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INTERREG-IV Programme 2007 - 2013



Irish Marine Projects supported by the EU INTERREG IV Programme. 2007 - 2010



September 2010

**O'Sullivan, G., & S. Twomey,
Marine Institute – International Co-Operation Team**



INTERREG IVB

ABSTRACT:

The EU INTERREG-IV Programme (2007-2013) is an important source of external competitive funding for a range of knowledge-based marine projects promoting regional and cross-border co-operation and development.

During the period 2007-2010, 29 INTERREG-IV projects (including two preparatory actions) with Irish participation were approved for funding. The total value of these projects is circa €75.5m with over €12.3m in grant-aid going to the Irish partners. This directory provides a summary of each of these 29 projects.

Many of these projects in turn contribute to the implementation of research, development and innovation priorities identified in the national *Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation* (SSTI: 2006-2013) and its marine component, the *Sea Change* Strategy (2007-2013).

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Disclaimer: While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the compilation of this Directory, the Marine Institute cannot accept responsibility for errors, omissions or changes in project descriptions. It should be noted that financial figures given are indicative and represent project proposal bids or initial contract details. Final payments on completion of a project are subject to a strict audit of eligible costs and may result in a figure below the level of grant-aid originally offered.

Cover cartoon by *Sci-Art*.



Table of Contents

Introduction	1
---------------------	---

INTERREG Thematic Areas/Programmes

INTERREG IVA

Ireland – Wales Programme

ECOJEL	Managing the Opportunities and Detrimental Impacts of Jellyfish in the Irish Sea	3
CSTP	Celtic Sea Trout Project	4
Rising Tide	The Regeneration of Coastal Communities	5
SUSFISH	Shellfish productivity in the Irish Sea: Working towards a sustainable future	6
SCSC	Smart Coasts= Sustainable Communities	7

Ireland, Northern Ireland and Western Scotland Programme

BioMara	Blue Energy - Sustainable Fuels from Marine Biomass	8
SAIL WEST	Sail West Leisure Project	9

INTERREG IVB

Atlantic Area Programme

ANCORIM	Atlantic Network for Coastal Risk Prevention and Management	10
ARCOPOL	Atlantic Regions' Coastal Pollution, Response and Preparedness	12
ATLANTOX	Advanced tests about new toxins in the Atlantic Area.	14
BIOTECMAR	Biotechnological exploitation of marine products and by-products	15
CAE	Cruise Atlantic Europe	17
EasyCo	Collaborative Atlantic Space Biogeochemical Forecasting System	18
MAREN	Marine Renewable Energy - Energy Extraction and Hydro-environmental aspects	19
NEA2	Nautisme Espace Atlantique II	20
PROPOSSE	Promotion of Short Sea Shipping and Co-Operation with SMEs	22
SEAFARE	Sustainable and Environmentally Friendly Aquaculture for the Atlantic Region of Europe	23

ShareBiotech	Sharing life science infrastructures and skills to benefit the Atlantic area Biotechnology sector	24
KIMERAA	Knowledge transfer to Improve Marine Economy in Regions from the Atlantic Area	25
AARC	Atlantic Aquatic Resource Conservation	26
MESH-Atlantic	Mapping European Seabed Habitats for Better Marine Management	27
NetALGAE	Inter-regional Network to promote sustainability development in the marine ALGAL industry	28

North-West Europe Programme

IMCORE	Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coastal Resource	29
--------	--	----

Northern Periphery Programme

ECOFISH	Environmentally friendly Fish Farming and Use of Cleaner Fish	30
Climate Change Impacts	Climate Change Impacts on Coastal Communities and Habitats (Preparatory Project)	31
MBEO	Marine Based Employment Opportunities (Preparatory Project)	32
WATER	Warning of Algal Toxin Events to support Aquaculture in the NPP Coastal zone Region	33
COASTADAPT	Sustainable Adaptation to Climate Change on Coastal Communities and Habitats on Europe's Northern Periphery	34

INTERREG IVC

Interregional Cooperation Programme

SUSTAIN	Assessing Sustainability and Strengthening Operational Policy	35
---------	---	----

Annexes

1: INTERREG IV Programmes 2007-2013	36
2: Irish Participants in INTERREG IV (2007-2010)	37
3: INTERREG-IV Contact Points	38



Introduction

The EU INTERREG-IV Programme (2007-2013) is an important source of external competitive funding for a range of knowledge-based marine projects promoting regional and cross-border co-operation and development.

The objective of the INTERREG-IV suite of Programmes (Annex 1) is to promote co-operation between the border regions of Europe in order to strengthen economic and social cohesion. INTERREG is not a research and development programme, though projects promoting economic, social and environmental cohesion can have an R&D element. INTERREG is particularly aimed at fostering linkages between local and regional authorities.

During the period 2007-2010, 29 marine INTERREG-IV projects (including two preparatory actions) with Irish participation were approved for funding. The total value of these projects is circa €75.5m (€51.5m in EU grant-aid) with just over €12.3m in grant-aid going to the Irish partners.

In these cross regional projects a total of 30 Irish organisations co-operated with over 90 European partners, mainly comprising Local Authorities, Port Companies, SMEs, Educational and Research Institutes (Annex 2). Three projects (SAIL-WEST, NetALGAE and IMCORE) and one Preparatory Action (MBEO) are led by Irish partners.

Many of these projects (excluding the five marine tourism and leisure projects) contribute to the implementation of research, development and innovation priorities identified in the national *Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation* (SSTI: 2006-2013) and its marine component, the *Sea Change Strategy* (2007-2013) (www.marine.ie/home/SeaChange.htm).

This Directory provides a summary of each of these 29 INTERREG-IV projects (2007-2010) with Irish participation which span a broad range of marine activities including:

Marine Pollution

- ANCORIM: Atlantic Network for Coastal Risk Prevention and Management
- ARCOPOL: Atlantic Regions' Coastal Pollution, Response and Preparedness

Marine Environmental Resource Management

- AARC: Atlantic Aquatic Resource Conservation
- CSTP: Celtic Sea Trout Project
- EasyCo: Collaborative Atlantic Space Biogeochemical Forecasting System
- ECOFISH: Environmentally friendly Fish Farming and Use of Cleaner Fish
- ECOJEL: Managing the Opportunities and Detrimental Impacts of Jellyfish in the Irish Sea
-
- IMCORE: Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coastal Resource
- KIMERAA: Knowledge Transfer to Improve Marine Economy in Regions from the Atlantic Area
- MESH-Atlantic: Mapping European Seabed Habitats for Better Marine Management
- NetALGAE: Inter-regional Network to promote sustainable development in the marine algal industry
- SCSC: Smart Coasts=Sustainable Communities
- SEAFARE: Sustainable and Environmentally friendly Aquaculture for the Atlantic Region of Europe.
- SUSTAIN: Assessing Sustainability and Strengthening Operational Policy
- WATER: Warning of Algal Toxin Events to support aquaculture in the NPP Coastal Zone Region

Marine Tourism

- CAE: Cruise Atlantic Europe
- MBEO: Marine Based Employment Opportunities (Preparatory Project)
- NEA2: Nautisme Espace Atlantique II
- Rising Tide: The Regeneration of Coastal Communities
- SAILWEST: Sail West Leisure Project

Marine Bioproducts

- ATLANTOX: Advanced tests about new toxins in the Atlantic Area
- BIOTECMAR: Biotechnological exploitation of Marine products and by-products
- ShareBiotech: Sharing Life Science Infrastructures and Skills to Benefit the Atlantic Area Biotechnology Sector

Shipping & Maritime Transport

- Proposse: Promotion of Short Sea Shipping and Co-Operation with SMEs

Climate Change

- Climate Change Impacts: Climate Change Impacts on Coastal Communities and Habitats (Preparatory Project)
- COASTADAPT: Sustainable Adaptation to Climate change in Coastal Communities and Habitats on Europe's Northern Periphery
- SUSHFISH: Shellfish Productivity in the Irish Sea: Working towards a Sustainable Future

Renewable Ocean Energy

- BioMara: Blue Energy - Sustainable Fuels from Marine Biomass
- MAREN: Marine Renewable Energy - Energy Extraction and Hydro-environmental aspects



IRELAND WALES
2007 – 2013

ECOJEL

Managing the Opportunities and Detrimental Impacts of Jellyfish in the Irish Sea

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVA
Ireland - Wales Programme

Priority: 2. Climate Change and Sustainable Regeneration

Project Duration: 2008-2012

Total Project Value: €967,000

EU Grant-Aid: €724,940

Funding to Ireland: €266,000

Website: www.jellyfish.ie



Project Description

There is concern that the abundance of jellyfish is increasing globally as a result of climate change. The ecosystem impacts of jellyfish (both positive and negative) and consequently their socio-economic importance may, therefore, increase. The aim of the EcoJel project is to identify and manage the jellyfish threats and opportunities which may result from climate change in the Irish Sea.

EcoJel will identify the threats of jellyfish nuisance blooms to bathers, to fisheries and aquaculture and to ecosystem health in the Irish Sea. The project will establish the movements and origin of pest jellyfish through the development of innovative tracking technologies.

By determining the diet, abundance and distribution of jellyfish in the Irish Sea, and then compiling this data into an ecosystem model, EcoJel can identify how jellyfish impact on the expanding aquaculture industry, established fisheries, and whether the Irish Sea is likely to experience (if not already) a regime shift i.e. a shift from a fish dominated sea to one that is dominated by jellyfish (such regime shifts have already happened in other parts of the world).

