

**HARNESSING OUR OCEAN WEALTH Short-Medium and Ongoing Items  
September 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><u>DTTAS</u></b> National Ports Policy was published on 26 March 2013. Implementation of the new policy as per its implementation timelines has commenced. A consultation process on the development of new primary legislation is underway and an initial Regulatory Impact Analysis on the required amendments to the Harbours Acts was published for consultation purposes on the Department's website in August 2013.</p> <p><b><u>Bord Iascaigh Mhara</u></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>

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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	<b>D/AFM</b> Minister Coveney has appointed Mr. Robert Dix as Chairman of the Development Task Force. Membership of the Task Force is under consideration and it is expected that the membership of the Development Task Force will be finalised shortly.
Governance	1c	Continue to develop new policies / strategies that address gap areas through an integrated approach.	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	
<b>Governance</b>	<b>2</b>	<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>	<b>See sub-actions</b>	<b>See sub-actions</b>	<b>(See actions 2a-2c)</b>
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	<b>DECLG</b> The Department is continuing its work on the development of a new foreshore IT system which will automate case management and manage data capture and workflows. The project has entered Phase 2 involving the scanning of historical deeds and maps.  <b>DAFM</b> - See Action 2b

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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> In July the Government approved the drafting of the Maritime Area and Foreshore (Amendment) Bill pursuant to the General Scheme of the Bill submitted by the Minister of State. Drafting of the Bill is being progressed by the Department as a priority task.</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 Maritime Area and Foreshore (Amendment) Bill.</p>

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Governance	2c	<p>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.</p>	Short-Medium Term	Enablers Task Force	<p>The 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 MI, includes representatives from private sector, AGO, D/AHG, D/TTAS, D/CENR, D/AFM, and D/ECLG. The work of the Task Force was informed by two research studies commissioned on its behalf by the Marine Institute:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A study on the legal aspects of marine spatial planning was undertaken by an inter-disciplinary team of planners and barristers, and</li> <li>- A review of international best practice in marine spatial planning with relevance to Ireland.</li> </ul> <p>The initial findings of the Task Force will be presented to the Marine Coordination Group in September. The Task Force are on schedule to submit their final report with recommendations to the Minister and the Marine Coordination Group in October.</p> <p><b><u>AGO</u></b> AGO has provided a report on the interaction between International law (UNCLOS) and EU Law.</p>

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Maritime Security & Surveillance	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>DTTAS</b></p> <p>At present there are difficulties in progressing the development of systems to provide real-time operating, surveillance and monitoring information in Ireland's maritime domain. However, some advance has been made at an EU level. The Irish Maritime Administration (IMA) of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport is partaking in a European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) sponsored project developing a maritime surveillance picture around all of EU waters. As part of that project the IMA is providing a variety of static and dynamic maritime surveillance data sources to EMSA for integration onto the IMDatE platform and feedback. (Both the Naval Service and Air Corps are currently applying for access to this project). The IMA is also examining how this HOOW objective can be further advanced</p> <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>

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<b>Maritime Security &amp; Surveillance</b>	5	<b>Implement effective flag and port state inspection regimes and improved enforcement of existing regulation, including new regulation standards emanating from the EU and IMO.</b>	Ongoing	DTTAS	<u>DTTAS</u> 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. In particular Irish ships have been issued with Statements of Compliance with the ILO Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 by the 20 <sup>th</sup> of August 2013.
<b>Maritime Security &amp; Surveillance</b>	6	<b>Maintain and improve Ireland’s status on the international shipping benchmarks and use Ireland’s positive status to promote shipping related enterprises</b>	Ongoing	DTTAS	<u>DTTAS</u> Ireland has maintained its position on the latest Paris MoU “White List” effective from 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2013. Ireland remains on the IMO STCW “White List” for seafarer training.

