

NiD4OCEAN External Newsletter

1H/2026

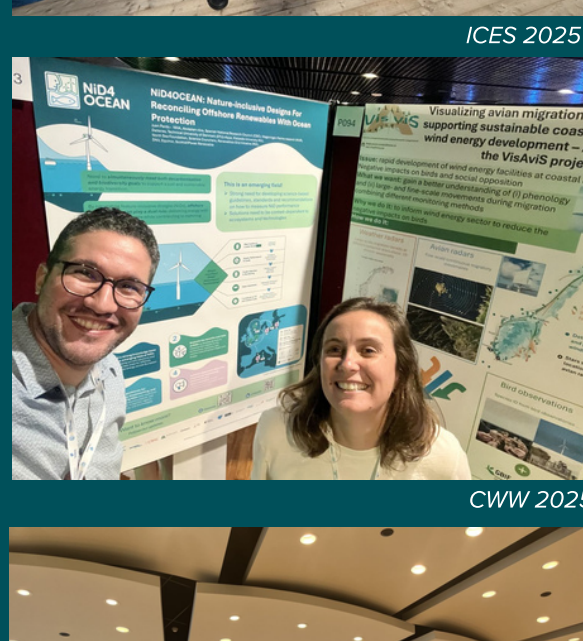
NiD4OCEAN spreading the word

For the past months, our project has been gaining visibility and spreading the word at different events across the EU. Key milestones have been achieved, and upcoming deliverables are appearing as the project begins to come forward with concrete results. The project was presented at key conferences, for example the 8th Conference on Wind Energy and Wildlife Impacts (CWW 2025) in Montpellier, France, and the ICES 2025 Annual Meeting in Klaipėda, Lithuania, as well as in dedicated side events such as the North Sea Days (Noordzeedagen) 2025.

2026 looks very promising in that regard, as participation in several key events has been confirmed (see *some at the end of the newsletter*).

More recently we have joined the [European Ocean Days 2026](#) and the [Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters Forum 2026](#), engaging with the wider ocean research and innovation community!

See more about the events in our [website](#)!



