## WinMon.BE

Monitoring and research of environmental impacts of offshore wind farms (in Belgian waters)

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natural sciences .be



## This is not about offshore wind farm impacts

- This about the WinMon.BE approach
  - Monitoring and research focus and history
  - Funding scheme and management

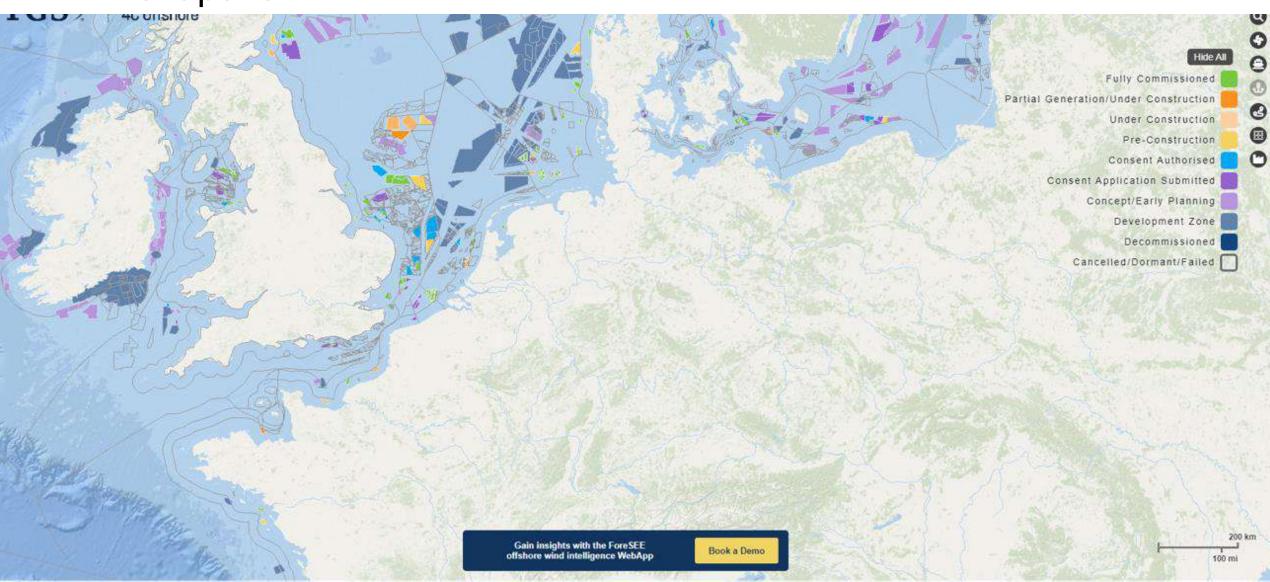
Advantages - observing and understanding, long-term observation, adaptive management, public data and knowledge, international collaboration and coordination

