



The European Centre
for Information on Marine
Science and Technology



2016
Annual Report

EurOcean – The European Centre for Information on Marine Science and Technology, established in 2002, is an independent scientific non-governmental organisation of leading European marine organisations whose aim is to facilitate information exchange and generate value-added products in the field of marine sciences and technologies between a wide range of governmental and non-governmental bodies. In 2016, EurOcean represented 13 Member organisations based in 11 European countries and three Cooperating Members.

EurOcean, a clearing house for information on marine science and technology in Europe, through its internet site (www.eurocean.org) facilitates access to information on topics related to marine science and technology in Europe with priority given to three main domains: Marine Research Infrastructures, Marine Knowledge Management and Ocean Public Outreach and Education Activities. EurOcean also contributes to initiatives aiming to promote the Blue Society principles.

EurOcean also provides dedicated services and project contributions in relation with the above topics.

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EurOcean
aims to be a
leader in the
area of marine
knowledge
management
in Europe

01.

Message from the Presidents
Message from the Executive-Director

01. Message from the Presidents



Ricardo Serrão Santos

(FRCT Member Representative, Portugal)

EurOcean President 2012-2016

The year 2016 was my fourth and last year as President of EurOcean, a role that I believe I accomplished with efficiency but based on the strong legacy I inherited. During these years I was lucky to have the support of Vice-Presidents Jean-François Masset and Slawomir Sagan two very engaged, committed and dedicated friends and colleagues.

This is a time to remember the legacy of the conceptual broker and policy driver of EurOcean, my good friend, Mário Ruivo, who sadly died in January 2017. He touched me very deeply as a fighter, visionary and champion for the Ocean agenda. Without his willingness and his capacity to involve others, like Salvino Busuttil and Jean-François Minster, I believe that EurOcean would never have existed. Mário left an indelible mark on all of us and his wisdom and ideas in relation to increasing scientific knowledge and good governance of the Ocean will last long into the future.

The Ocean agenda is of major importance to Europe. I believe that it needs to be kept high in the scientific and political priorities in the years to come. Our planet faces many challenges of which climate change and global warming are probably the most critical. We are all well aware of the major role that the ocean plays in climate but we are also aware of

the threats it faces. The resolution and agreement reached in Paris at the COP21 in 2015 was a major achievement and a big hope that, through international cooperation, we finally will be able to keep global warming at a level that ensures viable life on Earth as we know it, and will protect the future of humanity together with our fellow species.

Now that I am stepping down as President of EurOcean I am absolutely confident that it will continue to fulfil its role in contributing to the implementation of the Marine European Research Area and the Integrated Maritime Policy in a global perspective and in times of change. With Slawomir Sagan as the new president and Tina Mertens and Carlos García-Soto as Vice-Presidents we will have a very strong and committed leadership prepared to face the major challenges ahead. In addition the ongoing commitment of all of the Office Staff, with Ned Dwyer as Executive-Director, ensures that we will continue to navigate in the right direction in the years to come.

This is not a goodbye. I will continue to collaborate with EurOcean and its Members in different ways in the future. The Ocean will remain at the centre of my engagement and activity as a Member of the European Parliament and EurOcean will be a prime organization on which I will continue to rely.



Slawomir Sagan

(IOPAN Member Representative, Poland)

EurOcean President 2017-onwards

Two big subjects were high on the European and global marine research and policy agenda during 2016. Climate Change has been the focus of research activity for quite a few years, but, surprisingly, the recognition of the ocean's role in this process has only come relatively recently. It has resulted in the opening of funding lines and marine research targeted on better understanding of processes in the ocean related to observed changes of the climate. The second area of interest, encompassed in the term "Blue Growth", aims at economic exploitation of ocean resources. This ever growing focus on the marine environment leads to increased production of information and knowledge about the ocean, a result of numerous research activities, driven by scientific curiosity as well as the prospect of economic development. This sea of new information and knowledge is the natural environment for EurOcean, in its ongoing mission to be the European focal point for information on marine science and technology.

In 2016 EurOcean continued to provide information on marine science and technology in a timely and reliable way, expanding the scope of maintained databases and refining their content, to meet the needs of the European marine research community and pursuing the ambitious goal to become the leader in the area of Knowledge Management in Europe. In the process we

have successfully entered in partnerships through a number of EU research projects, where EurOcean enjoys the double role of giver and taker – serving with the expertise in managing foreground knowledge and its dissemination and on the other hand harvesting the information which will be subsequently found in the services offered to the marine community.

2016 was a year of change at the head of EurOcean. The President from 2012, Ricardo Serrão Santos stepped down after his second term as well as Vice-President Jean-François Masset, who has started a new chapter of his life in retirement. On behalf of the EurOcean Members I would like to express our gratitude for their commitment and for their relentless efforts which helped bring EurOcean to its current highly regarded position.

Enjoying the trust of EurOcean Members, I was elected as the new President of EurOcean and Tina Mertens and Carlos García-Soto as the Vice-Presidents. Our Executive-Director, Ned Dwyer had his contract renewed unanimously for the next two years. As the new Executive Committee we will continue our efforts to keep EurOcean at the centre of the European network for marine science and technology information and knowledge exchange.



Ned Dwyer

EurOcean – Executive-Director

With change occurring at an ever greater pace, staying fresh and up to date is important to remain visible and relevant. In this regard, 2016 saw EurOcean update its logo, branding and website, presenting a modern image and a new look website. Despite the importance of image, it is the quality and reliability of the underlying information which is paramount. Two of EurOcean's InfoBases, the Research Infrastructures Database (RID) and the Marine Knowledge Gate, reference points for relevant and comprehensive marine information, are currently undergoing a major upgrade to be launched in 2017.

Boosting the knowledge economy in Europe is one of the keys to strengthening its economic development. This was the context in which EurOcean, with its cooperating member the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), organised an event at the European Parliament focussing on "Marine Research Knowledge Exchange for Blue Growth". It was chaired by EurOcean former President and MEP, Ricardo Serrão Santos and highlighted many good practices and successful efforts. Nonetheless, it showed that much remains to be done in supporting, improving and institutionalising marine knowledge transfer.

The Professor Mário Ruivo competition which saw 18 teams of young people compete came to its culmination with the announcement of winners and awarding of prizes. The competition helps to foster the interest, ingenuity and commitment of the next generation and we saw how those who participated became advocates for the ocean among their peers and in their communities.

However, a few weeks after the award of the prize it was with great sadness that in January 2017 we learned of the death of Professor Mário Ruivo, a EurOcean Founder and First President. Those of us who had the privilege to meet, discuss and work with him know of his commitment to ocean issues throughout his long working life.

Success in H2020 was evident as work started on MARINA, which is embedding Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in the marine sphere, and two new projects: INTAROS, which will develop an integrated Arctic Observing system; and MARINET 2, an offshore renewable energy infrastructures project. Indeed, how to improve trans-national access to marine research infrastructures was the topic of a EurOcean organised workshop in November, which also discussed participants' expectations in relation to the European Ocean Observing System (EOOS).

It was a time of changing faces at EurOcean, as Sofia Cordeiro moved on to new challenges within FCT after 6 years of dedication and commitment to the organisation and Tiago Garcia, with a background in marine research and communications joined the team.

I sincerely thank Ricardo Serrão Santos and Jean-François Masset, who have stepped down from their roles as President and Vice-President respectively, for their encouragement, support and good advice over the last two years and I look forward to working with the newly elected Executive Committee of Slawomir Sagan, Tina Mertens and Carlos García-Soto, who I am sure will bring new perspectives and great ideas to the ongoing development of EurOcean.

Knowledge Exchange in Spotlight at European Parliament

EurOcean organised event where MEPs, Commission representatives and other stakeholders discuss how to support marine research knowledge exchange for Blue Growth.

(p. 26)



Professor Mário Ruivo Prize Awarded

Winning entry addressed marine litter; two special commendations also awarded.

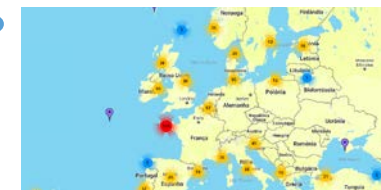
(p. 33)



Research Infrastructures Database upgrade

Major development of Research Infrastructures Database underway with support of Member IOPAN.

(p. 17)



H2020 Success with three new projects

Proposals in the areas of responsible research and innovation (MARINA), Arctic observations (INTAROS) and marine renewable energy (MARINET 2) successful.

(p. 22, 37)



New Branding and Website Launched

A new logo, branding materials and a new-look website were unveiled.

(p. 35)



IOC renews cooperating member status

UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission reinforces its relationship with EurOcean.

(p. 14)



EurOcean is a focal point for information on marine science and technology

03.

About Eurocean

03. About EurOcean

Background

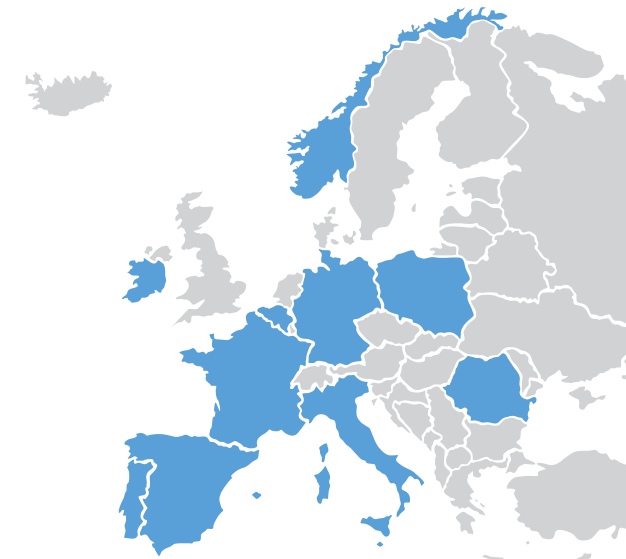
EurOcean can trace its origins to the resolutions and recommendations published by the European Commission in 1998 in which creation of a European Maritime Agency was recommended in the report "Towards a new marine dimension for Europe through research and technological development", which was adopted in May 2000 by a group of governmental experts from 15 European countries who came together at the invitation of the then Portuguese Minister for Science and Technology.

In 2001 the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) and the French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (Ifremer) signed a cooperation agreement to set up the European Centre for Information on Marine Science and Technology – EurOcean, with the main goal of creating a stable and independent scientific non-governmental structure that would make relevant historical and current information on marine science and technology in Europe available on a permanent basis.

