



Blue Talk Cuba

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The Ocean: a huge **theoretical** resource – 275,500 TWh/y

Waves (44,000 TWh/y)

Ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC): temperature differential between cold water from the deep ocean and warm surface water (50,000 TWh/y)

Tidal

Tidal stream: energy in fast flowing tidal currents (2,200 TWh/y)

Tidal range: energy from the difference between high and low tides (300 TWh/y)

Salinity gradient: pressure differential between salt and fresh water (osmotic energy) (20,000 TWh/y)



Hydrothermal vents

Marine Biomass: macroalgae cultures to produce bio-fuel

Offshore Wind: typically a Wind Resource, but in fact it is also a Marine Energy Resource (176,000 TWh/y)

World Energy Consumption: 140,000 TWh/y

Scale of the resource assessment

- When discussing energy potential it is important to clearly define the limitations included

Theoretical Resource - A top level statement of the energy contained in the entire resource

Technical Resource - The proportion of the theoretical resource that can be exploited based on existing technologies

Practicable Resource - The proportion of the technical resource that can be exploited after removal of physically impracticable areas for deployment

Accessible Resource - What can be exploited after consideration of external constraints (competing uses, environmental protected areas, etc)

Economic Resource - In general only part of the Accessible Resource may be commercially attractive at a particular point in time depending on market conditions

The Ocean: a relevant **market** resource

Waves (250 - 1500 TWhe/y)

Ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC): temperature differential between cold water from the deep ocean and warm surface water (**small**)

Tidal

Tidal stream: energy in fast flowing tidal currents (50 - 150 TWhe/y)

Tidal range: energy from the difference between high and low tides (**small**)

Salinity gradient: pressure differential between salt and fresh water (osmotic energy) (122 TWhe/y)



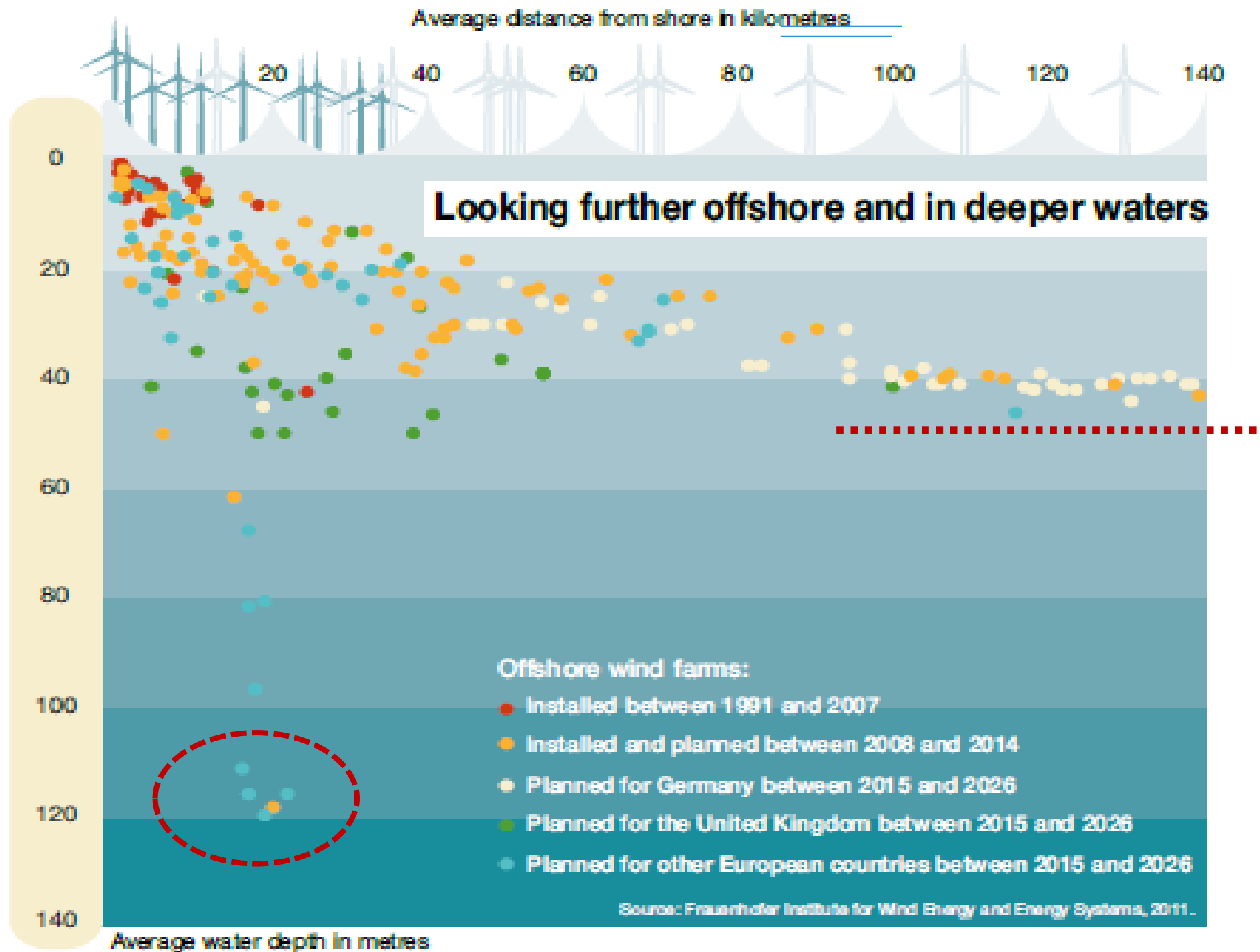
Marine Biomass: macroalgae cultures to produce bio-fuel (NA)

