

WENDY aims at unravelling the factors triggering social acceptance of wind farms through an in-depth analysis at three dimensions: social sciences and humanities, environmental sciences and technological engineering.

## D6.2: WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform (1st version)

WP6, T6.2

**Leading partner: Q-PLAN**

**Participants: WR, NINA, EGP, MEC**



## Technical Preferences

Project Acronym	WENDY
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Project Coordinator	CIRCE FOUNDACION CIRCE CENTRO DE INVESTIGACION DE RECURSOS Y CONSUMOS ENERGETICOS <a href="mailto:jperis@fcirce.es">jperis@fcirce.es</a>
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Task	T6.2 – Knowledge Exchange Platform for public outreach and knowledge transfer
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Contributing beneficiary/ies	2 (WR), 3 (NINA), 4 (EGP), 6 (MEC)
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### \*Legend:

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- Classified S-UE/EU-S – EU SECRET under the Commission Decision No2015/444

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## WENDY project's abstract

WENDY aims at unravelling the factors triggering social acceptance of wind farms through an in-depth analysis at three dimensions: social sciences and humanities, environmental sciences and technological engineering. For that, the project will implement a series of local actions promoting the wider adoption of the project solutions, including guidelines, reports and handbooks which will be created to boost the understanding of wind farms decision making processes and enhance energy citizenship. This will be supported by the spatial multi-criteria WENDY toolbox. A tool able to identify the optimal turbines' siting with the minimum environmental impact and highest social acceptance likelihood. All developed models, methods, guidelines and tools will be implemented within 10 wind projects spread across 4 countries. These have been selected considering: geography (north vs. south Europe), maturity stage (viability phase / planning phase / short-term operation phase / long-term operation phase); type of wind energy (onshore / offshore – floating, fixed-); and co-existence with other activities (agriculture, fisheries, energy communities). In these locations, outreach activities tailored to their specificities will be performed, creating the WENDY Knowledge Hubs which will incorporate citizens, local authorities, business owners and value chain actors of wind energy. WENDY Hubs will serve as a baseline for the WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform, a forum that will be developed to facilitate the exchange of knowledge between decision makers and key stakeholders within wind farms planning processes. For a successful implementation of the project activities, all the value chain and the best-in-class expertise is involved in the project consortium including 9 partners from 6 European countries: 1 Large Company (EGP), 2 SMEs (WR, Q-PLAN), 1 University (CBS), 2 RTO (CIRCE, NINA), 1 Energy Community (MEC), 2 Non-profit organisations and associations (NOWC, APPA).

## List of the WENDY's consortium partners

No	Full name	Short name
1	FUNDACION CIRCE CENTRO DE INVESTIGACION DE RECURSOS Y CONSUMOS ENERGETICOS	CIRCE
2	WHITE RESEARCH SRL	WR
3	STIFTELSEN NORSK INSTITUTT FOR NATURFORSKNING NINA	NINA
4	ENEL GREEN POWER SPA	EGP
5	MARIN ENERGI TESTSENTER AS	NOWC
6	ENERGEIAKI KOINOTITA ANATOLIKIS KRITIS	MEC
7	COPENHAGEN BUSINESS SCHOOL	CBS
8	ASOCIACION DE EMPRESAS DE ENERGIAS RENOVABLES - APPA	APPA
9	Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS PC	Q-PLAN

## Time-plan of Task 6.2 and its resulting deliverable 6.2

Action	Description	Planned time		Responsible
1	Collaboration with IT experts for the development of the 1 <sup>st</sup> version of KEP	M8	M36	Q-PLAN
2	Draft the framework of the platform (KEP site map circulation)	M8	M12	Q-PLAN
3	Communication activities and engagement of target groups and integration of them into KEP	M8	M18	Q-PLAN, All
4	Review of deliverables for insights for the Nol	M10	M17	Q-PLAN
5	Partners' comments on KEP site map	M12	M12	All partners
6	Design and fine-tuning of the Nol's Registration form	M12	M18	Q-PLAN/ T6.2 Partners
7	Initial Design/development of the Platform	M12	M17	Q-PLAN
8	Preparation and elaboration of the material for calling Nol Experts	M13	M18	Q-PLAN/ T6.2 Partners
9	Selection of the 4 Hub managers and provision of the personal info (organisation, expertise, e-mail, social media etc.)	M14	M18	Pilot partners
10	Implementing tailored action plans of communication & engagement activities for the recruitment of Nol members and the establishment of Nol	M14	M36	All partners
11	Monitor and review the 1 <sup>st</sup> online Design	M16	M17	Q-PLAN
12	Coordinate the inclusion of relevant knowledge derived from WENDY	M12	M17	Q-PLAN, All
13	Coordinate the inclusion of the WENDY tools' descriptions	M15	M17	Q-PLAN, tools developers
14	Partners input on 1 <sup>st</sup> version of KEP	M17	M18	All partners
15	Preparation of D6.2 "WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform (1st version)", circulation for review, feedback from partners and elaboration	M8	M18	Q-PLAN/ T6.2 partners

Action	Description	Planned time		Responsible
16	Finalisation of the development of the 1 <sup>st</sup> online Design (KEP is online)	M17	M18	Q-PLAN, All
17	Quality review of D6.2 "WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform (1 <sup>st</sup> version)" and feedback	M18	M18	NINA, WR
18	Finalisation & submission of D6.2 "WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform (1 <sup>st</sup> version)"	M18	M36	Q-PLAN, CIRCE

## Authors

First Name	Last Name	Beneficiary*
Evangelos	Genitsaris	Q-PLAN (Task 6.2 Leader)
Kosmas	Vamvalis	Q-PLAN (Task 6.2 Leader)
Prodromos	Gkalimanis	Q-PLAN (Task 6.2 Leader)
Michail	Ntovas	WR
Anastasios	Tsakas	WR
Ioannis	Kostopoulos	WR
Christian	Hauschildt	WR
Roel	May	NINA
Thomas	Kvalnes	NINA
Reto	Spielhofer	NINA
Frank	Hanssen	NINA
Silvia	Masci	EGP
Miriam	Di Blasi	EGP
Eirini	Dakanali	MEC
Dimitris	Katsaprakakis	MEC
Nikolaos	Papadakis	MEC
Ioannis	Samonakis	MEC

*\*The order of the names of partners, excluding the Task leader (Q-Plan), follows the order mentioned in the description of Task 6.2 in the DoA: WR, NINA, EGP, MEC.*

*In case you want any additional information, or you want to consult with the authors of this document, please send your inquiries to: [genitsaris@qplan-intl.gr](mailto:genitsaris@qplan-intl.gr)*

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## Quality Reviewers

First Name	Last Name	Beneficiary
Michail	Ntovas	WR
Thomas	Kvalnes	NINA

## List of abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full name
CA	Consortium Agreement
D	Deliverable
DoA	Description of Action
D&C	Dissemination & Communication
EU	European Union
GA	Grant Agreement
GWh	Gigawatt hours
KEP	Knowledge Exchange Platform
MW	Megawatt
M	month
m	meters
NoI	Network of Interest
T	Task
tn	tonnes
UC	Use Cases
WE	Wind Energy
Yr	Year

## Executive summary

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This document titled “**D6.2 Knowledge Exchange Platform - First**”, has been elaborated as a deliverable of the **WENDY project** describing the approach followed for the development of the **Knowledge Exchange Platform (KEP)**. KEP serves as both a web platform repository of wind energy resources and tools, and a virtual and physical liaison structure among the various actors of wind energy in the form of a **Network of Interest (NoI)**. This report contains a description of the structure, content, participants and activities of KEP/NoI to date, as well as indicative planned actions for future activities.

Initially, an in-depth overview is provided for the content featured on the KEP’s homepage, encompassing the header, main elements, and footer. Next, detailed descriptions of the platform’s main components follow, including the WENDY:

- Toolkit
- Hubs
- Lighthouse Wind farm cases
- Forum
- Knowledge repository
- Network of Interest

A key component of the KEP is the **WENDY Toolkit**, which provides access to WENDY tools generated throughout the project and facilitate the development and operation of wind energy projects. The Toolkit includes information about the WENDY toolbox, the Social Acceptance Interventions Tool, and the Single multi-variable KPI, which are still under development by the project’s partners. The KEP also provides a digital space for the local **Hubs** in the four (4) regions of WENDY pilot use cases (Italy, Spain, Greece, Norway), containing material and insights produced during the WENDY events and activities at the local level, as well as relevant information, policies and initiatives about wind energy at regional level. Another section illustrates a map (Atlas) of **Lighthouse wind farm cases** across the EU, based on their socio-economic and environmental impact, the business models and participatory processes established, the co-benefits and financial gains at the community level, the employed practices used to increase community acceptance and the main challenges faced. Furthermore, the KEP hosts the **WENDY Forum**, an open environment, which serves as a nurturing ground for exchanging best practices, incubating innovative ideas, forging connections, and fuelling project activities between NoI members. The KEP’s is further enriched by the **Knowledge repository**. This component constitutes an open online database which offers an extensive reservoir of existing articles, information materials, and tools that synergise with the drive toward the social acceptance of wind farms. Lastly, a core

element of WENDY, the **Network of Interest**, is being developed within the KEP. The Noi operates as a liaison structure for stakeholders and experts to share their knowledge and expertise with the WENDY project in key deployment stages, through processes related to validation, networking and knowledge exchange. In this 1<sup>st</sup> version, up until the time this document is drafted, 78 members have confirmed their acceptance to participate in the Noi. In parallel, an engagement and recruitment process are ongoing with the support of all WENDY partners based on the instructions provided by Q-PLAN and will be open for new members throughout the project's duration.

The WENDY KEP will assist in reaching WENDY's targets for fostering social acceptance of wind farms through the organisation of five (5) brokerage events and its close interaction with other activities within the project, such as training sessions, local champions' meetings, social innovation webinars. Through KEP activities, WENDY is ultimately aiming to enhance communities' capacity, leverage innovative social marketing techniques, reduce well-being concerns and tackle misconceptions about wind energy. The interactions within the KEP/NoI will also contribute to the identification of the 12 follower cases, to share experiences and lessons learnt and eventually trigger the uptake of WENDY assets.

The operation and management of KEP and Noi are part of the Task 6.2 "Knowledge Exchange Platform for public outreach and knowledge transfer", led by Q-Plan International Advisors. An updated report will be produced by the end of the project providing a revised description of KEP's structure and content, and Noi participants and activities (**Deliverable 6.5 WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform – Final** due on M36 – September 2025).

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# 1. Introduction

The current document titled “**Deliverable 6.2 - WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform (1st version)**”, has been elaborated as a report of the **WENDY project** describing the approach followed for the development of the Knowledge Exchange Platform (KEP) as:

- i) a knowledge bank of resources around wind farm development, as well as
- ii) a liaison structure among citizens, local authorities, regulators and wind farm development actors at the pilot level and beyond.

Deliverable 6.2 was developed in the frame of Task 6.2, within the Work Package 6 (WP6) of the WENDY project (*Figure 1*). According to the Description of Action (DoA), the KEP constitutes an online repository of knowledge generated by the project, including lessons learnt and key insights of WP2, tools and methodologies from WP4 and capacity building material from T5.1. In addition, the KEP functions as a digital space (forum) for local and cross-regional networking, knowledge exchange and fostering of synergies among stakeholders along the value chain of wind farms. In particular, KEP can be used by policy makers, industry, and local communities to exchange information, provide input, and identify the impact of the WENDY array of tools and models on promoting wind energy.

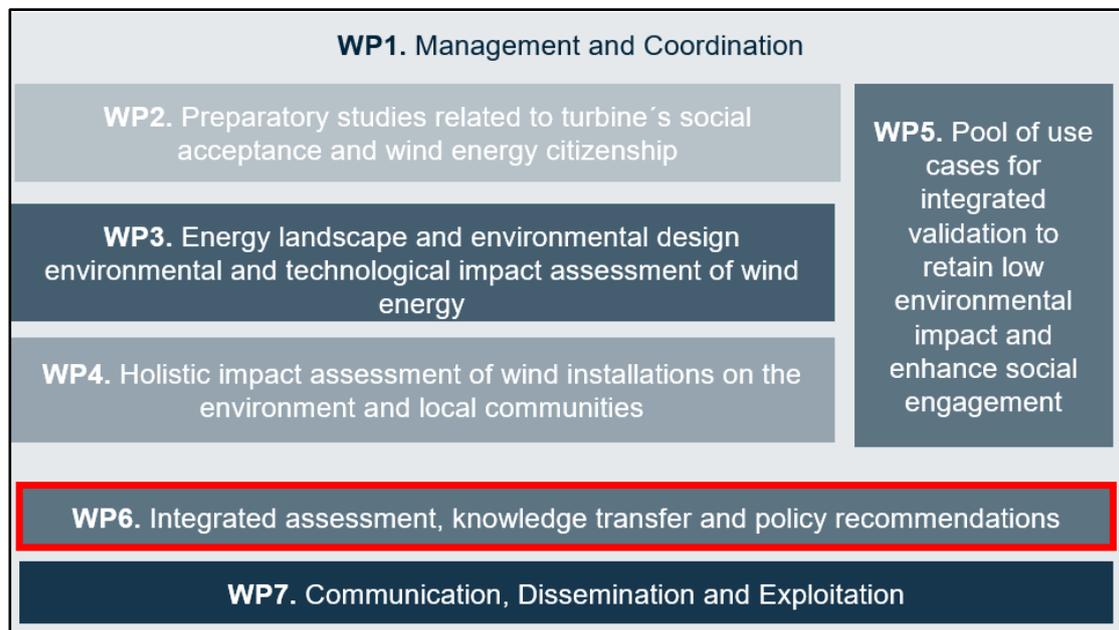


Figure 1: Work Package structure of WENDY project and the position of WP6 within it

A main part of the KEP development was the creation of the WENDY Network of Interest (NoI), which attracts and mobilises a range of wind energy projects' experts, regional and national regulators and industrial actors. These stakeholders collaborate with each other and are actively engaged within the WENDY Hubs. The NoI

engagement process, which includes open calls, enables WENDY partners to further attract local actors engaged in the WP2-WP5 actions. The NoI-identified actors and organisations are expected to act at the beginning as WENDY Hubs' advisors in a regional level, and as long as the NoI continues to expand, they will extend their influence on an EU-level audience.

During the next period, WENDY partners will organise five brokerage events for the WENDY KEP, consisting of four pilot-level online sessions and one physical session at the EU level.

Apart from the introduction, this report is comprised of 9 sections (chapters):

- **Section 2** provides an overview of the Knowledge Exchange Platform both as web platform, and a liaison and network structure, as well as the key objectives pertaining to the KEP operation and management.
- **Section 3** encompasses the content of KEP's header, footer and all the components that are accessible through the home page.
- **Section 4** presents key aspects of the WENDY regional hubs.
- **Section 5** illustrates the map of the best lighthouse wind farm cases across Europe and their specifications within KEP.
- **Section 6** outlines the ways in which registered users can engage within the WENDY forum as well as the available thematic groups and topics for discussion.
- **Section 7** displays the categories of the various material stored in KEP's knowledge repository in the field of wind energy.
- **Section 8** outlines the objectives and structure of the Network of Interest (NoI), members selection/engagement criteria and process, and the specific activities in which NoI members will participate in the frame of the WENDY project.
- **Conclusions - next steps** summarises current remarks and future plans with respect to the online and offline activities of KEP/NoI in the following period of the WENDY project and beyond.

Finally, the Annexes of this report include the: Exploitation strategy of D6.2 results and findings (11.1); Terms of Reference for the Network of Interest (11.2); templates for the Declaration of Acceptance used for NoI Members (11.3); the Network of Interest Informed Consent Form (11.4); the KEP web platform Cookies and Privacy Policy (11.5); NoI Online Registration Process (11.6).

