



Press release

Berlin, 26 June 2024

Launch of the FLOATFARM project Next Generation Floating Wind Farms

Wind energy is vital for the EU's to reach its green goals. Europe leads in this sector with a strategic development plan, providing numerous jobs and economic benefits. As onshore sites become limited, offshore wind, especially in deep waters, will become crucial. FLOATFARM focuses on advancing floating offshore wind technology in order to enhance EU energy capacity. The EU has set ambitious targets to increase offshore wind capacity in Europe from current 12GW to at least 60 GW by 2030 and 300GW by 2050.

Floating Offshore Wind (FOW) offers a cost-effective solution for deep waters but remains a recent technology with ongoing development. Key improvements include rotor upscaling to reduce costs, adapting designs for various wind conditions, and addressing environmental impacts. Building on the outcomes of the [FLOATECH](#) project (2021-2023), FLOATFARM aims to overcome these challenges, promoting efficient marine space use and technological innovations in farm control, mooring, and cabling.

Launched on January 2024 for a duration of 4 years and coordinated by TU Berlin, FLOATFARM is a Horizon Europe project bringing together 8 academic/research partners with relevant skills in the field of offshore floating wind energy (Technische Universität Berlin, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Delft University of Technology, Ghent University and DTU - Technical University of Denmark, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Ecole Centrale de Nantes, SeaPower srl and France Énergies Marines), 7 industrial partners involved in the most recent developments of floating wind systems (Saipem, INNORSEA, Sowento, BW Ideol, NextOcean, blueOASIS, Hagnesia Wind) and one partner specialized in the development of EU funded projects and their communication and dissemination activities (Euronovia).

To achieve its objectives, the project is built around three main actions:

- **Action 1 - Turbine technology:** Under this action, the tasks focus on developing innovative technologies and methods to enhance individual FOW turbines. Solutions will target the challenges of sustainable and economic advancement in FOW technology, optimizing turbines across aerodynamics, hydrodynamics, structural dynamics, and control architecture. These improvements are expected to offer compounded benefits when applied at the farm level.
- **Action 2 - Farm technology:** This action involves the development, investigation, and demonstration of technologies applicable to interaction between turbines within a FOW farm. It aims to optimize the entire system by exploring interactions between turbines and leveraging synergies between components. Technologies will address aerodynamic and structural interactions, as well as

develop control strategies that account for these interactions, ensuring an efficient and cohesive farm operation.

- **Action 3 - Environmental and socioeconomic impacts:** This action includes developing models, collecting data, and analysing scenarios to understand the environmental, economic, and social impacts of FOW farms. The interconnectedness of aquatic and nonaquatic ecosystems requires comprehensive modelling to assess these impacts accurately. Scenarios will be analysed to create a roadmap for future assessments, ensuring that FOW installations are environmentally and socially sustainable.

Additionally, through a cross-cutting Action, FLOATFARM will integrate the technologies developed in Actions 1 and 2 with their environmental and socio-economic impacts from Action 3 using a holistic Multidisciplinary Design, Analysis, and Optimization (MDAO) framework. This approach will provide a comprehensive understanding of system interactions and maximize synergies, ensuring practical and sustainable exploitation of new technologies.

We have launched the project website and social media and have already received considerable interest from both academia and industry. During these first months we have started to work on the different activities and finalized different types of communication materials (a flyer, a factsheet, a poster, a roll-up banner and a newsletter, available here: <https://floatfarm-project.eu/communication-materials/>) to raise awareness of the project.

To receive our updates, follow us on [Twitter](#) and join us on [LinkedIn](#)!

To learn more about the project, please visit our website: <https://floatfarm-project.eu/>

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