INTERREG-IV Programme
2007 - 2013

Irish Marine Projects supported by the EU INTERREG IV Programme in 2007 - 2008

November 2009

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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 2007-2008, fifteen marine INTERREG-IV projects (including two preparatory actions) with Irish participation were approved for funding. The total value of these projects is circa €35m with over €4m in grant-aid going to the Irish partners. This directory provides a summary of each of these fifteen projects.

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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"*to undertake, to co-ordinate, to promote and to assist in marine research and development and to provide such services related to research and development that, in the opinion of the Institute, will promote economic development and create employment and protect the marine environment*"

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Foreword

European regional development (e.g. INTERREG) and research (e.g. Framework) programmes make a significant contribution to the development of the Irish marine and maritime economy.

During the first two years (2007 – 2008) of the INTERREG-IV (2007-2013) Programme, Irish organisations have participated in 15 marine related INTERREG-IV Projects spanning a range of important economic (e.g. renewable ocean energy, marine bio-products, marine tourism) and environmental (e.g. sustainable resource development, pollution control, climate change) topics.

Participation in these international pan-European projects, in addition to providing important external grant-aid of over €4m, contribute to regional development and co-operation fostering a pro-active approach to *Innovation*, *Diversification* and the development of *Value-added* products and services.

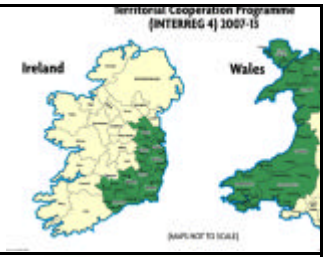
In addition, many of these projects also contribute significantly to achieving the aims and objects of the National Marine Science Strategy: *Sea Change - a Marine Knowledge, Research and Innovation Strategy for Ireland: 2007-2013*, strengthening national research and innovation capacity and facilitating technology and knowledge transfer

The 15 INTERREG-IV Projects described here, span a wide range of important topic areas and demonstrate that Ireland has a vibrant, dynamic and internationally engaged marine community. Each of these projects makes an important contribution to regional and cross-border co-operation and development.

Yvonne Shields
Director – Strategic Planning & Innovation Services
Marine Institute.

INTERREG IV Programmes (2007 – 2013).

The objective of the INTERREG-IV suite of Programmes 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. Five specific INTERREG-IV Programmes are of interest to Ireland:

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/)	
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)	
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/)	
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/)	
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/)	

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.

During the period 2007-2008, fifteen marine INTERREG-IV projects (including two preparatory actions) with Irish participation were approved for funding. The total value of these projects is circa €35m (€22m in EU grant-aid) with over €4m in grant-aid going to the Irish partners.

Irish participants co-operated with over 90 European partners comprising Local Authorities, Port Companies, SMEs, Educational and Research Institutes

This directory provides a summary of each of these fifteen projects which span a broad range of 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

- 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.

Marine Tourism

- CAE: Cruise Atlantic Europe.
- MBEO: Marine Based Employment Opportunities (Preparatory Project).
- NEA2: Nautisme Espace Atlantique II.

Marine Bioproducts

- ATLANTOX: Advanced tests about new toxins in the Atlantic Area.
- BioTecMar: Biotechnological exploitation of marine products and by-products.

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).

Renewable Ocean Energy

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

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:	48 months (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)

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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	Sligo IT Dundalk IT
UK	University of Strathclyde University of Ulster Queens University Belfast

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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://www.nuigalway.ie/geography/research/ancorim_res.html

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	Le Conseil Régional d'Aquitaine, France
Ireland	NUIG, Galway. Udaras na Gaeltachta. Mayo County Council.
Spain	Diputacion Provincial de A Coruna. Centro Tecnologico del MAR. Universidad de Vigo. Conselleria de Medio Ambiente e Desenvolvemento Sostible.
France	Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières. Centre Régional d'Expérimentation et d'Application Aquacole. Institut Atlantique d'Aménagement du Territoire Poitou-Charentes. Conseil Régional de Bretagne. Cap l'Orient. GEOS. IFREMER: Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer
Portugal	Laboratorio Nacional de Engenharia Civil Instituto de Hidraulica e Recursos Hidricos. Universidade de Coimbra; Administraçao de Regiao Hidrografica do Centro.

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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:	*Under development*

ARCOPOL Conference: 7th September 2009
(Marine Institute Headquarters, Galway).

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.erocips.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 strengthen 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 .....

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Centro Tecnologica de Mar Fundacion CETMAR (Spain)
Ireland	Marine Institute.
UK	Pembrokeshire County Council.
Spain	Consellería de Medio Ambiente e Desenvolvemento Sostible. Consellería de Pesca e Asuntos Marítimos. Instituto Tecnoloxico para o Control do Medio Marino de Galicia. Empresa de Gestión Medioambiental S. A. (EGMASA).
France	Conseil regional de Bretagne. Conseil Régional d'Aquitaine. VIGIPOL.
Portugal	Instituto Superior Tecnico. CIIMAR - Centro Interdisciplinar de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental.

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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.
UK	Institute of Agri-Food and Land-use, Queen's University, Belfast Agri-Food And Biosciences Institute, Belfast.
Spain	ANFACO-CECOPESCA.
France	Laboratoire de Neurobiologie Cellulaire et Moleculaire (CNRS).
Portugal	CIIMAR.