In February 2002 EurOcean was officially created in Lisbon, Portugal, and since then it has evolved into a flexible, dynamic, innovative and creative organisation that builds on its membership and the broader marine science community to bridge the gaps in marine science and technology in Europe. Priority is given to three main domains: Marine Research Infrastructures; Marine Knowledge Management and Ocean Public Outreach and Education Activities.

Structure and Governance

EurOcean is an independent pan-European network of leading national, regional and European organisations active in marine science, technology and related activities, such as coordination, decision-making, financing, information management and dissemination to a large variety of end-users. The diverse nature of EurOcean Member organisations (marine research, research funding and marine public outreach organisations) makes it uniquely capable of promoting information exchange and delivering relevant products in all fields of marine science and technology, particularly in EurOcean's three main lines of work.



In 2016, EurOcean had 13 Member organisations from eleven European countries and maintains agreements with three Cooperating Members. A full list of EurOcean Members is available in Annex 1 of this report.

Member Organisations and Delegates

The Member organisations are legally bound through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that remains in force for four years. As the Member organisations' CEOs reiterated their commitment in 2016 the current MoU is in force until mid-2020.

Representatives of the Member organisations (Steering Committee) constitute EurOcean's main decision-making body and establish, among other things, (i) strategic and policy guidelines and (ii) operational guidelines, including approval of the Yearly Work Programme. The EurOcean Executive-Director is also an ex-officio member of the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee normally meets once a year in a plenary meeting to define common priorities, agree on the Yearly Work Programme, including the main products, and to share knowledge. A Member Representative may nominate another person to represent them at the annual plenary meeting. In 2016 the Steering Committee met in Sopot, Poland on 15-16 November.

Steering Committee



Ricardo Serrão Santos
(FRCT - Portugal)



Fiona Grant
(MI - Ireland)



Slawomir Sagan
(IOPAN - Poland)



Francisco Pinto
(FRCT - Portugal)



António Pascoal
(FCT - Portugal)



Nicolae Panin
(Geoecomar - Romania)



Jean-François Masset
(Ifremer - France)



Per Nieuwejaar
(IMR - Norway)



Manuel Cira
(Nausicaá - France)



Tina Mertens
(VLIZ - Belgium)



Carlos García-Soto
(IEO - Spain)



Antonella Vassalo
(IOI - Malta)



Ennio Marsella
(CNR - Italy)



Angela Schultz-Zehden
(SUBMARINER Network - Baltic region)



IOC renews cooperating Member Status

Cooperating Membership is open to organisations with a regional or global reach that are involved in activities complementary to those of EurOcean. UNESCO's Intergovernmental Commission (IOC) (<http://ioc-unesco.org/>) is one such organisation and it renewed its cooperating membership status for the next four years. The IOC has a global remit and is focussed on addressing ecosystem health, climate change impacts, improved early warning systems and outreach and education among other topics. EurOcean and IOC cooperate by sharing information on activities and events through their websites and newsletters, participating in and co-organising events, and looking for mutually relevant project opportunities. You can find out about the benefits of EurOcean membership and cooperating membership at <http://www.eurocean.org> or contact the Executive-Director for more information.

Executive Committee

EurOcean's activities are overseen by the Executive Committee (ExCom), which has a President and two Vice-Presidents and, as an ex-officio member, EurOcean's Executive-Director.

ExCom members are elected by the EurOcean Members (Steering Committee) for a two-year term, renewable once if re-elected. EurOcean's ExCom officers, appointed in 2014, were: President – Ricardo Serrão Santos (FRCT – Portugal); Vice-Presidents – Slawomir Sagan (IOPAN – Poland) and Jean-François Masset (Ifremer – France). Following elections during the 2016 Steering Committee meeting a new ExCom was appointed: President – Slawomir Sagan (IOPAN – Poland); Vice-Presidents – Tina Mertens (VLIZ – Belgium) and Carlos García-Soto (IEO – Spain).

The ExCom meets twice annually – in 2016 these meetings were in May and November – to follow up on implementation of the Work Programme approved by the Steering Committee in the annual plenary meeting.

Previous Executive Committee



Ricardo Serrão Santos
(FRCT - Portugal)



Jean-François Masset
(Ifremer - France)



Slawomir Sagan
(IOPAN - Poland)

New Executive Committee



Slawomir Sagan
(IOPAN - Poland)



Tina Mertens
(VLIZ - Belgium)



Carlos García-Soto
(IEO - Spain)

EurOcean Foundation Board

EurOcean is legally set up as a foundation, which was established under Dutch law on 13 December 2007. Since January 2009, the EurOcean Foundation has been legally registered in Portugal.

The Board of Directors meets once a year, and on 16 November 2016 (Sopot, Poland) it endorsed all the legal and financial recommendations made in the 2016 Steering Committee Meeting. Furthermore it approved the appointment of two new Board Members and the stepping down of three existing Board Members. The EurOcean Executive-Director is also an ex-officio member of the Board. EurOcean's full list of Foundation Board members is available in Annex 2 of this report.

Following a decision taken at the 11th Steering Committee Meeting (2011), the Director and Officers Liability Insurance policy, with a limit of liability of € 500,000.00, was renewed for an additional one-year period.

EurOcean Office

The strategic and operational decisions and activities agreed by the Steering Committee and the Executive Committee are implemented by the Office. Located at the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) premises in Lisbon, Portugal since 2002 (as Co-Founding Member and hosting organisation), the EurOcean Office staff in 2016 comprised an Executive-Director, an Office Coordinator and European Project Manager, a European Project Manager and three Science Officers. The main responsibilities of EurOcean's staff are presented in the table.



Ned Dwyer
Executive-Director
(EurOcean contract)

- Supervision of the implementation of the approved work programme;
- Supervision of the Office;
- Identification of new areas of activity;
- Identification of new possibilities of cooperation and Membership;
- Identification of participation opportunities in European Projects and development of the selected proposals;
- Supervisor and manager of the NetBiome-CSA MARINA and INTAROS projects.



Cristina Costa
Office Coordinator
European Project Manager
(EurOcean contract)

- Office Coordinator;
- Responsible for the European information management on marine and maritime affairs;
- Responsible for the coordination and development of new project proposals;
- Manager of the COLUMBUS project;
- Legal, Administrative and Financial Support



Sandra Sá
European Project Manager
(EurOcean contract)

- Responsible for the information management on:
 - Marine Infrastructures,
 - Public Outreach,
 - Higher Education and,
 - Job Opportunities;
- Responsible for Mário Ruivo Prize co-ordination;
- Manager of the EUROFLEETS2 and support of the INTAROS and MARINA projects;
- Responsible for the OFEG website;
- Responsible for the ERVO website.



Ruth Higgins
Science Officer
(FCT fellowship)

- Support for legal, administrative and financial issues;
- Support for Information Management;
- Support to the Mário Ruivo prize co-ordination;
- Manager of the RISC-KIT project.



Tiago Garcia
Science Officer
(FCT fellowship, from September 2016)

- Support for legal, administrative and financial issues;
- Support to communications activities;
- Support to MARINA project.



Sofia Cordeiro
Science Officer
(FCT fellowship, until June 2016)

- Responsible for legal, administrative and financial issues;
- Contribute to event organisation;
- Support for the NetBiome-CSA project;
- Financial manager of the NetBiome-CSA project.

EurOcean RID catalogues more than 900 marine research infrastructures

Marine research infrastructures are one of the main focus areas of EurOcean and since 2006 it has developed and maintained several relevant information InfoBases.

Marine Research Infrastructures Database V 2.0 – EurOcean_RID

<http://rid.eurocean.org>

A major activity in 2016 was the development towards one integrated database (RID 2.0) based on the existing set of databases. The upgraded InfoBase will provide a dynamic structure with a core module and additional specialised modules developed from the existing databases, containing more detailed information on research vessels, large exchangeable equipment and aquaculture facilities respectively. The data model to be used for the new InfoBase, conceptualised and developed by EurOcean member IOPAN, will ensure coherence of data and compatibility with ISO and other standards being used by the oceanographic community. Reduced redundancy of data across modules and reference to the vocabularies provided by SeaDataNet reduce resources required for the InfoBase management and enhances the overall quality of information provided to users. The enhanced user interface should also make it easier for users to find information. The new database will be launched in 2017.

In the meantime, research infrastructure information can be found in the current EurOcean_RID and its other related databases, namely the European Research Vessels InfoBase (EurOcean_RV), the European Large Exchangeable Instruments InfoBase (EurOcean_LEXI) and the European Aquaculture Experimental and Research Facilities InfoBase (EurOcean_AF).

Marine Research Infrastructures Database – EurOcean_RID

<http://rid.eurocean.org>

Launched in 2013 in collaboration with CSA Oceans JPI Oceans (EU-funded project) and SEAS-ERA (EU-funded project), EurOcean_RID offers a comprehensive inventory of all European marine dedicated research facilities, providing summary information for each facility as well as operator contact information.

The InfoBase currently contains a total of 920 records classified in 6 categories, from 34 European countries as well as from Cabo Verde, the Philippines and the USA.



**Research
Infrastructures
InfoBase
(EurOcean_RID)**



920
infrastructures



6
Categories



167
Experimental facilities
for biology and
ecosystem studies



140
In situ observing
systems



138
Land-based facilities
and in situ testing sites
for ocean engineering
and ocean
observation support



76
Marine data providers



369
Research vessels
and their underwater
vehicles



29
Satellites for seas and
oceans observation



**European Research
Vessels InfoBase
— EurOcean_RV**
www.rvInfoBase.eurocean.org

Launched in 2006, it presents information on European research vessels larger than 10 metres in length (operating, planned/under construction and out of service). The InfoBase catalogues more than 300 operating vessels from 28 countries. Each record contains information on technical specifications using 87 descriptors, including information about on-board equipment and contact information. The InfoBase also provides basic online statistical information. Real time position of the some large research vessels is also provided.



**European Large
Exchangeable Instruments
InfoBase — EurOcean_LEXI**
www.lexiInfoBase.eurocean.org

Launched in 2011, the InfoBase currently has a total of 149 records from 20 European countries. It contains information on 20 technical specifications and descriptors in 27 instrument categories, from autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs) to towed vehicles.



**European Aquaculture
Experimental and
Research Facilities
InfoBase — EurOcean_AF**
www.mefInfoBase.eurocean.org

Launched in 2010, it contains information on marine experimental aquaculture and research facilities (excluding those exclusively dedicated to freshwater facilities). It currently contains a total of 100 records from 28 European countries. The InfoBase provides access to information about research topics dealt with at a given facility, species held there, a physical description of the facility and supporting facilities and special equipment at the site, as well as any nearby lodging.

