Memorandum of understanding

Between

Plataforma Oceanica De Canarias (Plocan)

PLOCAN consorcio PLATAFORMA OCEÁNICA DE CANARIAS

And

Marine Energy Test Centre (MET Centre)

METCentre
MARINE ENERGY TEST CENTRE • KARMØY

Hereinafter referred to as "test centres" or "partners"

Introduction

Marine Energy Test Centre and Plataforma Oceanica De Canarias are two leading test sites for offshore green energy solutions in Europe. The partners have assessed that the test centres together could play a vital role in the European green energy transition offshore. The two partners have distinct features when it comes to location, test infrastructure, and funding, testing and market approach that coupled together could enable substantial synergies for both test centres, Norway, Spain and the rest of Europe.

Europe's first-mover advantage in offshore renewable energies can rely on the vast potential offered by European Union's seas, from the North Sea and the Baltic Sea to the Mediterranean, from the Atlantic to the Black Sea, as well as the seas surrounding the EU outermost regions and the overseas countries and territories. Tapping into this technological and physical potential is crucial if Europe is to achieve its carbon emission reduction targets for 2030 and become climate neutral by 2050. Starting from today's installed offshore wind capacity of 12 GW, the European Commission estimates that the objective to have an installed capacity of at least 60 GW by 2030, with a view to reach 300 GW installed capacity, by 2050.

Purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

The purpose of this document is to form a stronger bond between the test centres and subsequently enable relevant industry actors to exploit the emerging deep water offshore wind market in Norway and Spain, and beyond.

Scope: The scope of the MoU is to establish a closer cooperation between the test centres to enable a more effective and efficient testing of green offshore wind solutions in Europe. Other market segments such as offshore wind/hydrogen, offshore wind/solar and aquaculture/offshore wind will also be relevant for further cooperation. This can be achieved by:

- The test centres agreeing to champion deep water offshore wind in their respective countries as well as jointly when the opportunity arises.
- The test centres agreeing to seek areas of strategic benefit to both nations and their offshore wind supply chain through collaboration and partnership.
- Delivering a range of activities for mutual benefit for the test centres as well for relevant industrial actors in Spain and Norway.

Feasible areas of cooperation: Test centres will assess, when feasible, cooperation through joint projects on the following areas:

- Test and demonstration of technology and solution
- Regulatory aspects
- Environmental aspects
- Market aspects

The collaboration between the partners will also have the role as a bridge for collaboration between local clusters, suppliers and member companies such as, but not limited to, Norwegian Offshore Wind Cluster and Cluster Maritimo de Canarias. Neither of the two test centres will however have any responsibility for direct collaboration between member companies or local content thereof.

The extent of the collaboration will depend, in each case, on the allocation of resources each institution has at his disposal as well as the priorities required by their own activities.

The final collaboration terms shall be agreed by mutual consent and shall be stated in written agreement.

The Partners shall not be entitled to act or to make legally binding declarations on behalf of any other Party. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to incorporate a joint venture agency, partnership, interest grouping or any other kind of formal business grouping or entity between the Partners.

Funding opportunities

The MoU does not commit either MET Centre or PLOCAN to any funding requirements in the delivery of relevant activities. However, the test centres will play an enabling role for securing external funding from programmes such as Horizon Europe, European Regional Development Fund and relevant national and regional funding programmes.

Term and conditions of the MOU

This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials from the MET Centre and PLOCAN and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the partners by mutual consent. In the absence of mutual agreement by the authorized officials from the partners, the MOU shall end on 30th of April of 2023.

Partner entity: Marine Energy Test Centre (MET Centre)

Founded in 2009, MET Centre is recognized as a world leading North Sea test centre for testing new marine renewable energy technologies such as floating wind power, solar energy and wave energy under various conditions. The test centre provides concessions, infrastructure and services required for testing in deep waters (200+ metres).

Although floating offshore wind is a relatively new field, MET Centre already has a proud history. Equinor installed the world's very first floating wind turbine, Hywind Demo, here in 2009, Google

Makani was tested at the centre in 2019 and the demonstration of the first 10+MW floating concept (Flagship) will commence in 2022.

METCentres offering:

- Critical test infrastructure such export cables and relevant renewable concepts
- Improvements to the test infrastructure planned for 2021-2022
- Geographical location of the test centre is close to yards, ports and to the large markets (North Sea)
- Unique natural conditions for test of floating technologies (depth, currents and wind)

Partner entity: Plataforma Oceanica De Canarias (PLOCAN)

That PLOCAN is constituted as a public-law entity integrated by the State General Administration, through the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO) and the Regional Government of the Canary Islands; and has been entrusted to manage and promote the scientific, economic, technical and administrative cooperation among the involved entities for the PLOCAN design, construction, equipment and exploitation.

PLOCAN acts as an implementing agent of the Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation System, governed by the Article 3.4 of the Law 14/2011, of 1 June, of Science, Technology and Innovation; and it is recognized as a shared research entity between the State General Administration and the Regional Government of the Canary Islands, according to the twenty-first additional provision of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, of Science, Technology and Innovation.

PLOCAN is an infrastructure dedicated to the scientific and technological research and experimentation on all aspects relating to marine science and technology, as well as to all those sciences and technologies that require the use of laboratories located in the marine environment. PLOCAN serves the whole national scientific and technological community and is open to international collaboration, and will be integrated in the present and future initiatives of European collaboration and coordination. In addition, the consortium participates in R&D&I projects which will enable scientific research and development of maritime marine sciences.

PLOCAN is a multipurpose technical-scientific service infrastructure that provides support for research, technological development and innovation in the marine and maritime sectors, available to public and private users. PLOCAN offers a 23 km 2 test site with depths up to 600 m, an observatory, and both onshore and offshore experimental facilities and laboratories.

Las Palmas/Haugesund, 14th April 2021

Metcentre

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