

## Investing in action, paying for inaction

*From climate and biodiversity crisis to nature-friendly offshore wind and grids*

**Date:** Wednesday 22 April 2026, **13:20 – 15:20**

**Networking Lunch:** from **12:30 – 13:20**

**Location:** Colón, Level 2, Conference Area (IFEMA North Convention Center),  
Madrid

**Open to:** registered participants (register [here](#))

*The consequences of failing to address climate change and biodiversity loss carry alarming economic costs, increasingly borne by public budgets and societies that depend on ecosystem services.*

*This workshop aims to explore how offshore wind – a key pillar of Europe’s energy transition and the fight against climate change and associated biodiversity loss – can help mitigate these costs, and what it takes to ensure that it is compatible with marine ecosystem protection, financially viable, and supported by measurable environmental outcomes.*

*Perspectives from banks, institutions, wind developers, TSOs and NGOs across the North Sea, Baltic Sea, and Mediterranean regions will be brought together, addressing financial, policy, planning and technological dimensions.*

### AGENDA

<b>12:30 – 13:20</b>	<b>Networking lunch</b>
<b>13:20 – 13:30</b>	<b>Keynote</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tinne Van der Straeten, CEO, WindEurope</li> </ul>
<b>13:30 – 14:30</b>	<b>Expert panel I – Unlocking financing for nature-friendly offshore wind and grids: advantages of action and costs of inaction</b> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antonella Battaglini, CEO, RGI</li> <li>• Lucy Holmes, Senior Director, Ocean Markets and Finance, WWF</li> <li>• Dr. Eva Julius-Philipp, Director Environment &amp; Sustainability Unit BA Wind, Vattenfall</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sean Whittaker, Lead, Offshore Wind Development Program and Energy Climate Finance, World Bank/ESMAP</li> </ul> <p><b>Pitches</b> with concrete examples on the costs of action and inaction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saskia Jaarsma, Head of Offshore Development, Large Projects Offshore, TenneT</li> <li>• Lucy Holmes, Senior Director, Ocean Markets and Finance, WWF</li> </ul>
<p><b>14:30 – 15:15</b></p>	<p><b>Expert panel II – Riding the waves: How to advance floating offshore wind and biodiversity protection in the Mediterranean</b></p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mauro Randone, Regional Programme Coordinator for Protecting, Managing &amp; Restoring Ecosystems, WWF Mediterranean</li> <li>• Catarina Rei, Permitting and Environment Director, Ocean Winds</li> <li>• Gro Waeraas de Saint Martin, Director Strategy &amp; Development Offshore Grids, Réseau de Transport d'Électricité</li> <li>• Representative from Spanish Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (MITECO)</li> </ul>
<p><b>15:15 - 15:20</b></p>	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p>