

Clean energy for EU islands **Regulatory barriers in Estonia: findings and recommendations**

ENERGY

The Clean energy for EU islands secretariat is managed by the European Commission Directorate-General for Energy

Completed in: December 2022 Author: Clean energy for EU islands secretariat managed by the European Commission Directorate-General for energy clean-energy-islands.ec.europa.eu info@euislands.eu | European Commission | DG ENER Written by: Andries De Brouwer, Lucija Rakocevic, Malgorzata (Gosia) Matowska Reviewers: Gabi Kaiser, Jan Cornillie Special thanks to our Clean energy for EU islands Community for their input and support. Graphic design: Agata Smok for Clean energy for EU islands secretariat European Commission DG ENER Typeface: EC Square Sans Pro Disclaimer: © European Union, 2022 The Commission's reuse policy is implemented by Commission Decision 2011/833/ EU of 12 December 2011 on the reuse of Commission documents (OJ L 330, 14.12.2011, p. 39). Unless otherwise noted, the reuse of this document is authorised under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence. This means that reuse is allowed, provided appropriate credit is given and any changes are indicated. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders. This document has been prepared for the European Commission however it reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. The EU does not own copyright in relation to the following elements: Jaanus Jagomägi p.5, Toa Heftiba p.11, Gabrielle Henderson p.13, Frederic Koberl

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Executive Summary

Estonia has recently implemented national measures to facilitate the energy transition on the Estonian islands. However, several major challenges remain. Based on an **inventory** of the current legislation, the Clean energy for EU islands secretariat carried out surveys and interviews to identify the barriers to clean energy deployment and the solutions to overcome those. These findings were discussed with all relevant stakeholders in two focus group meetings and a national stakeholder meeting (NSM). The results of that process are described in this booklet. The most important recommendations are summarised below

The barriers identified in Estonia relate to grid constraints and absence of frameworks for solutions to cope with it, islands not being consulted in a systematic manner and lack of national vision/strategy on clean energy development for the islands. There is limited support from the national government in planning and implementation of clean energy projects and action plans. Local opposition, lack of energy community frameworks to foster RES-projects, and spatial planning constraints also form barriers. These barriers can be overcome through stakeholder discussions, European-wide islands-to-islands

These barriers can be overcome through stakeholder discussions, European-wide islands-to-islands exchange of best practices and leadership by the relevant authorities. The recommendations in this booklet serve as guidance for the accelerated renewable energy deployment on the Estonian islands.

Kokkuvõte

Eesti on rakendanud riiklikke meetmeid, et hõlbustada energiasüsteemi muutuseid Eesti saartel. Siiski on veel mitmeid suuri väljakutseid.

Kehtivate õigusaktide **inventuuri** põhjal viis ELi saarte puhta energia sekretariaat (ingl.k. Clean energy for EU islands secretariat) läbi uuringud ja intervjuud, et teha kindlaks puhta energia kasutuselevõttu takistavad tõkked ja lahendused nende ületamiseks. Neid tulemusi arutati kõigi asjaomaste sidusrühmadega kahel fookusgrupi kohtumisel ja riiklikul sidusrühmade kohtumisel. Selle protsessi tulemusi kirjeldatakse käesolevas brošüüris. Kõige olulisemad soovitused on kokkuvõtlikult esitatud allpool.

Eestis tuvastatud takistused on seotud piirangutega elektrivõrgus ja sellega toimetulekuks vajalike lahenduste raamistike puudumisega, saartega ei konsulteerita süstemaatiliselt ja saarte puhta energia arendamise riikliku visiooni/strateegia puudumisega, valitsuse toetuse puudumisega puhta energia projektide ja tegevuskavade kavandamisel ja rakendamisel, kohaliku vastuseisu ja energiakogukondade raamistiku puudumisega taastuvenergiaprojektide edendamiseks ning ruumilise planeerimise piirangutega saartel.