Offshore Wind: typically a Wind Resource, but in fact it is also a Marine Energy Resource (1500 - 15000 TWhe/y)

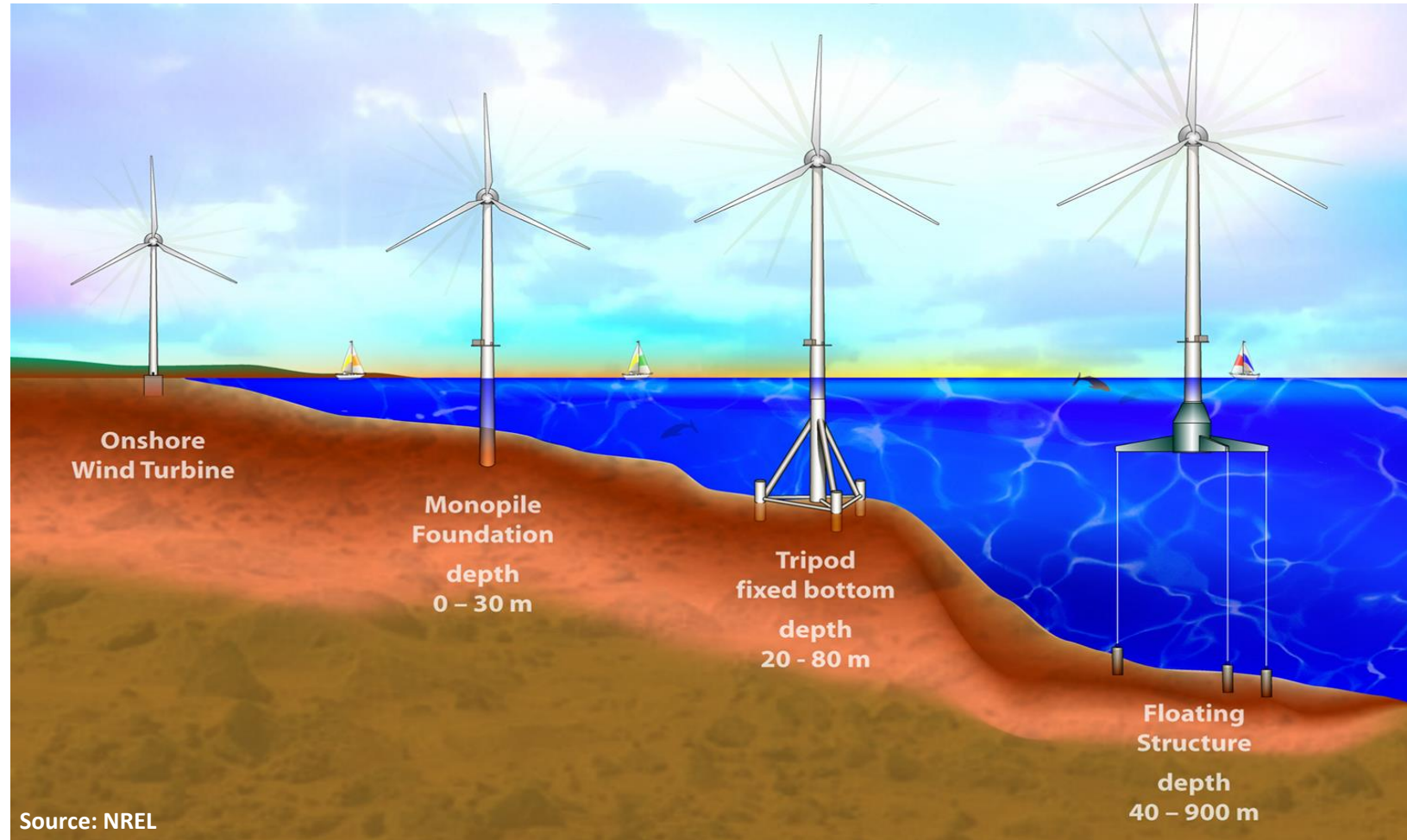
World Electrical Energy Consumption: 14,000 TWhe/y

