
SEANSE

Strategic Environmental Assessment North Sea Energy



Co-funded by the European
Maritime and Fisheries Fund



marinescotland



BUNDESAMT FÜR
SEESCHIFFFAHRT
UND
HYDROGRAPHIE



Agenda

- 13.00** **Opening & welcome**
Luuk Blom, SG Benelux
Felix Leinemann DG Mare, Head of Unit Blue Economy Sectors, Aquaculture and Maritime Spatial Planning
- 13.30 Explanation SEANSE
Leo de Vrees, Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, project coordinator
- 13.45 Common Environmental Assessment Framework
Rob Gerits, Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management
- 14.00 Regional input
Lise Guennal, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions
- 14.15 Introduction Case studies by Marie Dahmen, BSH
14.30 Introduction Data Work Package by Yuji Kato, Shom
14.45 Discussion rounds (2x 20 min)
- Case study
German Bight, Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH)
Scotland, Marine Scotland
UK-BE-NL cluster, RWS
 - Data work package
French Hydrographic Office (SHOM)
- 15.25 Coffee break
- 15.40 Plenary discussion on involvement of stakeholders
- 16.00 Conclusions
- 16.15 Closure

Explanation SEANSE

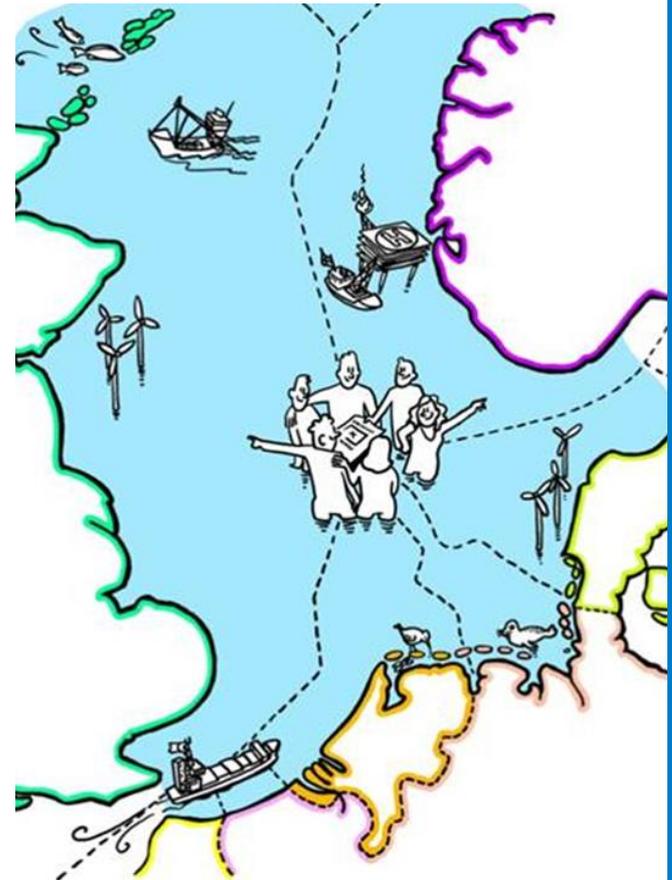
SEANSE: Strategic Environmental Assessment North Sea Energy as an aid for Maritime Spatial Planning

Vision IABR: NORTH SEA 2050?



International cooperation

- Political Declaration on Energy Cooperation between North Seas countries (6 June 2016): UK, IRE, NO, SW, DK, GE, NL, BE, FR, LX and EC
- To facilitate the further cost-effective deployment of offshore renewable energy, in particular wind, through voluntary cooperation, with the aim of ensuring a sustainable, secure and affordable energy supply in the North Seas countries
- Support Group 1: Maritime Spatial Planning and Environmental Assessment Framework
- Other groups on grid, technique, finance



Priority topics Support Group 1

- Coordinating the planning and development of offshore wind and grid projects beyond national borders including area mapping;
- Developing a common environmental assessment framework;
- Increasing the availability and interoperability of marine data for planning, impact assessment, licensing and operations;



For task 2 subgroup CEAF has been established

SEANSE (Strategic Environmental Assessment of Energy North Sea as an aid for MSP)

- **Netherlands: Ministry of Infrastructure & Water Management** - Rijkswaterstaat (RWS)
- **Germany:** Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie (BSH)
- **France:** Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (SHOM)
- **Denmark:** Danish Maritime Authority (DMA)
- **Scotland:** Scottish Government (Marine Scotland)
- **Local and regional governments:** Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR)
- Active observers from Belgium (MUMM) and Ireland (Marine Institute)