Neid takistusi on võimalik ületada sidusrühmade arutelude, üleeuroopalise saarte vahelise parimate tavade vahetamise ja asjaomaste ametiasutuste juhtrolli abil. Käesolevas brošüüris esitatud soovitused on suunised taastuvenergia kiiremaks kasutuselevõtuks Eesti saartel.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Main Barriers to the Clean Energy Transition	8
Barrier 1: Grid constraints and absence of frameworks for solutions to cope with it	10
Recommendations	
1.1 Improve grid development planning	
1.2 Support the development of storage, demand-response and smart-grids on the islands	
1.3 Channel funding from the EU towards infrastructure on the islands	
1.4 Use regulatory sandboxes to test innovative solutions on the islands	
Barrier 2: Islands are not consulted in a systematic manner and lack of national vision/strategy on clean energy development for the islands	12
Recommendations	
2.1 Set up an island energy agency	
2.2 Develop an island specific policy (Regional Action Plan)	
Barrier 3: Lack of support from the national government in planning and implementation of clean energy projects and action plans	14
Recommendations	
3.1 Provide guidance and support the development and implementation of Clean Energy Transition Agendas	
3.2 Ensure mandatory and regular follow-up on island energy action plans	
3.3 Adapt the support systems with particular attention for islands	
Barrier 4: Local opposition and lack of energy community frameworks to foster renewable energy projects	s 16
Recommendations	
4.1 Develop facilitating services for energy community projects and a framework for engagement of the island inhabitants	
4.2 Increase stakeholder awareness on advantages of clean energy projects	

Barrier 5: Spatial planning constraints for the islands: Energy generation is in conflict with nature conservation and military activities

Recommendations

5.1 Seek compromises with Ministry of Defence to open zones for renewable energy development and adaptation of wind turbine height constraints

5.2 Provide spatial planning guidelines for implementation of clean energy projects

5.3 Designate go-to areas and develop simplified permitting procedures

Comparison to other countries (map)

Further Reading

Introduction

There are more than 2,200 inhabited islands in the EU. Despite having access to an abundant amount of renewable energy, such as wind, sun and waves, many of them depend on petrol imports for their energy supply. Through the deployment of clean energy assets, EU island communities can have access to reliable, clean, and competitive sources of energy. Given their insular nature, they can even become leaders in the clean energy transition.

While it has often become technically and financially possible to develop renewable energy projects on islands, the current legal frameworks are not always fit for purpose. The Clean energy for EU island secretariat embarked on the mission to identify the legal, regulatory and policy barriers to clean energy deployment and provide recommendations to overcome them.

This booklet contains the highlights of the more in-depth country study. It processes the insights gathered from literature review, surveys sent to 37 stakeholders, nine interviews, two focus groups attended by 9 to 12 participants and one national stakeholder meeting (NSM). The NSM was held in Saaremaa with representatives from the national level such as the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Environment, Elering (TSO), Elektrilevi (DSO), the Estonian Wind Power Association, the Association of Estonian cities and municipalities, the Estonian Fishermen's Association, Tartu Regional Energy Agency well as stakeholders from the islands such as local energy community managers, local renewable energy project developers and the mayors from Saaremaa and Hiiumaa. The barriers and recommendations represent the view of the Clean energy for EU island secretariat and does not bind the stakeholders who contributed to it.

Estonia and its islands

18

20

22

Estonia has 2,222 islands, of which 22 are permanently inhabited. The largest islands are Saaremaa (2,673 km²) and Hiiumaa (989 km²). Most of Estonian islands have an area of below 100 km². Only 3% of the total population of Estonia lives on the islands. This corresponds to 44,100 people. Some islands are separate municipalities and have the same municipal autonomy as mainland municipalities. In addition, Saaremaa and Hiiumaa are regional authorities (counties).