Finally, the project will examine emerging markets for jellyfish products (e.g. for human consumption in far-eastern markets) which are supporting new jellyfish harvesting industries. In the Irish Sea, the barrel jellyfish seems to fit the requirements for harvesting (large size, suitable colour and texture, non-venomous, very abundant). Also, learning from the experience of other countries, the Irish Sea offers the potential of a recreational hotspot for divers to swim with blooms of giant jellyfish.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Swansea University, Wales
Ireland	Coastal & Marine Resources Centre (UCC) Irish Ferries (Associate Partner)

Irish Contact

Dr Thomas Doyle
Coastal & Marine Resources Centre (CMRC),
University College Cork,
Naval Base,
Haulbowline,
Co. Cork

T: +353 (0) 21 4703119
E: t.doyle@ucc.ie



IRELAND WALES
2007 – 2013

CSTP Celtic Sea Trout Project

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVA
Ireland - Wales Programme

Priority: 2.1

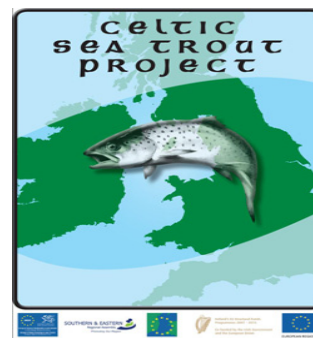
Project Duration: 2009 - 2012

Total Project Value: €2,081,841

EU Grant-Aid: €1,561,381

Funding to Ireland: €619,221

Website: www.celticseatrout.com



Project Description

Sea trout fisheries in parts of Western Britain, including the Irish Sea, are suffering decline; but the pattern is mixed and in most cases the causes of change and thus the solutions are poorly understood. The CSTP intends to provide this missing knowledge and to translate it into fishery and conservation benefits for countries bordering the Irish Sea.

The Celtic Sea Trout Programme aims are:

1. To understand and describe sea trout stocks in the Irish Sea and thereby to enhance sea trout fisheries and strengthen their contributions to quality of life, to rural economies and to national biodiversity.
2. To explore the use of sea trout life history variation as a tool to detect and understand the effects of climate change.

In summary, this project involves the collection of sea trout samples from 80 rivers (of which 20 have been targeted for detailed sampling), estuaries, coastal waters and further offshore, over three years. The samples will be mostly of fin clips and scales accompanied by accurate size information; but whole fish will also be taken to examine feeding and other aspects of biology. The samples will be processed to describe stock structures and distributions (using micro-chemistry and genetics), life histories, growth and survival (from scale analysis) and feeding. From these data and reviews of the fisheries and freshwater trout production a picture will be assembled of the quality and quantity of sea trout stocks and fisheries around the Irish Sea. Various modelling approaches will be used to pull the information together to show the interactions between stocks, fisheries and the environment at sea and in freshwater, and thus to help to explore management options.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	University of Wales, Bangor
Ireland	Central Fisheries Board ZEPS, University College Cork
Wales	Environment Agency

Irish Contact

Dr. Willie Roche
Central Fisheries Board
Swords Business Campus
Swords
Co. Dublin

T: +353 (0)1 8842 642
E: willie.roche@cfb.ie



IRELAND WALES
2007 – 2013

Rising Tide

Connecting Celtic Communities

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVA
Ireland - Wales Programme

Priority: 2.2

Project Duration: 2009 - 2012

Total Project Value: €2,103,030

EU Grant-Aid: €1,517,375

Funding to Ireland: €589,836

Website: www.rising-tide.eu



Project Description

RISING TIDE covers a geographical area of 6 counties on the West Wales Coast, with a similar geographical area in South East Ireland. By investing in 6 maritime events in towns within these areas, over the 3 year period of the project; it is hoped that this will bring a positive effect on those local economies, whilst also creating some sustainability for the future

RISING TIDE project aims to support social inclusion through joint activities, events and training. The project also aims to develop and promote joint opportunities for sustainable community regeneration, drawing on and giving recognition to the maritime identity, maritime heritage and coastal environment of the cross border region. RISING TIDE aims to develop accredited training programmes, with progression routes for marginalised members of the community, which will include the participants' woodworking, construction and design skills, as well as communication, team building and PC use. The project will also work on community regeneration programmes to develop local events, activities and projects with local stakeholders in the development of maritime tourism and the promotion of local enterprise.

Rising Tide will deliver three key aims, through a mixed programme of supporting existing events and festivals, as well as creating new opportunities to develop the following:

1. Social inclusion through training and development,
2. Promotion of maritime heritage and culture, and
3. Economic regeneration in communities.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Milford Haven Port Authority
Ireland	JFK Trust County Wexford Partnership
Wales	Pembrokeshire College Marine Technology and Boat Building Centre (MITEC)

Irish Contact

Sean Reidy
The John F Kennedy Trust
35 South Street,
New Ross
County Wexford

T: +353 (0) 51 448500
E: sean@dunbrody.com



IRELAND WALES
2007 – 2013

SUSFISH

Shellfish productivity in the Irish Sea: Working towards a sustainable future

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVA
Ireland - Wales Programme

Priority: 2.2

Project Duration: 2009 - 2012

Total Project Value: € 2,932,445

EU Grant-Aid: € 2,199,334

Funding to Ireland: €618,399

Website: www.susfish.com



Project Description

SUSFISH will produce guidelines for future fisheries management, ensuring sustainable development of the shellfish industry in Ireland and Wales for the next 50-100 years. This will be achieved by assessing the effects of climate change (via oceanographic models) on shellfish productivity in the Irish Sea and determining adaptation or mitigation strategies for the industry, including recommendations for protection of certain areas (Marine Spatial Planning- MSP). Aspects to be included are how current commercial shellfish productivity in the Irish Sea will respond to changes in temperature, salinity, water quality (eutrophication via organic and inorganic nutrients, acidification), sea level rise and changes in ocean current regimes.

A range of climate change scenarios will be assessed from the IPCC worst-case scenario to conditions in the present day. SUSFISH will have significant socio-economic benefit for both Wales and Ireland, and will also be of international importance, as the project addresses issues that are of global concern.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	University of Wales, Bangor
Ireland	ZEPS/AFDC, University College Cork, (UCC)
Wales	Aberystwyth University Swansea University

Irish Contact

Dr. Sarah Culloty
Department of Zoology, Ecology and Plant Science (ZEPS), & Aquaculture and Fisheries Development Centre, University College Cork, Cork.

T: +353 (0) 21 4904553
E: s.culloty@ucc.ie



IRELAND WALES
2007 – 2013

SCSC Smart Coasts= Sustainable Communities

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVA
Ireland - Wales Programme

Priority: 2.1

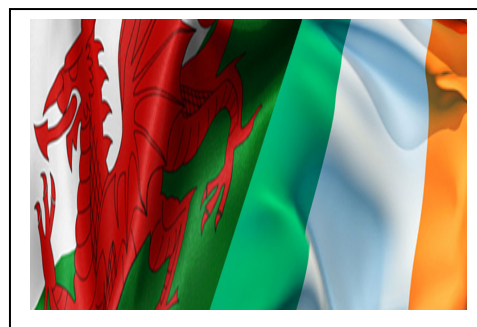
Project Duration: 2010 - 2013

Total Project Value: €4,355,404

EU Grant-Aid: €3,100,000

Funding to Ireland: €1,400,000

Website: Not currently available



Project Description

The SCSC project focuses on two inter-dependent demonstration projects which will be established to illustrate the methods needed to implement real-time bathing water management, public health protection and sustainable bathing water compliance in complex bathing water systems and off the Irish east coast (south of Dublin adjacent to the Dargle catchment).

SMART COAST= SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES will complement both the aims of the Lisbon Strategy and the Gothenburg Declaration by contributing directly to sustainable development. The core aim of this project is to equip Irish and Welsh INTERREG area communities to maintain the economic and strategic value of near-shore waters to their economies. This will be done by facilitating application of new real-time management systems, first suggested by the World Health Organisation and soon to be allowed within EU Directive criteria. This will ensure no adverse loss of beach awards, such as blue flags, and the maintenance of public health through deployment of ICT tools and real-time public information systems as suggested by WHO and allowed in (but not a regulatory requirement of) in the 2006 Bathing Water Directive.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	University of Aberyswyth, Wales
Ireland	University College Dublin

Irish Contact

Prof. Bartholomew Masterson
School of Biomolecular and
Biomedical Science,
University College Dublin,
Dublin 4.

T: +353 (0) 1 2860132
E: b.masterson@ucd.ie

BioMara

Project Details

Funding Programme:	INTERREG IVA
Sub-Programme:	Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland
Project Duration:	2009 - 2013
Total Project Value:	€5,996,079
EU Grant-Aid:	€4,874,414
Funding to Ireland:	€1,000,401
Website:	www.biomara.org



Project Description

BioMara will investigate both macroalgae (seaweeds) and single-celled microalgae as potential sources of biofuel. The project includes a techno-economic evaluation of potential systems, environmental impact assessment and an ongoing process of stakeholder engagement to ensure that the ultimate findings of the research have wide applicability.

The initial focus for the strategic collaborative approach will be the creation of new knowledge. The primary purpose of this new knowledge is to raise the efficiency of existing technology and introduce new technologies more productive and competitive with traditional sources of energy. The dissemination of the new knowledge for this purpose will be a priority and eventually training, support and advice will be provided to end users through appropriate networks and industry associations. Innovation and entrepreneurship will be fostered through these networks.

