



Q&A Webinar UXO Risk Assessment HKN

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Questions: from the audience

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In the answers we refer to the UXO Desk Study for HKN. The report is published on <https://offshorewind.rvo.nl/file/view/52503222/Report+-+UXO+Desk+Study+-+REASeuro>.

Question: Can you advise when the WSCS-OCE regulations will be in place for the offshore environment?

Answer: The WSCS-OCE regulations are applicable to the entire Dutch EEZ as they are part of the Labour Act.

Question: If most allied planes had home base in England, wouldn't the drops be expected closer to the English coast before landing?

Answer: Bomb jettisons occurred in a large area, also in and near the area of investigation. Planes that were damaged due to FLAK or German fighter planes often jettisoned their payload directly after being hit to increase their chance of survival.

Question: What is the recommended sensor spacing for detecting 50kg ferrous mass?

Answer: It is recommended to derive the survey parameters such as sensor spacing, nominal flying heights, etc. from a Surrogate Items Trial. It is preferred to use inert UXO items corresponding with the recommended threshold levels. By surveying over these items at different heights and evaluating the results the survey parameters for the specific survey setup are to be determined.

Question: Do you have experience with UXO's actually detonating during intrusive survey or construction work outside the Dutch coast?

Answer: No, we have no experience with UXO detonating due to intrusive survey or construction works. The latest fatal accident occurred in 2005 involving a Dutch trawler near Lowesoft.

Question: Do you experience movement of UXOs? Have you found "new" UXOs in areas previously cleared?

Answer: UXOs are not expected to move significantly due to natural causes. Morphological changes in the area such as migrating sand waves will result in burial or exposure of UXOs. The only migration to be expected is due to human interference e.g. bottom trawling. This migration however cannot be quantified.

Question: Was there any mobility study of UXOs?

Answer: In the UXO Desk Study seabed mobility was assessed. The area is characterized by migrating sand waves and mega ripples. This will result in variation of the UXO burial depths. UXOs might become buried or unburied by passing sand waves. Due to the water depths tidal waves will not have a significant impact on UXO migration. The main factor causing UXO migration is human interference. This migration factor however cannot be quantified. The UXO desk study and site data contain more detailed information on morphology.

Question: Can we expect "non-ferrous" UXOs in this area?

Answer: There is no factual evidence indicating the presence of non-ferrous UXOs in the OWF. The nearest mine field with non-ferrous mines (LMB) was located several kilometers southwest of the OWF.

Question: Is it correct to assume it is not (less) likely there have been any fishing/trawling in this area which may have brought non-ferrous UXOs into the OWT farm?

Answer: It is possible that UXOs are unintentionally moved by e.g. fishermen and were dragged into the area of investigation. This risk however cannot be quantified. The risk on the presence of LMB in the OWF can therefore not be zero.