Best Practice - Small Islands Programme

Clean energy development on Estonian islands is supported in the framework of cross-sectoral programmes. For example, from 18 January to 11 March 2021, the Ministry of Finance of Estonia ran the Small Islands Programme, which aimed to contribute to the availability and quality of essential services for the inhabitants of the small islands that are included in the list of small islands under the **Small Islands Act**. Hiiumaa, Muhumaa and Saaremaa were not included in the programme area. The programme supported improvement of electricity connections and installation of electric vehicles loading stations to islands. The maximum grant was \in 130,000 per project. The self-financing or co-financing rate was 15% of the total cost of the project.

Main Barriers to the Clean Energy Transition

Based on the detailed assessment of the current regulatory framework and consultation with relevant Estonian stakeholders (via surveys, interviews, and joint meetings), the most important regulatory barriers to a clean energy transition on Estonian Islands were identified.¹ The barriers are ranked by order of priority according to the stakeholders consulted:

- 1. Grid constraints and absence of frameworks for solutions to cope with it
- 2. Islands are not consulted in a systematic manner and lack of national vision/strategy on clean energy development for the islands
- 3. Lack of support from the national government in planning and implementation of clean energy projects and action plans
- 4. Local opposition and lack of energy community frameworks to foster RES projects
- 5. Spatial planning constraints for the islands: Energy generation is in conflict with nature conservation and military activities

Each of these barriers is presented in this booklet and include recommendations for overcoming them, examples of best practices and connections to the **REpowerEU** policy. For the presented recommendations, the actors who should be responsible to initiate implementation are highlighted.





The content of this booklet is based on the "Regulatory barriers in Estonia: findings and recommendations" report 1 to be found **here** | Clean energy for EU islands (europa.eu)

DID YOU KNOW?

ACTION FROM





USEFUL INFORMATION

Barrier 1: Grid constraints and absence of frameworks for solutions to cope with it

→ The electricity grids in Estonia are upgraded based on the potential consumption. While the grids on the islands are well developed to cover the local consumption, they are not strong enough to incorporate larger amounts of renewable energy. This insufficient grid capacity on the Estonian islands forms a major obstacle for development of renewable energy. Integrating large amounts of solar energy on the islands and offshore wind farms around the islands into renewable energy development proves to be difficult. Security of energy supply is a big issue on the islands, but there is no support or supportive framework for innovative solutions - such as storage, smart-grids and demand response - to cope with the obsolete grid capacity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Grid planning should be revisited and at the same time, storage should be further supported. Therefore the secretariat makes the following recommendations.

- 1.1 Improve grid development planning
- The grids on the islands should be upgraded to be able to integrate larger amounts of renewable energy, to be deployed in the near future. Grid planning must follow a future oriented approach. A revision of the relevant regulations (see box: Useful Information), by the regulator, the Estonian Competition Authority, and Ministry for Economics and Communication is necessary, since grid development based on forecasted generation is not foreseen. Grid upgrades on Saaremaa could be classified as 'overriding public interest' in line with REPowerEU. Since the NSM in September 2022 this recommendation has been followed by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, who has issued guidelines to the transmission system operator Elering for planning a 330 kV transmission line to Saaremaa. More info can be found here.
- 1.2 Support the development of storage, demand-response and smart-grids on the islands
- In Estonia, storage is currently allowed to connect under the same principles as generation assets. A specific policy framework for storage is currently missing. The authorisation process should be accelerated and simplified. The secretariat recommends that the Estonian government accelerates its legal and regulatory developments on storage.

Explicit demand response participation is currently very limited to non-existent and there is currently no aggregator model framework in place. Building further on the existing Demand Response Working Group, formed by the Estonian Competition Authority, Elering AS (Estonian TSO) and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, it is recommended to create legal frameworks for explicit demand response and aggregation, specifically taking into account the island particularities.

- 1.3 Channel funding from the EU towards infrastructure on the islands
- As there is limited budget for transmission grid upgrades and distribution grid upgrades are at the cost of the entity making the connection request (thus forming a barrier for the pro-ject developers), the secretariat recommends that Estonia pays particular attention to the island regions when developing plans allocating EU funding.
- 1.4 Use regulatory sandboxes to test innovative solutions on the islands
- In line with what has been done in other EU Member States, Estonian islands could be put forward as innovative laboratories via regulatory sandboxes. Regulatory sandbox are ways for authorities to test innovative approaches and technologies in real-life situations through time limited implementation of exceptions to the existing legislation. We recommend using the regulatory sandbox approach to allow specific islands to experiment with, for example, different designs of electricity tariffs.



