Annual report 2020

25 years of ABO VVND

Legal notice

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Rödl & Partner completed its audit of the 2020 consolidated financial statements of ABO Wind AG on 15 February 2021 with the issue of an unqualified audit opinion. The complete audit opinion can be found on page 58f. of the German version of the Annual Report.

Sale of wind and solar energy projects





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Financial figures per share

(in EUR)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020**
EBITDA	2.63	4.50	4.94	4.24	3.58	3.77
Net profit	1.02	2.16	2.22	1.67	1.48	1.42
Dividend	0.25	0.30 0.20*	0.40	0.42	0.42	0.45
Book value (as of 31.12.)	6.8	8.7	10.4	11.64	12.83	15.20
Share price (as of 31.12.)	6.9	7.4	12.0	13.80	17.30	46.40
Price-earnings ratio	6.8	3.4	5.4	8.3	11.7	32.7

*Additional anniversary dividend ** Due to capital increases, the number of shares has increased by 1.15 million (around 14%) in 2020, which has had an impact on the key figures.

Key statistics

Class of shares	no-par bearer shares
Capital stock	9.220.893 Euro
Shares outstanding	9.220.893 Stück
WKN / ISIN	576002 / DE0005760029
Stock exchange	Xetra, free trade Munich (m:access) and other German stock exchanges
Industry	Renewable Energy
Accounting regime	German Commercial Code (HGB)
Fiscal year-end	December 31st
Bloomberg-code	AB9:GR
Reuters-code	AB9.D

Shareholder structure



25 years of ABO Wind – out of the economic niche into the centre of attention



Dr. Jochen Ahn "Renewable energies are coded in the DNA of ABO Wind."



Matthias Bockholt "What seemed like an unattainable dream 25 years ago is now a reality." 2021 marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of ABO Wind. The anniversary is an occasion to take a moment to look back, and to provide a glance into the future. The purpose of this brochure is – in addition to the usual elements of the annual report – to provide some anecdotes and insights into the history of the company.

In the 25 years since is foundation, ABO Wind has grown rapidly. In 1996, the founders Matthias Bockholt and Jochen Ahn started planning wind turbines for clients in Hesse and Rhineland-Palatinate. In 1997, Matthias Hollmann joined the company as its first employee. Today, he leads the division for wind farm construction and technology. More than 700 colleagues have joined the company since then.

The small German planning office has grown into a globally operating company that develops and constructs wind and solar farms as well as storage projects from offices in 16 countries on four continents. The investment volume of our annually implemented projects amounts to around 500 million euros. At first glance, the small company of 1996 does not have much in common with the ABO Wind AG of today. But at second glance it does. Our vision remains the same: we want to promote the energy transition and to contribute to climate protection.

When ABO Wind first started in 1996, the idea of meeting the energy needs of industrialised

countries from renewable sources seemed audacious. It is still a long way to go to achieve this goal. But after all, renewable energies have already contributed 46 per cent to the German electricity supply in 2020. 25 years ago, we were laughed at as dreamers for lesser goals. And last December, the German Parliament adopted a roadmap to increase the share of renewables to 65 per cent by 2030. In many other countries, the expansion of wind and solar energy is progressing even faster than in Germany.

Traditional energy companies that have built their businesses on fossil fuels and nuclear energy are adapting their business models to the age of wind and solar energy. The foundation of our company, however, has been based on renewable energies since the very beginning. They are, so to speak, encoded in our DNA.

We have remained true to ourselves. And yet, we have also had to change. ABO Wind's core business has shifted from the economic niche to the centre of attention. 90 per cent of new power plants built worldwide in recent years use solar or wind energy to generate electricity. Fossil fuels are now the niche business. And this is unlikely to change. Firstly, renewable energies are better for the climate and the environment, and secondly, wind and solar energy are now the cheapest options for new power plant capacities due to ever lower levelised costs.

But to avoid being left behind in an ever-growing industry, it is necessary for ABO Wind to grow as

well. Otherwise, we would no longer get good conditions from our suppliers and would lose competitiveness.

To us, size is not a goal in itself; it is a means to an end. We are growing in order to continue to make our contribution to the energy transition and climate protection. For the same reason, we have been intensifying our engagement in the capital market for several years. The ABO Wind share is now traded on Xetra. We have attracted new shareholders, including several fund companies. We have increased our equity. And the company share has significantly increased in value. Until 2018, the company's market capitalisation fluctuated around one hundred million euros; in February 2021, ABO Wind is worth more than 400 million euros to the stock market.

The improved access to the capital market and the increased share value do not serve their own sake, either, but as tools to meet our overall goal. To this end, ABO Wind shall remain owner-managed: in the long term, the families of the two founders plan to retain a majority stake in the company. This contributes to our strength and reliability. We are convinced that this structure is the best way to develop the company in the long run – in the best interests of our employees and shareholders.

Since the company was founded, it has turned a profit each year – although there have also been

some difficult financial years. But especially in recent years, ABO Wind has continuously been highly profitable. 2020 was already the fifth year in a row with a net profit of more than ten million euros. Compared to 2019, we have slightly increased the result. For 2021, we expect another increase.

We are pleased that ABO Wind continues to develop positively despite considerable restrictions and delays associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. And we have created the conditions to significantly strengthen this trend in the years to come. Capital increases and a bond issue have further strengthened the company's financial resources. This creates the basis for constructing a larger part of the many wind and solar projects we are currently developing on a turnkey basis in the future. On the one hand, the increased financial requirements result from the larger number of projects that are fortunately moving closer to construction-readiness. On the other hand, they result from the pure size of the large individual projects with more than one hundred megawatts of capacity that we are working on in our long-term markets such as Finland or Spain.

We look forward to writing the next chapter of our company's history. And we hope to continue to have you, dear shareholders, and you, dear colleagues, by our side.



Andreas Höllinger "Size is not an end in itself. We grow in order to remain successful as a company."



Dr. Karsten Schlageter "Independently and ownermanaged, that' s how we best achieve our goals."

The Supervisory Board's perspective

Jörg Lukowsky (Chairman)

Jörg Lukowsky (born 1959) is a lawyer specialising in tax and labour law. Since 1992 he has been working at the Wiesbaden law firm Fuhrmann Wallenfels. He has been Chairman of the ABO Wind Supervisory Board since 2000.



"I met Matthias Bockholt in the early years of the company while playing football. Back then, we often gave each other a hard time in our football duels. But at ABO Wind, we always play fair."

Dr. Uwe Leprich

The economist (born 1959) has been a professor at the University of Applied Sciences for Technology and Economics of the Saarland. With a short interruption, Uwe Leprich has been a member of the Supervisory Board from the beginning.



"In 1996, wind power contributed just under 0.4 per cent to the German electricity consumption. We owe it to courageous pioneers like ABO Wind – with now 25 years of energy history – that it covers more than 20 per cent today."

Eveline Lemke

The economist (born 1964) is the founder of Thinking Circular. The Green politician was Deputy Prime Minister and Economics Minister in Rhineland-Palatinate from 2011 until 2016. She has been on the ABO Wind Supervisory Board since June 2017.





Norbert Breidenbach

The electrical engineer (born 1955) was a Managing Director of the Frankfurtbased utility Mainova AG, which holds ten per cent of the ABO Wind shares. He has been on the Supervisory Board of ABO Wind AG since 2015.



"After 25 years, ABO Wind continues to be an innovative player in the energy transition. For Mainova, the partnership is an excellent complement."

Maike Schmidt

The scientist (born 1979) is head of the Systems Analysis Department at the Centre for Solar Energy and Hydrogen Research Baden-Wurttemberg. She has been a member of the Supervisory Board of ABO Wind AG since 2019.



"The future of energy, for example green hydrogen, is based on wind and solar energy. Their implementation requires creative, courageous companies: a perfect match for ABO Wind."



And then we came along with our knitted sweaters

ABO Wind's journey began 25 years ago. The tiny company has grown into one with more than 700 employees in 16 countries. But what was it like in the beginning, working from the attic, accompanied by modem noise and countless Pasta Fridays? 13 employees talk about their early days at the company and what has changed over the last 25 years.



Dr Jochen Ahn and Matthias Bockholt founded the company that later changed its name to ABO Wind in 1996. Their families still hold the majority of the company's shares.

Could your story be repeated today?

Matthias Bockholt: I don't think so. When we started, the words climate targets and energy transition did not even exist in most people's minds. And then we came along with our knitted sweaters. We acted out of full conviction, we had picked the right topic at the right time and, of course, we also had a portion of luck. That would definitely be harder today than back then.

Jochen Ahn: When we first started, everyone in the industry was considered a lunatic.

Matthias Bockholt: When, in 1989, I was looking for a supervisor for my diploma thesis on photovoltaics, I was laughed at as a tree-hugger and sent home. This mindset persisted in the Ministry of the Environment, where Jochen and I worked until the foundation of ABO Wind. And these were mainly Green activists!

Jochen Ahn: Exactly. That clearly shows the courage we had. "You'll never make money with that" was one of the most frequent phrases we were told back then. And that's how it was at first.

Matthias Bockholt: In the first year, we lived off savings. In the second year, we had to borrow 15,000 German Marks from my parents. It wasn't until the third year that we could afford rent and a small salary. Jochen Ahn: In the beginning, Matthias (Hollmann) and I worked from my attic. On twelve square metres, with my children playing in the hallway.

Matthias Bockholt: When we started our business, your third child had just been born. And you had bought a house that needed renovation. The pressure on you was much higher than on me. My girlfriend was receiving the maximum allowance of German student grants at the time.



Matthias Hollmann joined ABO Wind as its first employee in 1996. His language skills were an impetus for the expansion to Spain. Today, he is responsible for technology and purchasing of wind turbines.



Gregor Budinger knows wind turbines like no other. In 2007, a popular German children's TV programme accompanied him all the way up to the nacelle of a turbine. Years later he was still receiving fan mail. Today he works as a technical expert for ABO Wind.

Nevertheless, we sometimes had to fill our food pantry on abandoned fields.

Harald Warzel: My job interview took place in the so-called "broom closet", which was also a meeting room. I remember sitting there, wedged between the wall and the table. After the interview I had a calf cramp.

Petra Driese-Gessner: In the beginning I had to work from home because there was no place for me in the office.

Jörg Nithammer: It was similar for me. At first, I worked as a freelancer from home. It was not until six months later that a workstation was available at the office.

Markus Wetter: Yes, we had to expand quickly. In my first three days at ABO Wind I had to organise the move.

Andreas Höllinger: I avoided that and preferred to start a month later.

Stefan Schuck: I still remember looking for the "office" when I drove to the company's headquarters for the first time. There was only a tiny sign on the mailbox in front of Jochen's home. For the job interview was wearing a blazer and a tie. Matthias (Bockholt) told me later that they almost turned me down because of that.

Harald Warzel: I was also afraid that it wouldn't work out. After all, I didn't know how to knit. And then Matthias was sitting there in a home-knitted sweater.

What about the know-how in the early days?

Jochen Ahn: In the beginning we did everything by ourselves. Just two or three of us planned and implemented our first wind farms. That would be unthinkable today, the dimensions are completely different.

Gregor Budinger: When I joined in 1998, my know-how was essentially based on the construction and installation of small wind turbines with a maximum capacity of 10 kilowatts. It was the first time in my life that I heard the word operational management, and I had not worked as a construction coordinator before.

Urta Steinhäuser: Despite my professional experience, countless questions were new to me at first. Fortunately, the authorities usually knew even less about the specifics of wind energy.

Christopher Kopp: I agree. When I started doing wind assessments, I had no idea about the subject. After all, there was no training or course of study in this field. The people who start today are significantly better qualified.

Jochen Ahn: Back then, the two most important factors for hiring new staff were: Are the candidates nice, and do they want to push the energy transition forward like we do?



Christopher Kopp started as a wind assessment expert in 2000 and is now head of the department. Today, he uses a wide range of data and digital tools in his daily work.

How did you acquire the knowledge?

Petra Driese-Gessner: In the first years, we were constantly improvising.

Christopher Kopp: We learned everything by ourselves or from our colleagues.

Matthias (Bockholt) explained a lot to me and later I took a few software classes. Today, the technical possibilities are completely different. Back then, we couldn't rely on hardly any existing wind data for our site assessments. Accordingly, we were sometimes quite off the mark.



Urta Steinhäuser headed the German Project Development Department for around 15 years, making a significant contribution to ABO Wind's success. She also developed British projects. Today, Urta is responsible for Environmental Issues and Species Protection.

Gregor Budinger: The most important tools were then, as now, keeping an open eye and a clear mind.

Urta Steinhäuser: I am a trained bank clerk and landscape architect. At first, I had no idea about wind energy. But I learned a lot from Jochen. He had a great talent for making complete calculations on a piece of paper: costs, revenues, sales price, margin. And he was almost always right. I adopted this method. That gave me a lot of confidence.

What made you join ABO Wind in the first place?

Urta Steinhäuser: I had been politically active against nuclear energy. With renewables, I was able to continue my commitment.

Markus Wetter: I was also an active member of the anti-nuclear movement. I still remember an advertisement by RWE in a newspaper: "In the long term, renewables can't cover more than 4% of our electricity needs". That spurred me on. Today we produce almost 50 per cent from renewables. And it feels great to have contributed to that.

"We were all highly motivated and had the same big goal."

"Just two or three of us planned and implemented our first wind farms. That would be unthinkable today, the dimensions are completely different."



Harald Warzel joined ABO Wind as the first Construction Manager and now heads the Construction Department. Markus Wetter started in the Commercial Operational Management Department in 2001 and is now General Manager in charge of Product Development and IT. The picture shows the two of them at the Rülfenrod construction site in 2001.

Jörg Nithammer: That was also an

important aspect for me. We were all highly motivated and had the same big goal. I was previously working for the Environmental Agency in Mainz and had already been involved with wind energy, but only on paper. Implementing such projects was very tempting for me.

Harald Warzel: I had previously constructed turnkey buildings for ten years: Industrial plants, terraced houses, printing plants. I was simply fed up with the work and the working atmosphere. ABO Wind was young, dynamic and different. But I would never have thought that I would be celebrating my 20th anniversary at ABO Wind.

What fascinated you?

Urta Steinhäuser: Acquiring knowledge on a wide range of topics – from planning to contract law, wind energy technology, grid connection or financing. Making a real contribution to the energy transition. And doing so in a cooperative, appreciative atmosphere.

Petra Driese-Gessner: I thought it was great that we could make a direct difference. We planned something, which was most of the time actually built.

Bernhard Höfner: And we could constantly learn new things – that was a great combination. I climbed the top of a wind turbine on my first day.

Harald Warzel: Each project was different. Later I often worked on several projects at the same time, which was exciting. And above all, it was the working atmosphere at ABO Wind – you won't find that anywhere else.

What else does ABO Wind stand for?

Urta Steinhäuser: Fast, collaborative teamwork with a clear goal in mind. And the motto has always been: If you do something, you will make mistakes – anything is better than doing nothing.



Andreas Höllinger started in 2002 as a Project Manager for project finance and sales. Today he is Chairman of the Managing Board.

Jörg Nithammer: In the beginning, the atmosphere was quite familiar. With today's size it is different, but we still support and motivate each other.

Were there also difficult times?

Andreas Höllinger: Yes. In 2003 and 2004, the whole industry was under pressure. We had to lay off employees. But then we were able to sell wind farms to a subsidiary of Deutsche Bank. By the standards of that time, they examined our projects extremely thoroughly. Looking back, that was a decisive moment. We learned a lot in the process. With this know-how, we were later able to sell projects to foreign investors. **Matthias Hollmann:** A large part of our success was related to legislation. At some point, we finally had longer-term planning security – and this also made the industry more interesting to banks.

