



# DEVELOPING BLUE GROWTH POTENTIAL

## Offshore wind and tourism: Could the two happily co-exist?

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**Blue Growth Community – 1st Capitalization event**

November 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup>, 2020

# SUBMARINER Network for Blue Growth EEIG

The communication & cooperation platform for actors & initiatives in the Baltic Sea Region involved in sustainable and innovative uses of marine resources.



## SUBMARINER topics

Macroalgae  
harvesting and  
cultivation



Mussel  
Cultivation



Reed &  
Beach Cast



Marine Cultural  
Heritage



Blue Bio-  
technology



Marine  
Litter



Sustainable Fish  
Aquaculture



Combinations  
with Offshore  
Wind Parks



## strategic action fields

Actors &  
Match-Making



Data &  
Tools



Sub-regional  
activities



Access to  
Pilot sites  
& facilities



Training &  
Capacity Raising



Technology  
Development  
& Transfer



Finance &  
Funding



Regulation  
& Licensing



Awareness  
& Marketing





UNITED project  
pilot visit,  
Middelgrunden,  
September 2020



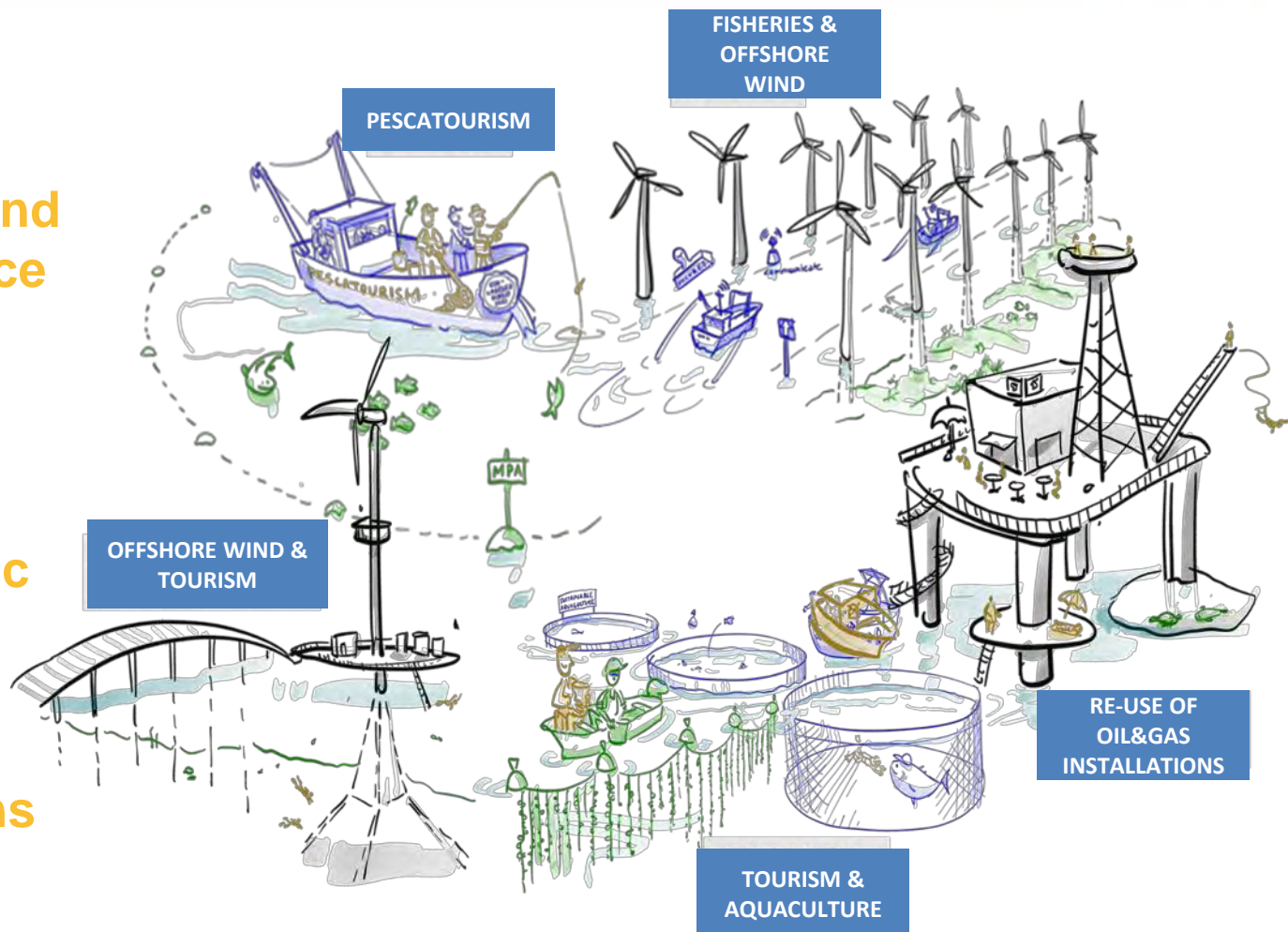
# What is Ocean Multi-Use?

