

The Ocean and future aspects of the European Marine Research Area

Session 3

Take home lessons FP 7

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Research (NWO)

- Europe is the continent which is the most influenced by the sea (longest coastline in relation to area)
- 50% of Europe is laying under water
- Marine research has high quality but is very fragmented
- Important role for EU:
Make marine research a clearly identified element in FP7

- Marine research is becoming more urgent with a need for strong stakeholder involvement
- in field of safety:
 - international trade is growing (90 % by shipping) predictions needed : storms, wind, waves, tsunamis, sea level rise (coastal zone management)
- in field of economy (EEZ, ILOS):
 - energy (fossil fuels and sustainable energy)
 - food (fisheries based on ecosystem approach)
 - medicines (marine biotechnology new antibiotics and antiviral medicines)
- in field of environment:
 - global and regional climate prediction role of oceans is crucial in telecommunications
 - conservation of marine biodiversity

Instruments

- In marine research sector great willingness for cooperation on European level and implementation of ERA: only sector with a common vision
- Possible pilot programme for article 169
- Learn from the past:
- Traditional instruments (STREPs and Cas) should be continued (more participation of small institutes, SME's and new member states)
- More marine research in Regional Targeted projects

- Growing need for operational and monitoring infrastructures on European level: EUROGOOS (GMES)
- Europe in forefront of climate modelling
- European computer facility
- Instrument of ERA-NET should be extended
- Lack of harmonization between different instruments:
 - In FP7 more harmonization between different instruments (axes) in marine research sector

Communication

- In FP 7 more communication of the results of marine research to the public at large:
 - EU should fund TV films about the results of Framework programmes
 - (for example about the discovery of the cold coral reefs in the European continental margins)