



**EUSEW**



## ***“WICO - Wind of the COast” project***

**Conference presentation of the Guide Lines  
to promote the deployment of small wind systems  
along European coastlines**

*Brussels, 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011*

***The WICO experience in steering policies and simplifying  
procedures to encourage the deployment of small wind systems***

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## ***THE ANALYSIS REPORT***

The WICO Consortium, in order to write guide lines, had also made an analysis report that is part of Work Package 2 “Analysis Framework”, where each contributing country investigates its own domain in relation to WICO objectives and aims.

The discussion result in the various issues of the combined analysis document on available information from each nation, intended to support the project’s final output (Guidelines)

**Policies**



**Market factors**

**Technical aspects**

# ***Policies***

applicable laws

formal procedures and approval systems



... that may pose barriers to, or facilitate, the introduction of Small Wind Turbines (SWTs) to any location

## ***POLICY HIGHLIGHTS***

1. Simplification of planning process could be achieved within **suitable guidelines for installations** up to a size defined in each country or region;
2. All partners would like to see a **time limit** to be placed upon **planning authorities** when making decisions on SWT;
3. All countries would like to see a streamlining of the initial consultative periods including clearer criteria for SWT developers;
4. All partners see that **environmental assessment is a key activity to be streamlined** and the public educated to understand and not exaggerate the real impacts.

## ITALY POLICY OVERVIEW 1

Decree Law n. 387/2003 (Dir. 2011/77/EC) allows a Unique Authorization/Permit. This is required as long as the installation is **more than 60kW**.

If the nominal output of the turbine is **less than 60kW** then just a declaration for commencement of works is required (DIA – 30 days).

**Up to 1MW** you don't have to go through the “screening” stage of an Environmental Impact Assessment. Beyond that, you must carry out “screening”

## ITALY POLICY OVERVIEW 2

**There is lack of consistency at the power rating levels** related to the legislation. For example: 1 MW is the threshold for EIA, 60kW for DIA, and 20kW the limit at which you will be considered an industrial producer of energy, and will have increased tax liability.

There is a **real need to streamline bureaucracy** (the recent Decree Law n.28/2011 – Dir.2009/28/EC - reduced from 180 to 90 days the maximum time limit to get the permit but it doesn't simply the situation).

In general the biggest administrative problem is with getting the **approval for connection to the grid.**

## SPAIN POLICY OVERVIEW 1

- **Lack of technical information** and environmental formation about mini wind at the political and technical level;
- **Politicians have a negative perception** of wind (noises, damage to birds, risks...) and don't differentiate between mini-wind and big wind;
- Local municipal officers don't have sufficient knowledge on procedures for wind installations;
- **Lack of specific legislation in mini wind** which prevents clarity for investment (lack of **regulatory and remuneration framework**; lack of **rules of grid connection** proper to small wind equipment power);
- There is **no confidence in results** (real production) of mini-wind turbines.

## SPAIN POLICY OVERVIEW 2

**Procedures are the same as for big wind parks.**

If grid-connected it must abide by the GICA law.

The R.D. 661/2007 regulates energy production activity and R.D. 6/2009 for grid connected.

Local regulations and permits are excessive and poorly defined.

For Grid-connected systems, **delays in approval for planning permission can last years.** Anyway, connection to grid of small wind facilities is not regulated by law till next approval of Royal Decree.

National Parks have **special restrictions**, even for off-grid systems.

## SPAIN POLICY OVERVIEW 3

### RECCOMENDATIONS

#### For **policies**:

- Awareness and dissemination campaigns;
- Avoid large mini wind parks to avoid feeding negative perception;
- Training and formation;
- Strong political commitment.

#### For **Legislation**:

- Differentiation needed between grid-connected wind parks and mini wind (grid connected or stand-alone);

#### For **Planning Authorisation**:

- For Grid-connected systems delays in permits should be shorter and for off-grid, the permits should be much simpler.