The information available in all four InfoBases is publicly available and updated and validated once a year by the infrastructure operator. The last updates followed a request sent to those responsible for InfoBase records in June 2016

Europe's Marine Research Infrastructure discussed at EurOcean organised workshop

What is ESFRI? Has the BONUS initiative in the Baltic been successful? How is access to coastal observatories being improved through JERICO NEXT? These and other issues regarding marine research infrastructure were topics of discussion at this workshop organised during EurOcean's Steering Committee on the 15th November at IOPAN's facilities in Sopot, Poland. Conclusions from the workshop included the need to underline the role that research vessels have in supporting the development of a European Ocean Observing System (EOOS) and that ERVO can help advocate for this; that alternative and more flexible approaches to transnational access to

marine research infrastructure need to be considered in future research framework programmes; that the BONUS experience as captured in a publicly available cookbook can be of value to other regional sea basin initiatives and that EurOcean's Research Infrastructures Database is an invaluable resource as it has long-term sustainable support.



A discussion document on the outcomes of the workshop and video recordings of all presentations and discussions are available via the EurOcean website: <http://www.eurocean.org/>.



Networking

EurOcean continued its important partnerships with the European Research Vessels Operators (ERVO) group (since 2008) and the Ocean Facilities Exchange Group (OFEG) (since 2011). The partnership supports the regular update of EurOcean’s infrastructures InfoBases as ERVO and OFEG represent the main infrastructures owners/operators and EurOcean provides services to support both groups’ activities.

In the case of the ERVO group, EurOcean has been responsible for the technical management, maintenance and content of the website, and carried out a significant website re-design in 2016, as well as facilitating the flow of information among ERVO members. EurOcean is an observer on the ERVO Executive Committee and in 2016 attended the annual ERVO meeting in Rhodes, Greece, where part of the discussions focussed on Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea activities.



The European Research Vessels Operators group is a forum to share experiences of common interest, to explore opportunities for co-operation between Research Vessel managers and to identify solutions for improving services to the scientific community.

<http://www.ervo-group.eu>

As part of the OFEG Group service contract, EurOcean continued to host and maintain the Group's website.



The Ocean Facilities Exchange Group provides a forum to consider barter exchange and co-operation opportunities for the Global and Ocean Class research fleet. It facilitates joint cruises, exchange of ship-time and marine equipment.

<http://www.ofeg.org>

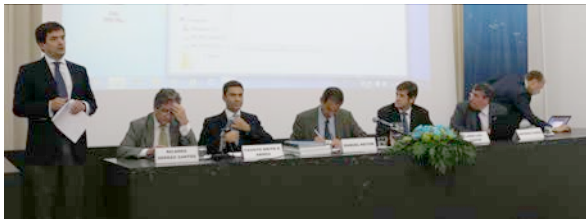


EurOcean has always offered a service to host InfoBases containing information of relevance to marine infrastructures that were created within on-going or concluded projects funded through various European programmes. At the moment it hosts KIMERAA (<http://kimeraa.eurocean.org>), a database of companies, research centres and stakeholders in the field of marine sciences and maritime clusters in the Atlantic Area (funded under Interreg IV).

The **INMARTECH** conference held in Bergen, Norway and organised by EurOcean Member IMR was attended by Ned Dwyer and Tiago Garcia. Ned presented on the development of the new Research Infrastructures Database (RID 2.0) and EurOcean also had a stand where it presented its activities and projects to the many attendees. Tiago Garcia attended the **IMDIS** conference in Gdansk, Poland, where he also presented the new Research Infrastructures Database (RID 2.0), which was developed with the help of EurOcean Member IOPAN, the main organiser of the conference.



EurOcean supported its member **FCT** in relation to the workshop series on *Atlantic Interactions: Climate Change and Energy, Space and Oceans*, where the development of an international multi-disciplinary research infrastructure in the Azores islands was discussed. Ned Dwyer presented during the workshops in New York and Brussels, attended a special session at the *Ciência 2016* conference in Lisbon and also contributed to the development of a white paper regarding the infrastructure’s development.



Tiago Garcia attended the **WAVEC SEMINAR** in Lisbon which was dedicated to the promotion of synergies between marine renewable energies and diverse marine economic activities such as aquaculture and maritime infrastructures. The event focused also on the collaboration between Portugal and Finland in marine renewable energies. Ned Dwyer made a presentation on EurOcean activities to staff at the **Marine & Renewable Energy Ireland** (MaREI) site of University College Cork, Ireland. MaREI is the coordinator of the MARINET 2 project. He also visited the International Projects Office of Future Earth Coasts (an IGBP project), hosted by MaREI. They were particularly interested in the INTAROS project and provided some useful contacts in Canada.

European Projects

Marine Research Infrastructures is also the focus of EurOcean’s participation in several European funded projects such as the FP7 **EUROFLEETS2** and the H2020 **INTAROS** and **MARINET2** projects. While **EUROFLEETS2** deals with coordinating usage of Europe’s research fleet, **INTAROS**, one of the biggest EU investments in Arctic science focusses on observation systems and **MARINET2** on offshore renewable energy research infrastructures.



EUROFLEETS2 – New Operational Steps Towards an alliance of European Research Fleets

Type: EC FP7 INFRASTRUCTURES – Research Infrastructures
EC financial contribution: €9 million
Duration: 48 months (1 March 2013 - 28 February 2017)
Coordinator: Ifremer, France
Consortium: 31 partners from 20 countries
Website: www.eurofleets.eu

Aims of the project

EUROFLEETS2 aims to consolidate a cooperation strategy for optimising the sharing and use of research vessels, including polar going ones in Europe. It will enhance transnational

access to ships, implement common procedures and facilitate operational interoperability in marine research tools and equipment.

EurOcean’s involvement

EurOcean’s major role is in relation to communication and outreach activities, including website maintenance and update, compiling the eNewsletter and generating materials to publicise the project. It is also responsible for the management and update of the Research Vessels and Large Exchangeable Instruments InfoBases and in assisting with the fostering of industrial partnerships. Furthermore it sits on the project’s Executive Committee.

EurOcean Major 2016 Achievements

- Comprehensive upgrade and ongoing updating of the EUROFLEETS2 Web-Portal.
- Compilation and publication of the 10th EUROFLEETS2 eNewsletter.
- Facilitating the development of a video as part of the Island cruise in the Mediterranean, funded through the trans-national activities of the project.
- Reporting on communication and outreach progress including public website visit statistics.
- Development of dedicated promotional materials for EUROFLEETS2 Final Conference
- Promotion of the EUROFLEETS2 project at the 2016 European Maritime Day.



New European Project



INTAROS – Integrated Arctic Observation System

Type: EC H2020 Research and Innovation Action
EC financial contribution: € 15.5 million
Duration: 48 months (1 December 2016 - 30 November 2021)
Coordinator: NERSC, Norway
Consortium: 49 partners from 20 countries
Website: www.intaros.eu

include development of community-based observing systems, where local knowledge is merged with scientific data.

EurOcean’s involvement

EurOcean’s key role is as co-lead of the activities in relation to dissemination and communication, with particular responsibilities for the website development and maintenance, compiling the eNewsletter and generating materials to publicise the project. It will also lead activities in relation to outreach towards decision-makers and relevant Arctic and International bodies as well as overseeing the development of training for early career scientists and the establishment of a Pan-Arctic Observing Forum.

Aims of the project

The overall objective is to develop an Integrated Arctic Observation System (iAOS) by extending, improving and unifying existing systems in the different regions of the Arctic. INTAROS will have a strong multidisciplinary focus, with tools for integration of data from atmosphere, ocean, cryosphere and terrestrial sciences, provided by institutions in Europe, North America and Asia. The project will

EurOcean Major 2016 Achievements

- Development of a project identity including logo and a project brochure.
- Participation in the project kick-off meeting



MARINET 2 – Marine Renewable Infrastructure Network for Enhancing Technologies 2

Type: EC H2020 Integrating Research Infrastructure Activities for Advanced Communities
EC financial contribution: €10.5 million
Duration: 54 months (1 January 2017 - 30 June 2021)
Coordinator: UCC, Ireland
Consortium: 39 partners from 13 countries
Website: www.marinet2.eu

Aims of the project

MARINET2 will ensure the continued integration and enhancement of all leading European research infrastructure and facilities specialising in research, development and testing of offshore renewable energy systems including electrical sub-systems and grid integration through a range of Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) EurOcean is facilitating access to the EurOcean_RID as the repository for information on relevant infrastructures.

EurOcean’s involvement

EurOcean’s role is in relation to the development and implementation of the infrastructure. In particular EurOcean will facilitate seamless access to its Research Infrastructures Database (RID 2.0) as the repository of relevant marine infrastructures to be used within the project.

Proposal Contributions

MARVOLC – SubMARine Volcanoes European collabOration Uniting experts and Society

EurOcean was invited by the National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece to participate in this COST action bringing together experts on both science and technology related to submarine volcanoes. The outcome of the evaluation is expected in June 2017. If successful, it contributes significantly in terms of networking and links to the infrastructures aspects of EurOcean’s work.

COCOS – Copernicus Coastal Service

EurOcean was invited by ACRI-HE, France to participate in this proposal as a response to the call H2020-EO3-2016 on “Evolution of Copernicus Services”. The project proposed to evaluate and demonstrate the needs, feasibility and reliability of three new prototype service lines incorporating satellite derived information for the benefit of Coastal Zone activities. EurOcean’s role was in relation to leading on Communications and definition of the final service. This proposal offered opportunities for EurOcean to expand activities into the satellite earth observation field. Unfortunately the proposal was not successful in this very competitive call.

The Marine Knowledge Gate provides information on more than 20 funding programmes

Marine Knowledge Management is a priority line of EurOcean's work and encompasses the following main functions:

- facilitating access to valuable information related to research activities and technological development, in cooperation with existing national and European institutions and programmes;
- compiling and organising information on the main trends of marine science and technology;
- contributing to the preparation of synthesis reports at the request of decision-makers.

In 2016, the main Knowledge Management activities included:

Marine Knowledge Gate 2.0 - EurOcean_KG

<http://www.kg.eurocean.org/>

Marine Knowledge Gate 2.0 provides an inventory not only of over 2,550 European funded Marine Science and Technology Projects (from more than 20 programmes) and approximately 2,300 knowledge elements generated ("Knowledge Outputs" or KOs), but also approximately 3,500 nationally funded marine research projects (collected from more than 80 different information sources in 25 European coastal countries).

In 2016 Marine Knowledge Gate 2.0 was updated with over 100 H2020 projects and over 500 Knowledge Outputs (KOs) mainly from the FP7 Ocean of Tomorrow projects collected through EurOcean participation in the H2020 COLUMBUS project.

