

Towards a Marine Research Plan / Strategic Research Agenda for the European Atlantic Sea Basin

The EU ERA-NET scheme, aims at networking national and regional research funding programmes in order to facilitate the strategic planning and implementation of joint activities, including joint calls for research proposals. ERA-NETS are one of the building blocks of the European Research Area (ERA).

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CONSULTATION 2011/2012

SEAS-ERA Atlantic Network > 1500 copies distributed

2011
Agenda/Plan to identify priority marine research needs:
• to address current and emerging challenges and opportunities of mutual interest; provide a framework for co-operative and co-funded projects.
A pan-European Marine SRA

2012
3 Consultative Workshops
On-line Inputs (35 / 150 comments)
Other Workshops

2013
Mediterranean SRA
Black Sea SRA
IN-PRIP: Towards a Marine Research Plan / Strategic Research Agenda for the European Atlantic Sea Basin

Key Components of a Strategic Research Agenda:

- ✓ Developing a shared vision for the European Atlantic Basin area.
- ✓ Defining the geographical/spatial extent of the European Atlantic Basin.
- ✓ Identifying research priorities and SMART objectives (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound) and
- ✓ Preparing an Implementation Plan setting out a time plan, assessing expected impacts (impact indicators) and defining the best mix of instruments to be used.

Discussion Document – Feed-Back:

- Well received
- Spatial area based on needs not jurisdictions
- Where to put things? – Is it basic, is it applied?
- Marine Biotechnology/Biodiscovery: in Bio-Resources / in S&T Foresight?
- Need co-operation with the Americas

Science:

- Good representation of wide range of topics
- Gaps: Ecosystem complexity/feed backs & marine geology
- Top-Down / Bottom Up Approach
- Prioritisation - reflects individual sectoral/stakeholder interests and is time bound
- Too many topics

Governance:

- Problem oriented – Solution focussed (a sign of the "economic" times)
- Needs better end-user involvement

Joint Funding

- Mechanism for international co-operation (Belmont Forum) already exists
- Role of other marine ERA-NETS / JPI OCEANS

Implementation

- No Implementation Plan / Not an SRA

Some comments received

"Without applications, science is just curiosity"

The draft Plan identifies a very large number of priorities. A drastic scrutiny and reduction of the key priorities would be highly desirable during the course of consultations with the stakeholders.

It is essential to recognise the existence of fundamental links between the deep sea and the rest of the Earth system.

A Strategic Research Agenda is not a final document, but an on-going process.

Research must take place collaboratively with MPA managers to help inform them how they can improve and adapt management to ensure that the MPA is fulfilling its requirements and potential.

Seafood mining is coming, and offers a major source of societal benefit. Concerned scientists must participate to: anticipate burdens - design experiments - detect impacts.

The EU and US should organize a Transatlantic Policy Dialogue, and establish an online Transatlantic Platform for data and knowledge sharing on climate change information.

It is wise to draw up a science plan for the Atlantic without the participation of bordering nations – USA, Canada, Greenland?"

... plan needs to reflect the inherent complexity in marine ecosystems and nonlinear interactions and feedbacks within food webs.

The overall approach adopted, has clear benefits, and is complementary to an emerging array of European macro-regional strategies pioneered by the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region in 2009.

Get young people in and use their creativity!

Complexity is not a guarantee of efficiency and applicability. It is preferable to make simple and efficient projects rather than complex and inapplicable ones.

... need to develop multidisciplinary approaches (integration of ecological and socio-economic aspects) at the most appropriate ranges in spatial temporal scales, and to investigate the cumulative effect of multiple stressors (including human impact) on ecological communities.

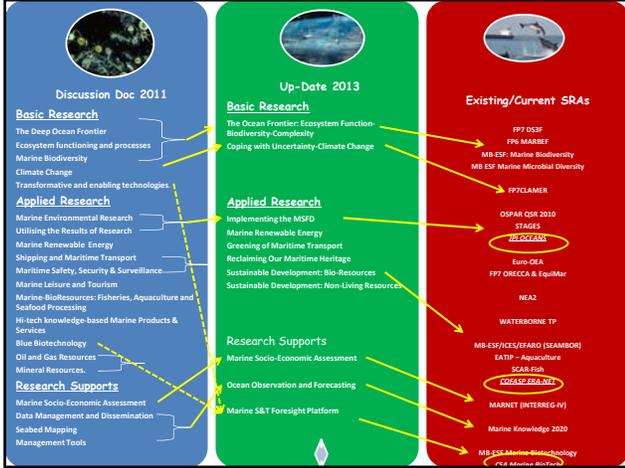
New knowledge is not exclusive to Basic Research, but also delivered to support Applied and Cross Cutting Research.

Seafood mining is coming, and offers a major source of societal benefit. Concerned scientists must participate to: anticipate burdens - design experiments - detect impacts.

If the results of scientific research are to be used, scientists must involve stakeholders/end-users from the earliest point in the planning process.

To grow, European (aquaculture) production must have a level playing field, with smart legislation for access to sites and clear standards for production from third countries, to ensure health and safety for European citizens.

Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is not a replacement for ICM. MSP is a tool that can only be implemented successfully under some form of integrated management framework.



SOME IMPORTANT IMPACTS

- Informed SEAS-ERA Joint Call, May 2012**
 - The economic environment in which the SEAS-ERA project was originally conceived, is not the one we are currently living in!
- Informed Member State Marine Research Plans**
 - Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth (Ireland: 2012)
- Inputs to / Referenced by EUSA Atlantic Action Plan**
- Progressed trans-Atlantic Co-operation**
- We are a Network**
- A research agenda must link science and management and involve stakeholders from the earliest stages such that the solution/methodologies arrived at are within the capabilities of the end-user
- Lisbon Workshop, Apr 2012

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AA, BONUS, 2012

Seas era
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Vision Statement

The European Atlantic Sea Basin Strategic Research Agenda / Marine Research Plan seeks to improve our understanding and protection of the European Atlantic, and its ecosystems, in order to catalyse a dynamic maritime economy, in harmony with the environment, which has sustainable development at its core. This will be achieved through building on existing good practices, science and technology and harnessing new and emerging science, technology and innovation to add value and competitiveness to traditional sectors and create new and dynamic maritime sectors in a spirit of regional partnership and international co-operation.
A shared vision for the European Atlantic Sea Basin (2013)

Thank You
Obrigado
Gracias
Merci
Tak
Takk
Danke
Dank U

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