

Innovative multi-use prototype combining offshore renewable energy and aquaculture in the Atlantic Basin

WP1 SETTING LEGAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

D1.4 – RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT IN MU PLATFORMS

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¹ PU= Public, SEN=Sensitive



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Acronyms & Abbreviations

APGA	Australian Pipelines and Gas Association Ltd
ACIISI- GOBCAN	Canary Islands Agency for Research, Innovation, and Information Society
CA	Canary Islands
CINEA	European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency
CIV	Civil society
EC	European Commission
EMFAF	European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (Call EMFAF-2021-PIA-FLAGSHIP)
ES	Spain
ESPON	EU funded programme that bridges research with policies
EU	European Union / European level
FR	France
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
GOV	Government
IND	Industry
MU	multi-use
PT	Portugal
QH	Quadruple Helix
тн	Triple Helix
UNI	University
W2Power	Wind to Power prototype

Executive summary

The **AquaWind project** aims to demonstrated for the first time in the Atlantic region, a multi-use, co-located integrated solution combining floating Wind to Power (W2Power) renewable energy prototype with an innovative finfish aquaculture system. The aquaculture unit includes a tailor-made fish cage with novel net materials, high digitalization, and species diversification, while W2Power system delivers renewable electricity. AquaWind unites a multidisciplinary consortium of R&D centres, companies, a regional authority, and a maritime cluster from three EU member states (FR, ES, PT).

A stakeholder engagement plan—outlined in Deliverable D1.3—has been implemented and continuously updated, covering stakeholder mapping, participation levels, standardized communication and GDPR compliance. Four progress reports (D1.6-D1.9) have been documented at successive stages of the project lifecycle, each offering in-depth analysis of stakeholder activities, key milestones reached, and the evolution of social acceptance metrics. This final document, "Recommendations for successful stakeholder involvement in multi-use platforms," consolidated lessons learned.

Structured in four sections, the report (1) sets the project framework, objectives, phases, schedule, key actors, and governance principles; (2) analyses activities during M1–M30, including pre-demonstration surveys; (3) reviews events between M31–M36 across academic, industrial, and institutional forums; and (4) outlines conclusions and strategic recommendations, highlighting success factors, best practices, and guidelines for future multi-use platform deployment and monitoring.



1. Project Overview and objectives

The AquaWind project is a pioneering European initiative that seeks to demonstrate the viability of an integrated and co-located multi-use (MU) solution, combining marine renewable energy production (floating wind) with an innovative finfish aquaculture solution. The main objective is to perform a demonstration test by joining an existing marine renewable energy prototype, W2Power, with a finfish aquaculture solution that includes a tailor-made fish cage design with novel net materials, a high level of digitalization, and species diversification.

This project marks the first time MU test trials are conducted joining marine energy production with live fish aquaculture in the Atlantic region. AquaWind brings together the efforts of a multidisciplinary stakeholder consortium, including R&D centres, companies, a regional authority, and a maritime cluster from three EU member states (FR, ES, PT) in the Atlantic basin. Furthermore, the project will involve a wide network of stakeholders throughout all its phases to ensure social acceptance.

AquaWind's key objectives include developing a roadmap to address regulatory and legal challenges for the real implementation of multi-use (MU) projects, while building on synergies with previous and ongoing EU-funded initiatives. The project will also demonstrate how joint activities can be digitalized for remote operation in a shared maritime space with different fish species, assessing potential interactions before advancing to a commercial solution for the new W2Power prototype. By generating real data, AquaWind aims to prove the economic, environmental, and social sustainability of MU concepts, including a business model case study and an exploitation plan to evaluate cost reductions in start-up, maintenance, and operations, as well as the prototype's TRL progression. Environmental monitoring campaigns further provide evidence on ecosystem impacts and CO2 footprint reduction.

The project capitalizes on extensive experience from earlier initiatives, many involving AquaWind partners, and leverages the technical expertise and networks of European organizations active in maritime and offshore sectors. Located in a Sea Basin that aligns with both the Atlantic Ocean and Outermost Regions strategies, AquaWind contributes to five shared priorities: implementing the ecosystem approach, reducing Europe's carbon footprint, sustainably exploiting marine resources, strengthening responses to threats and emergencies, and promoting socially inclusive growth.



1.1 Purpose and Scope of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan

The main objective of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (D1.3) is to detail how stakeholder engagement is being carried out in all phases of the AquaWind project to promote social acceptance of the multi-purpose solution. This document is Deliverable D1.3 of work package 1 (WP1).

The scope of the plan covers the definition of the type and degree of stakeholder participation, engagement channels, stakeholder mapping, and preparation for engagement, including standardized communication rules and GDPR compliance. It focuses on implementing an inclusive process, involving stakeholders at regional, national, and European levels, prioritizing public administrations, academia, the business sector (including the local supply chain), and social agents such as business associations, labour unions, and NGOs with an environmental profile.

1.2 Key Phases and timeline

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (D1.3) was framed within Work Package 1 (WP1) of the AquaWind project, which began on 01/09/2022. Deliverable D1.3 had a due date of 28/02/2023 and served as the foundational document for stakeholder engagement activities throughout the project's lifecycle.

Stakeholder engagement activities have been established in two main phases, aligning with the prototype's development and deployment milestones:

<u>Pre-demonstration Phase</u>: This phase included the launch of a technical survey in the first months of the project to collect information from stakeholders, along with at least two activities (interviews, focus groups, technical workshops or matchmaking actions). It also covered the assembly and initial testing of the octagonal aquaculture cage prototype at Taliarte harbour, with live fish testing initiated in March 2024. More recently, the W2Power prototype with the cage installed, was launched at the ASTICAN dock (June 2025) and is awaiting a suitable weather window for towing to PLOCAN test site.



<u>Post-demonstration Phase</u>: This phase foresees a second participatory survey and at least two further activities (interviews, focus groups, workshops, or matchmaking actions). It will begin once the multi-use prototype is installed at the PLOCAN test site. As of August 2025, the prototype has not yet been deployed. Due to delays, the project has been extended by six months. Since this report is the final deliverable concerning stakeholder engagement, the second survey will instead be launched following the release of Deliverable D1.9 (Progress Report). An update to deliverable (D1.9) will then be produced at the end of the project to incorporate survey results. Execution of this second survey and activities will be directly linked to outcomes from prototype tests at PLOCAN test site, once operations commence.

In addition, four progress reports (D1.6 – D1.7 – D1.8 – D1.9) were produced at months 6, 12, 24, and 30, respectively, documenting stakeholder engagement activities completed to those dates. This document, "Recommendations for successful stakeholder involvement in multi-use platforms," serves as the final comprehensive report on stakeholder engagement.

1.3 Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder mapping is an important step in understanding who the key stakeholders are, what expertise they possess, and where and how they can contribute to the project. The objective of a mapping exercise is to ensure that potential external experts who might have an interest or a stake in the project's results have been identified. This will lead to a more efficient and targeted communication strategy and will ensure high-quality contributions from the stakeholders.

The AquaWind project, although involving Spain, Portugal, and France, has a strong regional character, focusing primarily on the Canary Islands, where the actions will be carried out. However, stakeholders related to the wind energy and aquaculture sectors at national (ES, PT, FR) and European levels are also considered.

Stakeholder identification has been carried out based on the experience of the project partners and considering the actors of the quadruple helix.



Table 1. Stakeholder groups description

Stakeholder	
groups	Description
Research community (researchers, PhD students)	Science stakeholders include a diverse network of actors managing, coordinating, or conducting scientific research related to marine activities. This group includes the research community, science managers as well students and PhD scientists. The science category includes actors at local, national, intergovernmental, and European levels as well as representatives of other EU projects.
Industry Representatives, Investors	This category includes representatives of the fishery sector, aquaculture, renewable energy but also maritime transport. Companies willing to commercialise the products and services developed in the demo work packages will require robust exploitation plans, risk and benefit assessments, which will be produced under WP5. They will also benefit from the networking opportunities and communication activities offered under WP7.
Societal Actors (citizens, public, civil society organisations)	This category includes both citizens and organizations which operate in the marine field and are affected by marine related activities and citizens who have no specific knowledge of MUP and are not affected by marine activities in their everyday life. The public will receive awareness-raising materials to trigger their interest, improve their literacy on renewable energy and aquaculture needs and their relevance for climate change mitigation and food production. In addressing the public, citizen science activities will be promoted as for the first group, environmental organizations, local action groups, and other type of associations will be reached to provide them with comprehensive information on AquaWind solutions and to foster social acceptance.
Policy and decision-makers	They will require short and concise recommendations and visual documentation facilitating the understanding of how MUP can impact a broader policy sector and how policy can support or hamper the installations of MUPs. Policymakers at regional, national and EU level will be targeted. At EU level several Directorates-General will be reached (RTD, CLIMA, ENER, ENV, MARE), the JRC, European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency; the European Parliament (intergroups, committees, MEPs), international Ocean governance initiatives, OECD Ocean Economy working group.
Fisheries communities	The approach to the fishing community will be carried out through the Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs). FLAGs are entities with their own local development strategies, which in specific fishing and aquaculture areas bring together companies, public entities, third sector and research entities to implement the strategies.

