

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Governance	1	Develop and implement clear and forward-looking policies and strategies that support an increased contribution from our ocean economy to national GDP.	See sub-actions	See sub-actions	(See actions 1a-1c)
Governance	1a	Implement existing (e.g. Food Harvest 2020) and planned (e.g. Ports Policy, Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan) sectoral strategies/plans through effective coordination of actions across a range of government departments and agencies	Ongoing	All departments and agencies involved with the marine	<p><b>DTTAS</b> National Ports Policy published on 26 March 2013 (see Action 34f). The new policy sets out a number of supporting actions and implementation timelines over the period 2013 – 2018 (see also Action 34f).</p> <p><b>Bord Iascaigh Mhara</b> In line with FH2020 goals, to increase value by €50 million by 2013 and by €100 million by 2015, maximising the value from the raw material base is a priority for BIM. BIM's vision is for a scaled Irish seafood industry capitalising on the growing opportunities for seafood in global markets and providing sustainable employment in our coastal communities. To achieve this vision, BIM. will promote an integrated approach to growing the seafood sector with the following priorities;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Expand the raw material base; developing new aquaculture farms, attracting foreign landings, and development of new species such as boarfish.</li> <li>2. Maximise value of raw material through market-led innovation, new product development, branding and eco-certification.</li> <li>3. Develop scale in the sector through companies' collaborations and joint ventures, investment in seafood processing, competitiveness and route to market structures.</li> </ol>
Governance	1b	Develop an integrated enterprise strategy to generate momentum in specific emerging market opportunities prepared across development agencies (e.g. offshore renewables, offshore services, ICT and sensors, biotechnology).	Short-Medium Term	Development Task Force	Minister Coveney has appointed Mr. Robert Dix as Chairman of the Development Task Force. Membership of the Task Force is under consideration but it is expected that the membership of the Development Task Force will be finalised shortly.

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Governance	1c	Continue to develop new policies / strategies that address gap areas through an integrated approach.	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	
Governance	2	<b>Develop an integrated approach to marine and coastal planning and licensing in order to maximise the potential for Ireland's ocean economy; assist with managing our resources effectively and sustainably; manage potential conflicts; and ensure harmonisation with coastal/terrestrial planning.</b>	See sub-actions	See sub-actions	(See actions 2a-2c)
Governance	2a	Address the deficiencies in the current planning and licensing system by continuing to make business process improvements; e.g. administrative efficiencies and licensing decisions to address the current caseload.	Ongoing	DECLG, DAFM, DCENR and appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b><u>DECLG</u></b> DECLG prioritised the development of a new foreshore IT system. The aim is to develop an automated case management system to manage data capture and workflows. Phase I of the project involving functionality to automate the consultation phase of the application process and capture historical data was delivered in March 2013. Later phases of the project will include the development of GIS and financial management modules.</p> <p><b><u>DAFM</u></b> See action 2b</p>

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Governance	2b	Update/improve legislation to streamline planning and consent processes.	Short-Medium Term	DECLG DAFM	<p><b><u>DECLG</u></b> It is intended that the General Scheme of the Maritime Area and Foreshore (Amendment) Bill will be submitted to Government for approval in June. The detailed drafting of the Bill will be progressed as soon as possible thereafter.</p> <p><b><u>DAFM - Sustainable Aquaculture</u></b> To ensure compliance with environmental requirements and to avoid fines with particular reference to an ECJ Judgement, aquaculture licensing in most of the bays, must be carried out in line with very specific requirements under the Birds &amp; Habitats Directive. A High Level Steering Group chaired by DAFM, with DEHLG, MI, BIM, NPWS is working to a Roadmap which includes a Workplan and Timelines (Bay by Bay). An update on progress with the Roadmap was provided to DG Environment on 9th Oct 2012. DG Environment is broadly satisfied with the Roadmap subject to the resolution of certain minor issues. In 2012, new Licence templates, creating a clear &amp; updated set of rights &amp; responsibilities for Licence holders were implemented. These are designed in line with best international practice and will strengthen the regulation process. The first integrated aquaculture and inshore fisheries Appropriate Assessment (AA) was carried out in Castlemaine, Co. Kerry, in full conformity with the Birds and Habitats Directives (Natura 2000). The first licence determinations in respect of this Natura site have been made with over 40 licence determinations being made in respect of Castlemaine Harbour. In parallel with the work done in relation to 'Natura 2000' sites significant progress was made in 2012 on licensing in non-Natura areas. 115 licence determinations were made in 2012, up from 6 in 2011, and depending on the availability of Appropriate Assessments and other measures it is expected that determinations in excess of this figure will be possible in 2013.</p> <p><b><u>AGO</u></b> AGO has provided advice to the DECLG on its proposal for draft Heads of a Foreshore and Marine Area Development Bill.</p>

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June 2013**

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Governance	2c	Develop an appropriate Maritime Spatial Planning Framework for Ireland within which the scope and objectives of an overarching national Marine Spatial Plan will be defined. Areas to be examined include: o emerging EU policy in relation to maritime spatial planning; o the need for any further legislative changes that may be required to support a national maritime spatial planning framework; o international best practice on developing integrated marine planning and licensing – benchmarking Ireland’s marine regulatory framework; and o a national maritime spatial planning capacity and responsibility for data coordination and exchange. This system will facilitate decision support through the visualisation of ecosystem features and existing and proposed activities in our ocean space.	Short-Medium Term	Enablers Task Force	<p><b>Develop an appropriate Maritime Spatial Planning Framework for Ireland within which the scope and objectives of an overarching national Marine Spatial Plan will be defined (Enablers Task Force).</b></p> <p>An Enablers Task Force on Maritime Spatial Planning was set up by the Minister and the Marine Coordination Group in December 2012. The Group, chaired by P. Heffernan of the Marine Institute, includes representatives from private sector, AGO, D/AHG, D/TTAS, D/CENR, D/AFM, and D/ECLG. The Task Force will be making recommendations to the Minister and the Marine Coordination Group in October.</p> <p><b>AGO</b> AGO has carried extensive research (ongoing) on the interaction between International Law (UNCLOS) and EU law. This with a view to designing a legislative system which takes advantage of the opportunities afforded by UNCLOS but incorporating EU obligations. AGO has identified the EU law/treaty provisions which make this permissible. AGO has also identified a legislative model in use elsewhere which might act as a base for Irish legislation. AGO has also identified a Maritime Spatial Plan(ning) (MSP) in use in Europe which could also act as a model for developing a MSP legislative/regulatory system here. This work is ongoing but good progress being made. AGO continues to provide ongoing support to the Enablers Task Force.</p>
<b>Maritime Security &amp; Surveillance</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Develop and implement systems to provide real-time operating, surveillance and monitoring information on activity within Ireland’s maritime domain.</b>	<b>Short term</b>	<b>DTTAS/ Coast Guard &amp; DoD/NS</b>	<p><b>DTTAS</b> National MarSur Steering Group met in December 2012. No resources available to advance to any significant level at present. Portuguese navy company presented a proposed solution. DTTAS coordinating a questionnaire on CISE for return in early June 2013. IRCG partaking in EMSA’s IMDatE trial project.</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

