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Trádála agus Fostaíochta
Department of Enterprise,
Trade and Employment

Public Consultation on the development of a National Industrial Strategy for Offshore Wind



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Subject of the Public Consultation

The Department of Enterprise, Trade, and Employment (DETE) is seeking the views of stakeholders to inform the development of a National Industrial Strategy for Offshore Wind. It is intended to publish an initial Strategy Roadmap in the first half of 2024.

Background

The [White Paper on Enterprise 2022-2030](#) set out Government's objective to accelerate the transition of decoupling the relationship between economic growth and carbon emissions in line with commitments under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021. Opportunities presented by the large-scale development of offshore wind were identified as being central to this ambition.

As part of the Government's target to provide 80% of Ireland's electricity from renewable sources by 2030, the Climate Action Plan foresees that at least 5GW should come from Offshore Wind Energy (OWE). A further 2GW of offshore wind is anticipated to be in development by 2030 for non-grid use. The total OWE capacity is expected to increase to 20GW by 2040 and 37GW by 2050.

The [Policy Statement on the Framework for Phase Two Offshore Wind](#) set out Ireland's plans to add to the capacity that will be created under Phase One to meet the 5GW target. It included a commitment to work with Industry to develop an Industrial Strategy to ensure there is a long-term competitive and sustainable offshore energy industry.

DETE is developing a National Industrial Strategy for Offshore Wind which will set out a roadmap to ensure that Ireland captures a significant proportion of the value of the supply chain to deliver an OWE sector of scale and maximises the economic benefit associated with the various routes to market for this renewable energy, e.g., new industrial demand, development of sustainable fuels, etc. The Industrial Strategy will be developed in close collaboration and consultation with stakeholders. This public consultation is a key part of that approach.

The focus of this public consultation will be on the measures and initiatives Ireland can introduce to accelerate the development of the OWE supply chain and its complementary R&D ecosystem. Measures to support strategic spatial development and routes to market will be the subject of a future consultation as part of the implementation of this Strategy.

The National Industrial Strategy for Offshore Wind – Core Themes

Supply Chain Opportunities

The Industrial Strategy will identify opportunities for Ireland in both the domestic and international OWE supply chain, and how these opportunities can be leveraged, while also highlighting the risks posed to Ireland achieving its OWE targets by the current supply chain landscape, with proposed measures to mitigate against such risks in the Irish context. Key questions which the Strategy will seek to address relating to domestic and international supply chains include:

Closing the Supply Chain Gaps

- Are there particular interventions from the State or State Agencies that you think should be considered to support the OWE supply chain?
- Are there areas of the supply chain that Ireland should specifically focus on to fast-track the development of its OWE sector?
- How can the capability of companies in complimentary sectors relevant to OWE be identified? How can SMEs in other sectors be encouraged to shift focus to OWE?
- Are there specific parts of the international OWE supply chain that Ireland should seek to attract to serve Irish and international projects? If yes, how should Ireland attract these companies?
- What measures can be undertaken to ensure SMEs are well placed to compete successfully for contracts in Ireland and abroad?
- Should there be targets for local content or SMEs in the supply chain for Irish OWE projects and when is the earliest this kind of policy could be introduced in the Irish market?
- What marketing or trade visit opportunities can be prioritised to highlight the capabilities of Irish SMEs in the OWE supply chain?
- What marketing or trade visit opportunities can be prioritised to attract the international OWE supply chain to Ireland?

Building Co-operation

- How can policy assist the development of ‘clusters’ or ‘networks’ which enables sharing of expertise, cooperation on innovation and partnerships in competing for large contracts?
- Can Clustering policy and initiatives as referenced in the [White Paper on Enterprise 2022-2030](#) facilitate collaboration between multinationals, SMEs and Further and Higher Education Institutes in the OWE sector?
- What initiatives would supply chain stakeholders welcome to boost collaboration between the actors in the OWE sector either at a local level such as meet the buyer events or fostering international collaboration?
- Are there initiatives at a national or European level you would like to see Ireland taking or supporting to ease some of the constraints in the international supply chain for ORE?

Research, Development & Innovation (RD&I)

The ambition of the RD&I strand is to develop a globally recognised OWE RDI ecosystem in Ireland that promotes collaboration between SMEs, multinationals and Further and Higher Education institutes. This ecosystem will complement the wider ambition to develop an offshore wind industry of scale in Ireland. Key questions which the Strategy will seek to address relating to research, development and innovation include:

- What are the main innovation challenges in the global OWE sector that are likely to impact on Ireland delivering at least 37GW by 2050?
- What strengths in both core and complementary technologies for OWE does Ireland already possess and how can these be leveraged?
- What measures/policies/funding should Ireland seek to put in place to develop a response to key innovation challenges?
- How can Ireland more effectively promote collaboration between SMEs, multinationals and Further and Higher Education institutes?
- Would there be merit in Ireland establishing an applied Centre of Excellence that can act as a globally recognised innovation centre in offshore wind?

Guidelines for Submissions

Stakeholder views are welcome from interested parties, including manufacturing industry, SMEs, the research community, and other interested stakeholders.

Submissions should be **structured according to the themes outlined above**, responding to one or more of the themes as appropriate. **Submissions should not exceed 1,500 words in length.**

Views from stakeholders and interested parties are requested no later than **7th November 2023**. Submissions should be marked “National Industrial Strategy for Offshore Wind Consultation” and should be emailed to OffshoreWind@enterprise.gov.ie.

Freedom of Information and Data Protection

All submissions received are subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and as such may be released publicly in response to any relevant FOI requests received.

In responding to this consultation, all parties should clearly indicate where their responses contain personal information, commercially sensitive information, or confidential information which they would not wish to be released under FOI or otherwise published.

The Department's [Data Protection Data Privacy Notice](#) is available on the enterprise.gov.ie website and explains how and when the Department collects personal data, why it does so and how it treats this information. It also explains citizen’s rights in relation to the collection of personal information and how stakeholders can exercise those rights.