Jochen Ahn: But the big turning point for renewables was the nuclear catastrophe in Fukushima in 2011. That was a gamechanger in Germany.

Jörg Nithammer: I think before that, we only had two employees in the German project development team. Then the team grew quickly. Today we are over 50 planners for wind and repowering in Germany alone.

Gregor Budinger: Later, with "Fridays for Future" another jolt went through society. Today, many young people are looking for a job like the one we have been doing for 20 years. That feels good.

What else do you remember?

Harald Warzel: The countless spaghetti meals.

Stefan Schuck: That's right. We had Pasta Friday every week. That was Christopher's idea. It felt a bit like we were college flatmates.

Christopher Kopp: In the Heidesheim office, we always had pasta for everyone, and I brought that tradition with me to Wiesbaden when I moved. Now I'm back in Heidesheim and I am still the organiser of the cooking circle.

Urta Steinhäuser: The hikes at the company outings. To see how long the train of hikers is getting. And the joy with which we meet each other.

Matthias Bockholt: I remember our first wind energy fair in Husum. On the cattle



Petra Driese-Gessner started in 2001 and is now Project Manager in the Nature Conservation and Immission Control Team.



Stefan Schuck started as a Project Manager for wind energy in January 2002. After a short stint of doing project development in Ireland he is now head of the Solar Department for southern Germany.

market grounds, the dirt was pushed out below and the exposition stands were put up on top. Everyone there was our age and passionate about wind energy. In the evening, the whole industry sat together around the bonfire, barefoot, drinking beer out of bottles.

Matthias Hollmann: At the time, we were impressed by the large number of wind turbines in the north. In our region, there were hardly any.

Jörg Nithammer: The development over the years has been impressive, both the technological one and that of ABO Wind. Our company outings or later the Global Meetings were no longer attended by 20 people, but by 400.

Bernhard Höfner: Once the rented restaurant burnt down completely the night before our company outing. At that time, we were able to get a replacement at short notice – that would be impossible today, of course, given our size.

Speaking of celebrations: What is it like today when you tell people at a party where you work?

Petra Driese-Gessner: Here in the Rheingau region, reactions are very mixed. The polarisation has intensified due to discussions regarding species protection. But I am proud to be working on the energy transition. I stand by that, even if I have to listen to stupid comments. I can still refute one or two prejudices.

Jochen Ahn: In the past we were rather laughed at, today it's all much more serious. Andreas Höllinger: Discussing wind energy can sometimes ruin an entire evening. But there have been very different phases: in 2005, many thought we were criminals who were tapping public money. After Fukushima it was the exact opposite.



Bernhard Höfner joined the team in 2002 and was responsible for Technical Operational Management together with Gregor Budinger. Today, just like Gregor, he is a technical expert.

Matthias Bockholt: It's completely different among my children's friends. They have grown up with renewable energy and are much more open-minded. I come from a rather conservative household myself. At first, my parents railed against Green politicians. Then, shortly before my father died, he told me that the last time he voted, he voted for the Green Party for the first time. It took a long time. But the struggle was worth it. And we want to keep our pioneer spirit. That's why we always focus on new topics, for example on hydrogen or battery storage.



Numerous colleagues have benefited from Jörg Nithammer's experience as a Project Manager. After a short visit to the Biogas Division, he is now back in charge of wind energy.



Solid growth and continuous specialisation



On the path from a small start-up to a successful player in the global energy transition, growth alone is not enough: The increasingly complex tasks can only be mastered with growing specialisation. Most of our colleagues are well versed in the entire project development cycle. But new countries, additional business areas and an increasingly complex electricity market require proven specialists for individual pieces of the project puzzle. For this reason, we continuously train our staff and hire employees who contribute valuable knowledge and skills from their former employers or universities.

Even in the early years of the company, the Managing Directors decided to build up as much in-house expertise as possible instead of buying it from third parties. This strategy has been paying off. The decades of experience of our specialist departments help us to master the ever-changing challenges. With the increase in business areas and markets, formerly small teams of experts have become large divisions and departments that now concentrate on individual regions or tasks.

In this way, the skills of our colleagues are put to optimal use. The electrical department, for example, has been building transformer stations for several years and has developed a dedicated communication system for wind farm data. The construction department masters complex tasks such

In-house expertise pays off.



as large transports through narrow, uneven roads, foundation construction on sandy ground or cable routes that cross rivers, railway lines or motorways. Many countries offer additional challenges: In Argentina it is the risk of fire, in Ireland construction on marshy terrain. In Brandenburg, ABO Wind built Forst Briesnig wind farm on a former open-cast mining area with loose dump soils. To ensure that the turbines stand securely, the construction managers used special soil improvement technologies including vibro-pressure and drop-weight compaction.

Another growth area at ABO Wind is information technology. In addition to the common tasks of IT administration, our IT specialists implement and further develop IT solutions for our renewable energy plants. Digitalisation is also gaining importance in the planning of new wind and solar farms: the GIS & Data Services team provides planners with extensive geodata. This gives ABO Wind a competitive advantage in the search for and optimisation of sites.

Our power plant management has also expanded their range of services and expertise in recent years. In addition to technical and commercial operational management, we now offer full maintenance or the professional replacement of defective large components such as gearboxes, drive trains or generators.



Milestones

A few pages earlier, our employees tell the story of ABO Wind from their perspective. The graph below gives an overview and highlights further milestones and key figures in the company's history.

In the past 25 years, ABO Wind has grown up, learned a lot, and also adjusted the company strategy when necessary. In the process, ABO Wind has retained its verve, curiosity, and the joy for experimentation of the early years. The following chart shows: the development of the company has not always been linear. Fluctuations are unavoidable for a project developer. By distributing our activities across 16 countries, we have been able to balance out the ups and downs of the renewable energy sector caused by political changes. The key figures below reflect how much the company has grown and that today, it has the financial means to implement even large projects worldwide.





New beginnings

Persistence pays off in Spain

International growth is not a given. ABO Wind realised this after entering the Spanish market in 2002: Here, the business model that was successful in Germany worked less well. "We dutifully



submitted applications according to the German model; however, practically nothing happened," says Amaya Hilpert, former Country Manager for Spain.

Cooperation with local companies proved to be more effective. Project developers from abroad would often face closed doors. Despite these obstacles, ABO Wind remained active even during the financial crisis, which was particularly severe in Spain. This paid off: Know-How built up at that time later helped to turn a profit. "We even sold our first project, Santa María de Nieva, in 2012 - after a development period of ten years," says Hilpert, who was still conducting the sales negotiations herself at the time. Unlike today, the financing department back then had no colleagues working for the Spanish market.

A versatile French team

The French market was more similar to the German market than the Spanish one. The entry was therefore smoother. Today, France operates more independently than all other ABO Wind subsidiaries. "We have planning teams at four office locations



and our own departments for commercial and technical operational management, construction, IT

and public relations," explains Bernadette Gateau. In 2004, when she started at the French ABO Wind subsidiary, founded the year before, things looked different: "Back then there were five of us. As a Management Assistant, I took care of the accounting, and at the same time I organised the inauguration party for our first wind farm in Tétérchen," she says.



François Nonckelynck was responsible for the construction – a completely new challenge for him at the time. He was trained by his colleagues in Germany.

With great success: Afterwards, François founded the French construction department, that has built more than 170 plants at 32 locations since then. In France, more than 100 colleagues are now working on new wind and solar farms.

Learning from the British Isles

Ireland and the UK are perfect examples of the good cooperation between the headquarter of operational management in Ingelheim and the subsidiaries abroad.



Robert Spicer joined ABO Wind in 2010 and set up the operational management of the Irish wind farm Gortahile, which was commissioned in 2010. "Since then, we

have been working hand in hand with the German staff," he says. The Irish colleagues are experts in country-specific topics and have, for example, accompanied the restructuring of the electricity market in Ireland from the very beginning. "That was a radical change to align the market with the EU Target Model," explains Spicer. Since other countries are now planning something similar, ABO Wind is benefiting from the experience in Ireland. In return, the Irish colleagues rely on German know-how when, for example, if customers have specific problems with gearboxes or rotor blades.

Caught up in Argentinian cycles

The foundation of the first ABO Wind subsidiary on the other side of the Atlantic happened by chance. An Argentinian employee moved back to his home country in 2006 and wanted to remain loyal to the wind industry. Given the manageable investment costs, ABO Wind decided to establish a branch in Argentina. Within a few years, the one-man team grew into a professional subsidiary that developed numerous projects according to international standards. But unfortunately, the political framework conditions were not favourable at first. "We had great projects with excellent wind speeds. But in view of the economic



crisis in Argentina, no one wanted to invest in the country," recalls Country Manager Lucila Bustos. But ABO Wind did not give up on the Argentinian

team and was rewarded in 2015. Reforms, international investments and tenders for renewables came with the new government. "Suddenly we were in the pole position with our ready-to-build projects," says Bustos. Investors jumped at the chance and several sales were made. After that, however, the situation worsened again. Today, ABO Wind is also active in Colombia and Canada.



Celebrating excellency in Finland

For the public inauguration of Ratiperä wind farm, built in 2018, the Finnish ABO Wind team bought 600 sausages – even though only about 3,000 people live in the entire municipality. Not one sausage was left over. The inaugurations attract many people in Finland. "We have excellent conditions for wind farms in our windy country with its low population density,"



says Aapo Koivuniemi, Managing Director of the Finnish subsidiary. ABO Wind realised

this in 2013: "At that time, our Finland team was based in Wiesbaden and consisted of me and another colleague," Koivuniemi recalls. Today he works with 15 project managers, four accountants, four construction managers and two operational managers from an office in Helsinki. "The development work has not changed," Koivuniemi sums up. "The biggest challenge with a growing team is to find the right balance of structure and freedom." Despite its increase in size, the Finnish team – just like all ABO Wind subsidiaries – is supported from Germany, for example when it comes to purchasing turbines or financing projects. "The knowledge sharing works well," says Koivuniemi – in Finland as in the entire ABO Wind world.

Every second counts in Greece

Our first business success in Greece was a matter of seconds. "Unlike in Germany, the tendering system is more like an auction, where you have to react to bids from competitors at short notice," says



Country Manager Panagiotis Sarris. Colleagues travelled specially to Greece to submit the bid. "We didn't want to risk missing the decisive moments due to

a slow internet connection." The strategy worked. ABO Wind won the bid for 45 megawatts of solar capacity: The company's largest solar projects to date, Kossos and Megala Kalyvia, were connected to the grid in 2019 and 2020. Since then, the Greek pipeline has been constantly filling up with more wind and solar projects.

Different approaches in Africa

Despite good wind conditions and abundant sun hours, project development in Tanzania suffers from slow bureaucratic structures. "In order to avoid capacity bottlenecks in grid access, we are currently focusing on cooperation with local companies," explains Country Coordinator



Michael Haag. The use of hybrid energy systems is also an option. In South Africa, ABO Wind is pursuing a different strategy. Renewables are already established there.

Preparations for further tenders are underway. When they start, ABO Wind will be ready with a full project pipeline. In Tunisia, the company has already built a small solar project and secured tariffs for further wind and solar farms in tenders.

Eastern European struggles and successes

What slows down the expansion of wind energy in Bavaria, applies nationwide in Poland: the 10H rule, according to which the minimum distance between the turbine and residential buildings must be ten times the total height of the turbine. "This makes expansion very difficult,"



says Karolina Tarnowska, Project Assistant for Poland. The Polish team of now eight employees is focussing on solar projects at the moment. "But when 10H is abolished, we

will also have a number of promising wind projects ready to go," says Tarnowska. ABO Wind is currently building its first Polish wind farm in Donaborow, which will be connected to the grid in 2022. In Hungary, the company has already built two solar farms in 2019 and 2020 and has several more in the project pipeline. When it comes to reservations about wind energy, Hungary is even more radical than Poland. Wind turbines currently don't stand a chance in the country.

Dutch Greenfield Development

"When we entered the Dutch market in 2018, we wanted to acquire wind projects under development," explains Jean-Philippe van Ravesteyn, Business Developer in the Netherlands. But the



prices were too high. So ABO Wind readjusted to greenfield development. In addition to wind, the company is now also focusing on solar energy.

"In the meantime, we have built up a team of six in the Netherlands that develops greenfield projects with support from Germany," explains van Ravesteyn.



From wind energy to solar, storage and combined projects

For a long time, ABO Wind had doubted that the solar industry would succeed without governmental subsidies. But about six years ago, when we first started focusing more on international markets, a realisation started to sink in: The price degression in the solar sector was faster and steeper than expected. Due to a lower complexity from a planning and technological perspective, solar projects were already competing in many international tenders at much lower prices than wind energy projects. Solar prices fell, the modules became larger, their energy density higher – and the prospects in many countries grew more promising.

In 2016, ABO Wind entered the growth market of solar, brought experienced colleagues into the company and built up the new business division. By March 2021, ABO Wind has constructed turnkey solar parks in five countries with a total capacity of 70 megawatts and has sold a further 325 megawatts in the development phase. Additional projects with a total capacity of 50 megawatts are under construction in early 2021; the global portfolio of solar projects under development has grown to more than 5,000 megawatts. One in every two newly acquired ABO Wind projects is a solar project. In the medium term, we expect to generate around a third of our net profit from solar projects. Our staff in Colombia and Hungary is exclusively focused on solar projects; other markets such as Spain, Poland and the Netherlands are increasingly dominated by solar projects.

In Germany, too, the importance of solar projects is growing: In the first German innovation tender, we secured tariffs for six photovoltaic projects, three of them in combination with battery storage. Batteries are gaining in importance worldwide. They are an ideal partner for the booming solar industry: solar plants generate a lot of electricity in a few hours of the day, thus lowering prices at their midday peak production time. Storage systems help to stabilise the feed-in, stabilise grids and adjust generation to the demand or market price.

This is one of the reasons why ABO Wind has decided to build up in-house expertise in battery storage. In almost all country markets



and in close collaboration with the local planning teams, the new department for hybrid energy systems (HES) and energy storage has been working on promising projects for around two years. The efforts are beginning to bear fruit: in 2020, we installed a small battery storage facility in northern Hesse. In Kells (Northern Ireland), we will build a 50-megawatt battery storage system for grid stabilisation in 2021. The three German solar and battery combination projects have already entered the construction phase.

So after a good twenty years as a wind energy specialist, ABO Wind has changed fundamentally in the past five years: We now offer the complete value chain of development and construction of wind and solar farms as well as battery storage projects, and furthermore the optimal combination of all three technologies from a single source. This sets us apart from our competitors. In this way, we see ourselves optimally equipped for the future, in which renewable energies and battery storage will continue to gain in importance worldwide.



The HES team is implementing PV modules, battery storage and e-mobility charging points at the company's headquarters.



In Gielert, Germany, ABO Wind is installing a first project combining wind and solar energy.

Transparency builds trust

"Our residents came to the town hall to voice their opinions and they were really enthusiastic."

Gérard Sorton,
mayor of Salles-de-Villefagnan



Inauguration the Salles-de-Villefagnan wind farm in 2008

A large per centage of European citizens are in favour of renewable energy: 90 per cent of almost 24,000 people interviewed agreed with the statement that the EU should encourage more investment in renewable energy.[1] In a survey among German citizens, a majority (60 per cent) even supported renewable energy projects in their own neighbourhood. That percentage even grew when they were already living close to a wind or solar farm.[2] They have experienced first-hand the added value a renewable project will bring to their region, such as land lease revenues, business taxes and contracts for local businesses. Fears that wind or solar farms might have negative effects on the quality of life usually do not come true on the other hand.

