

## **European experts hold workshop to consider a risk based approach to consenting marine renewable energy projects**

A group of European experts, led by Robert Gordon University (RGU), will hold a workshop in Spain to look at the environmental requirements regarding consenting of marine renewable energy projects.

The first of a series of workshops for the RiCORE project, which has been awarded €1.4million from the European Commission's competitive Horizon 2020 programme and will look at ways of accelerating the approval of offshore energy projects, is being held this month.

The RiCORE project comprises teams from Ireland, Spain, Portugal, France and Scotland and aims to tackle one of the key barriers to the deployment of offshore energy; consenting and environmental impacts.

The workshop will identify the environmental requirements regarding pre and post consenting of marine renewable energy projects in EU countries and to discuss suitable monitoring needs incorporating varying levels of environmental risk.

Project Coordinator, Professor David Gray, Director of the Research Institute for Management Governance and Society (IMaGeS) and Professor of Transport Policy at RGU, said: "The time and costs associated with assessing environmental impact is one of the key barriers to the roll out of offshore renewables.

"The expert workshop is a first step in efforts to simplify and speed up consenting for small scale arrays that use known technology in locations that are not environmentally sensitive".

The workshop is being held in Bilbao, Spain, on April 20.

RGU are leading RiCORE on behalf of the Offshore Renewables Institute; a collaboration between RGU and the Universities of Dundee and Aberdeen.

For more information, please visit: <http://ricore-project.eu/>

**ENDS**

**NOTES:**

RiCORE will run between January 1st 2015 and June 30th 2016.



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# RiC RE

RISK BASED CONSENTING FOR OFFSHORE RENEWABLES

[ricore-project.eu](http://ricore-project.eu)

**The project partners are:**

Robert Gordon University (RGU) (Scotland)

Marine Scotland (Scotland)

Beaufort, University College Cork (Ireland)

WavEC (Portugal)

AZTI-Tecnalia (Spain)

E-CUBE Strategy Consultants (France)

**Issued by:**

Stacey Horne  
Communications Officer  
Aberdeen Business School  
Robert Gordon University



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