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The European Centre
for Information on Marine
Science and Technology

2015
Annual Report

![EurOcean — The European Centre for Information on Marine Science and Technology](logo)

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 2015, EurOcean represented 13 Member organisations based in 10 European countries and three Cooperating Members.

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

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

**The European Centre
for Information on Marine
Science and Technology**

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03. Message from the President

Ricardo Serrão Santos

FRCT Member Representative, Portugal

EurOcean President 2012-onwards

"Blue Growth" was at the top of most of the marine research and policy agenda during 2015, and is expected to continue so in the coming years. Blue Growth is seen as an opportunity for Europe at a time when it is falling short of economic opportunities. The challenge, in fact, is to determine the scale and size of activities related with the blue economy. However, it is difficult to determine with precision how large these sectors are. Current EU estimates have shown that there are around 4.5 million people employed in marine activities in Europe. The EC believes that this number can increase by at least 1.5 million by 2020. These estimates demonstrate the significance of the blue economy, the potential for its development, but also the potential growth of environmental impacts.

How such growth is achieved and the type of jobs involved is of fundamental importance. Without reliable, cooperative, scientifically informed and politically wise decisions it may lead to cumulative effects of unsustainable growth. Indeed Blue Growth is an awkward expression; I would favour the term "Blue Development". The hard truth is that, in the current paradigm, "growth" has limits. This is not new – the Club of Rome said this already 43 years ago! What we need to target is "sustainability" and "sufficiency". Nonetheless, this need to balance economic benefit and environmental protection represents a highly complex challenge.

Blue Growth cannot encompass all ocean-related industries in a simplistic way. Blue Growth has to go hand-in-hand with sustainable development based on a precautionary approach, scientific knowledge and environmentally friendly innovation. For scientists and engineers, this is an opportunity, but it is also a tremendous responsibility. The concept of the "Blue Society" also addresses this required nexus. A number of members of EurOcean played a fundamental role in the development of the Blue Society concept and in November 2015 I was delighted to sign the Blue Society Charter during the launch event I hosted at the European Parliament.

These are times that call for a strong involvement of transregional, transnational and transoceanic cooperation where the EU must have a lead role. At the stage we are today, scientific knowledge, environmental sustainability and international cooperation are key factors required to rebuild healthy economies and for Blue Development. It is imperative to balance economic benefit with environmental protection and human wellbeing. This presents a highly complex challenge, where knowledge and information continue to be the central part, together with good governance. To keep and restore the health and environmental security of our planet and our society, we need to count on reliable and coordinated scientific data and information. Those are the basis on which to sustain decisions for growth and investment on seas and oceans. It is here that EurOcean plays an important role in coordinating European cooperation in sharing, distributing and adding value to reliable information on marine science and technology.

02. Message from the Executive-Director

Ned Dwyer

EurOcean Executive-Director

The year concluded, 2015, was one of change at EurOcean. As the incoming Executive-Director, I swapped the view of the River Lee in Cork, Ireland for one of the River Tagus in Lisbon. Settling into the new position was made easy by the support and collaboration of all the office staff and the Member representatives as well as a very comprehensive hand-over from outgoing Executive-Director Telmo Carvalho, who passed over a "well-oiled" machine into my hands.

The highlights of 2015 included the completion of the cataloguing in Marine Knowledge Gate of more than 1,250 FP7 funded marine projects, representing 6.7% of the FP7 research budget. With a catalogue of over 6,000 marine projects from a huge range of European and national funding programmes, Knowledge Gate is the premier information resource to find out who has been researching what in the European marine field. Also in the knowledge sphere, the start of H2020 COLUMBUS sees a major step forward in gathering and transferring European funded project knowledge outputs, thereby making the return on investment clearer. Knowledge management was also the focus of a EurOcean organised conference held in Ostend in November and attended by more than 35 people.

Building on the success of the Research Infrastructures InfoBase and the other related InfoBases, which catalogue over 900 pieces of European marine infrastructure, it was decided to upgrade and amalgamate the databases, making them both easier to use and to manage. Following on agreement of the detailed proposal by the Members this work will kick-off in 2016 and I look forward to unveiling the finished product.

A landmark activity was the launch of the Blue Society at the European Parliament in November 2015, during an event chaired by EurOcean President Ricardo Serrão Santos, MEP and attended by over 140 people. EurOcean contributed significantly, especially in regard to communication and dissemination activities, to the Sea for Society project, led by our Member Nausicaá, from which the Blue Society vision emerged. I would encourage you to support the Blue Society ideals by signing the Citizen Promise or Stakeholder Commitment which you can find on the website www.bluesociety.org.