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Did you know?

REPowerEU - In the necessary assessments to ascertain whether a plant for the production of energy from renewable sources, its connection to the grid, the related grid itself, or storage assets is of overriding public interest in a particular case, Member States should presume these plants and their related infrastructure as being of overriding public interest and serving public health and safety.

Member States are encouraged to put in place regulatory sandboxes to grant targeted exemptions from the national, regional or local legislative or regulatory framework for innovative technologies, products, services or approaches.

Further action is expected from:

- ✓ Elering AS (TSO)
- ✓ Elektrilevi OÜ (DSO)
- Konkurentsiamet Estonian Competition Authority (ECA) – the energy regulatory department
- ✓ Ministry for the Economic Affairs and Communication (MKM)
- ✓ Island municipalities of Association of Municipalities



Useful information

- Solution Electricity Market Act
- **Grid Code**
- Estonian Energy Development Plan until 2030 (ENMAK) – the national development plan for the energy industry
- ℅ Marine Spatial Planning
- More information on **regulatory sandboxes**

Barrier 2: Islands are not consulted in a systematic manner and lack of national vision/strategy on clean energy development for the islands

Both the energy sector strategies and the long-term energy planning are highly centralised. The National Energy and Climate Plan for Estonia does not provide a clear strategy for the energy transition on the islands. There is no centralized initiative to bring all needed stakeholders for the clean energy transitions to the table and coordinate on the long-term approach for the islands. Island stakeholders are not consulted in a systematic manner to ensure that the island issues and priorities are addressed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There is clear need for a link between islands and national level coordination in a cross-departmental way. Therefore we present the following recommendations.

- 2.1 Set up an island energy agency
- ➡ To foster the involvement of island stakeholders in national strategic and long-term energy planning and funding distribution, we recommend assessing the creation of a regional energy agency, which can be named 'Island Energy Agency' or 'Western Estonian Energy Agency'. This agency could be based on the example of the Tartu Regional Energy Agency (TREA). The agency could be organised in coordination with other national bodies responsible for spatial planning, environment, culture and history and tourism. This agency would help bring in different views also beyond energy from different island stakeholders up to the national level. The formation of such an islands energy agency should be guided and framed by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication, for example, in the process of updating the ENMAK (energy sector development plan). However, the concrete set-up of the island's energy agency would have to be done by the island municipality.

2.2 Develop an island specific policy (Regional Action Plan)

→ The secretariat recommends developing an island specific policy, building further on the experience from specific Regional Action Plans, such as the East-Virumaa Action Plan 2015-2020 and the South-East Estonia Action Plan 2015-2020. At the beginning of 2022, the Ministry of Finance has adopted an action plan for regional development, called the 'Regional Development Action Plan' (RETK), which includes the regionally targeted activities of the line ministries. At the proposal of the Ministry for the Economic Affairs and Communication, the implementation plan of the RETK could be supplemented with other activities in the field of energy aimed at the islands or presumably in the process of updating the ENMAK.





Did you know?

Strategic Planning is done in a cross-sectoral way and particular attention is given to islands in Ireland in the policy document, Our Rural Future: Rural development policy for 2021-2025. The 10-year Policy for Islands Development to 2030 document commits the government to the production of a long-term plan outlining how Ireland will take advantage of the significant potential of offshore energy on the Atlantic Coast and achieve 5 GW capacity in offshore wind plants by 2030 off Ireland's eastern and southern coasts.

The Italian Decree of Ministry of Economic Development of 14 February 2017 defined objectives and incentive methods for renewable energy in the small Italian islands non-interconnected with the electricity grid of the continent. Specifically, it established the minimum development objectives for the production of electricity and thermal energy from renewable sources, and the methods for supporting the investments needed for their realisation. According to several stakeholders, this decree has been proven very useful for all Italian islands.