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Clean-Green-Marine	9	<p><b>Implement the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive:</b></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><u>DECLG</u></b></p> <p>The Marine Strategy Framework Directive 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 consisting approximately 130 datasets, collated specifically for the marine strategy framework directive, are organised into marine themes. The Marine Atlas is nearing completion as is the summary report on the Initial Assessment. The summary report will be issued to ENGO's and Government Departments for comment prior to publication on the Department's website.</p> <p><b><u>DAHG</u></b></p> <p>DAHG have submitted the Status Assessment Report for seals and cetaceans required under Article 17 of the EU Habitats Directive ahead of the June 2013 deadline. These assessments constitute the agreed reporting line for these groups under the MSFD Initial Assessment.</p>

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Clean-Green-Marine	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><b><u>DAFM - Reform of the EU Common Fisheries Policy</u></b>            The newly reformed CFP, brokered by the Irish Presidency and due to come into force from the 1st of January 2014, will allow for the rebuilding of fish stocks in European waters and will allow for significant quota increases for Irish fishermen through long term management of stocks, reducing and eliminating discards where possible and rebuilding stocks to Maximum Sustainable Yield. All of these measures hold the potential to substantially increase catches by Irish fishermen over time. The reforms agreed will govern the nature and operation of Irish and EU fisheries for the foreseeable future and are designed to usher in a new era of more economically, environmentally and socially sustainable fishing across EU waters. Preparations for the implementation of the specific elements of the new CFP relevant to Ireland are now being put in place.</p> <p><b><u>DAFM</u></b>            This DAFM 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 is 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> <p><b><u>D/AFM - National Measures</u></b>            Consultation commenced in August on proposed adaptations to conservation measures for lobster &amp; shrimp stocks. The proposals are aimed at improving sustainability of the stocks based on advice received from the marine agencies. Maintaining healthy stocks of commercially exploited fish &amp; shellfish is also one of the qualitative descriptors for determining good environmental status under the MSFD.</p>

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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	<b>DECLG</b> Work on the second-cycle plans (2016-2021) has been delayed pending the finalisation of new governance arrangements for the implementation of river basin management plans.
Clean-Green-Marine	12	Continue to implement EU Natura 2000 legislation (Birds and Habitats Directives): <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	<b>DAHG</b> (i) Appeals received in relation to the marine SACs announced in 2012 are currently being processed by the Department. DAHG is continuing to consider the necessary technical capacity required to establish a work programme for progressing marine SPA designations. (ii) Site specific conservation objectives have been set for 55 Natura marine sites. (iii) DAHG have submitted the 6-yearly favourable conservation status assessment reports for protected habitats and species (including marine) required under Article 17 of the EU Habitats Directive ahead of the June 2013 deadline.  <b>DAFM</b> The Department, in conjunction with its marine agencies, is implementing a discrete project in 2013 to identify and evaluate potential risks from unplanned fishing activities in marine Natura 2000 sites. In September appropriate assessment concluded on the seed mussel fishery in the Irish Sea in 6 Natura sites. The sites had been closed on a precautionary basis but following assessment, 5 were wholly opened for the fishing season and 1 site partially opened. Subject to fishing practices continuing as assessed, this assessment will be valid until 2017. Mitigation proposals are in development arising from the risk assessment report of 'unplanned' fisheries (1) in the Irish Sea from Carnsore to Carlingford which takes in 44 Natura sites and (2) in Roaringwater Bay, Cork.

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Clean-Green-Marine	13	Climate Change	See Sub-Actions	See Sub- Actions	(See action 13a)  <u>DAFM</u> The Department has commenced preparation of its sectoral adaption plan under National Adaptation Framework and sectoral roadmap required under the Low Carbon Bill.
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	<u>Marine Institute</u> In January the MI carried out its annual ocean climate section onboard the RV Celtic Explorer. 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	<u>DAHG</u> See Actions as outlined in No. 9 and No. 12 above.