Much of the focus will be on local generation of energy needs in a carbon-neutral and sustainable manner. Traditional infrastructure is geared to fossil fuels and to their importation, distribution and large-scale use or conversion into appropriate forms of energy. The infrastructural needs of new, smaller-scale and more local production of liquid and gas biofuels will need to be rethought and new, more appropriate, cross-border and multi-purpose forms of infrastructure introduced, which are softer and less expensive than traditional energy supply infrastructure such as under-sea cables.

The project will determine which types of organisms are best suited to biofuel production and the best growing conditions by testing for various aspects of suitability by a process of elimination.

Project Partners

Project Coordinator	Scottish Association for Marine Sciences (UK)
Ireland	Institute of Technology, Sligo Dundalk Institute of Technology
United Kingdom	University of Strathclyde University of Ulster Queens University Belfast

Irish Contacts

Dr Paul MacArtain
The Centre for
Renewable Energy
Dundalk Institute of
Technology,
Dublin Rd,
Dundalk,
Co. Louth.

T: +353 (0)42 9370200
E: paul.macartain@dkit.ie

Dr John Bartlett,
Head of Research,
Institute of Technology
Sligo
Ballinode,
Co. Sligo.

T: +353 (0)71 9155314
E: bartlett.john@itsligo.ie



SAIL WEST

Sail West Leisure Project

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVA
 Sub-Programme: Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland
 Project Duration: 2009 - 2013
 Total Project Value: €7,406,840
 EU Grant-Aid: €7,025,046
 Funding to Ireland: €2,646,397
 Website: Not currently available



Project Description

Donegal County Council has been working with partners in Northern Ireland and Scotland since 2007 to develop a coordinated plan for marine leisure in the shared coastal zone. The west coast of Scotland is one of the world's most popular sailing destinations and wishes to work with the north coast of Ireland to develop a new sailing zone and marine leisure brand through renewed infrastructure and marketing. Donegal County Council is the lead partner in this initiative and has drawn up an agreed strategic plan.

INTERREG and the three National Governments have agreed to support the plan's €7.4m investment with grants totaling €7.025m over the period 2009-2013. This includes €1.6m to develop Bunagee Harbour in Inishowen as a sea angling and marine leisure centre. Donegal will also participate in an €800,000 marketing initiative with its partners that will put the county's marine leisure product in the shop window with that of the Ulster coastline and the West Coast of Scotland.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Donegal County Council, Ireland
Ireland	Sligo County Council Border Regional Authority ROI
United Kingdom	Imeall Tra Project Loughs Agency North Down Borough Co. Larne Borough Co. Carrickfergus Borough Co. Limavady Borough Co. Visit Scotland Scottish Enterprise

Irish Contact

Frank McGrogan
 Donegal County Council
 Public Service Centre,
 Donegal Town,
 Co Donegal

T: +353 74 9724400
 E: fmcgrogan@donegalcoco.ie

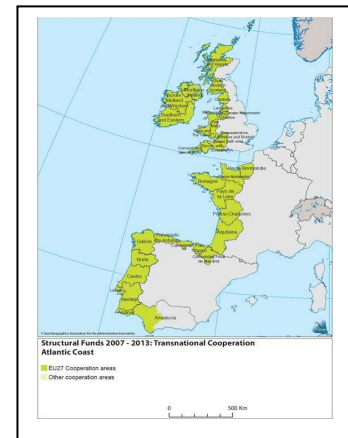


ANCORIM

Atlantic Network for Coastal Risk Prevention and Management

Project Details

Funding Programme:	INTERREG IV
Sub-Programme:	Atlantic Area
Priority:	2.4
Project Duration:	2009 - 2012
Total Project Value:	€1,891,752
EU Grant-Aid:	€1,228,110
Funding to Ireland:	€281,337
Website:	http://atlanticprojects.inescporto.pt/project-area/ancorim/project_view



Project Description

This project aims to build the operational capacities of decision-makers from the Atlantic regions in order to manage and prevent coastal risks, and particularly those related to climatic change. Capacity building entails making practical use of the scientific and technical information that is translated, interpreted and made available to coastal managers, so as to improve the relevance of their decisions relating to (i) coastal management and development (in terms of risk prevention); (ii) the handling of potential crises should the integrity of coastal systems be violated.

The approach of this project aims to intensify relations and materialise tools promoting exchanges between the scientific community and decision-makers from various sectors: politics, the private sector, joint-trade organisations, associations and the various levels of territorial decision-makers and stakeholders, be they local, regional or national. Through 5 work packages organised according to 3 phases over 3 years, the project will support the development of innovative interfaces enabling easier and broader access to practical, useful and quality information in the various fields of coastal risk prevention. Beyond the expected products, the work packages and programmes will enable networking among the parties involved in coastal activities at Atlantic Arc level and make it possible for them to access the existing initiatives and good practices more easily. The approach of the project is also based on developing and taking into account the projects built as part of INTERREG III, and on developing synergies with the other regional sea projects implemented within the framework of INTERREG IV and the Atlantic Area Operational Programme 2007-2013



ANCORIM -continued

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Aquitaine Regional Council, France
Ireland	National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) Udaras na Gaeltachta Mayo County Council
Spain	Diputacion Provincial de A Coruna CETMAR University of Vigo Dept. of Environment and Sustainable Development
France	Bureau of Geological and Mining Research (BRGM) Centre for the Experimentation and Development of Marine Aquaculture (CREAA) Atlantic Institute of Spatial Planning (IAAT) Regional Council of Brittany Cap l'Orient GEOS IFREMER
Portugal	National Laboratory of Civil Engineering (LNEC) Institute of Hydraulics and Water Resources (IHRH) University of Coimbra

Irish Contacts

Dr. Kevin Lynch
Department of Geography
NUI Galway
University Road
Galway
Ireland

T: 353 (0)91 49 5779
E: kevin.lynch@nuigalway.ie

John Bennett
Udaras na Gaeltachta,
Rond Point Schuman 6,
Brussels,
Belgium.

T: +32 2282 8403
E: nasc@udara.ie

Iain Douglas
Mayo Co. Council,
Aras an Chontae,
The Mall,
Castlebar,
Co. Mayo.

T: +353 (0)909 49047693
E: idouglas@mayococo.ie

ARCOPOL

Atlantic Regions Coastal Pollution Response

Project Details

Funding Programme:	INTERREG IV
Sub-Programme:	Atlantic Area
Priority:	2.1
Project Duration:	2008 - 2011
Total Project Value:	€ 3,072,233
EU Grant-Aid:	€ 1,996,932
Funding to Ireland:	€ 130,000
Website:	www.arcopol.eu/home.aspx



Project Description

The sustainability and improvement of maritime transport and the protection of coastal resources strongly depends upon the improvement of oil, HNS and inert spill prevention, response and mitigation capabilities of coastal regions. Such improvement can only be achieved by developing effective tools and action plans coupled with training and awareness activities at regional and local levels. ARCOPOL brings together a consortium of partners involved in the EROCIPS project (INTERREG IVB) (www.erochips.org). EROCIPS focused on the prevention, response to and mitigation of oil spills. Based on the experience acquired through EROCIPS, ARCOPOL aims to improve prevention, response and mitigation capabilities against oil, HNS and inert spills and to establish the basis for a sustainable Atlantic network of experts supported by adequate information, data exchange and management tools.

The specific project objectives are:

1. To incorporate outputs from EROCIPS into strategic national, regional and local response levels and to encourage development of transferable transnational techniques that strengthens statutory and non statutory emergency response.
2. Improve response capabilities in the event of HNS and inert spills and to include them in emergency action plans. This will be achieved by compiling and assessing current knowledge, practices and experiences and by developing tools, models, systems and procedures.
3. Improve the level of awareness and training of the potential responders and increase the degree of stakeholder involvement.
4. Further encourage cross boarder collaboration between neighbouring countries to improve response strategies and enhance mutual aid capabilities, facilitating joint cross border training and exercises in the partner regions.
5. Improve mitigation capabilities by assessing current claim and compensation mechanisms as well as ecological damage compensation procedures and by developing guidelines, tools and standard methodologies.

ARCOPOL will enhance mutual aid mechanisms, promote coherence of actions at regional and local level, foster dialogue between all the actors and support the development of relevant information and knowledge about the coastal zone and the risks that threaten it.



ARCOPOL - continued

<i>Project Partners</i>	
Project Coordinator	Centro Tecnologica de Mar Fundacion CETMAR (Spain)
Ireland	Marine Institute
UK	Pembrokeshire County Council
Spain	Dept. of Environment and Sustainable Development Dept. of Fisheries and Marine Affairs Institute of Marine Environment Control of Galicia (INTECMAR) Environment Management Company (EGMASA)
France	Regional Council of Brittany Aquitaine Regional Council VIGIPOL
Portugal	Technical University of Lisbon (IST) Interdisciplinary Centre for Marine and Environmental Research, Porto (CIIMAR)

Irish Contact

Dr. Glenn Nolan
 Ocean Science Services
 Marine Institute
 Rinville
 Oranmore
 Galway

T : +353 (0)91 387200
 E : glenn.nolan@marine.ie

ATLANTOX

Advanced Test About New Toxins in the Atlantic Area

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IV
 Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
 Priority: 2.4
 Project Duration: 2008 - 2010
 Total Project Value: €1,839,463
 EU Grant-Aid: €1,195,651
 Funding to Ireland: €136,640
 Website: www.atlantox.com



Project Description

The effects of climate change and rising global temperatures are imminent, irreversible and directly or indirectly impact on the marine environment and coastal populations. Marine ecosystems are affected by fluctuations in water temperatures which produce favorable ecological conditions for the development and release of toxins. Although the Atlantic area coast is probably not the most impacted, affects are already visible and worrying and require action to ensure optimum levels of food safety for people of this coastal area and to minimize the further impact sectors such as fisheries and tourism.

