

Information sheet on the COD environmental database

Introduction

Offshore wind is a relatively new activity. Knowledge gaps on potential impacts on the marine environment and the significance of such impacts still exist. In order to fulfil the legal requirements for licensing, developers of offshore wind farms are obliged by national authorities to undertake project-related environmental baseline surveys and monitoring studies, and to undergo Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). Furthermore, many countries involved in offshore wind developments have started generic environmental research projects at sea. To facilitate international exchange of information and thus support responsible deployment of offshore wind in Europe, one aim of COD is to collect the existing knowledge on environmental issues of offshore wind in the participating countries, and to make the gathered information accessible on the website. For this purpose a Microsoft Access database was developed by COD.

download database: http://www.offshorewindenergy.org/index_cod.php

Content of the database

The COD database covers a range of available reports/publications and information on ongoing research projects on offshore wind energy whose content refers to any of the following environmental aspects:

- **subjects of the marine ecosystem:**
marine mammals, birds, bats, fish, zoo- and phytobenthos, soil/seabed, water/hydrology, visual landscape and men,
- **potential influencing factors** (which result from the construction and operation of wind farms and which can affect the environment):
e.g. noise/vibration, barrier and scaring effects, electromagnetism, disturbing effects of construction/maintenance traffic, sedimentation/turbidity, visual intrusion,
- **potential environmental impacts:**
e.g. collisions of birds/bats, changes in migration, damage of mammals hearing ability, change of habitats, changes in species abundances, changes in hydrography and sediment structures, pollutions caused by ship collisions,
- **investigation methods,**
- **instruments of spatial planning and risk assessment:**
e.g. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Habitats Assessment, spatial planning, designation of protected areas.

Structure of the database

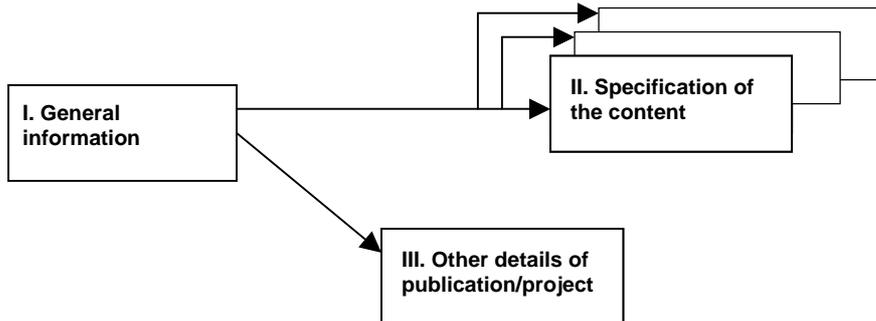
For each recorded report or ongoing project you will find three forms in the database:

Form I: general information (*one form per publication / research project*)

Form II: specification of the content (*one or more forms per publication / research project*)

Form III: information on planning instruments / miscellaneous (*one form per publication / project*)

Per publication or project the structure of the database can be visualised as follows:



When opening the database you will get immediately to Form I, showing the first data record. To see all fields, please maximise the window. To get to the other forms for this report/project, please press the buttons “Form II” or “Form III”. To get back to Form I, press the button “Close form”. To move to other data records (respectively reports/projects), please use the arrows for previous or next record at the bottom of Form I.

Form I – general information

Form II – specification of the content

Microsoft Access - [Form II - to specify content]

COD reference number: COD-UK-001 English title: []

CONTENT OF STUDY OR PUBLICATION not applicable
 Subject: [] Specify species (when applicable): []

INVESTIGATION METHODS not applicable

Marine ecosystem: [] Remove record []
 Visual landscape: [] Remove record []

Datensatz: [] 1 von 1

POTENTIAL INFLUENCING FACTORS not applicable

Reference	Subject	Potential influencing factors
COD-UK-001	[]	[] Remove record []

Datensatz: [] 1 von 1

IMPACTS not applicable

RESULT	RESULT	RESULT
<input type="checkbox"/> change of mortality rate	<input type="checkbox"/> change of sediment structure	<input type="checkbox"/> changes in migration
<input type="checkbox"/> change of birth rate	<input type="checkbox"/> change of hydrography	<input type="checkbox"/> change of habitat
<input type="checkbox"/> damage of hearing ability	<input type="checkbox"/> damages of environment caused by ship collisions	<input type="checkbox"/> stress
<input type="checkbox"/> change of abundance	<input type="checkbox"/> decrease of recreational qualities	<input type="checkbox"/> other: []
<input type="checkbox"/> disturbance of special periods of life (e.g. moulting, resting, foraging)		

SAVE RECORD REMOVE RECORD ADD ANOTHER SUBJECT CLOSE FORM

Description / Remarks: []

Datensatz: [] 1 von 1 (Gefiltert)

Formularansicht FLTR NF

*Form III – other details of publication / project
 (information on instruments of spatial planning and risk assessment, miscellaneous)*

Microsoft Access - [Form III - to specify other details]

Reference: COD-UK-001

Other publication details

PLANNING INSTRUMENTS not applicable

- SEA, Strategic Environmental Assessment (according to Directive 2001/42/EC)
- EIA, Environmental Impact Assessment (according to Directives 85/337/EEC and 97/11/EC)
- Habitats Assessment (according to Directive 92/43/EEC)
- Spatial planning (e.g. identification of suitable areas for wind farms)
- Protected areas
- Avoidance and mitigation measures
- Other:

OTHER not applicable

- Environment improvements (e.g. reduction of greenhouse gases)
- Life cycle assessment
- Other:

Remove record Close form

Datensatz: [] 1 von 1 (Gefiltert)

Formularansicht FLTR NF

Status and update of the database

The database provides data from Denmark, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden, Ireland and Poland. It covers different types of reports, such as EIAs, generic research projects, guidelines, baselines studies and monitoring studies. So far, information on more than 280 reports and ongoing research projects is available. The contained information was gathered from the COD working group members of the respective countries. The database is updated regularly.

If there are any relevant reports or projects that we may have omitted, please let us know. Please contact the COD working group member of your country by logging onto the contact list on the COD website: http://www.offshorewindenergy.org/index_cod.php

Disclaimer

Neither the Consortium of the Concerted Action for Offshore Wind Energy Deployment (COD), nor any person acting on its behalf:

- makes any warranty or representation, express or implied with respect to the information contained in this database,
- assumes any liability with respect to the use of, or damages resulting from this information.

updated: 31 July 2005