## 2. Overview of KEP

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### 2.1. Objectives

Climate change has evolved into a worldwide challenge that requires concerted efforts for mitigation. The EU Green Deal pledges the European Union to reduce its emissions by at least 55% by 2030, in comparison to the levels recorded in 1990, and transform the EU into the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050 (European Commission, 2022). To achieve this goal, the EU has committed to invest in the generation of clean energy through efficient renewable sources. Among these, wind energy has gained significant traction in the global drive towards sustainable energy solutions. However, the development of wind projects carries prominent risks related to social acceptance (Knauf and Wüstenhagen, 2023).

It has been indicated that ensuring the procedural and financial justice for the local communities along with optimizing the environmental impact during the development of wind farms, improves their local acceptance (Vuichard *et al.*, 2022). Specifically, it is essential to incorporate the local businesses, workforce, and technology in the planning, construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of wind farms. The active involvement of local or regional banks and financing institutions in the development of wind farms also contributes to the reduction of the social opposition. In addition, the potential benefits of wind farms for regional economic growth should be effectively exploited and disseminated (Leiren *et al.*, 2020).

The main objective of WENDY is to trigger a societal perception change towards onshore and offshore wind energy projects and to encourage a behavioural switch from a NIMBY (Not In My Backyard) to a PIMBY (Please, In My Back Yard) state. Under this frame, the WENDY project sets a suite of models, methods, guidelines and tools to enhance wind energy citizenship. In order to facilitate the transferability of WENDY's solutions and provide these solutions to as many people as possible, the Knowledge Exchange Platform has been created. KEP is an online tool developed to facilitate the exchange of knowledge between decision makers and key stakeholders within wind farms planning processes. The KEP will attract various stakeholder groups related to the wind energy sector such as:

- Energy community members
- Wind energy experts
- Energy providers
- Policy makers
- Energy consultants

- Civil organizations
- Environmental institutions
- Researchers
- NGOs

The list above is not exhaustive but rather indicates priorities set in terms of the content and orientation of the activities as they are prescribed by the WENDY project. The mission of KEP is to foster the needs of wind energy projects and initiatives whilst providing a platform for the above groups to share their expertise and enable them to reach out with all involved value chain members or indeed help creating more reliable and sustainable value chains at the local, regional and wider level.

KEP constitutes a key component of the WENDY project both as a liaison structure among stakeholders as well as a bank of resources for the project's outcomes. Thus, the successful operation of KEP and the proper implementation of its activities are crucial for attaining the project's targets. According to the GA, the following achievement indicators need to be accomplished through KEP to reach the project's objectives:

- Development of Knowledge Exchange Platform: 1
- Knowledge Exchange Platform users: > 400
- Network of Interest / Participants: 1 network / 100 participants
- Brokerage events: 5 (1 physical, 4 online)

## 2.2. Design and Implementation

The KEP is publicly available at <https://wendy-kep.eu/> and it was designed to match the graphical identity of the [WENDY webpage](#). The uniformity between the project website and the KEP was prioritized to achieve a cohesive and seamless browsing experience for all platform users. Therefore, the WENDY logo, font size and colours, as well as some copyright-free images between those two webpages are similar (the content is available at the [press and resources](#) section of the WENDY website).

The Site map architecture consists of 6 WENDY main components: Toolkit, Hubs, Lighthouse Wind farm Cases, Forum, Knowledge repository, Network of Interest (*Figure 2*). The components can be accessed through the KEP's search bar or the KEP's home page. Most of these components are divided into additional subsections that encompass the materials and activities of the project.

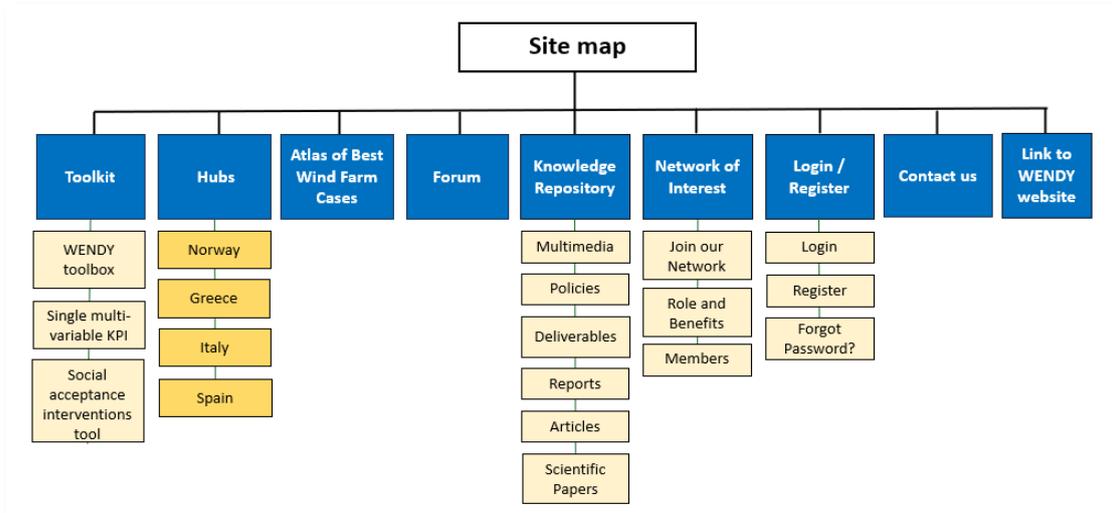


Figure 2: KEP site map

The access to some of the KEP content does not require registration, while other do, due to the differing requirements and GDPR regulations. All components of the platform are publicly accessible, but registration to KEP provides additional services and materials to its users. When a KEP user registers to KEP he/she automatically becomes a member of the WENDY’s Network of Interest. The registration to WENDY Nol allows its members to: (i) join the Forum and participate in thematic groups and create/comment in various discussion topics about wind energy, (ii) register a new cases in the Atlas map of the lighthouse wind farms, (iii) participate in WENDY Hubs’ activities, (iv) expand their network through the Nol and (v) other benefits through the other KEP’s components that will be defined in the “Exploitation and Sustainability Plan” final version. The table below presents the registration requirements per WENDY component:

Table 1: WENDY KEP components registration requirements

KEP components	None Registration Required	Registration Required
<b>Toolkit</b>	To be defined	To be defined
<b>Hubs</b>	Access to regional content and material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advisory and supporting role</li> <li>• Invitation to Hub workshops events</li> </ul>
<b>Lighthouse wind farms</b>	Observe / Search lighthouse wind farm cases across EU	Register a new lighthouse wind farm
<b>Forum</b>	View thematic groups and discussion topics	Create / Comment on discussion topics

KEP components	None Registration Required	Registration Required
<b>Knowledge repository</b>	✓	N/A
<b>Network of Interest</b>	View registered members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WENDY tools assessment</li> <li>• Exclusive material</li> <li>• Networking opportunities</li> </ul>

Apart from the content, the KEP follows all the legal considerations in terms of its Privacy policy and Cookie policy. To further enhance user awareness and compliance with project's privacy and cookies policies, a user-friendly pop-up window has been incorporated. This window, displayed upon the user's first visit to the KEP, guides them through the Privacy Policy and Cookies information, ensuring informed and secure browsing (Figure 3).

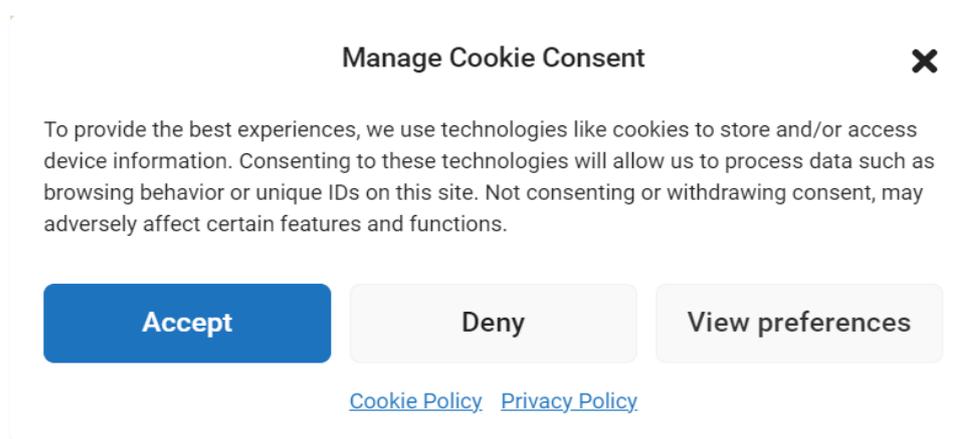


Figure 3: WENDY's website Privacy Disclaimer

A version compatible with both mobile devices and desktops/laptops has been implemented for all pages across the entire project. Additionally, KEP webpage can be accessed through various web browsers (Chrome, Mozilla, Safari etc.). The language used in KEP's pages is *English (United Kingdom)*. However, in the special forum sections of the local hubs, the respective national language of each region can be used by the participants.

### 3. Home page

The KEP webpage is based on a common layout that is responsive and guarantees easy browsing through the platform's various components. The initial view for a website visitor upon launching is the home page. The KEP home page includes the header, the main components and the footer.

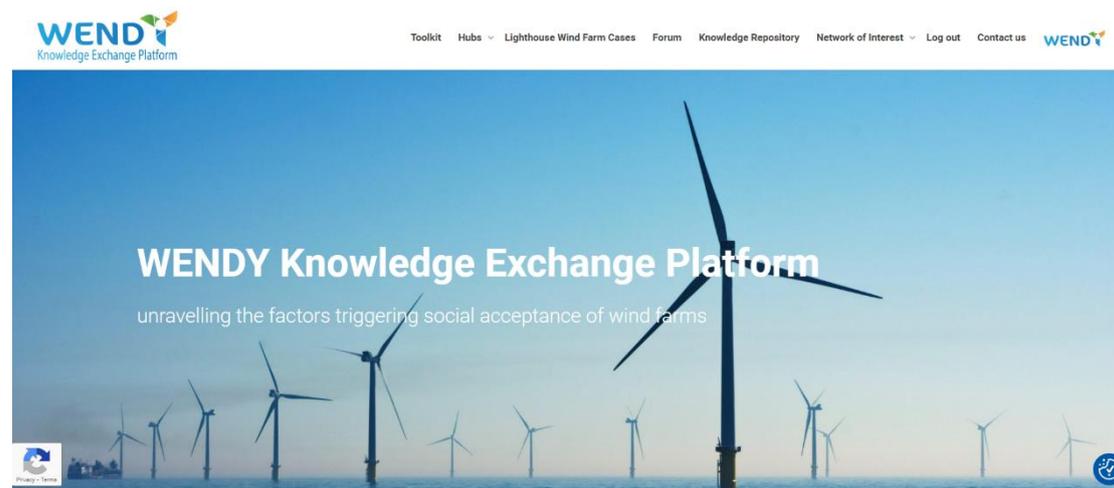


Figure 4: KEP home page navigation menu

#### 3.1. Header

The KEP header section is part of all the subpages of the web portal. At the left of the header, the project logo accompanied with the term “Knowledge Exchange Platform” is presented, which functions as a hyperlink to the home page. The navigation menu of the header contains all the KEP’s main components and facilitates fast browsing for its users (Figure 4). These components are presented below:

- Toolkit
- Hubs
- Lighthouse Wind Farm Cases
- Forum
- Knowledge Repository
- Network of Interest
- Login / Register
- Contact us

At the right corner of the header, the WENDY logo is depicted that redirects KEP’s visitors to the official [WENDY webpage](#).

## 3.2. Main components

The home page displays KEP's main components with concise explanations, which provides webpage visitors an overview of the website's tools and services. This enables them to quickly identify and select their desired items, thereby reducing their search time.

**Toolkit:** The first section in the home page contains the three main tools that will be developed during the WENDY project along with their brief descriptions (*Figure 5*): WENDY toolbox, Single Multivariable KPI, Social acceptance interventions tool. By clicking one of the WENDY tools the KEP visitor is redirected to the Toolkit's main page.



Figure 5: Toolkit as presented in KEP's home page

**Hubs:** The WENDY regional hubs are represented and available for selection by their country's flag (Norway, Spain, Greece, Italy) through the home page (*Figure 6*). KEP visitors can access each local hub by clicking on the respective flag of its country.



Figure 6: Hubs as presented in KEP's home page

**Wind farm cases:** At the left side of this section, an image of the map that illustrates the lighthouse wind farms of Europe is depicted. At the right side of this section, the "more details..." button provides access to the Atlas of wind farms (*Figure 7*).



Figure 7: Atlas of Lighthouse wind farm cases as presented in KEP's home page.

**Forum:** The WENDY Forum is easily accessible through the home page by selecting the “Visit Forum” button. KEP visitors can also directly join a thematic group of discussion, and registered users can provide comments on these topics (Figure 8).

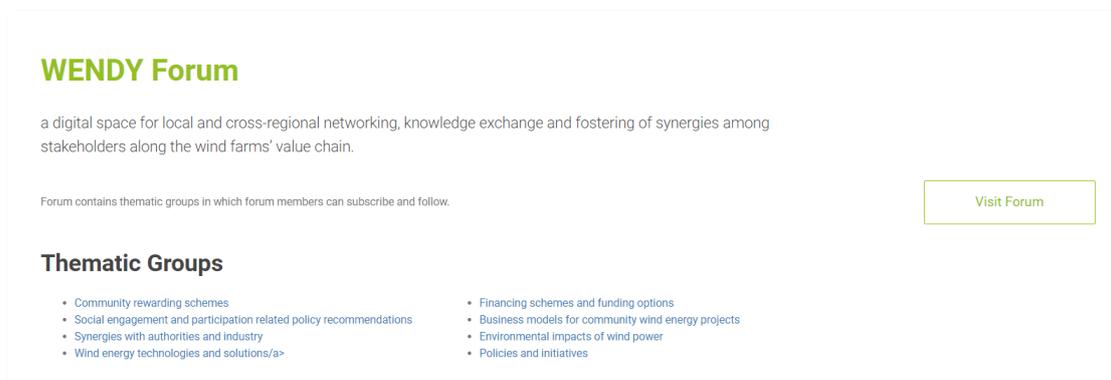


Figure 8: Forum as presented in KEP's home page.

**Knowledge repository:** The key elements of the WENDY knowledge repository are divided into categories available for selection through the home page (Figure 9). By clicking one of these icons the visitor is redirected to the Knowledge Repository section.



Figure 9: Knowledge Repository as presented in KEP's home page.

**Network of Interest:** The registration to the NOI can be easily made through the home page by selecting the “Join Network of Interest” button. The [NoI video](#) on YouTube can be watched by KEP’s visitors from the home page (*Figure 10*).

