

SEAS-ERA funded projects Database

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Summary

SEAS-ERA has launched a new common search tool, developed by EurOcean, aiming at facilitating the access to valuable information related to marine research activities and technological development, in cooperation with the previous initiatives MariFish, MarinERA and Ampera. This common search tool on National and European Funded Projects performs a search on the four InfoBases powered by EurOcean and will include information on the projects funded through SEAS-ERA calls.

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1. Background

SEAS-ERA overall objective is to facilitate the establishment of a stable and durable structure for strengthening marine research across the European Sea Basins. To do so the project brings together 21 major European Marine Research Funding Organisations from 19 countries in the basin regions of the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

SEAS-ERA aims to:

- Contribute to setting up of a European Marine and Maritime Research Agenda and develop a stable European overarching operational structure for its implementation;
- Enhance cooperation between Member States and avoid fragmentation by fostering synergies at regional and European levels towards achievement of Joint Programming;
- Propose a plan for a better and sustainable use of Marine Research Infrastructures;
- Improve science development and its utilization in Europe through human capacity building;
- Enhance public awareness of marine and maritime scientific and policy issues in Europe.

2. Main specifications of the funded projects data base

SEAS-ERA has launched a new common search tool, developed by EurOcean, in order to facilitate the access to valuable information related to marine research activities and technological development, in cooperation with the previous initiatives MariFish, MarinERA and Ampera. This common search tool on National and European Funded Projects performs a search on the four InfoBases powered by EurOcean and will include information on the projects funded through SEAS-ERA calls.

The data base is built in an Internet Integrating System, which is an application allowing the search of European and National Marine funded projects by performing a simultaneous search on four different databases hosted in EurOcean's server, namely:

- **MarinERA BASE:** This database comprises the Marine Science and Technology projects, competitively funded by the individual MarinERA (FP6) partners in 13 European countries.
- **MariFish BASE:** This database comprises the marine fisheries research projects funded or co-funded by the 15 MariFish partner countries.
- **AMPERA BASE:** This database comprises the R&D programs accomplished or launched by eight AMPERA ERA-net partner countries from 1990 to 2009. The databank was originally composed on the basis of the results of a special questionnaire fulfilled in 2006 by all AMPERA partners and upgraded latest in 2009.
- **EurOcean_KG:** This database comprises a list as complete as possible, of the Marine Science and Technology Projects funded by the different European mechanisms related to either the European Union or other supporting marine research organizations.

It will also incorporate the projects funded through research calls launched during the SEAS-ERA project.

This tool, located in the SEAS-ERA website (<http://www.seas-era.eu/np4/31/>), allows the search by free text search (that seeks out words in the title and in the project summary of all the four databases) and Country. After performing the search the user will have access to a list of projects that matches the criteria for each database, the user will then be able to choose a specific project that will lead him to the correspondent database.

However, the first three data bases are not updated by EurOceans, being the responsibility of the consortiums. As these Era-nets have already finished, the national funding agencies will be invited to take care of the updating in order to enhance other activities like networking. Hopefully, EurOceans will keep incorporating new data-bases that will make the application relevant.

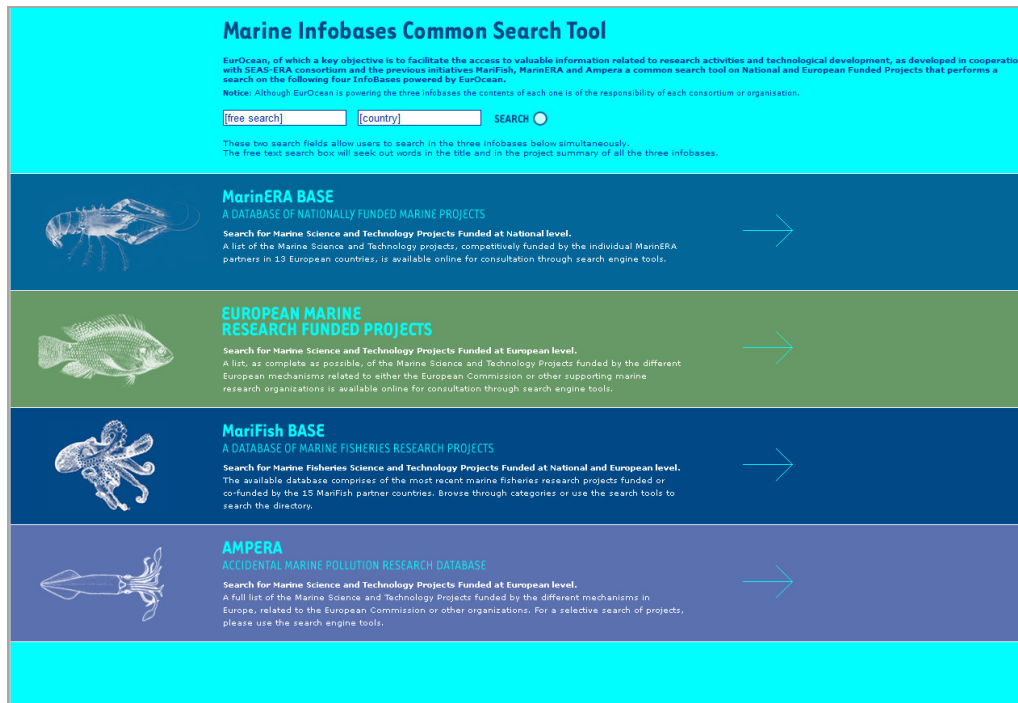


Figure 1 – Common search tool on National and European Marine Funded Projects.

3. Project Schedule

However, this deliverable was only schedule to be released on the months 24 to 48 it was possible to deliver it ahead of time on the month 18. This was made possible due to development and hosting of all the four databases by EurOcean, which eased the technical developments.

The implementation phase started on October 2011 and was planned to last one month, being finished on the end of October 2011; the phases of implementation were as described below:

1. First Demo (Mid October);
2. Trial Period (17-21 October 2011) – To be tested and receive comments by the Coordinator and Work package Leader;
4. Launch of the “Common search tool on National and European Marine Funded Projects” (End of October).