Table 2. Stakeholder groups detailed

Stakeholder	Nowe of the stakeholder
groups	Name of the stakeholder
Industry Representatives, Investors	 (CA) Fundación Puertos de Las Palmas - FPLP (CA) Clúster Marítimo de Canarias - CMC (CA) Federación de la PYME del Sector del Metal de Las Palmas – FEMEPA (CA) Federación Provincial de Empresarios del Metal y Nuevas Tecnologías de Santa Cruz de Tenerife – FEMETE (CA) Asociación Industrial de Canarias – ASINCA (CA) Asociación Canaria de Startups, Empresas de Base Tecnológica e Inversores Ángeles – EMERGE (CA) Asociación Canaria de Espacios Colaborativos – ACEC (CA) Cámara de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de Santa Cruz de Tenerife (CA) Cámara de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de Fuerteventura (CA) Cámara de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de Lanzarote (ES) Apromar: Asociación empresarial de acuicultura española (APROMAR) (ES) Asociación Empresarial Eólica (AEE) (ES) Asociación Española de Bioempresas (ASEBIO) (EU) Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP) (EU) European Algae Biomass Association (EABA) (EU) WindEurope
Societal Actors (citizens, public, civil society organisations)	 (CA) A LA BLEUE ETOILE SURF (CA) ASOCIACIÓN ADEPSI (CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DE LA BIODIVERSIDAD CANARIA (ACBC) (CA) ASOCIACIÓN AVANFUER (ASOCIACIÓN DE VOLUNTARIOS DE AYUDA A LA NATURALEZA DE FUERTEVENTURA) (CA) ASOCIACIÓN BIENESTAR AMBIENTAL (ABIA) (CA) ASOCIACIÓN MOJO DE CAÑA (CA) CONFEDERACIÓN DE FEDERACIONES Y ASOCIACIONES DE MAYORES DE CANARIAS (COFAMCA) (CA) Federación Insular de Vela de Gran Canaria (CA) Club de Amigos del Piragüismo (CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE FAMILIAS DE PERSONAS CON DISCAPACIDAD INTELECTUAL Y DEL DESARROLLO - APAELP (CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE JEFES DE AGRUPACIONES MUNICIPALES DE VOLUNTARIOS DE PROTECCIÓN CIVIL CANARIAS (APROCICA) (CA) ASOCIACIÓN APADIS (DE PADRES Y MADRES DE PERSONAS CON DISCAPACIDAD)

Stakeholder	Name of the stakeholder
groups	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CANARIA DE MEDIADORES INTERCULTURALES
	(ACAMEI)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CANARIA DE TURISMO ACTIVO-ACTIVA CANARIAS
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CANARIA DE TORISMO ACTIVO ACTIVA CANARIAS (CA) ASOCIACIÓN CANARIA PARA EL DESARROLLO DE LA EDUCACIÓN Y
	LA CULTURA VEREDAS
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CLUB DE LA BICI VERDE
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CLUB DE MAYORES EL TINGLADO
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CLUB DEPORTIVO DISPACINT
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CREANDO MUNDO POR JINAMAR
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CREATIVA PARA EL FOMENTO DE LA IGUALDAD DE
	LOS DERECHOS SOCIALES (AFIDS)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CULTURAL AWARA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CULTURAL COFICAR DE LA ISLETA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CULTURAL DE LA TERCERA EDAD GUAYASEN
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CULTURAL GAROÉ GRAN CANARIA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CULTURAL SALSIPUEDES
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CULTURAL SOY MAMUT
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CULTURAL TAGOROR DOS DE JULIO
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN CULTURAL Y EDUCATIVA CULTURISLAS
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE ACCIÓN SOCIOCOMUNITARIA SUMAS
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE ANTIGUOS ALUMNOS Y AMIGOS DE LA FACULTAD
	DE GEOGRAFÍA E HISTORIA DE LA ULPGC (ALUMNI FGH ULPGC)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE COOPERACIÓN Y VOLUNTARIADO
	INTERNACIONAL PRENSA JUVENIL CANARIA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE DISCAPACITADOS DEL NOROESTE DE GRAN
	CANARIA (ADISNOR)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE DISCAPACITADOS LANZAROTE (ADISLAN)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE EMPRESARIOS TAJINASTE AZUL
	ୱ (CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE LESBIANAS, GAYS, BISEXUALES, TRANS-E
	INTERSEXUALES DE CANARIAS (ALGARABÍA)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE MAYORES SAN NICOLÁS
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE MAYORES UNIVERSIDAD DE LA LAGUNA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE MAYORES VOLUNTARIOS DE TENERIFE (AMAVITE)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE MUJERES TAYDA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE PERSONAS CON DIVERSIDAD FUNCIONAL DE
	CANARIAS MELODY
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DEPORTIVA HURACÁN
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DEPORTIVA SANTA CRUZ BALONCESTO
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DEPORTIVA Y CULTURAL PESCA CANARIA EN ACCIÓN
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DEPORTIVA Y SOCIAL LA VIDA SIGUE EN POSITIVO



Stakeholder	
groups	Name of the stakeholder
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE VOLUNTARIOS DE PROTECCIÓN CIVIL DE
	EMERGENCIAS DE CANARIAS - APROTEC
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DE VOLUNTARIOS DE PROTECCIÓN CIVIL DE SANTA
	LUCÍA PARA EL SOCORRO Y LA EMERGENCIA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN DIÁLOGO SOCIAL Y ARTE (DIALOGARTE)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN FELICES CON NARICES
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN GRUPO ECOLOGISTA ACTIVA (GEA)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN INSERCIÓN SOCIO LABORAL INCLUYE
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN JUVENIL VETERINARIA PARA LA ATENCIÓN DE LA
	FAUNA EXÓTICA Y SALVAJE (AVAFES)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN LGTBI ARANDA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN MENTOR DAY
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN MONTAÑA PARA TODOS
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN MUJER CANARIA SIGLO XXI
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN MUSICAL AYONET
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL APOYO INTEGRAL A LA MUJER "A TI, MUJER"
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL DESARROLLO ECONOMICO Y SOCIAL
	RAYUELA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL DESARROLLO EDUCATIVO Y SOCIAL DE
	JÓVENES (ADESO)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL DESARROLLO INTEGRAL DE LAS MUJERES,
	MERCEDES MACHADO
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL FOMENTO DE LA FORMACIÓN, EMPLEO,
	INFORMACIÓN Y DESARROLLO DEL NORTE (AFEDES)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL IMPULSO DE LA PARTICIPACIÓN CIUDADANA
	(IMPARCI)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA LA DINAMIZACIÓN DEL EMPLEO Y LA
	PROMOCIÓN DE LA CONVIVENCIA INTER-VEN
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA LA PARTICIPACIÓN E INTEGRACIÓN SOCIAL
	FACTORIA SOCIAL
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA LA PROMOCIÓN DEL VOLUNTARIADO
	INTERNACIONAL Y LOS OBJETIVOS DE DESARROLLO SOSTENIBLE
	(MARESÍA)
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN PARA PROMOCIÓN DEL EMPLEO Y LA COHESIÓN
	SOCIAL CREATIVA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN RURAL DE MUJERES TIEMAR
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN SENDEROS SIN BARRERAS
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN SOCIAL Y CULTURAL PARA LAS MUJERES MARARÍA
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN SOCIOCULTURAL DE MUJERES PARA LA INTEGRACIÓN
	DE TENERIFE