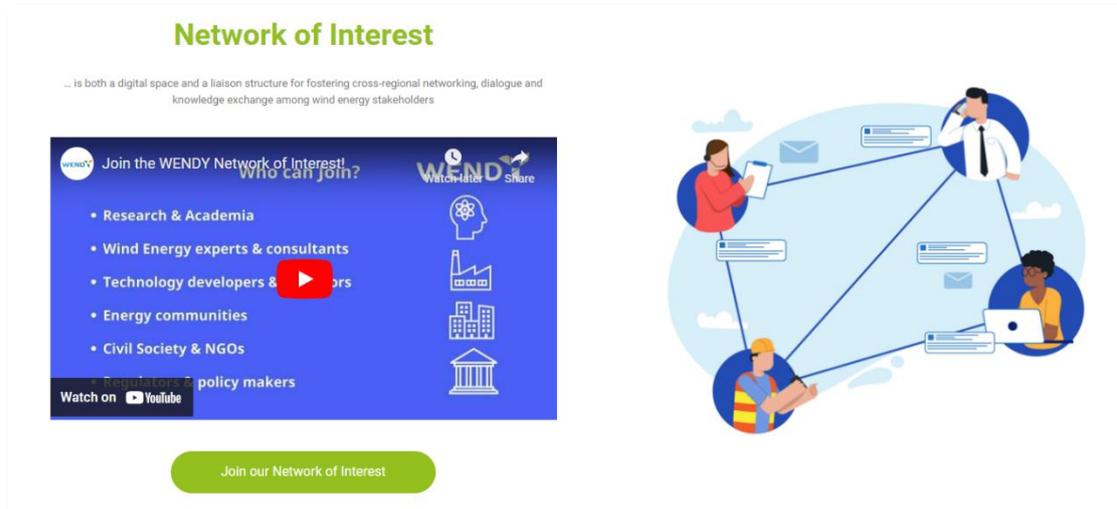


Figure 10: Network of Interest as presented in home page.

### 3.3. Footer

The KEP’s footer, visible at the bottom of all pages, includes the following information (*Figure 11*):

- A carousel style list of the consortium partners featuring logos of each partner, each linked to their respective websites.
- The WENDY logo and information about the project’s funding by the European Union’s Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme.
- The WENDY social media account links, redirecting KEP’s visitors to their respective websites: [LinkedIn](#) , [twitter](#), [YouTube](#)
- The WENDY project newsletter, which allows users to subscribe and stay updated on the project’s latest developments and insights.
- The legal guidelines of Q-PLAN: [Privacy policy](#), [Cookie policy](#)
- The WENDY project disclaimer funded by European Union’s Horizon Europe.

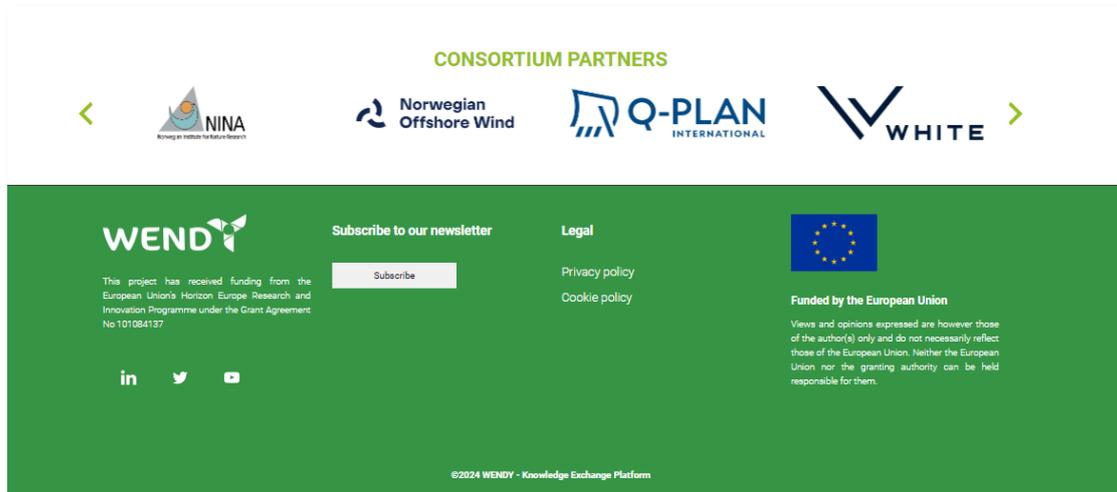


Figure 11: WENDY website Footer

## 4. Toolkit

The WENDY toolkit will serve as an online repository for all tools generated throughout the project. It will complement the WENDY support services aimed at facilitating the development and operation of wind energy projects. KEP users can visit the Toolkit landing page to be informed and select their desired tool (*Figure 12*). Each tool's description is expected to be connected to the website of the corresponding tool via a hyperlink.

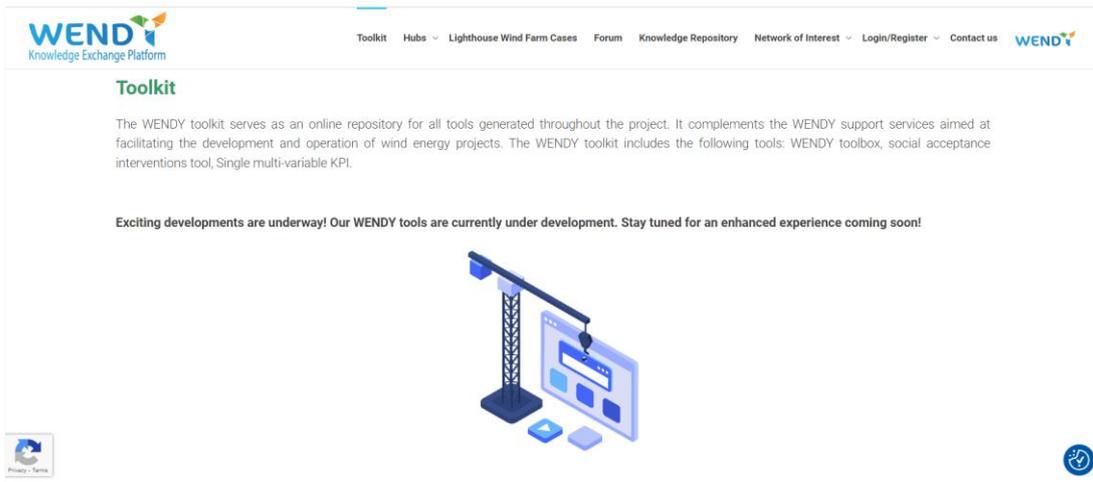


Figure 12: WENDY toolkit

The WENDY toolkit includes the following tools: WENDY toolbox, social acceptance interventions tool, Single multi-variable KPI. In this 1<sup>st</sup> version of KEP, the WENDY tools are still under development by the WENDY partners. The tools will be released in the following period of the project (see Table 2), and they will be accessible to the public through KEP's 2<sup>nd</sup> version reported in D6.5. After their development, the tools will be tested and validated by the WENDY use cases which include 10 wind energy projects in 4 EU countries.

Table 2: WENDY tools release date based on the DoA

Tool	Due Date (month)
WENDY toolbox (Updated)	M30
Social acceptance interventions tool	M24
Single multi-variable KPI	M24

## 4.1. WENDY toolbox

WENDY toolbox is a spatial Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis toolbox that integrates participatory approaches enhancing energy citizenship, validated models to map environmental impacts and energy landscapes, as well as best-practice options for environmental design in windfarms to support energy stewardship for sustainable development of wind energy. The roots of the platform definition will be established based on existing tools (ConSite) to generate comprehensive decision criteria and to define the preferences database. WENDY toolbox will integrate the outcomes from WP2 and WP3 for mapping and weighing the multi-decision criteria. Outputs from WP2 will be used to create a database to provide interventional recommendations to users, setting links established in the social module. The existing social-ecological modules of ConSite will be used by NINA for the integration of the environmental module in WENDY toolbox. In addition, a techno-economic module will be created by CIRCE based on the inputs from Task 3.3 on wind characterisation and curtailments evaluation criteria to establish rules and guidelines for wind farms up to a capacity of 5 MW for this first beta version of the toolbox. The integration of the social, environmental, technical and economic modules will optimize and promote further uptake of the toolbox use in wind-power plant siting; aiming at locating sites with least conflict per GWh produced. The development of the WENDY toolbox will be reported and updated within D4.2.

## 4.2. Social acceptance interventions tool

WENDY-initiated behavioural interventions aim to bring sustainable positive change in citizens' attitudes towards accepting and participating in wind farms. The social acceptance interventions tool will provide an evaluation methodology and tool along with a set of indicators, metrics and definitions for assessing the current social impact and societal acceptance levels of an existing wind farm or future potential endeavor of wind farm development. It will serve as a guide suggesting successful practices as well as behavioral and psychological interventions that can be employed to increase the acceptance levels of wind farms. This assessment methodology will be based on our analysis of the state of play and the identification of lighthouse cases (WP2). After the analysis of (i) the dominant social perceptions around wind turbines, (ii) the challenges associated with new installations and (iii) the effect of employing participatory processes from the early stages of wind farm planning, WENDY will develop a set of recommendations that address different possible scenarios to improve community engagement and energy citizenship. This framework will be transformed into an online tool, helping wind farm actors, regional authorities and citizens to reveal (i) their understanding gaps, (ii) their current level of community engagement and (iii) the

likelihood of social acceptance of a wind energy project under investigation (existing or theoretical). The tool will be tested through the pilot knowledge hubs (T5.1) and provide the basis for the behavioural interventions to be deployed (T5.2). The social acceptance intervention tool will be protected by software licensing.

### 4.3. Single multi-variable KPI

WENDY emphasises the importance of considering more than just the social-technical aspects of energy citizenship, towards energy stewardship from the integrated perspective of social-technical-ecological systems (STES). The project will monitor and rank potential influencing factors, both positive and negative, that affect the social and natural environment. These factors will be categorized into three main groups: social, economic, and environmental. These inputs will be used to create new models and references. From these models, a single multi-variable KPI (sM-V.KPI) will be created. This KPI will be used to measure the welfare that a wind farm delivers to society utilising a single score that includes all these studied aspects.

## 5. Hubs

The hubs create an innovative, democratic forum for inclusive knowledge-sharing. Engaged actors are informed, empowered to identify, and incentivized to implement win-win solutions that benefit both local communities and the renewable energy industry. The development of the WENDY Hubs expands WENDY’s network and substantially contribute to other events and activities during the project implementation.

**A few core dimensions (elements) of the WENDY Hubs’ operation can emerge, enabling the disambiguation, clearer interpretation and better understanding of the hubs’ operation and activities.** In particular, we distill the roles, activities, and contributions of the hubs, and consolidate them into a coherent conceptual schematic framework. The *Figure 13* shows (a) the identified dimensions, (b) their sub-dimensions, (c) the tasks they are related to, (d) the associated deliverables for documentation purposes, (e) the core partner responsible for the deliverable, (f) the time plan for the task, and, overall, (g) the outputs and objectives that are informed or addressed by the entire list of dimensions.

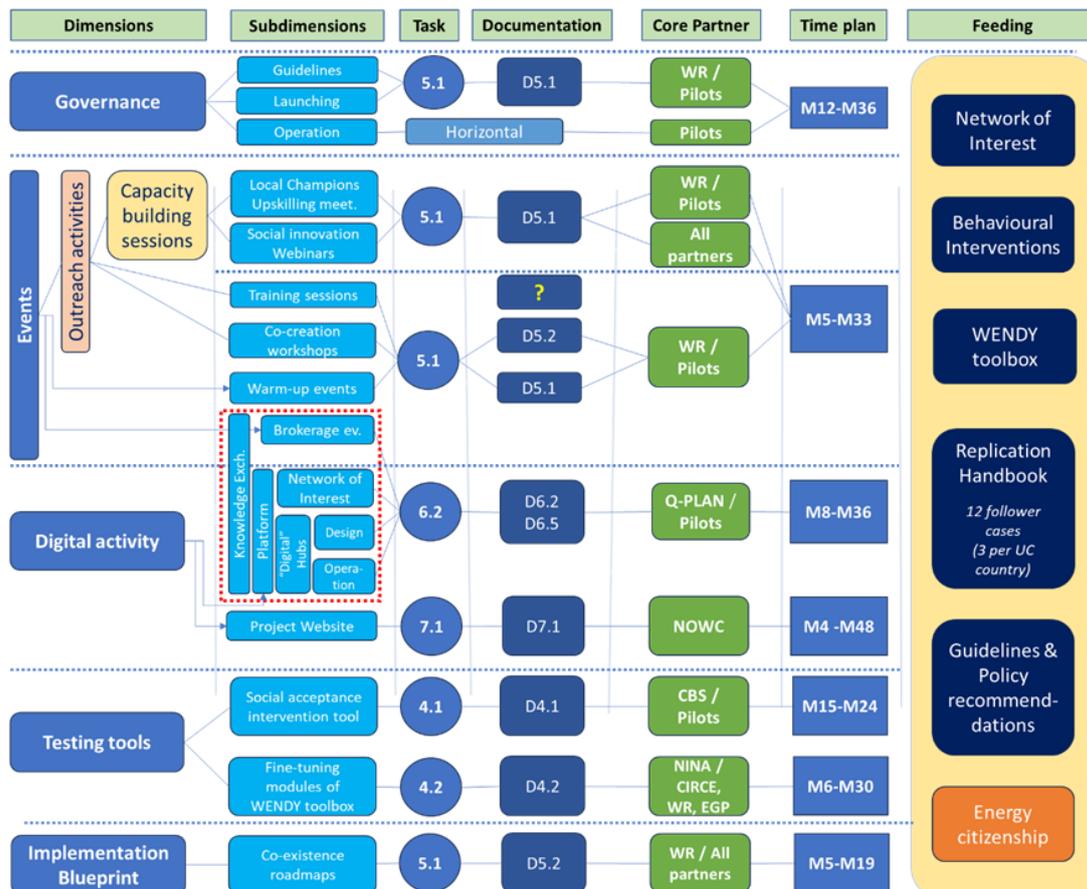


Figure 13: Distilling the roles, activities, and contributions of the hubs, and consolidating them into a coherent conceptual schematic framework.

The following dimensions were identified:

1. **Governance:** This dimension refers to the management of the hubs, encompassing the guidelines for their establishment, their initiation, and their operational procedures. These actions will be facilitated through Task 5.1 (“Awareness raising, stakeholder engagement, and social ownership models exploration through outreach activities”), with the hubs maintaining open access to ensure replicability across the project. All consortium partners will retain the generated know-how.
2. **Events:** This dimension encompasses all the events organized through or in collaboration with the hubs. These events consist of a series of outreach activities and capacity-building sessions, primarily carried out in WP5, with a few in WP6. These actions will be supported by various partners, with active participation from pilot partners.
3. **Digital Activity:** This dimension encompasses all actions developed by or through the Hubs in digital form, including Hubs’ materialization in digital versions, along with their design and operation as digital hubs. The insights from the hubs will be digitally presented on various platforms (KEP, project website, newsletter, etc.).
4. **Testing tools:** The Knowledge Hubs serve as testing and validation bases for the core tools of the WENDY. Additionally, they will be used in optimizing and fine-tuning existing modules. The development of these tools will be primarily facilitated through WP4, with the support from most of the partners.
5. **Implementation “blueprint”:** Under the dimension of the “Implementation Blueprint,” we encompass the preparation of the co-existence roadmaps. Additionally, the input provided by the Hubs for the replication handbook could be seen as a component of this dimension. Both aspects involve a form of planning that outlines the steps and processes required to achieve goals related to the WENDY’s aims.

The participants of the hubs, namely the individuals engaged in their activities, can come from a diverse range of backgrounds and profiles, potentially including any interested local resident or individual at community level. While some overlap between hub members and members of the Network of Interest is unavoidable and reasonable, the composition of the latter follows a different rationale. The number of individuals engaged in the Network will be smaller, with representation from across Europe, having a broader territorial perspective. The NoI members will be mainly recruited from a more specific population segment, mobilising, for example, experts in wind energy projects, regional and national regulators, industrial actors, etc. These individuals will be brought into closer interaction with the local hub communities.

The insights from the hubs are **digitally presented** on various platforms (KEP, project website, newsletter, etc.). Within KEP, WENDY knowledge hubs are materialised in a **digital version and operate as digital hubs**. WENDY Hubs constitute a baseline for the

development of the Knowledge Exchange Platform, while also contributing to the facilitation of the five (5) brokerage events organized by KEP.

