Press Release

Wind power generation in EU-28 rising, but installations stagnating in 2018

EurObserv'ER releases 2019 wind energy barometer

Free Download

Paris, 13th March 2019

Key data for European Union (EU) wind energy in 2018

- 10.1 GW — Wind power capacity installed in EU during 2018 (14.8 GW in 2017)
- 179 GW — Cumulative wind power capacity in the EU at end of 2018 (169 GW in 2017)
- 379 TWh — Electricity production from wind power in the EU in 2018 (362.4 TWh in 2017)
- 18.5 GW — Installed offshore wind power capacity (EU) at the end of 2018 (15.8 GW in 2017)
- 591 GW — Worldwide installed wind power capacity at the end of 2018 (539 GW in 2017)

Main findings of the 2019 EurObserv'ER Wind Energy Barometer

EurObserv'ER describes a mixed wind energy picture. Whereas electricity output from wind energy grew substantially, the installation activity is stagnating for onshore wind. After rising to a record level in 2017, newly-installed wind turbine capacity in the EU dropped sharply in 2018 and is put at 9.7 GW in 2018 compared to a 14.7 GW capacity increase in 2017. The EU wind energy base now stands at 179 GW. Electricity output from wind power grew to 379 TWh, up from 362 TWh in 2017.

EU remains major hub of offshore wind development

The European Union remains a major area for offshore wind development. Except for the global leader China (that connected 1.800 MW of offshore capacity according to GWEC), the next four top offshore countries (United Kingdom (953 MW), Germany (978 MW), Denmark (437 MW), and Belgium (309 MW)), are all situated in the EU, although overall offshore installations also contracted compared to 2017. 80% of global offshore wind capacity are thus still located in the EU.

Trends in global wind energy

Newly-installed capacity across the globe slipped slightly in 2018 with 51.3 GW compared to 53.2 GW in 2017. This additional capacity takes total wind turbine capacity to 591 GW at the end of 2018. The most recent drop in the global installation figure – the third in succession – can be put down to significant contraction in the European and Indian markets that was not entirely offset by the return to growth of the Chinese and United States markets. The top wind energy markets in terms of new installations were China (23 GW), the United States (7.6 GW), and Germany (2.4 GW).

The next Barometer will cover the topic: PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY

EurObserv'ER

This project has received European funding from DG ENER under the contract Tender ENER/C1/2016-487

Links and free downloads

- **REPORT: "The State of renewable energies in Europe"**, 18th edition,
- **NEW: DATABASE with all EurObserv'ER data**
- Free download of all **EurObserv'ER graphs and tables**,
- Subscribe to the **EurObserv'ER Newsletter**
- Follow us on **Twitter**
- Download all **Press Releases**

Further Information: eurobserv-er.org

This project is funded
by the European Union under
contract n° ENER/C2/2016-487/SI2.742173

For further information, please contact:
Ms Diane Lescot
Observ'ER
146, rue de l'Université
75007 Paris / France
Tel: +33 (0) 1 44 180 080
E-mail:diane.lescot@energies-renouvelables.org

About EurObserv'ER

Since 1999, EurObserv'ER regularly publishes market reports (Barometers) containing energy data reflecting dynamics in renewable sources of energy in 10 sectors (solar PV, wind, hydropower, geothermal energy, biogas, solid biomass, biofuels, heat pumps, small hydro, renewable waste) within the EU-28 and worldwide.

Note for editors

Suggested report citation: EurObserv'ER 2019: "State of renewable energies in Europe", 18th edition, www.eurobserv-er.org. We appreciate receiving a short reference when EurObserv'ER data is used in an article, report, news, or website. Please send an e-mail to diane.lescot@energies-renouvelables.org.

This project has received European funding from DG ENER under the contract Tender ENER/C1/2016-487