Stakeholder groups	Name of the stakeholder
groups	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN SOCIO-CULTURAL PAZ, ARTE, HUMANISMO Y
	PROGRESO
	(CA) ASOCIACIÓN SOCIO CULTURAL Y DEPORTIVA VESTABÉS
	(CA) COLECTIVO DE GAYS, LESBIANAS, BISEXUALES, TRANSEXUALES +
	SIMPATIZANTES DE FUERTEVENTURA (ALTIHAY)
	👙 (CA) CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA EN LA PROVINCIA DE LAS PALMAS
	(CA) DELEGACIÓN TERRITORIAL DE LA ONCE EN CANARIAS
	🕯 (CA) FEDERACIÓN COORDINADORA DE ONG DE DESARROLLO DE
	CANARIAS (CONGDCA)
	🕮 (CA) FEDERACIÓN DE ASOCIACIONES DE MAYORES DE CANARIAS
	(FEMAC)
	🍇 (CA) FEDERACIÓN DE ASOCIACIONES DE MUJERES ARENA Y LAURISILVA
	(CA) FEDERACIÓN DE ASOCIACIONES DE REFUGIADOS E INMIGRANTES
	(FERINE)
	🍇 (CA) FEDERACIÓN UNIÓN DE ESTUDIANTES DE GRAN CANARIA (UDEGC)
	🥯 (CA) FUNDACIÓN CANARIA DE JUVENTUD IDEO
	🥯 (CA) FUNDACIÓN CANARIA DINOSOL
	🕯 (CA) FUNDACIÓN CANARIA PARA LA REFORESTACIÓN (FUNDACIÓN
	FORESTA)
	(CA) FUNDACIÓN CANARIA SOLIDARIDAD LA PALMA
	(CA) FUNDACIÓN CANARIA YRICHEN
	(CA) FUNDACIÓN PARA LA FORMACIÓN Y LA INSERCIÓN SOCIO-
	LABORAL ATARETACO
	(CA) GAMÁ COLECTIVOLGTBI DE CANARIAS
	(CA) GEÓLOGOS DEL MUNDO
	(CA) RADIO ECCA, FUNDACIÓN CANARIA
	(CA) REAL SOCIEDAD ECONÓMICA AMIGOS DEL PAÍS DE TENERIFE
	(ES) FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE ACTIVIDADES SUBACUÁTICAS
	(ES) REAL FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE MOTONÁUTICA
4	(ES) REAL FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE NATACIÓN
	(ES) FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE PESCA Y CASTING
	(ES) FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE PIRAGÜISMO
	(ES) REAL FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE SALVAMENTO Y SOCORRISMO
	(ES) FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE SURFING
	(ES) REAL FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE VELA
	SOCIEDAD ATLÁNTICA DE OCEANÓGRAFOS
Policy and	(CA) Consejería de Economía, Conocimiento y Empleo del Gobierno de
decision-makers	Canarias



Stakeholder	Nowe of the stakeholder
groups	Name of the stakeholder
	(CA) Consejería de Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca del Gobierno de
	Canarias
	(CA) Consejería de Turismo, Industria y Comercio
	(CA) Agencia Canaria de Investigación, Innovación y Sociedad de la
	Información – ACIISI
	(CA) Autoridad Portuaria de Las Palmas – APLP
	(CA) Autoridad Portuaria de Santa Cruz de Tenerife – APTFE
	(CA) Ente Público Puertos Canarios – EPPE
	(CA) Compañía de Desarrollo de Canarias – SODECAN
	(CA) Sociedad de Promoción Económica de Gran Canaria – SPEGC
	(CA) Sociedad Canaria de Fomento Económico, S.A. – PROEXCA
	(ES) Ministerio para la transición ecológica y el resto demográfico
	(ES) Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación
	🥯 (PT) Ministerio da Economia e do Mar
	(PT) Ministerio do Ambiente e Transição Energética
	(FR) Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Souveraineté Alimentaire
	(FR) Ministère de la Transition énergétique
	(EU) DG ENER
	(EU) DG REGIO
	(EU) JRC – DG RTD
	(EU) DG MARE
	(ORs) Comité de Suivi of the EU Outermost Regions
	(CA) Grupo de Acción Costera de Gran Canaria - GAC GC
	(CA) Grupo de Acción Costera Fuerteventura
	(CA) Grupo de Acción Costera Tenerife (GAC Tenerife)
	(CA) Asociación para el Desarrollo Rural de la isla de La Palma (GAC La
	Palma)
Fisheries	(CA) Asociación Insular de Desarrollo Rural de La Gomera (AIDER La
communities	Gomera)
	(CA) Asociación para el Desarrollo Rural y Pesquero de Lanzarote
_	(ADERLAN Lanzarote)
	(CA) Asociación Grupo de Acción Social y Pesquera El Hierro (GALP El
	Hierro)
	(EU) Consejo Consultivo de las Regiones Ultraperiféricas (CC RUP)

1.4 Engagement methodology and tools

The stakeholder engagement methodology in AquaWind was based on an inclusive and multifaceted approach, aimed at coordinating interactions for mutual benefit and ensuring compliance with privacy policies and ethical personal data management. Initially, a draft survey model was piloted at various conferences and trade fairs; based on the feedback received, the survey was refined and then deployed across additional events, as well as disseminated via social media, email campaigns, and the project website. To capture in-depth input on-site, a concise, interview-style version of the survey, focused on the most critical questions, was administered to attendees, who were then sent a follow-up email containing a longer, open-ended questionnaire to elaborate on their responses. As mentioned in previous sections, due to delays in prototype testing, the planned post-installation survey has not yet been conducted; this second consultation instrument will be developed and launched once sufficient test results are available and will be incorporated into the final update of Deliverable D1.9 at the project's conclusion.

To complement survey feedback, dissemination actions were carried out throughout the project, mainly under WP7, during which the stakeholder engagement plan was applied through three levels of participation:

- Informative participation (knowledge diffusion): Executed according to the actions defined in WP7.
- Consultative participation (knowledge utilization): This was the primary approach to stakeholders. In addition to online public surveys, opportunities were leveraged at events organized or co-organized by AquaWind partners to distribute surveys to relevant sectors.
- Collaborative participation (co-creation of knowledge): Implemented through activities in WP7 and the technical work packages (WP2, WP3, WP4) focused on developing the energy-generating device and fish-farming system.

Engagement channels had included both physical meetings and digital tools. Online consultations were designed based on a bibliographic review of social-perception surveys related to offshore wind energy, allowing for a broad spectrum of questions.



Beyond the WP1 surveys, the project promoted a wide array of dissemination and communication activities under WP7, closely aligned with WP1's stakeholder engagement objectives and outcomes. Dedicated channels were established for each group within the Quadruple Helix, specifying the type of information and key messages to be shared:

- Research community: Open-access publications, conference presentations, social media, project website, training sessions, academic journals, and specialized/scientific media.
- Industry representatives & investors: Organization and participation in dedicated events, factsheets, leaflets, project result briefs, and the business/exploitation plan.
- Societal actors (citizens, public, civil-society organizations): Website updates, factsheets, newsletters, social media campaigns, webinars, event participation, and press coverage.
- Policy- and decision-makers: Joint sessions/events, seminars, roundtables, bilateral meetings, newsletters, and media outreach.
- Fisheries communities: Engagement through Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs).

Table 3. Stakeholder engagement channels

Target group	Communication channels	Type of information
Research community (researchers, PhD students)	 Open-access publications Conference presentations Social media Project website Trainings Journals Specialised and scientific media 	 Project description and updates Project scientific publications Project results
Industry Representatives, Investors	 Organization and participation to dedicated events Factsheets Leaflet 	Project resultsBusiness/exploitation plan
Societal Actors (citizens, public, civil society organisations)	 Website, Factsheet, newsletter Social media Webinars Participation to events Newspapers (media) 	 Project description and updates Project publications Project impact assessment



Target group	Communication channels	Type of information
Policy and decision- makers	 Joint sessions/events Seminars, roundtables Bilateral meetings Newsletter Newspapers (media) 	 Project results Project description and updates Project impact Advantages of the prototype

1.5 Communication principles and governance

Communication and dissemination in AquaWind were guided by five core principles, as defined in the D7.1 Dissemination and Communication Plan:

- Adaptability: Activities were tailored to diverse research themes, stakeholder communities and project stages.
- Flexibility: The framework remained open to evolving needs and unforeseen challenges.
- Message Tailoring: Key messages and terminology were calibrated for each audience—from technical experts to lay citizens—ensuring clarity and relevance.
- **Exploitation of Synergies**: Partners actively leveraged their external networks and joined relevant platforms to maximize impact and efficiency.
- Gender-Sensitive, Inclusive Style: All materials and interactions avoided stereotypes, promoted balanced representation of women and men, and adopted a respectful, non-patronizing tone.

Centralized Governance & Data Ethics

AquaWind's communication and stakeholder engagement were centrally coordinated to ensure efficiency, mutual benefit and strict adherence to privacy policies and ethical data-management standards. Initial outreach included anonymous public surveys, alongside clear invitations to connect via the project website, social media channels, newsletter and general project email.

Event-Driven Outreach & Consent Management

For targeted events—conferences, webinars and exhibition stand—all consortium partners:

Promoted activities through their own networks and channels.



- Distributed official invitations, agendas and registration forms requesting only essential personal data (name, surname, email).
- Included a concise Informed Consent Form in the registration process, covering:
- Permission to use personal data for logistical and organizational purposes (GDPR-compliant).
- Optional consent to subscribe to the project newsletter and be re-contacted for future events.

Deliverables under WP7 & WP5 Synergy

Under WP7, in close collaboration with WP5, AquaWind produced and delivered:

- Visual Assets: Videos, infographics and other documentation.
- On-Site Engagement: Exhibition stands, presentations and dedicated workshops at key industry and scientific events.
- **Educational Outreach**: Citizen-science initiatives and school presentations.
- Virtual Events: Webinars and training sessions tailored to researchers, innovators and policymakers.
- Networking & Exploitation: Participation in external platforms to foster uptake of the multi-use solution.