Upgrade of the EurOcean_KG will be a priority activity for 2017, therefore a scoping study was carried out during the year through consultation with the EurOcean Steering Committee, the H2020 COLUMBUS consortium including its External Advisory Board and via a dedicated online questionnaire aimed at existing EurOcean_KG users and website visitors. This scoping study is being carried out in the context of significant external developments in relation to marine knowledge management and provision. These include the launching of the European Commission's Information Sharing Platform on Marine and Maritime Research and the generation of numerous Knowledge Outputs (KOs) through the H2020 COLUMBUS project.



Marine
Knowledge
Gate 2.0



> 2,550
European funded
marine projects
(>100 H2020; 1,250
FP7; 210 INTERREG IV)



> 3,500
Nationally funded
marine projects



> 20
EU programmes; > 80
info sources of 25 EU
coastal countries



> 2,300
Knowledge Outputs
(project results)

Supporting Marine Research Knowledge Exchange for Blue Growth

Building trust and facilitating real collaboration between research and industrial communities is conducive to knowledge transfer. Marine clusters in different parts of Europe are successfully implementing activities to make this happen. These were just some of the conclusions from the EurOcean and the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) - Cooperating Member - organised workshop held in October at the European Parliament. It was chaired by MEP and former EurOcean President Ricardo Serrão Santos and brought together numerous EurOcean Member representatives, policy makers, scientific community, industry and other stakeholders.

Speakers included MEP Gesine Meissner, DG Research & Innovation and DG MARE representatives, the SUBMARINER Network Managing Director, the COLUMBUS project co-ordinator, the EurOcean Executive-Director as well as representatives from marine clusters, projects and regions. A report on the event is available through the EurOcean website: <http://www.eurocean.org>

With its Marine Knowledge Gate, EurOcean is facilitating access to information from a range of sources on research projects and their outputs and this can underpin the subsequent knowledge exchange and knowledge transfer activities.



Database Hosting

As part of its work in Marine Knowledge Management, EurOcean offers a hosting service for databases of relevance that were created within on-going or concluded projects funded through various European programmes. At the moment it hosts CIRCLE-2 (<http://InfoBase.circle-era.eu/>), a database of national and European funded climate adaptation projects (funded under FP7).



Networking

Cristina Costa attended the first **Blue Economy and Science Forum** in Hamburg, organised by DG MARE to address Blue Growth Challenges. Over 200 Blue Economy stakeholders gathered to discuss and propose solutions on how to boost European competitiveness, to increase collaboration with industrial sectors and how to demonstrate value of the innovative technologies. Moreover the event was also the stage for awarding the Blue Economy Business Awards 2016, where EurOcean Member, the SUBMARINER Network's managing director Angela Schultz-Zehden received the "Woman of the year in the Blue Economy" award.



Ned Dwyer attended the **EFARO Blue Growth** and Innovation seminar which was organised by the European Fisheries & Aquaculture Organisation. It provided an opportunity to discuss Blue Growth issues in this sector and to raise awareness of EurOcean among EFARO Members.

The potential for maritime clusters to work more closely with the space sector was discussed during a workshop in Porto on "Combining Innovation Networks in Maritime and Space Event". Ned Dwyer participated in this stakeholder event, organised by University College Cork (UCC), Ireland and Forum Oceano, Portugal. Ned was instrumental in writing the proposal for this

European Space Agency funded project, whilst still working at UCC. The findings of the project will be made publically available via www.cinmars.org.

EurOcean maintains a close and complementary relationship with the **European Marine Board**. Ned Dwyer was invited as a guest to present during the Organisation's Spring Plenary, hosted by IOPAN in Sopot, Poland. It also provided an occasion to network with EMB Members and clarify EurOcean's role within the ecosystem of marine organisations in Europe.



European Projects

Marine Knowledge Management was also addressed through participation in several H2020 and FP7 funded projects, namely: **COLUMBUS**; **RISC-KIT**; and **NetBiome-CSA**, which concluded during the year.



COLUMBUS – Monitoring, Managing and Transferring Marine and Maritime Knowledge for Sustainable Blue Growth

Type: EC H2020 Blue Growth – Unlocking the Potential of Seas and Oceans
EU financial contribution: €4 million
Duration: 36 months (1 March 2015 - 28 February 2018)
Consortium: 27 partners from 12 countries
Coordinator: BIM, Ireland
Operational Leader: AquaTT, Ireland
Website: <http://columbusproject.eu/>

Aims of the project

COLUMBUS aims to ensure that applicable knowledge generated through EC-funded science and technology research can be transferred effectively to advance the governance of the marine and maritime sectors while improving competitiveness of European companies and unlocking the potential of the oceans to create future jobs and economic growth in Europe (Blue Growth).

EurOcean's involvement

Building on its experience in MarineTT and STAGES (FP7 funded projects) EurOcean is a key partner in this project, participating in almost all work packages and with a major role in leading the identification, collection and monitoring of past and current research activity with a view to collecting Knowledge Outputs focused on a number of priority Blue Growth areas. These Knowledge Outputs will then be included in the EurOcean maintained Knowledge Gate 2.0. EurOcean's other significant contribution is in relation to the organisation of an annual Blue Society Knowledge Transfer conference and the development of an annual Blue Society award together with EurOcean member Nausicaá.

EurOcean Major 2016 Achievements

- Report delivered on project identification and Knowledge Outputs collection for all nine thematic areas (competence node);
- Report delivered on identification of over 1,000 Knowledge Outputs following collection of relevant projects (1st cycle)
- Identification and update of EurOcean_KG with over 100 H2020 marine and maritime projects;
- Assessment, harmonisation and upload of the Oceans of Tomorrow validated Knowledge Outputs (circa 500) into EurOcean_KG;
- Development and regular update of a project and KO tracker for all Knowledge Transfer Phases;
- Contributed to guidelines development for the Blue Society awards.



RISC-KIT – Resilience-Increasing Strategies for Coasts – toolKIT

Type: EC FP7 Environment (including Climate Change)
EU financial contribution: €6 million
Duration: 42 months (1 November 2013 - 30 April 2017)
Consortium: 18 partners from 10 countries and 2 international organisations
Coordinator: Deltares, Netherlands
Website: www.riskit.eu

Aims of the project

To develop and deliver ready-to-use methods, tools and management approaches to reduce risk and increase resilience to low-frequency, high-impact hydro-meteorological events on European coasts. These products will enhance forecasting, prediction and early warning capabilities, improve the assessment of long-term coastal risk and optimise the mix of prevention, mitigation and preparedness measures.

EurOcean’s involvement

EurOcean is responsible for the dissemination and knowledge transfer activities of the project including maintenance and updates of the website, production of the regular e-newsletter, the generation of promotional materials and the organisation of stakeholder engagement and training events. EurOcean is also involved in the collection, review and historical analysis of relevant data.

EurOcean Major 2016 Achievements

- Coordinated, promoted and organised the 1st Summer School held in Ferrara Italy which was attended by 18 students;
- Commenced planning of 2nd Summer School to be held in Faro, Portugal in early 2017.

- Developed two project promotional video scripts and oversaw their production. The first animated film was released in 2016 and the second testimonial film will follow in 2017;
- Compiled, edited and published e-newsletters and updates to the website, YouTube Channel and social media;
- Completed a report on the 2nd End User Day held in October 2015.



NETBIOME-CSA – Strengthening European research cooperation for smart and sustainable management of tropical and subtropical biodiversity in outermost regions and overseas countries and territories

Type: EC FP7 Environment (including Climate Change)
EU financial contribution: €1 million
Duration: 36 months (2 May 2013 - 01 May 2016)
Consortium: 13 partners from 8 countries
Coordinator: FRCT, Azores, Portugal
Website: www.netbiome.eu

Aims of the project

NetBiome-CSA aimed to extend and strengthen research partnerships and cooperation for smart and sustainable management of tropical and subtropical biodiversity in European Outermost Regions (ORs) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs), through a participative process mobilising stakeholders, their knowledge and resources for initiatives such as policy and priority analysis, multi-stakeholder dialogues, exchange of good practices, training and issuing of policy recommendations and research priorities.

EurOcean’s involvement

EurOcean led communication and dissemination activities including maintenance and updates of the website, production of the regular eNewsletter and the generation of promotional materials. EurOcean was also involved in the structuring of the database to support the Biodiversity Management Toolbox, the identification of the specific challenges to be addressed and in the stakeholder identification.

EurOcean Major 2016 Achievements

- Edited and published an eNewsletter and updates to the website and its social networks;
- Finalised the project promotional video;
- Developed printed and disseminated publicity materials for the final event in Brussels;
- Providing input and editorial comment for and printing of the strategic policy and research recommendations report;
- Contributed to development of a proposal for a follow-on pilot project for consideration by the European Parliament.

Students learn about improving coastal resilience

The 1st RISC-KIT Summer School, organised by EurOcean and hosted by Consorzio Futuro in Ricerca, University of Ferrara, was held in Ferrara, Italy in September 2016. The summer school brought together 19 students from all over Europe, specialising in coastal management, coastal resilience, coastal morphodynamics, socioeconomics and more.

EurOcean, as the organiser of the event, was responsible for the event promotion, acceptance of applications, supported the selection of students, correspondence with selected candidates, as well as logistical elements involved in the event organisation.

The course curriculum focussed on three of the RISC-KIT tools: the Storm Impact Database, the Coastal Risk Assessment Framework, and the Web-based Management Guide. It involved theoretical and practical sessions as well as a field trip to the RISC-KIT Case Study site, Porto Garibaldi-Bellocchio.

Feedback on the course was extremely positive, from both students and teaching staff. This was the first of two such events, organised by EurOcean under the Dissemination tasks on the RISC-KIT project. The 2nd “Summer” School is scheduled for January 2017 in Faro, Portugal.



