

28 JUNE 2023 – [THON HOTEL EU](#) – BRUSSELS, BELGIUM  
**SYMBIOSIS (OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR DEFENCE)**

**PROGRAMME**  
**FIRST PLENARY CONFERENCE (28 JUNE 2023)**

The European Defence Agency (EDA) is hosting the inaugural Symbiosis Plenary Conference in Brussels on 28 June. This event seeks to convene experts from both defence and civilian sectors, encompassing industrial, technological, and academic representatives. The conference aims to enhance participants' understanding of the innovative project's core objectives, provide networking opportunities and create synergies by fostering the co-existence between defence activities and offshore renewable energy installations. These synergies will ultimately unlock the full potential of offshore energy resources.

**WEDNESDAY, 28 JUNE 2023**

08h00 – 09h30    Conference registration

09h30 – 10h00    **1. OPENING PLENARY SESSION**

**Introduction**                    **Constantinos Hadjisavvas**, PO Energy, CF SEDSS III and Symbiosis Project Manager, European Defence Agency

**Welcome addresses**        **Jean-François Ripoché**, Director Research, Technology and Innovation, European Defence Agency

**Keynote speech**                **Hans Van Steen**, Principal Adviser, European Commission, DG ENER

10h00 – 10h15    **Group photo**

10h15 – 10h45    Coffee break – networking

10h45 – 12h30 **2. PLENARY SESSION****Setting the scene, Panagiotis Kikiras**, Head of Unit Technology and Innovation, European Defence Agency

- **Offshore wind in Europe: Challenges and opportunities**, **Giles Dickson**, Chief Executive Officer, WindEurope
- **EU policy and legislative framework for offshore renewable energy development**, **Henrik Dam**, Senior Expert, DG ENER
- **European Maritime Security Strategy and Maritime Spatial Planning**, **Christos Theofilou**, Policy Officer, Team Leader for maritime security and surveillance, DG MARE
- **Collaboration between the offshore energy and the Belgian Defence**, **Kristof Verlinden**, Head of O&M, Parkwind, (Representative of BOP (Belgium Offshore Platform) O&M workgroup and Reserve military officer in Coastal Security and Harbor protection for the Belgian Naval Component)
- **Collaborative and resilient approach to transforming our energy landscape**, **Lasse Hirsch**, Project Manager Defence and Security, Ørsted

**Discussion***Administrative points*

12h30 – 14h00 Lunch break - networking

14h00 – 15h30 **3. PLENARY SESSION****Symbiosis project - Part A: scope, objectives, structure and activities****Constantinos Hadjisavvas**, PO Energy, CF SEDSS III and Symbiosis Project Manager, European Defence Agency**Giorgos Dimitriou**, PO Offshore Energy, Symbiosis Deputy Project Manager, European Defence Agency

15h30 – 16h00 Coffee break - networking

16h00 – 17h30 **4. PLENARY SESSION****Symbiosis project - Part B: engagement, implementation and timelines, expectations****Constantinos Hadjisavvas**, PO Energy, CF SEDSS III and Symbiosis Project Manager, European Defence Agency**Giorgos Dimitriou**, PO Offshore Energy, Symbiosis Deputy Project Manager, European Defence Agency**Concluding remarks****Jean-François Ripoche**, Director Research, Technology and Innovation, European Defence Agency

17h30 End of the conference day

17h30-19h30 Networking reception