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Maritime Security & Surveillance  (Cont.)	3	Develop and implement systems to provide real-time operating, surveillance and monitoring information on activity within Ireland's maritime domain.	Short term	DTTAS/ Coast Guard & DoD/NS	<p><b>DEFENCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Naval Service has installed the Maritime Component Command (MCC), RMP (SITEAWARE) at the Naval Base Operations Centre and on two patrol vessels; Systems will be installed on remaining six vessels this year.</li> <li>Ireland is sharing information with EU Military at basic level requiring exchange of data files through an EDA project.</li> <li>The first milestone (baseline review) of Next Generation (NG) RMP project was completed September 2012, work will continue to deliver and integrate RMP for all areas of maritime responsibility.</li> <li>Ongoing development of the RMP project continues.</li> </ul>
Maritime Security & Surveillance	4	Update national legislation code for an effective Irish Maritime Administration in accordance with national and international requirements.	Ongoing	DTTAS	<p><b>DTTAS</b></p> <p>Updated and consolidated national legislation for collision regulations in line with international requirements was put in place in 2012; Transposition requirements were met in respect of EU Directives; Work is progressing in relation to the updating of further maritime legislation.</p>
Maritime Security & Surveillance	5	Implement effective flag and port state inspection regimes and improved enforcement of existing regulation, including new regulation standards emanating from the EU and IMO.	Ongoing	DTTAS	<p><b>DTTAS</b></p> <p>Implementation continues for flag state with new international merchant ships, domestic ships and fishing vessels entering the flag, in-service flag state implementation is continuing and Ireland continues to implement the port state control regimes.</p> <p><b>DAFM</b></p> <p>The Resource management team is responsible for national implementation of the annual EU Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and Fisheries Quota Regulations. It also manages the fishing effort (days at sea) in the Irish Sea and the North West and negotiates Quota swaps with other member states. The primary objective of the unit to advise the Minister on the optimal use of Irish fishing quotas and effort. The team works closely with industry representatives and holds formal meetings on a monthly basis. The unit also has responsibility for the implementation of National fisheries control policy.</p>

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June 2013**

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<b>Maritime Security &amp; Surveillance</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Maintain and improve Ireland’s status on the international shipping benchmarks and use Ireland’s positive status to promote shipping related enterprises</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>DTTAS</b>	<u><b>DTTAS</b></u> Ireland is on the PMoU “White List” for 2011. The draft list for 2012 will be considered at a meeting of the PMoU at the end of May and if the draft is adopted Ireland will be on the “White List” for 2012. Ireland remains on the IMO STCW “White List” for seafarer training.

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

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Clean-Green-Marine	9	<p>Implement the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out an initial assessment and related works required under the MSFD in order to provide an accurate picture of the environmental status of our marine waters;</li> <li>• Set appropriate targets in the pursuit of good environmental status; and</li> <li>• Develop an Atlas of the Irish Marine Environment, which will include the collation of all relevant information into a central GIS. This will be an important tool underpinning decisions on policies and actions to protect biodiversity and act as a stepping-stone to future, long-term measures (e.g. in the development of a National Marine Habitat Map and a Maritime Spatial Plan).</li> </ul>	Short-Medium Term	DECLG in association with other appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b>DECLG</b></p> <p>The MSFD project is funded by DECLG and is being managed by the Marine Institute. The project is overseen by a Technical Working Group comprising experts from relevant Government Departments and agencies. The project will run for three years and will support delivery of all technical aspects of the Directive up to and including development of a monitoring programme for the ongoing assessment of the environmental status of Irish marine waters. The Marine Institute has employed the services of the RPS Group to assist with the work. In addition, the EPA has a number of substantial research projects underway to support implementation of the Directive. All of this work feeds into the compilation of the Atlas of the Irish Marine Environment. The Atlas consists of approximately 130 datasets, collated specifically for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, which are organised into marine themes.</p>
Clean-Green-Marine	10	<p>Deliver all measures relevant to Ireland as directed under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and national measures including the conservation, management and rebuilding of fish stocks and long-term sustainable exploitation of marine biological resources.</p>	Short-Medium Term	DAFM	<p><b>DAFM - Reform of the EU Common Fisheries Policy</b></p> <p>The European Commission formally brought forward proposals to reform the existing Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) in Mid 2011. This followed a lengthy consultation period with relevant stakeholders. The main aim of the CFP reform proposals is to ensure that European fisheries are more economically, environmentally and socially sustainable into the future. Specific elements of the reform proposals include the elimination of discards (dumping of fish at sea) and an end to overfishing, in order to allow fish stocks in EU waters to recover. Progressing agreement on Common Fisheries Policy reform was identified as a key priority for Ireland's Presidency of the EU and the Presidency set out an ambitious</p> <p>(Cont. Overleaf)</p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

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Clean-Green-Marine (Cont.)	10	Deliver all measures relevant to Ireland as directed under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and national measures including the conservation, management and rebuilding of fish stocks and long-term sustainable exploitation of marine biological resources	Short-Medium Term	DAFM	<p>timeframe for progress on a number of areas by end June 2013. The CFP reform proposal essentially involves three separate pieces of legislation, a basic policy regulation, a regulation on the Common Organisation of the Market (CMO) both of which are supported and underpinned by a separate financial instrument, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) which is not due to be finalised until the Lithuanian EU Presidency (second quarter 2013).</p> <p>After a long and at times complex period of negotiation, the Irish EU Presidency delivered on one of its highest priorities securing agreement on the main elements of the EU's new Common Fisheries Policy on 30<sup>TH</sup> May. The agreement reached between the Irish Presidency, European Parliament and the European Commission then went to the Committee of Permanent Representatives (<i>Coreper</i>) for final approval and finally to the Parliament's own fisheries (PECHE) Committee where it received near unanimous support from EU Member States on June 18th.</p> <p>Details of the agreed reforms will be given in Quarter 3 H.O.O.W updates.</p>
Clean-Green-Marine	11	Continue to implement the EU Water Framework Directive through the River Basin Management Plans.	Short-Medium Term	DECLG with other appropriate departments and agencies	<p><u>DECLG</u></p> <p>The first-cycle river basin management plans (to 2015) were finalised in July 2010. A progress report on the implementation of the associated Programme of Measures was compiled by the EPA and sent to the European Commission in Q1 2013. Work on the second-cycle plans (2016-2021) is commencing in 2013.</p>

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June 2013**

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Clean-Green-Marine	12	<p>Continue to implement EU Natura 2000 legislation (Birds and Habitats Directives):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the preparation of management plans to facilitate sustainable development (e.g. aquaculture, offshore energy); and</li> <li>• Complete the designation process for marine SACs (2012) and SPAs (2014).</li> </ul>	Ongoing-Medium Term	DAHG with other appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b>DAHG</b></p> <p>(i) Site specific conservation objectives have been set for 43 natura marine sites</p> <p>(ii) While good progress has been made in relation to the marine SAC designations (with six additional SAC's proposed for designation in December 2012), DAHG will now need to consider the necessary technical capacity required to establish a work programme for progressing marine SPA designations.</p> <p>(iii) DAHG are providing support to DCENR to address complaints raised with the European Commission against Ireland in relation to regulation of seismic surveys with respect to amongst other things Art 12 of the Habitats Directive. The complaint also queried Ireland's approach to monitoring and risk assessment in relation to cetaceans.</p> <p><b>DAFM</b></p> <p>Sea-fishing and aquaculture in seven marine Natura 2000 sites have undergone appropriate assessment under the Habitats and Birds Directives to date. A further twelve sites are planned for appropriate assessment in 2013. The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is implementing its licensing processes in accordance with the conclusions of those assessments. The Department, in conjunction with its agencies, is implementing a discrete project in 2013 to identify and evaluate potential risks from unplanned fishing activities in marine Natura 2000 sites. Up to 70 sites are expected to be assessed. The outcome of the project will inform management of sea-fishing in these sites to ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive. Further appropriate assessments and risk assessments will continue in future years and will be an ongoing and essential element of management of sea-fisheries and aquaculture.</p>
Clean-Green-Marine	13	Climate Change	See Sub-Actions	See Sub- Actions	(See action 13a)

