

Terms of reference: Mapping oil and gas production policies across North Sea countries

Oil Change International is seeking a contractor to carry out a descriptive study that maps out the current oil and gas policies and regulatory framework in place in North Sea countries (Norway, UK, The Netherlands, Germany and Denmark).

Interested applicants can send an expression of interest to Silje Ask Lundberg at silje@priceofoil.org by **31 March 2023**.

Objective of the study

The countries surrounding the North Sea are wealthy oil and gas producing countries that all claim to be climate leaders. The level of offshore oil and gas production varies amongst the countries, with Norway and the UK being the 2 largest producers. Moving them away from fossil fuel production would set a global example and send a political signal that even significant producers are transitioning away from fossil fuel reliance.

This study will map existing oil and gas offshore production policies and regimes in the North Sea countries (Norway, UK, The Netherlands, Germany and Denmark), and the data will feed into a larger report that will hold the current policies against each other and to a 1.5 degree trajectory.

As there may be some language barriers, we understand that it may be difficult for some consultants to map all five countries. Therefore we accept offers from consultants to do one or more countries.

Scope per country

Description (1-2 pages) of the history of the offshore oil and gas industry in the country.

Map and describe the current policies (5-10 pages):

- Key laws governing resource extraction and government agencies overseeing them
- Exploration, licensing and permitting regimes
- General environmental regulations in both exploration and production phases
- General climate regulations in both exploration and production phases
- The oil and gas tax system
- Decommissioning plans and policies
- Just transition policies in place

Describe the political landscape and the spectrum of policies proposed/backed by different political parties related to the future of the oil and gas industry (2-3 pages)

End product

The end product will be a descriptive study that maps out the current oil and gas policies and regulatory framework in place in each country. This study will feed into a larger North Sea report that will perform an analysis of the policies and compare them to each other, in addition to applying an equity lens. The analysis and the comparative study will be done by OCI staff, based on the initial policy mapping done by the consultant(s).

Timeline and budget:

The rate for the project is £40/EUR 45 per hour, with a total of 70 hours per country.