Towards a Joint Action Plan for Research and Development in the Offshore Wind Service Industry

The poster presents a joint action plan (JAP) for research and development and innovation (RDI) in the offshore wind service industry in Denmark, Germany, Norway and the UK. Offshore wind servicing (OWS) is in this context defined as both assembly and installation of offshore wind farms as well as their operation and maintenance during their lifetime. Earlier studies have indicated that over the life cycle of an offshore farm OWS can be up to 46% of the life cycle cost of the farm including up-front investment and installation, while the O&M cost is estimated to be of the order of 25-28% of the total levelized cost of energy. Hence, reducing the cost of OWS is a major challenge for the wind industry. Furthermore, the North Sea is currently the most important site for offshore wind installations, and industry clusters based on OWS are emerging in regions around the North Sea. The JAP is a result of an ongoing project ECOWindS, funded by the EU FP7. The overall aim of ECOWindS is to reduce OWS’s contribution to the cost of offshore wind energy production by strengthening the cooperation in the existing regional networks within OWS.