...with illustrative research findings ©

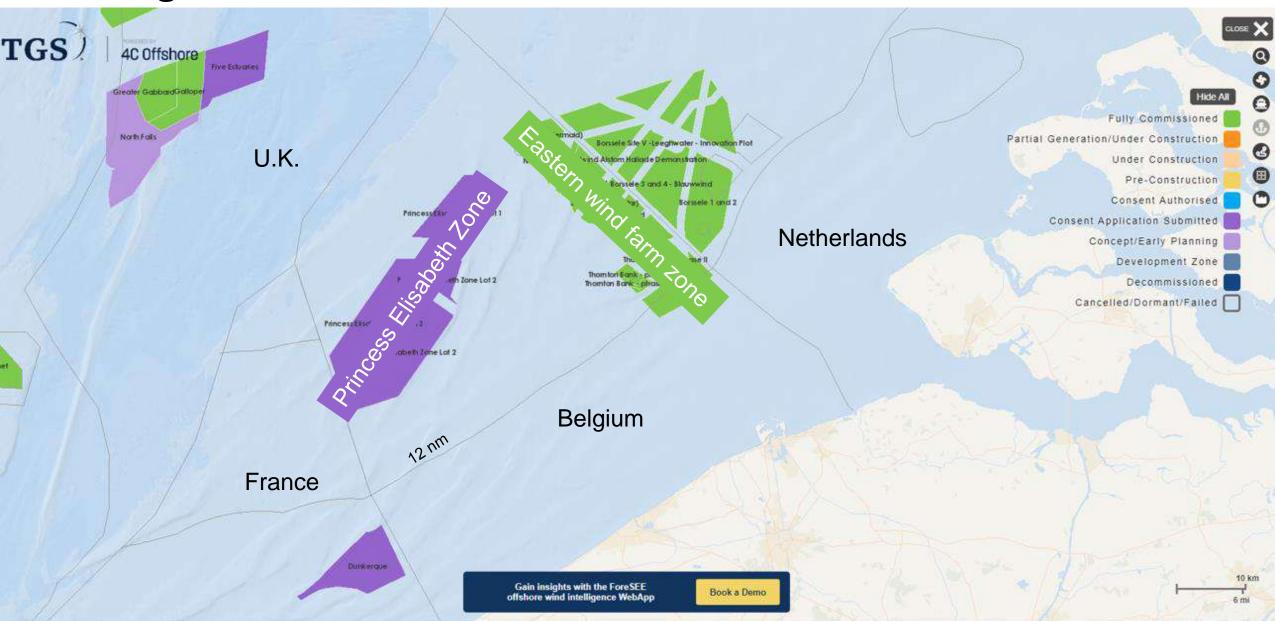


#### Offshore wind farms in Europe

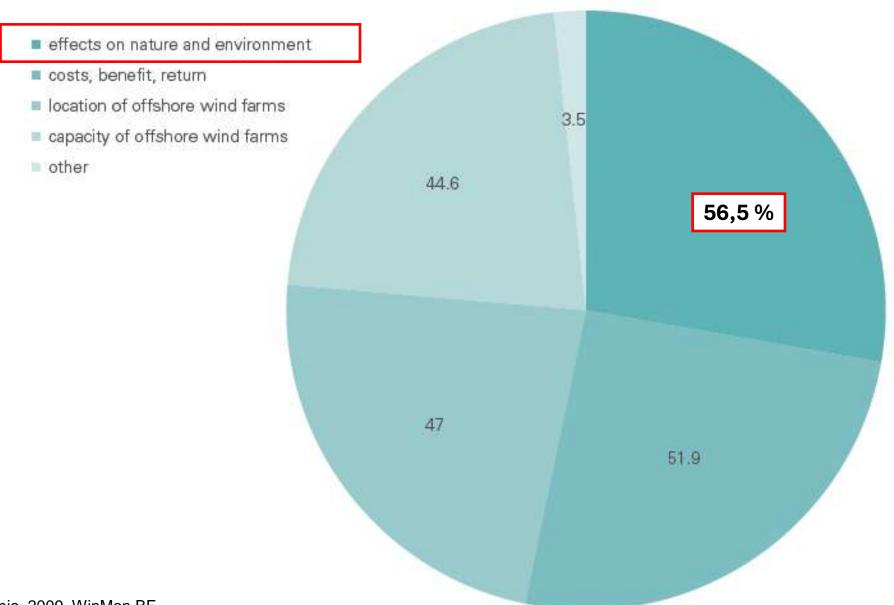
A snapshot...



