

#### ERASMUS+ KA2 Project

"Little Scientist"

3rd Learning / Teaching /
Training Activity
in Nicosia, Cyprus
6-11 November 2016















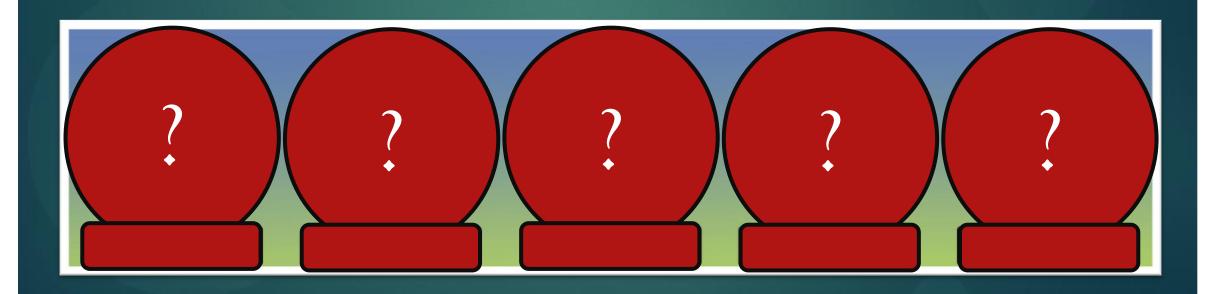








# Renewable energy sources



# Renewable energy sources



Wind Energy
Harnessing the air in motion



Harnessing the air in motion

Wind turbines capture the energy of moving air and convert it to useful electricity.



Harnessing the air in motion

As the wind blowes over the turbine's blades they create "lift", much like an airplane's wing, and begin to turn

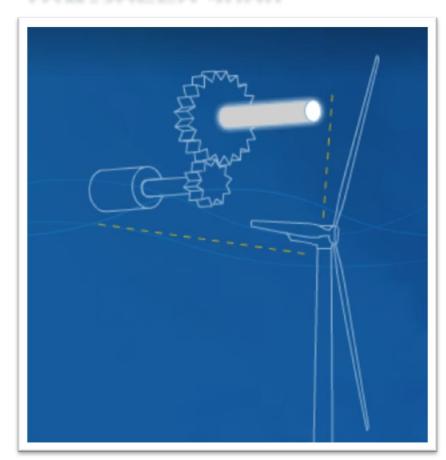
#### **Blades**



Harnessing the air in motion

The spinning blades turn this shaft some 30 to 60 times every minute.

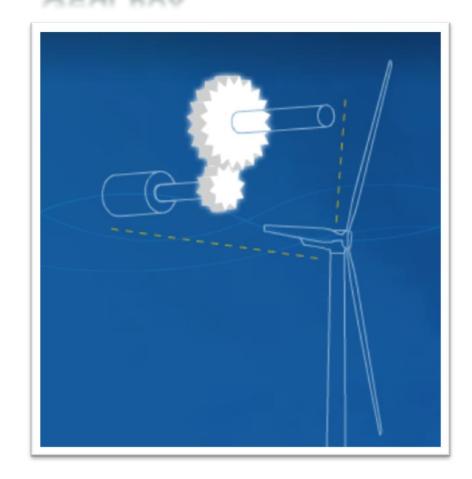
#### Low-speed Shaft



Harnessing the air in motion

The gears in this box connect the low-speed shaft with a high-speed shaft that drives the generator. The gears also boost the rotation speed of the high-speed shaft to 1000 to 1800 rotations per minute.