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June 2013**

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Clean-Green-Marine	13a	Maintain and where appropriate, expand key marine observations/sentinel sites for Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) as endorsed by the UNFCCC Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). Such measurements (collected, quality assessed and analysed on an on-going basis) are essential to support improved regional modelling, scenario development, forecasting and climate impact risk assessment.	Ongoing	EPA with other appropriate agencies	<b>Marine Institute</b> In January the MI carried out its annual ocean climate section onboard the <i>RV Celtic Explorer</i> . The data have been included in the ICES Report on Ocean Climate and will be submitted to the ICES data centre with remaining 2013 data in Q4.
Clean-Green-Marine	14	Implement Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan "Actions for Biodiversity, 2011-2016", to conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment.	Ongoing	DAHG with other appropriate departments and agencies	<b>DAHG</b> Ongoing progress in implementation of National Biodiversity Plan as outlined in Action Point 12 above.
Business Development, Marketing & Promotion	16	Strengthen and develop a common message and theme that promotes Irish marine products and services using high standards of environmental compliance (the 'Clean Green' brand).	Short-Medium-Long Term	Development Task Force, EI, IDA, Bord Bia	<b>DJEI</b> Enterprise Ireland recognises the importance of the Clean Green brand and supports this common message for products and services.  <b>Bord Iascaigh Mhara - Funding/Investment</b> In Qtr. 2 Minister Coveney announced funding of €5 million for the seafood industry for a range of 150 environmental and conservation initiatives, quality schemes as well as local employment and coastal community support programmes. In excess of 1,000 boats are set to receive grant-aid under these schemes. Each scheme aims to further develop Ireland's environmentally responsible fisheries sector where sustainable employment will be based on the strategic management of the valuable marine resource. The Minister emphasized that this funding underlines the Government's commitment to our fisheries at a time when the generation of ocean wealth will be a key driver in Ireland's economic recovery.  (cont. overleaf)

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

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Business Development, Marketing & Promotion  (Cont.)	16	Strengthen and develop a common message and theme that promotes Irish marine products and services using high standards of environmental compliance (the 'Clean Green' brand).	Short-Medium-Long Term	Development Task Force, EI, IDA, Bord Bia	<b>Bord Bia</b> Bord Bia has introduced its Origin Green sustainability programme that evidences the environmental impact of its members (energy, emissions and waste are mandatory dimensions) in addition to other measures of sustainability. Errigal Seafood and Marine Harvest have been verified by SGS as full members. A further seven companies have submitted plans for verification and yet more are at the preliminary stages of either registering their interest and/or attending workshops. Communications is being rolled out as membership builds.
Business Development, Marketing & Promotion	17	Give a clear message to investors that Ireland is 'open for, and a good place to do, marine business' domestically and internationally and continue to market and promote business opportunities associated with the marine through the IDA, EI, IMDO Bord Bia, BIM, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Fáilte Ireland.	Short-Medium-Long Term	Development Task Force, IDA, EI, IMDO, Bord Bia, BIM, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Fáilte Ireland	<b>DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland</b> Fáilte Ireland is a member of the Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs) around the country which have been set up by BIM as part of Axis IV European Fisheries Fund with a view to helping the fishing industry to diversify in to other marine activities such as marine tourism. Action plans/ strategies for each of these areas will be published in 2013.  <b>IMDO</b> - See action 18  <b>DJEI</b> Enterprise Ireland is supporting several research projects and companies associated with the marine and actively supports IDA and other State Agencies in the promotion of Ireland as a base.  <b>DAFM - Seafood Development &amp; Innovation</b> In line with FH2020 goals, to increase value by €50 million by 2013 and by €100 million by 2015, maximising the value from the raw material base is a priority for BIM. BIM's vision is for a scaled Irish seafood industry capitalising on the growing opportunities for seafood in global markets and providing sustainable employment in our coastal communities. To achieve this vision, BIM will promote an integrated approach to growing the seafood sector with the following priorities:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand the raw material base; developing new aquaculture farms, attracting foreign landings, and development of new species such as boarfish.</li> </ul> (Cont. overleaf)

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

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Business Development, Marketing & Promotion  (Cont.)	17	Give a clear message to investors that Ireland is 'open for, and a good place to do, marine business' domestically and internationally and continue to market and promote business opportunities associated with the marine through the IDA, EI, IMDO Bord Bia, BIM, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Fáilte Ireland.	Short-Medium-Long Term	Development Task Force, IDA, EI, IMDO, Bord Bia, BIM, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Fáilte Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise value of raw material through market-led innovation, new product development, branding and eco-certification.</li> <li>Develop scale in the sector through companies' collaborations and joint ventures, investment in seafood processing, competitiveness and route to market structures.</li> <li>Cooperate with Bord Bia to align BIM's product certification and assurance schemes with promotional campaigns and initiatives, in particular the Origin Green project.</li> <li>Collaborating with Teagasc, Moorepark to explore components and value potential of fish waste.</li> </ul>
Business Development, Marketing & Promotion	18	Continue to market and develop Ireland as a world-class location for international shipping services	Short-Medium-Long Term	IMDO	<p><u>DTTAS/IMDO</u></p> <p>Nov 2012 - Published comprehensive review of Irish Ports Offshore Renewable Energy Services. Targeting foreign investment. Oct 2012 - Appointed new business development consultants in Hong Kong and USA to support targeting shipping services investment</p>
Business Development, Marketing & Promotion	19	Encourage and facilitate coastal communities to avail of existing and future marine enterprise opportunities, e.g. through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training programmes</li> <li>Business supports</li> <li>Provision of specialist marketing and investment advice, market intelligence and consumer research.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Local enterprise development boards, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Fáilte Ireland, BIM	<p><u>DTTAS</u></p> <p>See update under action 17 from Fáilte Ireland I in relation to FLAGS</p> <p><u>DJEI</u></p> <p>A number of county enterprise boards have undertaken actions to encourage and facilitate coastal communities to avail of existing and future marine enterprise opportunities, for example, Kerry CEB and the Taste Kerry Initiative, Wicklow CEB and the Irish Sea Maritime Cluster, Sligo CEB and Celtic Seaweed Baths in Strandhill. Clare CEB has engaged with MI in relation to the development of a plan and enterprise related activities in this sector along the Clare coastline.</p> <p><u>Bord Iascaigh Mhara</u></p> <p>See item 16 above</p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

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Business Development, Marketing & Promotion	20	Progress a number of targeted emerging business development opportunities (e.g. offshore renewables, offshore services, maritime security and safety, shipping logistics and transport, ICT and sensors, biotechnology). This would include the collection/collation of market intelligence and foresight and the promotion of clusters using SmartOcean and IMERC as vehicles for innovation-led commercial development.	Short-Medium Term	Development Task Force	<p><b>DJEI</b> Enterprise Ireland engages with the Industry group Marine Renewables Industry Association (MRIA) on the development of the sector and supports individual clients in the development of new technologies and products. Enterprise Ireland is also engaging with IMERC and the Marine Institute (SmartOcean) on building the cluster and optimising its commercial offering to the Maritime sector.</p> <p><b>Bord Iascaigh Mhara - Professional training</b> BIM, highlighted the importance of safety at sea at this year's Irish Skipper Expo in Galway with the launch of a new training guide.</p> <p><b>BIM Guide to Personal Survival Techniques</b> covering key personal survival techniques including; personal flotation devices, abandon ship, helicopter rescue and hypothermia. The guide, approved by the National Adult Literacy Association (NALA) was developed by BIM in consultation with Dr. Jason van der Velde of Medico Cork at Cork University Hospital, the Department of Transport and the Irish Coast Guard. Fishing is a dangerous occupation and over the last five years, 19 deaths at sea related to the commercial fishing and aquaculture sector have been recorded; thus safety is a serious issue that must be addressed in the wider seafood sector. New developments in safety on board and new technology coming on stream provide more tools to increase survival rates from accidents at sea but for these measures to be effective, all crew require the necessary safety training. BIM now run a variety of training courses for industry, including the mandatory Basic Safety Course at the National Fisheries College Ireland (NFCI) Greencastle, Co. Donegal and Castletownbere, Co. Cork) and on board their coastal training units that bring training directly to ports and coastal locations around Ireland.</p>