Further action is expected from:

- ✓ Island municipalities from the Association of Municipalities
- ✓ Ministry for the Economic Affairs and Communication
- Ministry of Finance the department responsible for regional development
- ✓ Ministry of the Environment
- Konkurentsiamet Estonian Competition Authority (ECA) the energy regulatory department



Useful information

- Seast-Virumaa Action Plan 2015-2020
- South-East Estonia Action Plan 2015-2020
- **Regional Development Action Plan** (RETK)

Estonian Energy Development Plan until 2030 (ENMAK) – the national development plan for the energy industry

Barrier 3: Lack of support from the national government in planning and implementation of clean energy projects and action plans

Estonian islands have been proactive in planning and implementation of clean energy plans through various initiatives (see box: Useful Information). However, there is currently no institution supporting the implementation of these plans or encouraging exchange of experiences and lessons learned between the islands to assure successful projects are replicated on the islands with similar issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Islands require guidance or roadmaps from the national government on how they could accelerate energy transition. The more island-specific support the national government would provide, the faster islands would be able to develop renewable energy projects.

3.1 Provide guidance and support the development and implementation of Clean Energy Transition Agendas

→ The Ministry of Economics and Communication already provides some form of guidance via workshops, but additional workshops and trainings on how to get from vision to action and from plan to concrete projects are recommended. In cases where local governments lack capacity to develop their own energy and climate plans, the plan could be developed for a group of municipalities, islands or on a regional level, such as the Clean Energy Transition Agenda. The Island Energy Agency (Recommendation 2.1) could provide assistance in how to implement projects or could provide island specific funding. The adequate allocation of resources to the islands is also necessary to develop such plans. Islands need local transition teams to develop and drive Clean Energy Transition Agendas.

3.2 Ensure mandatory and regular follow-up on island energy action plans

➡ To ensure the island energy actions plans are implemented by concrete actions, our recommendation is to introduce a mandatory follow-up and monitoring/reporting of the implementation with concrete actions, KPIs, etc. within certain time limits. In addition, the Ministry for the Economic Affairs and Communication – who is already providing support to the municipalities for the development and implementation of local energy and climate plans – could provide guidelines and training on monitoring implementation. It could recommend and implement support schemes to provide capacity building and/or technical assistance.

3.3 Adapt the support systems with particular attention for islands

⇒ While it might not be conceivable to create island-specific support systems, it is recommended to provide additional support within the existing frameworks for renewable energy (see examples in box: Useful Information). The secretariat recommends assessing the existing support schemes to see how they can cover the needs of the energy transition on the islands. It might be needed to develop support packages targeted to the islands. This could be done with support from the Island Energy Agency (Recommendation 2.1)



↑ \bigcirc Photo by Frederic Koberl on Unsplash.



Did you know?

The **RES Simplify report** as part of the **REPowerEU** package contains some useful recommendations and examples on renewable energy installations. Guidelines are presented for authorities and stakeholders which act as a helping hand when it comes to the realisation of renewable projects. They inform and describe the permitting process and thus increase expertise and knowledge amongst all parties involved. Stakeholders can follow a clear 'cook-book recipe' and have direct access to the standard 'ingredients' (templates for all application documents etc.) they have to use during project permitting.

Further action is expected from:

- ✓ Ministry for the Economic Affairs and Communication
- \checkmark Ministry of the Environment
- ✓ Island municipalities of Association of Municipalities



Useful information

- Saaremaa Energy and Climate Plan
- ℅ Hiiumaa Energy and Climate Plan
- 🛚 Ruhnu Energy and Climate Plan
- 🐼 Muhu Energy and Climate Plan
- Methodology to develop Clean Energy Transition Agendas
- Croatia Public calls from the Croatian
 Environment Protection and Energy Efficiency
 Fund with uplifted grants for islands
- In Ireland, the grants for energy efficiency projects foresee a 'grant uplift' of 50% for islands. Island inhabitants could thus ask for 50% more funding for energy efficiency renovations (www.seai.ie/ publications/Homeowner-Application-Guide.pdf)