It is one of the cornerstones of our work to communicate honestly and transparently about benefits and drawbacks for residents resulting from our projects. We offer a variety of ways for citizens to get to know our company and become familiar with the details of our planned wind or solar farm. These communication tools



include websites for individual projects, public events or guided tours on the planning or construction sites. The better the public understands what we are planning and how it will affect them, the more people accept and embrace renewable energies close to where they live.

Another factor of our success is our competent and sympathetic staff. One project manager oversees the development of a wind farm or solar park from site acquisition to commissioning. This builds trust and creates continuity. Good cooperation with local mayors or foresters is extremely important. ABO Wind stays in close contact with many of the communities where we have built a wind farm. Often, additional projects can be realised together, such as a solar park. ABO Wind also supports local sports or music clubs as a sponsor. With the income from land lease agreements, many municipalities are able to realise projects that otherwise would not be possible, such as renovating a kindergarten or building a new fire station.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eurobarometer-survey-confirms-public-support-energy-policy-objectives-2019-sep-11_en ² https://www.unendlich-viel-energie.de/english/acceptance-of-renewable-energy-in-germany-2019

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The French subsidiary of ABO Wind commissioned its first wind farm in 2004. Close cooperation with local representatives is as crucial there as it is in other ABO Wind markets. Gérard Sorton, mayor of Salles-de-Ville-fagnan in the Charente region, recalls of the planning process of developing the wind farm commissioned in 2008: "Our residents came to the town hall to voice their opinions and they were really enthusiastic. At the time, 95 per cent of the inhabitants were in favour of the wind farm and I'm sure that this is still the case today. This project was completed without any obstacles, it was well thought out." Denis Barbera, mayor of Serviès in the Tarn region, describes their wind farm Cuq, commissioned in 2009: "Our wind farm was initiated together with the people of the village. We've never had any opposition in the community. After commissioning, many curious people came from other villages to see the turbines in operation."

"Our wind farm was initiated together with the people of the village."

– Denis Barbera, mayor of Serviès



Construction of the Cuq wind farm in 2009

A strong partner for cooperatives and corporations alike

From down-to-earth farmers or suit-wearing bankers to mayors, fund and portfolio managers, utility managers or energy cooperative members: ABO Wind works with a wide range of business partners. The enthusiasm for cooperation with different stakeholders is an important prerequisite for initiating wind and solar projects with an investment volume of half a billion euros a year.

While we don't care about fashion preferences (see interview on page 11), fair business deals are important to us. Whether it's with investors, landowners, suppliers, or service providers: the cooperation with our partners is based on trust. Many of our business relations are long-term because operators often buy several projects and rely on the competence and reliability of our operational management.

Concerning the size of our projects, ABO Wind is moving into new dimensions: In 2021, we have started the construction of our first wind farms with a three-digit megawatt capacity. In previous years, we had sold the rights for the two corresponding projects in Finland and Spain to investors. On their behalf, we are now in charge of the construction. Another Finnish wind farm (Kokkoneva), which ABO Wind will connect to the grid on a turnkey basis in 2022, is one of the first wind farms for which we have concluded a power purchase agreement (PPA).



Together with Energieallianz Bayern (EAB), ABO Wind is realising solar projects in southern Germany.



PPAs are increasingly replacing state-secured feed-in tariffs. ABO Wind is an ideal partner for these new kinds of business deals.

The entrepreneurial success of the past decades is reflected in high retained earnings in the balance sheet. Recent capital increases and the issue of a bond have further strengthened the financial basis, so that ABO Wind can implement more and larger projects worldwide. This does not prevent us from providing local support for the energy transition wherever possible with regional citizens' associations or municipal utilities. For example, we partially sold the wind farm in St. Hilaire, France, which was connected to the grid at the turn of 2020/2021, to "Vents Citoyen," a french citizens' association. Because the 11.4 megawatts would exceed the financial possibilities of the civil association, we are now operating the wind farm together with them. ABO Wind actually sees itself mainly as a project developer that leaves the operational business to others. But for the opportunity to implement this project together with committed citizens, we were happy to break with this rule.



The French wind farm St. Hilaire is jointly operated by the citizens' association "Vents Citoyen" and ABO Wind.



With ABO Wind towards the future

Welcome to ABO Wind

At the beginning of 2021, about 730 employees worked at ABO Wind. We have welcomed more than 130 colleagues in the past year. New colleagues bring fresh ideas and experience from various sectors with them. We will quote some of them in this chapter. As different as the colleagues are. are, they all have one thing in common: a high level of enthusiasm for the common goal.



Marika, Canada, Project Developement

"I was surprised at how just a small team could develop such large projects. I mean, in Canada one project can comprise more megawatts than what we have developed in an entire country elsewhere. Of course, I didn't realize at the time we would be working so closely with the international team, so really ABO Wind actually has a very large team. It is just spread across the world."



Victoria, Germany, Operational Management

"When I was a student at university, I got to know ABO Wind as a student employee. I am grateful that I was given the opportunity to join in directly after my degree."



Benjamin, France, Grid Connection

"ABO Wind has the benefits of a company with a wide variety of activities and the ambitions of a company with a lot of experience, making it possible to work on a large number of great projects."



Weronika, Poland, Project Developement

"One of my life-time wishes was working in an ecologyrelated branch. When I saw on the internet a picture of the four Board Members standing smiling against the background of bushes - I thought it must be a good place to make my wish come true..."



András, Hungary, General Management

"I wanted to work with an intercultural team in an international company. I have found an inspiring, motivating corporate culture and emotionally intelligent people at ABO Wind. These are the reasons why I enjoy working at ABO Wind and it is a good feeling that together with my colleagues I am contributing every day to fighting climate change and to preserving the world as much as possible for my children."



Felipe, Germany, Hybrid Energy Systems

"I was impressed by how one of the owners was involved in my selection process. That gave me the impression that they trusted me, and I knew that would motivate me to do my absolute best for our common goals, the installation of more renewables around the world. I feel this is my home now."



Phemelo, South Africa, Project Developement

"Lack of access to electricity also keeps people impoverished. The connection between electricity and poverty is complex. One often leads to the other and creates a vicious cycle. Access to electricity creates a more productive and healthy standard of living and will raise 1.3 billion people out of extreme poverty. I hope to contribute to this with my job at ABO Wind."



David, Ireland, Project Developement

"ABO Wind is continuosly adapting and changing to new technologies and ways of thinking and working which I find really exciting and want to be a part of."



Mireia, Spain, Project Developement

"It is a leading company with talented employees that gives you the opportunity to rapidly upskill and advance professionally quicker than in other companies."



Aikaterini, Greece, Project Developement

"ABO Wind is one of the leading international players in the renewable energy sector. I have chosen a company that has a large portfolio of wind and solar parks under development and I would like to participate in their implementation."

Economic success reflects internationalisation

In 2020, ABO Wind has generated revenues from the development and construction of renewable energy projects in eleven countries. The basis of our economic success has never been as international. We generated revenues in Germany, Finland, France, Spain, Argentina, Greece, Ireland, Poland, Tunisia, Hungary, and the United Kingdom.

The turnkey construction of wind and solar parks continues to be the company's high-margin core business. In this segment, it stands out that for the first time – in terms of nominal electrical output – a solar project was the largest commissioned project of the year. It is also noteworthy that the company's largest turnkey project in 2020 is located in Greece. ABO Wind has only been active there since 2017.

In addition to turnkey construction, the sales of rights to projects still under development again contributed to the commercial success in the past financial year. In this segment, we have generated revenues in Argentina for the first time since 2016. The two solar projects sold are comparatively small, each one has an output of around nine megawatts. In view of the extremely difficult economic situation in the country, the sale of the project rights is nevertheless a great success for our colleagues.

ABO Wind also generated revenues with milestone payments for progress made on projects in Finland and Spain, to which we had sold the project rights in previous years. We continue to work on the construction of these projects as a service provider. They include a Spanish and a Finnish wind farm with a capacity of 100 megawatts each. The construction of these projects has just begun and is on a scale that is new to us. Both wind farms are scheduled for commissioning in 2022. During the construction of these large projects, we will gain further valuable experience for the future.

The project development and construction of battery storage systems has also developed into a relevant business field in a short time. After installing a first, small battery project in northern Hesse with a capacity of just 150 kilowatts in 2020, we will commission a 333 times larger storage facility in Kells in Northern Ireland in 2021.

Thus, ABO Wind is currently advancing into new dimensions in several business fields.



Storage

Turnkey construction

Germany (Hofgeismar) 150 kW / 450 kWh

Power Plant Management

Wind

Operational management & maintenance 1.781 megawatts

Solar

Operational management & maintenance 62 megawatts



Wind

Turnkey construction

La Plaine France, Charente, Vestas V110, 6 megawatts

Wadern-Wenzelstein Germany, Saarland, Nordex N131, 9.9 megawatts

Sold during development

Castlegore United Kingdom, Nordirland, Antrim, 21.6 megawatts

Solar

Turnkey construction

Megala Kalyvia Greece, Thessalien, 38 megawatts

Düren Germany, North Rhine-Westphalia, 0.75 megawatts

Kevelaer Germany, North Rhine-Westphalia, 0.75 megawatts

Barleben Germany, Saxony-Anhalt, 0.75 megawatts

Püspökladány Hungary, Eastern Hungary, 6.5 megawatts

Poulina Tunisia, North Tunisia, 1.5 megawatts

Sold during development

Los Alamos Argentina, Catamarca, 9.25 megawatts

Del Amanecer Argentina, Catamarca, 9.5 megawatts

ABO Wind AG Group management report 2020

Introduction

This management report contains forward-looking statements. Please note that the actual results may differ from these expectations of the anticipated developments.

1. 2020 Overview

The ABO Wind group ("ABO Wind") closed the 2020 financial year with a net profit of EUR 13.1 million after tax (previous year: 11.4). The total turnover and operating revenue (sales revenue plus change in stock and capitalised assets) amounted to EUR 169.4 million (previous year: EUR 149.3 million).

These consolidated figures contain the business activities of the Polish and Tunisian subsidiaries for the first time. A mezzanine company was deconsolidated after the repayment in full of the associated participation rights. A total of 17 companies are now consolidated within the group.

For the fourth year in a row, ABO Wind generated more than half of the Group's sales outside Germany in 2020. Eleven countries – more than ever before – contributed to the economic success: Germany, Finland, France, Spain, Argentina, Greece, Ireland, Poland, Tunisia, Hungary and the United Kingdom. The internationalisation that has been successfully implemented over the past five years is therefore clearly reflected in the business figures.

Divided by technology, in 2020 ABO Wind generated 77 per cent of the sales in the project management business with wind projects and 19 per cent with solar projects. This is an encouraging success for the young solar technology branch launched at ABO Wind around three years ago. The biogas division also contributed to the project management sales with three per cent. In addition, for the first time in 2020, marginal sales were generated by a storage project. This is a respectable initial achievement. After all, ABO Wind has only just begun developing storage projects. This line of business is expected to gain in importance over the next few years.

In light of the foregoing, 2020 was marked by the further expansion of the company: New offices were opened in Amsterdam and Lodz and some existing sites underwent extensive expansion. In total, the workforce grew by 96 to 772 employees.

Given the financial strain involved in the company's growth and in spite of the COVID crisis, it is all the more satisfying that it was possible to meet the profit forecast for the 2020 financial year. The aim was to achieve at least the previous year's level (EUR 11.4 million). At EUR 13.1 million, the 2020 net profit exceeded the previous year by EUR 1.7 million.

2. Basic facts about the group

ABO Wind plans and builds wind farms and solar parks in Germany, France, Spain, Ireland, Argentina, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Tunisia and the United Kingdom. In Germany only, the company also works on individual biogas projects, based in particular on the fermentation of waste. ABO Wind has also acquired new wind and solar projects in the Netherlands, Canada, Colombia, South Africa and Tanzania.

ABO Wind initiates projects, acquires sites, carries out all technical and commercial planning, arranges international bank funding, and installs the plants so that so that they are ready to use at its own expense and in cooperation with energy suppliers. So far, ABO Wind has put wind power and solar facilities with a nominal output connected around 1,600 megawatts to the grid. In addition to the turnkey plants project rights have also been sold for wind farms and solar parks with around 2,000 megawatts. ABO Wind is developing additional repowering and storage concepts in order to use proven and new sites more effectively.

After commissioning, ABO Wind's Technical and Commercial Operational Management is responsible for the operational phase of the wind power, biogas and solar facilities. Using modern monitoring systems and forward-looking services, it has so far optimised the energy yield from facilities in Germany, Finland, France, Greece and Hungary.

ABO Wind service engineers provide maintenance, repairs, inspections, a fault clearance service, and replacement parts throughout the entire operating phase.

ABO Wind also works on products to optimise renewable energy systems. Among other things, the ABO Lock access control system and ABO Bat Link – a data interface for bat monitoring – are currently being marketed.

3. Economic report

3.1. Global developments in renewable energies

In a report published in November 2020, the International Energy Agency (IEA) analyses the current situation and medium-term prospects for renewable energies: according to the report, electricity generation from renewable resources grew by almost seven per cent in 2020. Although the global demand for energy has declined by around five per cent, long-term contracts, priority access to the grid and the continuous installation of new plants allowed for a strong growth of renewable energies.

Despite economic uncertainties, the willingness to invest in this segment remains high. From January to October 2020, capacities auctioned in tenders were 15 per cent higher than in the same period of the previous year, setting a new record. In 2020, renewable energies with a net capacity of 200 gigawatts were newly installed, which was around four per cent more than the year before. 90 per cent of all new power plants built in 2020 use renewable energies.

According to the report, the industry has adapted quickly to the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis. However, disruptions in the supply chain and construction delays slowed down the progress of projects. For Europe and India in particular, the IEA expects a surge in expansion in 2021. A record growth of almost ten per cent in 2021 is on the horizon. One reason for the acceleration is the catch-up effect, i.e. the commissioning of delayed projects in markets where the construction and supply chains were interrupted.

Photovoltaics (PV) and onshore wind energy are already the cheapest options for installing new power generation facilities in most countries. In countries where good resources and attractive financing are available, wind and PV will challenge existing fossil fuel plants. Overall, renewables are expected to account for 95 per cent of the net increase in global electricity generation capacity by 2025. Total installed wind and solar capacity is on track to surpass natural gas in 2023 and coal in 2024. Solar energy alone accounts for 60 per cent of the total addition of renewable capacity by 2025. Wind energy provides another 30 per cent.

The continuing decline in the cost of renewable energies is changing the investor landscape and the role of politics. In the future, significantly more renewable energy plants will be built on a market basis, i.e. outside of politically initiated auctions or feed-in tariffs. The share of market-based expansion (among others through private power purchase agreements) will increase from currently less than five per cent to more than 15 per cent by 2025.

While policy and regulatory frameworks remain critical to long-term revenue stability, competition will continue to decrease contract prices. Green certificate auctions and systems are forecasted to cover 60 per cent of global renewable capacity additions over the next five years. Investments by major oil and gas companies in renewable electricity capacity are predicted to increase tenfold from 2020 to 2025.

Recent announcements by the internet companies Amazon and

Google confirm the trend towards private power purchase agreements beyond state regulation. Amazon has now secured electricity from 127 renewable energy projects with a total capacity of 6.5 gigawatts. This makes Amazon the world's largest direct purchaser of renewable energy. Google had previously reported to cover its entire electricity consumption from renewable energy sources.

