



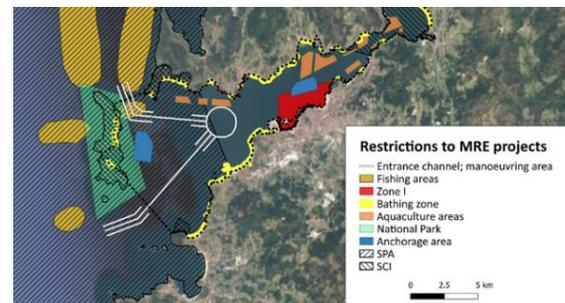
# PORTOS Newsletter

October 2019 – March 2020

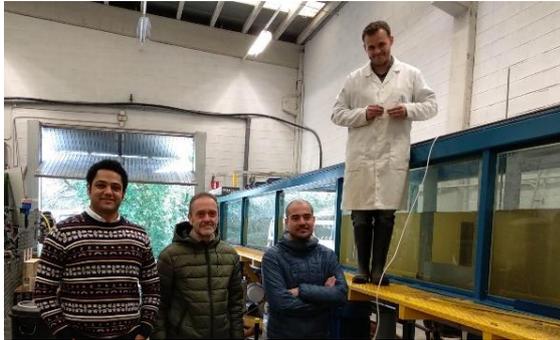


PORTOS – Ports Towards Energy Self-Sufficiency continues to promote sustainability in the Atlantic Area through advanced research on marine renewable energy, and the development of specific technology for ports. Thanks to the transitional approach and the contributions of all the partners, PORTOS completes its first project year with great success.

By the end of 2019, the identification of the best areas for the exploitation of renewable energy at three case-study ports – Vigo (Spain), Leixões (Portugal) and Shannon-Foynes (Ireland) – was effectively completed. This work was carried out based on the analysis of data related to aspects such as: energy consumption, renewable energy resources (wind, wave, tidal, and solar), environmental restrictions or the legal framework. Currently, high resolution numerical models are being applied to improve the resource assessments and perform a cost-effective site selection for renewable energy developments.



Once the best areas for harvesting the different marine renewable energy resources were identified, PORTOS' researchers focused on the technical and economic assessment of several conversion devices to be integrated at the case-study ports. To this end, hydrokinetic tidal turbines are being tested at the EPS wave-current flume in Lugo (Spain) by researchers from the University of Santiago de Compostela and the University of Oviedo. The experimental results will be used to evaluate the potential of this renewable energy in the Shannon Estuary, and to optimize the stream energy converters according to the site-specific conditions.



In addition to the accomplished researching goals, PORTOS also succeeded in informing society about the benefits of harnessing renewable energy and sustainability in ports, through several dedicated events, namely: OpenPorts, OpenLabs and a Thematic Seminars with Stakeholders.

During OpenLabs, research institutions of the partnership opened their doors to local communities. Invited keynote speakers from academia and industry presented their outlooks on current developments on marine renewable energy and ports. Lab tours through the partnership's state-of-the-art facilities, targeted at students, were also organized. Around 500 people attended the events that were held at the universities of Oviedo, Santiago de Compostela and Plymouth, as well as the MAREI research centre, in the last months.



Port of Vigo's first OpenPort was also held in this month. Attendees were addressed on the current and forthcoming sustainable port practices that are being implemented in this port through a port visit,

several talks and workshops and an open stand, involving more than 200 participants.

IHCantabria prepared a face-to-face 3-day training course on offshore wind, with a view to improve social perception on renewable energy at ports and strengthen the knowledge of the participants on marine renewable energy. Unfortunately, due to the recent spread of COVID-19, this and some other events had to be delayed.



The Port of Vigo organized the second PORTOS coordination meeting, where accomplishments were shared, and next steps discussed. This was scheduled to coincide with a thematic seminar on renewables energies, with 18 speakers and 142 registered attendees. Additionally, a pleasant boat tour around the port infrastructure was kindly organized by the mentioned port authority.

On another note, a call for renewable energy device testing is open. This call for applications is done so as to make the experimental facilities and knowledge of the partners available for free to make the proof of concept of emerging technologies. These proposals will go through a reviewing and screening process by an independent Selection Panel. More information can be found at the project's website.

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