#### Belgian offshore wind farm zones



#### Societal concerns about offshore wind farm impacts



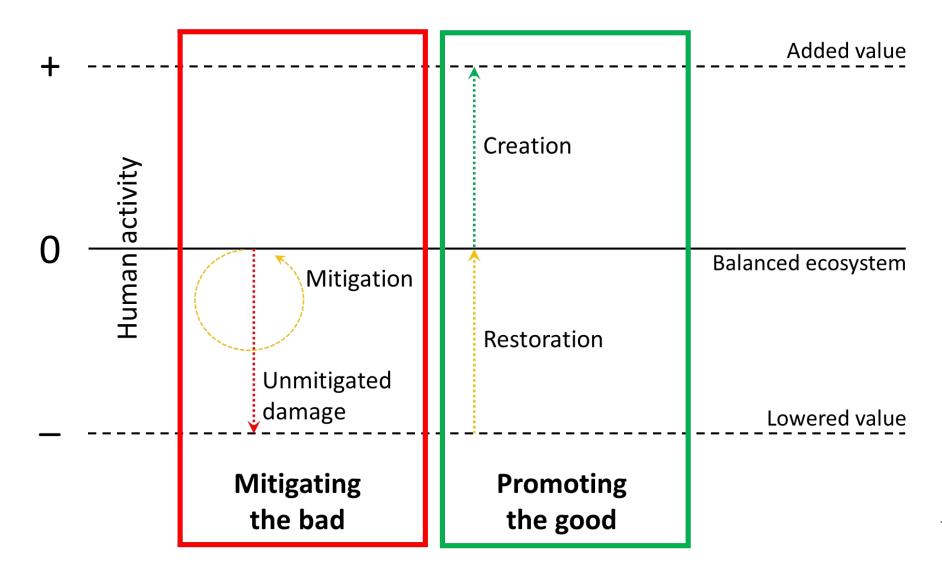


#### WinMon.BE research focus

#### **Dimension 1: Along Pressure Type** Artificial reef effect Mechanical seafloor disturbance Introduction of energy (sound, EMF) Dimension 2: Along Ecological Theme Ecosystem structure Community structure Distribution patterns (space/time) **Ecosystem function** Food webs Productivity **Biochemistry** Connectivity Dimension 3: Along Development Phase Construction Operation Decommissioning