According to the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), an expected record growth for 2020 shows the resilience of wind energy facing the pandemic. According to the GWEC forecast, wind energy installations will grow by almost a fifth in 2020 and reach a new record level despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The industry association forecasts a record installation of 71.3 gigawatts of wind energy in 2020 – 64.8 gigawatts onshore and 6.5 gigawatts offshore – compared to 60.4 gigawatts in 2019. GWEC expects wind energy installations to increase further to 78 gigawatts in 2021.

3.1.1 Europe

The industry association SolarPower Europe published an "EU Market Outlook for Solar Power, 2020-2024" in mid-December 2020, which acknowledges the photovoltaic expansion achieved in the European Union in 2020 as a positive surprise. 18.2 gigawatts of solar capacity were newly installed. This means an increase of eleven per cent compared to the previous year. This is the secondbest figure in EU solar history, despite the restrictions caused by the pandemic.

According to a report published by the industry association WindEurope in October 2020, wind energy secures 300,000 jobs in Europe and contributes EUR 37 billion to the European Union's gross domestic product each year. The European leading role in wind energy will continue to create jobs and benefit communities. The implementation of National Energy and Climate Plans is crucial. If governments fully realised their plans, Europe would have twice as much wind energy capacity by 2030 as it has today.

The number of jobs in the wind energy sector will increase significantly from 300,000 at present to 450,000 by 2030, and the share of wind energy in European electricity consumption will grow from 15 to 30 per cent. However, in order for this expectation to be fulfilled, the process for approving new wind farms must be simplified. Europe has a strong interest in this. After all, five of the ten largest turbine manufacturers in the world are from Europe and together they have a world market share of 42 per cent. The European economy therefore benefits from investments in wind energy. Each new turbine generates EUR 10 million in economic activity.

3.1.1.1 Germany

According to figures from the Federal Network Agency, renewable energies accounted for 49.3 per cent of the electricity in the German grid last year, and their production increased by 4.1 per cent. Wind energy plants alone supplied 27.4 per cent over the year, solar plants nearly ten per cent. Once again, Germany exported more electricity than it imported. The slump in conventional energy was even more significant than the increase in green electricity. Fossil-fuel power plants delivered 12.2 per cent less electricity last year than the year before. Among other things, this is due to high CO₂ prices in European emissions trading. This had a particularly negative impact on the profitability of coal-fired power plants.

According to experts, Germany has exceeded its climate target for 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Last year, greenhouse gas emissions were 42.3 per cent below the level of 1990, according to an analysis by the think tank Agora Energiewende. The target for 2020, which had already been declared unattainable, envisaged 40 per cent less emissions than in 1990. According to the calculations, emissions fell by more than 80 million tonnes of CO₂ to around 722 million tonnes. Two-thirds of this reduction was a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Without it, the reduction would have been only about 25 million tonnes, and the 2020 target would have been missed. The reduction would then have been 37.8 per cent. As a result of the pandemic, energy consumption fell significantly last year. This was accompanied by high CO₂ prices in the EU, which particularly made climate-damaging electricity production from coal more expensive.

The European leader in solar expansion in 2020 was Germany with an increase of 4.8 gigawatts. This was the highest value since the consecutive record years 2010-2012, when more than seven gigawatts were added each year. In addition, it became apparent in December 2020 that the phase-out of coal-fired power generation in Germany could happen faster than expected: The Federal Network Agency announced the results of the first coal phase-out tender. Operators were able to submit bids at which premiums they would be willing to shut down their power plants. The most favourable bids were considered until the capacity of around 4,000 megawatts tendered in the first round was reached. The Federal Network Agency set EUR 165,000 per megawatt as the upper limit for a shutdown premium. But this price was not reached, because the auction round was "significantly oversubscribed," according to the Federal Network Agency. This means that the operators wanted to take far more capacity off the grid than was offered – and underbid each other. Eleven hard-coalfired power plant units won the bid for shutdown premiums of between 6,000 and EUR 150,000 per megawatt. The weighted average of EUR 66,000 was less than half of the set upper limit. In total, the state pays the operators shutdown premiums of EUR 317 million. Among the power plants that will now be decommissioned, there are the units A and B of the Hamburg-Moorburg combined heat and power plant, which had cost EUR 3 billion and had just been connected to the grid in 2015. The operator, Vattenfall, apparently also wants to get out of coal-fired power generation as quickly as possible.

The expansion of wind energy seems to have bottomed out in 2019. Only 325 wind turbines with a total capacity of barely 1,100 megawatts of onshore wind energy were built in 2019. This means that the expansion fell to its lowest level since the introduction of the Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG) in 2000. The industry has recovered from this historic low. In an evaluation of wind energy expansion in the first nine months of 2020, the German Onshore Wind Agency (Fachagentur Windenergie an Land) states an increase of 70 per cent compared to the same period in 2019. However, the average addition in the first three quarters of each year from 2014 to 2018 was missed by almost 70 per cent. For the entire year 2020, the agency forecasts a gross addition of 1,500 megawatts.

The continuing low volume of approved wind energy projects is also noticeable in tariff tenders. In 2020, a total of 3,860 megawatts of onshore wind energy were tendered, but only 2,672 megawatts were awarded. Only the last tender of the year was oversubscribed. All other tenders were undersubscribed, so that only part of the remuneration tendered was awarded to projects.

3.1.1.2 France

In France, the restrictions on economic life that accompanied the pandemic also reduced the demand for electricity, thus increasing the share of renewable energies. With an average production rate of 25 to 30 per cent, renewable energies in France reached unprecedented highs. Although the disruptions to public life led to a decline in new installations of wind farms, this will not have a long-term effect as the projects will only be delayed.

France has 790 onshore projects with a total capacity of ten gigawatts in the pipeline and ten offshore wind farms with a capacity of three gigawatts. "There is no reason why we should not return to the situation as it was before. The national wind targets have not been revised, and given the way the tenders are organised here, we will be able to catch up with any delays," the trade magazine Windpower Monthly quotes a climate and energy researcher from the Paris Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations.

Despite the pandemic, the French government passed its National Energy Plan in April 2020, which aims to increase the share of renewable energy in electricity production to 40 per cent by 2028, with onshore wind capacity reaching 33.2 to 34.7 gigawatts and France's offshore wind fleet reaching 5.2 to 6.2 gigawatts. By the end of 2019, in France there were only 16.6 gigawatts of wind energy connected to the grid. In order to reach the government's target, a strong further expansion is necessary.

Even before the pandemic, France had not been fast enough to meet the targets. France's crisis package, announced on 3 September, could now provide a boost. Emmanuel Macron's government announced that it would allocate a third of the total EUR 100 billion to the energy transition. The energy transition appears to be a possibility for overcoming the crisis caused by the pandemic.

In 2020, France reached the milestone of ten gigawatts of installed solar energy capacity. With 283 megawatts connected in the third quarter of the year, a total of 10.2 gigawatts were on the grid. Within twelve months, 827 megawatts were installed. The pandemic delayed some projects, so that expectations were not quite met.

The French government's current solar targets envisage an installed capacity between 35.1 and 44 gigawatts by 2028. To achieve this, a significant increase in annual expansion is required. Solar energy is considered to make a key contribution to the French energy transition. Tenders are the central tool to achieve the targeted annual expansion of 2.9 gigawatts. Two-thirds of these tenders are for ground-mounted solar plants. In addition, rooftop systems are also included.

3.1.1.3 United Kingdom

The United Kingdom's climate protection advisor presented a plan in December 2020 on how the island state can achieve climate neutrality. The country, which has left the European Union, is relying primarily on offshore wind energy. The United Kingdom is the world leader in this segment. It is expected that the United Kingdom will decarbonise electricity generation by 2045. Prime Minister Boris Johnson expects the expansion of offshore capacities to create 60,000 new jobs and sees his country as the "Saudi Arabia of wind energy".

3.1.1.4 Spain

2019 was the best year in the history of photovoltaics in Spain. With a newly installed capacity of 4,700 megawatts, Spain was the European leader. Due to the pandemic, the expansion in 2020 was significantly lower. Delays due to logistical problems in the import of components and administrative procedures had a hampering effect. 1,450 megawatts of new solar capacity were installed in the first ten months of 2020.

It is remarkable that - in the absence of national tenders - the new Spanish solar projects have all been built without any governmental subsidies. Spain is thus one of the first countries in which private power purchase agreements have established themselves as the standard for refinancing renewable energy plants. At the same time, this demonstrates the high degree of competitiveness that photovoltaic technology has achieved in the Spanish market. Companies from various sectors (banking, telecommunications, food processing, pharmaceuticals, etc.) are signing power purchase agreements with operators of solar parks. Grid restrictions prevent an even more dynamic development. The Spanish Energy and Climate Plan was adopted in 2020. It includes the goal of increasing the share of renewable energies in electricity generation to 74 per cent by 2030. Photovoltaic capacity should increase from the current level of around ten gigawatts to 39.2 gigawatts. This means that over the next decade, about 2.8 gigawatts must be added each year.

In 2020, Spain was also far from achieving the same level of wind energy additions as in the previous year. In 2019, wind turbines with a capacity of more than 2,300 megawatts were connected to the grid. At a conference of the Spanish Wind Energy Association in October 2020, only an additional 735 megawatts in 2020 was reported to date. The decrease in wind energy is also attributable to the pandemic, among other things. Nevertheless, the prospects for the industry are good. The goal is to clear the way for the addition of 24 gigawatts of new wind energy capacity. This amount is needed to reach the target set in the Energy and Climate Plan. For this to succeed, Spain must return to a wind energy expansion at the same level of 2019.

3.1.1.5 Republic of Ireland

The Republic of Ireland is significantly lagging behind in meeting the country's own expansion targets for wind energy. According to figures published by Windpower Monthly, the island's installed onshore wind energy capacity was 4,245 megawatts as of 1 September 2020. In the first eight months of the year 2020, 115 megawatts of new capacity were added. In 2019, a total of 463 megawatts were added. The wind industry complains that shortcomings in the approval system are slowing down development. The country is at risk of missing its 2030 climate and clean energy targets. The Irish government has set a target to have an installed onshore wind capacity of 8.2 gigawatts by the end of the decade and to supply 70 per cent of electricity from renewable sources. However, the Irish Wind Energy Association believes that only 5.5 gigawatts will be achieved by 2030. Slow approval procedures are the main contributor to this failure. The industry association is demanding reforms.

3.1.1.6 Finland

As reported by Windpower Monthly, Finland (behind Sweden) is among the European countries with the lowest prices agreed in power purchase agreements for electricity from wind farms in 2020. The most economical 25 per cent of the offer prices in each of the European countries was examined. Finland had a price of 30 euros per megawatt hour, which was only slightly lower in Sweden at 29 euros. At the other end of the range is France with 95 euros. The prices depend on the levelised costs of electricity, which are influenced by wind conditions and approval procedures, among other things, as well as by the overall conditions of the electricity market. The authors of the study expect that renewable energies will remain the lowest-cost options for new power plants, but that prices will not continue to fall as sharply as in the past and instead will stabilise.

The Finnish Wind Energy Association also expects a future without government support for wind farms in the country. The low levelised costs of electricity for wind energy correspond to the large and growing number of projects under development. The industry association counts 212 wind projects in the planning stage with a capacity of more than 18,000 megawatts. 205 of the projects are to be built onshore and seven offshore. 1,300 megawatts were in the construction phase as of February 2020. This indicates that a further significant increase in commissioning is to be expected. While no new wind turbines were connected to the grid in 2018, around 240 megawatts were installed in 2019. Total wind energy capacity at the end of 2019 was close to 2,300 megawatts. Wind energy covered around seven per cent of the electricity demand in Finland in 2019. The wind turbines currently in the planning stage would cover 71 per cent of the current demand. However, the industry association expects demand for electricity to rise. This is due in particular to the interest of many industries in reducing their carbon dioxide emissions and relying more on electricity.

3.1.1.7 Greece

After the record year 2019, the outlook for renewable energies in Greece remains positive. An industry report mentions new investors who have discovered the south-eastern European country. The government's targets also help the boom: the updated National Energy and Climate Plan increased the wind energy target to seven gigawatts and the target for photovoltaics to 7.7 gigawatts by 2030. The last lignite-fired power plants are to be shut down two years earlier. The government's commitment to the expansion of renewable energies and its membership in the eurozone contribute equally to Greece's attractiveness for investors. A functioning government tender system for new wind and solar projects also makes an important contribution. In 2020, the acceleration and simplification of the approval process also had a positive impact, benefiting wind and solar parks alike.

The industry association Solar Power Europe estimates the solar capacity installed in Greece in 2020 at around 500 megawatts. This puts Greece in ninth place among the 27 countries of the European Union in terms of solar expansion in 2020. Compared to the previous year, the country has significantly increased its expansion. In 2019, solar capacities with a total of only 160 megawatts were installed.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Greece plans to stick to its path to a sustainable energy supply. May 2020 is regarded as a symbolic milestone, as the country covered its electricity needs without using coal-fired power plants for the first time since the 1950s. Renewable energies, gas-fired power plants and imports from abroad secured the complete energy supply.

By awarding tariffs in public tenders, Greece is helping to stabilise its independence from fossil fuels. The country is also benefiting from falling levelised costs of solar energy, which led to the lowest price ever during a tariff auction held in the summer.

3.1.1.8 Hungary

Among the 27 EU member states, Hungary ranked seventh in the expansion of solar capacity in 2020 with around 600 megawatts of newly installed capacity. In the previous year, the country had connected even slightly more new capacity to the grid. The industry association Solar Power Europe assesses the further prospects as positive. The total solar capacity of 2,100 megawatts connected to the grid at the end of 2020 is expected to be more than doubled to 4,400 megawatts by the end of 2024. This corresponds to an annual growth rate of 21 per cent.

The low prices awarded in the clearly oversubscribed tariff tenders carried out in 2020 indicate that this expectation could be fulfilled.

3.1.1.9 Poland

The Polish solar market experienced a fulminant upswing in 2020. Just in the year of the COVID-19 pandemic, Poland managed to more than double its total installed photovoltaic capacity within one year. It grew by 1,850 to 3,150 megawatts by the end of 2020, making Poland the fourth largest solar market in the European Union. According to the industry association Solar Power Europe, a favourable regulation for smaller and larger consumers to self-consume the generated solar electricity contributed significantly to the Polish success. According to the industry's assessment, the high level of acceptance among the population and the growing awareness of ecological challenges will favour further expansion. The association expects the installed capacity to triple in the next four years.

There was also a positive signal for the Polish wind industry at the end of 2020. In an open technology tariff tender, wind projects secured around 900 megawatts of the 1.7 gigawatts put out to tender, while the remaining 800 megawatts were allocated to photovoltaic projects.

3.1.2 Argentina

Argentina's energy industry is one of the sectors that is coping relatively well with the COVID-19 crisis. In the first nine months of 2020, the sector recorded a decline in activity of 1.9 per cent compared to the same period of the previous year, while overall economic activity slumped by 9.4 per cent. In the long term, the energy industry could become a growth driver, with good opportunities for exports as well. There is great potential for renewable energies. The expansion of wind and solar capacity had experienced an upswing under the Macri government. A law passed in 2015 stipulates that the share of renewable energy in Argentina's total electricity consumption should increase from 2 per cent to 20 per cent by 2025 and to 25 per cent by 2030. 4,788 megawatts of new capacity have been awarded remuneration in three tenders. Forward contracts were agreed for an additional 1,093 megawatts. However, with the rapid deterioration of macroeconomic conditions since April 2018, financing of renewable projects has become difficult. Only 30 per cent of the agreed capacities have been connected to the grid. Especially the projects of the last tender (RenovAr 2) were mostly delayed or completely stopped.

