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PRESENTATION **Wind farms in PT – the perception of authorities (APA).**

ABSTRACT The environmental impact assessment is an instrument that aims for a decision on the environmental feasibility of projects, based on predicting their environmental effects, and identifying measures that prevent, minimize or compensate these impacts, further defining an approach to monitor the implementation of these measures - the post-project analysis.

The introduction of wind farms in Portugal was accompanied by an evolution of this legal regime, and a learning process regarding the impacts of these projects and related environmental measures, existing nowadays a great focus in the post-project analysis and the lessons that can be learned for improving the EIA procedure.

The main challenges for the future include maintaining strong interactions between all stakeholders, assessing compensation measures and extracting value out of the monitoring data accumulated over the years. Furthermore, with scarce resources for monitoring every project in construction and operation, there are benefits to implementing an external audit system, and closing the cycle with the integration of the lessons learned over these decades of wind energy evolution.

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