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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	<p><b>DJEI</b> Enterprise Ireland recognises the importance of the Clean Green brand and supports this common message for products and services.</p> <p><b>Bord Iascaigh Mhara - Funding/Investment</b> Development of Market Ready New Product Concept: A new range of market ready products have been developed in the SDC and are ready for market exploration. These products provide potential new market opportunities to sell seafood into fast food restaurants and in the form of ready to eat products for retail outlets. These particular outlets are currently supplied by frozen seafood products imported from Great Britain. The products are developed to produce nutritional seafood products at competitive price points. BIM is currently working with a number of seafood companies to develop markets for these product innovations. Further developments on mining proteins will be carried during 2014.</p> <p>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.</p>

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<p><b>Business Development, Marketing &amp; Promotion</b></p>	<p>17</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Short-Medium-Long Term</p>	<p>Development Task Force, IDA, EI, IMDO, Bord Bia, BIM, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Fáilte Ireland</p>	<p><b><u>DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland</u></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. Feedback will be provided on the Draft Action Plans/ Strategies which have been received from DAFM.</p> <p><b><u>IMDO</u></b> – see 18 below.</p> <p><b><u>DJEI</u></b>  Ireland's membership of the European Space Agency (ESA) provides significant opportunities to develop a vibrant downstream services industry in areas such as maritime surveillance and marine environmental monitoring. With ESA's support, Irish companies and researchers are developing innovative maritime services using satellite-derived data in these areas. One example of success in this area is TechWorks Marine, an EI client company which has been working with ESA developing value added Earth Observation products for a range of clients, using live in-situ data for validation notably in the area of Jellyfish and Storm Surge forecasting. The company has secured a contract to lead an ESA research project on monitoring coastal outlets. This is the first time an ESA Earth Observation project has been led by an Irish group. The project was secured with support from Enterprise Ireland which is the co-ordinating body for ESA in Ireland.</p> <p>In April 2013, the European Space Agency sponsored a Conference on "Space Innovation Powering Blue Growth" held at National Maritime College of Ireland, Cork to examine the contribution of Space within Maritime Policy implementation. Over 120 delegates attended. The conference, an associated event of the Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU, was jointly organised by ESA, Enterprise Ireland, the Coastal and Marine Research Centre (University College Cork), the Irish Coast Guard, the Irish Naval Service and the DG Maritime Affairs of the European Commission.</p> <p>See Copernicus at Action 36b</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

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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	<p>On 23 September 2013, an Irish online service that monitors water quality for the aquaculture industry has been selected as this year's most beneficial Earth-monitoring service for European citizens in the Copernicus Masters competition. Following an online vote, HAB Forecast – Harmful Algal Bloom Forecast – won in the category of Best Service Challenge. The service provides a weekly web bulletin alerting fish farmers and regulators of these harmful blooms. It is the first forecast system of this kind, designed to combine information from in-situ monitoring stations, satellite data, and biological and physical oceanic models. The service was submitted by Julie Maguire from the Daithi O'Murchu Marine Research Station, Ireland.</p> <p><b>DAFM - Seafood Development &amp; Innovation</b> BIM's new Strategy 2013-2017 'Capturing Ireland's Share of the Global Seafood Opportunity' which aims to create 1200 new jobs and bring forward the seafood target of €1 million in sales from 2020 to 2017, was launched by Minister Simon Coveney T.D. in July. The Strategy is closely aligned with the Food Harvest 2020 Strategy and with Harvesting Our Ocean Wealth and is centred on five key priorities which will focus activities towards delivering the targets set out for jobs, market value, raw material supply, training, and up-scaling value in the seafood processing sector.</p> <p><b>Bord Bia</b> – See Action No: 39</p>
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><b>DTTAS/IMDO</b> No specific updates for this quarter; however, the IMDO is continuing to work on a number of initiatives in this area.</p>

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Business Development, Marketing & Promotion	19	<p>Encourage and facilitate coastal communities to avail of existing and future marine enterprise opportunities, e.g. through:</p> <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><b><u>DTTAS</u></b> See update under action 17 in relation to FLAGS. In addition a trade engagement programme will be rolled out as part of the Wild Atlantic Way which will address many of the actions associated with marine and coastal tourism development. The development plan for both trade and communities based along the Wild Atlantic Way will be informed by harnessing the growing opportunities for targeting new customers and visitors using all forms of digital media. As part of this work , there are plans to share market insights and consumer research, which will be carried out by supporting workshops and posting updates online.</p> <p><b><u>DJEI</u></b> 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><b><u>DAFM/Bord Iascaigh Mhara</u></b> <b>Sea Food Processing Developments</b> BIM has been working since 2012 with key seafood companies in the north west to facilitate the handling of 80,000 tonnes of product landed from foreign vessels. Much of this product was sold in whole frozen form to markets in Egypt, Nigeria and Cameroon. To more effectively utilize the increasing volumes of blue whiting becoming available, BIM has worked with technology providers to successfully adapt technology to process blue whiting and enable production of a range of fillet and minced products. In addition, product development work to generate new product formations from the species was undertaken at the Seafood</p> <p>(Cont. overleaf)</p>