3.1.3 Tunisia

Germany supports Tunisia in the development of renewable energies within the framework of the German-Tunisian Energy Partnership. Tunisia has so far barely made use of the existing potential for energy production from renewable sources. Energy imports, especially gas imports from neighbouring Algeria, are already a huge burden on the national budget. By 2030, the share of renewable energies should increase to 30 per cent; in 2018, it was around 3 per cent. In summer 2020, the Tunisian government launched another tariff tender for renewable energy projects to initiate the construction of solar parks with a total capacity of 70 megawatts. Bids can be submitted until February 2021. In the past years, the government already awarded tariffs for more than 600 megawatts in tenders. So far, only a small number of these projects have been implemented. At the end of 2019, only 62 megawatts of photovoltaic capacity were connected to the grid.
3.2 Business performance

ABO Wind covers the entire value chain for the development of wind farms and solar energy systems – from acquisition of the site to turnkey construction. Its own specialist staff perform the majority of the planning, monitoring and organisational work.

In addition to the financial performance indicators of turnover and annual results, ABO Wind also uses major milestones to be achieved for the project work and portfolios of projects and service agreements as non-financial performance indicators for measuring commercial success.

Relevant non-financial performance indicators include in particular the number of new projects, the portfolio of projects under development and construction – the so-called project pipeline – and the project developments and constructions successfully completed within the financial year.

The volume of agreed project funding and project sales, the extent of any service activities, and changes in employee figures also provide additional information about the business performance.

As the group's parent company, ABO Wind AG is responsible for the planning activities of the entire group. The parent company provides ongoing support for the project implementation and service delivery processes within the group. To make the indicators more meaningful, this section therefore refers to the activities of the whole group where appropriate.

In the 2020 financial year these indicators changed as follows:

3.2.1 New projects

In the previous year's annual report, annual new business to the tune of one to two gigawatts on average was anticipated across the group and across the various technologies for the years 2020 to 2022. The extent of the new business is related to the further development of new business in markets outside Europe and the impact from individual large-scale projects. In 2020, ABO Wind actually acquired new projects with 2.7 gigawatts in Europe. Outside Europe, projects were secured with 1.6 gigawatts. Wind projects make up two thirds of the new business in 2020, counted in megawatts, and solar energy projects make up one third. The number of projects is evenly split across both technologies.

3.2.2 Projects in development

By 31 December 2020, ABO Wind had worked on the development of wind power and solar projects with an output of around 15 gigawatts. Of these, projects to the tune of 1.5 gigawatts each are in Germany, France, Spain and Argentina, and in Finland and South Africa, the respective project pipeline actually totals over three gigawatts in each case. In five other countries, work is underway on three-digit megawatt figures and 2.3 gigawatts in total: Greece, Canada, Colombia, Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom. In the Netherlands, Poland, Tanzania, Tunisia and Hungary, the project pipeline in each instance is less than 100 megawatts and totals 0.2 gigawatts across these new country markets.

3.2.3 Project implementations

The periods assigned to project implementations are based on the transfer of risk for the services provided in each instance in accordance with the commercial law realisation principle. Planning or technical milestones, such as the feeding in of the first kilowatt hour (technical commissioning) for example, may occur in a different period.

3.2.3.1 Sale of portfolios and individual project rights

In the 2020 financial year, rights were sold for four projects at various stages of development. These projects are a northern Irish wind project with 22 megawatts, a Spanish solar project with 210 megawatts and two Argentinian solar projects, each with an output of 10 megawatts.

Typically, such agreements with the buyers provide for further collaboration with ABO Wind to get the projects ready for construction and then to build and operate them.

3.2.3.2 Completed project developments

In the 2019 annual report, completed project developments with an average volume of 150 to 250 megawatts were anticipated across the group and across the various technologies for the years 2020 to 2022.

With completed project developments with a total of 97 megawatts, these predictions were not fulfilled in 2020. The Finnish market contributed the most to the achieved figures with a project of 43 megawatts. Project developments of between 15 and 20 megawatts were accounted for in each of Germany, France and Poland. An Irish project with 11 megawatts completes the list of finished project developments.

3.2.3.3 Completed project builds

In the 2019 annual report, completed project builds with up to 160 megawatts annually were anticipated across the group and across the various technologies for the years 2020 to 2022.

Actually, projects totalling 117 megawatts were built and billed for in the financial year 2020. The farms built were distributed across six countries: 38 megawatts in Greece, 35 megawatts in Germany, 25 megawatts in France, six megawatts in Ireland, six megawatts in Hungary, and two megawatts in Tunisia.

3.2.4 Project funding and turnkey plant sales

In 2020, long-term loan agreements of EUR 208 million were concluded for 114 megawatts. This includes 67 megawatts in German projects with a loan volume of EUR 129 million. At the same time as obtaining the project funding, in 2020, turnkey projects with 123 megawatts were sold to investors.

3.2.5 Service activities

3.2.5.1 Wind Operational Management

As at 31 December 2020, ABO Wind was managing 142 projects with 506 wind turbines and a total of 1257 megawatts distributed across Germany (920 megawatts), France (150 megawatts), Finland (92 megawatts), and Ireland (95 megawatts). For the first time, these figures also include the management of substations and similar systems.

3.2.5.2 Wind division

This division manages around 130 wind turbines, from simple maintenance through to full service contracts.

3.2.5.3 Solar division and Operational Management

Ten plants are managed in the solar business segment, five in Germany, two in Hungary, two in Greece and one in Iran.

3.2.6 Personnel changes

The number of employees increased in the financial year from 676 on average to 772. The two subsidiaries in Poland and Tunisia, consolidated for the first time, contributed to this increase.

3.3 Turnover and earnings situation

The total turnover and operating revenue of EUR 169.4 million for the 2020 financial year is the result of EUR 149.2 million in sales revenue and a EUR 20.2 million increase in inventory of finished products and work in progress. The sales revenue in the project management business comprises EUR 47.8 million from planning services and sales of rights (previous year: EUR 86.0 million) and EUR 90.1 million from the building of projects (previous year: EUR 29.6 million). ABO Wind earned EUR 11.3 million in turnover from service activities (previous year: EUR 10.7 million).

In spite of the higher proportion of material-intensive construction services compared with the previous year, the materials quota has dropped by two percentage points to 43 per cent thanks to the higher margin shares generated.

The personnel costs of EUR 50.8 million (previous year: EUR 41.4 million) include a special bonus for the employees. In addition to regular salary adjustments, the increase in personnel costs is mainly due to the growth in staff levels.

The depreciation of EUR 12.3 million (previous year: EUR 8.0 million) is broken down into EUR 1.6 million of scheduled depreciation on fixed assets and EUR 10.7 million in individual value adjustments on projects under development for which there is no longer any realistic likelihood of implementation or for which the economic situation has changed drastically. Broken down by country, EUR 3.0 million of this represents German projects, EUR 2.0 million represents an Irish project, EUR 1.6 million represents French projects, EUR 1.3 million represents Argentinian and Greek projects respectively, and EUR 0.5 million represents Tunisian projects in Finland, Canada, Colombia, the Netherlands, Spain, South Africa and Hungary.

In addition, the value of shares in a German wind farm had to be adjusted by EUR 0.3 million.

The value adjustments for country risks fell by EUR 1.3 million compared with the previous year. The main reason for this is the reduced assessment basis for country risks resulting from sales and individual value adjustments from Argentinian projects. In total, value adjustments for country risks amount to EUR 2.5 million.

With an expenditure of EUR 1.5 million, the interest income after adjustments has improved compared with the previous year (EUR 1.6 million).

The result from ordinary business activities for 2020 is EUR 20.7 million (previous year: EUR 18.1 million). The 2020 net profit amounts to EUR 13.1 million (previous year: EUR 11.4 million).

In summary, in the 2020 financial year the ABO Wind AG group managed to improve the overall performance and gross profit compared with the previous year. The expansion of the project pipeline in Germany and abroad makes a significant contribution to this through inventory increases. This in turn entails further increases in human resource capacities, both in terms of numbers and technical expertise. All in all, the company is fortunate to have experienced excellent results and an improvement compared with the previous year. Not only did it manage to meet the 2020 net profit forecast, it exceeded it by around EUR 1.7 million.

3.4 Financial and asset situation

The total fixed assets are EUR 12.5 million (previous year: EUR 10.1 million). Property, plant and equipment formed a significant part of this. The increase compared to the previous year was mainly due to a loan for a Greek project.

Of the EUR 109.6 million in work in progress recorded on the balance sheet, on the balance sheet date of 31 December 2020, around EUR 12.3 million related to projects under construction.

The down payments received and openly deducted from the inventories of EUR 52.9 million do not include any advance payments. These are payments on account only that are offset against services provided or deliveries supplied, and for which no repayment obligation exists or is likely.

Of the receivables from affiliated companies in the amount of EUR 62.4 million (previous year: EUR 87.1 million), as of 31 December 2020, a total of EUR 59.0 million related to as yet unsold projects in Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Poland and Spain. EUR 10.7 million of this to a Finish project, EUR 9.5 million to a French project and EUR 10.0 million to a Greek project. The remaining receivables from affiliated companies of EUR 3.4 million relate mainly to non-consolidated foreign subsidiaries of ABO Wind AG who have obtained interim financing for project costs with these funds.

Shares in affiliated companies decreased from EUR 14.8 million in the previous year to EUR 7.1 million as of 31 December 2020 due to the planned sale of project companies and to extraordinary value adjustments on shares in two project companies amounting to EUR 1.8 million.

The securities item in the current assets item totalling EUR 2.3 million relates exclusively to shares in ABO Kraft und Wärme AG.

The ABO Wind AG subscribed capital was increased in February 2020 to 8,470,893 no-par-value shares through the issue of 400,000 new shares. The premium resulting from the increase of EUR 6.4 million was allocated to the capital reserve. In August 2020, another capital increase was recorded in the commercial register. Issuing 200,000 new shares increased the subscribed capital to 8,670,893 no-par-value shares. The premium resulting from the increase of EUR 3.9 million was again allocated to the capital reserve. In November 2020, the subscribed capital was increased again through the issue of 550,000 new shares to 9,220,893 no-par-value shares and the premium of EUR 15.7 million resulting from the issue proceeds was allocated to the capital reserve.

The equity ratio, excluding the mezzanine funds, increased from 43 per cent to 56 per cent due to the capital increases detailed above and the positive result in 2020. Including the mezzanine funds, the equity ratio is 61 per cent.

On the debt side, redeemable loans with a five-year term were taken out totalling EUR 16.0 million. Redeemable loans have been agreed upon for a further EUR 5.0 million. These are expected to be taken out in the first quarter of 2021 and also have a five-year term. The current account credit lines within the group were increased in the 2020 financial year by a total of EUR 4.0 million while the guarantee facilities were expanded by

a total of EUR 34.1 million.

On the balance sheet date, bank loans and overdrafts consisted of EUR 54.3 million in low-interest redeemable loans and EUR 6.0 million in short-term interest-free loans associated with the COVID pandemic. The unused credit and guarantee facilities as at 31 December 2020 amounted to EUR 96.5 million.

At EUR 52.8 million on 31 December 2020, the cash and cash equivalents, defined as cash on hand and bank balances, was considerably higher in the second half year of 2020, as planned, than in the previous year (EUR 9.6 million).

The funds were primarily generated from operating activities. The cash flow statement shows a positive cash flow from operating activities of EUR 42.5 million in the 2020 financial year. The two main factors here are the implementation of numerous projects from the project pipeline, evident in particular from the decrease in inventories and trade accounts receivable, and from the decrease in the securities item due to the planned sale of shares in project companies.

The funds were used for investments in fixed assets. After adjustments, the cash flow from investment activities shows outflows of EUR 3.6 million.

The cash flow from financing activities for 2020 is the result of taking out new loans and predominantly of the capital increases detailed above minus the scheduled repayment of borrowed funds and less the dividend distribution. In total, this results in an inflow from financing activities of EUR 4.4 million.

The limits agreed with the credit institutions which relate to selected financial key figures – so-called covenants – were all included in the reporting period.

4. Remuneration report

The remuneration report contains a summary of the principles that apply when setting the total remuneration for members of the ABO Wind AG Managing Board. It describes the deeper structure and the amount of the remuneration of the board members. The principles and amount of remuneration for members of the Supervisory Board is also explained.

4.1 Main features of the Managing Board remuneration system

The Managing Board's total remuneration consists of a fixed basic salary, a management bonus and fringe benefits, and takes into account the respective responsibility incumbent upon the board members. The structure of the remuneration system for the Managing Board is discussed and reviewed regularly by the Supervisory Board. The fixed amount is paid monthly as a basic salary component of the remuneration regardless of performance. The management bonus is essentially dependent on results and is paid annually after approval of the consolidated financial statements of ABO Wind AG. Entitlement to the management bonus is governed by the contracts with members of the Management Board. The annual bonus entitlement is capped at a maximum amount in each case. A negative business performance will result in complete loss of the bonus entitlement. The annual minimum remuneration from the management bonus is therefore 0 euros. In addition to the fixed basic salary and the management bonus, members of the Managing Board also receive fringe benefits in the form of benefits in kind.

Specifically, members of the Managing Board received the amounts listed below in 2020:

Andreas Höllinger, Managing Board since 2010						
Benefits granted	FY	FY	FY	FY		
(benefits received,	2019	2020	2020	2020		
if different) in EUR			(Min.)	(Max.)		
thousand						
Fixed remuneration	220	250	250	250		
Fringe benefits	8	9	9	9		
Total	228	259	259	259		
Management	71	75	0	75		
bonus						
Total remuneration	299	334	259	334		

Dr. Karsten Schlageter, Managing Board since 2018							
Benefits granted FY FY FY FY							
(benefits received,	2019	2020	2020	2020			
if different) in EUR			(Min.)	(Max.)			
thousand							
Fixed remuneration	160	160	160	160			
Fringe benefits	6	5	5	5			
Total	166	165	165	165			
Management	43	50	0	50			
bonus							
Total remuneration	209	215	165	215			

Dr. Jochen Ahn Managing Board since 2000					
Benefits granted	FY	FY	FY	FY	
(benefits received,	2019	2020	2020	2020	
if different) in EUR			(Min.)	(Max.)	
thousand					
Fixed remuneration	135	150	150	150	
Fringe benefits	11	9	9	9	
Total	146	159	159	159	
Management	70	70	0	70	
bonus					
Total remuneration	216	229	159	229	

Matthias Bockholt, Managing Board since 2000						
Benefits granted	FY	FY	FY	FY		
(benefits received,	2019	2020	2020	2020		
if different) in EUR			(Min.)	(Max.)		
thousand						
Fixed remuneration	170	170	170	170		
Fringe benefits	6	3	3	3		
Total	176	173	173	173		
Management	70	70	0	70		
bonus						
Total remuneration	246	243	173	243		

There were no other remuneration components having a longterm incentive effect, promised pension benefits or entitlements, or promised benefits from third parties.

4.2 Remuneration of the Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board's remuneration is set by the general meeting and is governed by the company's Articles of Association. The remuneration is based on the duties and responsibility of the Supervisory Board members. Members who have only been members of the Supervisory Board for part of the financial year receive remuneration in proportion to their period of service.