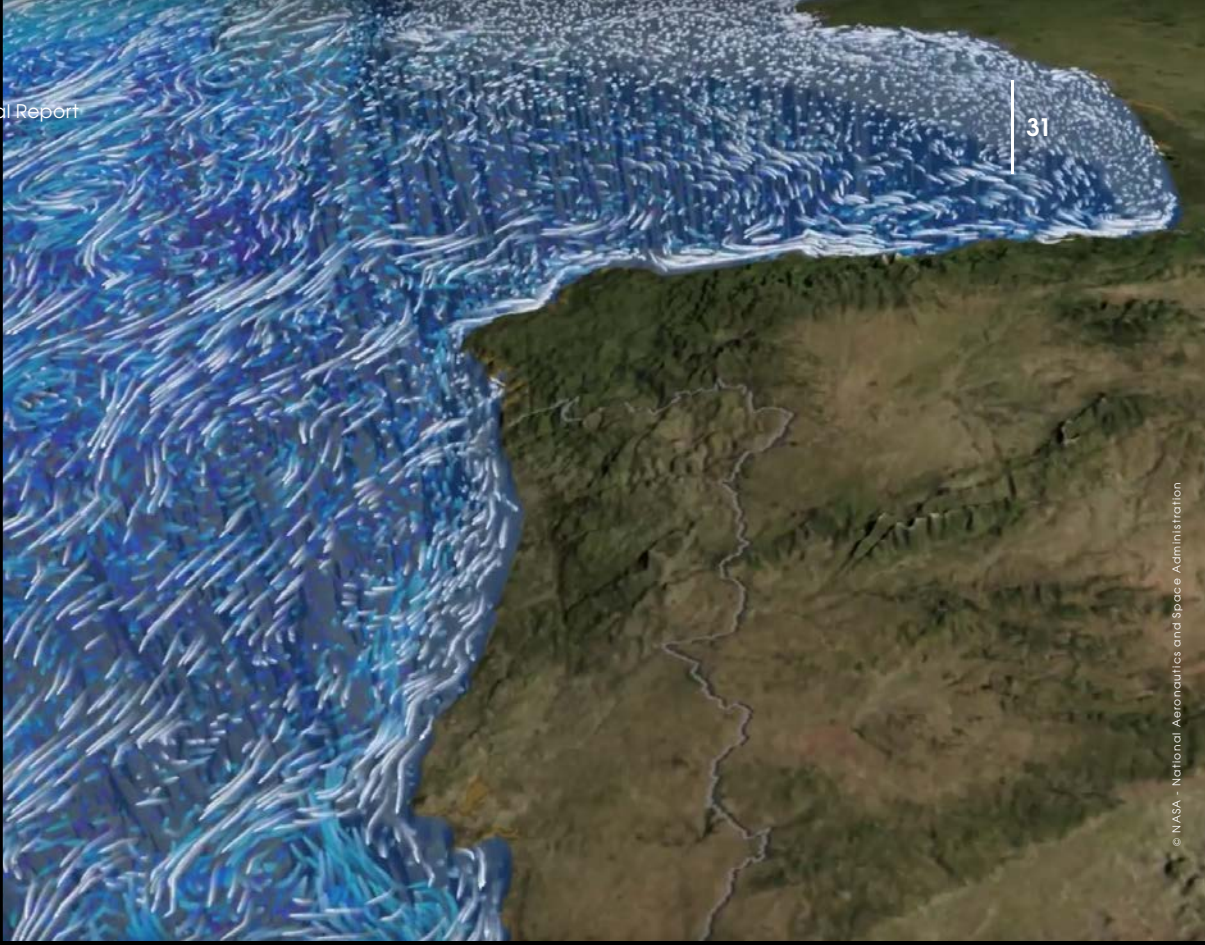
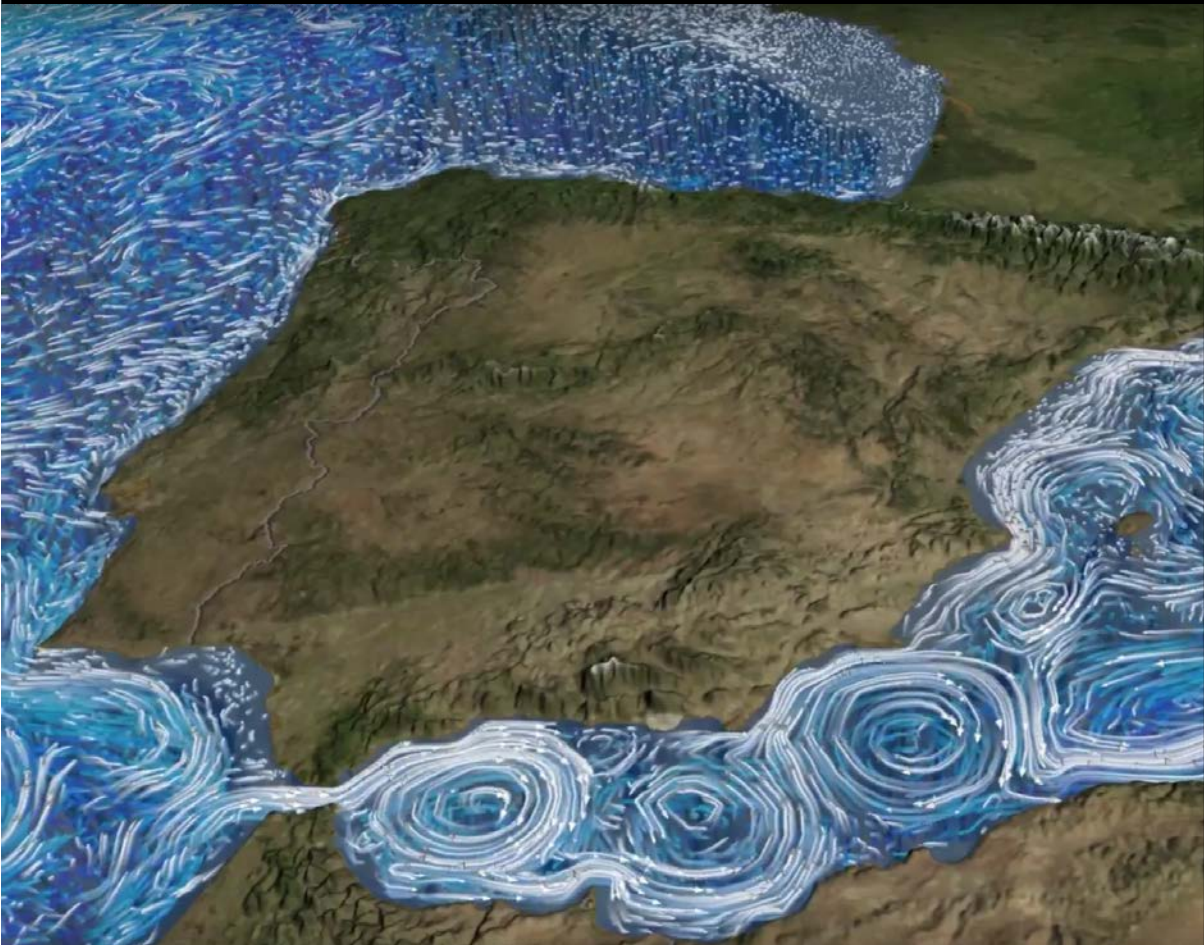
Proposal Contributions

WATERMAN – Wetland Tourism and Environmental Management

The importance of wetlands in providing vital functions (e.g. flood control, water purification, recreation) for human well-being has been internationally recognised and protected by the Ramsar convention. Nonetheless, across Mediterranean coastal areas such sites are under a range of ever-growing pressures including those from tourism. This proposed project, submitted to the INTERREG V – Mediterranean call, would implement specific actions, incorporating the latest approaches from coastal zone management, to demonstrate how sustainable tourism can be developed in harmony with the protection of such sensitive areas. EurOcean was approached by IST-Maretec, Portugal to lead on the Communications work package in this project, given our experience and track-record in this area. First submitted in 2015, and resubmitted following some updates and clarifications requested by the Interreg secretariat, the proposal was highly scored, but unfortunately just below the threshold for funding.

BlueLink

EurOcean was invited by Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland to participate in this proposal as a response to the call BG-O3-2016 on “Multi-use of the Ocean’s Marine Space”. The proposal included a systematic analysis of the barriers that inhibit spatial concentrations of compatible marine uses and which hinder the development of marine areas and Blue Growth. EurOcean was proposed to lead on the Communications WP. This was an extremely competitive call and the proposal was unsuccessful and was not retained for funding. The winning proposal entitled MUSES, involves EurOcean Member SUBMARINER Network, which lead on the activities related to the development of an action plan for multi-use in European seas.





06. Ocean Public Outreach and Education Activities

Raising awareness of marine issues among the general public is an important goal of EurOcean and as a signatory of the Blue Society Stakeholders' Commitment, we actively seek out opportunities to do so. The Professor Mário Ruivo prize, which was awarded for the 2nd time in 2016, is one of the corner stones of this activity.

Professor Mário Ruivo Prize Awarded at CommOCEAN 2016



It was a nail biting finish to the 2nd edition of the Professor Mário Ruivo Prize competition - named after EurOcean's former President and Founding Father - as the three finalist teams awaited the announcement of the winning project in front of an international audience during the CommOCEAN conference held in Bruges, Belgium in December 2016. This was the culmination of the competition which ran throughout 2016 and saw 18 teams of young people from around Europe propose novel research projects, community schemes, and investigations of topical subjects through the popular media, in support of the Blue Society Principles (<http://www.bluesociety.org/>). All proposals were evaluated by a jury made up of EurOcean Members during summer 2016 and three teams were selected to advance to the final stage:

"Protecting and sustaining marine life in Ireland"

Ireland



A 50-day social media campaign on marine facts such as overfishing and pollution and a public sustainable fish cooking demonstration with a famous chef was what this Irish team organized in order to promote ocean literacy in their local community and raise awareness that there is a whole ocean on their doorstep that needs to be protected.

"Marine public transport"

Malta



The Maltese team wanted to reduce trash in the ocean and for that they changed the bins on the Maltese ferries, which had no lids, to bins that have bolted lids and separation at source. They managed to convince the ferry companies that this was a big problem that they should address.

"Bags with tags"

Ireland



Promoting canvas tote bags and developing plastic bags that have recyclable iron filings melted into them during production and can therefore be collected by magnets strategically placed along waterways. This was how this other Irish team demonstrated with a scale model how to reduce the amount of plastic litter before it reaches the sea.

During EurOcean's Steering Committee meeting a winner was chosen and, given the quality of all three finalists, two special commendations were also awarded. The winning project was "Bags with Tags".

A champion of European and global marine science that will be missed

It was with great sadness that on January 24th 2017 we learned of the loss of Professor Mário Ruivo. All those involved with EurOcean remember Professor Mário Ruivo in a special way as one of the Founders and First President of this organisation (2002 - 2008). Those of us who had the privilege to meet, discuss and work with Professor Ruivo know of his commitment to ocean issues and his work, right up until his last days, to keep ocean matters high on the political agenda. He was always a fascinating man to speak with and had a breadth and depth of knowledge on a huge range of subjects.

