Webinar - 7 May

An update on the ocean energy sector based on the 1st OceanSET annual report - Q&A session

There is a European vision of offshore wind energy of 450 GW installed by 2050. Is there a same vison for ocean energy by 2050?
In Europe alone, the ocean energy industry plans to deploy 100 GW of production capacity by 2050, meeting 10% of electricity demand. That's enough to meet the daily electricity needs of 76 million households.

The SET Plan Implementation Group Report shows that to achieve the wave energy 2025 targets requires an installed capacity of 1,000 MW by then. What recommendations with the OceanSET project be given to the European Commission to accelerate the installation of wave energy technology as this target requires 200 MW per year from today. The annual report shows 0.6 MW installed in Table 4.
This first year of the OceanSET project is primarily concerned with collecting information on the current status of projects and support. It is important to note that the 0.6 MW figure shown is for 2018. The OceanSET project will be exploring support measures and their effectiveness in future surveys.

There is a lot of mapping done in the past for marine energy. How much of this learning has been capture in this new endeavour? What is the difference between this new mapping and that done before?
The mapping that we refer to is on status of funding of projects across EU. There have been some earlier studies done by JRC that we have referred to and used in development of our metrics and analysis.

Given difficulty in obtaining data, should public funding be contingent on developers being required to provide data?
We would recommend that the provision of data to enhance our understanding of the progress of the sector should be routinely collated by public funders and considered as mandatory for all public funding.

Are you considering the possibility of including the response to a survey like this as an mandatory deliverable in all projects funded by public money? This could be requested by all European Commission and Member States funding programmes.
As above

What was in the surveys for device developers in terms of TRL, LCOE, resilience (financial, technical...)?

Survey forms were included in the annual report. Please refer to appendices

Very interesting to see the figures for public sector investment in wave & tidal. Did you collect any information on other funding sources, what proportion they made up?

Private investment was also sought, however detail break down of this was not requested. Further information is required in future surveys to understand the make-up of projects.

Answer for The Netherlands is obviously incorrect, since this country has one of the highest density of offshore companies and capabilities.

The response reported was as per provided by the Member State. We will clarify with them to see if they wish to update in future surveys.

Are these technology roadmaps available in the report? Are they specific to the countries or geographical resource locations?

The roadmaps used in OceanSET Task 4.1 are public documents and are readily available, for example some are available at the IEA OES website. Roadmaps are almost exclusively specific to the country/region in which they are produced.

Can you offer a [hypothetical] example of PCP model at work?

As well as the model presented in the webinar, Wave Energy Scotland's programme, which has operated over the last 5 years, is a PCP. Details are available at: waveenergyscotland.co.uk

How soon will literature on the Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP) model be publicly available?

The output for these deliverables was intended for EU Commission use. We will discuss with them on providing a public report.

Isn't this centralised EU approach to PCP going to be complicated with Brexit?

Brexit will certainly complicate the participation of a UK public procurer in a Buyers Group regardless of whether the centralised or decentralised approach is used. In the centralised approach the Lead Procurer handles all payments to the research providers and receives contributions from the budget from the other members of the Buyers Group and from the EU. The Buyers Group is free to select a Lead Procurer from any of its membership which best suits its needs.

Remazel is a provider of mooring solutions that can help to solve the issues mentioned about mooring and anchoring. How can we get involved with the companies involved in the development of wave and tidal energy? We are a provider of mooring solutions for oi l& gas

floaters, floating wind turbine floaters, and are keen to be involved also in tidal and wave power generation.

The OceanSET project has recommended the challenges that would benefit from a multi-Member State PCP programme and is developing the framework for operating such a programme. It remains for public procurers in the Member States to form a Buyers Group and initiate any such PCP programme, the launch of which will be advertised widely, most likely via the OJEU.

Is there any plan on analysing ocean energy impacts on tourism sector during the project?

The focus of the OceanSET project is to track the 11 actions of the Set Plan Implementation Plan for Ocean Energy. Tourism is not indicated as a specific sector to focus on within these actions.

Does the EU OceanSET work has also an external dimension regarding developing countries and small island developing states (SIDS)? We are currently working with SIDS in the Caribbean, Pacific, Indian Ocean and Africa on the creation of a north-south ocean energy technology platform. The platform tries to build a bridge between international industry and research players and the interest of SIDS to get access to technology and expertise. The platform would promote technology cooperation, knowledge sharing and awareness raising, joint project development, capacity building and fund mobilisation. How we could cooperate on this?

The OceanSET work and the wider SET Plan have to focus primarily on coordinating efforts within Europe. But ocean energy is a global resource, SIDS are clearly an important market, and there are other potential between Europe and these territories that are worth exploring. IEA-OES is an international intergovernmental collaboration between countries focused on ocean energy. Its membership is global, and its Annual Report has contacts for each country. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is another global intergovernmental organisation. It is quite focused on both non-OECD countries and ocean energy. Last autumn it organised a workshop for SIDS representatives on ocean energy. You can contact IRENA directly. Ocean Energy Europe (OEE) works closely with IRENA, so OEE members can also get in touch via OEE.