Documentation & Continuous Improvement

After each engagement activity, the process and stakeholder feedback were meticulously documented, reviewed and assessed. Results were incorporated into the periodic progress reports to:

- Measure the effectiveness and reach of each action.
- Identify lessons learned and best practices.
- Define follow-up steps and adjust the communication strategy as needed.



2. Overview of activities launched (M1 – M30)

This section provides an overview of the stakeholder engagement activities carried out during the **M1-M30 period** of the AquaWind project. In summary, these activities have included presenting the project at various events and fairs, where the project was also disseminated through flyers and visual materials. Furthermore, interviews were conducted using a dedicated survey to collect feedback from attendees about the AquaWind project.

2.1 Summary infographic / Table of Event

This section includes a table listing each event in a row, including a representative image, the title of the action, the date, and a brief description. Events are listed chronologically from oldest to newest.

Table 4. Activities carried out during the M1-M30 period of the AquaWind project

Image	Title	Date	Description
Section 1 Control of the control of	Conference on Offshore Wind Energy in the Canary Islands, Projection and Challenges	25/10/22	AquaWind project was presented by Dr Javier Roo, AquaWind Project Coordinator, who focused his speech on the research and development of prototypes, with the presentation of the AquaWind Platform
The state of the s	XVIII National Aquaculture Congress (CNA)	21/11/22 - 24/11/22	AquaWind project was presented by Javier Roo, head of R&D&I projects at the Canary Islands Agency for Research, Innovation, and the Information Society of the Canary Islands Government (ACIISI) and coordinator of the project
Total Are in sind contributions applicable to all type of costs? Are in sind contributions applicable to all type of costs? Can you orgain when payments will be made during the project orgain when payments will be made during the project orgain when payments will be made during the project orgain.	EMFAF 2022 Info Day	24/11/22	Monica Quesada, project manager of the CMC, attended the info day, in person, with the aim of identifying calls for new actions compatible with the AquaWind project



Image	Title	Date	Description
	Aquafuture Spain 2023	28/03/23 - 30/03/23	AquaWind project was part of the programme, with a presentation of the initiative given by Dr. Javier Roo, the project's leader
	AquaWind & FLORA joint meeting	01/06/23	AquaWind, coordinated from the Canary Islands, held a joint event with the FLORA project to explore synergies between these pioneering initiatives in the Atlantic region.
AguaWind Consertium Agua Wind Consertium A	Bilateral meeting with a company interested in combined solutions between renewable energy production and aquaculture	14/06/23	AquaWind's Coordinator, Dr. Javier Roo, carried out a presentation about the project and the novelty of this multi-use solution, being the only European initiative that combines offshore renewable energy production and fish farming, in the first floating wind platform in Spain, capable of jointly producing wind energy and high-quality fish
Fer Control of the Co	FIMAR 2023	16/06/23 - 18/06/23	Promotion of the Aquawind project, as the CMC's booth utilised the visitor flow to showcase the different activities carried out by the project and the ongoing survey to gauge society's perception on such initiatives combining wind energy production and fish aquaculture
	NAVALIA MEETING	20/09/23 - 22/09/23	The project was disseminated through images and videos of the project at the stand of the Canary Islands Maritime Cluster. Surveys and interviews were also carried out with the



Image	Title	Date	Description
			attendees of the event to find out the social acceptance of this project and its impact.
PAEE 1 COMMENTS OF COL MANN THE STATE OF TH	II Offshore Wind Congress	07/11/23 - 08/11/23	The AquaWind project made its presence felt at the II AEE Offshore Wind Congress in Gran Canaria. Recognizing the potential of offshore wind energy to revolutionize aquaculture practices, the AquaWind team actively engaged with congress attendees through a series of surveys and interviews.
AQUAWIND The standard and an article and a standard	World Aquaculture Day Professional Sessions	30/11/23	The AquaWind project was presented and disseminated at this event, which was attended by Javier Roo. In addition, surveys/interviews were conducted with attendees to gather their opinions on marine renewable energy, aquaculture and multipurpose prototypes.
The state of the s	Smart Specialisation Strategy (RIS3) in the Canary Islands: Blue Economy Informative Day	13/12/23	Javier Roo presented the AquaWind project- Gran Canaria island.

Palacio de Formación y Co de Fuerteventu Palacio de Fuerteventu Referente de 1004 Palacio de Fuerteventu Palacio de Fuerteventu Paración y Co de Fuerteventu Paración y Co de Fuerteventu Paración y Co de Fuerteventu	Smart Specialisation Strategy (RIS3) in the Canary Islands: Technological Breakfast	31/01/24	Javier Roo presented the AquaWind project. Fuerteventura island.
	Best students visit the Taliarte dock facilities to explore the AquaWind project	19/03/24	AquaWind coordinator Javier Roo gave a warm welcome to the BEST (Board of European Students of Technology) participants when they visited the Taliarte dock facilities on 19 March. The aim of the visit was to provide the students with training to learn about the innovative AquaWind project and its environmental impact.
CANARY ISLANDS Powered by the trade winds	WindEurope 2024	20/03/24 - 22/03/24	The project was disseminated by flyers and images on the screens of the Canary Islands Stand. The Stand visitors showed great enthusiasm for AquaWind's innovative technology and its potential to contribute to the development of more sustainable and efficient offshore wind energy. AquaWind's participation in WindEurope Bilbao 2024 is considered a resounding success that has reinforced the project's position as a leader in the floating offshore wind energy sector.

DOWN COLLINOTS AS COLUMN AS COLLINOTS AS COLUMN AS	FIMAR 2024	06/06/24 - 08/06/24	The AquaWind project was showcased at the stand of the Canary Islands Maritime Cluster (CMC) and the Federation of Port Entities (FEDEPORT)
Jaylet Roo Jaylet	El Hierro, an island with projection in R&D&I in the extended RIS3	14/06/24	Javier Roo presented the AquaWind project. El Hierro Island.
Answering of the second of the	National Aquaculture Congress	17/06/24 - 19/06/24	AquaWind featured in the exhibition hall with its own stand, where it disseminated current project information and conducted interviews with attendees to gather their opinions and visions. On the final day, Javier Roo, the AquaWind project coordinator, delivered a presentation
Proyectos europeos en los que participa ACIIS athena por servicio de la companya del companya de la companya de la companya del companya de la companya del compan	La Gomera, an island with projection in R&D&I in the extended RIS3	24/07/24	Jesús Conde, technician in the Government of the Canary Islands, had the opportunity to present some innovative projects, such as the AquaWind project
Proyectos europeos en los que participa ACIISI athena un participa de la companya de la compan	La Palma, an island with projection in R&D&I in the extended RIS3	01/08/24	Jesús Conde, technician in the Government of the Canary Islands, had the opportunity to present some innovative projects, such as the AquaWind project.

Acquisition of the control of the co	BlueUp Blue Economy Event	04/10/24	Michelle Perello, CEO of Consulta Europa, presented the AquaWind project
Enercia	III Offshore Wind Congress	06/11/24 - 08/11/24	The AquaWind project also took center stage at the event, with EnerOcean, a sponsor of the congress and a key partner in AquaWind, playing a prominent role. EnerOcean showcased the project's innovations through an engaging stand that provided attendees with detailed information about AquaWind's objectives and advancements. Furthermore, Pedro Mayorga, CEO of EnerOcean, participated in Session 7: From Engineering to Installation – Strengths of the Spanish Wind Power Value Chain, where he highlighted the project's contributions and the broader potential of Spanish engineering and industrial capabilities in offshore wind energy development.
ANNUAL SENTINER A CONTRACTOR ANNUAL SENTINER	Wavec Seminar 2024	03/12/24	AquaWind's project videos were prominently featured during the morning and afternoon breaks, enhancing the project's visibility among the 218 attendees AquaWind leveraged this opportunity to engage with other industry leaders, forge strategic alliances, and solidify its position as a key player in marine energy innovation.