It was also the year in which I had the pleasure to get to know Professor Mário Ruivo, one of EurOcean´s founders and a past President. It was an honour to be present when he received the European Citizens award for his contribution to European cooperation. Coincidently this year we also launched the 2nd Professor Mário Ruivo prize asking European youth to carry out an activity related to the theme "Your Ocean Your Future".

Our Steering Committee meeting saw the acceptance of the SUBMARINER Network, which works in the Baltic region, as a new EurOcean Member from 2016. I am delighted with the expansion of the EurOcean family and our consolidation of members in this part of Europe.

It has been a very interesting and exciting first year at EurOcean and I look forward to working with the Staff, Members and Partners on all our projects and initiatives in 2016.

03. 2015 Highlights

FP7 IN KNOWLEDGE GATE COMPLETED
With the addition of over 370 projects, FP7 was completed in Knowledge Gate. Also more than 1,000 national projects collected through FP7 COFASP were added.
(p. 19)

PROFESSOR MÁRIO RUIVO PRIZE LAUNCHED
This 2nd edition asks European youth to focus on practical actions that can improve how humans interact with the Ocean.
(p. 25)

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES DATABASES CONTINUES TO GROW
EurOcean_RID was updated and 26 new infrastructures were added. Comprehensive upgrade specification completed for implementation in 2016.
(p. 13)

H2020 COLUMBUS STARTS
The COLUMBUS project, with a focus on ensuring accessibility and uptake of research Knowledge Outputs started.
(p. 20)

BLUE SOCIETY LAUNCHED
EurOcean played a key role in the Blue Society launch at the European Parliament.
(p. 27)

EUROCEAN CONFERENCE IN OSTEND
"Knowledge Management Driving Sustainable Blue Growth" was the focus of this EurOcean organised conference.
(p. 20)

SUBMARINER NETWORK JOINS AS NEW MEMBER
EurOcean expands with a new member located in the Baltic region.
(p. 10)

04.

About EurOcean

04. 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 on 4 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, Portugal) and the French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (Ifremer, France) 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.

On 28 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 a 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 2015 EurOcean had 13 Member organisations from ten European countries and maintains cooperation agreements with another 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 2012 the current MoU is in force until mid-2016.

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. In 2015 the Steering Committee met in Ostend, Belgium on 19-20 November.

EurOcean Steering Committee.

From left to right: Manuel Cira (Nausicaá - France); Carlos Garcia-Soto (IEO - Spain); Mick Gillooly (MI - Ireland); Ennio Marsella (CNR - Italy); Jean-François Masset (Ifremer - France); Tina Mertens (VLIZ - Belgium); Per Nieuwejaar (IMR - Norway); Nicolae Panin (GeoEcoMar - Romania); António Pascoal (FCT - Portugal); Francisco Pinto (FRCT - Portugal); Henrique Queiroga (CESAM - Portugal); Slawomir Sagan (IOPAN - Poland); Ricardo Serrão Santos (FRCT - Portugal); Antonella Vassalo (IOI - Malta).

EurOcean Membership Grows

EurOcean is delighted to welcome the SUBMARINER Network as its newest Member from January 2016 expanding its reach significantly within the Baltic region.

The SUBMARINER Network is itself made up of sixteen members and associate members including research institutions, public administrations, NGOs and business parks across a number of countries bordering the Baltic Sea and has as its main priority the promotion of innovative approaches to the sustainable use of marine resources. In particular the Network's actions are focussed on: macro and micro algae cultivation, mussel cultivation, reed harvesting, blue biotechnology, wave energy, fish aquaculture and multi-use wind parks.

EurOcean looks forward to working with the SUBMARINER Executive Secretary Angela Schulz-Zehden, based in Berlin, Germany and the Network partners to further mutual activities in relation to marine research, information and technology.

www.submariner-network.eu

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. In 2015 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).

The ExCom meets twice annually – in 2015 these meetings were in June and November – to follow up on implementation of the Work Programme approved by the Steering Committee in the annual plenary meeting.

EurOcean Executive Committee.
From left to right: EurOcean President, Ricardo Serrão Santos (FRCT - Portugal); EurOcean Vice-President, Jean-François Masset (Ifremer - France) and EurOcean Vice-President, Slawomir Sagan (IOPAN - Poland).