SUMMARY

- ✓ **SIZE OF THE OPPORTUNITY**
- ✓ **OFFSHORE WIND**
- ✓ **TIDAL STREAM**
- ✓ **WAVE**



Progressing to deeper waters: Floating!



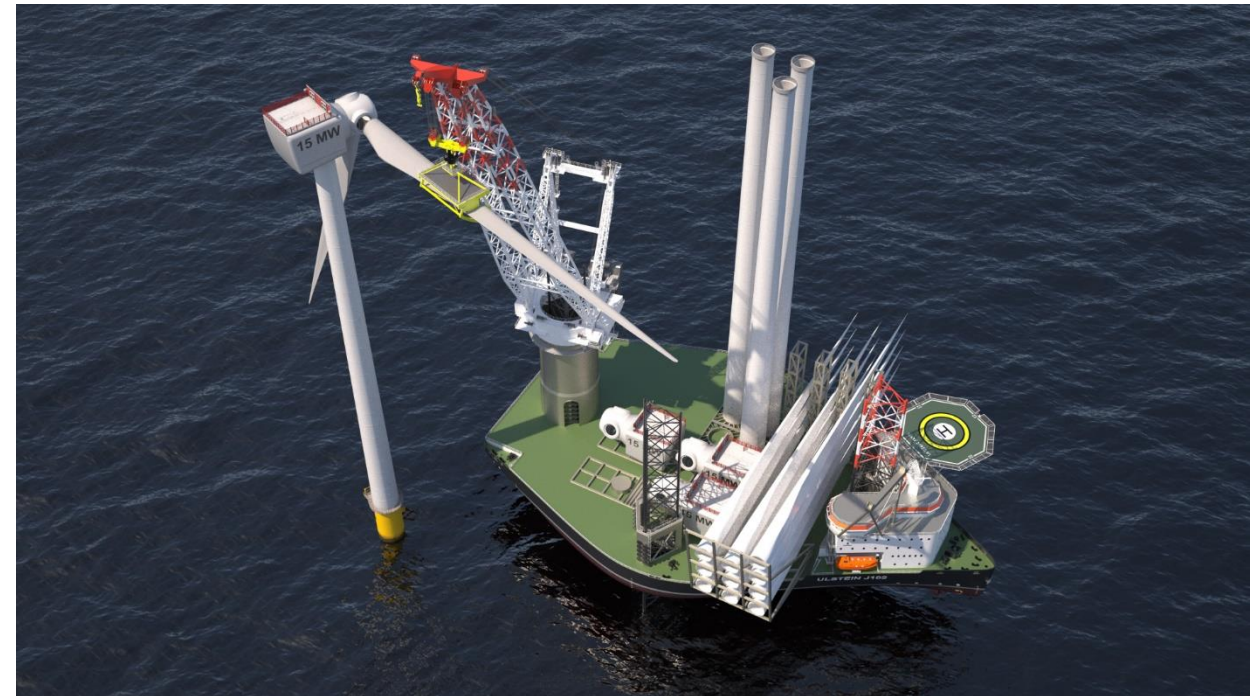
Targets for offshore wind

- **IRENA 2021 (World)**
 - 2020 – 34 GW deployed (fixed foundation)
 - 2030 – 380 GW
 - 2050 – 2000 GW
- **Wind Europe 2021 (Europe)**
 - 2050 – 450 GW
 - 150 GW floating
- **KIC InnoEnergy 2021 (floating)**
 - 2050 – 13 GW Spain
 - 2050 – 9 GW Portugal



Marine Renewable Energy Technological Challenges

- **Floating offshore wind**
 - 15 -> 20 MW turbines
 - Metal -> Concrete floating platforms
 - Dynamic electrical cables
 - Underwater modular electric substations
 - O&M cost reductions