E Control of Control o	III Offshore Wind Energy Roundtable	09/12/24	Javier Roo, Head of R+D+I Projects of ACIISI, who exposed the AquaWind project defending the potential of the Canary Islands in the development of floating offshore wind energy.
CAN brown	A Smart Specialization strategy, the extended RIS3, for the Blue Economy of the Canaries	09/12/24	Javier Roo presented the AquaWind project

2.2 Survey

This section presents the survey used as the main tool to collect attendees' opinions about the AquaWind project. The survey form can be accessed through the following link: https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/AquaWind_Survey

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

🗯 1 Gender:	
□Male □Female □I prefer do not disclose my gender	□18-24 □25-34 □35-44 □45-54 □55-64 □65-74 □75 or more
 3 Marital status:□Single□Married	 4 Minor-age decendents in the household: □No minor decendents in the household □1 minor-age decendent
□None of the above Solution	☐2 o more minor-age decendents 6 Educational level:
□I live alone □With 1 person □With 2 people □With 3 people □With 4 people or more	□No studies □Elementary education □Secondary education – T&D □Bachelor's degree □Postgraduate degree - PhD

7 Salary (according to the Economically Active Population Survey in Spain, the average monthly gross salary was 2.086,8€ in 2021): ☐ It was inferior to the national average ☐ It was the same as the national average ☐ It was superior to the national average	8 Sector of occupation according to the economic sector: Primary sector (Agriculture, Stockbreeding, Aquaculture, Fishing, others) Secondary sector (Industry, Construction, Energy, others) Tertiary/Services sector (transport, commerce, tourism, health, education, and finance) Unemployed
9 In AquaWind's stakeholder engagement plan (https://aquawind.eu/results/), stakeholders have been associated with different groups. Which group would encompass your current professional activity? Research community (researchers, Ph.D. students) Industry representatives, investors Social actors (citizens, the general public, civil society organizations, and the third sector) Policymakers and decision-makers Fishing communities Other	10 Which country do you reside in?
	12 Which island do you reside in?
If we consider a coastal area to be less than 50km away from the see, do you live in a coastal area?:□YES□NO	



RENEWABLE ENERGY

14 What is your opinion about renewable energy?:	15 Do you know the different types of renewable energies that exist?
□In favor □Against	□YES □NO
16 Which types of renewable energy do you consider most suitable?:	17 Are you familiar with any renewable energy companies?:
□Fotovoltaica (en tierra o en alta mar) □Eólica (en tierra o en alta mar) □Hidráulica □Mareomotriz □Geotérmica □Biomasa □Energía de las olas □Gradiente de temperatura y salinidad □Biocombustibles □Other:	□YES. Which one?: □NO
 ■ 18 In your opinion, should we make use of renewable energies and rely less on other energies, e.g. from burning fossil fuels? □YES □NO 	

MARINE RENEWABLE ENERGY

19 What is your opinion about marine renewable energies?:□In favor□Against	 20 Do you agree with the installation of offshore wind farms (in open sea) in selected areas of your community?: □YES □NO
21 What do you consider to be the main drawback of implementing offshore wind farms? (multiple choice): Usual Impact Environmental impact Proximity Number of turbines to install Other:	
22 Would you accept the installation of another type of renewable energy in the coastal area (within a distance of less than 50 km from the sea) and/or in the sea?: □YES	23 Do you believe you have access to sufficient information about the marine renewable energy projects being proposed in your community?: □YES □NO
 24 Do you know the reference legislation for the implementation and development of offshore energy?: □YES □NO 	25 Do you believe that the implementation of this type of energy is an advantage for your community?:□YES□NO
 26 If your answer is affirmative, please select the option you consider to be the main advantage: □ Economic □ Inexhaustible resource 	27 Do you believe that this type of renewable energy will significantly contribute to reducing the dependence on fossil fuel imports and, consequently, the generation of CO2?:



☐Benefits to citizenship ☐Other:	□YES □NO	
AQUACULTURE		
28 What is your opinion about aquaculture?:	29 Do you know the different types of aquaculture that exist?	
□In favor □Against	□YES □NO	
30 When you buy fish, are you able to identify if it is wild fish or farm-raised fish?: □ I can't identify it □ I'm not interested in identifying it □ I can identify it	 31 Do you prefer wild or farm-raised fish?: □ I prefer wild fish □ It is unimportant to me □ I prefer farm-raised fish □ It depends on the price 	
 32 Do you have any preference on the fish's origin?: It is unimportant to me I prefer fish from the EU I prefer local fish 	 33 Do you know your regional aquaculture supply chain (all the necessary activities, facilities and means of distribution)?: □ YES □ NO 	
 34 In the coming years, aquaculture in your region should: □ Increase □ Stay the same □ Decrease □ Does not know/ does not answer 	35 When comparing aquacultural products to traditional fisheries' products, which of these aspects would you highlight from aquaculture as opposed to fisheries? (multiple choice): □ Freshness and Taste □ Guaranteed availability and price □ Traceability and food security □ Sustainability of the production □ Source of employment for the region	



☐ Other:

MULTI-USE PLATFORM

36 In your opinion, does the implementation of prototypes that combine energy generation and aquaculture provide an advantage for the development of both sectors?: □YES □NO	 37 Regarding the aquaculture sector, do you believe that the implementation of offshore wind energy poses a risk to this activity?: □YES. Why? □NO
38 In relation to the previous question, do you believe that such implementation can enhance the competitiveness of the aquaculture sector? □YES □NO	■ 39 Do you think that the implementation of aquaculture in offshore wind farms is an economic opportunity for producers in the fishing sector?: □YES □NO
40 Do you think that the implementation of aquaculture in offshore wind farms optimizes the use of maritime space due to the dual use of the same marine area?: □YES □NO	41 Do you know the additional services (monitoring, maintenance, verification, sale of products/services) that are provided to these multi-use platforms?: □YES □NO
 42 Do you think that additional services on multi-use platforms generate opportunities for local communities?: □YES □NO 	 43 If it were possible for the aquaculture sector to contribute to the implementation of these activities, would you agree to carry them out? □YES □NO

LEGISLATION

It should be clarified that the following legislation questions are in line with the location where the project will be carried out. The prototype will be installed in the Canary Islands; therefore, the legislative knowledge is in accordance with the legislation corresponding to this region.

44 Do you know the Roadmap for the development of offshore wind and marine energy in Spain ? ☐YES ☐NO	45 Do you know the National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030? □YES □NO
46 Are you aware of the recently approved national Maritime Spatial Plans (POEMs), which indicate the areas where offshore wind can be installed? □YES □NO	47 In relation to the previous question, do you know the management plans for aquaculture activity in your Autonomous Community, and the areas designated as (extracted from Spanish) ZIA (Zonas de interés acuícola) and ZICM (Zonas de interés para los cultivos marinos)? □YES □NO
48 Are you aware of the new strategic guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture for the period 2021-2030? □YES □NO	 49 In relation to the previous question, are you aware of Spain's contribution to these new strategic guidelines? □YES □NO

CONTACT

 50 Do you want to be contacted for?: □ Receive information □ Participate in activities □ Both: receive information and participate □ I do not wish to be contacted 	51 In case you want to be contacted, which means would you prefer?: ☐Website / social networks ☐Newsletter to your email ☐By phone ☐Whatsapp / SMS ☐Other:
52 Would you like to participate in activities/events organized within the framework of the project such as courses, training, conferences, participatory meetings, interviews, surveys, etc?: □YES □NO	53 In case you want to be contacted, which means would you prefer?: □Webinar □Informative face-to-face meeting □Round table □Training □Surveys □Interviews □Other:
In case of a positive response, you can get in touch with AquaWind partners using the following contact information: Email: mailto:info@aquawind.eu Phone number: (+34) 828041258 Likewise, we provide our social media platforms in case you would like to continue staying informed about the project's results or wish to get in touch with us:	Instagram: <u>@aquawind</u> Facebook: <u>AquaWind Project</u> LinkedIn: <u>AquaWind Project</u> Twitter: <u>AquaWind Project</u>
Observations (include any comments or ap	preciation):

3. Detailed list of events (M31 - M36)

Below are the stakeholder engagement actions carried out in the final months of the project, specifically **during the M31-M36 period**. This phase has been crucial for consolidating previous efforts, focusing on presenting the results and impact of the project. The activities have been aimed at ensuring that AquaWind's findings and recommendations are understood and supported by key stakeholders, thus facilitating the future implementation of multi-use solutions in the maritime space. The strategy has continued to include participation in industry events and fairs, the dissemination of promotional material, and conducting interviews to gather final feedback on the project's prototype and technology.

3.1 INNOSEA lecture at the Technical University of Denmark



INNOSEA gives a lecture on coactivity in offshore wind farms at the Technical University of Denmark



Figure 1. INNOSEA lecture



3.1.1 INNOSEA lecture at the Technical University of Denmark summary

As part of the AquaWind R&D project's scientific dissemination efforts, Laura Suárez delivered a guest lecture to students in the master's program in Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU). The session, which was organized by fishing gear technology expert and researcher Esther Savina, focused on the concept of coactivity between offshore wind energy (both fixed and floating) and fishing activities.

During her presentation, Suárez outlined the main components of offshore wind farms, with a specific focus on elements that present the highest risks to fisheries, such as cables and anchoring systems.

The topic of coactivity is gaining increasing importance as different sectors share maritime space. In addition to fisheries, other multi-use strategies are being explored, such as integrating offshore wind energy with food production through aquaculture and seaweed farming.