## ENGLAND POLICY OVERVIEW 1

The planning approval process in England is democratically driven by the **decision making powers of elected councillors within Local Authorities** (except for nationally strategic infrastructure projects which are handled by a separate process), and SWT is dealt with in the same way as all other matters which fall under the jurisdiction of Local Planning Authorities.

Much reliance is placed on **pre-planning consultation** in order to avoid ill-judged applications being made (compliance with plans, environment, etc...).

Between submission and decision a **period of 8 weeks** is allowed.

Connection to the grid is automatically permitted for devices delivering up to 16 Amps per phase.

Small turbines are probably going to fall within the scope of “**permitted development**” during 2010. The limits would be determined by a combination of height (15m) and swept area (28m<sup>2</sup>) for the turbine and other spatial and natural constraints. Permitted Development allows compliant projects to go ahead without need of planning approval

## ***ENGLAND POLICY OVERVIEW 3 RECCOMENDATIONS***

- Special provision for nationally strategic infrastructure projects to speed decisions;
- Guidance to Local Authorities to encourages S.W.T. is necessary to raise importance of renewable energy relative to other planning considerations;

### *Some examples ...*

As consequence of the approval of the Energy & Sustainable Development Action Plan, the Province of Ravenna **introduced in the plan itself** a clause stating that for the application of wind systems along the coast – as defined in the project WICO - **the competent bodies have to simplify procedures** according to the indications of the project itself, with the purpose of favouring the deployment of renewable energy

## BEST PRACTICE

### Axis of the Regional Energy Plan as guide line for the Provincial Energy Plan

AXIS	TITLE	REF. BODIES
<b>AXIS 1</b>	Promotion of energy saving and rational use in buildings and urban and territorial systems	Programme-plans of local administration bodies
<b>AXIS 2</b>	Renewable resources development	Programme-plans of local administration bodies
<b>AXIS 3</b>	Energy rationalization of industrial areas	Regional programme-plans
<b>AXIS 4</b>	Energy efficiency and reduction of polluting gases of transport/mobility sector (people and goods)	//
<b>AXIS 5</b>	Subsidies/aids in favour of agriculture and forestry	Regional programme-plans
<b>AXIS 6</b>	Research and technological transfer	Regional programme-plans
<b>AXIS 7</b>	Information and other services	Programme-plans of the region and local administration bodies

## **BEST PRACTICE**

### **Axis 2 development of renewables Objective and actions**

**Objective: to produce further 280 ktep/year (4% from wind)**

#### **Actions:**

- To set up a data base on solar thermal energy
- Subsidies for the installation of photovoltaic and solar thermal panels, and **small wind systems** by hotels and seaside resorts
- Communication campaign on thermal solar and **small wind systems**
- Intervention in the buildings owned by the Province and other public buildings
- Eco-industrial parks
- Solar thermal and photovoltaic panels installed on the roofs of factories and shopping centres
- Feasibility studies on **small wind systems** and small hydroelectric systems

## BEST PRACTICE

### *Some examples ...*

At the moment Emilia-Romagna Region is reviewing and modifying its **Territorial and Landscape Regional Plan** (PTPR) and this represents an opportunity for Province of Ravenna to **introduce some amendments**.

In fact it's useful to suggest to the Region a territorial classification based on the possibility to install along the coast line (according to specific rules) S.W.T.

This will represent a clear simplification that ensures sustainability of the technology toward environment and landscape.