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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></p> <p>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></p> <p>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. BIM Guide to Personal Survival Techniques 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</p> <p>(Cont. overleaf)</p>

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<p><b>Business Development, Marketing &amp; Promotion</b>  (Cont.)</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Short-Medium Term</p>	<p>Development Task Force</p>	<p>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> <p><b>Note:</b> A new working group on safety in the Irish Fishing Industry was set up in July of this year. The working group (chaired by John Leech- IWS) is due to report by end of year.</p>

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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 continues to be implemented via a number of national and international funding mechanisms. Under the Marine NDP, the Marine Institute has recently commissioned research in the areas of - environment (ocean acidification NUIG Post-Doc, jointly funded by EPA); sea bass (MSc with UCC based in MI Newport); shellfish aquaculture (production of triploid Pacific Oysters; jointly funded by BIM) and the provision of research and policy support initiatives to support the implementation of HOOW. This include research to support the Enablers Task Force on Marine Spatial Planning (Legal &amp; best practice studies). 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 successful under the call for proposals launched by DAFM in March are will be announced shortly. (See also action 27d).</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. In June 2013, Government agreed to the publication of these Action Plans. Implementation of the Action Plans is being monitored by the Prioritisation Action Group.</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Research, Knowledge, Technology & Innovation (Cont.)	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>DEFENCE</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> <li>• Skysails ‘kite’ technology is a project to save energy and increase maritime surveillance capability through sensor deployment. Supported by E.I. and SEAI.</li> </ul>
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>DCENR &amp; GSI</b> GSI are coordinating a response to September 2013 SFI Centres call, which included “Geoscience underpinning sustainable economic development”. This bid will be supported by the geoscience industry and DCENR, and if successful would lead to a significant increase in profile and output for the Irish geoscience sector, including petroleum and marine geoscience.</p> <p><b>DEFENCE</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>

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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>Over six month field season in 2013, the INFOMAR Programme of marine mapping has remained on course to complete all Priority Bays and areas by 2016, as planned. New mapping data was acquired in the Celtic Sea by the MI Celtic Voyager, while GSI managed inshore vessels carried out mapping in Dundalk Bay, Dingle and Shannon. In addition satellite bathymetry was acquired in Cork, Shannon and Dundalk.</p> <p>A new INFOMAR initiative on added value product development commenced during the quarter, when Dublin Business Innovation Centre were engaged for services in this area.</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>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). In the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SmartBay National Infrastructure Access Programme (NIAP) Activity II fund was launch in June 2013 through Dublin City University over a two year period to enable researchers to access the SmartBay Ireland National Test and Demonstration Facility in Galway Bay. Research proposals will be invited for funding under a number of activity types that fit under the objectives of the SmartBay PRTL Cycle 5 programme. This fund will provide awards (up to a maximum of €25k per application) to research teams through a national competitive process, which will be open to all higher education institutions on the island of Ireland. This SmartBay NIAP fund will provide up to a maximum of €75k in 2013.</li> </ul> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
<p><b>Research, Knowledge, Technology &amp; Innovation (Cont.)</b></p>	<p>25</p>	<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>	<p>Short-Medium Term</p>	<p>Development Task Force</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SmartBay Ireland held a workshop in Galway on 12th June 2013 for the PI, which included presentations and round table discussions to explore user requirements for the proposed power and data cable which is to be laid from Spiddal; and received feedback on the current activities and direction of SmartBay Ireland.</li> </ul> <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.</p> <p>The project is proceeding well and is currently ahead of schedule. It has been agreed that the shore station will be hosted by the secondary school in An Spideal which will provide important education and outreach opportunities. The foreshore licence application is well advanced - no public objections were received. Awaiting comments from two prescribed bodies. The planning permission for the shore station has been submitted to Galway County Council and the road opening licence submission is imminent. The MI estimates that the system will be installed in Q2-Q3 of next year with commissioning and handover by the end of 2014.</p> <p>The MI is now proceeding with the procurement of the system in line with the final system design. Currently there are a number of tenders live, which the MI hopes to close and award before end of year.</p> <p>SmartOcean Innovation Cluster: The SmartOcean Team launched its consultation on a new SmartOcean Research &amp; Innovation Strategy. Details are available on <a href="http://www.smartocean.org">www.smartocean.org</a>. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual SmartOcean Forum will take place in November in Belfast. Further details are available under action 38 below.</p>