Specifically, members of the Supervisory Board received the remuneration listed below:

Benefits granted (in EUR thousand)	Fixed remuneration		
	FY 2019	FY 2020	
Jörg Lukowsky (Chair)	39	39	
Norbert Breidenbach	13	13	
Josef Werum (retired from	8	0	
office on 22.08.2019)			
Eveline Lemke	13	13	
Prof. Dr. Uwe Leprich	13	13	
Maike Schmidt (since	5	13	
22.08.2019)			
Total	91	91	

There were no other remuneration components for committee activities or attendance fees.

5. Opportunities and risks

5.1 Liquidity risks

Project development in renewable energies is characterised by high upfront costs for small quantities. Inflows from project funding and sales therefore need to be carefully matched against the outflows for planning and construction. The short to mediumterm liquidity is continually planned and controlled across the group. The consolidation of incoming payments and approval of outgoing payments is done across the group by means of manual cash pooling within ABO Wind AG. Long-term needs are regularly reviewed based on a multi-year business plan. Appropriate capital measures may be initiated and monitored centrally by ABO Wind AG.

5.2 Currency risks

ABO Wind AG faces currency risks within the framework of its international business expansion due to its operational activities in South America, the United Kingdom and other countries. In particular in countries where the power tariff is in a local currency not linked to a strong currency, appropriate hedging transactions should be ensured. In purchasing, currency risks can arise from supply contracts based on a foreign currency. In the solar business in particular, components are often obtained from Asia. The resulting currency risks can be countered with appropriate hedging transactions. On the whole, currency risks currently play a minor role at ABO Wind AG. The main activities are handled within the eurozone.

5.3 Interest rate risk

Rising interest rates always present a risk for the profitability of projects. Interest rate hedges can counteract these in the short to medium term. In the medium to long term, rising interest rates may need to be counterbalanced with lower investment and operating costs and adjusted remuneration rates. No interest rate hedges are currently agreed upon to any significant extent.

5.4 Regulatory risks

Naturally, during operation, wind energy and solar plants cannot earn revenue on demand. On the other hand, the main running costs are determined on a firm basis from the initial investment costs and any long-term loan and lease agreements. Given the weather-dependent, and hence volatile, electricity yields, and long-term fixed costs, the economic viability of projects largely depends on stable framework conditions for sale of the energy generated. Clarity and reliability regarding the remuneration regulations are crucial. This is true in terms of protecting confidence for the investment period and in terms of protecting existing works for their economic useful life. In addition to the formerly customary, statutory feed-in tariffs, conditions have now been created in some markets for new forms of remuneration. There, wind and solar farms can be created and operated economically on the basis of private-law power purchase agreements as well, or with electricity marketed directly.

Other regulatory risks for renewable energy projects lie in the authorisation procedures and the grid connection and power feed-in conditions. Delays and the conditions for obtaining authorisation to operate the plants and connect them to the grid can have significant effects on economic viability.

Generally speaking, the greatest potential risk for the planning of facilities to use renewable energies lies in the political and administrative organisation and implementation of the framework conditions.

5.5 Other risks

The current COVID pandemic and the measures associated with it are resulting in delays to sales of project rights and project implementations within the business operations. In addition to postponements within a financial year, postponements are also possible in subsequent years. Short-term liquidity scenarios have been taken into consideration when timing the annual rounds of financing. Based on current forecasts, extraordinary measures are not necessary. We remain confident that medium-term earnings risks will be predominantly limited to the assignment in time to the coming financial years. No long-term strategic risk is foreseeable at the present time as a result of the COVID crisis.

5.6 Opportunities and strategy

In general, political decision-makers in almost all countries agree on the fact that expanding renewable energies further is desirable and necessary. It is also beyond dispute that onshore wind power and solar are by far the most economical methods of generating power in a manner that protects the environment. Any reform of the energy policy resulting in a cost-effective expansion of the electricity-generating capacities should build on these technologies.

Project developers have a key role to play in implementing the energy transition. Projects can only be implemented to the intended extent with their expertise and their planning and construction capacities.

As in any industry, hard work is the key. Dealing with our partners fairly and openly – from landowners and suppliers to banks and investors – is our guiding principle for long-term business success.

Consistent diversification cushions the risks typical of the industry. Collaboration with different manufacturers for wind power and solar facilities and a regional distribution of the projects reduces the significance of the individual risk factors.

With this in mind, ABO Wind will continue to expand the wind power and solar facility service and maintenance division and offer additional services. In the medium-term, these business areas, which are independent from the core business field of project development, should make a solid contribution to the total earnings.

In addition, the subject of storage technologies in connection with meeting the global climate targets is increasingly becoming the focus of political and economic discussions. With initial battery projects and project initiatives for hydrogen production, ABO Wind is well positioned to be able to make a positive contribution to this segment in the future.

6. Forecast

Subject to how the COVID crisis progressed, the 2019

management report expected the overall performance for 2020 to at least reach the level of the previous two periods (approximately EUR 150 million in each year). With EUR 169.4 million in 2020, this forecast was met. The gross profit rose in 2020 by EUR 14.1 million compared with the previous year, thus moving into the predicted range which even provided for a decrease in the gross profit in the worst case scenario.

Subject to the uncertainties of the COVID crisis, in March 2020 the management hypothesised that it would be possible to maintain the net profit for 2020 at least at the previous year's level (EUR 11.4 million). With EUR 13.1 million in net profit, this forecast was met.

In the period from 2021 to 2023, we are anticipating annual new business to the tune of two gigawatts on average for ABO Wind across the group and across the various technologies. In connection with the cyclical developments of new business, particularly in non-European markets, and the impact of individual large-scale projects on the data, greater periodic fluctuations are to be expected in the new business.

Regarding the completed project developments from the existing pipeline, ABO Wind is expected to achieve an average volume of 150 to 250 megawatts per year in 2021 to 2023 across the group and across the various technologies. The sale of project rights and project portfolios, predominantly measured in megawatts, will play an important role and will also enable the first commercial successes in new country markets as well. The magnitude in megawatts is likely to be around the same as for the completed project developments or more. As far as the completed construction services are concerned, for 2021 to 2023 we are expecting up to 200 megawatts per year across the group and across the various technologies, for the most part distributed across projects within Europe.

It is to be expected that the COVID crisis will have an impact on the assignment of project implementations to periods in some cases which would result in delays in profits in 2021 and 2022. We do not predict any major effects beyond the 2022 period. Given the numerous projects under construction, or on which construction is about to begin, we anticipate that overall performance will increase by almost double-digit percentage points in 2021 compared with 2020 however. The gross profit should show similar positive developments. On the other hand, there are additional investments in human resources and IT systems that will be reflected in the 2021 result by a corresponding above-average increase in expenditure.

Under these conditions, the management currently anticipates, and subject to the further development of the COVID crisis, that the group's net income for 2021 will attain at least the level of the previous year.

Wiesbaden, 15 February 2021

Andreas Höllinge

Andreas Höllinger Chair of the Managing Board

Joe the

Dr. Jochen Ahn Managing Board Member

h. Boch

Matthias Bockholt Managing Board Member

N. Schlart

Dr. Karsten Schlageter Managing Board Member

Consolidated balance sheet

Assets

	As at 31/12 / in EUR thousand	2020	2019
A.	Fixed assets	12,501	10,131
١.	Intangible assets	1,116	1,298
١١.	Tangible fixed assets	5,653	5,208
1.	Land and buildings	321	322
2.	Plant and machinery	614	395
3.	Fixtures, fittings, tools and equipment	4,617	4,372
4.	Payments on account and assets in process of construction	101	118
III.	Financial assets	5,732	3,626
1.	Shares in affiliated companies	375	353
2.	Loans to affiliated companies	4,266	2,000
3.	Investments	460	585
4.	Loans to companies in which the company has a participating interest	631	688
B.	Current assets	234,903	230,564
I.	Inventories	64,398	80,171
1.	Work in progress	109,639	98,310
2.	Finished goods and goods for resale	1,398	1,186
3.	Payments on account	6,260	3,834
4.	Down payments received	-52,899	-23,158
١١.	Receivables and other assets	108,376	123,079
1.	Trade accounts receivable	34,020	20,678
2.	Receivables from affiliated companies	62,379	87,114
3.	Receivables from companies in which the company has a participating interest	-	106
4.	Other assets	11,977	15,181
III.	Securities	9,331	17,666
1.	Shares in affiliated companies	7,080	14,774
2.	Other investments	2,251	2,891
IV.	Cash on hand and bank balances	52,798	9,648
C.	Deferred income	469	348
D.	Deferred tax assets	1,389	1,516
	Balance sheet total	249,262	242,559

Liabilities

	As at 31/12 / in EUR thousand	2020	2019
Α.	Equity capital	140,116	103,576
I.	Subscribed capital	9,221	8,071
II.	Consolidated capital reserve	45,490	19,495
III.	Consolidated retained earnings	72,551	64,811
1.	Legal reserve	490	490
2.	Other revenue reserves	72,061	64,322
IV.	Difference in equity due to currency translation	-297	-241
V.	Net earnings	13,120	11,402
VI.	Non-controlling interests	30	37
В.	Mezzanine capital	12,590	14,350
C.	Provisions	19,634	24,572
1.	Tax provisions	5,954	1,133
2.	Other provisions	13,680	23,439
D.	Liabilities	76,921	100,060
1.	Debenture loans	0	5,138
2.	Bank loans and overdrafts	60,256	69,711
3.	Trade accounts payable	7,081	10,380
4.	Liabilities to affiliated companies	2,359	2,076
5.	Liabilities to companies in which the company has a participating interest	0	0
6.	Other liabilities	7,225	12,755
E.	Accrued expenses and deferred income	1	1
	Balance sheet total	249,262	242,559

Consolidated profit and loss statement

	From 1/1 to 31/12 / in EUR thousand	2020	2019
1.	Sales revenues	149,155	126,273
2.	Increase in inventory of products and services	20,206	22,752
3.	Other capitalised assets	-	233
4.	Total turnover and operating revenue	169,361	149,259
5.	Other operating income	6,362	3,451
6.	Cost of materials	-72,592	-66,582
a)	Cost of auxiliary and operating materials and goods purchased	-2,421	-3,215
b)	Cost of purchased services	-70,171	-63,367
7.	Personnel expenses	-50,776	-41,361
a)	Salaries and wages	-42,267	-34,475
b)	Social security and other pension costs	-8,509	-6,886
8.	Depreciation	-12,302	-7,979
a)	Of intangible fixed assets and tangible assets	-1,649	-1,542
b)	Of fixed current assets	-10,653	-6,437
9.	Other operating expenses	-17,593	-17,143
10.	Income from equity interests	43	77
11.	Other interest and similar income	718	211
12.	Depreciation of financial assets and securities held as current assets	-300	0
13.	Interest and similar expenses	-2,216	-1,858
14.	Earnings from ordinary business activities	20,705	18,074
15.	Taxes on income and profit	-6,919	-6,248
16.	Other taxes	-670	-420
17.	Net profit	13,116	11,406
18.	Non-controlling interests	4	-4
19.	Consolidated net profit	13,120	11,402

Consolidated statement of changes in equity

				rent comp Juity capit	-			No	n-controlli interests	ing	Group equity capital
in EUR thousand	Subscribed capital	Capital reserve	Legal reserve	Other revenue reserves	Difference in equity due to currency translation	Net profit	Total	Difference in equity due to currency translation	Net profit	Total	Total
Position at 31/12/2018	7,646	13,542	490	54,780	-266	12,745	88,937	-19	58	39	88,976
Allocation to the revenue reserve	_	-	-	9,534	_	-9,534	0	_	_	0	0
Issue of shares	425	5,953					6,378				
Dividends paid	-	-	-	-	-	-3,211	-3,211	-	-	0	-3,211
Changes to the consolidated companies	-	-	-	7	-	-	7	-	-	0	8
Exchange rate effects	-	-	-	-	26	-	26	-6	-	-6	19
Other changes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Consolidated net profit	-	-	-	-	-	11,402	11,402	-	4	4	11,406
Change in the year	425	5,953	0	9,541	26	-1,343	14,602	-6	4	-2	14,600
Position at 31/12/2019	8,071	19,495	490	64,321	-241	11,402	103,539	-25	62	37	103,576
Allocation to the revenue reserve	-	-	-	7,844	-	-7,844	0	-	-	0	0
Issue of shares	1,150	25,995					27,145				
Dividends paid	-	-	-	-	-	-3,558	-3,558	-	-	0	-3,558
Changes to the consolidated companies	-	-	-	-104	-	-	-104	-	-	0	-104
Exchange rate effects	-	-	-	-	-56	-	-56	-3	-	-3	-59
Other changes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Consolidated net profit	-	-	-	-	-	13,120	13,120	-	-4	-4	13,116
Change in the year	1,150	25,995	-	7,740	-56	1,718	36,547	-3	-4	-7	36,540
Position at 31/12/2020	9,221	45,490	490	72,061	-297	13,120	140,086	-28	58	30	140,116

Consolidated cash flow statement

	in EUR thousand	2020
pera	activities	
	Result for the period	13,120
+/-	Depreciation/reversals of fixed assets	1,649
+/-	Increase/decrease in reserves	-9,758
-/+	Increase/decrease in inventories	15,773
-/+	Increase/decrease in trade accounts receivable and other assets which are not classified as investment or financing activities which are not classified as investment or financing activities	10,585
+/-	Increase/decrease in trade accounts payable and other liabilities which are not classified as investment or financing activities	2,054
-/+	Profit/loss from disposal of fixed assets	-44
+	Interest expense	2,216
-	Interest income	-718
-	Other income from investments	-43
+/-	Income tax expenditures/receipts	6,919
-/+	Income tax payments	720
=	Cash flow from operating activities	42,473
Invest	tment activities	
+	Proceeds from the disposal of property, plant and equipment items	7
-	Expenditure for investments in property, plant and equipment	-1,774
-	Expenditure for investments in intangible assets	-173
+	Proceeds from the disposal of financial assets	2,256
-	Expenditure for investments in financial assets	-4,288
+	Interest received	338
+	Dividends received	43
=	Cash flow from investment activities	-3,591
Finan	cing activities	
+	Proceeds from equity injections (capital increases, sale of treasury shares, etc.)	27,145
-	Payments to company owners and minority shareholders (dividends, acquisition of treasury shares, equity repayments, other distributions)	-3,558
+	Proceeds from the issue of bonds and (financing) loans raised	22,000
-	Proceeds from the repayment of bonds and (financing) loans	-38,575
-	Interest paid	-2,573
=	Cash flow from financing activities	4,438
=	Net change in cash and cash equivalents	43,320
	Currency, consolidated companies, and valuation-related changes in cash and cash equivalents	-170
Cash a	and cash equivalents	
	at start of the period	9,648
	at end of the period	52,798

Notes to the consolidated financial statements

I. General information

The consolidated financial statements for ABO Wind AG, Wiesbaden (registered at Wiesbaden District Court, HRB 12024), are prepared in accordance with the accounting regulations for corporations set out in the German Commercial Code (HGB) taking into account the German Stock Corporation Act (AktG).

The profit and loss statement is prepared in accordance with the total cost method pursuant to Section 275(2) HGB.

The group's financial year corresponds to the calendar year.

ABO Wind AG, as the parent company, is obliged to prepare consolidated financial statements under the provisions of Sections 290 et seq. HGB.

The accounting follows the principle of consistency in accordance with Section 246(3) HGB and Section 252(1)(6) HGB.