ICES 2025

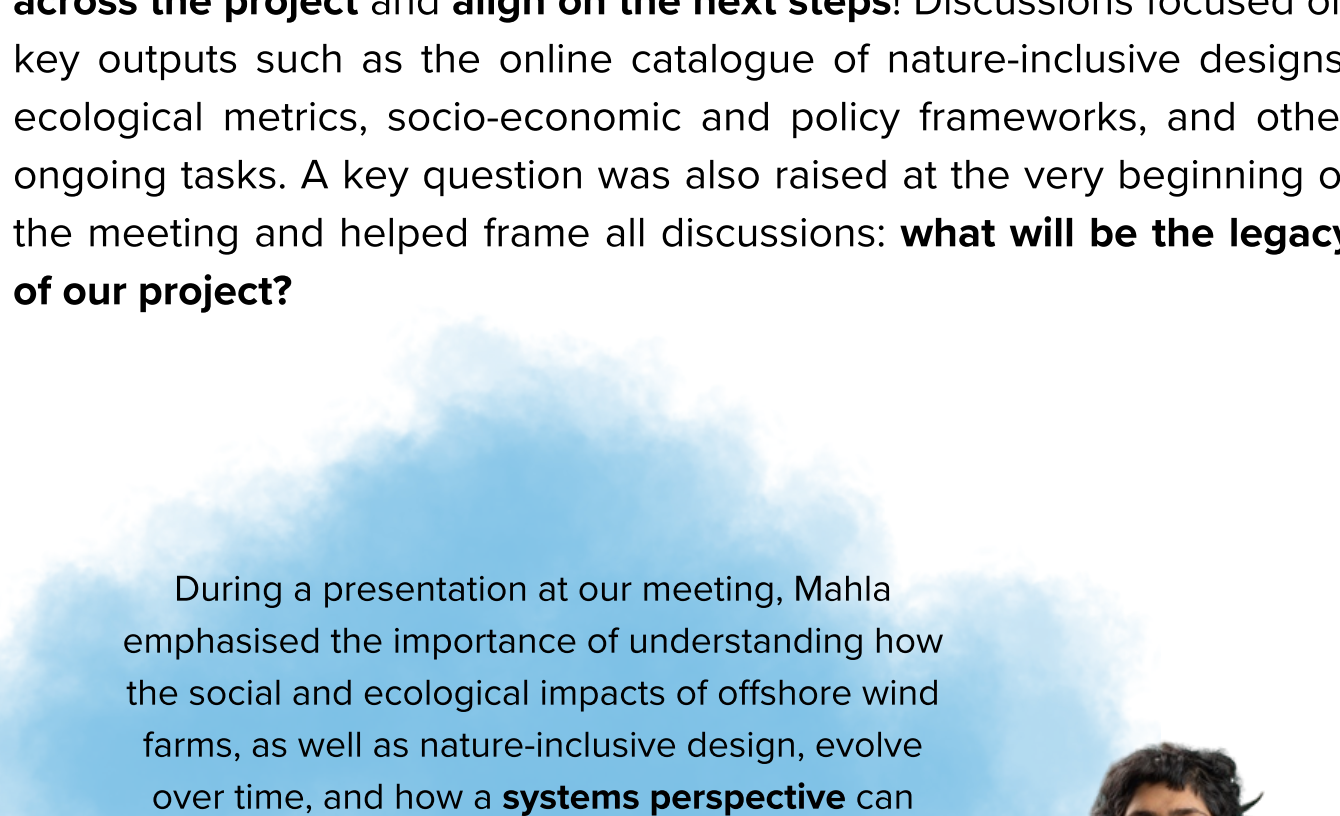


CWW 2025



Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters Forum 2026

NiD4OCEAN Consortium meeting in Barcelona, 28–30 January 2026



Our recent meeting brought all partners together to **review progress across the project** and **align on the next steps**! Discussions focused on key outputs such as the online catalogue of nature-inclusive designs, ecological metrics, socio-economic and policy frameworks, and other ongoing tasks. A key question was also raised at the very beginning of the meeting and helped frame all discussions: **what will be the legacy of our project?**

During a presentation at our meeting, Mahla emphasised the importance of understanding how the social and ecological impacts of offshore wind farms, as well as nature-inclusive design, evolve over time, and how a **systems perspective** can help uncover connections that static assessments may overlook.

More info [here](#)



Mahla Rashidian
researcher at NIVA

The meeting also included workshops on impact indicators and modelling approaches, helping partners strengthen coordination across work packages. A key highlight was the participation of all members of the **Scientific Advisory Board**, for which we are very grateful. Their input helped strengthen the links between activities and support the project's overall direction!

Read more in our [website](#)!



NiD4OCEAN consortium in Barcelona

Innovation challenges

Our innovation challenges were successful, and we were happy with the interest and commitment from the applicants so far!

The [innovation challenge for university students](#) was very well received, and the regional committees were impressed by the novel ideas and commitment of the students during the process. University students were asked to create nature-inclusive concepts (nature-inclusive design and mitigation measures) that can be integrated into offshore renewables or related infrastructure (such as the connecting grid or subsea platforms) that not only minimise environmental impact but also support ecosystem functioning and protection. The regional challenges were run in Norway, Spain, Lithuania, and Denmark. The winning ideas span from noise-dampening structures that minimise sound propagation to novel designs and materials for buoys targeting floating offshore wind turbines. Some teams even developed their ideas further and submitted their concepts to our [open challenge](#)!



DTU, Equinor and collaborators, Denmark



University of Agder (UiA), NIVA, Equinor - Norway



Klaipėda University and collaborators, Lithuania



Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC-BarcelonaTech), CSIC and collaborators, Spain

Winners from the Innovation University Challenge, together with participants from our Open Challenge for SMEs, will join our side event organised by RGI at WindEurope 2026 in Madrid, Spain (below), where they will showcase their concepts and their potential contributions to offshore wind development.

NiD4OCEAN at WindEurope Annual Event 2026!!

Our project is hosting a dedicated side event during the [WindEurope Annual Event 2026](#)! Our session is bringing together NGOs, academia, industry, students, and SMEs to explore how nature-inclusive concepts can support the sustainable development of floating offshore wind.

You can expect panel discussions, lightning talks from emerging innovators, and a networking session with poster exhibition!

Due to limited capacity, the event is invitation only. If you are interested in participating, please contact the organisers at deni@renewabled-grid.eu

See more information [here](#). If you are joining the event but are not available for our session, please reach out to us - we would be happy to connect!

General information

Many other activities are ongoing, for example the online catalogue, the NiD gap analysis for floating offshore renewables, best practices on the data requirements and availability for monitoring and modelling tools, and several others, which will be shared soon!

Remember to follow [our LinkedIn page](#) and check our [website](#)!

Latest deliverables and milestones achieved see complete overview [here](#)



Selected upcoming events



WindEurope's Annual Event, 21-23 April 2026 - Madrid, Spain
**poster presentation and side event confirmed!*



ICES Annual Science Conference (ASC), 15-18 September 2026 - Brest, France
**workshop confirmed*



World Conference on Marine Biodiversity, 17-20 November 2026 - Bruges, Belgium
**abstract submitted!*

Find more about our project updates on our website!

www.nid4ocean.eu



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