

## Newsletter 02.

Final Conference of the BEYOND Project to Gather Key Stakeholders in Offshore Wind Energy Development in the Adriatic

The final conference of the BEYOND project – Blue Economy sYnergies for sustainNable Development – will take place on 11 June 2026 at the Kneževa Palača in Zadar, Croatia, marking the concluding event of the project co-funded under the Interreg Italy–Croatia Programme.

The conference will bring together representatives of public institutions, academia, research organisations, the energy sector, regional and local authorities, and experts from Croatia and Italy to present the project's key results and discuss the future development of offshore wind energy in the Adriatic Sea.

Throughout its implementation, the BEYOND project has focused on developing a sustainable and coordinated approach to offshore wind energy by connecting energy policies, environmental protection, maritime spatial planning, and blue economy development. Special emphasis has been placed on strengthening cooperation between Croatian and Italian partners in order to establish the foundations for the long-term and sustainable development of offshore wind energy in the Adriatic region.

Project activities addressed technical, environmental, social, and regulatory aspects of offshore wind farm development, including assessments of wind energy potential, environmental impacts on marine ecosystems, infrastructure capacities, and opportunities for aligning renewable energy development with the needs of local communities and economic sectors.

The final conference programme will include presentations by project partners and experts who will showcase the results of the analyses, studies, and pilot activities carried out within the project. Particular attention will be given to the opportunities and challenges related to offshore wind energy development in the Adriatic, as well as to the importance of international cooperation in the context of the green energy transition.

The opening session will feature welcome addresses by representatives of the City of Zadar and the Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds of the Republic of Croatia, followed by a presentation of the BEYOND project results and Adriatic perspectives on offshore wind energy development by the Istrian Regional Energy Agency – IRENA.

The conference will also explore the technical aspects of offshore wind farm development in the Adriatic, including engineering solutions, energy modelling, and infrastructure requirements, presented by representatives of the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Engineering. The National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics – OGS will present findings related to marine environmental protection and ecosystem preservation in the context of offshore wind energy development.



A central part of the programme will consist of two thematic panel discussions focused on the future of offshore wind energy in the Adriatic region.

The first panel discussion, titled “From potential to implementation: building the framework for offshore wind energy in the Adriatic”, will gather representatives of ministries, academia, the energy sector, and industry to discuss the regulatory, infrastructural, and investment conditions required for offshore wind energy development in the region. The discussion will focus on creating a stable legislative and strategic framework capable of supporting future investments and large-scale offshore wind projects.

The second panel discussion, “Coexistence at sea: offshore wind energy, marine ecosystems and the blue economy”, will address the relationship between offshore wind energy development and marine ecosystem protection, as well as opportunities for balancing renewable energy projects with sustainable blue economy activities. Participants will discuss the importance of interdisciplinary cooperation, the protection of sensitive marine habitats, and sustainable approaches to the future development of the Adriatic Sea.

The conference will include representatives of numerous institutions and organisations, including the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar, the University of Zagreb, the University of Rijeka, the University of Split, the Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, the National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics – OGS, as well as representatives of the energy and industrial sectors from Croatia and Italy.

The final conference of the BEYOND project represents an opportunity for knowledge exchange, networking, and continued dialogue on sustainable energy solutions in the Adriatic region. Through its multidisciplinary and cross-border approach, the project has contributed to establishing a strong foundation for the future development of offshore wind energy while ensuring the protection of natural resources and supporting the growth of the blue economy.

#### Event Information

Date: 11 June 2026

Location: Kneževa Palača, Zadar, Croatia

Time: 09:30 – 13:45

Participation in the conference is free of charge with prior registration.

Registration link:

[Link](#)