Toxic episodes are a major public health problem whose impact is felt in areas such as tourism and in a reduced consumption of seafood. To address this, a fast, effective and reliable toxin detection system is required. The current mode of reference in the European Union, the mouse bioassay, is not sufficiently sensitive, requires time, is vulnerable to interference and is unethical in terms of animal welfare.

The objective of this project is to support and accelerate the development and introduction of more efficient methods of fast toxin testing based on antibodies and functional tests for biotoxins.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain
Ireland	Cork Institute of Technology
United Kingdom	Institute of Agri-Food and Land-use, Queen's University, Belfast Agri-Food And Biosciences Institute, Queens University Belfast
Spain	National Association of Canned Fish and Shellfish (ANFACO-CECOPECA)
France	Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology, Paris (CNRS)
Portugal	Interdisciplinary Centre for Marine and Environmental Research, Porto (CIIMAR)

Irish Contact

Dr. Ambrose Furey
 Department of Chemistry,
 Cork Institute of
 Technology,
 Rossa Ave.,
 Bishopstown,
 Cork,
 Ireland

T: +353-21-4326701
 E: ambrose.furey@cit.ie

BIOTECMAR

Biotechnological exploitation of marine products and by products

Project Details

Funding Programme:	INTERREG IV
Sub-Programme:	Atlantic Area
Project Duration:	2009 - 2011
Total Project Value:	€ 2,322,692
EU Grant-Aid:	€ 1,500,000
Funding to Ireland:	€ 291,778
Website:	www.biotecmar.eu/?lang=eu



Project Description

Marine biological resources such as seaweeds, fish and shell fish products, by-products and extracts are sources of valuable ingredients and bioactive molecules. Their exploitation using biotechnological tools is likely to lead to the development of new markets and industries, specifically in the areas of food, feed, nutrients, cosmetics, and, in some cases, therapeutic agents.

BIOTECMAR's overall aim is to help the companies of Atlantic Area (which are mainly SMEs) to take advantage of the use of modern biotechnological tools and contribute to a diversification of the activities derived from marine biomass exploitation within the strict framework of sustainable management of marine natural resources. The better use and a rational upgrading of the products and by-products treated along the marine resources value chain is a problem common to the different European regions bordering Atlantic. However, knowledge and technical approaches present real regional specificities. The project will give the necessary impulse for transforming these complementary regional skills into real transnational synergies, through exchange of good practices, mobility of researchers and technicians, knowledge and technology transfer.

BIOTECMAR brings a real added value as the technologies proposed to industries are relevant to process biotechnologies (white biotechnologies) and are innovative in this type of industry. They respond to immediate and future problems and, therefore, need to be largely communicated and transferred to professionals. A series of specific actions: workshops; technical sessions; a targeted technological survey; mobilisation of the skills present in the partner R&D centres; information and training/education; as well as in contacting the stakeholders of the marine value chain. Together, all these elements guarantee the realisation of BIOTECMAR's objectives.

The various sectors concerned by the project are the following:

1. The fisheries, aquaculture, seaweed harvesting and seafood processing as source of raw materials,
2. The fish waste conservation, collection and transport and processing,
3. The production and commercialization of bioactive compounds and/or ingredients derived from processing to be used for the food, feed, nutrients, cosmetics and therapeutic industries,
4. The development and the transfer of R&D in marine biotechnology.



BIOTECMAR - continued

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	LEMAR - IUEM / UBO, University of Brest, France
Ireland	Indigo Rock Marine. Irish Seaweed Centre, NUIG
France	University of Nantes. University of La Rochelle IFREMER Technopole Quimper Cornuaille Museum of National History, Paris (MNHN)
Spain	Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) CETMAR Foundation
Portugal	Portuguese Institute of Sea and Fisheries Research (IPIMAR) Business and Innovation Centre of Porto(NET)

Irish Contacts

Dr. Richard Walsh
Irish Seaweed Centre
Martin Ryan Institute
NUI Galway,
Co. Galway.

T : + 353 (0)91 493920
E: richard.walsh@nuigalway.ie

Julie Maguire
Indigo Rock Marine
Research Centre
Gearhies,
Bantry,
Co. Cork.

T : +353 (0)27 61276
E : julie.maguire@dommrc.com



CRUISE ATLANTIC EUROPE

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG
 Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
 Priority: 4.3
 Project Duration: 2008 - 2012
 Total Project Value: €739,698
 EU Grant-Aid: €480,803
 Funding to Ireland: €108,278
 Website: www.cruiseatlanticeurope.com



Project Description

The Atlantic Area comprises one of the most important maritime coastlines in Europe, encompassing close to 70 million inhabitants. It is a coastline that accommodates a large number of ports and major maritime cities with long traditions and vibrant dynamism.

The Atlantic Europe Partnership has been created to reinforce the position of the Atlantic area in the European cruise tourism market. The creation and promotion of new tourist products, through the action of a network of ports, cities and regions, emphasises the value of economic prosperity, regional culture and Atlantic identity. The diverse number of ports and attractions that feature along the European Atlantic coastline allows for a wide range of tourism cruise routes.

The Cruise Atlantic Europe partnership is the initiative of a group of ports on the Atlantic front including: - Lisbon, Leixões, A Coruña, Bilbao, Brittany, Dover and Cork - that has as its purpose to reinforce the position of the Atlantic Area in the European cruise tourism market.

See Countries - See Culture - Sea Life

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Port of Leixões, Portugal (APDL)
Ireland	Port of Cork
Spain	Port Authority of Coruña Port Authority of Bilbao
France	Commercial Port of Lorient South Brittany (LCBS)
Portugal	Port of Lisbon
United Kingdom	Dover Cruise Port

Irish Contact

Captain Michael McCarthy
 Commercial Department,
 Port of Cork Company,
 Custom House Street,
 Cork.

T: +353 (0)21 4273125
 E: mmccarthy@portofcork.ie



EasyCo

Collaborative Atlantic Space Biogeochemical Forecasting System

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IV
 Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
 Priority: 2.2
 Project Duration: 2008 - 2011
 Total Project Value: €2,688,476
 EU Grant-Aid: € 734,536
 Funding to Ireland: € 299,980
 Website: www.projecteasy.info/default.aspx?canal=44



Project Description

EASYCO aims to build a Polycentric Infrastructure for Operational Ocean Modelling in the Atlantic Space (AS) by joining the capacities of the 5 partner countries to forecast hydrodynamics and biogeochemistry (BGC) at the regional scale using grid sizes of a few kilometres. EASYCO is a transversal project producing results for a wide range of users, including Navigation Safety, Fisheries, Aquaculture, Coastal Management and Meteorology. Direct end-users are institutions requiring results at the regional scale while indirect end-users are all the institutions requiring information at the local scale (e.g. Coastal managers, fish farmers, ports, water companies, water authorities) that are usually provided for by SMEs. EASYCO builds on the successful experience gathered within the project EASY which focused on currents and waves in the Iberian zone, widening its scope through the contribution of extra teams from France, Spain, Ireland and UK.

The specific objectives of EASYCO are:

- Integrating operational forecasts of currents, waves and meteorology over the whole AS.
- Integrating BGC models developed in the AS for producing operational BGC forecasts over the whole area.
- Setting up fisheries management models based on the BGC data and on the fishing effort.
- Setting up a filter feeders model able to relate growth, carrying capacity, primary production and circulation models.
- Setting up a users-community grouping institutions needing information on currents and biological properties for their daily activities, with especial emphasis on SMEs.

Project Partners

Project Coordinator	Marine and Environmental Technology Centre (MARETEC), Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal
Ireland	Marine Institute
United Kingdom	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)
Spain	MeteoGalicía- Meteorological Agency of Galicia Institute of Marine Environment Control of Galicia (INTECMAR) Spanish State Ports Agency (Puertos del Estado)
France	IFREMER MERCATOR Operational Oceanography, Toulouse University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour (UPPA)
Portugal	University of the Azores

Irish Contact

Dr. Glenn Nolan
 Ocean Science Services
 Marine Institute
 Rinville
 Oranmore
 Galway

T : +353 (0)91 387200
 E : glenn.nolan@marine.ie

MAREN

Marine Renewable Energy, Energy Extraction and Hydro-environmental Aspects

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG-IV
 Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
 Priority: 2.3
 Project Duration: 2008 - 2011
 Total Project Value: €1,655,508
 EU Grant-Aid: €1,075,943
 Funding to Ireland: €332,247
 Website: Not currently available



Project Description

The positioning of marine renewable energy devices in estuarine and coastal waters will undoubtedly have an impact on water levels and, in particular, tidal currents, which will in turn have a significant impact on the environmental and economic aspects of the site. So-called ‘clean’ energies sometimes have negative environmental impacts; therefore there is some pressure to develop a comprehensive and integrated approach to analysing all factors to assist decision makers in choosing which form of energy to develop and where to locate the generation sites. The mix and balance of different energy sources will be as important in the future to the sustainable spatial development of Europe as the development and exploitation of each type of energy itself. The MAREN project concentrates on getting that balance right. The main aims of the MAREN project are therefore to:

- (i) optimise the renewable marine energy extraction potential, and
- (ii) minimise the hydro-environmental impact of a wide range of the most promising marine renewable energy devices.