Reduced Demand  
For Ocean Space

Environmental  
Benefits

Socio-Economic  
Synergies

Efficiency and  
Cost Reductions



## Type of offshore wind & tourism multi-use

- **Sightseeing boat tours;**
- **Specially designed platforms** serving as a resting ground for seals, facilities for divers...;
- **Unique wind farm design and layout** - a tourist attraction and regional landmark;
- **On land information centres and museums;**
- Boat tour operators can be engaged in **OWF related monitoring activities;**
- **Helicopter flights** around OWF.

Examples available in Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, Germany and the UK

→ BUT regulation differs across countries, and

→ offshore wind farms also host different conditions and designs



## Benefits of the offshore wind & tourism multi-use

### Mitigation of potential conflict

OWF project  
acceptance and the  
“NIMBY” phenomenon  
(Not In My BackYard)

### Improved awareness about the importance of renewable energy

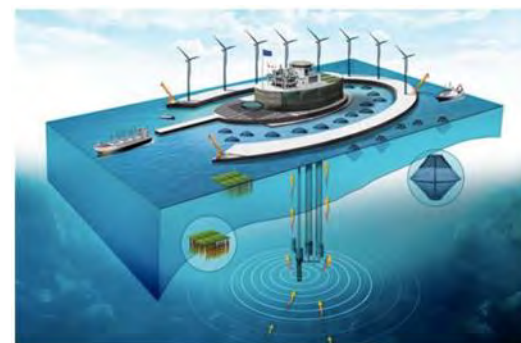
**Additional income  
for local tourism  
operators** & can  
support tourism all year  
round

### Source of pride for locals

esp. if the design and  
layout is done in an  
innovative visually  
appealing way

## Building On Lessons To Move Forward

Multi-use has been supported not only by a series of the EU research funding programmes, but also by the international, national funds and planning policy