He was a trained biologist specialized in Biological Oceanography and Management of Marine Living Resources. He was Director of the Division of Aquatic Resources and the Environment of the Department of Fisheries of FAO (1961-74). He was also Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO (1980-89) where he was elected Vice-President in 2003, and Invited Professor at the University of Porto / ICBAS (Course Policy and Management of Ocean). He was the President of the Portuguese National Council for Environment and Sustainable Development (CNADS) and President of the Intersectorial Oceanographic Commission at the time of his death. Professor Mário Ruivo has received numerous awards, including in 2010 when he was proclaimed Doctor "Honoris Causa" by the University of Azores, in recognition of his career achievements and in 2016 he was awarded the European Citizens' Prize by the European Parliament.

His name will be kept alive, by EurOcean, through the organization of the Professor Mário Ruivo Prize created in 2009 as recognition of his work as a pioneer on the sciences of the sea and marine research at national, European, and international level.

He was one of the last of his generation that helped to shape global marine science.
— **Slawomir Sagan, President of EurOcean, IOPAN, Poland**

"When such a great man as Mário Ruivo leaves us, an immense hole remains and it is so difficult to replace him."
— **Nicolae Panin, GeoEcoMar, Romania**

"He had unbelievable skills in all fields, including languages, he was a lesson for me and surely for all of us. He will be missed."
— **Gilles Lericolais, Ifremer, France**

"Mário was a good friend and a great champion for European and global marine science. He was always sharp, wise and very active. We are grateful for a full life, but we will miss him."
— **Jan Mees, VLIZ**

"He was a remarkable man who has left a very significant legacy to marine science in Portugal, Europe and the world."
— **Mick Giloolley, MI**

"He was a visionary. I am really glad that he was able to see a EurOcean Prize honouring him."
— **Carlos García-Soto, Vice-President EurOcean, IEO, Spain**

"Mário was one of the most interesting and charming people I have ever met."
— **Per Nieuwejaar, IMR, Norway**

"My deepest condolence on the loss of such a great man."
— **Ennio Marsella, CNR, Italy**

"A father of EurOcean and respected for his important and great work with ocean sciences."
— **Francisco Pinto, FRCT, Portugal**

The identification, collection, aggregation, analysis and electronic dissemination of marine information are key elements of EurOcean's activities. In this context, EurOcean's key communications channels are its internet site and social media components.

EurOcean Website www.eurocean.org






A new look website was launched towards the end of 2016. This new website combines visual appeal with a rich-content structure that embodies the main aim of EurOcean to be a focal point for information on marine science and technology. The new website is responsive so works on smartphones and tablets as well as computers. It has large pictures and attractive visuals that offer a modern look combining usability and appeal. Navigation of the site was also improved.

In addition EurOcean's eNewsletter is now sent to more than 5,000 subscribers on a monthly basis and contains relevant news items, funding opportunities, upcoming events and jobs listings. Those interested can subscribe easily via the website. You can also send us your news items for highlighting through our website and newsletter.

EurOcean on Social media

EurOcean expanded its presence in the social media sphere this year and in addition to Facebook, it has also set up accounts on Twitter and LinkedIn. During 2016, the number of followers on Facebook increased steadily and is now over 1,000.

-  https://twitter.com/eurocean_found
-  <https://www.facebook.com/EurOcean>
-  <https://www.linkedin.com/company/eurocean>

"IOI is deeply cognizant of his efforts in bringing the oceans to the forefront of the scientific, political and human agenda, and his keen interactions with persons from all disciplines, many of whom are now devoted ocean ambassadors and advocates of its sustainability."
— **Awni Behnam and Antonella Vassallo, IOI, Malta**

"I will miss Mario's kindness and curiosity, his energy and his vision. The memory of his never ending enthusiasm and forward thinking will continue to inspire me."
— **Manuel Cira, Nausicaá, France**

"Professor Mário Ruivo was one of the last national and international references in ocean governance. A wise man with a holistic view of ocean affairs, an example of life. We will all miss this great ambassador of the ocean."
— **Sofia Cordeiro, FCT, Portugal**

"He had an exceptional personality, unrivalled and visionary which set the national and international agenda in regards to knowledge and governance of the ocean."
— **Ricardo Serrão Santos, former President EurOcean, Portugal**

Networking

2016 European Maritime Day Conference

The EurOcean Office participated in the 2016 European Maritime Day Stakeholder Conference, held in Turku, Finland on 18 and 19 May, with a dedicated stand displaying promotional materials and products such as the EurOcean_RID and EurOcean_KG InfoBases, in addition to promotional materials from the projects where EurOcean is involved. There were many visitors to the stand and much interest in EurOcean activities in particular the InfoBases. Ned Dwyer also participated as a panellist in a workshop entitled “Towards innovative data services for Blue Growth” (<http://www.bluebridge-vres.eu/events/bluebridge-workshop-towards-innovative-data-services-blue-growth-european-maritime-day-2016>) organised by the H2020 BlueBridge (<http://www.bluebridge-vres.eu/>) project consortium. EurOcean member SUBMARINER Network also had a stand at the event.



Manuel Cira (Nausicaá), Angela Schultz-Zehden (SUBMARINER Network) and Ned Dwyer (EurOcean) at the EMD conference.

CommOCEAN - 2nd International Marine Science Communication Conference



EurOcean’s outgoing President Ricardo Serrão Santos presented the Professor Mário Ruivo prizes during a special session at

the CommOCEAN conference held in Bruges in December. EurOcean Member VLIZ and cooperating member IOC, along with the European Marine Board were the main organisers of the conference. The EurOcean office also presented a poster on “Engaging Youth Across Europe with the Ocean – Experiences from the Professor Mário Ruivo competition; Ned Dwyer chaired one of the sessions and in addition to the conference Tiago Garcia attended a training course on communications.

EurOcean at School

Raising awareness of ocean issues, especially with younger people is part of EurOcean’s remit. During the year, staff carried out an activity in relation to highlighting the problem of and solutions for marine litter and promoted the Blue Society to a group of geography students at St. Julian’s International School near Lisbon.



Ned Dwyer was invited to present on satellite applications for marine monitoring during the 2nd conference for secondary school teachers of ocean related subjects organised by Ciência Viva under the umbrella of the H2020 SeaChange project.

Ned also participated in and was ultimately the winner of the “I’m an Engineer, Get me Out of Here” competition, an Online event in which school-aged kids in Ireland get to interact with real engineers, asking questions via live chats, receiving answers, and ultimately voting for their favourite engineer in an X-factor style set up where the students were the judges. Each day one engineer was eliminated until the last person standing was declared the winner. Ned participated in the Space Zone and answered questions on how satellites can be used to observe the ocean among others.

European Projects

The public engagement and outreach line of activity was also pursued through participation in the H2020 **MARINA** project, led by EurOcean Member CNR with a focus on Responsible Research and Innovation, an approach that implies that societal actors (researchers, citizens, policy makers, business, civil society organisations, etc.) work together during the whole research and innovation process in order to align better both the process and its outcomes with the values, needs and expectations of society.



MARINA - Marine Knowledge Sharing Platform for Federating Responsible Research and Innovation Communities

Type: EC H2020 Blue Growth – Integrating Society in Science and Innovation: Knowledge Sharing Platform
EU financial contribution: €3 million
Duration: 36 months (1 May 2016 – 30 April 2019)
Consortium: 14 partners from 11 countries
Coordinator: CNR, Italy
Website: www.marinaproject.eu

Aims of the project

The project aims to create an all-inclusive Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP) catalysing and organising the convergence of already existing networks, communities, on-line platforms and services providing an online socio-technical environment that facilitates and stimulates the direct engagement of researchers, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), citizens, industry stakeholders, policy and decision makers, research funders and communicators for improving Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI).

EurOcean’s involvement

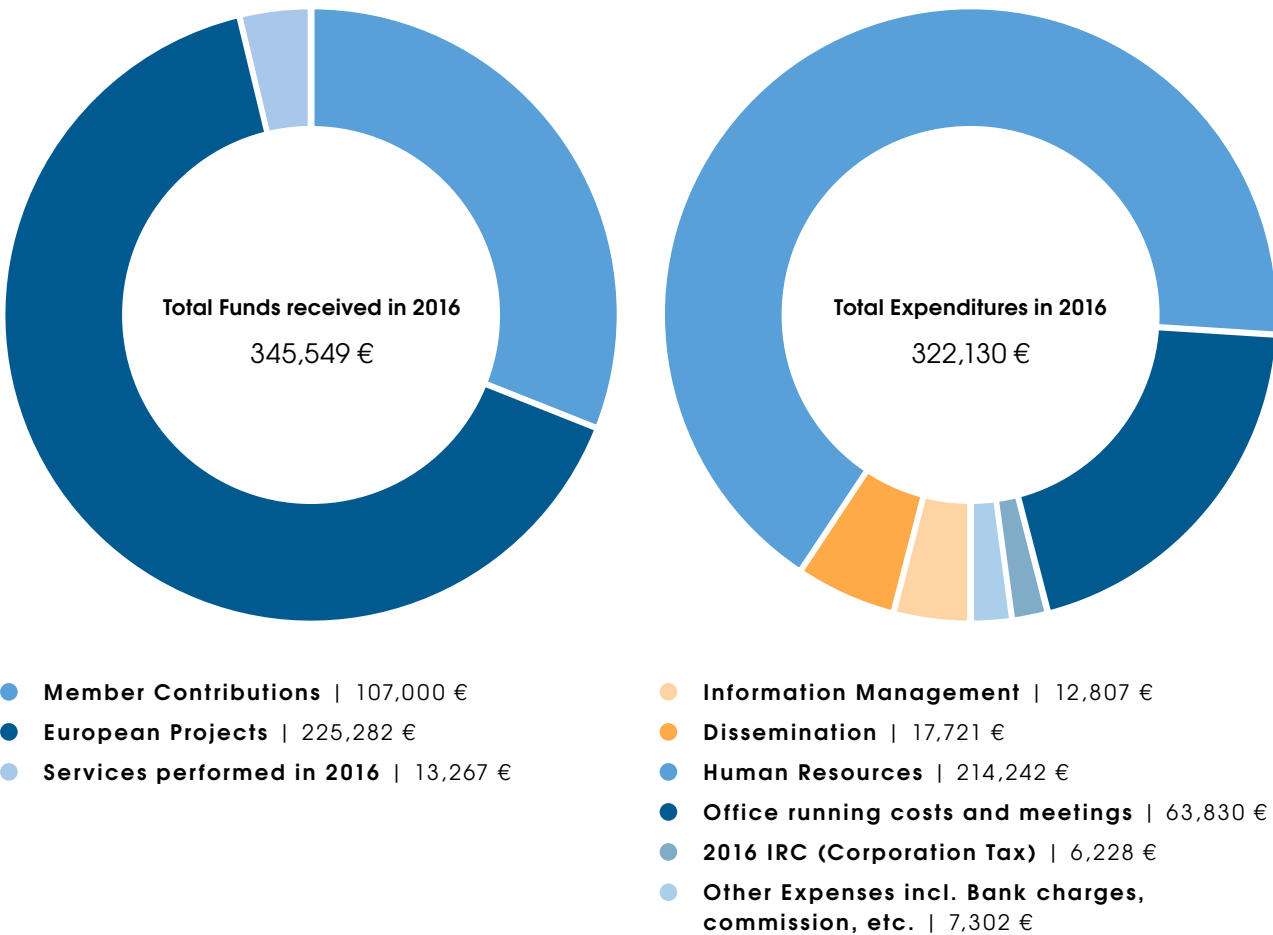
EurOcean’s major role is leading the work package that produces the Web Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP). This platform is being configured to allow the federation of existing knowledge, tools

and services and in parallel foster the creation of the federation of the RRI communities. EurOcean is also leading a task on identifying available resources, tools and information sources of relevance to RRI and will contribute to other tasks including national and international workshop organisation aiding stakeholder dialogue.