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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:
http://atlanticprojects.inescporto.pt/project-area/biotecmar/?searchterm=Biotecmar

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	Universite de Nantes. Universite de la Rochelle. IFREMER. Technopole Quimper Cornuaille. MNHN.
Spain	CSIC. CETMAR.
Portugal	IPIMAR. Novas Empresa Tecnologias(NET).

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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:	€148,572
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	Administração dos Portos do Douro e Leixões, S.A. (Portugal).
Ireland	Port of Cork.
Spain	Autoridad Portuaria de A Coruña. Autoridad Portuaria de Bilbao.
France	Lorient Croisières Bretagne Sud.
Portugal	Administração do Porto de Lisboa, S.A.
UK	Dover Cruise Port.

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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:	*Under development*

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) who 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	Instituto Superior Tecnico – Maretec (Portugal)
Ireland	Marine Institute.
UK	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS).
Spain	Meteogalicia. IntecMar. Puertos del Estado.
France	IFREMER. Mercator Océan. Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour.
Portugal	University of the Azores.

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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:	*Under development*

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, UK).
Ireland	National University of Ireland, Galway.
Spain	Universidad de Cantabria.
France	IFREMER.
Portugal	Instituto Superior Tecnico.

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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 watersports 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 23vpartners comprising: 5 AA countries; 9 Regions; 7 Counties; 5 towns or cities.

NEA2 – continued ……

Project Partners	
Project Coordinator	Conseil Regional de Bretagne (France)
Ireland	Mid-West Regional Authority. Irish Canoe Union.
France	Conseil Général du Finistère. Nautisme En Bretagne . Nautisme en Finistère. Association des Ports de Plaisance de Bretagne. Région Basse Normandie. Conseil Général de la Manche. Région Pays de la Loire.
UK	Ards Borough Council. North Devon + Cornwall County Councils
Portugal	Area Metropolitana do Porto. Intercéltica. Vale-e-Mar Comunidade Urbana. Associação de Desenvolvimiento Local da Bairrada e Mondego (AD ELO).
Spain	Organismo Autónomo Local Turismo Rías B Xunta De Galicia - Consellería de Pesca y a suntos Maritimos Diputación Provincial de A Coruña Ayuntamiento de Cambados Ente Público Portos de Galicia Asociación Galega de Actividades Náuticas

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PROPOSSE - Promotion of Short Sea Shipping and Co-Operation with SME´s

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.eu-placa4s.info

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 Coordinator	Autoridad Portuaria de Gijon (Spain)
Ireland	Port of Cork.
Spain	Cámara de Comercio de Oviedo.
France	CRITT Transport & Logistics.
Portugal	APA: Administración del puerto de Aveiro. Asociación Industrial del Distrito de Aveiro.
UK	Marine South East limited. Port of Poole.

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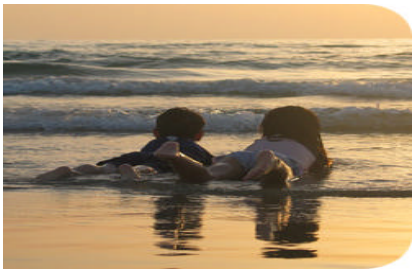
IMCORE – Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coastal Resource

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 Morbhian.
Belgium	Maritime Institute, University of Gent. MDK Coastal Division.
Netherlands	EUCC - The Coastal Union.

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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, retails 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

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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
Website:	

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.
UK	Scottish Natural Heritage(SNH). Institute for Coastal Science & Management (AICSM) - University of Aberdeen. UHI Millennium Institute, Environmental Research Institute (ERI). VisitScotland (VS). Centre for Coastal and Marine Research (CCMR)- University of Ulster.
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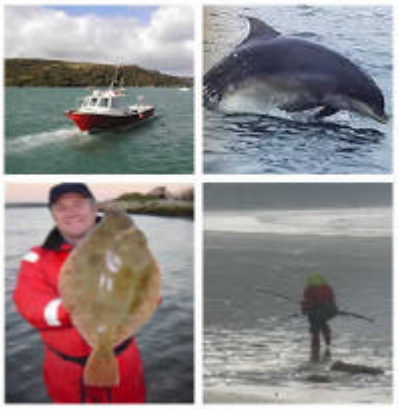
MBEO – Marine Based Employment Opportunities

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:	not currently available



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 (Ireland).
Norway	Finnmark University College.
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Irish *Marine* Participants (2007-2008)

Regional & County Councils

Cork County Council – Planning Department.

Donegal County Council.

Mayo County Council.

Mid-West Regional Authority (Nenagh).

Port Companies

Port of Cork Company (2 projects).

State Bodies

Marine Institute - Ocean Sciences Services (2 projects).

Teagasc (Galway).

Udaras na Gaeltachta, Galway.

Higher Education Institutes

Institute of Technology, Cork: Department of Chemistry.

Institute of Technology, Dundalk - Centre for Renewable Energy.

Institute of Technology, Sligo.

National Maritime College of Ireland (Cork).

National University of Ireland, Galway - Department of Geography.

National University of Ireland, Galway - Irish Seaweed Centre.

National University of Ireland, Galway – Department of Engineering.

National University of Ireland, Galway – Martin Ryan Institute.

University College Cork - Coastal & Marine Resources Centre (CMRC) (3 projects)

Others

Irish Ferries

Irish Canoe Union.

Indigo Rock Marine Research Centre (Bantry).

Over 90 European partners are also involved including Local and Regional Authorities, Port Companies, SMEs, Educational and Research Institutes.

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

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www.marine.ie