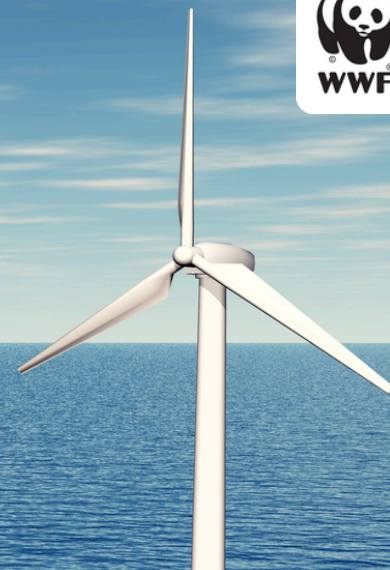




# OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY



Engaging companies to contribute to nature positive in the energy transition

Tackling the interconnected, planetary crises of biodiversity loss, climate change, and human well-being requires a united and collaborative effort. Implementing ocean-based solutions that promote natural ecosystems, such as expanding offshore renewable energy, is essential.

It is critical to transition the energy sector towards renewable sources, but it's important to recognize the localized risks to both people and wildlife. By 2030, the global installed capacity of renewable energy is expected to nearly triple, with offshore wind projected to increase sevenfold. The growth in offshore renewable energy is necessary to combat climate change, and this development poses far fewer risks to wildlife than the business-as-usual use of fossil fuels. Nevertheless, the seabed, fisheries, critical species and habitats, and local communities will be impacted by new development to varying degrees. This includes potential economic losses due to restricted access to fishing grounds, increased ship traffic, onshore infrastructure development, and seabed destruction for anchoring, among other factors.

It is important to address potential losses through a comprehensive approach that prioritizes equity, local engagement, and strategic planning. We need practical scientific guidance to help us avoid negative impacts on nature and identify opportunities to reverse declines through regeneration, resilience, and transformation.

## **Our Approach**

WWF engages key players in the offshore wind industry to accelerate the adoption of business models that make credible contributions to a nature-positive future. WWF works with developers to transform operational practices and create strategies for better outcomes for biodiversity, people, and climate. We encourage companies to take action on emerging frameworks including the Science-Based Targets for Nature and the Task Force on Nature-related Financial Disclosures to evaluate their supply chains, establish targets, transform business models, and disclose their impacts and dependencies on nature.

We also partner with innovative companies to ground-truth our recommendations, ensuring that they are both ambitious and feasible, thus increasing the likelihood that they will be implemented. This includes engaging developers to create a new **Nature Positive Framework for Oceans**, which WWF is developing to define credible actions contributing to a nature-positive future for the ocean. To drive change in the system, we identify crucial areas to collaborate with our partners and thought leaders to advocate for strong scientific measures. These measures are essential to gain public approval for the large-scale development of renewable energy.

WWF works with its large and influential network, as well as its partners, to engage policymakers in integrating biodiversity and social criteria into project tenders. The objective is to establish a supportive environment for industry transformation that is in line with a future that is nature-positive.

Investment in the offshore wind sector is on the rise as financial institutions aim to reduce carbon emissions in their portfolios to comply with the Paris Agreement. The oceans offer a great opportunity to address climate concerns while also focusing on environmental preservation, especially in the offshore wind industry. Banks and investors, in their roles as landers and shareholders, have a unique ability to encourage advancements in traditional offshore wind practices and to direct funding towards innovative, nature-positive strategies within the sector. [Find out more about how we engage the financial sector.](#)



## CONTACT US

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