INNOSEA, a partner in the AquaWind consortium, is responsible for the dynamic numerical modelling of the floating wind turbine and its integrated fish cage. Their work is crucial for evaluating the system's performance, particularly the connection between the cage and the floating structure, before the prototype is deployed in Gran Canaria. This action demonstrates AquaWind's commitment to scientific knowledge diffusion and strengthens relationships with the research community, a key stakeholder group for ensuring the project's long-term impact and credibility.

3.2 Turquois X Summit



Figure 2. Turquois X Summit banner

3.2.1 Turquois X Summit summary

The "Turquois X Summit: Accelerating Blue-Green Innovation" was a key forum held from March 26-28, 2025, at MiHub in Arrecife, Lanzarote. The event was organized by the Turquois X initiative in collaboration with local and international partners, including the PLOCAN and the Marina Innova Hub. Its primary goal was to foster innovation for a sustainable blue-green economy and the conservation of oceanic ecosystems. The summit brought together a wide range of experts, innovators, and change-makers from various fields, including ocean science, marine conservation,

start-ups, industry, government, and the investment community, to discuss how to accelerate sustainable ocean innovation.

Key topics addressed during the summit included facilitating ocean research and conservation, sustainable blue-green economic development, innovation in ocean tourism, decarbonization of maritime transport, integration of marine renewable energy, and advancing smart aquaculture and marine robotics.

AquaWind's participation was a central part of the event. Javier Roo, the project coordinator, presented the project's innovative proposal, highlighting its strategy and progress in integrating marine renewable energy with sustainable aquaculture on a multi-purpose floating platform. AquaWind's presence at the summit reinforced its commitment to developing sustainable solutions for the energy transition. By participating in this strategic forum for the marine sector, AquaWind consolidated its position as a benchmark in the sustainable use of ocean resources, promoting dialogue and collaboration with key stakeholders.



Thursday, 27 March 2025

09.00 - COFFEE AND NETWORKING 09:30 - OPENING SESSION Introduction

3.2.2 Turquois X Summit Program

Founder, Turquois X and Klaus Töpter Fellow, Research institute for Sustainability (RIFS), 6 José Joaquín Hernández Brito nary Islands, Spain

Rainer Quitzow Research Group Leader, RIFS, Ge Juan Luis Quincoces Soler

Migdalia María Machin Tavío

onsejeria de Universidades, Ciencia e Innovación Cultura, Gobierno de Canarlas, Spain (invited) Oswaldo Betancort García

Presidente del Cabildo de Lanzarote, Spain (invited) 10:30 - DCEAN SCIENCE AND

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN MACARONESIA

José Joaquín Hernández Brito

anary Islands, Spain Albertino Martins

the Board, Instituto de Mar, Cabo Verde

Telmo Morato
Principal Marine Scientist, Okeanos, University
of the Azores, Portugal

R. Andreas Kraemer

Founder, Ecologic Institute: and Special Adviser, Oceano Azul Foundation, Alemania/Portugal

11:30 - COFFEE

11:45 - INNOVATION PITCHES: ADVANCING OCEAN INNOVATION

Rafael Robaina Romero

Professor, University of Las Palmas Gran Canaria, Spain

Sergio Diaz Martinez

Head of Strategic Projects, Fuerteventura Technology Park, Spain

12:00 - INNOVATION PITCHES:

SUSTAINABLE MARINE MOBILITY I

Billy Thalheimer

John Rossant under and CEO, CoMotion, USA

Jaime Collar Senior Manager Ports and Maritime Transport, 100M, Spain

12:15

SUSTAINABLE PORTS AND MARITIME LOGISTICS

Oliver Risse

Pedro José García Gómez Birector: Smart Port Projects, IDOM, Spail Guillermo Quintana Ramos

Adelina de la Yara

Project Manager, Cluster Maritimo Canarias/FEDPORT, España 14:00 - LUNCH

15:00 - A BLUE-GREEN ECONOMY

Marc Stuart

Paul Holthus

and CEB, World Ocean Council, USA Torsten Thiele

16:00 - COFFEE

16:15 - INNOVATION PITCHES:

Juana Frontela

Ben Sorkin

Helmut Scholze

Senior Partner & Co-founder, Advanced Mobility Institute Kearney, UAE. 17:00 - INSPIRATION KEYNOTE

Nacho Rodriguez

Rainer Stetter

CONFERENCE DINNER

Friday, 28 March 2025

09:00 - COFFEE AND NETWORKING 09:30 - INNOVATION PITCHES: TRANSFORMATIVE OCEAN SOLUTIONS

Már Fernández-Méndez Founder and CEO, Macrocarbon, Spair Janek Andre Founder and CEO, WeWhale, Spain

10:00

SUSTAINABLE OCEAN INNOVATION AND VENTURE BUILDING

Eberhard Sauter

Janade du Plessis

Adam de Sola Pool

ration, Woods Hole Oceanic Institution, USA

Javier Garabal

General Partner, Archipelago Next, Spain

INNOVATION PITCHES: OCEAN & RENEWABLE ENERGY

Rainer Quitzow

oup Leader, Energy Transformation, RIFS, Germany

Carlos Garcia Acón

Javier Roo Filgueira
R&D&I Project Leader, Agency for Research & Innovation,
Government of the Canary Islands, Spain

Elena Sánchez Rívero

Michael Henriksen

CEO, Wavepiston, Denmark/Spain **Sebastian Feimblatt** Co-Founder and CEO, Ocean Oasis, Norway/Spain

12:45 - COFFEE

13:00 - INNOVATION PITCHES: OCEAN CONSERVATION AND GOVERNANCE

Evandro Lopes

al University of the Atlantic, Cabo Verde

Peter Fippinger

Blue Crescent Group, UAE

Tommy Melo Biosfera, Cabo Verde

Ben Boteler

Senior Research Associate, Ocean Governance Group, RIFS, Germany

VERTICAL & AUTONOMOUS MOBILITY FOR DCEAN USE

José Luis García utico y Aergespacial de Canarias, Spain

A Erdem Kazakli

Laia d'Armengol

alma Research Centre, España.

Frank Wernecke

15:00 - CLOSING LUNCH

Figure 3. Turquois X Summit Program



3.2.3 Turquois X Summit Photographic dossier

Table 5. Turquois X Summit Photographic dossier







3.3 Workshop and visit to the AquaWind project prototype for students of the master's degree in marine Crops (13th edition) at the ULPGC.



Figure 4. Students visit the AquaWind project

3.3.1 Workshop and visit to the AquaWind project summary

On May 9, 2025, the AquaWind project welcomed students from the ULPGC's Master's Program in Marine Aquaculture (13th edition) for an educational visit to the prototype and a training session. The activity, led by project coordinator Javier Roo, took place at the Taliarte dock facilities and offered a unique opportunity for students to familiarize themselves with hybrid wind energy and marine aquaculture technologies.

The event combined a theoretical class, which explained the project's objectives and design, with a field visit that allowed students to observe the prototype up close in its real-world environment. This training session not only provided a practical insight into the AquaWind project's progress but also strengthened the connection between academic research and industrial application.

This initiative highlights AquaWind's commitment to knowledge transfer and the training of future professionals in the sustainable aquaculture and renewable energy sectors.



3.4 Visit to MaREI Centre in Cork, Ireland



Figure 5. Javier Roo in MaREI Centre

3.4.1 Visit to MaREI Centre in Cork, Ireland summary

In a strategic move to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange, the Canary Islands Agency for Research, Innovation and Information Society (ACIISI), coordinator in the AquaWind project, visited the MaREI Centre in Cork, Ireland. MaREI, the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine, is a world-renowned research hub coordinated by the Environmental Research Institute at University College Cork. It brings together over 220 researchers and more than 75 industry partners with a mission to solve key challenges in the Energy Transition, Climate Action, and the Blue Economy.

The visit facilitated a valuable technical dialogue between the ACIISI and MaREI teams, promoting transnational collaboration and mutual learning between regions committed to sustainable development. This type of action strengthens the collaborative approach of the AquaWind project,



which is aimed at finding joint solutions for the coexistence of activities like offshore wind energy and aquaculture. By engaging with a leading international research centre, the visit successfully reinforced ties between key Atlantic regions and demonstrates AquaWind's commitment to building strong relationships with academic and research stakeholders.

3.5 European Maritime Day (EMD) 2025



Figure 6. EMD Banner

3.5.1 European Maritime Day (EMD) summary

The AquaWind project had a prominent participation in the European Maritime Day (EMD) 2025, held in Cork, Ireland, from May 21 to 23. This annual event, organized by the European Commission, the Cork City Council, and Ireland's Department of Environment, Climate and Communications, is a key forum that brings together more than 1,200 stakeholders from Europe's marine and maritime sectors.