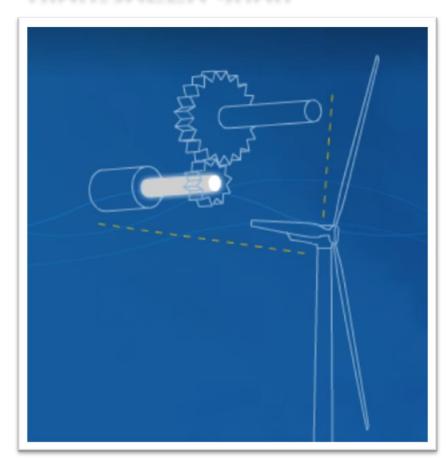
#### **Gear Box**



Harnessing the air in motion

The rapidly spinning shaft drives the generator to produce electric power.

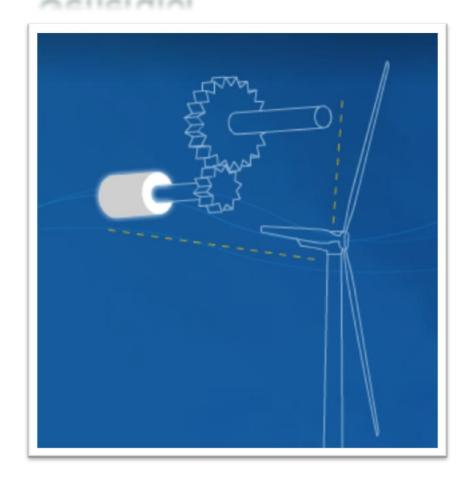
#### **High-speed Shaft**



Harnessing the air in motion

The generator's electrical output is connected to the larger electrical grid

#### Generator



Harnessing the air in motion

What variables do you think affect how much electricity a wind turbine can produce?



Harnessing the air in motion

Wind speeds are not constant and stronger winds produce more energy – but only up to a point.

#### Wind velocity



Harnessing the air in motion

Turbines usually don't operate at all if wind speeds are below about 13 km/h and they shut down at about 88 km/h because they can be damaged at higher winds.

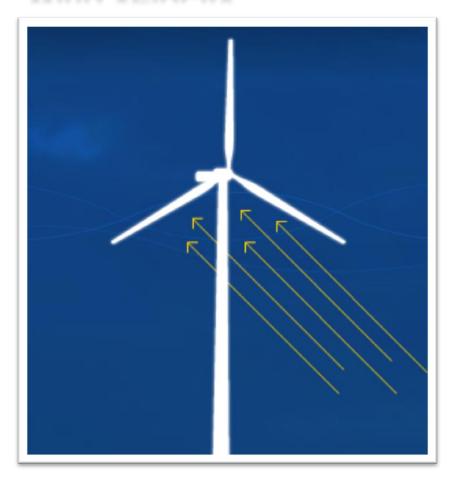
#### Wind velocity



Harnessing the air in motion

Between about 40 km/h and 85 km/h they operate at their maximum efficiency

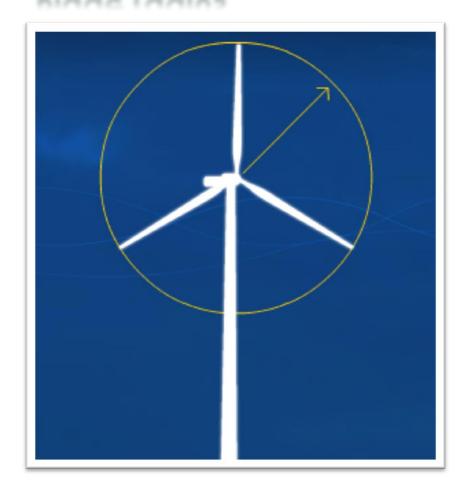
#### Wind velocity



Harnessing the air in motion

The vertical disk created by the rotating blades determines affects how much electricity the turbine can produce. Doubling the blade length can result in four times more power!

#### **Blade radius**



Harnessing the air in motion

Tall turbines are more efficient as they can reach greater winds found at altitude.

#### **Tower Height**



Harnessing the air in motion

Heavier/more dense air which is found near sea levels exerts more lift on a rotor which drives it more effectively

#### **Air Density**



#### The Evolution of Wind Power