EurOcean Major 2016 Achievements

- Completed the deliverable on user requirements for the Web Sharing Platform;
- Identified and compiled relevant marine projects and tools containing one or more Responsible Research and Innovation “keys”, for inclusion in the Platform;
- Commenced organisation of a National level Mutual Mobilisation and Learning (MML) workshop, with a focus on tourism and coastal erosion, to take place in Portugal in January 2017;
- Contributed feedback on communications and dissemination tasks, stakeholder engagement and other activities as requested.

07.
Finances 2016

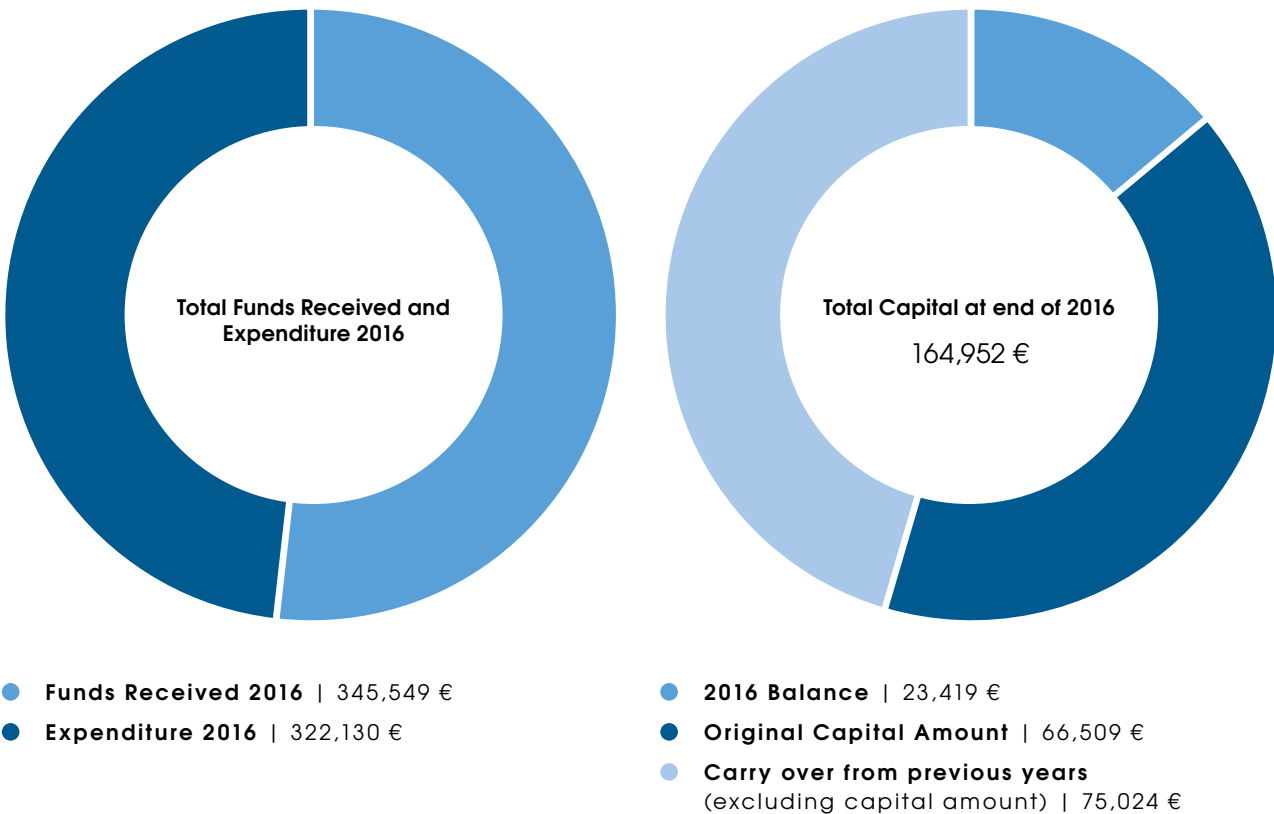


07. Finances 2016

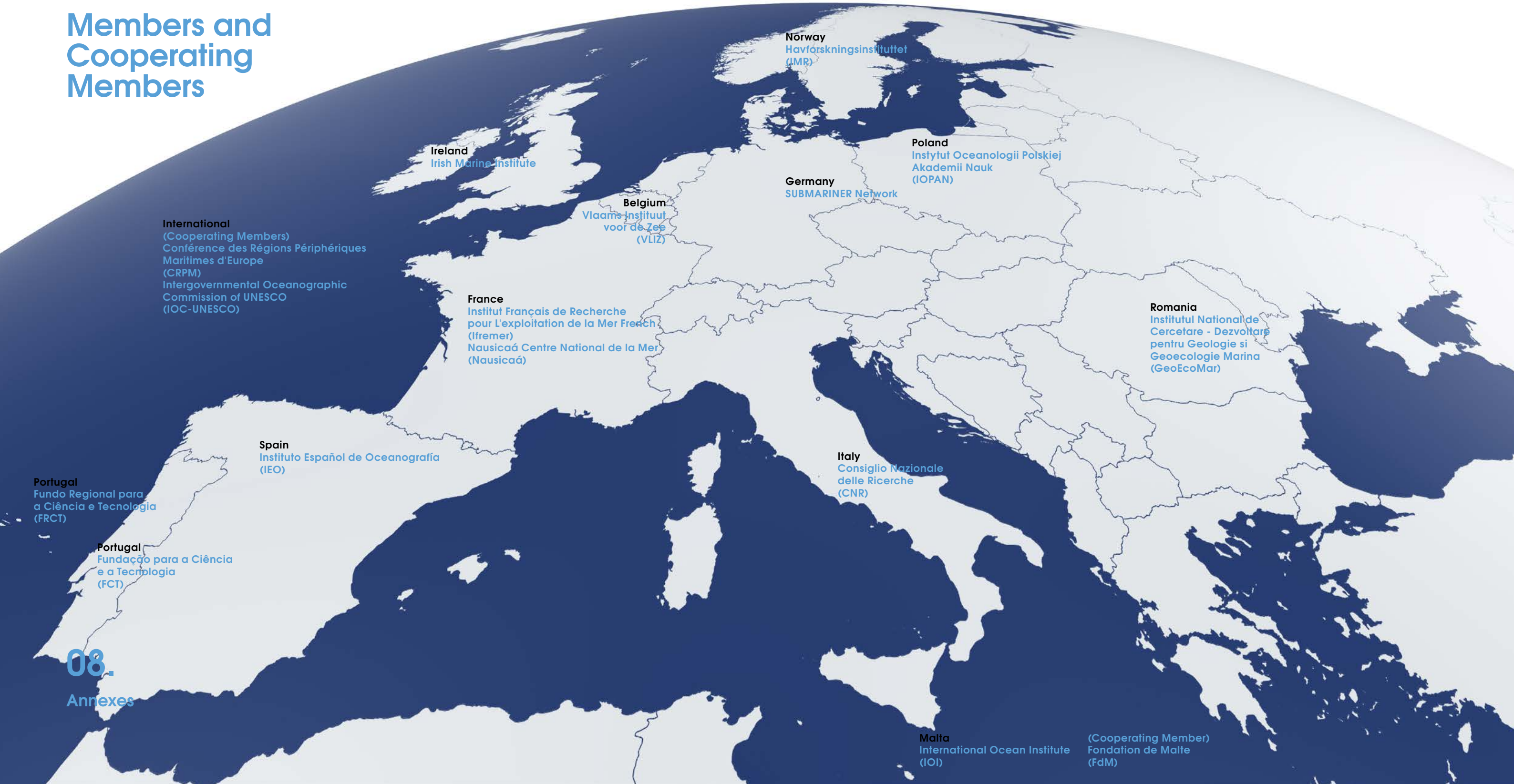
The EurOcean annual budget is based on:

- Member organisation contributions;
- European projects contracts;
- Contracts of services;
- Other contributions; e.g. deposit interests, reimbursements.

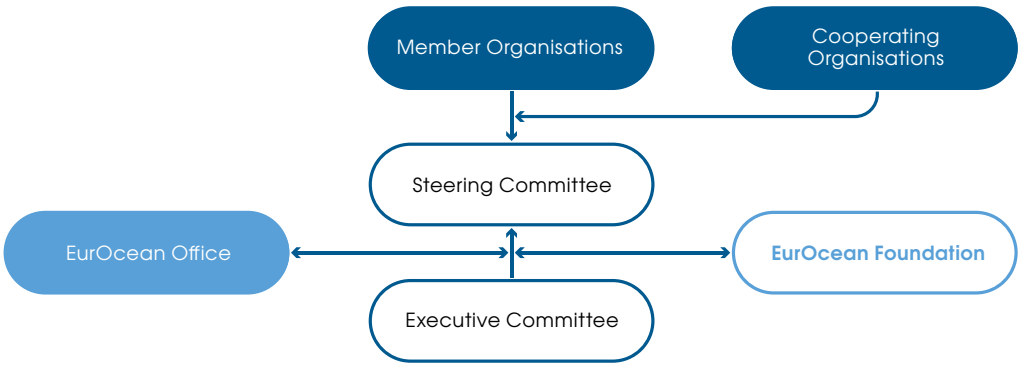
The following financial table depicts the 2016 EurOcean finances in accordance with the professional accounting principles, which at the time of this report were independently audited.