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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><u>DJEI</u> SFI currently funds one Investigator Award that aims to model ocean waves, their energy potential and their interactions with wave energy converters, and one Investigator Award that aims to predict the wave energy-potential of the Irish offshore environment. Both projects aim to provide modelling frameworks to support the production of ocean wave energy and to train several PhD students in the field.</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)

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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> 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. In June 2013, Government agreed to the publication of these Action Plans. Implementation of the Action Plans is being monitored by the Prioritisation Action Group.</p> <p>SFI currently funds one Investigator Award that aims to model ocean waves, their energy potential and their interactions with wave energy converters, and one Investigator Award that aims to predict the wave energy-potential of the Irish offshore environment. Both projects aim to provide modelling frameworks to support the production of ocean wave energy and to train several PhD students in the field.</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> NMIC &amp; IMERC are fully engaged with both Job Bridge and Springboard Programmes</p>

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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><u>DJEI</u></b> A formal request was made from Minister Coveney to Ministers Quinn and Bruton for EGFSN for EGFSN to identify the future skills need. 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>Science Foundation Ireland</u></b> SFI currently funds one Investigator Award that aims to model ocean waves, their energy potential and their interactions with wave energy converters, and one Investigator Award that aims to predict the wave energy-potential of the Irish offshore environment. Both projects aim to provide modelling frameworks to support the production of ocean wave energy and to train several PhD students in the field_</p> <p><b><u>Marine Institute</u></b> Sea Change continues to be implemented via a number of national and international funding mechanisms. Under the Marine NDP, the Marine Institute has recently commissioned research in the areas of - environment (ocean acidification NUIG Post-Doc, jointly funded by EPA); sea bass (MSc with UCC based in MI Newport); shellfish aquaculture (production of triploid Pacific Oysters; jointly funded by BIM) and the provision of research and policy support initiatives to support the implementation of HOOW. This include research to support the Enablers Task Force on Marine Spatial Planning (Legal &amp; best practice studies). 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 successful under the call for proposals launched by DAFM in March are will be announced shortly.</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Capacity, Education, Training & Awareness  (Cont.)	27d	Continue to build marine research capacity and capability through targeted national and international research funding.	Ongoing	Appropriate departments and agencies	<p><b>DEFENCE</b></p> <p>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 (MARTELPLUS). 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><b>D/AFM</b></p> <p>Minister Coveney has appointed Mr. Robert Dix as Chairman of the Development Task Force. Membership of the Task Force is under consideration and it is expected that the membership of the Development Task Force will be finalised shortly.</p> <p><b>Enterprise Ireland</b></p> <p>Enterprise Ireland is engaging with NMCI and IMERC on Maritime Training technology theme.</p> <p><b>Marine Institute</b></p> <p>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. 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</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

