Wind Energy Council is the international trade association for the wind power industry. The members of GWEC represent over 1,500 companies, organisations and institutions in more than 70 countries, including manufacturers, developers, component suppliers, research institutes, national wind and renewables associations, electricity providers, finance and insurance companies. www.gwec.net

Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy is one of the largest think-tanks in South-East Asia; its vision is to enrich the nation with technology-enabled policy options for equitable growth. C-STEP is a multi-disciplinary policy research organisation working in the areas of Energy, Infrastructure, Materials, Climate Adaptation and Security Studies. www.cstep.in

DNV GL now forms the world's largest ship and offshore classification society, and a leading expert for the energy value chain including renewables and energy efficiency. It has also taken a position as one of the top three-certification bodies in the world. Operating in more than 100 countries, its 16,000 professionals are dedicated to helping customers make the world safer, smarter and greener. www.dnvgl.com

Gujarat Power Corporation Limited has been playing the role of developer and catalyser in the energy sector in the state of Gujarat. GPCL is increasing its involvement in power projects in the renewable sector, as the state of Gujarat is concerned about the issues of pollution and global warming. Gujarat has over 3GW of installed onshore wind capacity currently. www.gpclindia.com

World Institute of Sustainable Energy is a not-for-profit institute committed to the cause of promoting sustainable energy and sustainable development, with specific emphasis on issues related to renewable energy, energy security, and climate change. Since its inception in 2004, WISE has pioneered many important initiatives in the above areas. www.wisein.org



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