Concerning the main menu of the Hubs, the demonstration of a photo of each hub manager alongside their name and the flag of their respective country was considered (Figure 14). In total, four regional hubs are formed, one (1) per pilot case (Greece, Spain, Norway, Italy). To access each hub, KEP user needs to simply select the corresponding icon.



Figure 14: WENDY Hub selection icons

After selecting the Hub, a special webpage format appears. The following information were considered for the page of the regional hubs (Figure 15):

- The Regional Hub along with the representative WENDY partner.
- A short bio of each Hub Manager (individual) along with contact details (e.g. e-mail, LinkedIn profile, etc.).
- The specific Regional Hub’s information (such as needs and challenges identified).
- The country’s Hub key aspects (e.g. input derived from Deliverables, Surveys, Eurostat etc.).

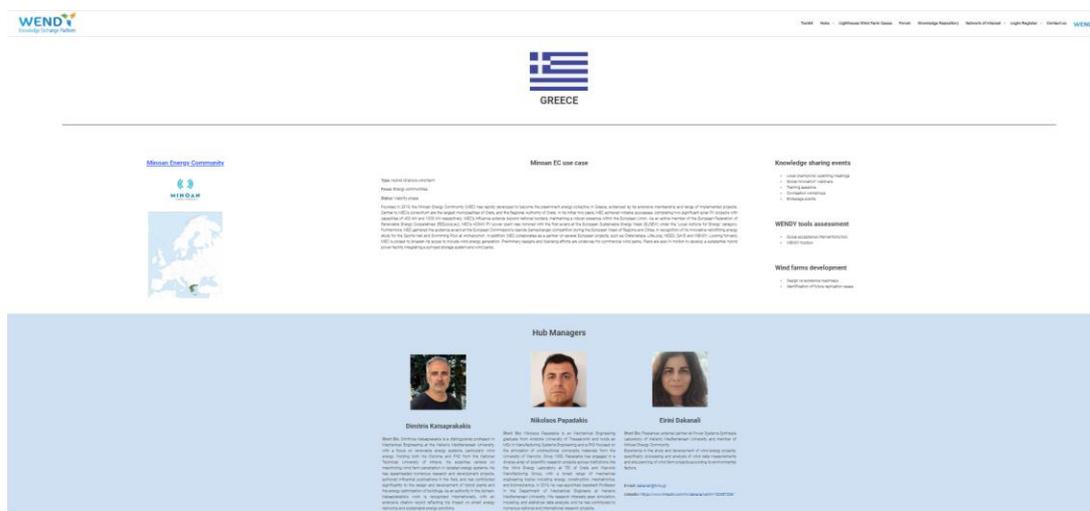


Figure 15: Regional Hub design

## 6. Lighthouse Wind farm Cases

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The Lighthouse Wind Farm Cases component stands as an intricate and comprehensive form of a map repository (Atlas Map, *Figure 16*), encompassing a diverse array of European lighthouse wind farm cases. This multifaceted resource has a dual function: it acts as an easily navigable directory for wind energy enthusiasts seeking information about wind farm cases in their proximity, while simultaneously serving as an inclusive directory where wind energy projects' experts, regional and national regulators and industrial actors can exchange insights and resources.

An informative pinpoint was developed for each registered case, providing valuable insights into the unique attributes of each wind farm. Upon selection, each one presents general information including their: type, power, maturity stage, ownership model, year of installation, and web links (when available), offering a holistic view of each case (see example in *Figure 17* and information presented for wind farms cases in *Table 3*). Moreover, this information is complemented by technical specifications, the WENDY evaluation rating and in some cases visual documentation in the form of photos, providing a deeper understanding of each wind farm's setup and operation.

Within the atlas of the lighthouse wind farm cases, users have at their disposal an array of filters, empowering them to pinpoint cases that align precisely with their requirements and interests. The following search filters are provided on the Atlas Map:

1. Maturity stage
2. Country
3. Type of Wind Farm
4. Power (MW)
5. Type of ownership
6. Installation Year

The Atlas includes the lighthouse wind farm cases identified from the WENDY partners in the frame of Task 2.1 ("Lighthouse wind farms across Europe: impact and best practice analysis"), as well as the WENDY pilot cases depicted in different pinpoint colours within the map (*Figure 18*).

Furthermore, NOI members are welcome and encouraged to contribute to the repository by registering new cases, thereby enriching the directory with fresh insights, and expanding its utility as a valuable resource. The users are encouraged to provide all the basic details and technical information available (see *Figure 19*), including photos, before submitting their case. It is essential to acknowledge that

newly registered cases undergo a meticulous validation process overseen by the Knowledge Engagement Platform, a measure implemented to ensure the precision and credibility of the information presented.

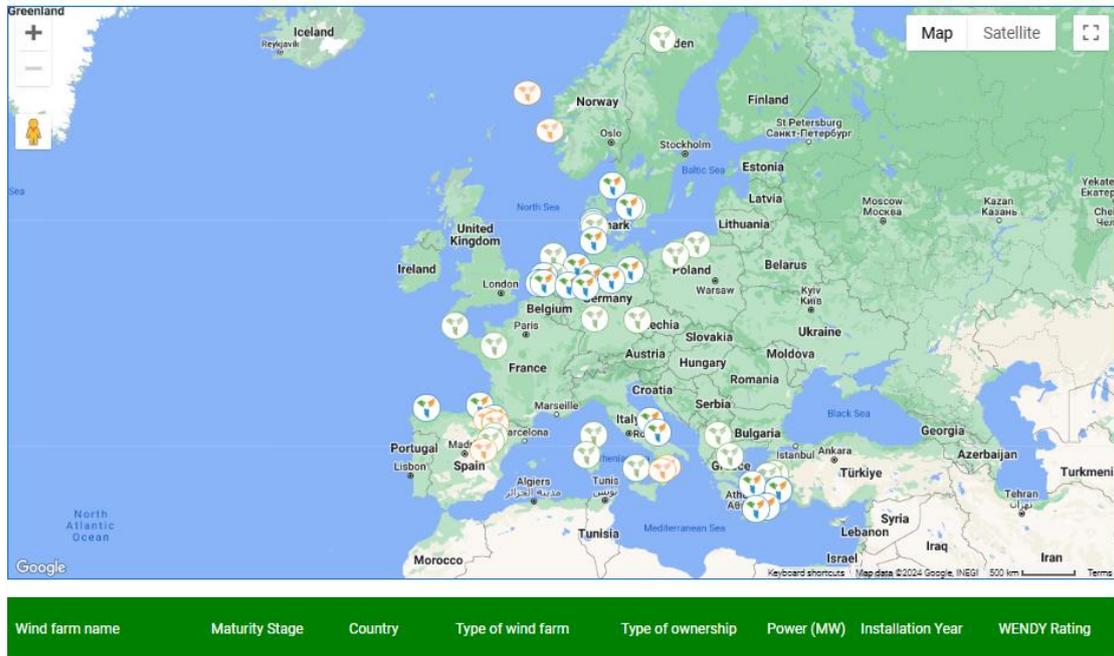


Figure 16: WENDY map design

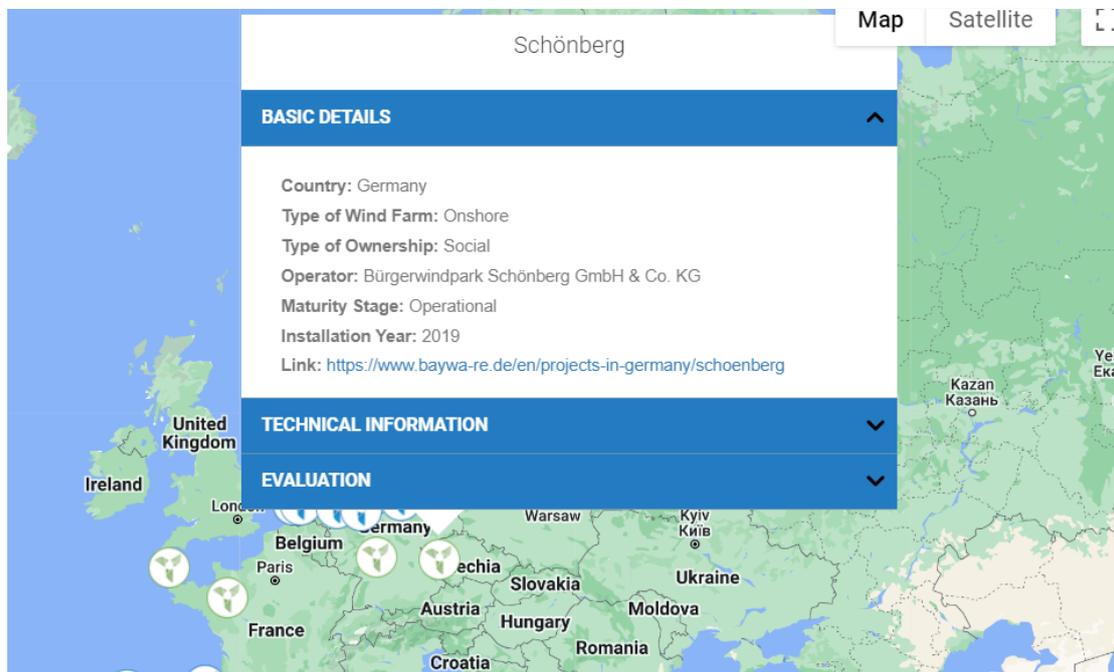


Figure 17: Information template on Atlas Map



Figure 18: WENDY Atlas map pinpoints

**Basic Details**

**Wind Farm Name \***

**Country \***

Please select

▼

Search

Please select

▲

- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Algeria
- American Samoa
- Andorra

**Operator \***

**Type of Wind Farm \***

Please select

▼

**Type of Ownership \***

Please select

▼

**Material \***

Please select

▼

**Link \***

**Technical Information**

**Power (MW)**

**No. of houses covered**

**No. of Turbines**

**CO2 savings [tn / yr]**

**Rotor diameter [m]**

**Hub height**

**Total height [m]**

**Upload Images**

Browse... 📁

Maximum allowed file size : 5MB  
Supported file types : jpg, jpeg, png, gif

Submit

Figure 19: Registration of new lighthouse wind farms on the map

Table 3: Information template for wind farms cases

<b>Name</b>	<i>The name of the wind farm</i>
<b>Basic Details</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<i>Wind farm's location</i>
<b>Type of Wind Farm</b>	<i>Onshore / Offshore</i>
<b>Type of Ownership</b>	<i>Social / Hybrid / Corporate</i>
<b>Operator</b>	<i>Name of the wind farm operator</i>
<b>Maturity Stage</b>	<i>Planning / Operational</i>
<b>Installation Year</b>	<i>Year of wind farm's installation</i>
<b>Link</b>	<i>Link to wind farm's website</i>
<b>Technical Information</b>	
<b>Power (MW)</b>	<i>Wind farm's total nominal Power in Megawatt</i>
<b>No. of wind turbines</b>	<i>Number of wind turbines</i>
<b>No. Of houses covered</b>	<i>Number of houses' electricity demand covered</i>
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> savings</b>	<i>Tonnes / year (tn / yr)</i>
<b>Rotor diameter</b>	<i>Meters (m)</i>
<b>Hub height</b>	<i>Meters (m)</i>
<b>Total height</b>	<i>Meters (m)</i>
<b>Evaluation</b>	
<b>Star graph for best cases</b>	<i>Excel format</i>
<b>WENDY rating</b>	<i>1.0-5.0 (Average-Excellent)</i>

## 7. Forum

An integral part of KEP is the WENDY Forum, an organized and structured component designed to foster fruitful discussions and knowledge sharing. Operating within a hierarchical framework, the WENDY Forum is intuitively organised into thematic groups. This thoughtful organisation ensures that discussions remain focused, allowing forum members to engage in conversations of their main interest, while also allowing knowledge exchange in different languages, tailored to the needs of stakeholders. Forum members are encouraged to participate actively in these discussions by subscribing to the thematic groups that align with their interests and expertise. This streamlined approach enhances user engagement and ensures that members can connect with like-minded peers and experts in their focus areas. Figure 20, below, presents an overview of the WENDY Forum.

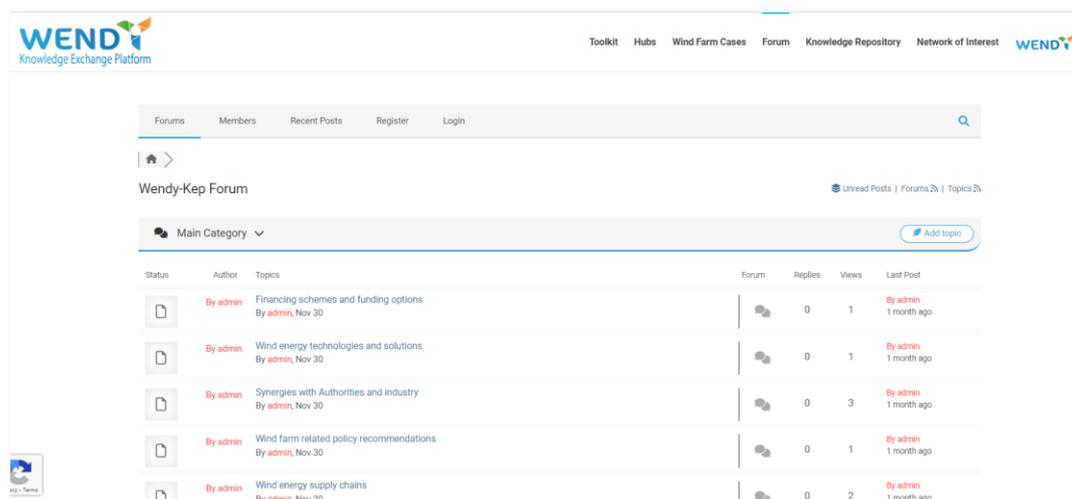


Figure 20: WENDY Forum initial page

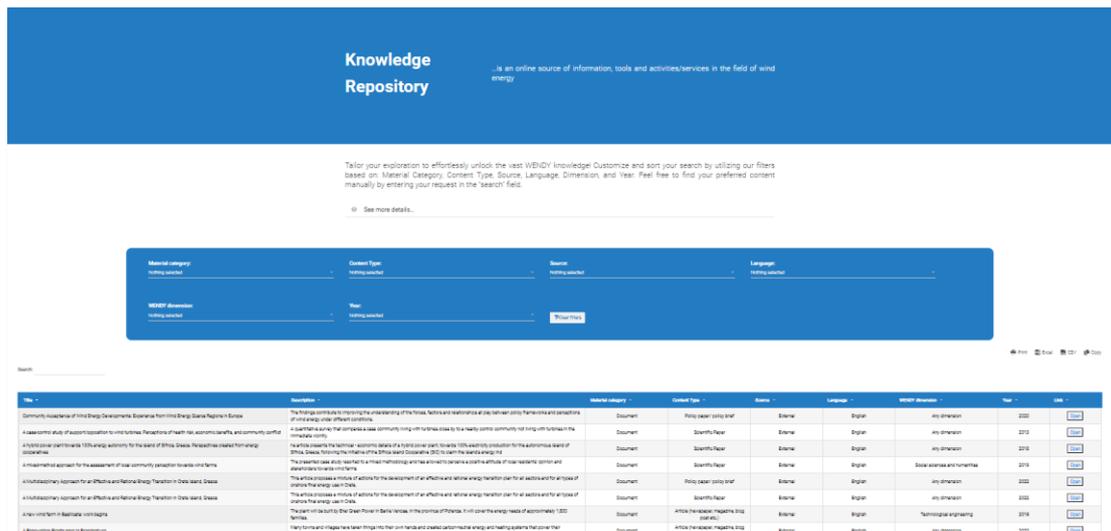
The forum contains thematic groups to which members can subscribe and follow. These topics are cited below:

- Community rewarding schemes
- Social engagement and participation
- Synergies with authorities and industry
- Wind energy technologies and solutions
- Financing schemes and funding options
- Business models for community wind energy projects
- Environmental impacts of wind power
- Policies and initiatives

Only registered members are granted the privilege to create and reply to these invaluable conversations, fostering an environment that prioritizes meaningful and informed exchanges. Nevertheless, the forum is open to all users to view it without registration.

