

Environmental monitoring of offshore renewable energy installations:

A plea for timely knowledge sharing

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A timely knowledge sharing with regard to their environmental impacts is needed to ensure a proper incorporation of new findings into new installations' designs. Unfortunately, the monitoring programmes are very much dealt with on a case-by-case basis and scientific reports are produced only irregularly and most often in a non-integrated manner. In the worst case, scientific findings cannot be shared at all because of confidentiality.

An integrated approach of reporting would however not only lead to readily and widely available state-of-the-art knowledge, it would also ensure a continued audit of the ongoing monitoring (cf. adaptive monitoring programmes) and would further strengthen the communication and interaction with the offshore renewable energy sector at large.



**Yearly integrated reports
freely available via
www.mumm.ac.be/EN/Management/Sea-based**

The Belgian offshore wind farm environmental monitoring is summarized in a yearly integrated report since 2009:

- facilitating a swift transition from observational, baseline monitoring to understanding-oriented, targeted monitoring and research.
- promoting our monitoring programme and increasing our research' visibility both to the scientific community and the offshore wind energy sector.
- ensuring a close interaction with the offshore wind farm industry.