



# WIND4BIO

## INCREASING THE SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE OF WIND ENERGY

### WIND4BIO: A JOURNEY TOWARDS WIND ENERGY EXPANSION BASED ON PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Reaching the end of the Wind4Bio project, we are delighted to highlight the accomplishments and main outcomes of the project. The collaborative effort has fostered communication between governmental bodies and the wind energy sector for the benefit of civil society, has involved stakeholders, and dedicated efforts to assist policymakers.

The core mission of our project lies in developing a holistic wind energy planning strategy that emphasizes the harmonious integration of "Climate-Biodiversity-Public Opinion." This approach hinges on public consultation and consensus-building, aiming to mitigate biodiversity risks while increasing social acceptance of wind energy initiatives.

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## INFODAYS & CONSENSUS BUILDING EVENTS

All partners organised their **final workshops and infodays** with the participation of the respective local communities and civil society. The targets of the workshops were reached through **coordinating the public-consensus building** and the **dissemination events**. Representatives from wind energy companies, public authorities, NGOs and regional stakeholders attended the workshop for fruitful discussions.

Special attention was given to the role of the **online consultation mechanism**, communication tools and discussions, the importance of the **Code of Conduct** and the detailed planning and **proper information of local communities beforehand**.



Workshop & Infoday by UPAT / PROMEA



Workshop & Infoday by Green Liberty



Workshop & Infoday by Wise Europa



## LESSONS LEARNT SYNTHESIS REPORT FROM WORKSHOPS WITH BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES

The latest Lessons Learnt Synthesis Report compiles all the main discussions and **key takeaways of the three thematic workshops** conducted in Greece, Latvia and Poland. The workshops gathered business representatives from all three countries to discuss their approach regarding the importance of biodiversity throughout the lifecycle of wind power projects.

The **Wind4Bio Code of Conduct** is a comprehensive guide for businesses in the wind energy sector originally released in November 2024 and was presented throughout the three workshops as the key outcome of the project, outlining principles such as **environmental responsibility, transparency, and continuous improvement**. The Code provides a solid framework for biodiversity protection and a more responsible approach for businesses regarding biodiversity, hence the **need for introducing it into legislation** was emphasised, ensuring its country-specific and solution-based reflection and can be accessed [here](#).

The combined lessons learnt from the workshops, include **integrating biodiversity** into wind energy strategies, **enhancing communication** with civil society, utilizing **online consultation** and **communication tools**, **distributing financial benefits transparently** and **strengthening expertise**.

The outlined recommendations provide strategies ensuring the improvement of biodiversity protection once the private sector engages in wind energy projects.

The **recommendations** aim at:

- i) **enhancing public awareness and education as a crucial factor** to promote biodiversity- friendly wind energy practices in companies of the sector,
- ii) **encouraging long-term collaboration and communication** between environmental organizations, wind energy companies and the public are encouraged, highlighting the necessity to improve perception of wind energy,
- iii) **strengthening regulatory support for biodiversity protection**

The report additionally provides a summative assessment of all three workshops conducted, deriving from all key topics discussed during the regional meetings.

Need access to the Lessons learnt synthesis report? Click [here](#)!



## PROJECT'S FINAL ARTICLE

Based on the need to deliver the Green Deal and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, the Wind4Bio project was launched in 2022.

Main focus of the project was to address one of the **primary barriers** of wind farm establishment in **Greece, Latvia and Poland**, namely **public opposition** due to the impact of wind farms on local ecosystems and biodiversity.

The Wind4Bio project targeted at establishing a **balanced** approach that supports both **renewable energy growth** and **biodiversity preservation** by addressing concerns throughout the lifecycle of wind farms and **involving civil society** in identifying and mitigating biodiversity threats.

Interested in reading the **article** by **Vasileios Kokkinos and Eirini Stergiou** (University of Patras) published in March 2025? [Click here!](#)





## 3RD PARTY EVENT & AWARD

On the 18th of March 2025, our Polish partner -WiseEuropa- participated at a 3rd party event organised by UN Global Compact (Climate Positive) in Warsaw, Poland. During this event, the Director of Program Development of Wise Europa, Krzysztof Fal presented the Wind4Bio project, as part of a workshop regarding the possibilities for **cooperation between businesses, non-governmental organisations** and other **stakeholders** promoting sustainable practices.

The workshop focused on "Opportunities and Challenges Related to Biodiversity for Business" and encouraged the audience to **sign the released Code of Conduct**, developed as part of the Wind4Bio project. Recommendations for decision-makers were provided, while highlighting the conclusions of the project: i) early & broad **public consultations** of wind farm projects, ii) standardised approach regarding **biodiversity protection**, iii) **educating** citizens, businesses & administrative staff playing a crucial role, iv) **cross-sectoral cooperation**.

On the 25th of March 2025, during the **Climate Congress of Poland**, WiseEuropa was honoured with the **Energy Transition Leader 2025 award!** The title was awarded for the efforts to protect biodiversity in wind energy, including the activities within the Wind4Bio project.



## MAIN OUTCOMES IN NUMBERS

Throughout the 2,5 years of its implementation, the Wind4Bio project:

- ➔ Developed **14 best practices** for increasing biodiversity protection at all stages of wind farms' lifecycle. **[Click here to view the practices!](#)**
- ➔ Developed **9 best practices** for improving collaboration between public authorities and civil society on environmental protection. **[Click here to view the practices!](#)**
- ➔ Disseminated project results in **eight 3rd party events** and **five newsletters**
- ➔ Organised 1 study visit attended by **9 project members** and **12 stakeholders**
- ➔ Organised 3 series of national workshops attended by **165 stakeholders** in total
- ➔ Created the **biodiversity risk management framework** to detect, assess, and reduce risks to biodiversity. **[Click here](#)** to view the framework!
- ➔ Organised 1 series of **infodays** attended by **71 stakeholders**
- ➔ Developed an online **consultation mechanism** supported by **4 public authorities** and pilot tested by 2 regions
- ➔ Developed **the Code of Conduct** supported by 4 wind energy sector companies





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