## UNITED project multi-use pilots





## UNITED Danish Pilot: Offshore wind & tourism

### KEY FACTS

THE MIDDELGRUNDEN  
WIND FARM IS LOCATED  
OFF THE COAST  
OF COPENHAGEN



IT IS ELECTED AS THE  
SECOND  
MOST IMPORTANT CITY  
LANDMARK



MORE THAN 150 PEOPLE  
CLIMB THE  
TURBINE DURING ITS  
OPEN DAYS



IT HAS AN  
ESTIMATED POWER OF  
40 MW: 20 TURBINES,  
EACH PRODUCING 2 MW



THE FARM HOSTS MORE  
THAN 30 BOAT VISITS  
ANNUALLY



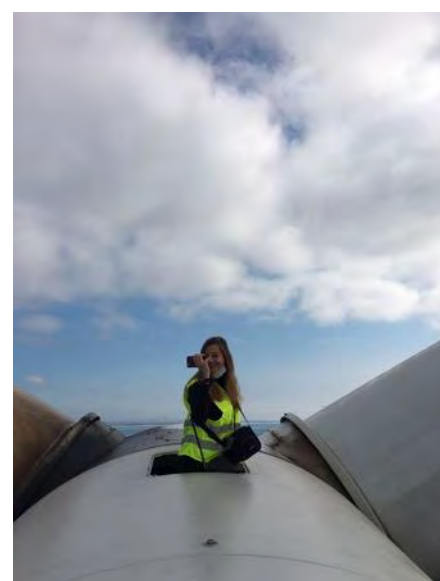
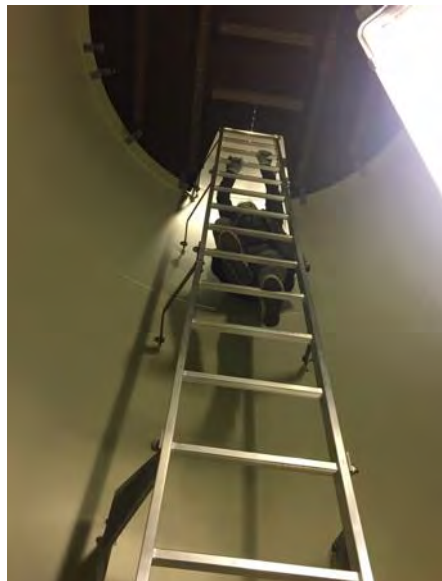
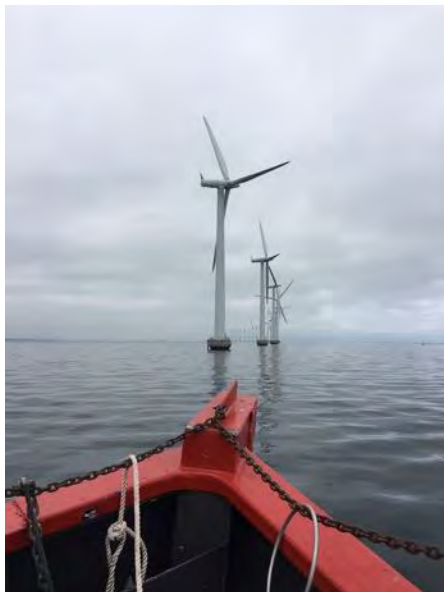
THE FARM  
PRODUCES 3% OF THE  
TOTAL POWER USED IN  
COPENHAGEN



50% OF THE WIND FARM IS  
OWNED BY A LOCAL  
COOPERATIVE WITH 8,553  
MEMBERS AND 50% BY THE  
UTILITY COMPANY HOFOR



## Danish Pilot: Offshore wind & tourism





## Lessons learned

### Challenges of adding tourism to existing offshore farms

- **Who is to cover the costs of adapting** the offshore facilities to the new situation, and how does this relate to the already obtained offshore wind farm permit conditions received from the government;
- **Costs of damages to the wind farm infrastructure and increased operational expenses**, which were **not part of earlier business plans**.

→ Implementation is easier if taken into consideration already at the planning stage



## Lessons learned

### Challenges that may still be present even when starting the two uses together:

- **Lack of viable design** solutions and operational solutions with proven benefits;
- **Permitting not necessarily 'easier'** if uses are combined;
- **Low awareness** about business opportunities;
- **Low interest** from the tour operators, and local communities;
- **Lack of capacities** and financial resources on the side of tourism operators;
- **Operational challenges** imposed to the offshore wind operators and liability issues in case of accidents within the safety zone.

→ To identify viable opportunities **discussions should start early** involving all three sides: offshore wind developers, tourism boards and government.



## Key recommendations

- 1) **Improve involvement of the local tourism sector** early in Maritime Spatial Planning and offshore wind project planning to jointly identify opportunities;
- 2) **Facilitate transfer of good practices** across Member States/sea basins, generated from existing examples;
- 3) **Support the development of viable business models and capacity building** for local tourism operators.



## Ocean Multi-Use Knowledge Network

- Building on its experience in multiple multi-use related projects the SUBMARINER Network is forming the

### Ocean Multi-Use Knowledge Network

- The aim is to engage interested actors and support the exchange of knowledge and opportunities on the topic of multi-use
- More information about the **Ocean Multi-Use Knowledge Network** at:  
<https://www.submariner-network.eu/ocean-multi-use-knowledge-network>
- Or get in touch with us directly:  
→ [il@submariner-network.eu](mailto:il@submariner-network.eu)