Barrier 4: Local opposition and lack of energy community frameworks to foster renewable energy projects

⇒ Estonia has big ambitions for offshore wind energy, but there is strong opposition from the island inhabitants against more wind turbines. Island inhabitants don't see any economical or other interest of the renewable energy (and particularly wind) projects for them. The current legal system in Estonia enables the creation of renewable energy communities (under the country's general Commercial Code) and the production of renewable energy for own consumption. However, specific regulations related to energy sharing, energy communities or prosumers have not been adopted yet.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Energy communities are beneficial from the point of view of local community involvement and achieving a just transition. Moreover, involvement of energy communities in the energy transition aims to help increase public knowledge of energy topics, implementation of energy efficiency measures and uptake of renewable energy. The local opposition problem could be tackled by taking the following measures regarding energy communities and energy sharing.

4.1 Develop facilitating services for energy community projects and a framework for engagement of the island inhabitants

⇒ The secretariat recommends creating a local contact point charged with (renewable) energy topics at municipal level specifically advising island inhabitants on the frameworks for energy communities and energy sharing. In order to foster acceptance for renewable energy and energy communities, support via financial and non-financial measures should be offered to encourage the creation of citizens' energy cooperatives. We recommend shifting the logic from compensating for the nuisances via a so-called 'tolerance fee' to a real and concrete financial incentive for participation to the offshore wind projects. This has been done in Spain on the Balearic islands, for example (see box: Useful Information). More examples are to be found in the full study².

4.2 Increase stakeholder awareness on advantages of clean energy projects

→ Much of the opposition against clean energy projects start at the first information meetings, where citizens do not get answers to their questions and then get frustrated. To overcome this problem of misinformation or lack of information we recommend developing a general central platform for information on energy, and on wind energy in particular. The central platform should collect and disseminate information on the individual projects and announce and communicate the results of information meetings. The secretariat recommends countering misinformation with information campaigns (e.g. documentaries) aimed at the general public. One of the focal points of such information campaigns could be that renewable energy solutions offer an important potential for job creation, beyond the positive impact for the climate. Another option is to create a one-stop shop at national level. The national government could help setup a platform, trainings or conferences with island stakeholders to foster the discussion, give light to the best practices, or even provide funding for mentorship programs.



↑ © Photo by You X Ventures on Unsplash.

2 Read the full study **here** | Clean energy for EU islands (europa.eu)



Did you know?

The **RES Simplify report**, as part of the **REPowerEU** package, contains some useful recommendations and examples for early engagement on local information, dissemination, and discussion. Citizens' and other stakeholders' acceptance of projects plays a vital role in renewable energy expansion. The acceptability of projects can be increased with the right participatory approach. On a general level, such activities should inform the public on the relevance of renewable energy in fighting climate change and related threats. With respect to specific projects, participation has to begin with the launch of a project and allow stakeholders to influence its concept rather than just confronting them with final plans and decisions.



Further action is expected from:

- Ministry for the Economic Affairs and Communication (MKM)
- Ministry of Finance department responsible for regional development
- \checkmark Ministry of the Environment
- $\checkmark\,$ Konkurentsiamet Estonian Competition Authority (ECA) the energy regulatory department



Useful information

The Balearic Climate Change and Energy Transition Law defines that the local participation of at least 20% should be encouraged or obliged for RES projects with less than 5.0 MWp or more than 5 MWp, respectively. (http://www.caib.es/sites/canviclimatic2/ es/llei_de_ccite/)

Barrier 5: Spatial planning constraints for the islands: Energy generation is in conflict with nature conservation and military activities

Land-use conflicts form a major barrier, specifically on islands. Energy generation is in conflict with nature conservation and military activities. Many of the protected areas in Estonia cover islands. In western Estonia, and particularly on the islands, there is a large bird population. Stringent requirements hinder the development of renewable energies. The height restrictions set for national defence reasons are another obstacle for wind development, particularly in and around the islands.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Fostering holistic spatial planning, allowing multiple uses of land, and RES-integrated environmental assessments are essential for future deployment of renewable energy projects on the islands. We therefore recommend actions on three fronts.