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 20 November 2015 (Ostend, Belgium) the Board of Directors endorsed all the legal and financial decisions taken in the 2015 Steering Committee Meeting. 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 EUR 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 2015 comprised an Executive-Director, an Office Coordinator and European Project Manager, two European Project Managers and two Science Officers.

The main responsibilities of EurOcean's staff are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Main responsibilities of EurOcean's staff.

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 project.

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;
- Supervisor and manager of the RISC-KIT project;
- 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 project;
- Responsible for the OFEG website;
- Responsible for the ERVO website.

SOFIA CORDEIRO
Science Officer
(FCT fellowship)

- Responsible for the legal, administrative and financial issues;
- Responsible for the organisation of events in which EurOcean is the main organiser;
- Support to the Sea for Society project;
- Support to the NetBiome-CSA project;
- Financial manager of the NetBiome-CSA project.

RUTH HIGGINS
Science Officer
(FCT fellowship)

- Manager of the Sea for Society project;
- Support of the RISC-KIT project;
- Support to the Mário Ruvio prize co-ordination;
- Support for Information Management.

ZOI KONSTANTINOU
European Project Manager
(EurOcean contract, until 30 June 2015)

- Manager of the RISC-KIT project;
- Support of NetBiome-CSA Project;
- Manager of Marine Sciences Information.

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05.

Marine Research Infrastructures

05. 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.

In 2013, a new infrastructure infobase (EurOcean_RID) integrating all European marine research facilities was developed, enlarging to four the number of open access information resources available to users. The other three infobases are 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 917 records classified in 6 categories, from 34 European countries as well as from Cabo Verde, the Philippines and the USA.

In collaboration with:

Research Infrastructures InfoBase (EurOcean_RID)

917
infrastructures

6
Categories

167
Experimental facilities for biology and ecosystem

138
In situ observing systems

137
Land-based facilities and *in situ* testing sites for ocean engineering and ocean observation support

76
Marine data providers

370
Research vessels and their underwater vehicles

29
Satellites for seas and oceans observation

34
Countries

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.
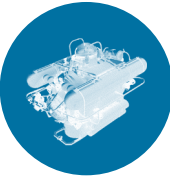
European Large Exchangeable Instruments Infobase - EUROCEAN_LEXI

www.lexiinfobase.eurocean.org

Launched in 2011, the infobase currently has a total of 150 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 110 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.

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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 May 2015.

Harmonisation of Infrastructures Infobases

During 2015 the Office, with the support of the EurOcean Infrastructures Expert Group, developed a proposal for an integrated system in order to unify the above four infrastructure infobases, to be compatible with standards deployed by oceanographic organisations, to streamline the update process, to improve the filtering and the displaying functions and to allow for easier evolution of the whole information system. This will lead to a development of one reference infobase, designed as a modular system which will also be more coherent in terms of accessibility for all stakeholders in the marine sciences community. This upgraded system should be launched by the end of 2016.

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 will carry out a website re-design in 2016, as well as facilitating the flow of information among ERVO members. In 2015 EurOcean attended the annual ERVO meeting in Galway, Ireland, and the current chair of ERVO, Mr. Olivier Quédec visited the EurOcean Office in December to discuss enhancing collaboration.

ervo

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.

OFEG
OCEAN FACILITIES EXCHANGE GROUP

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).

KIMERAA

The workshop on European Marine Robotics and Applications (EMRA), held at Instituto Superior Tecnico, Lisbon, Portugal was attended by Ned Dwyer and Sandra Sá and offered the chance to learn about developments in European funded projects in marine robotics research. The Copernicus Marine Service Workshop for Atlantic European South West Shelf Ocean, held in the same venue later in the year was an opportunity to find out about the services available through this key European initiative for ocean observations.

European Projects

Marine Research Infrastructures is also the focus of EurOcean's participation in **EUROFLEETS2**.

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 2015 Achievements
- Hosting, maintenance, update and upgrade of the EUROFLEETS2 Web-Portal.
- Issuing of the 9th EUROFLEETS2 eNewsletter.
- Review of fields for classifying European Research vessels to be integrated in the EurOcean_RV InfoBase.
- Development of a proposal for re-shaping the EUROFLEETS2 website.
- Reporting on communication and outreach progress including public website visit statistics.
- Promotion of the EUROFLEETS2 project at the 2015 European Maritime Day and Blue Week events.