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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>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 have submitted a proposal for funding to HEA in this regard in 2013.</p> <p>The SMARTskills 2013 inaugural Postgraduate Workshop on Funding Opportunities and Data Access will be held on the 24th and 25th of October 2013 in the Marine Institute in Galway. The two-day workshop is designed to support postgraduate researchers by providing practical, concise information on accessing available funding opportunities and marine data sets, two topics identified as essential for emerging researchers. SMARTskills also serves as a networking and social opportunity and facilitates marine researchers in communicating their research with potential future collaborations. The workshop is open to all postgraduate students from across the island of Ireland (north and south) with research relevant to marine science, technology and engineering from both SMART partner and non-partner institutions.</p> <p><b>DEFENCE</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 – ie Renewables; Petrochemical, Simulation; management and team building;</li> <li>• A range of evening courses eg Bsc Bisomess om Si[[;u Cjaor &amp; Transport Management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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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>            The INFOMAR programme, using both MI and GSI managed vessels, supported SEAI work on renewable energy potential deployment sites off the Clare coastline.</p> <p>GSI managed RV Keary provided surveying and dive support to the Underwater Archaeology Unit of DoEHLG, for activities off Rutland Island in Donegal.</p> <p>The RV Keary also provided mapping services to Commissioner for Irish Lights in relation to a survey of Fastnet Rock.</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 transitional and coastal waters monitoring, nutrients, Habs and benthic monitoring, Radioactivity monitoring for Radiological protection institute of Ireland and research (e.g. HABS, ocean acidification). 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. The Marine Institute in partnership with Commissioners of Irish Lights and their vessel Granuaile completed an ROV Survey this summer of the Subsea assets of Kinsale Energy Ltd on a commercial basis. This project greatly increased the capabilities of these organizations to complete such complex tasks.</p>

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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. Works are continuing under the 2013 Programme which provided almost €4.5m for the ongoing development, maintenance and upgrading works in respect of the Fishery Harbour Centres, almost €0.6m, subject to the necessary consents, for reconstruction and maintenance works at other harbours managed by the Department and around €2.3m for harbour development works at over 50 Local Authority owned piers and harbours located in 13 coastal counties.</p> <p>This year for the first time the Minister is planning to fund a Marine Leisure and Marine Tourism Capital Infrastructure Development Programme under the annual Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Capital Programme. The new Programme aims to provide a further mechanism to support Local Authorities in maintaining and enhancing coastal facilities and is intended to provide support for the maintenance and development of marine tourism/marine leisure facilities at Local Authority piers and harbours. Currently plans are at an advanced stage for the Programme’s establishment within the year.</p> <p>The regular ‘Harbour User Forums’ set up by the Department at the Fishery Harbour Centres to bring together the various stakeholders and business sector users in these locations will continue to meet. The ‘Harbour User Forums’ provide a platform for the various harbour stakeholders to put forward their views and suggestions in relation to harbour matters and also provides an opportunity for the Department to provide an update on harbour related issues.</p> <p>Rules and administrative procedures for the licensing and registration of sea fishing boats are under constant review to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the industry for an equitable transparent and user-friendly system in the first instance, as well as any additional demands created by developments at national, EU and international levels.</p> <p><b>DTTAS</b> – see 34f below.</p>

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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> GSI commenced activities under the next phase of the EU EMODNET Hydrography programme, where onshore to offshore data products will be developed, as demonstrators of EU best practice. More than 260Mb of INFOMAR Marine data was delivered via the online system (Infomar.ie0 during the quarter.</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. All the spatially relevant data and information compiled or identified during the Initial Assessment process for the MSFD has been incorporated into a Marine Atlas. This is now located on the Marine Institute IT system and will be made live during Q4 2013.</p> <p>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 data 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>

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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 was issued for wide stakeholder consultation. Substantial feedback was received and the report is being revised and finalised at present

