

# RiCORE

## Risk Based Consenting of Offshore Renewable Energy Projects

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 646436.

- Challenges facing development of Offshore Renewable Energy Projects
  - Technology costs
  - Transmission grid infrastructure
  - Consenting procedures
  - Environmental impacts
  - Grant and revenue support



# RiC\*RE



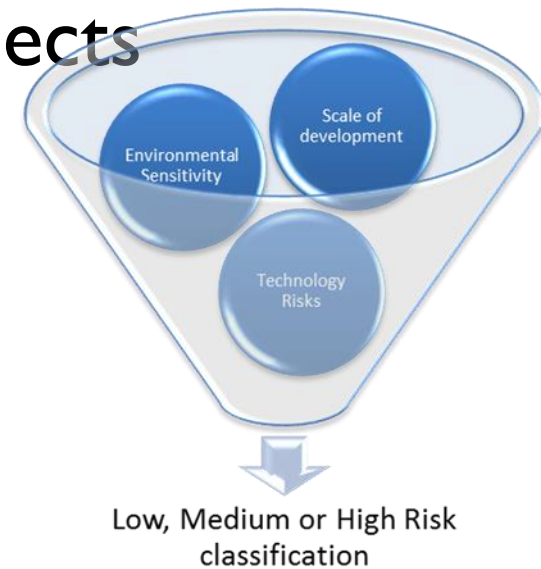
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- Relevant EU legislation includes:
  - Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC)
  - Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD 2008/28/EC)
  - Strategic Environmental Assessment, (2001/42/EC)
  - Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2014/52/EU)
  - Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
  - Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)                      SPAs
  - Habitats Directives (92/43/EEC)    SACs
- Legislation aims to address climate change, promote low-carbon energy whilst maintaining biodiversity, protecting endangered species and habitats, minimising adverse impacts of development and protecting the marine resource base
- **Uncertainty about the appropriate application of environmental legislation, which can further prolong consenting processes**
- **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) varies considerably in scope and intensity both within and across Member States**
- **Different methodologies and timeframes are utilised**
- **Uncertainty regarding the impacts for novel technologies (acknowledgement that mechanisms for potential effects had an extremely limited empirical basis - collision risk, displacement & barrier effects)**
- **Costly and time consuming surveys are required even for perceived lower risk technologies in sites which may not be of highest environmental sensitivity**



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- To ensure the successful development of the ORE in the EU member states by reducing the cost and time taken to consent projects through the development of a **risk based approach** to the consenting of projects



- I. Understanding what actually happens in different members states:
  - The consenting process
  - Application of legislation
  - Legal and legislative barriers to ‘standard’ approaches...
  - ...what is required to overcome those barriers



2. Look at potential for developing and using *risk profiles* to speed up the consenting of offshore wind, wave and tide:

- Small arrays...
- ...of known technology...
- ...in areas of low environmental sensitivity