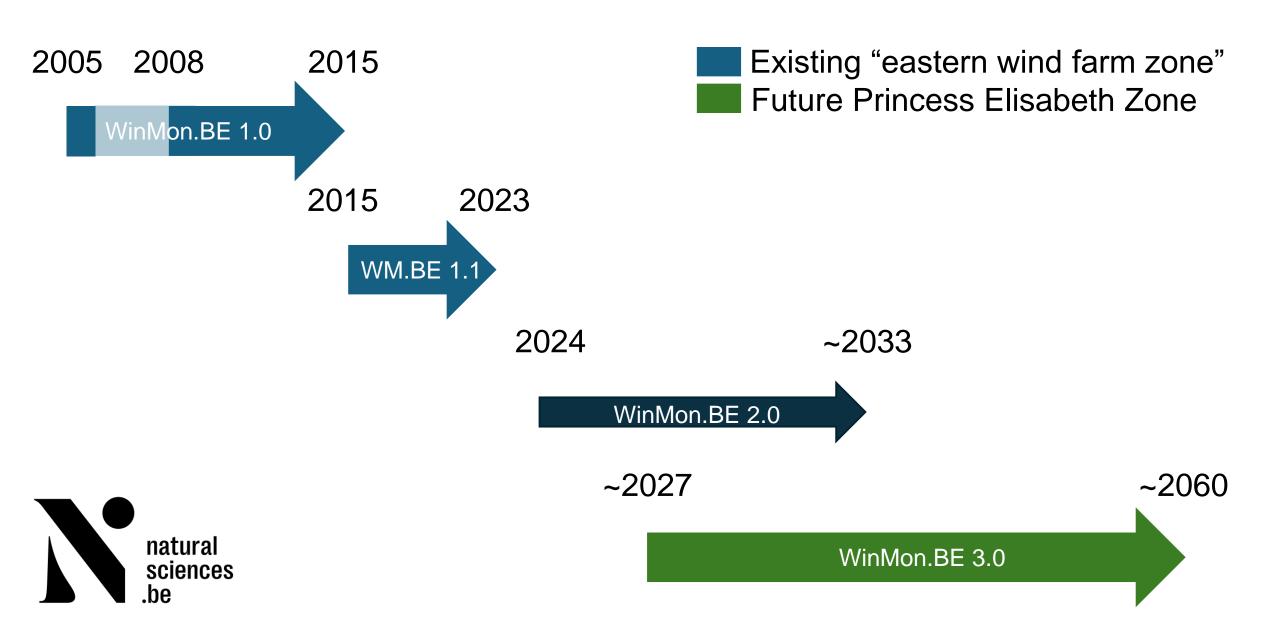


#### WinMon.BE philosophy



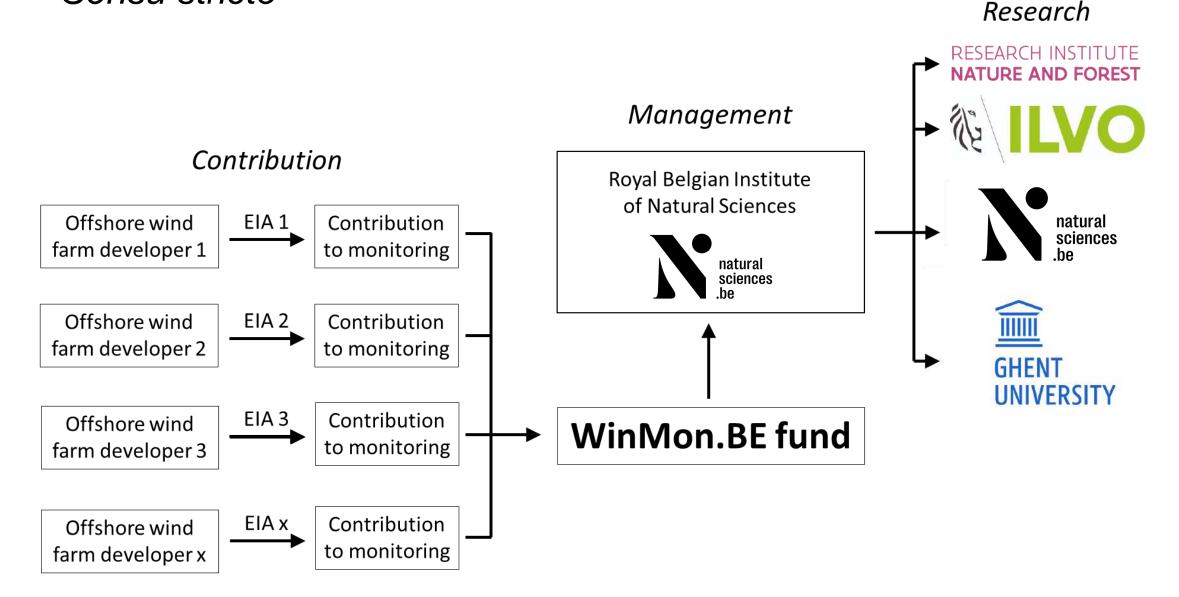


#### WinMon.BE history



#### WinMon.BE funding and management scheme

Sensu stricto



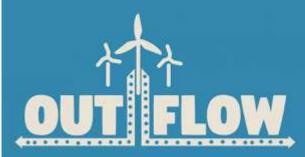
#### WinMon.BE funding and management scheme Sensu lato