Co-funded by the European
Maritime and Fisheries Fund

Objectives of SEANSE

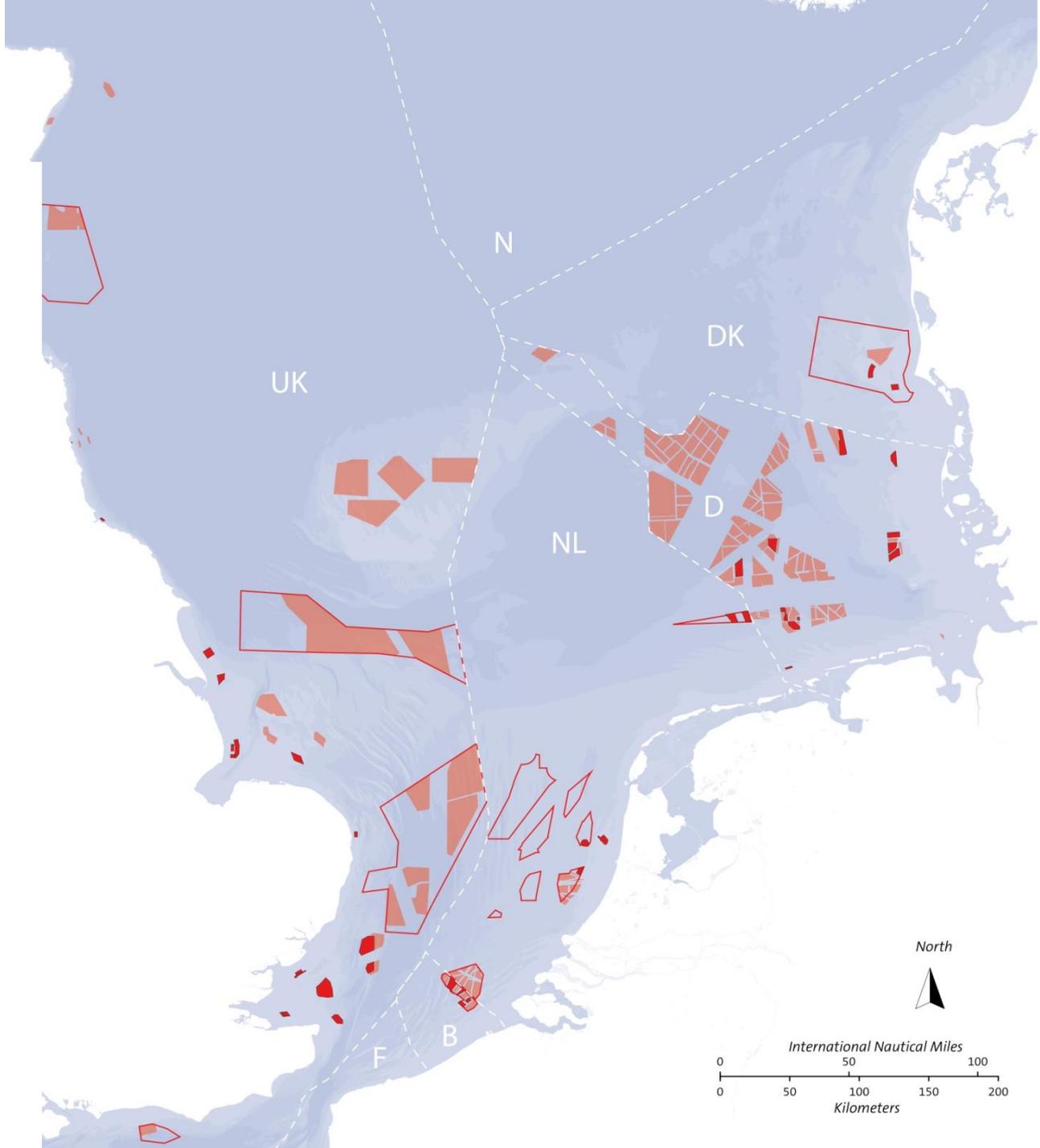
- Develop a coherent approach to SEAs*, with a focus on renewable energy and test it in practice through three case studies;
- Create a coherent understanding of how and when to use SEA as a support tool for decision making in MSP through knowledge transfer and information exchange between North Sea countries;
- Demonstrate the benefits of the implementation of a coherent SEA approach for the preparation of national MSPs;
- Facilitate the efficient implementation of the “Political Declaration on energy cooperation between the North Seas Countries”. **