## 8. Knowledge Repository

The Knowledge Repository serves as a dynamic, open-access database, enriching the WENDY support measures by providing an extensive reservoir of existing articles, materials, and tools that synergise with the drive toward the social acceptance of wind farms. Within this repository, user finds an extensive array of documents, multimedia content and comprehensive case studies, all thoughtfully curated to provide invaluable insights and guidance.



Title	Description	Material category	Content Type	Source	Language	WENDY dimension	Year	Link
Commons Assessment of Wind Energy Development: European Research Design Report in Europe	The project contributes to increasing the understanding of the risks, benefits and opportunities of the various socio-economic and political dimensions of wind energy under different conditions.	Document	Policy paper (white paper)	European Commission	English	Wendy dimension	2022	<a href="#">Link</a>
A case-study of an adaptation to wind turbine operation in health, economic benefits, and community conflict	A case study in which the authors describe the health, economic and community benefits of wind turbine operation in a rural area.	Document	Scientific Paper	European Commission	English	Wendy dimension	2022	<a href="#">Link</a>
A regional plan towards 100% renewable energy for the island of Crete, Greece. Research has been funded by the European Union	The article describes the national energy strategy of the island of Crete towards 100% renewable energy production for the administrative island of Crete, Greece. The article also describes the role of the island in the context of the European Union.	Document	Scientific Paper	European Commission	English	Wendy dimension	2022	<a href="#">Link</a>
A conceptual approach for the assessment of the community perception towards wind farms	The article describes a methodology for the assessment of the community perception towards wind farms. The methodology is based on a series of interviews and focus groups.	Document	Scientific Paper	European Commission	English	Wendy dimension	2022	<a href="#">Link</a>
A methodology approach for an effective and efficient energy transition in the island of Crete	The article describes a methodology for the assessment of an effective and efficient energy transition plan for an island in the context of the energy sector.	Document	Policy paper (white paper)	European Commission	English	Wendy dimension	2022	<a href="#">Link</a>
A methodology approach for an effective and efficient energy transition in the island of Crete	The article describes a methodology for the assessment of an effective and efficient energy transition plan for an island in the context of the energy sector.	Document	Scientific Paper	European Commission	English	Wendy dimension	2022	<a href="#">Link</a>
A methodology approach for an effective and efficient energy transition in the island of Crete	The article describes a methodology for the assessment of an effective and efficient energy transition plan for an island in the context of the energy sector.	Document	Policy paper (white paper)	European Commission	English	Wendy dimension	2022	<a href="#">Link</a>
A methodology approach for an effective and efficient energy transition in the island of Crete	The article describes a methodology for the assessment of an effective and efficient energy transition plan for an island in the context of the energy sector.	Document	Policy paper (white paper)	European Commission	English	Wendy dimension	2022	<a href="#">Link</a>

Figure 21: Knowledge repository of WENDY.

A search bar has been created to allow users to manually search for a targeted material (Figure 21). In addition, to facilitate seamless navigation within the Knowledge repository, a comprehensive set of 6 “search filters” is implemented, ensuring that users can easily access the precise materials they seek:

- **Material category:** Selection or shortlisting based on the type of material including documents and multimedia.
- **Content type:** Selection or shortlisting based on the type of content such as deliverables, scientific papers, articles, webinars, websites, repository / databases etc.
- **Source:** Selection or shortlisting based on the material’s source whether it is produced within WENDY or by an external organisation.
- **Language:** Selection or shortlisting of the preferred material based on its language whether it is English, Spanish, Italian, Norwegian or Greek.
- **Dimension:** Selection or shortlisting of the material’s scope based on the three WENDY dimensions: i) Environmental sciences, ii) Technological engineering,

iii) Social sciences and humanities. If the content is applicable to more than one WENDY dimensions, then the term “Any dimension” is provided.

- **Year:** Selection or shortlisting based on the material’s year of publication.

When the user makes a categorized selection the selected field “opens” in a drop-down list to select the respective material (*Figure 22*).

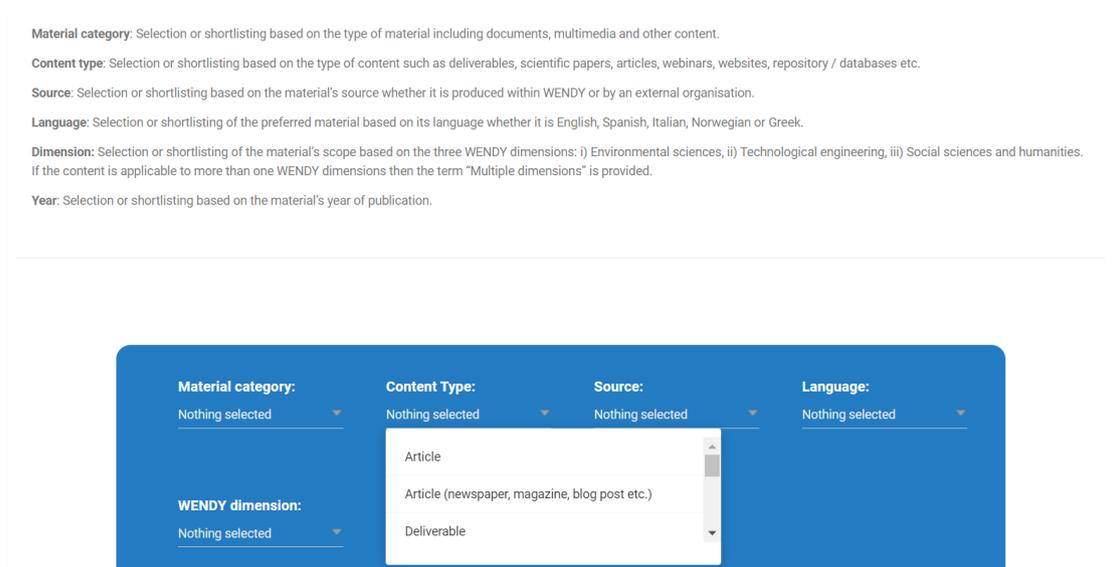


Figure 22: WENDY Knowledge Repository filter search based on Content Type.

## 8.1. Content

The content of the knowledge repository is continually enriched, consistently introducing new and relevant content with the generous support of all WENDY partners. Up to date, 116 material entries have been made and the aim is to further increase this number in the 2<sup>nd</sup> period of the project. A part of the knowledge repository content is derived from the literature review and the key insights of WENDY deliverables. Another fundamental aspect of the content consists of scientific papers sourced from various journals, conference proceedings and academic repositories, focusing on wind energy acceptance. Other sources encompass websites or databases within the networks of partners (memberships, customers, and synergies). In addition, the repository selectively concentrates useful news articles and ongoing actions of wind energy developments, published by trusted organisations or webpages.

## 8.2. WENDY material

Later on, the following material produced in the frame of WENDY is scheduled to be integrated into the 2<sup>nd</sup> version of KEP, aiming to preserve its knowledge after the completion of the project.

- **WENDY workshops and webinars:** An integral facet of WENDY's activities, offering a wealth of valuable insights and expertise. Here, participants can access an array of webinars aimed at enhancing their understanding of WENDY solutions and their implementation in the wind energy sector. These sessions are designed to empower stakeholders with the knowledge and skills required for effective decision-making. Additionally, it is noteworthy that a series of complementary webinars will be meticulously crafted and subsequently made available throughout the project's duration.
- **WENDY Policy Recommendations:** Lessons learnt and insights generated from the project's findings and results which are consolidated into practical and applicable guidelines on the means to reduce local opposition of and encourage active participation in wind energy projects. The WENDY recommendations will focus on providing a stepwise process for establishing socially acceptable and inclusive wind farms that harmonically co-exist with local communities, promoting social ownership and encouraging participatory processes. These guidelines and policy recommendations will be available in KEP, after the final submission of D6.3.
- **WENDY Deliverables:** The WENDY relevant deliverables containing only the public reports of the project. Relevant documentation can be also found in the project website. As KEP is expected to carry on its operation well after the completion of the WENDY project it is considered sensible to include them to both websites.
- **WENDY Replication Handbook:** Practical guidelines for the replication/transfer of the WENDY concept to additional national and EU cases. WENDY tools and methodological outcomes will be replicated to a set of 12 follower cases (3 per UC country).

## 9. Network of Interest

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A core part of the KEP development is the setup of the WENDY Network of Interest (NoI), *attracting and mobilising a range of wind energy projects' experts, regional and national regulators and industrial actors to be brought closer to and interact with the WENDY hubs' communities.*

This way, the developed Knowledge Exchange Platform comprises a digital space where the *hubs can better address their knowledge gaps, better comprehend best practices across the EU (T6.2) and receive valuable advice from the WENDY Network of Interest (NoI) on matters of participatory processes employed in wind farms, social innovation and financing schemes as well as means to de-risk investments in community wind energy projects.*

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The platform is gradually evolved into both a digital and a physical presence, when possible, where policy makers, industry, and local communities can:

- (a) exchange information and provide input to one another and
  - (b) identify the effect that the WENDY array of tools and models can have on promoting wind energy.
- 

The KEP and NoI *will be further exploited to allow regulators, industry and local communities to exchange information and provide input to one another in the use cases regions and beyond.*

### **Regional and European dimension of the NoI**

*NoI-identified actors and organisations will initially act as hubs' advisors.* However, it is expected that such type of interaction *shall not only maintain a regional character.*

The WENDY KEP and the project's NoI will be progressively enlarged, extending to an EU-level audience (wind energy community initiatives, municipalities, RE and wind energy industries, investors, etc.).

### 9.1. Role and benefits

#### 9.1.1. Role

The WENDY Network of Interest was set up and operates as a liaison structure for stakeholders and experts to share their knowledge and expertise with the WENDY

project in key deployment stages, through processes related to validation, networking and knowledge exchange.

Upon registration, Nol members acquire a digital profile within the Knowledge Exchange Platform containing some of their personal details that is publicly accessible to all KEP visitors: Full Name, Position, Country, Wind Energy Stakeholder Group. The Nol members are also requested to provide personal information such as their e-mail, gender, organisation and how did they learn about the Nol, in order to register to the platform. Moreover, they can optionally add their profile picture and LinkedIn profile as well as briefly describe their interests and motivations.

Table 4: Visibility of the personal information of registered Nol members

No.	Personal Information of Nol members	Prerequisite for registration	Visibility
1	Full Name	✓	✓
2	Position	✓	✓
3	Organisation	✓	X
4	E-mail	✓	X
5	Country	✓	✓
6	Stakeholder Group	✓	✓
7	Gender	✓	X
8	Profile picture	X	✓
9	Interests and motivations	X	X
10	LinkedIn profile	X	X

"Yes": ✓ (Checkmark symbol); "No": X (Cross symbol)

The role of the Nol in the context of the project may be summed up as follows:

1. **Populate the WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform** and contribute to its various components, such as:
  - (i) the **Repository of knowledge** that includes sources and tools in the field of wind energy;
  - (ii) the **Atlas of Wind Farms** that have achieved high level of social acceptance: it provides information and can be updated with new additions;
  - (iii) the **Virtual Forum** that enables the involvement in the cross-regional networking, the knowledge exchanges, and the dialogue among community wind energy stakeholders.

2. **Participate in “Thematic Groups”** in several topics about wind farms (as they are mentioned in the section of Forum). Of course, the list of forum’s thematic groups is indicative and not exhaustive and will be amended in accordance with the Nol members’ preferences, and the WENDY Cases (Pilot and Replication cases) needs.
3. **Advisory activities related to Hubs:** these will be done through the “Knowledge Hubs” covering key topics related to the planning/design, development/implementation, operation, and maintenance of wind energy farms, focusing mostly on the community-owned ones. The “Knowledge Hubs” will leverage their expertise to (a) get feedback for the WENDY actions and/or tools being matched with the WENDY local use cases (hubs), and (b) provide advices, suggestions, and recommendations to WENDY use cases (pilots) and replication cases.
4. **Networking activities** by participating for example in brokerage events of KEP, WENDY policy workshop, or other opportunities for meetings and collaboration.
5. **Advisory activities (other than hubs related)** that could include, among others, the engagement in the WENDY tools’ testing. Experts with past or current experience in wind energy projects could engage in knowledge sharing and mutual learning activities, such as the WENDY webinars. Such activities will include sharing information and experiences through various forms (e.g. online meetings, workshops, webinars).
6. **WENDY dissemination activities** to boost the spreading of the project’s impact as well as to support the replication of WENDY concept and knowledge outcomes (e.g. methodologies, approaches, tools, etc.). To fulfil this role, it is foreseen that the Nol members, during the course of the project, will operate mostly through digital means, and participate in activities on a voluntary ad-hoc basis.

An indicative list of coming project activities in which Nol members can be engaged or contribute is presented below:

- ✓ *The KEP will organise 5 brokerage events (4-pilot level online sessions and 1 EU level physical session, combined with a project meeting). Nol members will be invited to participate.*
- ✓ *Identification of future areas for deployment and development of the Replication Handbook: WENDY will identify a set of 12 follower cases (3 per Use Case country) with a view to share experiences and lessons learned and eventually trigger the uptake of WENDY assets. The cases will be identified through interactions within the Knowledge Hubs, through the KEP/Nol, as well as other RESCoop initiatives.*

This way, KEP/NoI could be leveraged within the identification of the future areas for deployment and replication.

- ✓ Contribution to the activities implemented within the WENDY local knowledge hubs, which *attract stakeholders from the wide value chain of wind farm development*, and where *the WENDY array of tools, lessons learnt (e.g., T2.1 best cases) and project-generated insights will be offered and promoted*. Within hubs, a series of activities are foreseen such as the deployment of capacity building sessions, including local champions' upskilling meetings and social innovation webinars, and the shaping of co-existence roadmaps.
- ✓ Since NoI members are expected to act as advisors of the hubs, it is expected that partners who either act as local hubs managers, or as developers of the WENDY tools that will be tested in the Use Cases, could benefit from the engagement of the NoI members through the Forum or other ways (e.g. hubs' events, etc.), receiving feedback from the end of NoI members and/or raising the awareness with regard to the WENDY tools.
- ✓ Policy recommendations: NoI members could be also invited to contribute to the policy workshop that will be organised by the WENDY project.

In the following period and until the end of the project, WENDY partners will define, plan and implement a series of actions in order to benefit from the establishment and the further development of the WENDY Network of Interest.

### 9.1.2. Benefits

The WENDY project **provides several benefits** to its NoI members, such as:

- **Networking opportunities and visibility** as an expert stakeholder in a large multi-stakeholder wind energy community.
- **Access to knowledge, approaches, methodologies, and practical tools** generated by the project.
- Unique opportunity to **align the tools, research, services, and policy recommendations created, conducted, or offered by the WENDY with the needs of their stakeholders** to ensure that they make the most out of their value propositions.