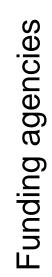






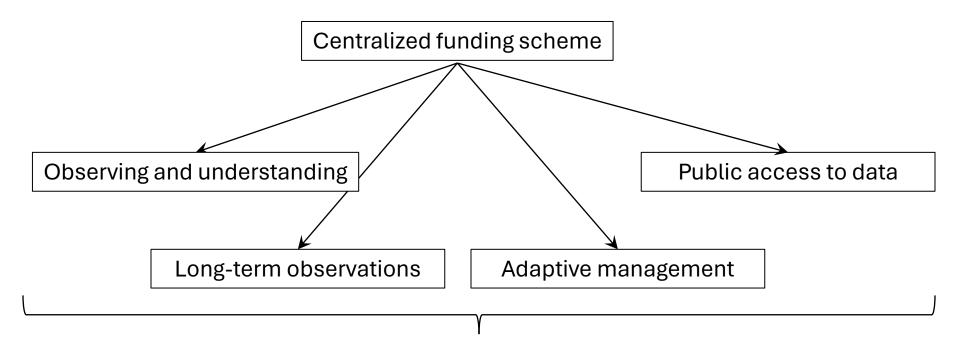








# WinMon.BE funding and management scheme Advantages

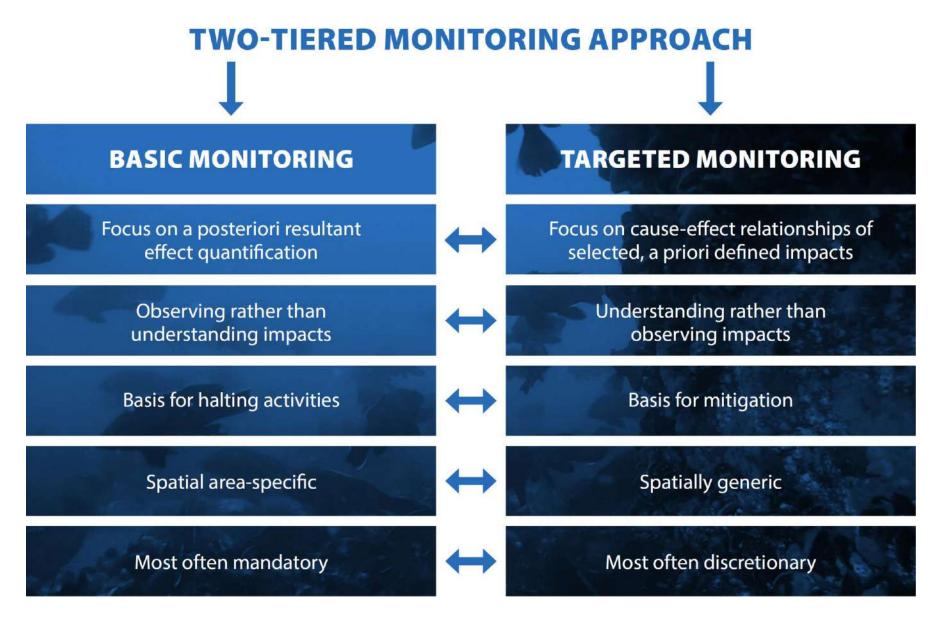


Thé keys to tackling "so what" questions and sensible measure selection

Intl. coordination of efforts

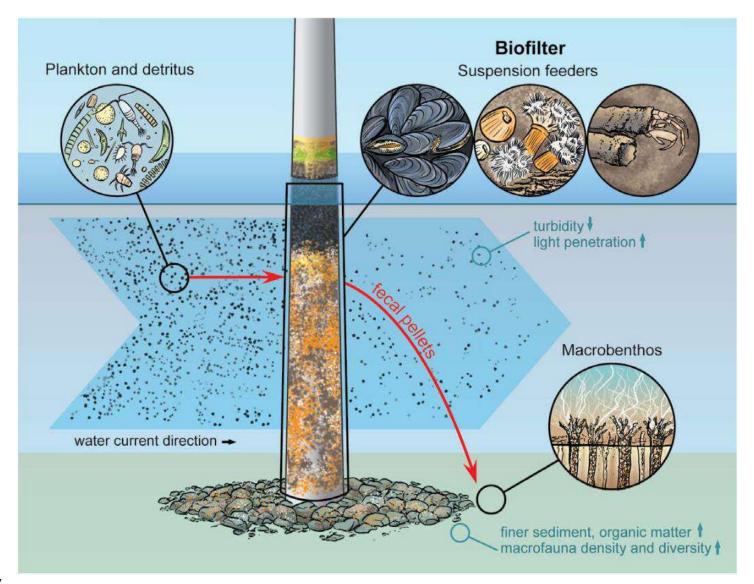


#### **Advantage - Observing and understanding**



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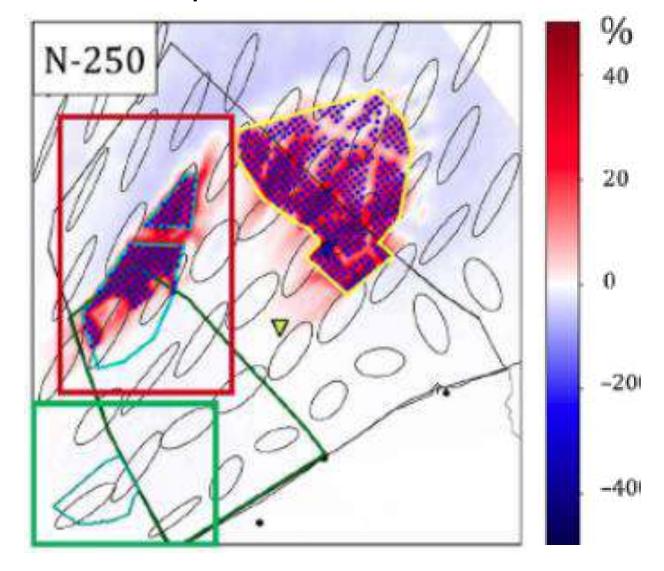
Example: pelagic organic matter reallocation