5.1 Seek compromises with Ministry of Defence to open zones for renewable energy development and adaptation of wind turbine height constraints

It is possible to adapt military training areas in order to find an adequate balance between energy, climate and air protection issues. The secretariat recommends the competent ministries to negotiate (i) opening military training zones in and around islands to renewable energy development and (ii) adapting the height restrictions for wind turbines in military zones conditioned to technical mitigation measures for interference with radars.

5.2 Provide spatial planning guidelines for implementation of clean energy projects

→ There is a need for the guidelines from the national level, namely the Ministry of Finance, on how the clean energy projects should be planned and implemented in regard to the land use priorities. Such guidelines have to take into account the characteristics of islands and seek compromises between nature conservation, military activities, preservation of historical sites, tourism, and sustainable and clean energy. It should embody a long-term vision on how different land use on islands are coordinated to assure sustainable economic development.

5.3 Designate go-to areas and develop simplified permitting procedures

Integration of spatial planning and sectoral strategies is fundamental in identifying and accessing suitable land for renewable energy projects, but is not a common practice. In light of the land-use conflicts mentioned above, the secretariat recommends developing an integrated approach via the creation of a detailed master plan (per island) that investigates and approves the areas or sites for clean energy development island by island. This master plan should define go-to areas specifically for one or more renewable energy sources. Consequently, projects in these zones should be subjected to fast-track and simplified permitting procedures and lightened environmental impact assessments.





Did you know?

REPowerEU - A faster roll-out of renewable energy projects could be supported by strategic planning carried out by Member States. Member States should identify the land and sea areas necessary for the installation of plants for energy generation from renewable sources. The designation of renewables go-to areas should allow renewable energy plants, their grid connection as well as co-located energy storage facilities placement in these areas to benefit from predictability and streamlined administrative procedures. In particular, projects located in renewable go-to areas should benefit from accelerated administrative procedures.



Further action is expected from:

- ✓ Ministry for the Economic Affairs and Communication (MKM)
- ✓ Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Finance department for spatial planning
- \checkmark Ministry of the Environment



Useful information

Experience from the United Kingdom with the **Offshore Wind Sector Deal in March 2019** and the cooperation between the wind sector and the military that followed has shown that it is possible to adapt military training areas in order to find an adequate balance between energy, climate and air protection issues.

Comparison to other countries (map)

Some of the identified legal and regulatory barriers in Estonia are also present in several of the other countries which were part of the study.





Further Reading

Regulatory barriers in Estonia: findings and recommendations

Read the full study here | Clean energy for EU islands (europa.eu)

Estonian islands that have received technical assistance

- 🗞 Hiiumaa
- 🔀 🛛 Prangli | under development

Regulatory Framework in Estonia

- Section State Stat
- 👒 National Energy and Climate Plan
- 🔞 National Spatial Plan Estonia 2030+
- 👒 Electricity Market Act
- S Grid Code
- National development plan for the energy industry (Estonian Energy Development Plan until 2030 (ENMAK)

→ Viru bog, Kolga, Harju County, Estonia © Photo by Single Earth Photography on Unsplash.



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↑ On the 30th September 2022 the secretariat brought together representatives from the national government and islanders to engage in constructive discussion on solutions for the clean energy transition on the Estonian islands. © Photo by Clean energy for EU islands secretariat



their manufacturing process here on the island. © Photo by Clean energy for EU islands secretariat



↑ Looking forward to see the electric taxiferry with solar panels operate in Antwerp. A special thanks to TalTech – Tallinn University of Technology to host us on Saaremaa island. © Photo by Clean energy for EU islands secretariat

↑ A fter the meeting we went to visit Baltic Workboats to see how they integrated Renewable Energy (Wind and Solar) into

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