* Including impact on other uses

** Especially SG1 and its subgroup CEAF

Legend

-  Existing wind field
-  Consented wind field
-  Search area wind field



Work Packages

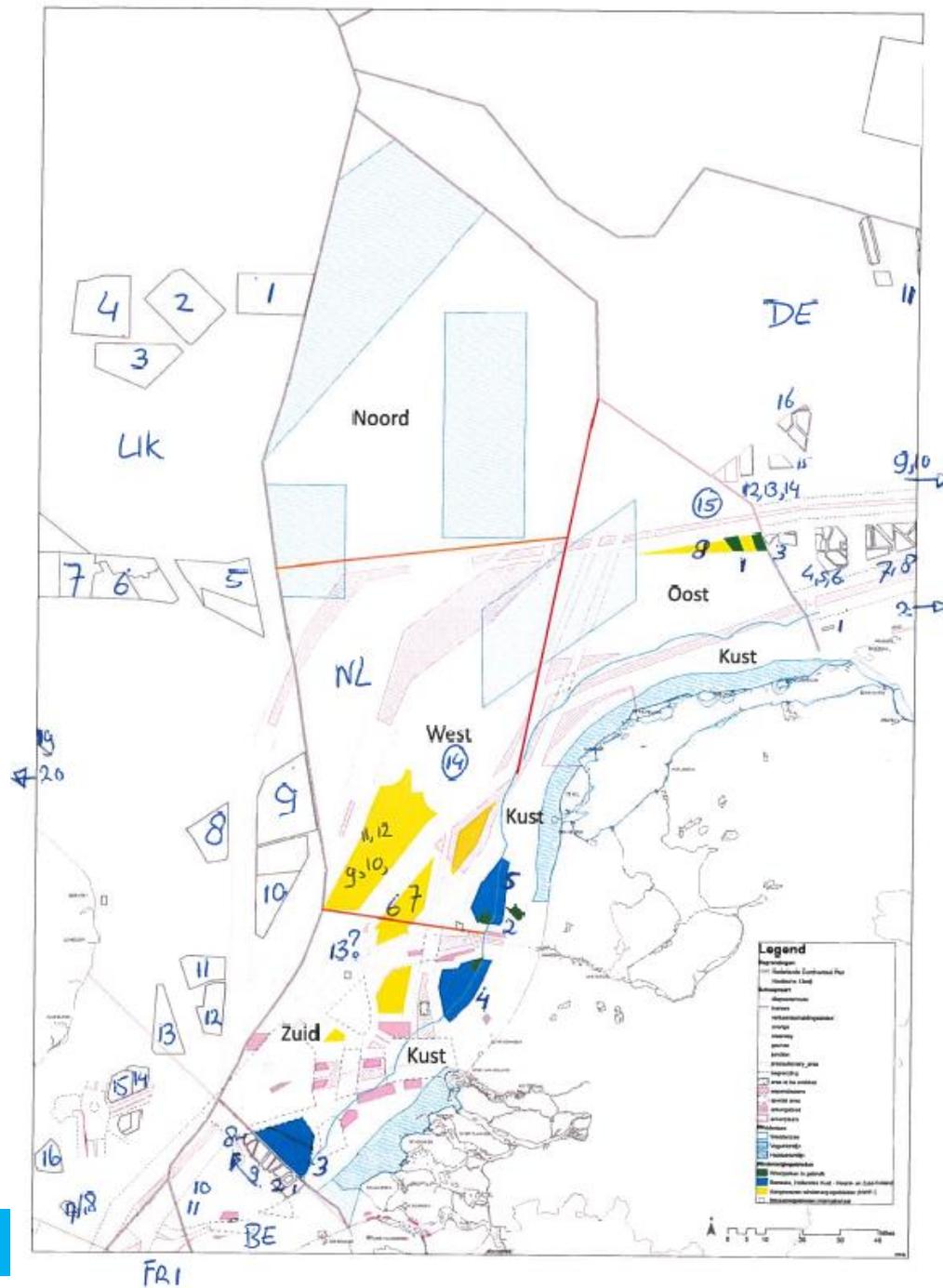
- 1) A baseline study is performed to assess available information and describe a coherent approach
- 2) Knowledge transfer and information exchange infrastructure is developed and tested
- 3) Three case studies are formulated and the coherent approach to SEAs is tested on these and two further studies are performed into the potential use of SEAs in North Sea regions
- 4) Products and process are evaluated
- 5) Communication and dissemination of results throughout the project
- 6) Project management