#### **Advantage - Observing and understanding**

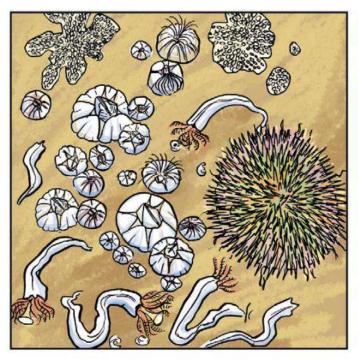
Example: organic matter deposition





#### Advantage - Long-term observation

Example: biofouling community succession







Pioneer stage 0-2 years

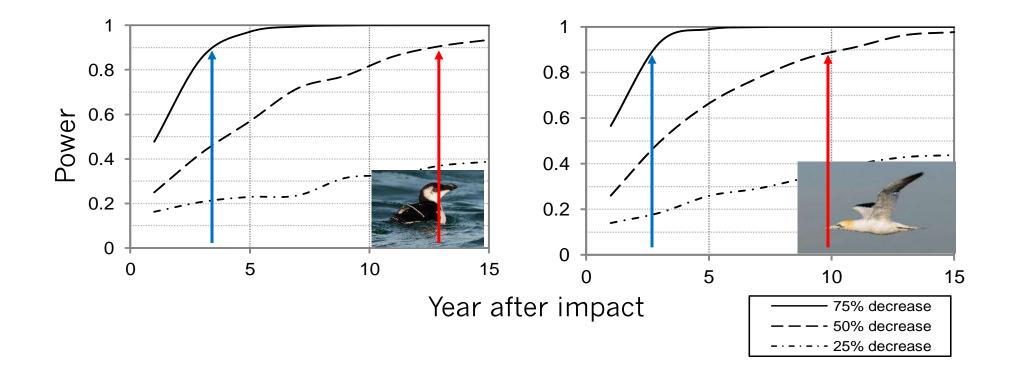
Intermediate stage 3-5 years

Climax stage 6+ years



#### Advantage - Long-term observation

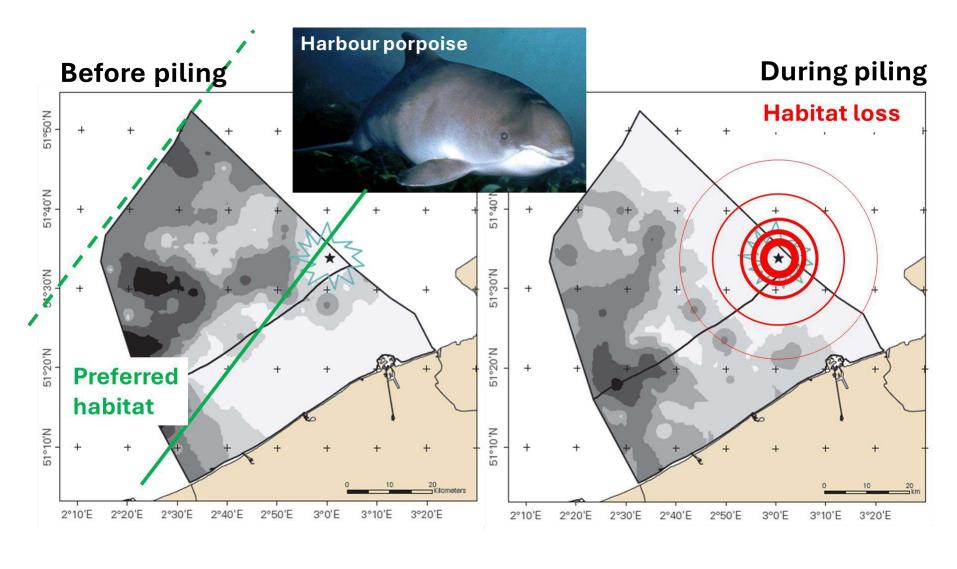
Example: increased analytical power





#### **Advantage - Adaptive management**

Example: harbour porpoise disturbance





### **Advantage - Adaptive management**

Example: underwater sound mitigation



#### Advantage – Public access to data and knowledge

Example: WinMon.BE reports



- 7 organisations
- 12 reports
- 30+ authors
- 130 chapters
- 2100+ pages

Freely downloadable from mareco-odnature.naturalsciences.be/project/winmon

#### Advantage – Public access to data and knowledge

#### Example: WinMon.BE invited courses



Faculteit Ingenieurswetenschappen en Architectuur Faculteit Blo-ingenieurswetenschappen

UGAIN - UGENT ACADEMIE VOOR INGENIEURS

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→ Info form

#### Offshore wind energy

Autumn 2024

OPLEIDINGEN OVER UGAIN CONTACT