In the interest of better clarity and meaning, the notes to be attached to the items in the balance sheet and profit and loss statement in accordance with the statutory provisions, and the notes that are to be attached either in the balance sheet or profit and loss statement, or in the notes to the financial statements, are included in the notes to the financial statements wherever possible.

II. Consolidated companies

In addition to the parent company ABO Wind AG, the consolidated financial statements include 16 subsidiaries (previous year: 15) over which ABO Wind AG can exercise a controlling influence, directly or indirectly, as defined by Section 290 HGB.

The following companies were fully included in the consolidated financial statements in the reporting year:

Company	Share in capital
ABO Wind Betriebs GmbH, Wiesbaden, Germany	100%
ABO Wind Biogas GmbH, Heidesheim, Germany	100%
ABO Wind Energias Renovables S.A., Buenos Aires, Argentina	94%
ABO Wind España S.A.U., Valencia, Spain	100%
ABO Wind Ireland Ltd., Dublin, Ireland	100%
ABO Wind Mezzanine GmbH & Co. KG, Wiesbaden, Germany	100%
ABO Wind Mezzanine II GmbH & Co. KG, Wiesbaden, Germany	100%
ABO Wind N.I. Limited, Belfast, Great Britain	100%
ABO Wind Oy, Helsinki, Finland	100%
ABO Wind SARL, Toulouse, France	100%
ABO Wind Service GmbH, Heidesheim, Germany	100%
ABO Wind UK Ltd., Bellshill, Great Britain	100%
ABO Wind Hellas Energy S.A., Athens, Greece	99%
ABO Wind Hungary Kft, Budapest, Hungary	100%
ABO Wind Polska z.o.o, Wroclaw, Poland	100%
ABO Wind Carthage SARL, Ariana, Tunisia	99%

The companies ABO Wind Polska Sp. z. o. o. and ABO Wind Carthage SARL were **fully consolidated for the first time.**

The company ABO Wind Biogas-Mezzanine GmbH & CO. KG was **deconsolidated.**

Shares of subsidiaries that are held solely for the purpose of their resale (Section 296(1)(3) HGB), and those subsidiaries of minor significance, even as a whole, for the presentation of a true and fair view of the asset, financial and earnings position (Section 296(2) HGB) have **not been included in the consolidated companies.**

The separate financial statements for ABO Wind UK Ltd were not subjected to statutory auditing in compliance with the local regulations (Companies and Limited Liability Partnerships Regulations 2012, section 479C).

III. Consolidation principles

General information

The financial statements included in the consolidation are prepared using uniform accounting and valuation methods. Financial statements in foreign currencies are converted using the modified closing rate method.

Capital consolidation

Capital consolidation for the companies already fully consolidated in previous years continues to be carried out in accordance with Art. 66(3) sentence 4 of the Introductory Act to the German Commercial Code (EGHGB) using the book value method by offsetting the acquisition costs of the participation against the (proportional) equity capital of the subsidiary.

The revaluation method applies to companies newly included in the consolidated companies. In the process, the acquisition costs of the shares in subsidiaries are offset against the equity capital attributable to them, valued at the current market value at the time of the initial consolidation. Active differences resulting from capital consolidation are generally capitalized as goodwill after taking into account hidden reserves and charges and deferred taxes thereon. There are no such netting differences for the ABO Wind group.

Debt consolidation

Within the framework of debt consolidation, all receivables and liabilities that exist between the companies included in the consolidated financial statements have been offset in accordance with Section 303(1) HGB.

Expense and revenue consolidation

For expense and revenue consolidation pursuant to Section 305(1) HGB, income from supplies and services, and other income between consolidated companies, has been included in the consolidated financial statements along with the corresponding expenses. The same applies to other interest and similar income that has been offset against corresponding expenses.

Elimination of interim results

In accordance with section 304(1) HGB, interim results from the intra-group acquisition of assets have been eliminated.

1. Accounting and valuation of asset items

Intangible assets acquired from third parties are capitalised at cost and are amortized on a straight-line basis over their expected useful life pro rata temporis in the year of purchase. Computer programs acquired for valuable consideration are amortized over an average useful life of three years. Computer programs with a purchase price of less than EUR 800 are an exception. These are fully recorded as expenditure straight away. Where the fair values of individual intangible assets are below their carrying amount, unscheduled depreciation is effected if the reduction in value is likely to be permanent.

Tangible fixed assets are valued at the acquisition or production costs less scheduled straight-line depreciation. Depreciation on additions to property, plant and equipment is always pro rata temporis. The straight-line depreciation period is 3 to 15 years. Where the fair values of individual assets are below their carrying amount, unscheduled depreciation is effected if the reduction in value is likely to be permanent.

With regard to recording **low-value assets** in the balance sheet, the tax provision in Section 6(2) of the German Income Tax Act (EStG) is applied in commercial law. Acquisition or production costs of movable, depreciable fixed assets which can be used independently are recorded in full as operating expenses in the accounting year of their acquisition, production or contribution if the acquisition or production costs, less an input tax amount included therein, do not exceed EUR 800 for the individual asset.

In **financial assets**, shares in affiliated companies and equity interests are valued at acquisition cost. Where the fair values of individual financial assets fall below their book value, unscheduled **depreciation** is also effected if the reduction in value is likely to be permanent.

Loans are always recorded in the balance sheet at nominal value.

Work in progress is valued at production cost. The production costs include the components that must be capitalised in accordance with Section 255(2) HGB. In addition, a reasonable proportion of the administrative costs and a reasonable expenditure for the company's social facilities and for voluntary social security contributions are included in the production costs if incurred during the production period. Interest on borrowed capital has also been capitalized in accordance with Section 255(3) HGB where it relates to the production of assets and the production period. All valuations have been assessed without loss, in other words, where the estimated selling price, less any necessary selling costs, results in a lower fair value, corresponding write-downs have been applied.

Payments on account are stated at nominal value.

Down payments received are stated at nominal value and are openly deducted from the inventories in accordance with Section 268(5) HGB and shown net of any value added tax included therein (so-called net method).

Receivables and other assets are stated at nominal value or at the lower fair value applicable on the balance sheet date. Appropriate write-downs are made for receivables where collection of the same involves recognisable risks. Bad debts are written off.

The **securities** held as current assets are stated at acquisition cost or at the lower fair value.

The **liquid assets** are stated at the nominal value at the balance sheet date.

Payments **before the balance sheet date** are stated as prepaid expenses where they represent expenditure for a specific period after that date.

2. Accounting and valuation of liability items

The **subscribed capital** is recorded in the balance sheet at nominal value. The legal reserve has been formed in accordance with Section 150 AktG.

The group shows profit **participation rights** granted by exercising the option set out in Section 265(5) HGB as separate items between equity and debt. They are presented at nominal value.

The **provisions** have been stated at the settlement amount required in accordance with a prudent commercial assessment. Provisions with a remaining term of over one year are discounted using the average market interest rate of the past seven financial years for the remaining term.

Liabilities are stated at their settlement amount.

Foreign currency translation

Transactions in foreign currencies are always recorded using the exchange rate at the time of the transaction. Receivables or liabilities from such transactions which are outstanding on the balance sheet date are valued as follows:

Short-term foreign currency receivables (remaining term of one year or less) and liquid assets or other short-term foreign currency assets are translated at the average spot exchange rate on the balance sheet date. Short-term foreign currency liabilities (remaining term of one year or less) are translated at the average spot exchange rate on the balance sheet date.

The following applies to subsidiaries included in the consolidated financial statements that use a different currency to the group:

Assets and liabilities are translated using the average spot exchange rate on the balance sheet date, **expenses** and **income** at the average exchange rate, and equity capital at the historic exchange rate. Any resulting currency difference from the translation is recorded in equity capital under the "Difference in equity capital due to currency translation" item.

Deferred taxes

Deferred taxes are included in differences in the balance sheet items from the commercial balance sheet and the tax balance sheet, where these are expected to be offset in subsequent financial years. Deferred taxes are also shown under losses carried forward and consolidation measures.

The expense and income from the change in the deferred taxes recorded on the balance sheet is shown in the profit and loss statement under the "Taxes on income and profit" item and explained separately in the notes.

The valuation of deferred taxes is based on the individual tax rate expected to apply at the time the differences are reduced for the group company in which the differences are likely to be reduced.

V. Information about the balance sheet

Unless otherwise stated, the previous year's figures on the balance sheet relate to 31 December 2019.

Fixed assets

Changes to individual fixed asset items are shown in the schedule of fixed assets along with the depreciation for the year. The schedule of fixed assets is appended to the notes.

The shares in affiliated companies and equity interests (shareholdings), in other words, businesses in which the company holds at least 20% of the shares, directly or indirectly, shown under financial assets are listed in the list of shareholdings which is appended to the notes.

Receivables and other assets

Information about receivables and other assets can be found in the following analysis of receivables:

As at 31/12/2020 in EUR thous (previous year)	Remaini	ng term	
		< 1 year	>1 years
Trade accounts receivable	34,020	34,020	0
(Previous year)	(20,678)	(20,678)	(0)
Receivables from affiliated companies	62,379	59,326	3,053
(Previous year)	(87,114)	(87,114)	(0)
Receivables from companies in which the company has a participating interest	0	0	0
(Previous year)	(106)	(106)	(0)
Other assets	11,977	11,790	187
(Previous year)	(15,181)	(15,014)	(167)
Total	108,376	105,136	3,240
(Previous year)	(123,079)	(122,912)	(167)

The receivables from affiliated companies are primarily the result of trade accounts payable.

Deferred tax assets

The "Deferred tax assets" items shown separately in the balance sheet are the result of interim profits and tax losses carried forward.

The deferred tax assets and liabilities are valued using the following company-specific tax rates:

- Argentina 35%
- Spain 25%
- Ireland 12.5%
- UK 19%
- France 33%
- Finland 20%
- Greece 10%
- Hungary 9%
- Poland 19%
- Northern Ireland 19%

Equity capital

The ABO Wind AG subscribed capital was increased in the financial year through the issue of new shares by 1,150,000 to 9,220,893 no-par-value shares (previous year: 8,070,893 no-par-value shares) with a par value of EUR 1/share. The capital increases were properly recorded in the commercial register. The premium resulting from the capital increases of EUR 26.0 million was allocated to the capital reserve.

The company's share capital increased by up to EUR 574,807 through the issue of up to 574,807 new bearer shares (2017 conditional capital). The conditional capital increase is to grant shares to the owners of convertible bonds or bonds with warrants issued on the basis of the authorisation from the general meeting of 20 December 2017 by the company up to 19 December 2022.

The Managing Board is authorised to increase the share capital one or more times before 21.08.2024 with the consent of the Supervisory Board by up to EUR 2.9 million in return for cash contributions or contributions in kind. In so doing, shareholders' subscription rights may be excluded (authorised capital 2019/1).

The Managing Board is authorised to increase the share capital one or more times before 19.08.2025 with the consent of the Supervisory Board by up to EUR 0.3 million in return for cash contributions or contributions in kind. In so doing, shareholders' subscription rights may be excluded (authorised capital 2020/1).

Mezzanine capital

At the balance sheet date, participation certificates totalling EUR 12.6 million had been issued (previous year EUR 14.4 million). Each of the participation certificates issued represents a par value of EUR 1. Of the total sum, EUR 7.4 million (previous year EUR 7.4 million) is attributable to ABO Wind Mezzanine GmbH & Co. KG, EUR 5.2 million (previous year EUR 5.2 million) to ABO Wind Mezzanine II GmbH & Co. KG and EUR 0 thousand (previous year EUR 1.7 million) to ABO Wind Biogas-Mezzanine GmbH & Co. KG. The participation certificate bearers are entitled to annual interest.

Provisions

The tax provisions are structured as follows:

Tax provisions	31/12/2020	31/12/2019
	in EUR thousand	in EUR
		thousand
Provision for corporation	4,618	1,080
tax		
Provision for trade tax	1,336	53
Total	5,954	1,133

The other provisions are subdivided as follows:

Other provisions	31/12/2020 in EUR thousand	31/12/2019 in EUR thousand
Provision for outstanding invoices	5,840	12,498
Provision for misc. project risks	248	590
Provision for audit and other review costs	134	149
Provision for warranties	245	220
Provision for archiving costs	25	25
Provision for compensatory measures	2,488	2,432
Other provisions	4,700	7,525
Total	13,680	23,439

Liabilities

The statement of liabilities below shows the liabilities and their remaining terms:

	31/12/2020	Remaini	ng term
	Total in EUR thousand	< 1 year	1 to 5 years
Debenture loans	0	0	0
(Previous year)	(5,138)	(5,138)	(0)
Bank loans and overdrafts	60,256	8,594	51,662
(Previous year)	(69,711)	(14,224)	(55,487)
Trade accounts payable	7,081	7,081	0
(Previous year)	(10,380)	(10,380)	(0)
Liabilities to affiliated companies	2,359	2,165	194
(Previous year)	(2,076)	(2,076)	(0)
Liabilities to companies in which the company has a participating interest	0	0	0
(Previous year)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Other liabilities	7,225	7,225	0
(Previous year)	(12,755)	(12,755)	(0)
- of which taxes	5,417	5,417	0
(Previous year)	(9,739)	(9,739)	(0)
- of which relating to social security	409	409	0
(Previous year)	(328)	(328)	(0)
Total	76,921	25,065	51,856
(Previous year)	(100,060)	(44,573)	(55,487)

The **liabilities to affiliated companies** primarily include those from trade accounts payable.

VI. Information about the profit and loss statement

Sales revenues

The following breakdown shows sales revenues by area of activity:

	2020		2019	
	EUR thousand	%	EUR thousand	%
Planning and sale of rights	47,776	32.0	86,051	68.1
Construction	90,059	60.4	29,569	23.4
Services	11,320	7.6	10,653	8.4
	149,155	100.0	126,273	100.0

The image below shows the breakdown by geographical market:

	20	20	20	19
	EUR	%	EUR	%
	thousand		thousand	
Germany	52,411	35.1	52,960	41.9
France	35,945	24.1	36,242	28.7
Greece	22,263	14.9	4,246	3.4
Spain	13,577	9.1	14,234	11.3
Ireland	11,917	8.0	44	0.0
Finland	5,821	3.9	9,632	7.6
Hungary	3,835	2.6	5,201	4.1
Poland	1,900	1.3	-	0.0
Argentina	660	0.4	19	0.0
UK	561	0.4	3,108	2.5
Tunisia	265	0.2	587	0.5
	149,155	100.0	126,273	100.0

Other operating income

Other operating income includes income not relating to the current period of EUR 3.5 million which is predominantly the result of releasing provisions, reimbursement of the grid connection fee for a British project and the reimbursement of a payment from a legal dispute in connection with a French project. Income of EUR 0.4 million was also accrued from foreign currency translation.

Depreciation

The depreciation includes unscheduled depreciation on unfeasible projects of EUR 10.7 million (previous year EUR 6.4 million).

Other operating expenses

The other operating expenses include expenses not relating to the current period of EUR 1.6 million which is predominantly the result of bad debts. Expenses from currency translation of EUR 0.7 million are also recorded.

Taxes on income and profit

The taxes on income and profit include income from deferred taxes of EUR 0.3 million (previous year EUR 0.3 million) and expenses from deferred taxes of EUR 0.4 million (previous year EUR 0.2 million).

Contingent liabilities

ABO Wind AG issued a maximum payment guarantee in respect of Eurowind AG participation certificate holders for interest and repayment claims of up to EUR 125.00 in each instance. This guarantee for a total of EUR 1.3 million forms the basis of a direct claim by the participation certificate holder against the guarantor which can be asserted if Eurowind AG is in arrears with its payments by at least 60 days. The interest on participation certificates for 2020 has been distributed in January 2021.