Outputs, next to management & communication

- Report with an overview of the current practice and coherent parts in SEAs in the different North Sea countries;
- Baseline report describing a coherent approach of SEAs as a decision support tool to align and improve MSP;
- Focus report on the data available for SEA in the case study areas;
- Draft SEAs for three case studies;
- Final SEAs for three case studies, including a chapter on the relation to (national) MSP;
- Report giving an overview related to SEA and MSP for a Belgium - France transboundary case study, based on available information;
- Report on the role of cumulative effects assessment under SEA in relation to offshore wind projects in the East Region of Scotland
- Report on the use of SEA on MSPs in the Danish context;
- Evaluation report dealing with product and progress of the project.

Questions to be solved as input for testing the CEAF

- Which areas will be developed in which year?
- What will be the order in time (important for accumulation)?
- What will be the installed total power in each area?
- What will be the density of the turbines? (presently around 6 MW/km²)
- What will be the limits of the turbines (6- 12 MW?) and what does this mean for the height, minimum rotor clearance and maximum height?
- Scenarios for technical developments (foundation and mitigation techniques)
- What types and what intensity of multi-use - if any - is foreseen in the wind parks?



Northseaportal.eu

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://redactie.infomil.nl/north_seaportal_new/seanse/. The main content area features a large image of a lighthouse on a rocky shore during a storm, with the text "Related projects" overlaid. Below the image is a navigation menu with buttons for "Events", "Activities", "Related projects", and "Downloads".

SEANSE

Project Information

- Project Background**: North Sea countries are now in the...
- Objectives and goals**: The general objective of this project...
- Partners**: ...
- News**: The project SEANSE had its kick off meeting on 1st of March 2018 in Brussels.

The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows icons for Windows, Photoshop, Outlook, and Internet Explorer, along with the system clock displaying 18:02 on 27-6-2018.

A Common Environmental Assessment Framework (CEAF)

Emphasis on Cumulative effect assessment because;

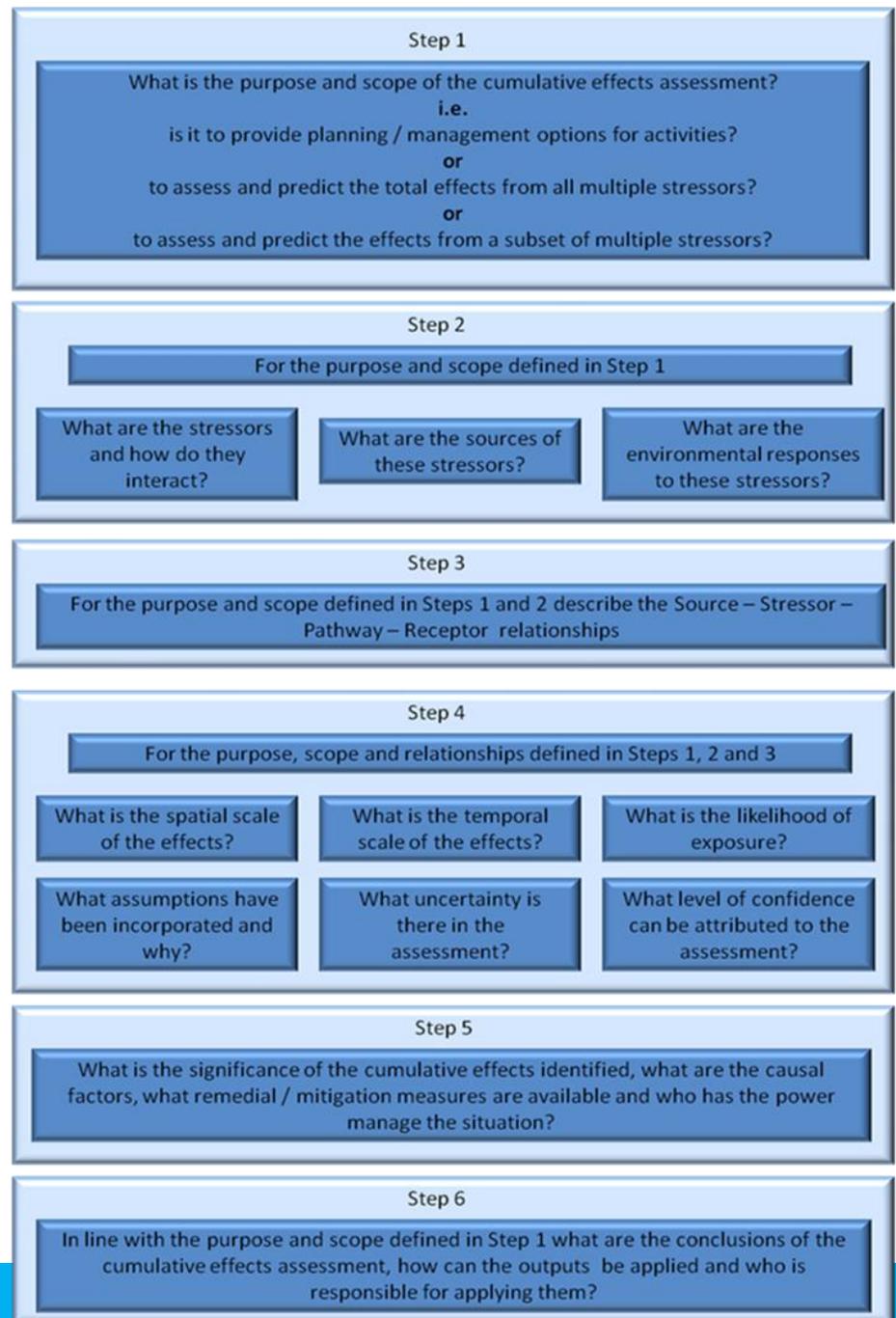
- International energy transition leads to a substantial scale up of offshore renewable energy generation capacity
- Wind farm development on this scale will have ecological impacts and may in cumulation hamper or even stop the desired development, because of unacceptable social or ecological impact which may in addition go against national and/or EU legislation