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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Infrastructure	34c	The Wild Atlantic Way' – a themed and packaged driving trail from Donegal to Cork;	Ongoing	DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland	<p><b><u>DTTAS/Fáilte Ireland</u></b></p> <p>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. Fáilte Ireland is publishing regular update bulletins which can be downloaded on <a href="http://www.failteireland.ie/wildatlanticway">www.failteireland.ie/wildatlanticway</a>.</p>
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	<p><b><u>DTTAS</u></b></p> <p>A cross border project under the auspices of the Commissioners of Irish Lights and funded by INTERREG IVa was officially launched by Minister Varadkar and Minister Foster (NI) on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013. Phase 1 of the project will see 5 lighthouse sites in the North of the island (3 in NI and 2 in ROI) developed as visitor attractions to include a mix of self-catering accommodation and the provision of upgraded or new visitor access facilities. Phase 1 is due to take 2 years to completion.</p> <p><b><u>DTTAS</u></b></p> <p>Fáilte Ireland informed the CIL lighthouse project brief to ensure that the brand and interpretation of this new tourism experience is aligned to our combined efforts to showcase the best of coastal Ireland.</p> <p>To deliver on Fáilte Ireland's development objectives in the coming years, Ireland's natural and built coastal assets will be harnessed to bring the experiences of the Wild Atlantic Way, and other experiences around the country to life. These include further interpretation and presentation of our coastal walks, and supports for the development of innovative coastal tours, e.g. kayak tours. Fáilte Ireland will also ensure that local communities have the skills to share these experiences with visitors in a compelling manner.</p>
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	<p><b><u>DTTAS</u></b></p> <p>Indications are that the number of calls at Irish ports during this year's season has again increased. Exact numbers will not become available until the end of the season in October.</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
Infrastructure <b>(Cont.)</b>	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)	There are currently a number of cruise related infrastructure development projects at different ports at varying stages of pre-planning consultations.  <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). All three Ports of National Significance (Tier 1) are continuing to progress development proposals in line with their published masterplans.
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Coastal Protection/Flooding</b>			<b>(See actions 35a-35c)</b>
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.

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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
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	<p><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.</p> <p><b>Marine Institute</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 eg Louth County Council and Dublin City Council.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>

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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	
International and North/South Cooperation	36b	Utilising Irish representation in Brussels; and	Ongoing	All departments	<p><b><u>DFA</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Marine Institute</u></b>  Negotiations on the proposed Directive on Marine Spatial Planning and Coastal Zone Management under the Irish Presidency, chaired by the Attaché were seen as very productive. The revised text tabled by Ireland at the end of our Presidency was very well received and used as the basis of ongoing negotiations under the Lithuanian Presidency. Ireland will be actively involved in the ongoing negotiations over the coming months.</p> <p>In support of the DGMare’s activities to promote MSP under the IMP, Ireland assisted in organizing and hosted a workshop on MSP–Energy, the first of a series of such workshop dealing with issues such as shipping and fishing. There were in excess of 70 participants from a wide range of sectors and environmental groups.</p> <p><b><u>DJEI</u></b>  The Commission adopted the Copernicus Regulation on 29 May 2013 and the proposal was presented to the Competitiveness Council on 30 May. Copernicus is the new name for the European Earth Observation Programme GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security). Copernicus is a European initiative for the implementation of information services dealing with environment and security. Copernicus is based on observation data received from Earth Observation satellites and ground based information. The overall objective of the Copernicus initiative is to support Europe’s goals regarding sustainable development and global governance of the environment by providing timely and .</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
International and North/South Cooperation (Cont.)	36b	Utilising Irish representation in Brussels; and	Ongoing	All departments	quality data, information, services and knowledge. Through Copernicus the state of our environment and its short, medium and long-term evolution will be monitored to support policy decisions or investments. Copernicus will provide services in six sectors: Marine monitoring, Atmosphere monitoring, Climate change monitoring, Land monitoring, Emergency management and Security. A number of Government Departments, agencies and organisations have an interest in aspects of the proposal as potential users of the system and Copernicus will also provide opportunities for commercial applications in the downstream sector based on full and open access to Copernicus observation data and information products. This ambitious Earth observation programme is headed by the European Commission in partnership with the European Environment Agency and the European Space Agency and will enter its full operational phase in 2014.
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>The arrangement known as the Voisinage Arrangement (VA), dating from 1966, allows fishing for all species of fish by vessels from Ireland within the 6 mile exclusive territorial limits of Northern Ireland and allows Northern Ireland vessels similar access to Irish waters. The VA reflected the historic fishing access arrangements. Reciprocal access is allowed by both jurisdictions under the same rules and conditions as apply for national vessels.</p> <p>All-island management of the mussel seed fishery, providing raw material for aquaculture, has been in place since 2003 in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture &amp; Rural Development in Northern Ireland. Bottom-grown mussels are one of the most lucrative aquaculture stocks in Ireland (production in ROI was valued at €1.74m in 2011). The Departments maintain ongoing co-ordination of this fishery to ensure a level playing field both sides of the border.</p> <p>Both departments have also provided mutual opportunities to participate in policy development for inshore fisheries over the summer; DARD is developing a Sustainable Development Strategy for its Inshore sector while DAFM sought views on stock specific management proposals.</p>