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June 2013**

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Research, Knowledge, Technology & Innovation	21	Continue to fund strategic marine RTDI (industry, policy and discovery research) through cross-government/ agency collaboration across a range of national and international funding mechanisms.	See sub-actions	See sub-actions	(See actions 21a-21c)
Research, Knowledge, Technology & Innovation	21a	Continue to implement Sea Change – A Marine Knowledge Research & Innovation Strategy for Ireland 2007-2013, taking account of the Report of the Research Prioritisation Steering Group (March 2012) and the relevant action plans (under development), that address marine opportunities; e.g. sustainable food production and processing, food for health and marine renewable energy.	Short-Medium Term	DAFM (MI) in association with relevant departments and agencies	<p><b><u>DAFM/Marine Institute</u></b> Sea Change is continuing to be implemented in conjunction with the work at EU and National level to prepare for a replacement research programme for the new funding period. (See action 27d also)</p> <p><b><u>DJEI</u></b> In the context of implementation of research prioritisation through the Research Prioritisation Action Group, Action Plans have been developed for all Priority Areas including Sustainable Food Production, Food for Health and Marine Renewable Energy and engagement has taken place with key stakeholders. The Action Plans were formally adopted by the Prioritisation Action Group at its meeting in January. The Action Plans are being brought to Government in June to secure agreement to their web publication.</p> <p><b><u>DEFENCE</u></b> NS/NMCI are partners/involved in the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atlantic Power Cluster; ARCOPOL plus and NETMAR Projects.</li> <li>• A 13Wind (FP7) Offshore Wind focused project – a “simulation in the loop” package that will develop new turbine, deployment vessel and crane simulation models that may be tested and deployed in NMCI.</li> <li>• MAREI Science Foundation Ireland proposal, has been successful meaning an investment of €25 million, for research and development in the maritime sector. Industry and academics will work side by side in the new UCC Beaufort Laboratory. The Beaufort lab will be built on the IMERC campus in Ringaskiddy, building to commence June 2013.</li> </ul>

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June 2013**

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Research, Knowledge, Technology & Innovation	21b	Continue to implement research supporting increased hydrocarbon prospectivity through government-industry and international collaboration, supported by research teams in the third level sector across a range of national and international funding mechanisms (2012-2013), to address data, knowledge and specialised research capabilities to support and enable offshore exploration for indigenous oil and gas resources.	Ongoing	DCENR	<p><b><u>DCENR &amp; GSI</u></b>            Petroleum Infrastructure Programme (PIP), nearing completion of North Atlantic Plate Margin Study in conjunction with Canadian Newfoundland &amp; Labrador counterparts.            GSI are engaged in petroleum basin project, North Atlantic Geoscience Tectonostratigraphic Atlas (NAG TEC), compiling relevant data for area from Ireland north to NE Greenland and NW Norway. Programme is also funding geoscience consultant at GSI and Post-Doctoral Researcher in Geology at UCD</p> <p><b><u>DCENR</u></b>            A major regional 2D seismic survey is currently being acquired across the Atlantic Ireland Basins. The survey consists of up to 18,000 line kms and the programme grid was designed by PAD to complement existing datasets and to infill data gaps. Eni is operating the survey on behalf of DCENR with significant input from PAD technical officials. The survey has just commenced and it is planned to continue acquisition upto mid October 2013 (weather permitting).</p> <p><b><u>DEFENCE</u></b>            In the event of oil NHS (Harmful Noxious Substances) and inert spills during exploitation of indigenous oil and gas resources the Atlantic Regions Coastal Pollution Response project will improve preparedness, response and mitigation capabilities of local and regional responders.            The project Networked Systems for Situational Awareness and Intervention in Maritime Incidents will allow for the demonstration, evaluation and dissemination of new robotic systems, sensors and networking technologies in operational environments of maritime incidents endangering human life, the environment and economy</p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Research, Knowledge, Technology & Innovation	23	<p>Complete the INFOMAR seabed mapping programme, to provide data, products (e.g. databases, charts, physical habitat maps) and services (marine decision support tools) as critical inputs to maritime spatial planning and enablers of infrastructural development, research, education and value-added products. Further develop the role of INFOMAR in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of Irish graduates in latest techniques in seabed mapping, which are applicable world-wide;</li> <li>• Utilisation of data in major research projects; and</li> <li>• Development of collaborative added-value products through engagement with SMEs and the research community.</li> </ul>	Short-Medium Term	DCENR (GSI) and MI	<p><b><u>DCENR (GSI) and Marine Institute</u></b></p> <p>INFOMAR has commenced 2013 Surveying with work in Priority Areas of Celtic Sea (off Youghal, Dungarvan &amp; Kinsale) and Irish Sea (off Wexford and Dublin) and Priority Bays with Satellite Mapping of Shannon, Dingle, Dundalk and Carlingford. Marine Mapping has also commenced in the Dundalk Bay area as part of the EU InterReg IVA Project INIS HYDRO.</p> <p>Another external review of the INFOMAR Project by PwC is nearing completion and will be published in Q2, 2013.</p> <p>Advisory services and data was provided in relation to infrastructural developments in both Cork Harbour and North Dublin, and offshore Clare in relation to Renewable Energy Development in conjunction with SEAI. At EU level INFOMAR/GSI/MI contributed to both the development of The Atlantic Strategy Report published in Q2 and participated in the Galway Seminar, Atlantic our Shared Resource, with EU, US and Canadian officials, where an initiative on Atlantic Ocean Mapping was one of the proposals.</p>
Research, Knowledge, Technology & Innovation	25	<p>Support existing and new test-beds/facilities for demonstration and commercialisation purposes that promote Ireland as a test-bed for renewable energy technologies and ICT (SmartOcean) focusing on the development of innovative technologies that support real-time information gathering (e.g. for security, surveillance, environmental monitoring).</p>	Short-Medium Term	Development Task Force	<p><b><u>DJEI</u></b></p> <p>Under the SFI Infrastructure Awards announced in November 2012, the Marine Institute were approved an award of €2.29m for a marine energy testing site in Galway Bay to help source renewable energy from power of the ocean, and UCC were approved funding for a National Ocean Energy Test Facility Enhancement.</p> <p>One of the National Shared Facilities which PRTL Cycle 5 awards (value €4.05m) contributing to is SMARTBay, a national infrastructure for marine data collection and testing of next generation marine, communications and environmental technologies (based in Galway Bay). Additionally, there is a PRTL Cycle 5 total award value of €8.4m to IMERC, which was designed as a world class research building of 4,491msq housing researchers in the areas of marine renewable energy, sustainable energy development and maritime sectors under one roof.</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
<p>Research, Knowledge, Technology &amp; Innovation</p> <p>(Cont.)</p>	25	<p>Support existing and new test-beds/facilities for demonstration and commercialisation purposes that promote Ireland as a test-bed for renewable energy technologies and ICT (SmartOcean) focusing on the development of innovative technologies that support real-time information gathering (e.g. for security, surveillance, environmental monitoring).</p>	Short-Medium Term	Development Task Force	<p>On 25 February, the SFI Research Centre awards were announced, one of which is the Centre for Marine Renewable Energy Ireland (MaREI). MaREI will develop the science and technology required by industry to generate energy from wave, tidal and floating wind devices and will carry out world-leading research on all aspects required for the success of the marine renewable energy sector while also educating and training the next generation of engineers and scientists for the marine renewable energy industry. In particular, MaREI will look at a wide range of challenges concerned with the optimized deployment of marine renewable energy devices, the connection of such devices to the national grid, methods for storing the energy generated, and related marine governance, planning, economics and environmental issues.</p> <p><b><u>Marine Institute</u></b></p> <p>The MI continued to progress the SmartBay marine technology test and demonstration facilities in Galway Bay by preparing for the installation of a fibre optic cable from An Spideal to an underwater hub that links to the unique ¼ scale ocean energy test facility to develop research and commercial opportunities in the technology and energy sectors. The cable Foreshore License application has been submitted to DECLG and will be followed by finalisation of system design (Q3) and ITT for April 2013 and is in consultation phase, the contract for specialist engineering project management support has been awarded in May 2013 and the first engineering review will take place in mid-June. This installation of cable and ancillary works in 2014 will issue in Q4. The deployment of a SmartBay buoy off Cork is planned for early June 2013.</p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Capacity, Education, Training & Awareness	26	Plan for the appropriate human resources to be in place to efficiently and effectively meet the current demands and capture the future opportunities in relation to our ocean wealth.	Ongoing	Appropriate departments	<p><b>DJEI</b></p> <p>The PRTL Cycle 5 contribution to the SMARTBay project is in the form of funding a unique resource for the training and education of graduate and postgraduate students in the challenges of bringing research out of the laboratory into real scenarios, as part of a larger multidisciplinary effort contributing to knowledge generation and economic development. Researchers at IMERC collaborate on scientific programmes that meet national objectives for ecologically sustainable ocean energy, renewable energy storage and grid integration and policy support &amp; marine resource management. IMERC also collaborating with the SFI funded strategic research cluster in UCD – the Sustainable Energy Research Group. <b>See MaREI at 25.</b></p>
Capacity, Education, Training & Awareness	27	Maintain and build capacity (people) to meet the needs of the maritime sector; e.g. through tailored education and training programmes and research capacity building.	See sub-actions	See sub-actions	(See actions 27a-27d)