Within the framework of this Political Declaration we are working on:

- An approach that is flexible (scale, project/strategic planning, incorporating new knowledge and findings)
- Relations with relevant international bodies (Ia. EU and OSPAR) and approaches within these bodies
- A prototype CEAF at the end of 2019 (tested in SEANSE)

Stepwise approach

- Developed by OSPAR for QSR;
- Based on a CEA per indicator for GES
- Not holistic as a starting point
- Flexible
- Can be used for other purposes



Species for testing

A list of common species of concern to start testing the approach;

- harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*),
- black-legged kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*),
- lesser black-backed gull (*Larus fuscus*)
- red-throated diver (*Gavia stellata*),
- Nathusius' pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus nathusii*).

This species are selected because they:

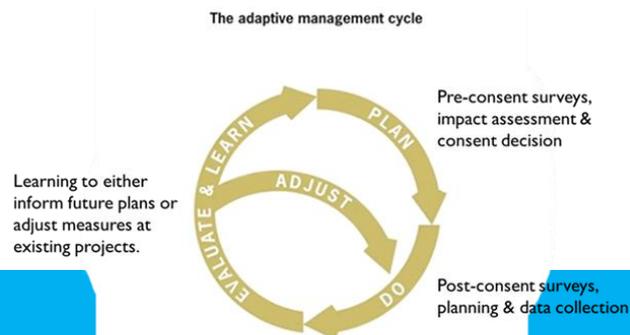
- Are representatives of a likely potential cause-effect relationship with regard to any phase of wind farm development,
- Are recognized as a likely (high) concern by at least two participating countries,
- Have already been studied, or,
- Represent species that helps to explore how to handle data-deficiency in producing a CEA

Important features of the approach

- The biological relevant region for the populations of the common species of concern as the spatial scale for the CEA (as far as data are available).
- Including all developments in this area that have been completed, are approved by planning authorities or are currently undergoing planning approval
- Include other relevant activities in the CEA if wind farm development as a single activity is already likely to have strong adverse effects.

CEAF and Knowledge gaps

- CEAF in an adaptive management approach; a cyclic process for positioning the CEAF use and development in relation to knowledge development;
- Use the CEAF in the plan phase;
- Defining knowledge gaps;
- Formulate a Strategic Knowledge agenda (prioritising the gaps);
- Do research (including monitoring);
- Evaluate knowledge development;
- Adjust measures (if possible) and/or adjust the CEAF



Future issues

Discuss:

- Approach to work on acceptable levels of impact
- Strategic knowledge agenda.

Aiming at a meeting in the beginning of 2019

Thank you

Useful links

<https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/infrastructure/north-seas-energy-cooperation>

<https://Northseaportal.eu>
(not yet available)