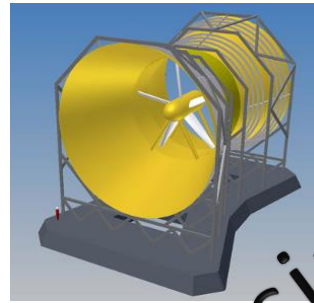


SUMMARY

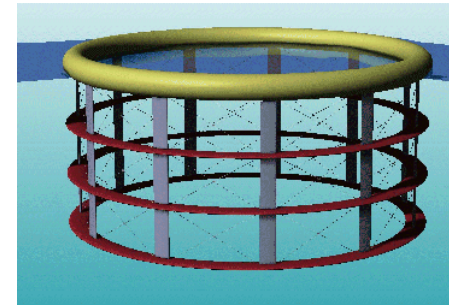
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Tidal Stream Energy (TRL 6-8)

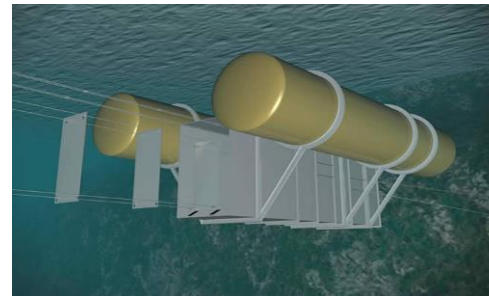
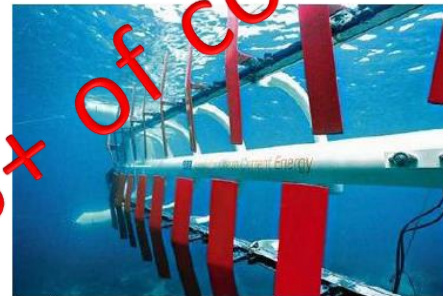
Horizontal Axis Turbines



Vertical Axis Turbines



Hydrofoils



- 27.7 MW installed in Europe since 2010 – 10.4 MW in operation in 2019 produced 15 GWh (oceanenergy-europe.eu)

TIDAL TECHNOLOGY EVOLUTION

RELEVANT ASPECTS

- ☐ Tidal energy production is proportional to the **blade swept area** and the **cube** of water velocity
- ☐ Tidal energy is variable but is **fully predictable**

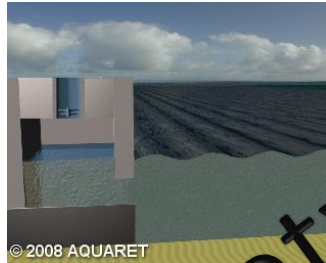
TRENDS:

- ☐ **Higher turbines:** 1 MW at present / 5 MW in the future (?)
- ☐ **Improved deployment methods:** very strong currents (up to 5 knots) turn operations expensive and risky
- ☐ **Preventive maintenance**

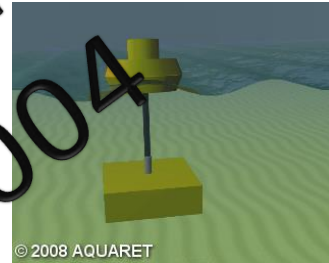
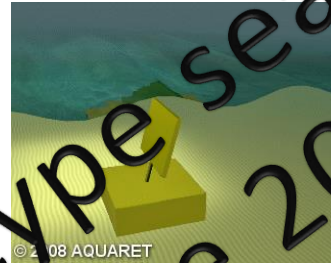
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Wave Energy (TRL 6-7)



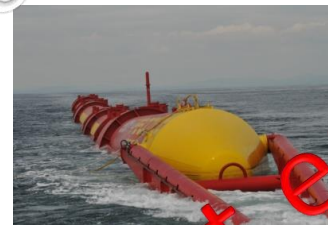
OWC



Oscillating bodies



Overtopping



Deformable bodies



WAVE TECHNOLOGY EVOLUTION

RELEVANT ASPECTS

- ☐ Wave energy flux is proportional to the square of the wave height and the wave period
- ☐ Waves can be predicted five days in advance
- ☐ Production efficiency depends on the energy flux (30 times higher in storms as compared to average) and wave period

TRENDS:

- ☐ Unclear what is the best working principle
- ☐ Unclear what is the best power equipment (turbine, hydraulic generator, direct electric drive, etc.): **air turbines and direct drive maybe better options**
- ☐ Unclear how to scale to industrial size