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Capacity, Education, Training & Awareness	27a	Identify future skills needs and labour market supply and demand trends in the marine area;	Short-Medium Term	DJEI , DES (Forfás – Future Skills Group)	<p><b><u>DJEI</u></b> Two existing reports from the EGFSN that address aspects of Action 27 have been completed. 1) the Food &amp; Beverages Sector (Nov 09) which includes the seafood sector, and 2) the Green Economy in Ireland (Nov 2010) which includes renewable energy of which ocean/wave /marine was included. The report examines the occupations required in the Marine (Wave and Tidal Energy) sector including Electrical engineer, process engineer, marine energy engineer, site development manager, marine operations manager, structural engineer, mechanical design engineer, and wave scientist. Skills needs were identified for engineers with mechanical and electrical engineering skills for marine renewable energy turbine design and connection to the grid.</p> <p>A formal request was made from Minister Coveney to Ministers Quinn and Bruton for EGFSN for EGFSN to identify the future skills need. EGFSN will revert shortly with a decision.</p> <p>EGFSN have included this request in their work programme for 2013 - however, its execution will be dependent on resource availability during the year.</p> <p><b><u>DEFENCE</u></b> Due to increased demand in RDT&amp;I NMCI has included a Research element to encourage and support research and development in the maritime sector.</p> <p>NMCI Research has been rebranded as the Halpin research centre with the NS heavily involved in EU funded projects.</p>
Capacity, Education, Training & Awareness	27c	Encourage utilisation of employment and training programmes (e.g. Job Bridge and Springboard) that offer the necessary training and up-skilling for marine personnel, taking account of local employment needs and opportunities; and	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b><u>DEFENCE</u></b> NMCI &amp; IMERC are fully engaged with both Job Bridge and Springboard Programmes</p>