## BEST PRACTICE

### *Some examples ...*

The Province of Ravenna defined an **agreement** with the Municipalities of Cervia, Ravenna, and the Superintendence **for the simplification of procedures** for the application of small wind systems. The agreement **establishes a committee** composed by a representative per each Institution with the purpose of speeding and simplifying procedures and guaranteeing the environmental integrity and homogeneous evaluation (according to location and/or height)

## ***BEST PRACTICE***

### ***Some examples ...***

#### ***The simplification adopted by the Municipality of Ravenna within the sandy shore management plan***

The wind and solar systems installed with the only purpose of self-maintenance of buildings/businesses, will benefit of simplified authorisation procedures. The **sandy shore management plan** states that if the nominal power of the turbine is less than 5kW and for self-consumption, then planning approval will not be required

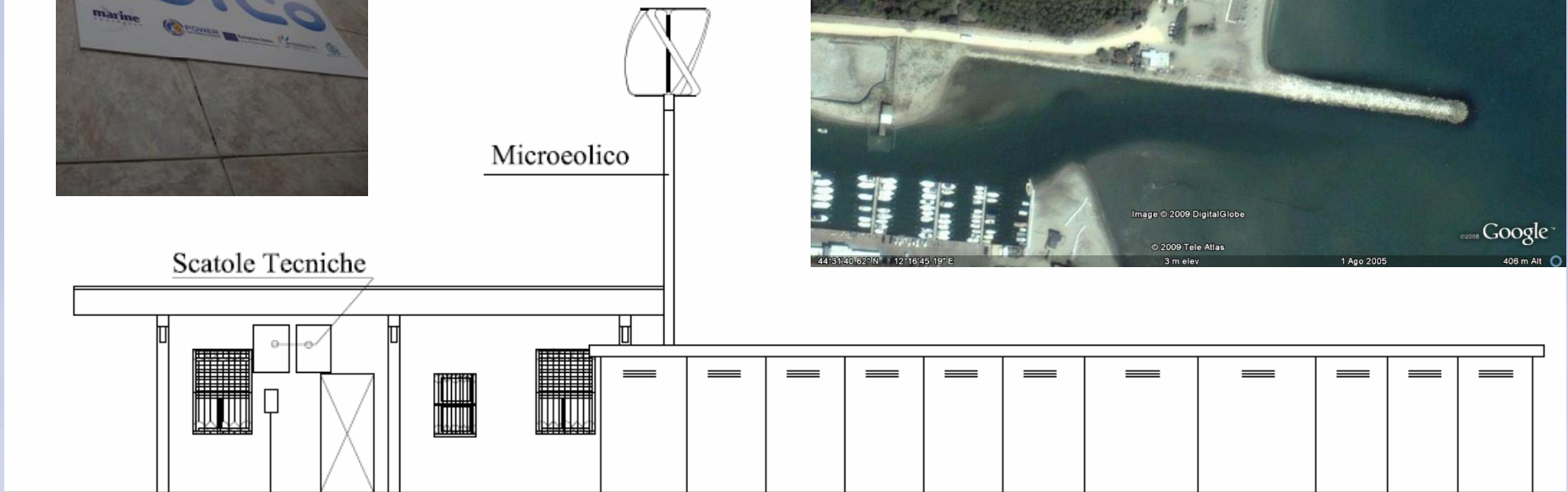
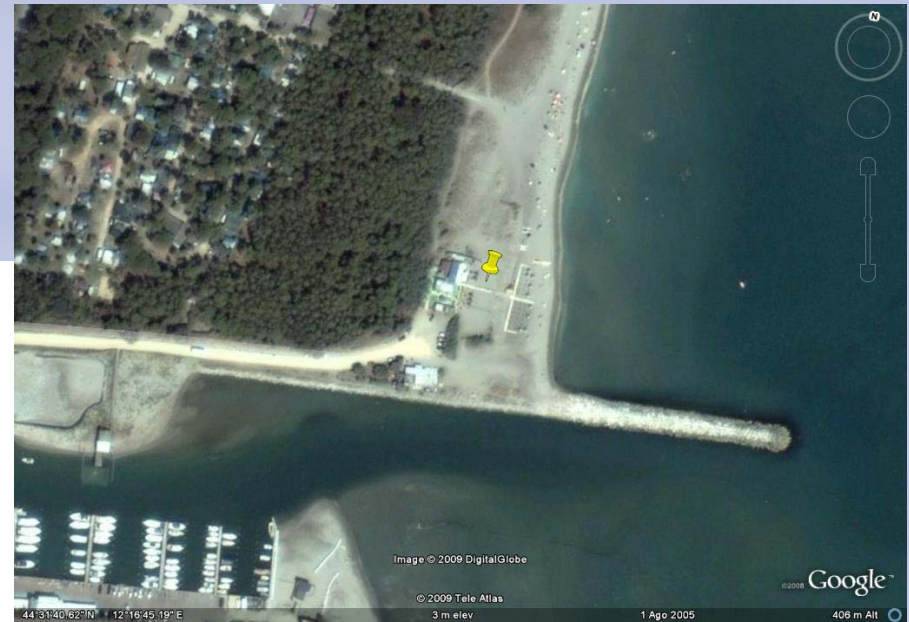
On the other hand, considering that the area encloses SIC and ZPS, it is still necessary to get the authorization of the Superintendence.