AquaWind was invited to be part of the official European Union stand, being the only European project present in this space to showcase advanced initiatives in oceanic sustainability. The AquaWind delegation, led by Canarian institutions such as ACIISI/GOBCAN, the Canary Islands



Maritime Cluster, and Consulta Europa, presented the project as a pioneering initiative that integrates offshore wind energy and aquaculture on a single floating platform. This presence highlights the leadership of the marine innovation ecosystem of the Canary Islands and consolidates its position in the blue economy on a European scale.

During the event, visitors to the stand had the opportunity to learn about the project's objectives and participate in an interactive game with questions about aquaculture, renewable energy, and marine sustainability, which allowed for direct public engagement. The participation in EMD 2025 reinforced AquaWind's position as a reference project in the European blue economy, highlighting the importance of regional cooperation, technological innovation, and sustainability for the development of multi-use solutions in the maritime space.

3.5.2 European Maritime Day (EMD) Program

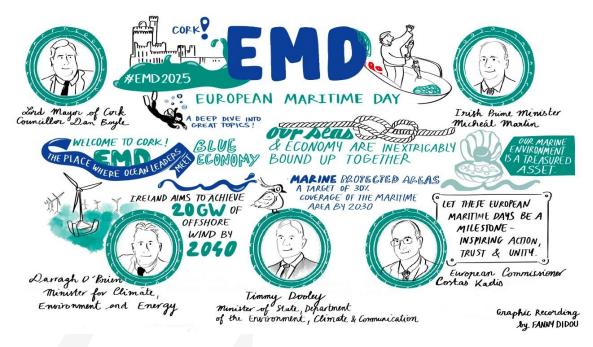


Figure 7. EMD Program

Full program: https://www.b2match.com/e/european-maritime-day-2025/components/49981/EhXB2GrD5pMd



3.5.3 European Maritime Day (EMD) Photographic dossier

Table 6. European Maritime Day (EMD) photos







3.6 AquaWind Showcase Event



Figure 8. AquaWind Showcase Event Banner

3.6.1 AquaWind Showcase Event summary

The AquaWind Showcase Event, held on June 6, 2025, in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, was a key conference to disseminate the technical and strategic advances of the project. This event was organized by the Canary Islands Maritime Cluster (CMC), in collaboration with the Canary Islands Agency for Research, Innovation and the Information Society (ACIISI), the Canary Islands Ocean Platform (PLOCAN), and the Gran Canaria Economic Promotion Society (SPEGC), with the significant involvement of Consulta Europa, which developed the programme designs and the promotional materials used at the event.

The event was held at the Maritime Innovation Centre (CIMM), located in the Puerto Las Palmas Foundation Building, and was framed within the European Maritime Day in my Country 2025.

The conference had a dual purpose: on the one hand, to showcase an innovative multi-use model that integrates floating offshore wind energy with an aquaculture solution; on the other, to bring



the project's results closer to the investment community to explore future collaborations and its scalability, as described below:

- Part I Institutional Public Session: Open to the public, this session focused on presenting
 the project's advances within the blue economy ecosystem, highlighting the importance
 of specialized training in this sector.
- Part II Private Technical Session: Aimed at investment entities, it delved into the
 technical challenges and economic viability of the model, facilitating a direct exchange
 between investors, technology promoters, and public institutions.

Additionally, the event coincided with the International Sea Fair (FIMAR) 2025, where the project had an interactive stand for visitors to learn about the initiative through educational games. This participation reinforced the project's visibility and the public's interest in blue economy solutions.

In summary, the event was a milestone that consolidated a network of collaboration between government, industry, R&D, and training, and generated initial interest in investment, confirming the project as a pioneering and scalable solution for the responsible use of marine space.

3.6.2 AquaWind Showcase Event Program



Figure 9. AquaWind Showcase Event program (part 1)





AquaWind Showcase Event

06.06.2025

Edificio Fundación Puerto Las Palmas

Parte I: Sala de Formación 2

09.00 - 09.15	Bienvenida institucional Elba Bueno Cabrera, Gerente – CMC Javier Franco, Director - ACIISI
09:15 - 09:25	Ventajas de invertir en las Islas Canarias Alejandro Cañeque, Director de Promoción y Servicios a las Entidades ZEC – Canarias ZEC
09.25 - 09.40	AQUAWIND presentación Javier Roo , R+D+I Project Manager y AquaWind coordinator - ACIISI
09.40 – 10.00	Importancia del concepto de FP dual azul en el sector marítimo Juan Socorro, Director – IFP Marítimo Pesquero de Las Palmas

Parte II: Sala de formación 1

10.00 – 10.30	Cambio de sala
10.30 – 11.00	Modelo offshore multipropósito: energía eólica + acuicultura: oportunidades y desafíos Carlos Navarro, Project manager - PLOCAN
11.00 – 11.30	EnerOcean & ACIISI presentación Pedro Mayorga, CEO – EnerOcean Javier Roo, R+D+I Project Manager y AquaWind coordinator - ACIISI
11.30 – 11.45	Preguntas y respuestas



sesión privada para entidades con enfoque en inversiones (Parte II)



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Figure 10. AquaWind Showcase Event program (part 2)



3.6.3 AquaWind Showcase Event Photographic dossier

Table 7. AquaWind Showcase Event photos



















4. Conclusions and Recommendations

This section summarises the main lessons learned from the stakeholder participation process, highlighting the critical success factors identified, the best practices observed and the strategic recommendations for optimising interaction in future deployments of multi-use platforms. It also proposes guidelines for consolidating a monitoring framework to ensure the continuity and effectiveness of the actions implemented.

4.1 Key Success Factors in MU Platform Engagement

The successful engagement of stakeholders in complex initiatives, such as multi-use platforms, is contingent on a strategic and proactive methodology. Drawing from the operational principles and practices of the AquaWind project, the following are identified as critical factors for success:

Strategic Early and Continuous Engagement

The foundation for effective stakeholder relations lies in the development of a robust and wellstructured stakeholder engagement plan. Implementing such a plan from the earliest phases of the project ensures consistent communication, fosters trust, and aligns stakeholder expectations with project objectives. In this case, early application of the plan translated into a strong and visible presence throughout the project's lifecycle. Notable milestones included presentations at the Conference on Offshore Wind Energy in the Canary Islands (October 2022), the XVIII National Aquaculture Congress (November 2022), the interactive stand for visitors to learn about the initiative through educational games at the International Sea Fair FIMAR (June 2025), which played a decisive role in building awareness and securing the trust essential for the project's long-term success and social acceptance, and the design, testing, and implementation of a survey to assess the social acceptance across the different dimensions of the quadruple helix, applying it through various formats in order to achieve broader outreach and a significant sample from which to carry out a detailed analysis of the perception of both technologies and their surrounding context. In parallel, two Bachelor's theses led by consortium partner ULPGC were completed and archived within WP3 ("Aquaculture system: Design and harbourside aquaculture trials") in the University's accedaCRIS repository—Commissioning and Validation of an Offshore Aquaculture Cage



Prototype for Integration into a Multi-Use Platform: Biological Trial with Gilthead Seabream (Sparus aurata)_ and Analysis of the Colonization of Marine Biota in Ocean Cages (2025)—collectively reinforcing early engagement, transparency, and evidence-based capacity building

Targeted and Calibrated Communication

AquaWind's communication strategy was carefully designed to address the needs and interests of its diverse target audiences, exploiting different tools and approaches. A comprehensive digital media coverage was ensured through the website, social media, newsletters, online press releases, and the dissemination of dedicated promotional videos. Participation in key sector events, such as Aquafuture Spain 2023 for aquaculture and WindEurope 2024 for offshore wind energy, was also deliberately chosen to maximise the impact and relevance of the information shared. This event-based outreach was complemented by targeted bilateral meetings with leading industry stakeholders, ensuring direct and meaningful exchanges, and reinforcing the project's visibility and credibility within each sector.

Proactive Transparency and Trust-Building

The project has consistently demonstrated transparency in communicating its objectives and technological progress. By presenting its innovations through visually engaging stands at events such as FIMAR, NAVALIA, European Maritime Day, WindEurope and Aquafuture, as well as through publications on social media and dedicated newsletters, AquaWind proactively strengthened its credibility. Direct interaction with industry professionals and the general public at these forums proved instrumental in fostering trust and confidence in this innovative multi-use solution.

Leveraging a Multi-modal Engagement Toolkit

A wide range of tools was employed to maximise both stakeholders reach and the quality of engagement. These included formal conference presentations, led by Dr. Javier Roo, dedicated exhibition stands with visual materials at events such as the Offshore Wind Congress, and interactive data-gathering activities. Structured surveys and interviews were conducted at key forums, including the Navalia Meeting and the National Aquaculture Congress, enabling the collection of valuable feedback to inform the project's development.



Systematic Feedback Integration and Adaptability

The project implemented a structured mechanism for collecting stakeholder feedback through surveys and interviews conducted at multiple events, including FIMAR 2023 and World Aquaculture Day. This process was essential for assessing social acceptance and understanding stakeholder perceptions, providing valuable insights that informed strategic decisions and allowed the project to refine its communication efforts.

