

The NESSIE project has organised the Conference “Developing Demonstration Projects: Corrosion Prevention for Offshore Renewables”

April 26th, 2019

On 24th April the NeSSIE project organised a conference in Brussels to showcase the NeSSIE approach in defining and developing investable business cases for offshore, anti-corrosion demonstration projects. The NeSSIE project has been funded by the European Maritime Fisheries Fund (EMFF) and developed through cooperation between regions participating in the Advanced Manufacturing Pilot (ADMA) of the Vanguard Initiative.

Corrosion is one of the critical aspects of offshore projects. The definition of corrosion challenges, potential match to anti-corrosion solution (ACS) providers in the supply chain, and development of B2B partnerships to develop investable business cases for offshore renewable corrosion demonstrators were the objectives of the NeSSIE project. During the last two years, the regions of the Consortium of the project worked together to define three bankable demonstration projects in the North Sea able to illustrate the challenges and potential ACS that project developers face on marine renewable energy assets deployed at the sea.

The commercialization of anticorrosion solutions to marine renewable assets is expected to provide new market opportunities for the industrial supply chain and create added value to the offshore industry at European level.

“It became clear during the NeSSIE project that the scope for developing anti-corrosion solutions for offshore renewables had a greater impact the earlier the technology was in development” Jan Reid

The organisation of this conference was aimed at the presentation of the results and approach developed over the course of the NeSSIE Project.

After a welcome from the conference Moderator Charles Abbot from Scotland Europa, delegates heard about the NeSSIE approach from the project coordinator, Jan Reid from Scottish Enterprise. In this first session, the need and benefits of carrying out offshore demonstration projects was described, as well as the NeSSIE methodology to engage Project Developers in the project, as well as how the regional ACS value chain was identified and encouraged to take part in the project. This session culminated in a description of the definition of investable business cases for offshore renewable energy demonstrators.

“Tackling corrosion can yield cost savings, but this needs to be built into the development process early on if possible... Atlantis were in demand with the ACS supply chain companies as there is scope to embed solutions in the process of tidal device design and development [as opposed to retrofit of existing offshore assets]” Jan Reid

This was followed by presentations on corrosion solutions in harsh offshore environments Mr. Jeroen Tacq from *SIRRIS* described how project developer needs were investigated, and the process used to engage ACS solution providers, before Mr. Luca Donelli discussed his company’s first-hand experience in anticorrosion solutions.



“In offshore renewable energy, complete corrosion management strategies are being considered” Jeroen Tacq

“The open-ness of the NeSSIE partners to other events for promoting the project, was one of the key success factors for building consortia and developing demonstration projects going forward” Luca Donelli

The third section of the conference was focused on best practices from the NeSSIE regions with examples of demonstration projects in Scotland, the Basque Country and Belgium.

Mr. Jeremy Thake from *Simec Atlantis Energy* presented on the *Meygen Project*, which is taking place in Scotland. *Simec Atlantis Energy* is one of the project developers that participated in the NeSSIE competition brief, focusing on the demonstration of ACS in a tidal turbine.

Mr. Pieter Mathys from the *Ghent University* presented on the *Innovative Business Network-Offshore Energy* in Belgium and discussed the importance of clustering and test demonstration in the offshore energy sector.

Finally, Mr. Marcos Suárez García from the *Basque Energy Cluster* presented the *Harshlab* of the Basque Country and explained the first floating laboratory in Europe for testing in real conditions.

“We are interested in developing standards which will be accepted, which we can design in line with” Jeremy Thake, Simec Atlantis Energy

“Harshlab is an open infrastructure which is open to any organisation to test sensors/probes and components in a real sea environment” Marcos Suárez

The NeSSIE project has informed on supply chain engagement building investable business cases and policy regarding how to support offshore demonstrators to make offshore renewables more cost competitive and is an example of best practice regarding the potential of the collaboration among European regions, taking advantage of the great potential of their regional supply chains in the European ambition to stimulate market demand for ACS solutions in key industrial markets.

Notes to editors:

Available online five video clips presenting the NeSSIE approach, roadmap and way forward to tackle corrosion in ORE (offshore renewable energy):

<http://www.nessieproject.com/news/have-a-look-at-the-nessie-video-clips>

The presentation of the three project developers are available online under the “Demo-Cases” section on <http://www.nessieproject.com/demo-cases>

Also available online are the several background reports, commissioned by the NeSSIE project, on <http://www.nessieproject.com/library/reports-and-researches>



About the NeSSIE project

The NeSSIE project's main objective is to develop three investable demonstration projects in offshore renewables focused on corrosion and materials. The projects will utilise the existing subsea supply chain and their knowledge to develop commercial solutions. The project will establish strategic public-private cross-sectorial partnerships in the North Sea Basin to develop and deliver these projects with the ultimate objective to delivering new business opportunities.

This project, co-funded by the EMFF programme of the European Union, started in May 2017 and will finish in April 2019 with the participation of 8 partners from 5 countries:

- Scottish Enterprise - UK
- Basque Energy Cluster - Spain
- ASTER – Società Consortile per Azioni - Italy
- Sirris - Belgium
- Svenskt Marintekniskt Forum - Sweden
- The University of Edinburgh - UK
- Fundación Asturiana de la Energía - Spain
- Lombardy Energy Cleantech Cluster - Italy

The project incorporates an Industry Advisory Group (IAG), which represents the wider supply chain and end users within the offshore sector from the regions of the Vanguard Initiative Energy Pilot. These are mainly focused around the North Sea and include the following organisations:

- Dalarna Science Park - Sweden
- Offshore Energy Cluster - Denmark
- MERINOVA - Finland
- Highlands and Islands Enterprise - UK
- SPRI Group – Spain

Further information www.nessieproject.com – info@nessieproject.com

