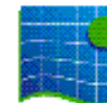


The European Marine Research Area – post EurOCEAN 2004?

Dr Peter Heffernan,
CEO, Marine Institute, IRELAND





OBJECTIVE

To report the outcome of the EurOCEAN 2004 Conference as it contributes to the evolution and development of a European Marine Research Area.



The Ocean and future aspects of the European Marine Research Area. Brussels. 11th June 2004.

The European Research Area



"to make Europe the most competitive and dynamic knowledge based society in the world by 2010".

Lisbon (2000) – Gothenburg (2001) – Barcelona (2002).

Creation of an ERA

Sustainable Development

Increase R&D Budgets (3%)



EuroOCEAN 2004

5th European Marine Science & Ocean Technologies Conference

Celebrating European Marine Science

Building the European Marine Research Area

Communicating Marine Science

A **Marine Science / Policy Conference** attended by over 550 European marine scientists, policy-makers and industrialists.

EurOCEAN 2004 served to remind us that:



Earth – the Blue Planet.

Dominant role of Ocean in earth-ecosystem function.

Great diversity of marine ecosystems / biodiversity.

Europe - ~ 50% under water

Economic value circa 1% GDP (€159 bn / 2001) + 1.5 m jobs and significant scope for growth

Key role for marine science & technology



SOME EMERGING ISSUES

- Europe is a world leader in many areas of marine research.
- European has a well developed and integrated Marine Science Community.
- Marine science can contribute to Union policies in sustainable economic, social and environmental development.
- Future challenges and opportunities must be addressed in partnership - The Member States and the Commission.
- Better Risk based management techniques to complement / improve the application of the Precautionary Approach.

Non-Scientific Challenges



- Develop methodologies to better quantify, in economic and socio-economic terms, the value of marine resources, including non-market values and services.
- Better communicate the results and benefits of marine scientific research to politicians and society in general.
- Develop improved methods to better integrate marine science and access to marine infrastructures across the enlarged Europe (EU+25).



THE REAL CHALLENGE

Lack of integration, focus, vision, leadership

The real challenge is not the science and technology component, but rather how to harness and mobilise this expertise, knowledge and existing specialist infrastructures to realise the full potential of the marine sector in support of the Lisbon and Gothenburg objectives.

THE GALWAY DECLARATION

To ensure that recognition is taken at Member State and European Community level of:

- the crucial role of the oceans in climate, carbon cycle and Life on Earth.
- the major contribution maritime industries can make to the achievement of the objectives outlined in the Lisbon Agenda.
- the essential role of marine science and technology in generating the knowledge needed to fuel this economic achievement in harmony with the environment.
- the critical role the European Research Area / 7th Framework Programme must play in supporting world-class excellence in marine science and technology.

Full text: www.eurocean2004.com

VISION

**A Thriving European
Maritime Economy in
Harmony with the
Environment Supported
by Excellence in the
European Research Area**



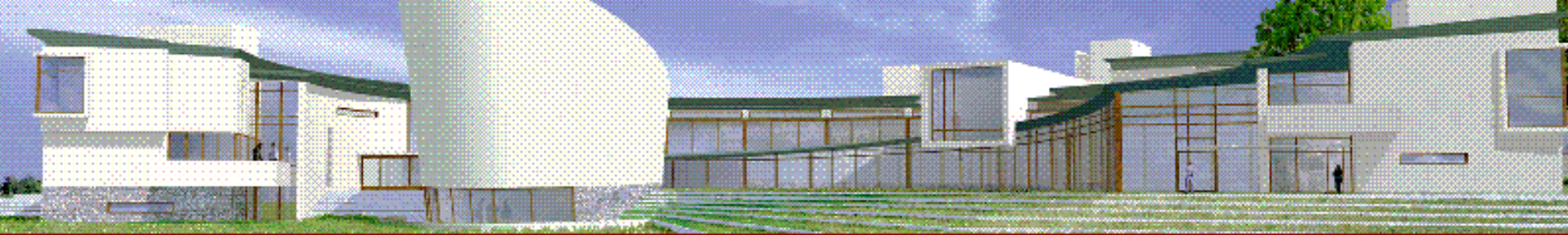
THE TOOLS AT OUR DISPOSAL



- **EU Framework Programme**
- **Member State Marine R&D Programmes.**

ERA-Net Scheme to promote better coordination/co-operation between Member State RTD Programmes:

MarinERA: Pan-European Marine ERA-NET
BONUS: Regional – Baltic Sea ERA-NET
ECORD: Thematic – Ocean Drilling ERA-NET



A NEW PARADIGM IS NEEDED!

7th EU Framework Programme (2007 – 2013) ?

Basic Research

Technology Platforms

Research Infrastructures

Collaborative Research

Human Resources & Mobility

Enhanced Co-Ordination

Traditional Approach – Marine S&T identified as Theme or Priority Topic

New Paradigm:

Integrate Marine Science horizontally across the six FP7 axes.

- Allocate % of FP7 budget to marine science across all axes/ priority themes.
- Establish overarching Programme Committee to monitor/manage.

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