

### RWE launches reskilling program for fishermen

- **Early next year, the first fishermen from the Ustka region will begin a month-long training course to reskill them as offshore wind farm service technicians**
- **The goal of the program, conducted in partnership with windhunter academy, is for fishing industry workers to gain basic competencies and credentials necessary to enter the booming offshore wind industry**
- **An informational meeting will be held in Pęplin near Ustka on December 8 to present details of the program**

Warsaw, 30 November 2022

**Robert Grzegorowski, Senior Manager Offshore Wind Poland at RWE Renewables:** “We offer Polish fishermen to reskill themselves and gain new skills for the work in offshore wind energy. Thus, we are giving them the opportunity to continue working offshore, while inviting them to one of the more innovative and forward-looking branches of the Polish economy - the green energy sector.

During the four weeks of training, fishermen will be able to gain practical technical knowledge in the following areas: working at heights, electrical, mechanical, wind turbine installation and operation, first aid, and working at sea with the highest health and safety standards. In addition to activities focused on manual skills, an intensive English course is planned, the knowledge of which is a prerequisite for working freely in an international environment. At the end of the program, the fishermen will visit one of RWE's operating wind farms and will have the opportunity for a first contact with a potential employer.

The growing demand for skilled workers for offshore wind farms has been talked about for a long time. Already there is no shortage of voices saying that technicians, service technicians, CTV operators will be among the most sought-after professions on the Polish Coast in a few years. Fishermen are well aware of the realities of working at sea, to which they devote most of their lives, hence RWE's proposal aimed at this professional group.

“The problem with the lack of qualified personnel is evident not only in Poland, but also on a global scale. That's why it is necessary to start now actions which, on the one hand, will broaden public awareness of the importance of the offshore industry and, at the same time, show a path of development for those who want to retrain for work in the green energy sector”, says Robert Grzegorowski, Senior Manager Offshore Wind Poland at RWE Renewables.

# RWE

RWE is building F.E.W. Baltic II 55 kilometers from the Ustka coast, in the open sea. The company is taking the next steps in the project, which will create one of the first offshore wind farms in the Polish part of the Baltic Sea. Once commissioning is complete, the 350 megawatt (MW) installation will be able to produce enough green electricity to meet the needs of some 350,000 Polish households. Through the F.E.W. Baltic II project, RWE will also significantly contribute to the development of the local economy. An operations and maintenance base will be established in the Ustka port. Crew transfer vessels (CTVs) will be moored there, and during the construction and decades-long operation of the offshore wind farm, RWE intends to cooperate closely with local stakeholders in various fields. RWE also wants to expand its portfolio of offshore wind farms in the Polish Baltic Sea and is therefore establishing logistics facilities and is looking for personnel.

“The program, which was prepared by the windhunter academy training company, complies with the international standards of the Global Wind Organization and the Polish qualifications of the Office of Technical Inspection or the Association of Polish Mechanics and Engineers. These qualifications are internationally recognized and allow one to find employment in Poland and abroad”, Karolina Jastrzębska, Managing Director of windhunter academy.

The program starts in February 2023, and recruitment of eager offshore wind energy fishermen will begin as early as early December 2022.

For details on the December 8 briefing and training program, please contact:

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## **RWE active in offshore wind energy**

RWE is a leading global player in renewables and No. 2 worldwide in offshore wind. RWE operates 18 offshore wind farms in five countries – including Arkona (385 MW), one of the largest of its kind in the German part of the Baltic Sea. The company has a total of about 3 GW of offshore wind capacity, the Sofia (1.4 GW off the UK coast) and Kaskasi (342 MW off the German coast) wind farms are under construction, and RWE is developing a total of more than 10 GW of secured offshore capacity worldwide.