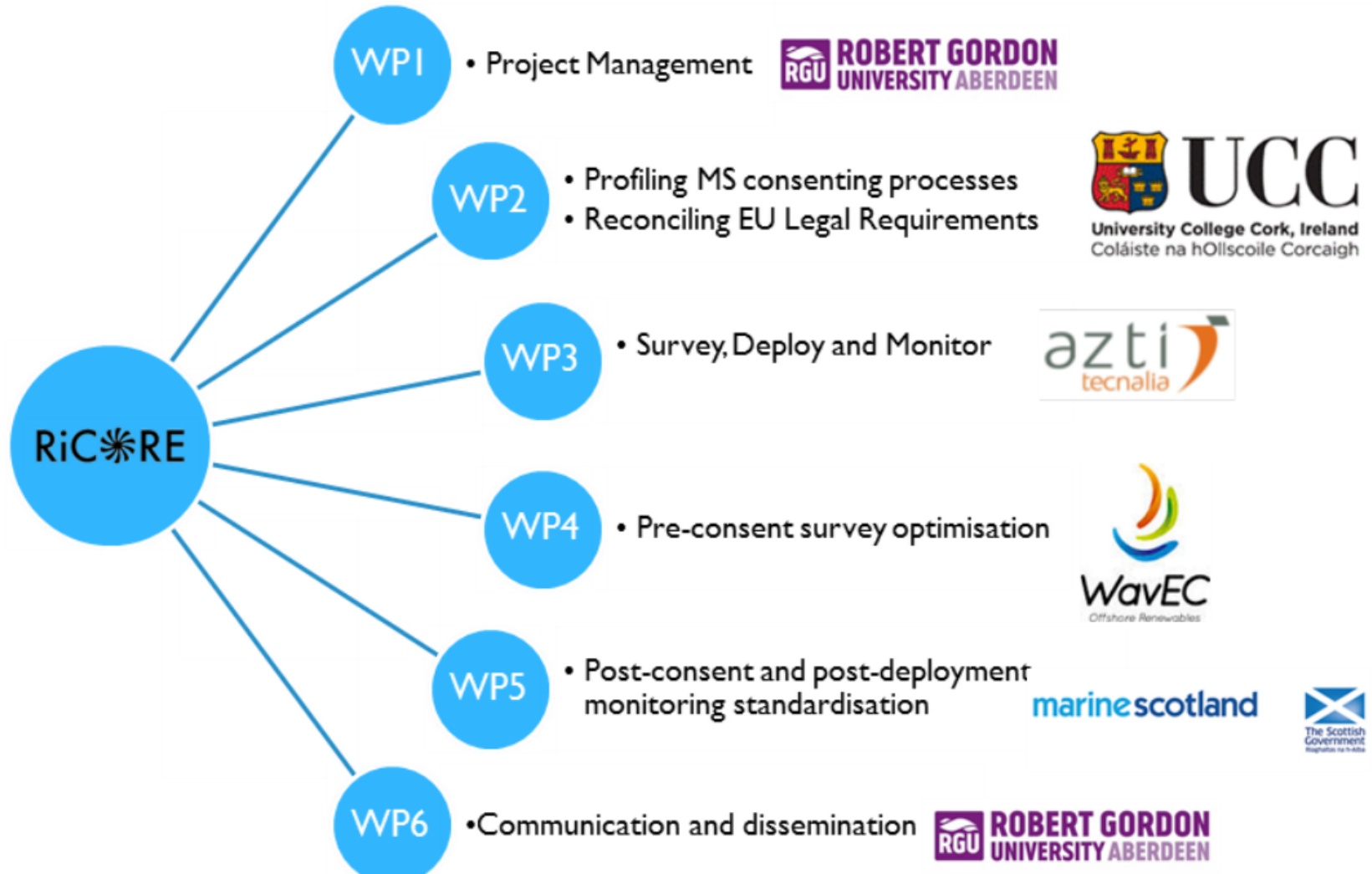


### 3. Seeking more standardisation in post deployment environmental impact monitoring:

- standardising data collection ...
- ...would allow policymakers to compare and better understand the environmental effects of different devices







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- Inception meeting 21-22/1/15
- Workshop 1: Pre & post consent – 20/4/15 (Bilbao)
- Workshop 2: Legal and policy – 21/5/15 (Paris)
- Workshop 3: Understanding the barriers – 9&10/11/2015 (Dunkeld)
- Workshop 4: Recommendations - 12/4/16(Cork)
- Final project conference – June 2016 (Brussels)



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- Determine current national consenting practices, operational experiences and difficulties
- Compare and contrast approaches to implementation of over-arching EU legislation – e.g. EIA, Habitats & Birds Directives, etc...
- Introduce risk-based management approaches using the Survey, Deploy & Monitor (SDM) methodology as an example
- Discuss the potential legal and regulatory issues potentially associated with implementation of a risk-based management approach
- Identify what is required to enable a risk-based management approach across partner EU Member States





<http://ricore-project.eu/>



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