The project partners have been chosen to represent the full range of coastal and hydrological conditions, as well as covering the four most relevant types of marine renewable energy devices. Each partner will focus on examining energy extraction and hydro-environmental aspects of a different marine renewable energy device, as indicated below:

- UK: barrages and tidal impoundments.
- Ireland: tidal stream turbines.
- Portugal: wave energy.
- Spain: off-shore wind turbines.
- France: barrage, based on the La Rance barrage scheme.

Collectively, the outcomes from the project activities will provide information on the energy extraction potential of the Atlantic Area coastal waters and enable the prediction of both the impact of marine renewable energy devices on the environment (natural and human) and the impact of the environment on the performance of these devices.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Cardiff University, Wales
Ireland	National University of Ireland, Galway
Spain	University of Cantabria
France	IFREMER
Portugal	Technical University of Lisbon (IST)

Irish Contact

Dr. Michael Hartnett
 Engineering Department
 NUI Galway
 Co. Galway,
 Ireland

T: +353 (0)91 492502
 E: michael.hartnett@nuigalway.ie

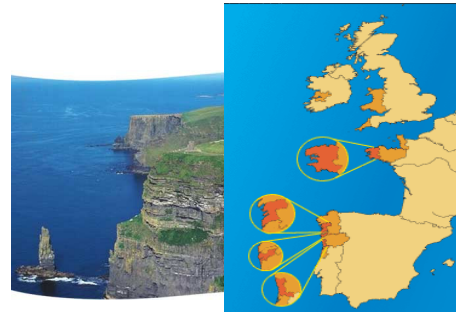


NEA2

Nautisme Espace Atlantique 2

Project Details

Funding Programme:	INTERREG-IV
Sub-Programme:	Atlantic Area
Priority	1.3
Project Duration:	2009 - 2011
Total Project Value:	€ 4,721,137
EU Grant-Aid:	€ 3,068,737
Funding to Ireland:	€ 331,499
Website:	www.nea2.eu



Project Description

The NEA2 project is a trans-national initiative to stimulate economic development in the water-sports sector. Building on the success of NEA1 (INTERREG-III), NEA2 aims to develop a cutting-edge water-sports sector within the Atlantic Area (AA), which differs from what is done in this domain in the international arena by delivering:

- economic innovation and performance;
- protection and development of the environment;
- quality of life and social cohesion.

Whilst the first project (NEA1) had confined its objectives to the coordinated development of water-sports tourism activities in the AA, NEA 2 aims to develop trans-national cooperation based on sustainable development of every aspect of the water-sports sector including: supervised and free activities, marinas, water-sports industry, commerce and services.

The main aim of this project is to develop the water-sports employment and economy of the AA through:

1. Forming and boosting trans-national and regional networks of the various water-sports industry sectors.
2. Through forming and creating a network of Centres of Excellence specialising in the sustainable development of the water-sports industry, with visibility at European and international levels.

NEA 2 consists of 23 partners comprising: 5 AA countries; 9 Regions; 7 Counties; 5 towns or cities.



NEA2 - continued

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Regional Council of Brittany, France
Ireland	Mid-West Regional Authority Irish Canoe Union
France	General Council of Finistère Boating in Brittany Boating in Finistère Association of Marinas in Brittany Basse Normandy Region Manche General Council Pays de la Loire Region
United Kingdom	Ards Borough Council North Devon & Cornwall County Councils
Portugal	Metropolitan Area of Porto Intercéltica, Porto Vale-e-Mar Urban Community Association of Local Development of Bairrada and Mondego (AD ELO)
Spain	Local Independent Tourism Agency of Rías Xunta De Galicia- Dept. of Fisheries and Maritime Business Diputación Provincial de A Coruña City Council of Cambados Portos de Galicia Public Entity Galician Association of Marine Activities

Irish Contacts

Marie Collins
Mid-West Regional Authority
Friar Court
Abbey St
Nenagh
Co.Tipperary

T : +353 (0)67 33197
E : mcollins@mwra.ie
W : www.mwra.ie

Michael Scanlon
Irish Canoe Union
Sport HQ
Park West
Dublin 12

T : +353 (0)1 6251105
E : office@canoe.ie
W : www.canoe.ie



PROPOSSE

Promotion of Short Sea Shipping and Co-Operation with SMEs

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IV
 Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
 Priority: 3.2 Accessibility and Transports
 Project Duration: 2008 - 2010
 Total Project Value: €2,117,800
 EU Grant-Aid: €1,376,570
 Funding to Ireland: €216,775
 Website: www.proposse.eu



Project Description

The overall objective of PROPOSSE is to promote short sea shipping as a real alternative to other means of the transportation of goods (e.g. road) between SMEs from the Interior and the ports of Aveiro, Gijón, Le Havre, Poole and Cork. This will be achieved through:

1. cooperation between ports and organizations representing SMEs and promotion of regional development in their hinterlands,
2. Identifying the main barriers and potential opportunities for the transfer modal cargo SME Andalusia Short Sea Shipping, and Motorways of the Sea,
3. Increasing awareness of both SMEs and industrial transport operators to the potential and benefits of change modal.

Project Partners

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Port Authority of Gijon, Spain
Ireland	Port of Cork
Spain	Oviedo Chamber of Commerce
France	CRITT Transport & Logistics
Portugal	APA: Administración del Puerto de Aveiro Industrial Association of the District of Aveiro
United Kingdom	Marine South East limited Port of Poole

Irish Contact

Captain Michael McCarthy
 Commercial Department,
 Port of Cork Company,
 Custom House Street,
 Cork.

T: +353 (0)21 4273125
 F: +353 (0)21 4276484
 E: mmccarthy@portofcork.ie



SEAFARE

Sustainable and Environmentally friendly Aquaculture for the Atlantic Region of Europe

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IV
 Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
 Priority: Protect, serve and enhance the marine and coastal environment sustainability
 Project Duration: 2010 - 2012
 Total Project Value: 3,179,473
 EU Grant-Aid: €2,066,657
 Funding to Ireland: €181,024
 Website: Not currently available



Project Description

SEAFARE brings together applied R&D centres, aquaculture industry organisations and environmental agencies across the Atlantic maritime region, to promote sustainable expansion of European aquaculture. SEAFARE will develop solutions to specific constraints on industry development for Europe’s fish and shellfish farmers, through species diversification and development of low-intensity aquaculture systems that are compatible with sensitive coastal habitats. Thus it will provide models for profitable expansion of the aquaculture sector that can be integrated with sustainable management of coastal ecosystems. The partnership will bridge the knowledge gap to facilitate rapid and effective capitalisation of project results as tangible and sustainable examples of good practice to inform sustainable industrial expansion, environmental management and policy development.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Bangor University, United Kingdom
Ireland	AQUA TT Ltd. Aquaculture and Fisheries Development Centre (AFDC), University College Cork
United Kingdom	SAMS- Scottish Association for Marine Research Environment Agency Wales North Western & North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee
Portugal	INRB- National Institute of Biological Resources FORMOSA, Algarve
France	IFREMER University of Western Brittany
Spain	IFAPA- The Andalusian Institute for Research & Training in Agricultural, Food, Fisheries and Environment Big Island Fisheries Fitopankton Marino

Irish Contact

David Murphy
 Aqua TT Ltd.
 P.O. Box 8989
 Dublin 2

T: +353 1 6449008
 E: david@aquatt.ie
www.aquatt.ie

ShareBiotech

Sharing life science infrastructures and skills to benefit the Atlantic area Biotechnology sector

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVB
Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
Priority: 1: Innovation Networks
Project Duration: 2010 - 2013
Total Project Value: €2,706,937
EU Grant-Aid: €1,759,230
Funding to Ireland: €435,636
Website:
http://atlanticprojects.inescporto.pt/project-area/sharebiotech/project_view



Project Description

The main objective of ShareBiotech is to strengthen the biotechnology sector, through the maximization of the benefits of life science infrastructures and skills for the development of the Atlantic Area, which has notable areas of excellence notably in marine science, a rich and increasing number of SMEs, and policy initiatives but also weaknesses.

The project will:

- Facilitate wider sharing of knowledge and technology across life science fields (health, marine research, agriculture and food) and between academia and industry,
- Reinforce regional service provision of cutting-edge technologies, create a transnational network of Technological Core Facilities,
- Foster technology penetration in the less technology-intensive sectors and companies, and
- Increase the level and visibility of the cooperation and business location.

The consortium gathers partners from four member States and from eight regions. It brings together strategy makers with fertile proposals to streamline their action and establish the basis of a transnational organisation able to give readily accessible answers to technology seekers.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Bretagne Innovation, France
Ireland	National University of Ireland, Galway (MRI-NUIG) Athlone IT
France	University of Nantes CRITT Santé Bretagne
Spain	Government of Navarra: Dept. of Innovation
Portugal	Biocant Park, Cantande University of Algarve (ULAG) Algarve Centre for Marine Sciences (CCMAR) Interdisciplinary Centre for Marine and Environmental Research (CIIMAR)

Irish Contacts

Dr. Paul Tomkins
 Head of School of Science
 Athlone Institute of Technology
 Dublin Road,
 Athlone,
 Co. West Meath

T: +353 (0) 90 6424544
 E: ptomkins@ait.ie

Dr Ilaria Nardello
 National Co-Ordinator
 Marine Biotechnology Programme.
 c/o Martin Ryan Institute
 National University of Ireland,
 Galway,
 Galway.