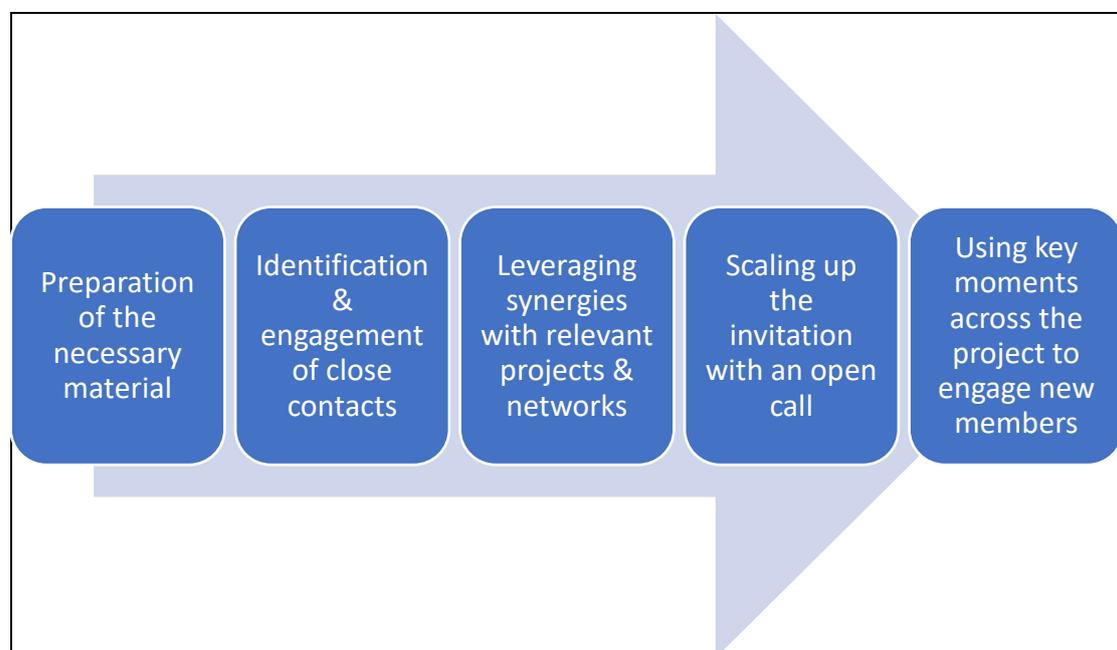
It is worth noting that NoI members will not only benefit by gaining access to the KEP tools and resources and the NoI network but concurrently with their participation they will upgrade and reinforce KEP by validating the available resources, expanding the network and raising the profile of wind energy communities with the establishment of a focal point for sharing and networking in the sector.

## 9.2. Engagement process

Our strategy was to mainly engage driven stakeholders and/or individuals who aside an interest, they also have the expertise, capacity and willingness to meaningfully contribute to our activities. Therefore, our approach was to start by mobilising stakeholders from the established networks of our partners and then open this up further into the broader wind energy community with an open invitation throughout the duration of the project. We followed a structured process, as following:

- 1) Prepare the necessary material to engage stakeholders and inform partners to follow a common line / communication narrative.
- 2) Identify and engage stakeholders from the organizations and networks of our partners to form a critical mass of members for the Nol.
- 3) Leverage synergies with relevant projects and networks linked to our partners in order to find additional stakeholders.
- 4) Scale up the invitation with an open call published over social media and other online and offline channels (*Table 5*).
- 5) Keep the invitation open and use key moments across the project (e.g. co-creation workshops, dissemination events) to engage new members into the Nol.

The *Figure 23* below depicts the applied approach.



*Figure 23: the steps of the approach applied for the engagement of the Nol members.*

Through this structured approach, we concentrated our well-planned efforts targeting to engage stakeholders across different stakeholder groups as well as geographic regions, exploiting in the initial phase, among others, a pool of prospective members shaped through close contacts of partners and people who were involved in past

activities of the project (e.g. attracting the local actors engaged in the WP2-WP5 actions).

Along these lines, a series of activities aimed at coordinating and monitoring our approach for communication and engagement actions required to set up the Nol through the following process:

- 1) *Prepare the necessary material to engage stakeholders and inform partners to follow a common line / communication narrative.*

In the frame of preparatory activities, an A4-size leaflet about Nol was designed and a [promo video of Nol](#) was uploaded to WENDY YouTube channel. In addition, a captivating poster-like invitation letter and a short, friendly email invitation were prepared to be used by the partners. Also, a series of dedicated bilateral meetings with each partner, as well as group WP6 meetings were conducted regarding updates and contribution requests related to KEP, Nol, and their interrelations with other project activities/tasks. The aim was to monitor the progress of partners on the contribution requests for the Nol and KEP, and to engage and boost the project's D&C activities for the wider promotion of KEP and Nol.

- 2) *Identify and engage stakeholders from the organizations and networks of our partners to form a critical mass of members for the Nol.*

Consortium partners contributed by reaching contacts out in the most proper way, e.g. by making some phone calls and/or sending the letter template to certain contacts derived from personal contacts, and/or past WENDY activities and events (e.g. Task 5.1 activities, etc.), and/or other contexts (including, among others, academia).

- 3) *Leverage synergies with relevant projects and networks linked to our partners in order to find additional stakeholders.*

In the frame of the wider Dissemination & Communication activities about Nol, partners leveraged their networks and their contacts in similar wind energy related projects.

- 4) *Scale up the invitation with an open call published over social media and other online and offline channels.*

In the frame of this step, three announcements, in particular about the KEP launching, the Nol memberships Open Call, and the Nol promo video were posted in the WENDY project's page in LinkedIn and reposted by consortium's members. In addition, a list of LinkedIn groups related to wind energy was prepared for re-posts, and two (2) press releases were drafted and circulated among all partners for further dissemination.

- 5) *Keep the invitation open and use key moments across the project (e.g. co-creation workshops, dissemination events) to engage new members into the Nol.*

In the frame of this step, Nol was presented in the 2<sup>nd</sup> MarineWind workshop of the Greek Use Case in the Renewable Energytech Fair of Thessaloniki. Ongoing activities related to local hubs were leveraged in order to raise awareness about the WENDY Nol and recruit new members. In addition, three (3) similar wind energy related projects of Horizon Europe (WIMBY, JUSTWIND4ALL, MarineWind) were approached, informed, and asked to disseminate KEP & Nol among their members. A tailored printed poster (*Figure 24*) and a presentation (ppt) about the WENDY Nol were created for dissemination on these events and activities.

We aimed to make the registration process as straightforward and user-friendly as possible. Thus, we chose to avoid paper-based registration process that would require either physical collaboration between partners and prospective Nol members, or a series of actions such as printing, signing, scanning, mailing, and then recording the member in KEP. Therefore, we opted to on board Nol members through the KEP allowing us to create and utilise a fully digitalised process for their registration. In order to achieve this, the timeline for the engagement of Nol members was aligned with the delivery of the KEP. The digitalisation of the process enabled the acceleration of the registrations providing a smoother experience for Nol members from the get go.

Table 5: D&C channels for the engagement of Nol members

D&C Channels	Partners contribution
Personal contacts	All partners
WENDY Hubs	Pilot partners, All partners
Workshops / Events	All partners
Social media posts (e.g. LinkedIn)	D&C Manager, All partners
Invitation letters (e-mail)	All partners
Synergies	T7.3 Leader, Nol manager, All partners
WENDY newsletter	D&C Manager, All partners
WENDY webpage	D&C Manager, All partners

Following this approach, partners have reached until the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 78 registrations of NoI members across 7 countries within Europe and beyond, representing the entire quadruple helix (including academia, business, government, and the general public). In the coming period, the consortium will continue the engagement process to reach over 100 members within the community of the NoI.



**WENDY**

**Are you interested in Wind Energy?  
Join the WENDY Network of Interest!**

We invite you to **join the "Network of Interest"** of the WENDY project as a member.

The WENDY Network of Interest is a liaison structure for stakeholders to share their knowledge and expertise with the WENDY project in key deployment stages, through validation, networking and knowledge exchange

**Who can Join?**

- ✓ Research & Academia
- ✓ Wind Energy experts & consultants
- ✓ Technology developers & operators
- ✓ Energy communities
- ✓ Civil Society & NGOs
- ✓ Regulators & policy makers

**Why to join?**

- ✓ Knowledge sharing events
- ✓ Access to WENDY knowledge
- ✓ Experience with tools used in real-life scenarios
- ✓ Unique advisory role
- ✓ Visibility & recognition

**Join Now & Shape the Future of Wind Energy!**

- ✓ Participatory practices & processes
- ✓ Social innovation
- ✓ Financing schemes

[www.wendy-kep.eu/network-of-interest](http://www.wendy-kep.eu/network-of-interest)

A HORIZON EUROPE Research and Innovation Action, implemented by:



  
 Funded by the European Union

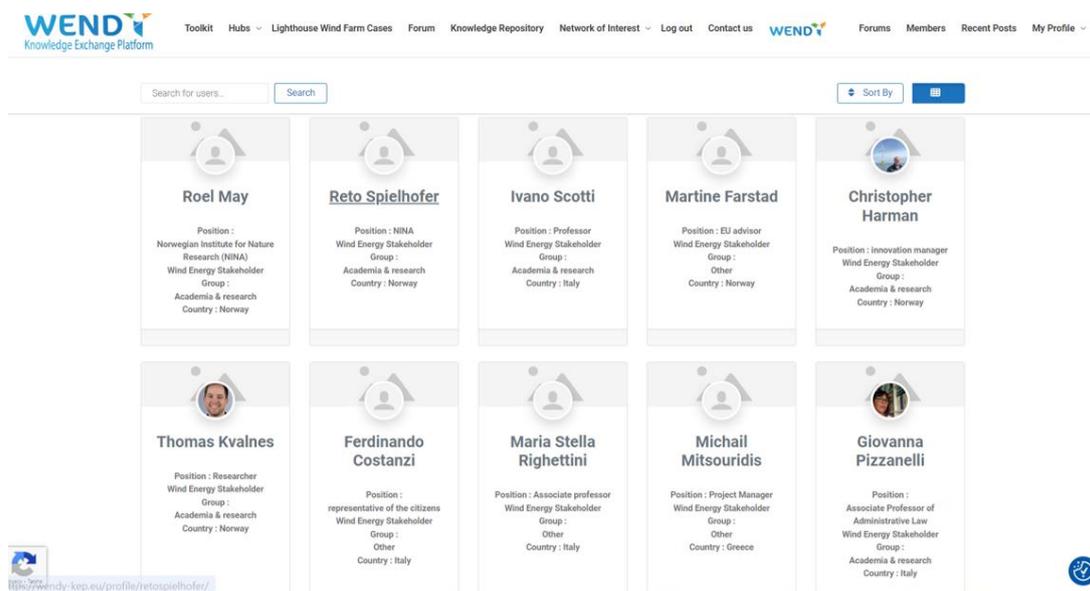
Figure 24: Printed poster of NoI

### 9.3. Membership

In the next period the target is to attract more than **100 NoI members** (respective KPI: Network of Interest: 1 / > 100 participants) with the widest outreach possible. Up until the time of drafting this report, the WENDY partners managed to recruit **78 members** from the following stakeholder group categories:

- Academia & research

- Consultants & technical advisors
- Technology providers & manufacturers
- Energy developers & operators
- Energy communities
- Civil society & NGOs
- Other



Name	Position	Wind Energy Stakeholder Group	Country
Roel May	Researcher (NINA)	Academia & research	Norway
Reto Spielhofer	NINA	Academia & research	Norway
Ivano Scotti	Professor	Academia & research	Italy
Martine Farstad	EU advisor	Other	Norway
Christopher Harman	Innovation manager	Academia & research	Norway
Thomas Kvalnes	Researcher	Academia & research	Norway
Ferdinando Costanzi	representative of the citizens	Other	Italy
Maria Stella Righettini	Associate professor	Other	Italy
Michail Mitsouridis	Project Manager	Other	Greece
Giovanna Pizzanelli	Associate Professor of Administrative Law	Academia & research	Italy

Figure 25: List of registered NoI members

It is observed (Figure 26), that NoI comprises a satisfactory level of representation of the various wind energy actors. Each of these stakeholder groups plays a crucial role in the social acceptance and sustainability of wind energy projects, contributing to economic, environmental, and social benefits at various levels. By involving the different stakeholders' types in KEP forum's discussions, a broad range of viewpoints and perspectives can be exploited. In Figure 27, the gender distribution of NoI members reveals that 63% are men and 37% are women.

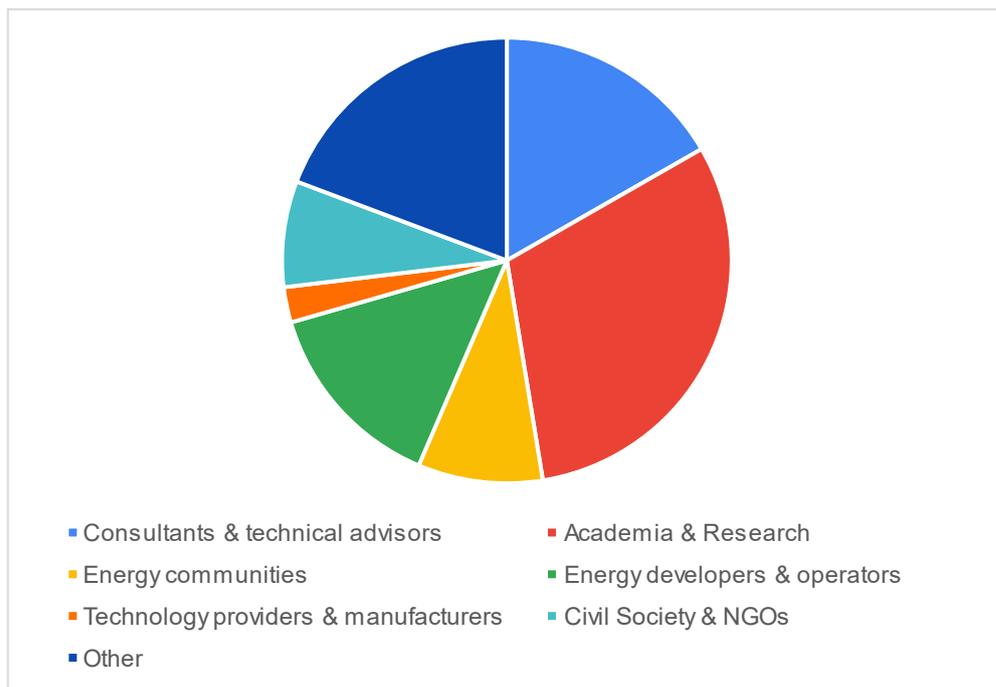


Figure 26: Percentage of Nof members per wind energy stakeholder group.

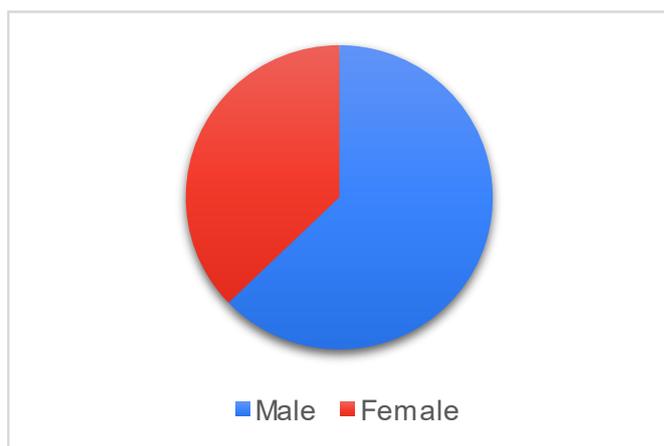


Figure 27: Nof members' participation by gender.