#### Catch the wave of offshore wind and acquire a broad knowledge from a technological and multidisciplinary perspective!

Offshore wind has a vital role to play in the global transition to green energy. As a rapidly growing energy technology, offshore wind has huge potential around the world.

In the Belgian North Sea, offshore wind farms generate about 10% of Belgium's total electricity demand. By 2030, offshore wind capacity in the North Sea will continue to grow, generating about 30% of electricity demand of Belgium.

For this booming industrial sector, Ghent University provides three tracks of lifelong learning courses for those who want to expand their knowledge of all phases of offshore wind energy, with a mix of academic and industrial speakers.

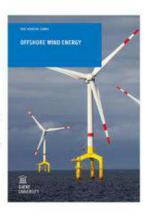
#### Foundational track: Covering the basics of offshore wind energy

- → Overview of offshore wind farms: from wind turbine systems to the electric grid connection.
- → Project life cycle (from tendering to decommissioning)
- → Offshore wind farm installation (terminology & procedures)
- → ABC of offshore wind financing
- → Operational excellence in OSM
- → Innovation drivers, technology & market trends overview

#### Advanced track: Technological aspects of offshore wind energy

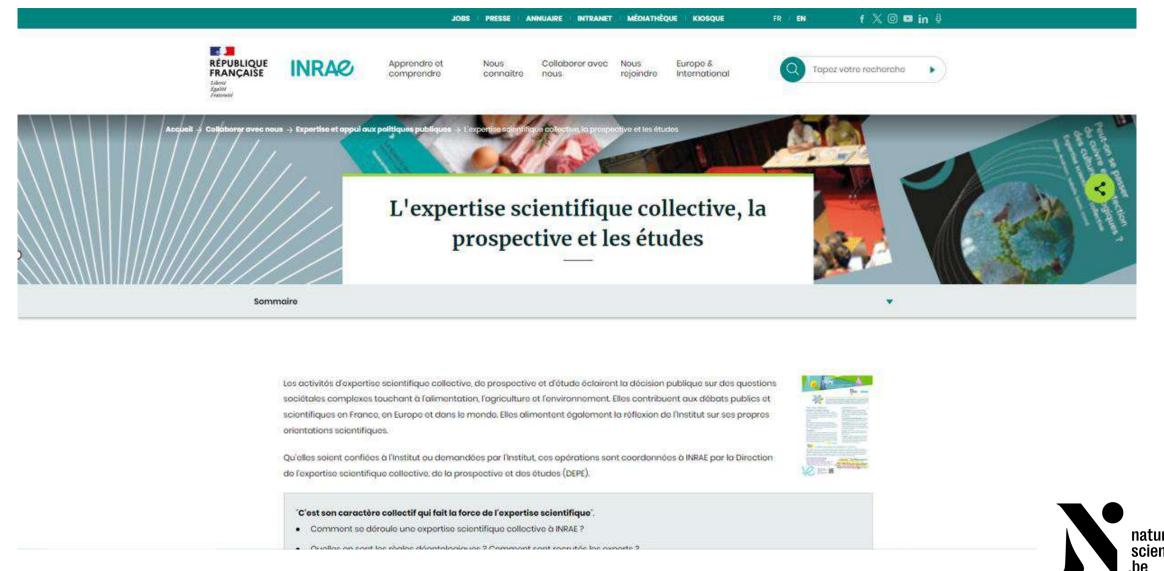
For those who want to gain in-depth knowledge of following technological aspects

