



Picture: Signing Ceremony March 6 – Strategic Sector Cooperation on Offshore Wind

Indo-Danish Strategic Sector Cooperation on Offshore Wind Energy

The three-year SSC project is a partnership between the Danish Energy Agency and the Indian Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) with the objective of supporting the Indian government efforts to develop the offshore wind sector in India. The main focus areas in the project are:

- Knowledge exchange on offshore wind spatial planning, screening process and site identification
- De-risking processes for offshore wind development, including lessons learned from the Danish one-stop-shop model for offshore wind
- Offshore wind tendering process through a combined series of integrated activities
- Technical inputs to support the development of an offshore wind roadmap

“Denmark has the skills, India has the scale”

The above statement was made by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a meeting in India with the Danish Prime Minister on January 18, 2019. In the case of cooperation in the renewable energy sector, India and Denmark are indeed natural partners.

India has emerged as a leading nation in the global efforts to mitigate climate change and has some of the most ambitious plans supporting the achievement of SDG 7, which includes achieving 40 percent electricity generation from renewable energy sources. To achieve this transition to renewable energy MNRE has set a target to reach 175 GW capacity by 2022 – mostly from solar (100 GW) and onshore wind (60 GW). But, the Indian government is keen on adding

new technologies such as offshore wind to its mix of renewable energy sources.

The Danish Energy Agency has 30 years of experience developing the sector (i.e. Denmark has the skills) and the Indian government is keen on initiating the sector in India (i.e. India has the scale). The Indian target is to reach an offshore wind capacity of 5 GW by 2022 and 30 GW by 2030. For reference, the global offshore wind energy capacity was 19 GW in 2017. Denmark’s world-leading experience and India’s huge targets make the offshore wind sector a great platform for a strong government partnership.

Key activities in 2018

In February, an Indian high-level delegation led by the Secretary of MNRE visited Denmark to see first-hand the achievements in the Danish offshore wind sector and meet stakeholders from the government, universities and private industry. The visit reaffirmed the Indian interest to focus on the development of the offshore wind industry in India.

Throughout the inception phase there has been intensive dialogue involving several visits by the Danish Energy Agency to India to gain knowledge of how best to assist their Indian government counterparts. In October, the Indian government gave the official approval for the project, which meant that Phase 1 of the full project could start.

Main achievements in 2018

- Successfully held the two first Indo-Danish Joint Working Group meetings on Renewable Energy in February and October 2018 on Permanent Secretary level.
- Nomination of 18 Indian officials from 3 government agencies for scholarships and energy courses at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU).
- Intensified dialogue about further cooperation has resulted in a Letter of Intent on establishing an Indo-Danish Centre of Excellence for Offshore Wind Energy. Separate funding pursued under Climate Envelope financing.