

WICO - Wind of the Coast

Wind of the Coast (WICO) European project:

WICO is a European funded project which aims to share knowledge and experience regarding the deployment of small-scale wind energy systems along coastlines.

Small wind systems located on or near the coast have a tremendous potential for generating wind energy thanks to onshore and offshore marine breezes.

The WICO project is being funded under the Interreg IVC POWER Program and has secured a grant of €224,000 for the 26 months duration. (From July 2009 to the end of September 2011).

The partners in the project are Province of Ravenna in Italy (lead partner), the Diputacion Provincial de Huelva in Spain and Marine South East in the UK. The partners will be identifying and developing best practice in the public sector to promote successful large-scale deployment of renewable energy schemes in order to maximize benefit to the regional economy and environment and society.

WICO project background and information

The main goal of the WICO project is to work with the European partners in Spain, Italy and the UK to share knowledge and experience for the deployment of small wind energy systems along coastlines.

Coastal areas offer a wide range of opportunities to produce wind, current and tidal derived renewable energy. The WICO project partners have identified small wind systems as a technology suitable for integration along the coast to exploit the presence of onshore and offshore winds.



WICO project aims:

The project partners will exchange and bench mark their experiences and knowledge in order to produce guidelines for the installation of small wind systems along coastlines which will provide key information and solutions to a number of issues:

- Information on how to influence and modify local planning rules to simplify the procedures for the installation of small wind systems
- Information on how to overcome the barriers to installations
- Technical information
- Information on the economic viability of small wind systems and financial incentive systems

The WICO partners will also be identifying and developing best practice in the public sector to promote successful large-scale deployment of renewable energy schemes in order to maximize benefit to the regional economy and environment and society.

The project also aims to develop a transferable tool to allow both the sharing of technical information on new generation systems and the knowledge required to overcome barriers to the wider use of this technology including policies, economic viability, financial incentives, awareness etc.



WICO Project partners:

The WICO project partners are Marine South East from the UK, the Province of Ravenna from Emilia-Romagna in Italy (lead partner) and the Diputacion Huelva in Andalucia in Spain.

Marine South East is an organization set up to address the needs of marine businesses in the South East of England. Marine South East has extensive experience in renewable energy generation, coastal spatial planning, technological innovation and policy development.

The Province of Ravenna in Italy is a local authority with a role in policy making for the environment and energy. It was involved in developing the Regional Energy Plan (Emilia-Romagna Region) and is responsible for drawing up the Provincial Energy and Sustainable Development Action Plan whose aim is to give priority to renewable energy generation from a variety of resources.

The Diputacion of Huelva in Spain has been investigating the possibilities for wind generation for several years. The partner has experience of similar wind generation projects in mountain areas and is very keen to apply its experience to the coast and identifying how the public sector can act to facilitate the widespread uptake of renewable technologies along the coastline, and in particular small wind systems.



Project activities:

The WICO project consists of work packages whose main activities are:

- Analysis of the barriers affecting the application of small wind systems
- Assessment of the potential development of wind energy in the areas
- Exchange of experiences and best practices between the partners specifically looking at policies, market development and technologies
- Drafting of guidelines for the deployment of renewable energy from small wind systems
- Joint communication and paper free dissemination



How to keep informed of the WICO project

If you'd like to keep up to date with news of the WICO project make sure you sign up to receive the project newsletters by clicking this link

<http://www.marinesoutheast.co.uk/wico/subscribe/>

Regular newsletters will be produced throughout the life of the WICO project.

More information can also be found the WICO web pages at:

www.marinesoutheast.co.uk/wico

<http://www.provincia.ra.it/Argomenti/Ambiente/Energia-ed-elettromagnetismo/WICO-Wind-of-the-Coast-english-version>

http://www.diphuelva.es_WICO

The web pages contain background information about the project, downloads of press coverage, downloads of useful documents, useful links, details of forthcoming events and the contact details of all the partners.