Furthermore, as it might expect, most of the engaged Nof members are from Greece, where the platform was developed, and the first Nof members were engaged. In addition, as it was expected, it can be observed that the engaged stakeholders are mainly from the EU countries where the WENDY partners are located, and especially from the four (4) countries (Greece, Italy, Spain, Norway) where the WENDY local hubs were created and mobilised.

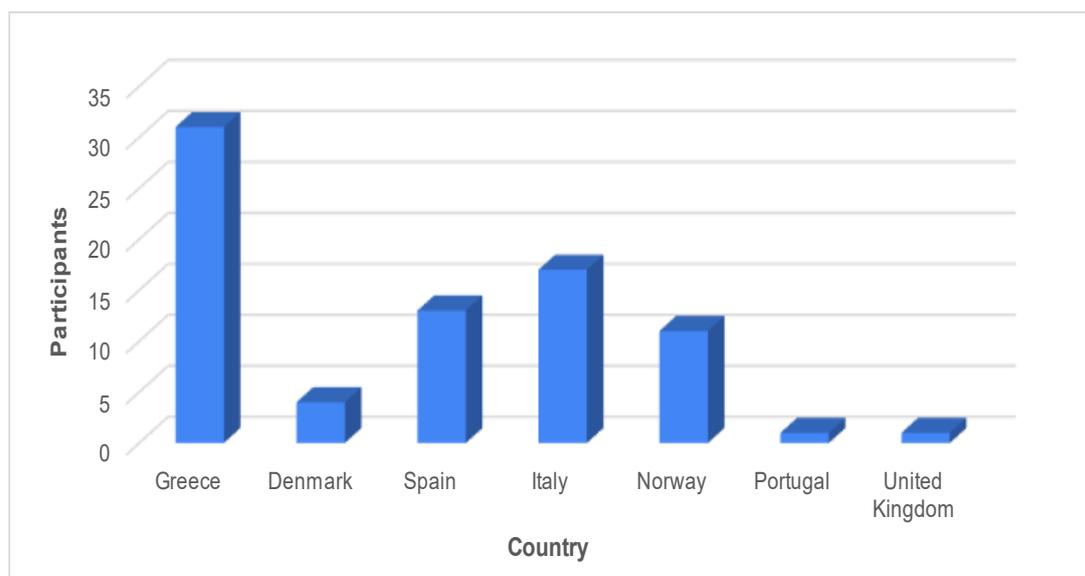


Figure 28: Nol members' participation per EU country.

During the upcoming period, we will endeavour to expand our network to various countries within the EU. Engaging members from a variety of EU countries will bring diverse perspectives, experiences, and ideas to Nol, and vice versa, it will allow WENDY to communicate, disseminate and diffuse its results and outcomes throughout the whole Europe, enhancing their transferability potential. The Nol will enrich discussions, foster creativity, and lead to more innovative solutions and approaches to address the current challenges.

## 10. Reaching WENDY targets

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Based on the GA, the KEP and Noi will support the WENDY strategies aimed at social engagement and community development around wind farms.

- **Enhancing communities' capacity:** The KEP will empower local communities to participate in the development processes of local wind energy projects. Through the Hubs, WENDY will enable local communities to build their capacity around core Wind Energy acceptance drivers (e.g. economic benefits, aesthetics, biodiversity impact) and empower them to participate more actively in the wind energy decision-making processes. The WENDY insights and results of capacity building actions (e.g. training days, information videos, field visits) will be included in KEP's knowledge repository promoting community engagement.
- **Leveraging innovative social marketing techniques:** The KEP will bring together regulators, industry, and the local WENDY hubs to network and learn from each other to promote the exchange of knowledge between decision-makers and key stakeholders. Leveraging local champions as key messengers instead of the project developers will enable the identification of the best ways to resonate and engage with local communities.
- **Reducing well-being concerns and tackling misconceptions:** KEP will provide all the WENDY modelling tools and assessment metrics (Single multi-variable KPI, WENDY toolbox, social interventions tool) which will enable project developers to have a realistic and accurate projection of wind parks' impact on the environment and the society, enabling the identification of the local populations and groups who will be mostly affected along with the expected impacts. These tools will enable the identification of the best future areas for deployment, in the sense that these areas will lower local concerns and limit conflicts, while keeping the projects feasible and supporting market acceptance. In addition, through the KEP, wind energy project stakeholders will have access to knowledge about tailored awareness raising, capacity building and social ownership activities that can be deployed to tackle local concerns.

## 10.1. Brokerage events

In the frame of T6.2, the organisation of 5 brokerage events will take place, which will offer networking and knowledge exchange opportunities among the consortium partners, participants of Nol and other relevant stakeholders within the wind energy sector.

Initially, four (4) brokerage events will be organised online at the pilot level for knowledge exchange and collaboration between stakeholders. An indicative flow of these events is as follows. During these events the pilot partners could present their results and experiences for the regional use cases to other stakeholders and wind energy actors in search of (a) cooperation and support opportunities, (b) potential new Nol members, or (c) partnerships. A discussion could be conducted about the developed business models, technological solutions and lessons learnt at the use cases, to showcase the influence of WENDY solutions on wind energy acceptance within and beyond EU borders, and potentially to attract support, or develop synergies with other initiatives. The ultimate aim is to stimulate interest in the development of new wind energy projects following the WENDY methodology and tools. The main target groups of these events are stakeholders from the wind industry, policy, citizen organisations, NGOs and academia. The overall duration of these events will be approximately 2-3 hours, including presentations, Q/A sessions and engagement activities. The organisational details and the timing of the networking activities will be set in coordination with the pilot cases and the supporting partners.

The final EU level physical brokerage event will be organised by Q-PLAN with the support of the consortium partners, gathering consortium partners, wind energy stakeholders and domain key players to network, exchange innovative ideas and meet future potential partners. The primary focus of the final brokerage event will revolve around the WENDY tools and methodologies developed to unravel the factors triggering the social acceptance of wind farms. The physical brokerage event will be – most probably – combined with a project meeting, compiling the outcomes produced by all partners throughout the entire project duration and conducting a conclusive assessment of the project's results.

## 10.2. Interconnection with other tasks & activities

KEP aims to transfer the knowledge produced in the outreach activities that take place in the local Hubs. In particular, the **capacity building sessions** of T5.1 will be readily available online on KEP. These activities aim at supporting the upskilling of local citizens and authorities, which is essential for enabling them to gain a deeper understanding of the implications of wind energy in their respective areas, including:

- **local champions’ upskilling meetings** (2 per pilot - 4 local champions) and
- **“social innovation” webinars** on the following topics:
  - i. mitigation measures towards environmental impacts of wind farms (EGP);
  - ii. community engagement and consultation (WR, CBS)
  - iii. social innovation and wind farm social ownership models (Q-PLAN)
  - iv. soft skills and negotiation upskilling (WR, CBS)
  - v. “etc.”

Q-PLAN will be in contact with the WENDY partners which are responsible for organising other social events and activities in order to further expand WENDY’s Nol, as well as to incorporate their insights and materials inside KEP. These activities may include, for instance (a) **“Local champions’ meetings**, where “local champions” play a crucial role by serving as central points for community mobilisation. (b) **training sessions**, engaging local stakeholders within the *Knowledge Hubs*, etc.

A full list of the WENDY events is presented below. Some events have been already completed, while others are scheduled for the coming period and could be leveraged for the promotion of KEP and Nol.

Table 6: WENDY Knowledge Hubs related events.

Events	WP	Target Value	Responsible partner	Relation with Hubs
<b>Training sessions</b>	5	≥8 (≥2 per UC)	Pilot partners	Direct – Implemented within the Knowledge Hubs
<b>Local champions’ meetings</b>	5	8 (2 per UC)	Pilot partners	Pilot partners
<b>Social innovation webinars</b>	5	≥5	WR, CBS, Q- PLAN & all partners	WR, CBS, Q- PLAN & all partners
<b>Warm up events</b>	5	8 (2 per UC)	Pilot partners	Direct – Preparatory activity towards the establishment of Hubs
<b>Co-creation workshops</b>	5	4 (1 per UC)	Pilot partners	Direct - Empowering the establishment of Hubs
<b>Brokerage events</b>	6	5 (4-pilot level; 1 EU level)	Q-plan, pilot partners	Contribution - Organised by the KEP

The interactions within the KEP/Nol will also contribute to the identification of the 12 follower cases (3 per UC country) in the frame of T6.4, to share experiences and lessons learnt and eventually trigger the uptake of WENDY assets.

Table 7: GA targets &amp; KPIs related to KEP

GA's targets & KPI's	Value	Thresholds	Due Date
Brokerage events	-	5	M36
No. KEP users	335	>400	M36
No. Nol members	78	>100	M36

## 11. Conclusions – Next steps

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The present report has outlined the development of the **WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform** and its structure and components as well as the methodology for the formation and operation of KEP's NoI.

The **online presence** of KEP was **outlined** together with a **brief description** of its **layout and content**. In addition, elements of the WENDY KEP **promotion strategy** were presented, and the initial **sustainability plan** was discussed. It is worth noting that the design and development of KEP aims to ensure that the platform will **outlive the duration of the WENDY project** and become a focal point for the wind energy community.

Moreover, the mission and the structure of NoI has been defined along with a selection/engagement process based on appropriate selection criteria followed in the initial phase of the establishment and expected to be used in the next period as well. Guidelines and supporting documents have been elaborated for contacting and engaging stakeholders in WENDY activities as well as an operational framework for NoI to ensure the monitoring of their effectiveness. Additionally, the rights and duties of NoI members have been defined along with a list of indicative activities in which they are expected to be involved.

An updated report ***D6.5 – WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform (2nd version)*** will be created by M36 of the WENDY project providing a revised description of the WENDY outcomes and results to be produced during the next period. Further enhancements and additions will be developed to all components, taping on the feedback of evaluation and validation activities.

## 12. References

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## 13. Annex

### 13.1. Exploitation strategy of D6.2 results and findings

This special section discusses the exploitation strategy of the results and findings of D6.2, as well as their value to the partners who own them. The following table addresses four (4) dimensions: Exploitation potential, IP protection, Potential exploitation pathways, and Partners' plans. Additionally, it allows for the inclusion of any unforeseen dimensions.

	Dimensions	Analysis
1	<b>Exploitation potential</b>	<p><b>Main actors</b> that stand to benefit from the results or findings are the: wind energy farm developers and operators; regulatory authorities and/or government agencies responsible for energy and environmental policies and procedures; civil society and NGOs related to issues such as environment, local development, cultural heritage; members of energy communities; academia and researchers in renewable energy; consultants and technical advisors specialised in wind farms' planning &amp; licensing; economic stakeholders and financiers.</p> <p>The <b>added value</b> of the results or findings for WENDY, its partners or external stakeholders is based on the several aspects, among which, the following ones: establishment of a network of wind energy interested individuals per se; creation of a knowledge repository; opportunities for interaction among the network's members; digital facilities for knowledge sharing on various themes such as social innovation, participatory practices, financing schemes, etc.; access to the WENDY tools and the results of their usage on real-world cases; visibility and recognition for all members of the network; promotion of the overview of the lighthouse wind farm cases across the EU countries; reduction of well-being concerns and tackling misconceptions about wind energy.</p> <p><b>Unique features</b> of the WENDY KEP's results that may be attractive: The WENDY NoI which supports advisory and networking activities; The Knowledge repository which serves as an open online database for wind energy acceptance; The Forum which engages wind energy stakeholders to address aspects of sustainability, transparency, and fairness; The interactive map of lighthouse wind farms, providing information for the best wind farm examples in the terms of social acceptance across the EU;</p>
2	<b>IP protection</b>	Data protection measures are applied that ensure confidentiality and security of any personal data collected; The Knowledge Exchange Platform is protected by copyright.
3	<b>Potential exploitation pathways</b>	The Knowledge Exchange Platform will include all material produced and collected by WENDY and will aspire to become a focal point for the wind energy community in Europe well beyond the end of the project. The

	Dimensions	Analysis
		platform will be Open Access to ensure the project results and outcomes replicability. Q-PLAN will be responsible for its operation and maintenance after the end of the project. The KEP can be further leveraged through knowledge transfer activities, such as workshops, training webinars, project events, to empower the NoI members and disseminate the project's and KEP's content.
4	<b>Partners' plans</b>	Partners will inform their business plans and policy strategies considering their materials and tools, which are included within KEP. Partners will promote KEP and NoI through their contacts and by participating in knowledge transfer activities (workshops, conferences, webinars etc.).
5	<b>Other</b>	To ensure the sustainability of operations, an investigation will be made for potential partnering KEP with existing EU platforms. The exploration of potential collaborations and synergies with key actors and stakeholders could enhance the exploitation potential of the KEP and NoI.

## 13.2. NoI Terms of membership and Management

The NoI shall be composed of actors across the wind energy community coming from diverse backgrounds to offer a blend of expertise. These experts will provide WENDY with valuable feedback aimed at aligning the project's outcomes with the needs of stakeholders. Membership will remain open during the project and the engagement and selection criteria are:

- Educational/training expertise in Wind Energy
- Practical experience in Wind Energy
- Interest for participation/involvement/partnership in Wind Energy.

While members of the NoI may be recognised by their affiliations with key organizations, they serve to the NoI in their **individual capacity** to represent the interests and views of their broader stakeholder communities. This aims to foster a more open and unrestricted discussion. **Members of the NoI may not delegate another person to carry out the role expected from them** or be replaced by any other person. Members of the NoI are appointed for the entire duration of the project (till the end of September 2025).

The contribution of NoI members is on a **pro bono basis**, apart from the cases in which physical travel may be involved. In such cases, the travel and accommodation expenses of NoI members will be reimbursed by the project. Moreover, participation in the NoI is **entirely voluntary**. The time and level of involvement of the members of the network depends entirely on their willingness and preference. There will be no adverse consequences if an NoI member decides not to participate in any activity or to withdraw at any stage. In fact, NoI members may withdraw their participation at any time by informing the NoI Manager. They may also request for their data to be withdrawn without giving any reason and without prejudice. Anonymous data already collected will be kept for the purposes of the project, given that this information cannot be traced back to a specific person. However, no further data or input will be collected, nor any other procedure will be carried out in relation to the specific member. More information regarding the data privacy policy can be found in the accompanying document that accompanies the informed consent form. The signing of the informed consent form is mandatory for a registration to be considered valid.

### Management

The NoI is managed by the **NoI Manager** that facilitates the communications and interactions between the NoI and the consortium, ensuring that members are not overloaded. The NoI Manager will also ensure that for each project's task requiring input from the NoI, the partners have beforehand prepared an action plan and all necessary briefings and material. Only then, the NoI Manager will introduce a partner

who may directly communicate with the NoI in order to achieve the expected goals at each time.

### Contact point

Any enquiry, complaint, or concern about any aspect of your experience as a member of the Network of Interest can be addressed to the NoI Manager that oversees the set up and manages the NoI. The contact details of the NoI Manager are provided below:

**Network of Interest (NoI) Manager:** Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL

**Contact person:** Evangelos Genitsaris

**Phone:** +30 2310 411191

**Email:** [genitsaris@qplan-intl.gr](mailto:genitsaris@qplan-intl.gr)

**NoI manager's website:** <https://qplan-intl.gr/>

**Project website:** <https://wendy-project.eu/>

### 13.3. Declaration of Acceptance

I, the undersigned, certify that I have read and agree to abide by the WENDY NoI Terms of Reference.

I pledge that I will participate in the WENDY NoI on voluntary basis and in my individual capacity, being free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason, and as such, I may not delegate another person to carry out the work or be replaced by any other person without prior written agreement with the WENDY consortium.