- → From wind to wire: electricity
- From wind power production and conversions up tot the grid connection and integration
- Detailed information about the components (turbine blades, generators, offshore grid,...)
- → Structural aspects: offshore foundations



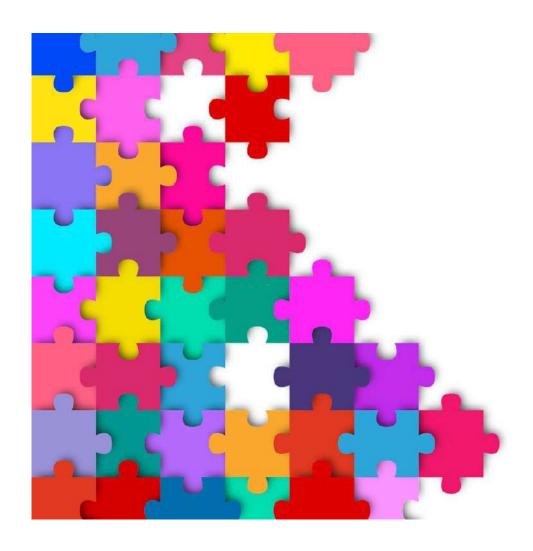


#### Advantage – Public access to data and knowledge Feeds into Expertise Scientifique Collective (ESCo, France)



## Advantage – International coordination of research efforts

Towards a comprehensive understanding





Single wind turbine



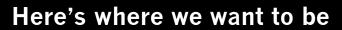
Single wind farm



Multiple wind farms



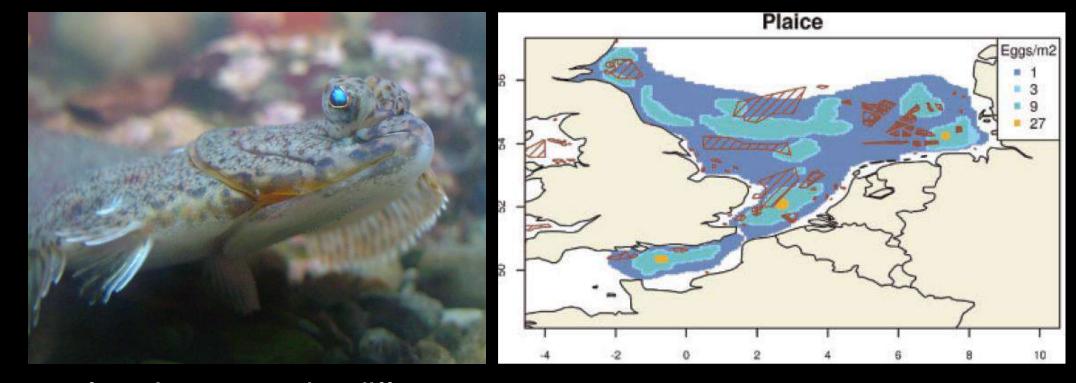
— Current monitoring and research programs











## Expected change of settlement under different scenarios of altered egg production

	<b>-20%</b>	+10%	+25%	+ 50%
Plaice	-1.78	-0.89	2.25	4.45
Turbot	-0.4	0.2	0.5	1
Dab	-3.22	1.61	4.03	8.05
Sole	-0.36	0.18	0.45	0.9
Brill	-1.38	0.69	1.73	3.45
Flounder	-0.46	0.23	0.58	1.15

# To be continued!

## Advantage – International coordination of research efforts ICES/CIEM paving the way to international collaboration





#### CONTACT

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