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Capacity, Education, Training & Awareness	27d	Continue to build marine research capacity and capability through targeted national and international research funding.	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b>DJEI</b> In the context of implementation of research prioritisation through the Research Prioritisation Action Group, Action Plans have been developed for all Research Priority Areas (including sustainable food production and processing, food for health and marine renewable energy) and the development of human capital and researcher skillsets have been captured as actions therein. The Action Plans were formally adopted by the Prioritisation Action Group at its meeting in January. The Action Plans are being brought to Government in June to secure agreement to their web publication.</p> <p><b>Science Foundation Ireland</b> SFI's recently announced (23 May) Technology Innovation Development Awards (TIDA), in collaboration with Enterprise Ireland, include an award for an OPTI-WIND project to develop a structural health monitoring system for the offshore wind turbine substructure, which will allow efficient maintenance measures to be adopted. An award was also made for a CASTAWAY project to develop a smartsensor which will be used to identify where and when endangered sharks are captured at sea and will provide scientists, agencies and international organisations with the crucial data to support sustainable fishing, globally.</p> <p><b>Marine Institute</b> Sea Change continues to be implemented via a number of national and international funding mechanisms. Under the Marine NDP, the Marine Institute is commissioning research in the areas of fisheries (sea bass in association with the UCC-led Beaufort project), marine environment research in support of MSFD and WFD (in association with the EPA), shellfish aquaculture (in collaboration with BIM) and the provision of research and policy support initiatives to support the implementation of HOOW. This will include research to support the Enablers Task Force on Marine Spatial Planning (e.g. through the commissioning of legal research) and provide support for the work of the Development Task</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Capacity, Education, Training & Awareness  <b>(Cont.)</b>	27d	Continue to build marine research capacity and capability through targeted national and international research funding.	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	<p>Force. The MI has agreed to jointly fund, with DAFM, via the FIRM (Food Institutional Research Measure) Programme, research aligned to two of the Priority Areas of the Research Prioritisation framework - Sustainable Food Production and Processing, and Food for Health. Research proposals received under the call for proposals launched by DAFM in March are currently undergoing evaluation.</p> <p><b>DEFENCE</b> The following projects have been initiated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated Maritime Promotion Action (IMPACT) promotes the use of ICT and e-learning methods for maritime vocational education and training.</li> <li>• Marine Learning Network (MARLEANET). The implementation of a maritime training network for sectors such as fishery, merchant navy, Navy and offshore activities</li> <li>• Development of common training programs and e-learning platform for public and private sectors, maritime companies and institutions which meets new teaching and seafarers' requirements.</li> <li>• Maritime English Learning (MARTELPUS). Using the standards already created for Officers in the MARTEL project, the MARTEL Plus project will create an additional standard for Maritime English at foundation level for Ratings (Phase R).</li> </ul>
Capacity, Education, Training & Awareness	28	Establish Ireland as an international marine training destination, maximising the capacity and potential of existing marine training facilities/programmes (e.g. BIM training, IMERC, Ryan Institute, NMCI, ship-based SMART initiative, private training operators); and integrate into national initiatives such as Education in Ireland.	Ongoing-Medium Term	Development Task Force	<p>Minister Coveney has appointed Mr. Robert Dix as Chairman of the Development Task Force. Membership of the Task Force is under consideration but it is expected that the membership of the Development Task Force will be finalised shortly.</p> <p><b>Enterprise Ireland</b> Enterprise Ireland is engaging with NMCI and IMERC on Maritime Training technology theme.</p> <p><b>(Cont. Overleaf)</b></p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Capacity, Education, Training & Awareness  (Cont.)	28	Establish Ireland as an international marine training destination, maximising the capacity and potential of existing marine training facilities/programmes (e.g. BIM training, IMERC, Ryan Institute, NMCI, ship-based SMART initiative, private training operators); and integrate into national initiatives such as Education in Ireland.	Ongoing-Medium Term	Development Task Force	<p><b><u>Marine Institute</u></b> The Strategic Marine Alliance for Research and Training (SMART) is a partnership programme of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), supported by the Marine Institute and the Higher Education Authority, which pools existing expertise, facilities and infrastructure to increase capacity by providing offshore training for students of marine science, technology and engineering. Over the course of 2012 highlights from the SMART consortium has developed and delivered innovative, offshore accredited modules and CPD courses to over 220 undergraduate and postgraduate students of marine related-science, technology and engineering; under the Marine Institute’s Sea Change competitive Grant-aided Shiptime programme, SMART was awarded €336k (2013) to deliver national and European offshore training offshore training programmes over 42 days, and consulted widely across the marine community, and published and circulated a resultant document on the development of a Marine Graduate Programme across the island of Ireland. SMART are preparing a Q3 proposal for submission to HEA in this regard in 2013.</p> <p><b><u>DEFENCE</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IMERC provides co-located industry suites, incubation units, networking and brokering programmes, innovation partnerships and joint ventures. An industry-centered approach is used to develop an ecosystem of innovation that will yield Intellectual Property, High Potential Start Up Companies and jobs in Ireland’s Smart Economy.</li> <li>• New opportunities exist in the development of niche products and services targeted towards global growth sectors such as marine renewable energy, shipping, logistics &amp; transport, marine tourism &amp; recreation, maritime security, maritime training, and maritime Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) which IMERC will target. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMCI provide Degree and Certificate Nautical Science/Studies programmes</li> <li>• A range of Commercial and professional courses – i.e. Renewables; Petrochemical, Simulation; management and team building;</li> <li>• A range of evening courses e.g. Bsc Bisomess om Si[;u Cjaor &amp; Transport Management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Infrastructure	31	Maximise the utilisation of existing state maritime infrastructure (e.g. research vessels, coastal access points) through multi-purpose usage and sharing, in support of operational programmes, research, test and demonstration and monitoring.	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b><u>DCENR (GSI) and Marine Institute</u></b> Commenced implementation of INFOMAR Plans to assist SEAI and BIM with Seabed Mapping for renewables and aquaculture in 2013, GSI/DCENR &amp; MI/ DAFM</p> <p><b><u>Marine Institute</u></b> The State Research Vessels are heavily utilised annually by a wide variety of users from the state and third level research sectors. Surveys are encouraged to be multidisciplinary where possible. The vessels are utilised in support of several key national programs including mapping and monitoring activities in support of Ocean Energy research, maintenance and deployment activity for the National weather buoy program, monitoring programs including OSPAR Nutrient monitoring, Water Framework Directive nutrients and benthic monitoring as well as Radioactivity monitoring for Radiological protection institute of Ireland. These surveys are in addition to the Institute's core work in support of EU funded fisheries surveys (CFP data collection regulation surveys).</p> <p>The Marine Institute works closely and has MOU's supporting co-operation in place with other bodies e.g. Irish Naval Service, Commissioners of Irish Lights, Geological Survey of Ireland, and platforms and equipment are shared regularly in the course of activities undertaken. Some joint exercises involving deployment of the MI operated Holland I ROV from the CIL vessel <i>Granuaile</i> have taken place in recent months.</p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Infrastructure	32	Put in place clear integrated policies and strategies for the development of new key strategic infrastructures to support job creation and economic growth (e.g. the grid and port infrastructure to support renewable energy and export potential)	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b>DAFM</b></p> <p>The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine supports the ongoing development of 'Fishery Harbour Centres' at Killybegs, Ros an Mhíl, Dingle, Castletownbere, Dunmore East and Howth with funding from its annual Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Capital Development Programme. The 2013 Programme has now been approved and is providing almost €4.5m for the ongoing development, maintenance and upgrading works in respect of the Fishery Harbour Centres this year. In addition almost €0.6m has been allocated subject to the necessary consents for reconstruction and maintenance works at other harbours managed by the Department. The Programme also provides funding, subject to availability, for harbour development works at Local Authority owned piers and harbours. These projects bring much needed employment to local communities as well as providing improved infrastructure at the various piers and harbours. This year the Department is providing around €2.3m from the Programme for over 50 projects around the coast for completion within the year to support and develop fisheries and marine leisure related activities. These developments provide employment opportunities during and after the initial construction phase and ensure that the locations are poised to benefit when significant growth returns to the Irish economy. The Department has also set up regular 'Harbour User Forums' at the Fishery Harbour Centres bringing together the various stakeholders and business sector users in these locations. The Harbour Users Forums provide a unique opportunity to hear at first hand the views and needs of the Department's customers. The Department will continue in 2013 to meet with the various harbour stakeholders and to encourage suggestions for future development potential at the harbours, subject to their compatibility with the needs of the fishing industry and planning requirements.</p> <p><b>DTTAS</b></p> <p>See Action 34f re new National Ports Policy.</p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Infrastructure	33	Securely store all publicly funded marine data (e.g. seabed mapping, monitoring, research and scientific data) and where appropriate make available, as easily and freely as possible, in compliance with existing standards (e.g. INSPIRE) for multi-purpose usage (e.g. for research, governance, maritime spatial planning and commercial development purposes). Leverage for value-added purposes, including links to key EU projects in this area, such as, the EMODNET initiative.	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b><u>DCENR &amp; GSI</u></b> Having completed all Irish contributions to Phase one of EU EMODNET Project (Geology and Bathymetry Modules), , including online web mapping available seabed mapping, seabed substrate, seabed geology, marine minerals, coastal erosion and geohazards for North Europe test areas, GSI were part of the successful consortia awarded the main EMODNET Geology and Hydrography modules, commencing Q3 2013.</p> <p><b><u>Marine Institute</u></b> The Marine Institute is making a range of marine data generally available for reuse including for applications such as marine research, development and governance. This includes through its website including a new data download portal (<a href="http://data.marine.ie">http://data.marine.ie</a>) and as online web services. The Institute has recently received data gathered as part of the Ocean Energy Strategic Environmental Assessment from SEAI, and is reviewing options for how best the Atlas of the Irish Marine Environment can be made available on an ongoing basis. The Institute is also an active participant in the national INSPIRE working groups to progress how marine environmental data is shared in a standard way with other Government organisations including through the Irish Spatial Data Exchange project and the definition of the ISDI metadata profile. The MI is currently working on an updated date strategy for MI data assets and will also be looking at other public marine data sets to utilize in the development of online data services.</p>

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Infrastructure	34	Carry out national, regional and local initiatives aimed at tapping into the potential of new and existing coastal infrastructure to develop sustainable products, services and jobs. This would encourage investment along the coast. Initiatives include	See sub-actions	See sub-actions	(See Actions 34a-34f)  DAFM – See 32
Infrastructure	34a	Mapping existing marine and coastal infrastructure and amenities throughout the country to support the development of marine and coastal tourism and leisure products and services;	Ongoing	DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland	<b><u>DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland</u></b> Fáilte Ireland's GIS mapping exercise of marine tourism assets is complete and will be linked in to the Marine Institute mapping exercise which is being carried out under the MSFD, when the latter becomes available.
Infrastructure	34b	Research into best practice regarding the development and funding of marina and berthing facilities in Ireland and abroad, with a view to shaping national policy in this area;	Ongoing	DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland	<b><u>DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland</u></b> This report has been finalised and will be issued to relevant Government Stakeholders for comment/ action in the coming weeks. It is intended to hold an industry forum on wider marine tourism issues (inc. this review) in July/ August.
Infrastructure	34c	The Wild Atlantic Way' – a themed and packaged driving trail from Donegal to Cork;	Ongoing	DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland	<b><u>DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland</u></b> The route for the WAW has been identified and agreed by the relevant stakeholders, including the Local Authorities and Leader Companies along the west coast. The final route was published in April. A project Trade Engagement Plan is currently being developed and an update bulletin can be downloaded on <a href="http://www.failteireland.ie/wildatlanticway">www.failteireland.ie/wildatlanticway</a> .