Strategic Collaboration and Partnership Synergy

AquaWind actively pursued and fostered strategic partnerships. The joint meeting with another multi-use project (FLORA) illustrated a deliberate effort to identify and develop synergies with complementary initiatives. Collaborative participation in events alongside partners such as EnerOcean and the Canary Islands Maritime Cluster enhanced the project's credibility and broadened its professional network. This commitment to cooperation was further recognised through AquaWind's inclusion as a case study in the ESPON CoBren project on Territorial Cooperation for Blue Renewable Energy, reinforcing its position as a reference initiative within the sector.

High-Level Institutional Endorsement

The active participation of key representatives from government and partner organisations provided valuable institutional support for AquaWind. Notably, the project Coordinator Dr. Javier Roo (ACIISI) took part in the III Offshore Wind Energy Roundtable, organised by the Government of the Canary Islands through its Ministry for Ecological Transition, highlighting the project's relevance within regional policy discussions. AquaWind was also present at the RIS3 Informative Days, reinforcing its alignment with regional innovation strategies. This strong institutional engagement was complemented by international recognition, with the European Commission's Atlantic Strategy showcasing AquaWind as a success story, further enhancing its visibility and credibility among investors, industry stakeholders and the public.



4.2 Best Practices for future stakeholder engagement

Based on the experience and lessons learned during the execution of the AquaWind stakeholder engagement plan, the following best practices have been identified to inform future consultation processes and communication strategies.

Table 8. Lessons Learned and Best Practices

Category	Lesson Learned	Best Practice
Engagement Methodology	We saw the need to change and broaden our approach. Long surveys or the use of QR codes at events led to low participation, as respondents could forget to complete the survey later if they did not do so at the time.	Implement a flexible and adaptive approach. At events, use a short, interview-style version of the survey. For detailed feedback, use non-anonymous surveys to obtain contact information and conduct a second round of questions.
Events Selection	The concentration on industrial sector events resulted in a lack of representation from the social sector, creating a gap in understanding social perceptions.	Prioritize the strategic selection of events to cover all types of key stakeholders. Actively seek opportunities to interact with social agents and civil society representatives, including direct meetings with associations.
Survey Content	The first surveys focused on offshore wind energy, with the aquaculture and multiple-use components of the project taking a back seat. This was solved in later versions, with specific sections for these sectors.	Ensure that survey content is balanced and representative of all project elements. Structure future surveys to include specific sections, dedicating a target percentage of questions to these areas.
Communication and Dissemination	Relying on email to disseminate the survey was not the most effective approach initially. Despite having tools to study the open rate of emails, the lack of responses and the impossibility of tracking the surveys, as they were anonymous, made it difficult to monitor.	Refine communication methods. Use mass messaging tools with analytics (like MailChimp) for email campaigns and supplement them with direct channels like phone calls or bilateral meetings. Additionally, use dissemination materials (flyers) during face-to-face interviews to provide context.
High-Level Institutional Support	The project's credibility and legitimacy were significantly enhanced by the active involvement of government and	Secure the involvement of key representatives from public bodies and partner organizations from the project's inception. Actively leverage

Category	Lesson Learned	Best Practice
	partner representatives. This endorsement builds confidence with investors and the public.	their participation in public events and strategic meetings to signal institutional commitment and reinforce the project's legitimacy.
Utilization of Dissemination Materials	Static presentations were less effective than dynamic and visual materials, such as multimedia options. The use of handouts, flyers, images, and videos was a valuable tool for clarifying complex information.	Integrate a robust dissemination plan that includes a variety of visual and interactive media. Use informative handouts during one-on-one meetings to provide context and utilize videos and images at public stands to simplify complex concepts and capture a broader audience's attention.
Proactive Conflict Management and Social License	The project could face potential resistance from traditional sectors (e.g., fishing) and needed to build trust in a novel technology. While surveys were a good start, a more profound and proactive approach is required to build long-term support.	Establish a formal, multi-directional communication and complaint mechanism in the early stages of the project. This allows key stakeholders to express their concerns directly and receive transparent responses, as well as integrate their vision into the process, while also seeing opportunities to participate directly in these initiatives, for example in the value and supply chain.
Capacity Building & Academic Linkages	Embedding theses within consortium universities (e.g., ULPGC) inside technical WPs produces tangible evidence and broader reach, but requires clear scoping, supervision and archiving	Plan and supervise student theses within technical WPs (e.g., WP3) and archive outputs in institutional repositories (e.g., ULPGC's accedaCRIS) to ensure transparency, traceability and uptake by industry and policy audiences.

4.3 Strategic recommendations for MU Platform Roll-Out

To ensure the successful roll-out of future Multi-Use (MU) platforms, a strategic framework is essential. The following recommendations have been developed by synthesizing the practical experience of the AquaWind project and key lessons learned from stakeholder engagement. These guidelines are designed to promote sustainable development, build public trust, and secure long-term commercial viability.



Design and maintain a living stakeholder engagement plan

Develop a stakeholder engagement plan from the outset and treat it as a dynamic, evolving document. Update it regularly to reflect project milestones, emerging priorities, and new stakeholder groups, ensuring engagement activities remain relevant and impactful throughout the lifecycle.

Start engagement early and keep it continuous

Initiate stakeholder dialogue from the earliest phases to build trust and clarify expectations. Maintain this relationship through regular updates, events, and open communication channels, fostering a sense of shared ownership in the project's success.

Tailor communication to each stakeholder group

Adapt messages, content, and channels to suit the needs and interests of different audiences from accessible outreach for local communities to detailed policy feedback for regulators and industry experts. This ensures relevance and maximises impact.

Leverage external recognition and case study success

Recognition from prestigious entities, such as AquaWind's inclusion as a case study in ESPON CoBren and the European Commission's Atlantic Strategy, is a valuable trust-building asset. Future projects should actively seek and showcase such endorsements as part of their stakeholder engagement strategy. These validations not only reinforce credibility with investors, regulators, and communities but also provide independent confirmation of the project's methodology and approach.

Integrate feedback into decision-making

Establish clear mechanisms to capture stakeholder feedback, analyse it, and apply it to project design, operations, and communication strategies. Demonstrating how input has influenced decisions increases transparency, credibility, and long-term engagement.



Leverage events for relationship-building

Use sector-specific conferences, community meetings, and thematic workshops to strengthen relationships. Prioritise interactive formats like Q&A sessions, demonstrations or small group discussions to encourage active participation rather than passive listening.

Address potential conflicts proactively

Identify potential concerns early, especially from groups potentially impacted by the project, and address them through transparent dialogue and clear mitigation measures. Proactive engagement reduces resistance and fosters durable trust.

Monitor and measure engagement effectiveness

Track the success of engagement activities: participation rates, and qualitative insights. Use this data to refine strategies, improve inclusivity, and strengthen stakeholder relationships over time.

4.4 Next steps and monitoring framework

Given the advanced stage of the AquaWind project, with the prototype in a shipyard and ready for testing at PLOCAN, the strategic focus of stakeholder engagement now shifts to consolidating support and preparing for the commercial exploitation phase. This action plan and monitoring framework are designed to maximize the project's visibility, credibility, and social license during this critical phase.

Strategic communication of the PLOCAN deployment:

<u>Objective</u>: proactively inform all key stakeholders about the prototype's deployment to build anticipation and demonstrate tangible progress.

<u>Action</u>: develop a communication plan to announce the transport and installation of the prototype at PLOCAN test bed. This will include a press release, newsletter, website & social media updates, the development of a dedicated promotional video, and direct notifications to investors, partners, and community representatives.

Validation of the value proposition with stakeholders:



<u>Objective</u>: use the prototype's performance data to confirm the viability of the multi-use concept for stakeholders. Equally important is generating scientific evidence thanks to the results obtained and their analysis by the researchers involved in AquaWind.

<u>Action</u>: prepare clear and visually appealing communication materials that translate the technical testing data (energy yield, fish health) into direct benefits. Also, achieve the publication of scientific papers in open access in the most relevant sectoral journals. This could be used in meetings with investors, at demonstration events and scientific conferences.

Final demonstration event and presentation of results:

<u>Objective</u>: Provide a first-hand experience to key stakeholders and present the conclusive results of testing both technologies together to consolidate trust and support.

<u>Action</u>: Organize a second demonstration event at PLOCAN where potential investors, regulators, media, and civil society representatives will be invited. The main focus will be the presentation of the definitive results of the integrated testing, fostering an open dialogue to address questions and demonstrate the project's transparency.

Final consultation post-demonstration survey:

<u>Objective</u>: to obtain information on stakeholders' perceptions following the demonstration phase of the multi-purpose prototype on the PLOCAN test platform.

<u>Action</u>: launch a second participatory survey, together with at least two complementary activities (interviews, focus groups, technical workshops and/or intermediation actions).





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