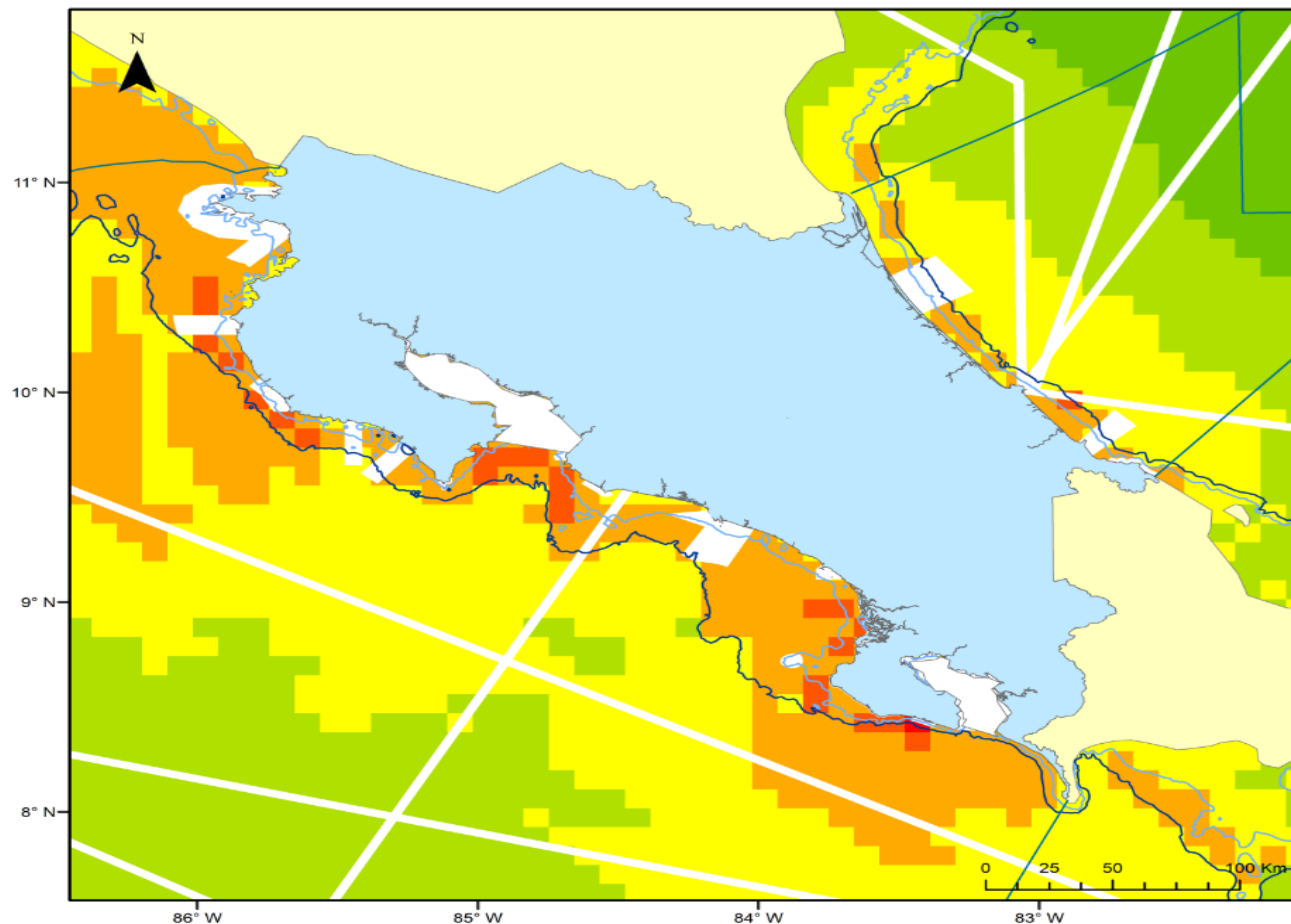
WAVEC KEY ACTIVITIES

- Costa Rica Marine Renewable Energy assessment and site selection (ICE, Costa Rica).

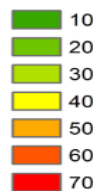
IMPACT:

- mapping of the resource and best areas for marine renewable energy.

“Making Things Happen”



Evaluación Final del recurso de energía de las ondas con las zonas de exclusion



— Zona Económica Exclusiva de Costa Rica
Batimetría entre los 50 y 200m de profundidad
— -200
— -50

Opportunities related to Marine Renewable Energy

- Cheap energy in the medium term.
- Socio-economic development due to the supply chain development.
- Energy independency and reduction of fuel imports.
- Reduction of environmental impacts.
- Opportunity to develop technology and supply chain for sustainable ocean exploitation (e.g., offshore aquaculture and multiuse of the maritime space).



THANK YOU

www.wavec.org

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