T: +353 (0)91 494135
 E: ilaria.nardello@nuigalway.ie



KIMERAA

Knowledge Transfer to Improve Marine Economy in Regions from the Atlantic Area

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IV
 Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
 Priority: 1.2
 Project Duration: 2010-2012
 Total Project Value: €1,081,019
 EU Grant-Aid: €702,662
 Funding to Ireland: €90,058
 Website: Not currently available



Project Description

The project aims to develop economic niches of excellence through the creation of bridges and links between scientific knowledge and firms in the marine sector. To achieve this goal it is important to establish and develop knowledge transfer channels connecting the various institutional actors/knowledge providers that can support the Marine Economy across the Atlantic Area. In so doing, the project aims to transform European research into profitable high value-added products and services.

By taking this approach, the project will provide a greater awareness and knowledge of Maritime Clusters, the innovation actors and institutions in the Atlantic Area, It is anticipated that these will be profiled; competencies and services catalogues will be developed for each participating region to create a transnational web tool to match research capabilities, knowledge and technology to market demands. Finally, a European Network of Knowledge Transfer across the Atlantic Area will be promoted to give sustainability to the results; including promotion and facilitation of spin-outs, licensing of activities and sponsored/collaborative projects.

In practice the project will entail the following activities:

- Identify the main centres of R&D linked to the Marine Sector in the participating regions
- Detect successful company spin-outs and marine SMEs in the regions
- Benchmark best practice in Marine Research and commercialisation of scientific knowledge in the marine sector
- Create an internet platform where R&D Centres and firms can match their interests to assist diffusion and trans-regional co-operation
- Create new opportunities through linkages between traditional sectors and applied innovation in marine science
- Improve competitiveness in the marine sector by facilitating the development of spin-outs, launching scientific partnerships and improving the modernisation/internationalisation of existing firms.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	University of the Algarve, Portugal
Ireland	WESTBIC- Business & Innovation Centre
United Kingdom	Cardiff University
Spain	MIK, S. Coop
Portugal	University of Porto
Spain	University of Huelva

Irish Contact

James Donlon
 WESTBIC, Business & Innovation Centre,
 Racecourse Road
 Roscommon

T : +353 (0) 906625196
 E : jdonlon@westbic.ie

AARC

Atlantic Aquatic Resource Conservation

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IV
 Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
 Priority: 2.4
 Project Duration: 2010-2012
 Total Project Value: 3,870,695
 EU Grant-Aid: €2,515,951
 Funding to Ireland: €471,191
 Website: Not currently available



Project Description

The AARC project will advance and expand the important work delivered through the Atlantic Salmon Arc Project (ASAP) in the previous phase of INTERREG Atlantic Area funding. This project will deliver five primary work packages within a structures project framework, led by experienced European project managers. The objective will be to integrate recreational angling into conservation and research, in order to ensure a sustainable, well funded future for angling and for the Atlantic salmon along with other important fish species, linked by nature, culture and economy.

These five work packages include:

1. The delivery of freshwater habitat restoration according to best practice methods in participating regions,
2. An umbrella sports fisheries development agenda for the Atlantic Regions,
3. A regional hatchery support facility
4. Sea fishermen liaison
5. Cross cutting theme of education and promotion

The main aim of AARC is to cooperate intensively to deliver a strategy for Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), which will be demonstrated across the Atlantic Area, in targeted river basins, networked by regional/river observatories in each member state.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Westcounty Rivers Trust, England
Ireland	Shannon Regional Fisheries Board University College Cork
United Kingdom	University of Exeter The Environment Agency
France	French National Institute for Agricultural Research (IRNA)
Spain	University of Oviedo
Portugal	Development Association of Dao, Lafoes and Alto Paiva (ADDLAP) Association for Integrated Development in Ribatejo Norte (ICETA)

Irish Contacts

Oisín Naughton
 Shannon Regional Fisheries Board,
 Ashbourne Business Park,
 Dock Rd.,
 Limerick.

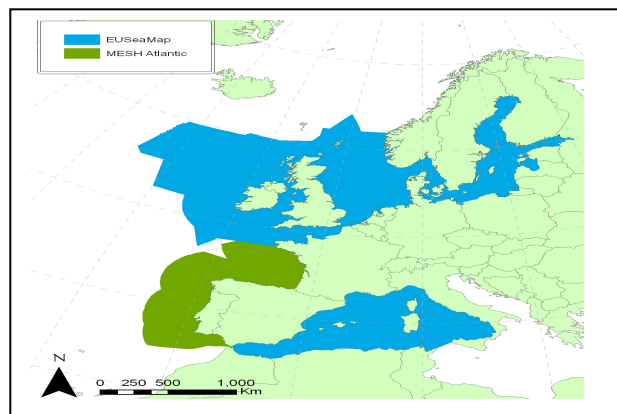
T: +353 (0) 61- 300238
 E: onaughton@shrfb.com

MESH-ATLANTIC

Mapping European Seabed Habitats for Better Marine Management

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IV
Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
Priority: 2- Marine Environment & Renewable Energies
Project Duration: 2010 - 2013
Total Project Value: €3,499,695
EU Grant-Aid: €2,274,802
Funding to Ireland: €245,158
Website: Not currently available



Project Description

The MESH-ATLANTIC project involves the provision of harmonised seabed habitat mapping over the coastal and shelf zones of the Atlantic Area in order to help informed spatial planning and management. MESH-ATLANTIC sets out to draw on the former INTERREG NW MESH project by extending it to the Atlantic Area (AA) marine space and enhancing some of its outputs, namely:

- by collating marine habitat maps and metadata and making them available through the existing Mesh webGIS in homogeneous formats and classification systems,
- by generating a global habitat map for the shelf and coastal area of the Atlantic Area, based on available depth, sediment, biological and oceanographic data,
- by surveying some key areas and improving the Eunis classification
- by quality checking the maps and making them available to the wider stakeholders community along with enhanced internet mapping tools allowing syntheses for informed decisions
- by collating stakeholders' feedback to further assess the use of maps for marine spatial management

The medium term objective of the project is to provide tools for spatial planning and a better management of our seas. There are a number of threats on Atlantic Area seas, among which are over fishing, the loss of biodiversity and also threats related to the planned development of such activities as aggregate extraction or the creation of renewable energy farms. While seabed resources globally need to be protected in the longer term, they mostly need to be firstly assessed to inform the above mentioned developments and better deal with their impact. In the case of fisheries, the much appraised ecosystem approach does need the knowledge of seabed physical and biological features that are recognised to have a strong bearing on fish resources.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	IFREMER, France
Ireland	Marine Institute
Spain	IEO- Spanish Institute of Oceanography AZTI Foundation DIREN BZH
France	IMA- Institute of Aquatic Environments, Bayonne DIREN Bretagne
Portugal	IPIMAR- National Research Institute for Agriculture and Fishery University of Algarve University of Aveiro University of Azores ICNB- Institute of Nature Conservation & Biodiversity

Irish Contact

Thomas Furey
 OSS - Advanced Mapping Services,
 Marine Institute,
 Rinville,
 Oranmore,
 Co. Galway

 T: +353 (0) 91 387501
 E: thomas.furey@marine.ie



NetALGAE

Inter-regional Network to promote sustainable development in the marine Algal industry

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IV
 Sub-Programme: Atlantic Area
 Priority: Promotion of entrepreneurial and innovation networks
 Project Duration: 2010- 2012
 Total Project Value: €2,160,088
 EU Grant-Aid: €1,404,034
 Funding to Ireland: €415,137
 Website: www.indigorock.org/current-projects-pg-24-c3.html



Project Description

The European macroalgae industry is mainly based on harvesting of natural resources of macroalgae. Worldwide macroalgae production increases by 5.7 % every year. In 2008 nearly 14 mill tons of macroalgae was produced from capture and aquaculture. In Europe the production has decreased the last 10 years. The further expansion of the industry depends on sustainable increased access to raw material, development of valuable products and the transfer of expertise between developed and less developed regions. The project NETALGAE aims to create a European network of relevant stakeholders within the marine macroalgae sector. Compilation of information from different regions will result in a wide ranging policy study of existing practice within the macroalgae industry. Analysis of the results will establish a best practice model and suggest policies for the successful, sustainable commercial utilization of marine macroalgae resources.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Indigo Rock Marine Research Station
Ireland	Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM)
France	AgroCampus West Centre, Rennes University of West Brittany Joint Association of Coastal Equipment
Norway	BIOFORSK- Norwegian Institute for Agriculture and Environment Research
Portugal	University of Algarve
United Kingdom	Viking Fish Farms- Ardtoe Marine Laboratory

Irish Contact

Julie Maguire
 Indigo Rock Marine Research Station
 Gearhies,
 Bantry,
 Co. Cork

T: +353 (0) 27 61276
 E: Julie.maguire@dommrc.com

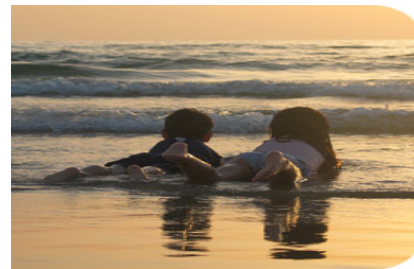


IMCORE

Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coastal Resource

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVB
 Sub-Programme: North West Europe
 Project Duration: 2007 - 2011
 Total Project Value: €5,993,551
 EU Grant-Aid: €2,996,776
 Funding to Ireland: €435,824
 Website: <http://www.imcore.eu/>



Project Description

The aim of IMCORE is to promote a transnational, innovative and sustainable approach to reducing the ecological, social and economic impacts of climate change on the coastal resources of North West Europe.

The project hopes to achieve this through demonstrating how the innovative *expert couplet approach* (i.e. collaboration between coastal practitioners and scientists using the principles of sustainability science) can help with the effective implementation of adaptive management strategies for coastal resources.