I certify that no conflict of interests exists that could be considered as prejudicial to my independence in acting as a member of the WENDY NoI.

I undertake not to divulge any information given in the context of the work of the NoI, unless the WENDY consortium agrees to release me from this obligation, and to respect the confidentiality requirements.

I declare to accept entirely and with no reservations my appointment as WENDY NoI member as described in the Terms of Reference.

I consent that any input or contribution I provide as a member of the WENDY NoI may be used by the WENDY consortium for reporting purposes or to align the services and tools offered by WENDY with the needs of final users to ensure that they make the most out of its value propositions.

I consent to the processing of my personal data needed for my participation in the WENDY NoI signing the Informed Consent Form. A detailed description of how Q-PLAN handles personal data of NoI members is presented in the relevant Privacy Policy.

I confirm that I have been given a full explanation of the purpose of the project's activity. I have read and understood all parts of this declaration.

**Name:**

**Signature:**

## 13.4. Informed Consent Form for the WENDY NoI

### **Who we are:**

We are Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL and we are contacting you in the framework of WENDY, a project funded by the European Union under the Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. A detailed description on how we handle personal data is presented in the **Privacy Policy** document that accompanies this Consent Form (and was sent to you by email). Apart from this, Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL has issued its own Privacy Policy available [here](#)<sup>1</sup>.

**Project: WENDY** – *Multicriteria analysis of the technical, environmental and social factors triggering the PIMBY principle for Wind technologies* (GA Number 101084137).

### **What is the WENDY project all about?**

WENDY aims at unravelling the factors triggering social acceptance of wind farms through an in-depth analysis at three dimensions: social sciences and humanities, environmental sciences and technological engineering. For that, the project implements a series of local actions promoting the wider adoption of the project solutions, including guidelines, reports and handbooks to boost the understanding of wind farms decision making processes, and enhance energy citizenship. This is supported by the development of the spatial multi-criteria WENDY toolbox: a tool able to identify the optimal turbines' siting with the minimum environmental impact and highest social acceptance likelihood. All developed models, methods, guidelines and tools are validated through 10 wind projects spread across 4 countries. These have been selected considering several parameters, such as geography (north vs. south Europe), maturity stage (viability phase / planning phase / short-term operation phase / long-term operation phase); type of wind energy (onshore / offshore – floating, fixed-); and co-existence with other activities (agriculture, fisheries, energy communities). In these locations, outreach activities tailored to their specificities are performed, creating the "WENDY Knowledge Hubs" which incorporate citizens, local authorities, business owners, and value chain actors of wind energy. WENDY Hubs serve as a baseline for the WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform, a forum that is developed to facilitate the exchange of knowledge between decision makers and key stakeholders within wind farms planning processes.

### **Partner:**

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<sup>1</sup> [https://qplan-intl.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Privacy\\_Policy\\_EN.pdf](https://qplan-intl.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Privacy_Policy_EN.pdf)

Organisation name: Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL

Address: 11, El. Venizelou, 55133, Thessaloniki, Greece

Phone: +30 2310 411191

E-mail: [info@qplan-intl.gr](mailto:info@qplan-intl.gr)

**Responsible persons at Q-Plan for your data:**

#	Role	Name	E-mail
1	Project Manager	Evangelos Genitsaris	<a href="mailto:genitsaris@qplan-intl.gr">genitsaris@qplan-intl.gr</a>
2	Data Protection Officer	Petros Papadionisiou	<a href="mailto:papadionisiou@qplan-intl.gr">papadionisiou@qplan-intl.gr</a>
3	Project Consultant	Prodromos Gkalimanis	<a href="mailto:gkalimanis@qplan-intl.gr">gkalimanis@qplan-intl.gr</a>

**What do we need from you?**

You have been invited to take part in the WENDY Network of Interest and the activities associated with it, because you have been identified as a key stakeholder for WENDY.

To effectively conduct this task, we need to process some of your personal data:

- Your contact info (e-mail, telephone number);
- Some basic demographics (e.g., gender, location, age);
- Your professional info (organization, job position, field of expertise);
- Your opinions on the subject matters.

**Why do we need your data & what will we do with them?**

We need your data to contact you in order to plan and carry out the aforementioned network and its activities and to resolve any ambiguities, questions and other issues that may arise after being designated as a member of it and as a result of the participation in it and its activities.

We would like to learn more about your perceptions and beliefs around wind energy. Your contribution and feedback will help us to organise the Network of Interest (NoI) and involve you in it. The WENDY Network of Interest was set up and operates as a liaison structure for stakeholders and experts to share their knowledge and expertise with the WENDY project in key deployment stages, through processes related to validation, networking and knowledge exchange. The role of the NoI in the context of the project may be summed up as follows:

- Populate the WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform and contribute to its various components, such as: the Repository of knowledge; the Atlas of Wind Farms; the Virtual Forum that.
- Participate in “Thematic Groups” in several topics about wind farms.
- Project Validation activities that will be done through the “Knowledge Hubs” covering key topics.
- Networking activities.
- Mentoring activities that will include participation in a peer-to-peer mentoring programme.
- WENDY dissemination activities to boost the spreading of the project’s impact as well as to support the replication of WENDY concept and knowledge outcomes.
- Events organized in the frame of NOI, where pictures/videos may be taken as evidence of any activity itself and as possible promotional material for the WENDY project.

We also need to record your data to keep track of the implementation process of the Network of Interest.

The project’s deliverables that will be linked with the activities and outcomes of the Network of Interest will not include any personal data or any other information that could identify you.

We may share your data with a few other WENDY project partners that are also involved in the activities of the Network of Interest, and will participate in the drafting of the relevant deliverables. We are also obliged to grant access to your data to:

- EU officials such as our Project Officer for purposes related to project’s evaluation;
- EU agencies and other authorities for project’s auditing purposes.

We would also be very happy if you gave us your consent to contact you in the future to ask you to participate in other project’s activities (e.g. surveys, interviews, etc.) and also to inform you about the project’s progress (e.g. by sending you a newsletter or similar messages).

Furthermore, as we consider you to be a key stakeholder in the field of wind energy, and energy stewardship social acceptance of wind energy farms, we would like to form

a stronger bond with you, so we ask for your consent to contact you for participating in similar projects that we may undertake in the future.

### **How can you withdraw your consent?**

You should know that you can withdraw your consent at any time by communicating either on the phone or by email with the responsible persons listed in the previous page. With regards to the informational messages and newsletters you can always opt out by simply clicking the link "Unsubscribe" or something similar included at the end of all the relevant messages.

### **I hereby give my consent to the processing of my personal data needed for:**

*(Please, tick the boxes below to confirm that you give us your consent for the respective subject. Any boxes left unticked mean that **you do not consent to the relevant subject.**)*

#	Consent Subject	Tick box
1	My participation in the WENDY Network of Interest, and the activities associated with it, as a member of it	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	My participation in future WENDY project's activities	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Receiving newsletters and messages regarding WENDY project activities	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Contacting me for participating in similar projects that Q-Plan may undertake in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of participant

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

## 13.5. Privacy and Cookies Policy

### Personal information we collect

When you visit the KEP, Q-PLAN automatically collects, via cookies installed to make the website operational and gather analytics data, some information about your device, including information about your web browser, IP address, time zone. Additionally, we collect some information about the individual web pages or documents you view, and information about how you interact with the website. Q-PLAN refers to this automatically collected information as “Device Information.”

We also collect, use and store the contact information filled when you subscribe to our newsletter: by ticking the box under the form, you freely consent to the processing of your information, used only for the project to send you the newsletter.

### Q-PLAN collects Device Information using the following technologies:

- “Cookies” are data files that are placed on the visitors’ device or computer and often include an anonymous unique identifier. You can delete all cookies already on your device by clearing the browsing history of your browser. This will remove all cookies from all websites you have visited. Be aware though that you may also lose saved information (e.g. saved login details, site preferences). Most browsers allow you to block or delete cookies. For more information on how to set the preferences for cookies, please refer to the instructions provided by your browser. You can find out more about cookies and how to control them on [www.allaboutcookies.org](http://www.allaboutcookies.org). Please note that if you block our use of cookies, you may be unable to access certain pages of our website and certain services or functions may become unavailable or malfunction.

We use tools like Google Analytics to better understand how visitors interact with our website. This provides us with important information to enable the site to work better. The information collected is not linked to your personal data. For more information on the cookies set by Google Analytics, please visit:

<http://code.google.com/apis/analytics/docs/concepts/gaConceptsCookies.html>

Cookie	Name	Purpose	Duration
Google analytics	_ga	Used to distinguish users.	2 years after installation/update
Google analytics	_gid	Used to distinguish users.	24 hours after installation/update
Google analytics	_gat or _dc_gtm_<property-id>	Used to throttle request rate.	1 minute after installation/update

Cookie	Name	Purpose	Duration
Multilanguage support	_icl_current_language	Enables multilanguage features of the site.	24 hours

– “Log files” track actions occurring on the Site, and collect data including your IP address, browser type, Internet service provider, referring/exit pages, and date/time stamps.

– “Web beacons,” “tags,” and “pixels” are electronic files used to record information about how visitors browse the Site.

Additionally, when visitors contact Q-PLAN through the platform, we collect certain information, including their name, and email address. We refer to this information as “Contact Information.”

When we talk about “Personal Information” in this Privacy Policy, we are talking both about Device Information and Contact Information.

### How do we collect visitors’ data?

We collect and process data when visitors:

- Register online for receiving information on new material (newsletter).
- Voluntarily complete a survey or provide feedback via email or via links shared on the website.
- Use or view our platform via their browser’s cookies.
- Register online to our events or webinars
- Register online to our Forum and NoI

### How do we use visitors’ personal information?

We use the Contact Information to communicate with visitors and when in line with the preferences each visitor has shared with us, provide them with information or advertising related to the project and its developments.

We use the Device Information that we collect to help us screen for potential risk and fraud (in particular your IP address), and more generally to improve and optimize our Site (for example, by generating analytics about how our audience browses and interacts with the Site, and to assess the success of our communication and dissemination campaigns).

### Sharing visitors’ personal information

We share visitors’ Personal Information with third parties to help us use their Personal Information, as described above. This includes website hosting and mailing list

providers. We also use a statistics tracker (Google Analytics) to help us understand how our audience uses the KEP website. More about how Google uses visitors' Personal Information is available here: <https://www.google.com/intl/en/policies/privacy>. One can also opt-out of Google Analytics here: <https://tools.google.com/dlpage/gaoptout>

Finally, we may also share visitors' Personal Information to comply with applicable laws and regulations, to respond to a subpoena, search warrant or other lawful requests for information we receive, or to otherwise protect our rights. We may also share visitors' Personal Information with Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA) in order to fulfil our contractual obligation under the Horizon Europe programme in terms of project delivering, but not in the form of a public deliverable.

### Behavioural advertising

As described above, we use visitors' Personal Information to provide them with Q-PLAN tools, activities and deliverables that we believe may be of interest to them.

### How do we store visitors' data?

We securely store visitors' data in our internal databases (Google Drive) and on the project website back office.

We will keep visitors' Personal Information for the entire period of the project and for 5 additional years as required by law for controls on Horizon Europe projects. Data will therefore be available to the relevant European Commission Agency, Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA). Once this period has expired, we will delete visitors' data from the databases.

### Do not track

Please note that we do not alter our website data collection and use practices when we see a Do Not Track signal from a visitor's browser.

European residents visiting the website have the right to access personal information we hold about them and to ask that their personal information be corrected, updated, or deleted. If visitors would like to exercise this right, they can [contact us](#).

### Data retention

When visitors contact us through the Site, we will maintain their Contact Information for our records unless and until they ask us to delete this information.

If a newsletter subscriber wishes not to receive it anymore, he/she can click directly in the newsletter button to do so or can unsubscribe by sending an email to the [communications manager](#).

### Changes



We may update this privacy policy from time to time to reflect, for example, changes to our practices or for other operational, legal or regulatory reasons. The latest update to the document was made on February 5, 2024.

### Links to other websites

The KEP website includes links to third-party websites as we share interesting resources and sister projects. We are not responsible for the privacy & cookies policies of third parties, nor are we responsible for the information or content these websites contain. Please refer to the privacy & cookies policies of these websites directly.

### What are visitors' data protection rights?

Q-PLAN would like to make sure visitors are fully aware of all your data protection rights. Every user is entitled to the following:

**The right to access** – Visitors have the right to request Q-PLAN for copies of one's personal data.

**The right to rectification** – Visitors have the right to request that Q-PLAN correct any information they believe is inaccurate. Visitors also have the right to request Q-PLAN to complete the information they believe is incomplete.

**The right to erasure** – Visitors have the right to request that Q-PLAN erase their personal data, under certain conditions.

**The right to restrict processing** – Visitors have the right to request that Q-PLAN restrict the processing of their personal data, under certain conditions.

**The right to object to processing** – Visitors have the right to object to Q-PLAN 's processing of their personal data, under certain conditions.

**The right to data portability** – Visitors have the right to request that Q-PLAN transfers the data that we have collected to another organization, or directly to them, under certain conditions.

You also have the right to lodge a complaint with your national Data Protection Authority pursuant to Article 77 of the Regulation (EU) 2016/679, if you believe that your personal data have been processed in violation of any applicable law concerning data protection. You can find the contact details of all national data protection authorities [here](#).

If visitors make a request, we have one month to respond to their request. If a visitor would like to exercise any of these rights, please **contact us at our [email](#)**.

## 13.6. Registration Form for WENDY NoI

Become a part of our vibrant wind energy community!	
First Name*	
Last Name*	
Email*	
Position*	
Organisation*	
Country*	Select country ... (dropdown list)
Gender*	Female / Male / Non- binary / Prefer not to say
Wind Energy Stakeholder Group*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Academia &amp; research</li> <li>2. Consultants &amp; technical advisors</li> <li>3. Technology providers &amp; manufacturers</li> <li>4. Energy developers &amp; operators</li> <li>5. Energy communities</li> <li>6. Civil society &amp; NGOs</li> <li>7. Economic stakeholders &amp; financiers</li> <li>8. Regulators, public bodies &amp; policy makers</li> <li>9. Other</li> </ol>
How did you learn about WENDY NoI? Please select the source*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended by a WENDY partner               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Please specify → <i>dropdown-list</i> [APPA, CIRCE, CBS, EGP, MEC, NINA, NOWC, WR, Q-PLAN]</li> </ul> </li> <li>• WENDY Knowledge Exchange Platform</li> <li>• WENDY project's website</li> <li>• Recommended by an enrolled member of NoI</li> <li>• Social media</li> <li>• Other [Please specify (optional)]</li> </ul>

**Become a part of our vibrant wind energy community!**

Telephone number	
Interests and motivations	
LinkedIn profile	
Date	
Password*	
Confirm Password*	

**Become a part of our vibrant wind energy community!**

First Name *
Last Name *
wendyadmin
Position *
Organisation
Gender <span style="float: right;">▼</span>
Wind Energy Stakeholder Group * <span style="float: right;">▼</span>
How did you learn about WENDY Noi? * <span style="float: right;">▼</span>
Choose Country... * <span style="float: right;">▼</span>
Telephone number
Interests and motivations
LinkedIn profile
Date
<input type="password" value="....."/> <span style="float: right; border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px;">👁</span>
<input type="password" value="Confirm Password *"/> <span style="float: right; border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px;">👁</span>
<div style="background-color: #008000; width: 60%; margin: 0 auto; padding: 2px;">Medium</div>
<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; border-radius: 5px;">CREATE ACCOUNT</div>

[Login](#)