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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
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	<p><b>DJEI</b></p> <p>The Commission is consulting Member States on the development of work programmes for the implementation of Horizon 2020. Programme Committees for the main elements of H 2020 are meeting in shadow form pending formal establishment in January 2014. DJEI is represented on the Strategic Programme Committee and the Marine Institute is represented on the European Bioeconomy Societal Challenge. This should provide scope to monitor inclusion of marine research in all relevant work programmes.</p>
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	<p><b>Marine Institute</b></p> <p>The MI continues to work closely with colleagues in UK (CEFAS), NI (AFBI), Scotland (Marine Scotland), in the areas of fisheries and ecosystem indicators.</p> <p>In November, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual SmartOcean Forum will take place at Titanic Belfast. The purpose of the all-island event is to highlight the potential of our ocean resources to support shared opportunities in delivering hi-tech products and services to global marine markets. The forum will focus on key areas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Blue growth</li> <li>•Marine data and knowledge</li> <li>•Renewable energy</li> <li>•Ocean observation</li> </ul> <p>The Forum will feature Irish, American, Canadian and European speakers from industry, academia and state agencies. They will reflect on recent developments such as the Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation, the launch of the EU’s Atlantic Strategy Action plan and also the upcoming launch of Horizon 2020 in 2014.</p> <p><b>DCENR /GSI</b></p> <p>The INIS HYDRO InterReg IVA project, involving marine mapping collaboration between Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland, completed operations during the quarter. Final conference take place in Q4.</p>

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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). The Marine Institute hosted a delegation of senior scientists from the Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences (CAFS) in September 2013 as part of the implementation of the MOU between the two organisations to enhance cooperation in relation to Fishery science and technology. The group discussed areas for collaboration in seafood safety including research on marine biotoxins and predictive modelling of Harmful Algal Blooms, viruses and bacteria in shellfish, as well as chemical contaminants in seafood. Discussions also considered opportunities to partner on applications for European and international funding for example, through the EU's upcoming Horizon 2020 programme and the next Chinese 5-Year Plan.</p> <p>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><b>EU, U.S., Canada Atlantic Ocean research alliance:</b> 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. See also action 38 above in relation to SmartOcean Forum</p> <p><b>(Cont. overleaf)</b></p>

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Enabler	No	Key Actions	Timing	Responsibility	Recent Progress and Present Position
<p><b>International and North/South Cooperation</b></p> <p><b>(Cont.)</b></p>	<p><b>39</b></p>	<p><b>Establish key trade and research links in non-EU markets and countries (e.g. China and transatlantic initiatives).</b></p>	<p><b>Short-Medium-Long Term</b></p>	<p><b>Appropriate departments and agencies</b></p>	<p><b><u>DJEI</u></b>            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.</p> <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.</p> <p><b><u>Bord Bia</u></b>            Bord Bia has been working actively with prospective seafood customers to encourage them attendance at the sustainability food conference “Our Food. Our Future” which is being held at the end of September. Twenty-seven such customers have been targeted from Asia, five from the US, three from Russia and one from the Middle East. It is envisaged that they will be making individual visits to Irish seafood producers and processors including a group of thirteen Chinese customers who will visit Killybegs. A number of the participants on Bord Bia’s Marketing Fellowship programme, the latest cohort starting in June of this year, carry seafood assignments in markets such as China, Japan and the Middle East. A specific participant with seafood responsibilities only has been assigned to Shanghai (China) and has been working on a one-to-one basis with existing and prospective customers for boarfish.</p> <p>Fourteen Irish seafood processors will participate in the Ireland Pavilion at the China Fisheries Show in November, the largest such show in Asia.</p>