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Infrastructure	34d	Utilising existing built and natural assets (e.g. Lighthouses and offshore islands) to develop tourism products and services;	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	<b>DTTAS</b> Work in this area is on-going and will be particularly supported by the development of the Wild Atlantic Way. The Commissioners of Irish Lights, Fáilte Ireland, the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and a number of other public bodies are in discussions about a cross-border project to develop the tourism potential of lighthouses along the northern coast.
Infrastructure	34e	Investigating opportunities to increase Ireland's share of the cruise tourism market and develop Ireland as a turnaround destination including supporting port companies in their plans to develop or expand cruise facilities using their own resources; and	Ongoing	DTTAS, Port Companies and other relevant organisations (public and private)	<b>DTTAS</b> In April 2013 the IMDO published figures for 2012 which show a 14.5% increase in the number of large cruise vessel calls to the island of Ireland. A number of port companies are developing proposals to facilitate greater volumes and provide better cruise related facilities within ports.
Infrastructure	34f	Supporting major national seaports in the implementation of their master plans to provide additional capacity and greater draft using their own resources.	Ongoing	DTTAS/Port Companies	<b>DTTAS</b> National Ports Policy, published in March 2013, explicitly supports the development of port masterplans by the major commercial port companies. The policy endorses the core principles underpinning Dublin Port Company's and the Port of Cork Company's individual masterplans and refers to the development of one in respect of Shannon Foynes (since published).  The continued commercial development of these three Ports of National Significance (Tier 1) is stated as a key objective of National Ports Policy. All three companies are bringing forward significant development proposals in line with their published masterplans.

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Infrastructure	35	Coastal Protection/Flooding			(See actions 35a-35c)
Infrastructure	35a	Complete the Irish Coastal Protection Strategy Study (ICPSS), which will provide strategic level coastal flood and erosion hazard maps for the national coastline.	Ongoing-Medium Term	OPW	<b>OPW</b> All coastal flood hazard and erosion hazard maps have been completed for the national coastline. This project is now effectively complete.
Infrastructure	35b	Incorporate ICPSS coastal flood hazard assessment into long-term flood risk management plans focused on prevention, protection and preparedness.	Ongoing-Medium Term	OPW	<b>OPW</b> ICPSS coastal flood hazard maps are currently being incorporated into long-term flood risk management plans.
Infrastructure	35c	Establish permanent tidal monitoring infrastructure (national tide gauge network) around the coast of Ireland.	Ongoing-Medium Term	MI, OPW, LAs, other public & private bodies	<b>OPW</b> The national tide gauge network is currently being hosted and maintained by the Marine Institute and other stakeholders. In the past 3.5 years the OPW have established a number of additional tidal monitoring stations (5) to support their business needs and OPW will continue to keep under review their requirements for any additional such gauges to support their future business needs. The most recent permanent tide gauge installed by OPW was in Cork Harbour at Ringaskiddy in 2011. Any future tidal monitoring stations will be co-ordinated with the Marine Institute.  (Cont. Overleaf)

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Infrastructure  <b>(Cont)</b>	35c	Establish permanent tidal monitoring infrastructure (national tide gauge network) around the coast of Ireland.	Ongoing-Medium Term	MI, OPW, LAs, other public & private bodies	<p><b><u>Marine Institute</u></b>                      18 maintained and calibrated tide gauge stations are currently in operation. Network nodes are installed by the Marine Institute with 60% funding provided by stakeholders and 40% from the Marine Institute. Additional nodes are required to complete the monitoring pattern to resolve the tidal regime around the coast. Tidal predictions are now available to the public through the MI website for 30 locations evenly spaced around the coast. A number of coastal authorities are using the real time data to provide them with flood forecasting and monitoring facilities e.g. Louth County Council and Dublin City Council. The OPW and EPA have recently initiated the National Hydrometric Working Group to optimise the delivery of water level information in Ireland, including marine tide gauges. Marine Institute is a member of the WG</p>

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
International and North/South Cooperation	36	Influence the development and implementation of EU maritime policy, strategies and programmes (e.g. IMPEUSA, CFP, MSP, MSFD, EMODNET) to assist in the delivery of the goals of Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth. This will be achieved by	See sub-actions	See sub-actions	(See Actions 36a-36c)
International and North/South Cooperation	36a	Maximising relevant funding opportunities (e.g. structural and cohesion funding);	Ongoing	DFA, MCG	<p><b>Marine Institute</b></p> <p>This is being progressed on a number of fronts- principally through the EUSA Action Plan. This is also being progressed through discussions on the content of H2020 and through various presidency's events such as e.g. bioeconomy conference held in Dublin in Feb.</p> <p>In 2012, the Marine Coordination Group, supported by the Marine Institute and the Maritime Affairs Attaché, submitted Ireland's Response to the EU Strategy for the Atlantic (EUSA) Action Plan Consultation Process. The submission identified a suite of indicative priority actions to be included in the EUSA Action Plan. The paper builds on the national Irish response (Nov. 2011) to the EC Scoping Paper preparing for a Communication on the Atlantic Ocean (2010) and the joint French, Irish, Portuguese and Spanish Statement (Dec 2011) in support of the EUSA.</p> <p>The Attaché is actively involved in the Atlantic Forum Steering Group and the MI (CEO) participates in the EUSA Leadership Group. In 2012/13 The 5th and last of five Regional Consultative Atlantic Forum Workshops (Horta, Brest, Bilbao, Cardiff) was held in University College Cork 4th to the 5th of March 2013. The European Union Strategy for the Atlantic Action Plan (2014-2020) was adopted on the 13th May 2013. The Action Plan contains four overarching priorities:</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
International and North/South Cooperation  (Cont.)	36a	Maximising relevant funding opportunities (e.g. structural and cohesion funding);	Ongoing	DFA, MCG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote entrepreneurship and innovation;</li> <li>2. Protect, secure and enhance the marine and coastal environment;</li> <li>3. Improve accessibility and connectivity;</li> <li>4. Create a socially inclusive and sustainable model of regional development.</li> </ol> <p>Each of these priorities contain a number of specific ideas, ranging from research cooperation, to investment in infrastructure and cooperation mechanisms - which Member States are invited to implement using EU funds, funding from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and private sector involvement in the period 2014-2020.</p>
International and North/South Cooperation	36b	Utilising Irish representation in Brussels; and	Ongoing	All departments	<p><b>DFA</b></p> <p>The Marine Attaché has been active during the Irish Presidency in chairing 6 (with a further two by end June – total of 8) Friends of the Presidency Working Groups on Integrated Maritime Policy focussing on examining the draft proposal on Maritime Spatial Planning/Integrated Coastal Management and drafting Council Conclusions on the IMP; also active in supporting the key Presidency events listed below, in particular the Atlantic Forum event in Cork, the Longest River, the HLFP in Valetta and the Galway meeting, including ensuring Council approval for the Galway Statement.</p>
International and North/South Cooperation	36c	Highlighting our marine sector/our ocean wealth during the Irish EU Presidency (Jan – Jun 2013).	Short Term	All departments	<p><b>DAFM</b></p> <p>DAFM will be chairing five Fisheries Council plus an informal Director Generals of Fisheries meeting during the Presidency and will use all relevant opportunities to highlight Ireland's ocean wealth.</p> <p>The <b>High Level Meeting</b> (The Atlantic – a Shared Resource event on 24 May was a key opportunity to highlight ocean wealth.</p> <p><b>(Cont. Overleaf)</b></p>