Nine Expert Couplet Nodes across NW Europe will be implemented. The project will identify the impacts of a range of specified climate change scenarios on coastal sectors and the development of a response in the form of strategies for adaptive management. An output of IMCORE will be the provision of assistance to coastal managers in the development of adaptive management strategies. IMCORE will also help in the promotion of the adoption of sustainability science for coastal management among coastal practitioners, policy makers and scientists in NW Europe.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Coastal & Marine Resources Centre, (UCC) Ireland
Ireland	Donegal County Council Cork County Council National Maritime College Ireland
UK	CoastNet Centre for Coastal & Marine Research, University of Ulster Aberdeen Institute for Coastal Science and Management Marine & Coastal Research Group, Cardiff University Envision Ltd Sefton Council Durham Council Aberdeen City Council
France	Centre for Maritime Law and Economy, University of Western Brittany SIAGM - Intermunicipal Syndicate for Planning in the Gulf of Morbihan
Belgium	Maritime Institute, University of Gent MDK Coastal Division
The Netherlands	EUCC - The Coastal Union

Irish Contacts	
<p>Jeremy Gault Coastal & Marine Resources Centre, University College Cork Naval Base, Haulbowline Cobh Co. Cork.</p> <p>T: +353 21 4703108 E: J.Gault@ucc.ie</p>	<p>Padraig Moore Planning Policy Unit Cork County Council Floor 13 County Hall, Carrigrohane Road, Cork.</p> <p>T: +353 (0)21 4276891 E:planninginfo@corkco.ie</p>
<p>Jessica Hodgson Donegal County Council Carndonagh Public Services Carndonagh Co. Donegal</p> <p>T:+353 (0)749 373763 jhodgson@donegalcoco.ie</p>	<p>Mark Mellett National Maritime College Of Ireland, Ringaskiddy, Cork Ireland T: 353 21 497 0600 E: mark.mellett@nmci.ie</p>



ECOFISH

Environmentally friendly Fish Farming and Use of Cleaner Fish

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVB
 Northern Periphery Programme

Priority: 1. Promoting innovation and competitiveness in remote and peripheral areas

Project Duration: 2008 - 2010

Total Project Value: €1,594,995

EU Grant-Aid: €884,273

Funding to Ireland: €256,231

Website: www.eco-fish.org



Project Description

The problem of sea lice infestation of farmed salmon has become a major issue not only for the salmon farmers themselves but also for environmentalists, retailers and consumers who are concerned about the effects of the transfer of lice to wild populations of salmon and the effect that treatments to remove the lice may have on the environment and on the quality of the fish produced. Initially lice were treated with organophosphate pesticides and more recently with hydrogen peroxide. The use of both these materials is now banned, leaving only one effective treatment, emamectin benzoate. However, there is now concern that lice are becoming resistant to this last effective treatment, so an alternative method of controlling the parasite is urgently needed. One solution that has been tried in recent years is biological control through the use of wrasse which can clean the lice off salmon, thus avoiding the need for any chemical treatments. Whilst this is ostensibly an ideal solution to the problem, the wild capture of the large numbers of wrasse that are needed by the salmon farming industry, has also come under attack from environmentalists, whilst farmers and regulators remain concerned about other diseases being transferred from the wild wrasse to the salmon.

This project seeks to resolve the above issues by developing the technology for spawning and rearing the most promising cleaner fish, ballan wrasse, in captivity. This will allow large numbers of disease free fish to be produced both economically and sustainably. It will also look into the management of wrasse in salmon cages in order to achieve the effective removal of lice whilst at the same time safeguarding the health and welfare of the wrasse themselves.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Bode University College, Norway.
Ireland	Martin Ryan Institute, NUIG
UK	Viking Fish Farms Ltd, Ardtoe Marine Laboratory
Norway	Bioforsk, Arctic Agriculture and Land Use Division

Irish Contact

Dr. Richard Fitzgerald
 Martin Ryan Institute
 National University of Ireland,
 Galway,
 Carna,
 Connemara,
 Co. Galway.

T: +353 (0)95 32201
 E: richard.fitzgerald@nuigalway.ie



Climate Change Impacts on Coastal Communities and Habitats

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVB
 Sub-Programme: Northern Periphery Programme
 Priority: 2. Sustainable development of natural and community resources
 Project Duration: 2007 - 2008
 Total Project Value: €30,000
 EU Grant-Aid: €18,000
 Funding to Ireland: €4,750



Project Description

This project is a **Preparatory Action** designed to prepare a more comprehensive project proposal that will examine and quantify the impact of projected climate change on vulnerable low-lying coastal communities and habitats. The aim of the Preparatory Action is to develop relationships between and determine the precise role and task of each partner; identify and establish links with local municipalities to form case studies across the partner regions (Expert Couplet Nodes); identify additional partners as appropriate; review existing knowledge and identify existing climate change initiatives already existing in the participating region.

The Preparatory Action successfully submitted a full proposal **COASTADAPT: Sustainable Adaptation to Climate Change in Coastal Communities and Habitats on Europe's Northern Periphery**, in March 2008.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Western Isles Council (Scotland)
Ireland	Coastal and Marine Resources Centre (CMRC) - University College Cork
United Kingdom	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Institute for Coastal Science & Management (AICSM) - University of Aberdeen UHI Millennium Institute, Environmental Research Institute (ERI) VisitScotland Centre for Coastal and Marine Research (CCMR)- University of Ulster
Norway	Norut (Northern Research Institute) Alta.

Irish Contact

Jeremy Gault
 Coastal & Marine Resources Centre,
 University College Cork
 Naval Base, Haulbowline
 Cobh
 Co. Cork
 Ireland

T: +353 (0) 21 4703108
 E: J.Gault@ucc.ie



MBEO

Marine Based Employment Opportunities

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVB
 Sub-Programme: Northern Periphery Programme
 Priority: 1. Promoting innovation and competitiveness in remote and peripheral areas
 Project Duration: 2008 - 2009
 Total Project Value: €29,678
 EU Grant-Aid: €12,970
 Funding to Ireland: €4,827
 Website: www.npp.apogee.gr/en/projects/preparatory_bytheme/&th=18



Project Description

The MBEO project (*A Preparatory Action*) will seek to facilitate and promote the development of aspects of the marine tourism sector such as fisheries tourism and seafood based experiences. These are essentially new industries for many peripheral northern communities. These industries are innovative in that they aim to fuse together local marine-based knowledge, culture, heritage and products with tourism and business related skills and knowledge. The project will focus on diversifying income-generating opportunities that are specifically based on local indigenous knowledge of fishing practices, fish movements and local maritime knowledge. The project seeks to help to create a dynamic sub sector within the fishing industry and bring knowledge to areas that have not been included in NPP projects before.

Target areas include:

- Ireland:** the offshore islands of Counties Galway, Mayo, Donegal, Sligo, Cork and the mainland Connemara region of County Galway. I
- Iceland:** the Western Fjords.
- Norway:** the North Cape area in Finnmark with participants from Repvåg and Honningsvåg.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Teagasc, (The Irish Agricultural and Food Development Authority), Ireland
Norway	Finnmark University College
Iceland	University of Iceland, Reykjavik

Irish Contact

Dr. Kevin Heanue
 Rural Economy Research Centre,
 Teagasc
 Athenry,
 Co. Galway

T: +353 91 845834
 E: Kevin.heanue@teagasc.ie



WATER

Warning of Algal Toxin Events to support aquaculture in the NPP Coastal Zone Region

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVB
 Northern Periphery Programme

Priority: 2. Sustainable development of natural and community resources

Project Duration: 2009 - 2011

Total Project Value: €1,609,700

EU Grant-Aid: €870,559

Funding to Ireland: €226,288

Website: <http://www.nppwater.com/>



Project Description

Monitoring of the environment for potentially harmful phytoplankton and their biotoxins in shellfish is a requirement in EU member states. Time delays in achieving results, however, cause unnecessary losses to industry, particularly in peripheral regions. This project focuses on the provision of new methodologies that will provide: (1) rapid, on site analysis for the presence of toxins in shellfish and (2) the application of simple procedures whereby harmful phytoplankton events can be predicted. These techniques are highly suited to peripheral regions. A sustainable service will be put in place, including the provision of training courses, providing these methods for industry; thereby facilitating the development of aquaculture throughout the region as forewarning of harmful events is an essential element to further development of the shellfish aquaculture industry.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Martin Ryan Institute, NUI Galway
Scotland	Marine Scotland, Aberdeen Shetland Fisheries Training Centre Trust, Scalloway, Shetland Islands Scottish Association of Marine Science, Dunstaffnage, Oban Seafood Shetland, Lerwick, Shetland Islands
Norway	Institute for Marine Research, Bergen

Irish Contact

Dr. Robin Raine
 Martin Ryan Institute
 National University of Ireland, Galway,
 Carna,
 Connemara,
 Ireland.

T: +353 (0) 87 2474135
 E: robin.raine@nuigalway.ie



COASTADAPT

Sustainable Adaptation to Climate Change in Coastal Communities and Habitats on Europe's Northern Periphery

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVB
 Sub-Programme: Northern Periphery Programme
 Priority: 2. Sustainable development of natural and community resources
 Project Duration: 2009 - 2012
 Total Project Value: €1,445,226
 EU Grant-Aid: € 780,387
 Funding to Ireland: € 151,680
 Website: www.coastadapt.org/



Project Description

The climate of the North Atlantic coastal regions is changing and sea-level is rising. Of great concern is the increased risk that climate change will bring to the economies and social well-being of North Atlantic coastal communities. CoastAdapt is a transnational project that will develop and implement a range of adaptation strategies and tools to enable people living in coastal communities take action to reduce the negative impacts as well as take advantage of the benefits, of a changing climate.