By way of security for payment claims under the contracts to supply, install and commission wind turbines for various projects, ABO Wind AG has also issued suretyship guarantees to suppliers for EUR 112.7 million.

ABO Wind AG has also issued a statement of commitment in favour of a Canadian cooperative company in connection with the funding of a joint solar farm. The payment guarantee is limited to a maximum sum of EUR 7.0 million.

No reserves have been formed for the specified contingent liabilities, estimated at nominal values, because their use and any negative impact on the group is not expected.

Other financial liabilities and off-balance sheet transactions

The group also has liabilities from fixed-term rental and lease agreements of EUR 8.5 million (previous year: EUR 9.2 million). These liabilities are predominantly incurred as a result of premises rental and vehicle leasing.

Hedge accounting

To hedge currency risks for purchase contracts concluded in US dollars (USD), forward exchange transactions are concluded in the amount of the actual purchase volume for purchases already contracted. The currency hedges are micro-hedges since an underlying transaction is instantly hedged in each instance with an individual hedging instrument.

For the hedged risk, the respective reverse value adjustments for the underlying transaction and hedging transaction largely cancel each other out over the term of the hedge since they are exposed to the same risk which is affected by identical factors in the same way. The effectiveness of the hedge accounting is determined prospectively by comparing the key data for the items included (Critical Terms Match).

The intention is always to hold the hedging transactions to maturity. The net hedge presentation method is used.

The hedge accounting position as at 31 December 2020 is as follows:

Underly-	Amount	Hedgedrisk	Amount	Hedging	Hedge	Effecti	veness
ing transac- tion	in EUR thousand		in EUR thou- sand	instrument	accounting method	Scope	Period
USD order book	8,826	Risk of value changes (exchange rate differences)	-282	USD Forward purchase agreements	Micro-hedge	almost 100%	< 1 year

The forward currency purchases completed were concluded to hedge against the EUR/USD exchange rate risk from pending purchase transactions. On 31 December 2020, the hedged risk amounted to EUR -0.3 million.

Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement shows changes in cash and cash equivalents in detail. The cash and cash equivalents as at the balance sheet date corresponds to the "Cash on hand and bank balances" balance sheet item.

In the 2020 financial year, shares in operating companies in the form of securities held as assets were sold for EUR 0.7 million. The cash inflows resulting from this process have been attributed to cash flow from operating activities due to these companies being from similar industries.

Total auditor's fees

The parent company's single-entity and consolidated financial statements as at 31 December 2020 have been audited by Rödl & Partner GmbH, Cologne, Germany. The total fee for audit services is EUR 99 thousand (previous year EUR 77 thousand), EUR 113 thousand (previous year EUR 59 thousand) for tax advisory services, and EUR 6 thousand (previous year EUR 61 thousand) for other services.

Employees

In the 2020 financial year, an average of 772 salaried employees (previous year 676) were employed. This figure is broken down by group as follows:

Employee groups	31/12/2020	31/12/2019
Executive salaried employees	17	17
Full-time employees	540	463
Part-time employees	215	196
Total	772	676

Managing Board Member

The following people were on the Managing Board in the year under review:

- Dr. Jochen Ahn, chemistry graduate, Wiesbaden, responsible for project acquisition and management
- Dipl. Ing. Matthias Bockholt, graduate electrical engineer, Heidesheim, responsible for technology and operational management
- Andreas Höllinger, business graduate from Lyon ESC, Frankfurt am Main, Chair of the Managing Board, responsible for financing and sales
- Dr. Karsten Schlageter, industrial engineering graduate, Taunusstein, responsible for international business development

For further information on the Managing Board's remuneration, see the remuneration report in the management report.

Supervisory Board

Members of the Supervisory Board in the 2020 financial year were: Chair

Lawyer Jörg Lukowsky, tax law and employment law specialist, employed at law partnership FUHRMANN WALLENFELS in Wiesbaden

Other members

- Prof. Dr. Uwe Leprich, Professor of Energy Economics at Saarland Business Technical College of Higher Education in Saarbrücken
- Norbert Breidenbach, managing board member of Mainova AG, Frankfurt
- Eveline Lemke, Managing Director of Eveline Lemke Consulting, Volksfeld
- Maike Schmidt, scientist, Head of Systems Analysis at the Centre for Solar Energy and Hydrogen Research, Stuttgart

The remuneration for members of the Supervisory Board was EUR 91 thousand (Previous year EUR 91 thousand).

Managing Board's proposal for the appropriation of net profit

The Managing Board recommends transferring the parent company's net profit for the financial year, amounting to EUR 14.3 million, to retained earnings.

VIII. Supplementary report

No incidents of major significance for ABO Wind AG to its business operations or its asset and financial and earnings position have occurred after 31 December 2020 and could result in a different assessment of the company's position.

Wiesbaden, 15 February 2021

Andreas Holling

Andreas Höllinger Chair of the Managing Board

Joe the

Dr. Jochen Ahn Managing

h. Boch

Matthias Bockholt Managing Board

N. Schlart

Dr. Karsten Schlageter Managing Board

	Values in EUR thousand	Acquisition costs	on costs						Depreciation	tion					Book values	ues
		01/01/ 2020	Cons. comp.	Currency effect	Incom- ing	Outgo- ing	Re- alloca- tions	Position at 31/12/ 2020	01/01/ 2020	Cons. comp.	Currency effect	Incom- ing	Outgo- ing	Position at 31/12/ 2020	31/12/ 2020	31/12/ 2019
<u>_</u> .	Intangible assets															
	Intangible assets as concessions, patents, licences, trade marks and similar rights and assets acquired from third parties	2,408	I	Ļ	151	-17	503	3,045	1,799	I	-15	369	-17	2,136	606	609
5.	Payments on account	689	1	I	22	I	-503	207	I	1	1	I	1	1	207	689
	Intangible assets total	3,097	•	Ļ	173	-17	•	3,252	1,799	I	-15	369	-17	2,136	1,116	1,298
=	Tangible fixed assets															
	Land and leasehold rights and buildings, incl. buildings on third-party land	330		I	I	-2	1	328	2	1	I	I	1	7	321	322
5	Plant and machinery	471	ı	I	267	I	I	738	76	I	I	48	I	124	614	395
m.	Fixtures, fittings, tools and equipment	12,660	40	66-	1,406	-473	118	13,652	8,288	7	-55	1,232	-437	9,035	4,617	4,372
4	Payments on account and assets in process of construction	118	ı	1	101	I	-118	101	I	I	I	I	1	I	101	118
	Tangible fixed assets total	13,579	40	66-	1,774	-474	1	14,819	8,372	7	-55	1,280	-437	9,167	5,653	5,207
Ξ	Financial assets															
	Shares in affiliated companies	367		1	23	I	1	390	15	I	1	1	1	15	375	353
5	Loans to affiliated companies	2,828		I	4,266	-2,000	I	5,094	828	1	I	I	I	828	4,266	2,000
m.	Investments	1,092		1	I	-125		996	506	•	I	I	ı	506	460	585
4	Loans to companies in which the company has a participating interest	688	ı	I	I	-57	I	631	I	I	I	I	I	I	631	688
	Financial assets total	4,975	1	•	4,289	-2,182	•	7,081	1,349	•	I	•	•	1,349	5,732	3,626
Fixe	Lived scete total															

Statement of changes in fixed assets

Material shareholdings

As at 31/12/2020	Share in %	Equity capital	in thousands	Net profit for thousands	the year in
Germany					
ABO Wind Biomasse GmbH	100	EUR	61*	EUR	1*
B&F WP GmbH	24	EUR	45*	EUR	4*
ABO Wind Hellas Verwaltungs GmbH	100	EUR	24*	EUR	-1*
ABO Wind Verwaltungs GmbH, Wiesbaden	100	EUR	178*	EUR	3*
ABO Wind Sachverständigen GmbH, Heidesheim	100	EUR	127*	EUR	25*
ABO Wind Solutions GmbH, Wiesbaden	100	EUR	-20*	EUR	-41*
ABO Pionier AG, Wiesbaden	100	EUR	35*	EUR	31*
United Battery Management GmbH, Berlin	70	EUR	37*	EUR	9*
ABO Wind WP Adorf GmbH & Co. KG	77	EUR	55*	EUR	786*
Kabeltrasse Schwanfelder Höhe GbR	38	EUR	966***	EUR	-53***
Kabeltrasse Wächtersbach GbR	25	EUR	375****	EUR	0****
ABO Wind UW Uckley GmbH & Co. KG	23	EUR	2,172*	EUR	-130*
ABO Wind WP Berglicht GmbH & Co. KG	67	EUR	1,771*	EUR	415*
ABO Wind WP Marpingen GmbH & Co. KG	93	EUR	1,675*	EUR	149*
Windpark Alzey-Land GmbH & Co. KG	100	EUR	227*	EUR	26*
Verwaltungsgesellschaft WP Hocheifel II GmbH	100	EUR	24*	EUR	1*
Finland					
ABO Wind Service Oy, Helsinki	100	EUR	1*	EUR	0*
Ireland					
ABO OMS Ltd., Dublin	100	EUR	19*	EUR	49*
Cloghervaddy WF Ltd, Dublin	100	EUR	-2*	EUR	-1*
Canada					
ABO Wind Canada Ltd., Calgary	100	CAD	-2*	CAD	11*
Prairie Windfields Corp.	80	CAD	-131*	CAD	-32*
Prairie Sky Solar Inc.	80	CAD	-8*	CAD	-5*

As at 31/12/2020	Share in %	Equity capital i	in thousands	Net profit for t thousands	he year in
Greece					
Energiaki Thessalias S.A.	99	EUR	-2,752*	EUR	-2,688*
Farma energiaki S.A.	99	EUR	-68*	EUR	-34*
Ekmetalleusi Akiniton Megala Kalivia Single Member S.A. (MK country)	100	EUR	25	EUR	n/a
Iran					
ABO Wind Iranian Ltd.	95	EUR	-847*	EUR	-275*
Colombia					
ABO Wind Colombia S.A.S., Bogota	100	СОР	42,710*	СОР	44,832*
South Africa					
ABO Wind Renewable Energies Ltd., Cape Town	100	ZAR	1,430*	ZAR	878*
Tunisia					
ABO Wind Tunisie SARL, Ariana	99	TND	156*	TND	155*
Tanzania					
ABO Wind Tanzania Ltd., Dar es Salaam	99	TZS	40.000 **	TZS	0 **
Poland					
Alpine Pro 1 SP. Zo.o. (Donaborow),Wroclaw	100	PLN	-148*	PLN	-7*
Alpine Pro 3 SP. Zo.o. (Kepno), Wroclaw	100	PLN	1,009*	PLN	-166*

Holding					
ABO Kraft & Wärme AG, Wiesbaden	14	EUR	11,302*	EUR	85*

*Financial year 2019, **Financial year 2018, ***Financial year 2016, ****Financial year 2014

ABO Wind AG balance sheet

Assets

	As at 31/12 / in EUR thousand	2020	2019
Α.	Fixed assets	11,878	8,083
١.	Intangible assets	999	1,175
1.	Intangible assets as concessions, patents, licences, trade marks and similar rights and assets acquired from third parties	814	487
2.	Payments on account	185	689
١١.	Tangible fixed assets	2,930	2,773
1.	Land and leasehold rights and buildings, including buildings on third-party land	321	322
2.	Fixtures, fittings, tools and equipment	2,508	2,450
3.	Payments on account and assets in process of construction	101	0
III.	Financial assets	7,949	4,135
1.	Shares in affiliated companies	2,592	861
2.	Loans to affiliated companies	4,266	2,000
3.	Investments	460	585
4.	Loans to companies in which the company has a participating interest	631	688
В.	Current assets	222,925	209,261
I.	Inventories	69,654	73,712
1.	Work in progress	104,287	80,404
2.	Payments on account	4,749	3,497
3.	Down payments received	-39,382	-10,188
II.	Receivables and other assets	97,278	117,009
1.	Trade accounts receivable	26,652	13,897
2.	Receivables from affiliated companies	60,337	91,718
3.	Receivables from companies in which the company has a participating interest	0	106
4.	Other assets - of which with a remaining term of over one year 187 (previous year: 167)	10,289	11,288
III.	Securities	7,608	14,759
1.	Shares in affiliated companies	4,237	10,812
2.	Other investments	3,371	3,947
IV.	Cash on hand, Bundesbank balance, cash at bank and cheques	48,385	3,780
C.	Deferred income	330	169
	Balance sheet total	235,133	217,512

Liabilities

	As at 31/12 / in EUR thousand	2020	2019
A.	Equity capital	133,718	95,792
<u>م.</u> ا.	Subscribed capital		
		9,221	8,071
II.	Capital reserve	45,490	19,495
III.	Revenue reserves	64,668	52,463
1.	Legal reserve	490	490
2.	Other revenue reserves	64,179	51,973
IV.	Net earnings	14,339	15,763
В.	Provisions	12,111	18,282
1.	Tax provisions	3,954	66
2.	Other provisions	8,157	18,216
C.	Liabilities	89,303	103,437
1.	Bonds - of which with a remaining term of up to one year 0 (previous year: 5,138)	0	5,138
2.	Bank loans and overdrafts - of which with a remaining term of up to one year 2,125 (previous year: 16,196)	54,256	67,683
3.	Trade accounts payable - of which with a remaining term of up to one year 2,468 (previous year: 2,470)	2,468	2,470
4.	Liabilities to affiliated companies - of which with a remaining term of up to one year 30,320 (previous year: 22,373)	30,320	22,373
5.	Other liabilities - of which to shareholders 26 (previous year: 23) - of which tax 1,701 (previous year 4,545) - of which with a remaining term of up to one year 2,259 (previous year: 5,773)	2,259	5,773
D.	Deferred income	1	1
	Balance sheet total	235,133	217,512

ABO Wind AG profit and loss statement

rom 1,	/1. to 31/12 / in EUR thousand	2020	2019
1.	Sales revenues	88,631	102,968
2.	Increase in inventory of finished products and work in progress	32,761	11,332
3.	Other capitalised assets	0	233
4.	Total turnover and operating revenue	121,392	114,533
5.	Other operating income	4,275	2,001
6.	Cost of materials	-58,403	-59,922
a)	Cost of auxiliary and operating materials and goods purchased	-76	-111
b)	Cost of purchased services	-58,327	-59,811
7.	Personnel expenses	-36,821	-31,937
a)	Salaries and wages	-31,633	-27,483
b)	Social security and other pension costs	-5,188	-4,454
8.	Depreciation	-11,180	-7,311
a)	of intangible fixed assets and tangible assets	-1,090	-874
b)	of fixed current assets, where these exceed the usual depreciation in the company	-10,090	-6,437
9.	Other operating expenses	-10,025	-10,051
10.	Income from equity interests in affiliated companies - of which from affiliated companies: 8,627 (previous year: 12,563)	8,627	12,577
11.	Other interest and similar income - of which from affiliated companies: 1,092 (previous year: 384)	1,135	385
12.	Depreciation of financial assets and securities held as current assets	-300	0
13.	Interest and similar expenses - of which to affiliated companies: 90 (previous year: 502)	-1,511	-1,429
14.	Taxes on income and profit	-2,810	-3,051
15.	Earnings after tax	14,378	15,795
16.	Other taxes	-39	-31
17.	Net profit	14,339	15,763
18.	Allocation to revenue reserves	0	0
19.	Net earnings	14,339	15,763

Any discrepancies are due to rounding differences.