## Agreement with association

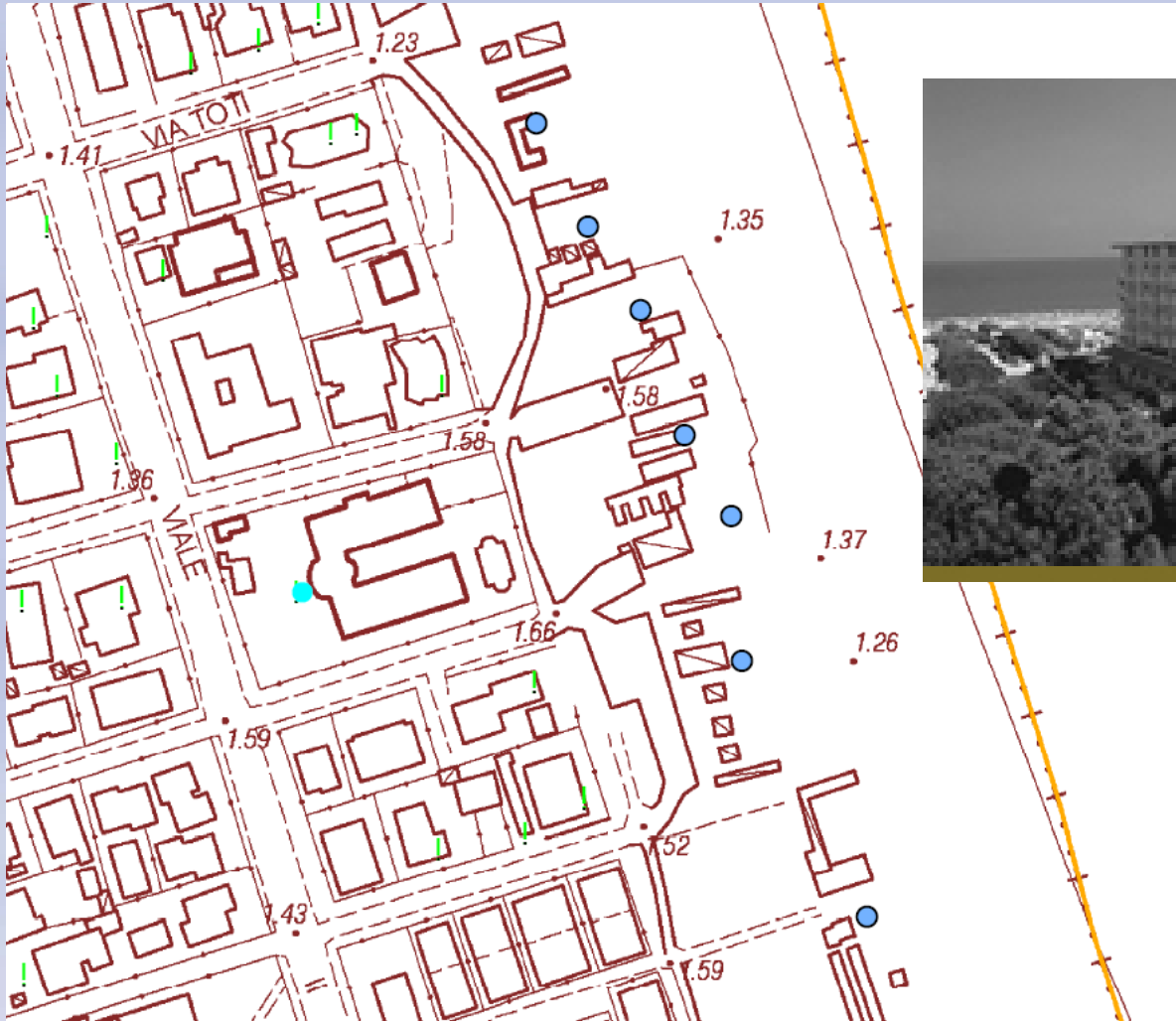
The Province of Ravenna after an initial period of **monitoring of the wind along the coast** decided to start the installation of experimental turbines to produce electricity using wind power by applying them to structures already located along the coastline.