CoastAdapt will form an international partnership of local municipalities, environmental organisations and academic institutions to involve local people and local government in a 'bottom-up' approach in the development of adaptive response and preparedness for the impacts of climate change. The project will also consider and develop long-term recovery planning from climate induced natural hazards.

CoastAdapt will produce data; information; tools such as handbooks, vulnerability assessment frameworks, regional scenarios, and adaptation implementation strategies; and climate change networks between pilot study areas and beyond. This project also will provide a sustainable single site, one-stop web-based service to enable these resources to be accessed by end-users not just in the pilot areas, but by coastal communities and local government staff throughout all North Atlantic regions and further afield.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Western Isles Council (Scotland)
Ireland	Coastal & Marine Resource Centre (UCC)
UK	Institute for Coastal Science and Management- University of Aberdeen UHI Millennium Institute-, Environmental Research Institute (ERI) Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Centre for Coastal and Marine Research- University of Ulster
Norway	Hammerfest Kommune Norut (Northern Research Institute) Alta
Iceland	Árborg Municipality Municipality of Vik University of Iceland, Institute for Sustainable Development

Irish Contact

Cathal O'Mahony
 Coastal & Marine Resources Centre (CMRC),
 University College Cork,
 Naval Base, Haulbowline
 Co. Cork

T: +353 (0) 21 4703111
 E: c.omahony@ucc.ie



SUSTAIN

Assessing Sustainability and Strengthening Operational Policy

Project Details

Funding Programme: INTERREG IVC
 Sub-Programme: Europe
 Priority: Regional Initiative Project
 Project Duration: 2010- 2012
 Total Project Value: €1,884,204
 EU Grant-Aid: €1,485,644
 Funding to Ireland: €113,526
 Website: www.sustain-eu.net



Project Description

The increasing intensity of human activities along our coastlines (e.g. the development of ports and harbours, coastal protection, land reclamation, tourism and sand/gravel extraction) has a severe impact on coastal communities and natural habitats. The EC has adopted a renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy which aims to bring a high level of environmental protection, social equity and cohesion, economic prosperity and active promotion of sustainable development worldwide. There are multiple inter-linkages between the key challenges; for example between the use of renewable energy and climate change.

The key objective of SUSTAIN is to have in place, at the end of three years, a fully implementable policy tool, applicable for all 22 coastal states of the EU, which will ensure that the integrated management of coastal issues will be sustainable. This entails the agreement within the project, of a set of criteria which are readily measurable and which cover both the threats of an unsustainable development and the opportunities provided by a sustainable future which faces all coastal authorities and communities throughout Europe.

The SUSTAIN project partnership comprises 13 partners (including regional and local authorities, universities and NGOs); and the project is pan-European in scope with partners representing the North and South Atlantic seaboard, the Mediterranean, the Baltic and Black Seas.

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	The Coastal and Marine Union (EUCC), The Netherlands
Ireland	Coastal & Marine Resource Centre (UCC)
United Kingdom	Down District Council Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council
Spain	Canary Institute of Marine Science
Portugal	Regional Commission for the development of the Lisbon Region
Greece	Samothraki Municipality

Irish Contact
Cathal O’Mahony
 Coastal & Marine Resources Centre (CMRC), University College Cork
 Naval Base, Haulbowline Co. Cork

 T: +353 (0) 21 4703111
 E: c.omahony@ucc.ie



ANNEX 1 INTERREG IV Programmes (2007 - 2013)

Five specific INTERREG-IV Programmes are of interest to Ireland:

<p>INTERREG IV A : Ireland -Wales Territorial Co-operation Programme This programme aims to build on the achievements of the last two programmes and bring cooperation to a new level. It differs from its predecessor in that it is written and financed at a more strategic level and focuses on two key priorities: Priority 1 - Knowledge, Innovation and Skills for growth Priority 2 - Climate Change and Sustainable Regeneration (http://www.irelandwales.ie/)</p>	
<p>INTERREG IV A : Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland Programme This Programme seeks to address the economic and social problems which result from the existence of borders. It supports strategic cross-border co-operation for a more prosperous and sustainable region. The programme is delivered through two priorities. Priority 1: Co-operation for a more prosperous cross-border region. Priority 2: Co-operation for a sustainable cross-border region. http://www.seupb.eu/programmes2007-2013/interregivaprogramme/interregoverview.aspx</p>	
<p>INTERREG IV B: Atlantic Area Programme The overall strategy is to achieve significant and tangible progress in transnational cooperation geared towards cohesive, sustainable and balanced territorial development of the Atlantic Area and its maritime heritage. Priority 1: Transnational entrepreneurial and innovation networks. Priority 2: Marine & coastal environment sustainability. Priority 3: Improve accessibility and internal links. Priority 4: Sustainable urban & regional development. (http://atlanticarea.inescporto.pt/)</p>	
<p>INTERREG-IV B: North-West Europe Programme This programme aims to maximize the diversity of NWE's territorial assets by tackling common challenges through transnational cooperation. Priority 1: Innovation Priority 2: Environmental Challenges Priority 3: Connectivity Priority 4: Strong and Prosperous Communities (http://www.nweurope.eu/)</p>	
<p>INTERREG IV B: Northern Periphery Programme The Northern Periphery Programme area shares many common features in terms of climate, sparsity of population, natural environment, complicated topography, culture and history. The programme aims to encourage joint projects that address the shared priorities for co-operation: Priority 1: Communications Priority 2: Strengthen Sustainable Economic Development Priority 3: Community Development (http://www.northernperiphery.net/)</p>	



ANNEX 2 Irish Participants in INTERREG IV Marine Projects (2007-2010)

PARTICIPANT	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
State Bodies					
Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM)				1	1
Central Fisheries Board			1		1
Marine Institute		2		1	3
Shannon Regional Fisheries Board				1	1
Teagasc		1			1
Udaras na Gaeltachta			1		1
Third Level Institutes					
Athlone Institute of Technology				1	1
Cork Institute of Technology		1			1
Institute of Technology, Dundalk		1			1
Institute of Technology, Sligo		1			1
National Maritime College of Ireland	1				1
National University of Ireland, Galway		3	1	1	5
Trinity College Dublin			1		1
University College Cork	1	2	3	3	9
University College Dublin				1	1
Regional & County Councils					
Border Regional Authority				1	1
Cork County Council			1		1
Donegal County Council	1				1
Kerry County Council	1		1		2
Mayo County Council		1			1
Mid-West Regional Authority		1			1
Sligo County Council			1		1
Port Companies					
Port of Cork		2			2
Others (SMEs, Associations etc.)					
Aqua TT				1	1
County Wexford Partnership			1		1
Irish Ferries		1			1
Irish Canoe Union		1			1
Indigo Rock Marine Research Centre		1		1	2
JFK Trust			1		1
WESTBIC				1	1
TOTAL IRISH PARTICIPANTS: 30	4	18	12	13	-

INTERREG PROGRAMME (2007-2010)	NO. OF PROJECTS	TOTAL PROJECT VALUE €	EU GRANT AID €	FUNDING TO IRELAND €
IVA: Ireland, Northern Ireland & Western Scotland	2	13,402,919	11,899,460	3,646,798
IVA: Ireland-Wales	5	11,886,690	9,269,312	3,561,491
IVB: Atlantic Area	15	37,546,666	23,380,618	3,966,738
Northern Periphery	5	4,709,599	2,566,189	643,866
North-West Europe	1	5,993,551	2,996,776	435,824
IVC: Europe Interregional Cooperation	1	1,884,204	1,485,644	113,526
TOTAL:	29	75,423,629	51,597,999	12,368,243



ANNEX 3

INTERREG-IV Contact Points



IRELAND WALES
2007 – 2013

www.irelandwales.ie

Irish Programme Liaison Officer:

Siobhan Rudden, Southern & Eastern Regional Assembly, Assembly House, O'Connell Street, Waterford. Tel +353 (0) 51 318100, Email: srudden@seregassembly.ie



<http://atlanticarea.inescporto.pt/>

Irish Programme Liaison Officer:

Michael O'Brien, BMW Regional Assembly, The Square, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon. Tel: +353 (0)94 9862970, E-mail: mobrien@bmwassembly.ie



INTERREG IVB

www.nweurope.eu/

Irish Programme Liaison Officer:

Antoinette Jordan, Southern & Eastern Regional Assembly, Assembly House, O'Connell Street, Waterford. Tel +353 (0) 51 86 07 00, Email: ajordan@seregassembly.ie



INTERREG IVA

www.seupb.eu/programmes2007-2013/interregivaprogramme/interregoverview.aspx

Irish Programme Liaison Officer:

Nuala Cormican, EU House, Castle Meadow Court, Dublin Road, Monaghan. Tel+353 (0)47 77003, Email interreg@seupb.eu



www.northernperiphery.net

Irish Programme Liaison Officer:

Michael O'Brien, BMW Regional Assembly, The Square, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon. Tel: +353 (0)94 9862970, E-mail: mobrien@bmwassembly.ie.

For further information on national and international marine funding see:
<http://www.marine.ie/home/funding/>.

**International Co-Operation Programme / European Research Funding Desk
Strategic Planning & Development Services (SPDS)
Marine Institute
Rinville,
Oranmore,
Co. Galway,
Ireland.**

www.marine.ie