Members and
Cooperating
Members



EurOcean Structure



Executive Committee Composition

Until 16 November 2016:

President – Ricardo Serrão Santos, FRCT Member Representative
Vice-President – Jean-François Masset, Ifremer Representative
Vice-President – Slawomir Sagan, IOPAN member Representative

From 16 November 2016:

President – Slawomir Sagan, IOPAN member Representative
Vice-President – Tina Mertens, VLIZ member Representative
Vice-President – Carlos García-Soto, IEO member Representative

EurOcean Foundation Board Composition

President – Ricardo Serrão Santos
Vice-President – Jean-François Masset
Treasurer/Secretary – Nicolae Panin
Member – António Pascoal
Member – Slawomir Sagan
Member – Manuel Cira

EurOcean Office Staff

- **Executive-Director**
Ned Dwyer
- **Office Coordinator and European Project Manager**
Cristina Costa
- **European Project Manager**
Sandra Sá
- **Science Officers**
Sofia Cordeiro (until June 2016)
Ruth Higgins
Tiago Garcia (from September 2016)

Executive Committee

- **16th Executive Committee Meeting**
Lisbon, Portugal - 6 May 2016

Participants

Members	Ricardo Serrão Santos	President of the EurOcean Centre; FRCT Member Representative
	Jean-François Masset	Vice-President of the EurOcean Centre; Ifremer Member Representative
	Slawomir Sagan	Vice-President of the EurOcean Centre; IOPAN Member Representative
EurOcean Office	Ned Dwyer	Executive-Director of the EurOcean Centre
	Cristina Costa	Office Coordinator and European Project Manager of the EurOcean Centre
	Sofia Cordeiro	Science Officer of the EurOcean Centre

- **17th Executive Committee Meeting**
Sopot, Poland - 14 November 2016

Participants

Members	Ricardo Serrão Santos	President of the EurOcean Centre; FRCT Member Representative
	Jean-François Masset	Vice-President of the EurOcean Centre; Ifremer Member Representative
	Slawomir Sagan	Vice-President of the EurOcean Centre; IOPAN Member Representative
EurOcean Office	Ned Dwyer	Executive-Director of the EurOcean Centre
	Cristina Costa	Office Coordinator and European Project Manager of the EurOcean Centre
	Tiago Garcia	Science Officer of the EurOcean Centre

Steering Committee

- **16th Steering Committee Meeting**
Sopot, Poland - 15 and 16 November 2016

Participants

Members	Slawomir Sagan	New President of the EurOcean Centre; IOPAN Member Representative
	Tina Mertens	New Vice-President of the EurOcean Centre; VLIZ Member Representative
	Carlos García-Soto	New Vice-President of the EurOcean Centre; IEO Member Representative

	Jean-François Masset	Former Vice-President of the EurOcean Centre; Ifremer Member Representative
	Sofia Cordeiro	FCT Member Representative (Alternate)
	Nicolae Panin	GeoEcoMar Member Representative
	Fiona Grant	MI Member Representative
	Manuel Cira	Nausicaá Member Representative
	Giuseppe Magnifico	CNR Member Representative (Alternate)
	Gilles Lericolais	IFREMER Member Representative (Alternate)
EurOcean Office	Joanna Przedzrymska	SUBMARINER Network Member Representative (Alternate)
	Ned Dwyer	Executive-Director of the EurOcean Centre
	Cristina Costa	Office Coordinator and European Project Manager of the EurOcean Centre
	Sandra Sá	European Project Manager of the EurOcean Centre
	Ruth Higgins	Science Officer of the EurOcean Centre
	Tiago Garcia	Science Officer of the EurOcean Centre

EurOcean Foundation Board

- **9th EurOcean Foundation Board Meeting**
Sopot, Poland - 14 November 2016

Participants

Members	Ricardo Serrão Santos (represented by Slawomir Sagan)	President of the Board
	Nicolae Panin	Treasurer/Secretary of the Board
	Jean-François Masset	Member of the Board
	Slawomir Sagan	Member of the Board
	Manuel Cira	Member of the Board
EurOcean Office	António Pascoal (represented by Slawomir Sagan)	Member of the Board
	Ned Dwyer	Executive-Director of the EurOcean Centre
	Cristina Costa	Office Coordinator and European Project Manager of the EurOcean Centre
	Tiago Garcia	Science Officer of the EurOcean Centre

Annex 4. Events organised by the EurOcean Office 2016

1. Supporting Marine Research Knowledge Exchange for Blue Growth

Report of event available at: <http://www.eurocean.org>

Conference, 13 October 2016, Brussels, Belgium

Chairs and Speakers	Organisation
Ricardo Serrão Santos	European Parliament
Invited Speakers	Organisation
Angela Schultz-Zehden	Submariner Network, Germany
Ann Overmeire	Flanders Maritime Cluster, Belgium
Annika Annerby Jansson	Regional Council, Skåne, (Sweden)
Claudia Monteiro de Aguiar	European Parliament
David Murphy	AquaTIT, Ireland
Douglas Robinson	ESIEE, France
Gesine Meisner	European Parliament
Iain Shepherd	Marine South East, UK
Ned Dwyer	EurOcean, Portugal
Pieter Jan Jordaens	OWI_Lab, Belgium
Registered Participants	Organisation
Fiona Grant	Marine Institute, Ireland
Francisco Pinto	FRCT Azores, Portugal
Gilles Lericolais	IFREMER, France
Giuseppe Borsalino	DG R&I
Greta Borg	EASME
Jan Mees	VLIZ, Belgium
Jan-Stefan Fritz	KDM Marine Research Consortium, Germany
Kasparas Kemeklis	Ocean Energy Europe, Belgium
Lamia Benouaret	University of Constantine 3, Algeria
Laura Camiel	SELP
Lucas Bosser	CPMR
Luis Díez Gámiz	University of Cadiz, Spain
Manuel Cira	Nausicaa, France
Marck Smit	NIOZ - Sea Research, The Netherlands
Maria Luz Paramio Martín	FRCT Azores, Portugal
Marta Ferriol Ubach	Centre Balears Europa, Spain
Nikolai Grødum Grønberg	South Norway European Office, Norway
Nikos Lampropoulos	Region of North Aegean, Greece
Nolwenn Le Tallec	Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine, France
Paul Hagan	WHEB, Belgium
Rouzbeh Rasai	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Norway
Sophie Sergent	IFREMER, France
Stefano Spinaci	European Parliament
Tina Mertens	VLIZ, Belgium
Wim Stoker	Province of Noord-Holland, The Netherlands

2. Facilitating Transnational Usage of Europe’s Marine Research Infrastructure

Report of event available at: <http://www.eurocean.org>

Conference, 15 November 2016, Sopot, Poland

Chairs and Speakers	Organisation
Carlos García-Soto	IEO and EurOcean, Spain
Ned Dwyer	EurOcean, Portugal
Slawomir Sagan	IOPAN and EurOcean, Poland
Invited Speakers	Organisation
Anna Kaczorowska	Alliance and University of Gdansk, Poland
Giuseppe Magnifico	CNR, Italy
Laurent Delauney	IFREMER, France
Marcin Wichorowski	IOPAN, Poland
Meelis Sirendi	BONUS Programme, Finland
Sandra Sá	EurOcean, Portugal
Registered Participants	Organisation
Anna Rozwadowska	Local Stakeholder
Artur Burzyński	Local Stakeholder
Artur Palacz	Local Stakeholder
Cristina Costa	EurOcean, Portugal
Fiona Grant	Marine Institute, Ireland
Gilles Lericolais	IFREMER, France
Grazyna Kowalewska	Local Stakeholder
Ilona Zloch	Local Stakeholder
Jean-François Masset	IFREMER, France
Joanna Potrykus	Local Stakeholder
Joanna Przedzrymirska	Local Stakeholder
Joanna Stoń-Egiert	Local Stakeholder
Krzysztof Lewandowski	Local Stakeholder
Magdalena Stella	Local Stakeholder
Małgorzata Robakiewicz	Local Stakeholder
Manuel Cira	Nausicaa, France
Marcin Wichorowski	IOPAN, Poland
Marek Zwierz	Local Stakeholder
Mirosław Darecki	Local Stakeholder
Mirosława Ostrowska	Local Stakeholder
Monika Zablocka	Local Stakeholder
Nicolae Panin	GeoEcoMar, Romania
Regina Terlecka	Local Stakeholder
Ruth Higgins	EurOcean, Portugal
Slawomir Woźniak	Local Stakeholder
Sofia Cordeiro	FCT, Portugal
Tiago Garcia	EurOcean, Portugal
Tina Mertens	VLIZ, Belgium

Annex 5. Participation in Meetings and Events in 2016

Participation as an Invited Speaker/Presenter

Date	Event	Speaker/Panel Member
27 to 28 April 2016	European Marine Board Spring Plenary, Sopot, Poland	Speaker - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director
27 to 28 May 2016	European Maritime Day Conference, Turku, Finland	Workshop Panel Member: Towards innovative data services for Blue Growth - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director
10 to 12 June 2016	European Research Vessel Operators (ERVO) annual meeting, Rhodes, Greece	Speaker – Sandra Sá, European Projects Manager
10 June 2016	Atlantic Interactions: Knowledge, Climate Change, Space and Oceans, New York, USA	Speaker - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director
17 June 2016	School and the Blue Society, Conference for Secondary School Teachers, Lisbon, Portugal	Speaker - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director
24 June 2016	Marine & Renewable Energy Ireland and Future Earth Coasts, Cork, Ireland	Speaker - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director
19 September 2016	Atlantic Interactions: Knowledge, Climate Change, Space, and Oceans, Brussels, Belgium	Speaker - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director
4 to 6 October 2016	INMARTEC Symposium, Bergen, Norway	Speaker - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director
11 to 13 October 2016	IMDIS Conference, Gdansk, Poland	Tiago Garcia, Science Officer
6 to 8 December 2016	CommOCEAN Conference, Bruges, Belgium	Session Chair - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director Speaker – Tiago Garcia, Science Officer

Participation in Other Meetings and Events

Date	Event
25 May 2016	EFARO Blue Growth & Innovation Seminar, Brussels, Belgium
4 to 6 July 2016	Ciência 2016, Lisbon, Portugal
27 May 2016	Science Communications Conference, Lisbon, Portugal
12 September 2016	Combining Innovation Networks in Maritime and Space, Porto, Portugal
12 to 13 September 2016	Blue Economy Business and Science Forum, Hamburg, Germany
26 October 2016	WAVEC Seminar, Lisbon, Portugal



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