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013**

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
International and North/South Cooperation  (Cont.)	36c	Highlighting our marine sector/our ocean wealth during the Irish EU Presidency (Jan – Jun 2013).	Short Term	All departments	A number of marine/marine related events took place during the Irish Presidency, these include;  <b>February:</b> <i>Bioeconomy Stakeholder Conference</i> (Dublin); <b>4-5 March:</b> <i>5th Atlantic Forum Workshop</i> (Cork); <b>8-9 April:</b> <i>Challenges and Opportunities in Maritime Security and Surveillance for Effective Governance and Innovation in the EU's Maritime Domain</i> (Dublin), <b>18-19 April</b> <i>Space Innovation powering Blue Growth</i> (Cork), <b>29 April:</b> Brussels Performance of the Longest River <b>30 April:</b> educational workshop on the Longest River at European School 4, Laeken for 125+ primary children <b>21 May:</b> Minister of State McGinley at European Maritime Day Conference on theme of Coastal and Maritime Tourism <b>22 May:</b> High Level Focal Points, Malta on theme of jobs and growth, focussing on national marine plans <b>23-24 May:</b> The Atlantic - a Shared Resource – signing of Canada-EU-US Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance
International and North/South Cooperation	37	Ensure the inclusion of marine research in all relevant Work Programmes developed under HORIZON 2020 in order to maximise EU marine research funding opportunities and support the implementation of IMP – EU and its Sea Basin Strategies.	Short-Medium Term	All departments	<b>DJEI</b> The Commission is commencing work on a strategic programme for the development of work programmes for the implementation of Horizon 2020.
International and North/South Cooperation	38	Continue to foster a North/South and East/West approach in developing/enabling the marine sector (e.g. grid/all-island energy strategy, marine tourism and leisure) through existing structures and bodies.	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	<b>Marine Institute</b> In 2012, the MI continued to work closely with colleagues in UK (CEFAS), NI (AFBI), Scotland (Marine Scotland), in the areas of fisheries and ecosystem indicators.  <b>DCENR /GSI</b> Nearing completion of InterReg IVA funded INIS HYDRO Project - Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland Hydrographic Survey project, developing standard approach to seabed mapping. Final data acquisition for Dundalk Bay and Carlingford Lough GSI/DCENR & MI, commenced Q2 2013. Details are available on <a href="http://www.inis-hydro.eu">www.inis-hydro.eu</a>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
International and North/South Cooperation	39	Establish key trade and research links in non-EU markets and countries (e.g. China and transatlantic initiatives).	Short-Medium-Long Term	Appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b>Marine Institute</b></p> <p>The MI has a number of key partnership arrangements/MOUs in place with research organisations e.g. Norway (IMR), USA (NOAA); China (CAFS); and Canada (Newfoundland MI). Following a Chinese delegation visit to the MI in 2012, it is proposed that in the latter part of 2013 an Irish scientific delegation will visit China to further develop specific projects related to the MOU. In addition, the MI hosted a 2nd visiting scientist from China (CAFS) in the area of bioactives from shellfish biotoxins. An MOU with NOAA has been in place for over ten years with a number of collaborative projects. This collaboration will be enhanced in 2013. In 2012 and 2013, Canadian scientists onboard the RV Celtic Explorer carried out two acoustic surveys off Newfoundland. The transit to/from Canada was used for a number of added value research activities.</p> <p>EU, U.S., Canada Atlantic Ocean research alliance: On 23 and 24 May, a high level event took place at the Marine Institute in Galway, which has provided a vision for enhanced cooperation on both sides of the Atlantic and launched the Canada - EU - U.S. Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance. Commissioners Geoghegan-Quinn and Damanaki, on behalf of the EU, Dr Kerri-Ann Jones, U.S. Department of State, and Senator Mark Wells from Canada signed the Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation, in the presence of the Taoiseach, Mr. Enda Kenny, and Mr Simon Coveney T.D., Irish Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The Agreement aims to connect the ocean observation efforts of the three partners. The work will also study the interplay of the Atlantic Ocean with the Arctic Ocean, particularly in relation to climate change.</p> <p><b>DJEI</b></p> <p>In 2012, Ireland entered into a Strategic Partnership Agreement with China which sets out a framework to ensure mutually beneficial cooperation between Ireland and China in a number of important areas including:</p> <p><b>(cont. overleaf)</b></p>

Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
June 2013

Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
<p>International and North/South Cooperation</p> <p>(Cont.)</p>	39	<p>Establish key trade and research links in non-EU markets and countries (e.g. China and transatlantic initiatives).</p>	<p>Short-Medium-Long Term</p>	<p>Appropriate departments and agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater levels of two-way trade and investment for Irish and Chinese companies and investors;</li> <li>• Attracting inward investment from China to Ireland which in turn can facilitate greater access to the wider EU internal market;</li> <li>• Increased cooperation in the area of science, technology and innovation;</li> <li>• Closer collaboration in the agriculture sector including food and agribusiness;</li> <li>• Greater levels of cultural and people-to-people exchanges, including in the education and research sectors.</li> </ul> <p>The US-Ireland R&amp;D Partnership involves the governments of the United States of America, Ireland and Northern Ireland working together to advance scientific progress by awarding grants for research on a competitive basis. Areas of focus for collaboration include health, telecommunications and energy. One of the most recent projects approved for funding under the Partnership (February 2013) is in the area of Marine Renewable Energy. SFI, the Department of Employment and Learning Northern Ireland and NSF approved a proposal in the area of Energy Sustainability and will involve Principal Investigators from UCD, Queens University Belfast and the University of Texas. The research aims to reduce the economic and environmental cost of harnessing offshore wind energy.</p> <p><b><u>Bord Bia</u></b> Bord Bia continues to broaden its export reach into emerging markets outside of the EU on behalf of the Irish seafood sector, strongly focusing on the identification, profiling and targeting of new customers for the sector in markets such as the Middle East, Russia, Asia and US. Over the last 4 years it has coordinated a total <b>35 inward buyer visits</b> from customers in relatively under developed markets such as Asia, Russia, the US, the Middle East, non-EU European markets such as Switzerland (but also including less developed EU markets such as Austria) in an effort to increase penetration of Irish seafood in such non-traditional</p> <p>(cont. overleaf)</p>

**Update on HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Actions  
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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
<b>International and North/South Cooperation</b>  (Cont.)	39	<b>Establish key trade and research links in non-EU markets and countries (e.g. China and transatlantic initiatives).</b>	<b>Short-Medium-Long Term</b>	<b>Appropriate departments and agencies</b>	<p>markets with notable successes having been achieved, particularly in the shellfish and salmon sectors where a range of new accounts have been opened. In the last 12 months alone, Bord Bia has hosted importers, processors and distributors from China, Russia, the Middle East, Switzerland and Austria and made introductions to a range of Irish seafood companies. Directories of potential customers in these emerging markets have also been produced and further documentation will be available in the second half of 2013 on markets such as Russia and the Middle East. Bord Bia has also organised market study visits to Dubai, Russia and the US as well as Switzerland and Austria. There has also been significant work undertaken on the opportunities for boarfish in both Nigeria and China. Trade links are also enabled by the participation both dedicated seafood shows (the China Fisheries Show as well as some located in the EU – Conxemar and ESE - in 2013 alone) as well as opportunities for seafood companies to participate in general food shows such SIAL in China and others staged within the EU (e.g. MDD or Sirha in France).</p>