1. identification of suitable sites;
2. authorization procedures;
3. purchase, installation and grid connection;
4. energy production monitoring system

# Test S.W.T.



# Test S.W.T.





## Test S.W.T.



# CONCLUSIONS

- Therefore strong political commitment is essential for the success of any progress in mini-wind;
- Need to foster and promote the green economy image of the territory;
- Simplification of procedures;
- Feed-in-tariffs.



# Guidelines

## SUMMARY OF POLICY INITIATIVES

Nº	Policy Initiative	Level
P1	Legislation that stipulates the difference between small-wind and large wind	National
P2	Introduce a reliable and sustainable system of Feed-in tariffs to promote small-scale wind turbines connected to the grid	National
P3	Accompany Feed-in-tariffs with time limits for competent authorities and obligations for connection	National
P4	Accompany all Feed-in-tariffs and other monetary incentives with restrictions on the size of the installation	National
P5	Allow the possibility of net metering	National
P6	Reduce tax burden on individual who wishes to install	All levels
A1	Develop local by-laws specifically geared for small-wind	Local/Regional
A2	Streamline of bureaucracy specially geared for small-wind	Local/Regional
A3	Fast-track of administrative procedures	Local
A4	Training of key administrative personnel	Local/Regional
A5	Provide consistency at all levels of policy and legislation	Local/Regional
A6	Minimize burden of administrative fee on installer or owner	Local

F1	Provide grants for small-wind turbine installations	Regional
F2	(as P2) Introduce a reliable and sustainable system of Feed-in tariffs to promote small scale wind turbines connected to the grid	National
F3	Accompany Feed-in tariffs with time limits for competent authorities and obligations for connection	National
F4	Promote innovative financing mechanisms, like Third Party Financing and Results Purchasing.	Local/Regional
S1	Provide information and awareness campaigns for the general public	Local
S2	Provide information campaigns for politicians and other key decision-makers	Local/Regional
S3	Consult with citizens within the local vicinity	Local
S4	Take preventative measures to avoid feeding misperception- provide clear guidelines	Regional
S5	Avoid large miniwind parks	Regional
S6	Install Educational small-wind installations	Local
D1	Provide basic training for municipal and regional officers in optimizing small-wind performance	Local/Regional
D2	Introduce accreditation schemes for turbines	National
D3	Require production predictions	Local/Regional
D4	Introduce accreditation scheme for installers	Regional
D5	Investigate public procurement options for small-wind turbines	Regional

Nº	Policy Initiative	Level
D6	Assist consumer-choice with a website with information on products etc	Regional
T1	Install innovative designs in municipalities	Local
T2	Invest in ideas- local innovation technology development programmes	Local/Regional
T3	Provide monitoring equipment for existing installations	Local/Regional
T4	National R&D Investment	National

### KEY

Letter	Type of Policy Initiative
P	Policy-making
A	Administrative
F	Financial
S	Social
D	Demand-side
T	Technology-based