

Targeted innovation to drive large-scale deployment of ocean energy, says new ETIP Ocean report

19 June, Brussels. Ocean energy devices and pilot farms should be demonstrated in real-sea conditions for several years to accelerate large-scale deployment, according to ETIP Ocean's new '[Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#)', published today. This is just one of the research and innovation priorities that the report identifies for ocean energy over the next five years.

For the first time, the sectoral advisory body highlights the integration of ocean energy pilot farms into the energy system as a priority. This reflects the sector's readiness to enter the market at a larger scale and underlines ocean energy's key role as a balancing partner to variable wind and solar power. It also calls for improvements in sub-systems, marine operations, foundations and connections, which will reduce costs and increase the reliability and yield of ocean energy devices.

As Europe gears up for its 'green recovery', deploying new technologies is urgently needed to drive decarbonisation and innovation-based growth. Proving the worth of pre-commercial ocean energy projects will ensure that this technology continues its remarkable progress and will kick-start a new, large-scale industry in Europe.

Patrick Child, Deputy Director General at the European Commission, who launched the report, said: "European Technology and Innovation Platforms are hugely valuable in identifying research priorities for funding programmes such as Horizon Europe. This report highlights the R&I potential to transform ocean energy into an economically viable source of clean energy and jobs in Europe as part of a strong, forward-looking European Green Deal."

Jose Luis Villate from Tecnalía, the report's lead author, agreed. "The new SRIA provides a blueprint to keep Europe at the front of the pack in ocean energy technology development. Targeted innovation will bring the sector to industrial roll-out and help to reignite the European economy by providing jobs, exports, SME activity and technological leadership."

Implementing the actions outlined in the SRIA will bring the sector closer to a place where private investment becomes the primary driver. Revenue support is still needed to enable the deployment of demonstration and pre-commercial projects – together, these efforts will help deliver a decarbonised Europe, powered by ocean energy.

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Notes for editors

About ETIP Ocean

The European Technology and Innovation Platform for Ocean Energy (ETIP Ocean) is funded by the European Commission to define research and innovation priorities for the ocean energy sector and promote solutions to the industry, European and national policy makers.

ETIP Ocean uses the existing TPOcean network to carry out its mission. TPOcean is the recognised advisory body to the European Commission and part of the EU's main Research and Innovation policy the Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan).

[Ocean Energy Europe](#) manages ETIP Ocean, in partnership with the [University of Edinburgh](#), [Tecnalia](#) and [WavEC Offshore Renewables](#) which receives funding from the European Commission's lighthouse R&I programme: [Horizon 2020](#).

www.etipocean.eu

About Ocean Energy Europe

Ocean Energy Europe is the largest network of ocean energy professionals in the world. Over 120 organisations, including Europe's leading utilities, industrialists and research institutes, trust OEE to represent the interests of Europe's ocean energy sector.

Ocean Energy Europe's mission is to create a strong environment for the development of ocean energy, improve access to funding, and enhance business opportunities for its members. To achieve this, OEE engages with the European Institutions (Commission, Parliament, Council, EIB, etc), and national ministries on policy issues affecting the sector.

The results are undeniable: in past four years the sector's profile has increased significantly, and the EU has emerged as a major driver of the industry.

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