Proposal Contributions

RiskSea – Applied Coastal Risk Adaptation Systems to Build Coastal Community Resilience on Exposed Atlantic Coastlines

EurOcean was invited by University College Cork, Ireland to lead on the dissemination and outreach activities in a proposal in response to the call "DRS-09-2015" on "science and innovation for adaptation to climate change". This role was in line with that carried out in the ongoing project, RISC-KIT, which is researching how to improve resilience and disaster response in the face of storm surge events. Moreover EurOcean´s diverse European network of members and partners provided a strong platform for raising awareness of the project activities and results. RiskSea aimed to design more integrated and innovative approaches for dealing with the impacts of climate change and severe events with a view to providing replicable proven example case studies along Atlantic coastlines. Unfortunately the submitted proposal did not reach a sufficiently high score during evaluation to be funded.

ANCHORA – European Collaborative Network on Marine Robotics for the Blue Growth

EurOcean was invited by the *Centro de Technologías de la Imagen*, Spain to participate in this COST action whose main aim was to create and consolidate an interdisciplinary networking community to promote collaboration in the development and application of feature-rich affordable open Marine Robotics designs, addressing their role in the Blue Growth challenges faced by society. This proposal offered opportunities for EurOcean to expand activities in the research infrastructures domain. Unfortunately the proposal was not successful in this very competitive call.
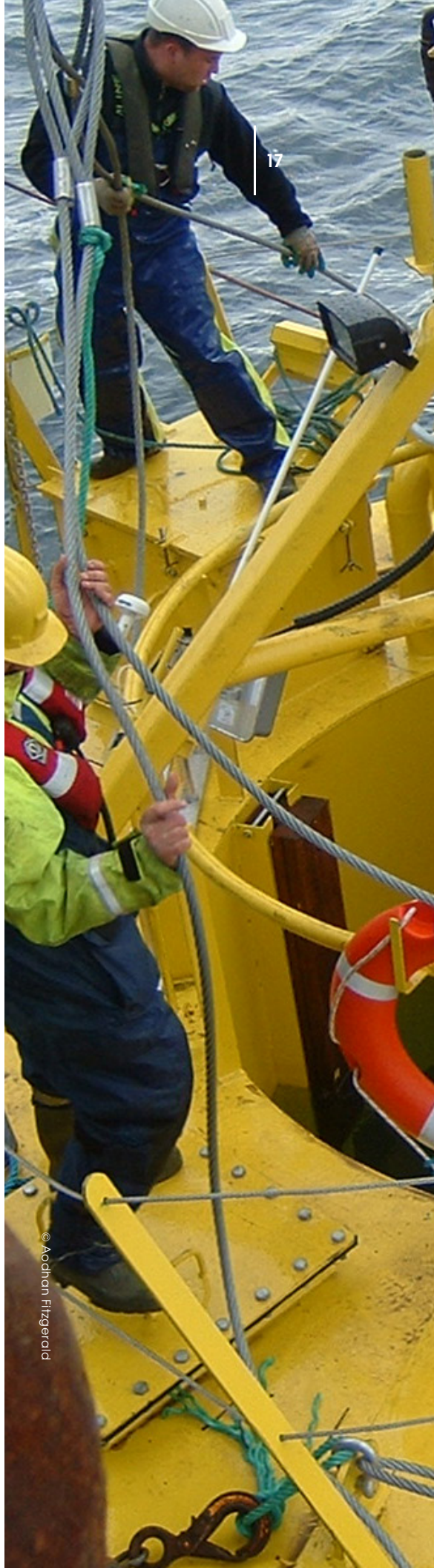
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06.
Marine Knowledge Management

06. Marine Knowledge Management

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 synthesised reports at the request of decision-makers.

In 2015, 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 2,400 European funded Marine Science and Technology Projects (of over 20 programmes) and approximately 1,800 knowledge elements generated ("Knowledge Outputs" or KOs), but also of circa 3,200 nationally funded marine research projects (collected from more than 80 different information sources in 25 European coastal countries).

In 2015 Marine Knowledge Gate 2.0 was updated with a total of 1,417 additional projects, of which 371 were the last batch of FP7 and 1,021 were national projects that were collected through FP7 COFASP. Further updates in regard to Knowledge Outputs are ongoing as part of the H2020 COLUMBUS project.

Benchmarking VLIZ´s participation in European Projects

One of the benefits of EurOcean membership is the possibility to have tailored analyses carried out by the Office. This year following a request from EurOcean Member VLIZ, EurOcean prepared a report benchmarking its performance for the period 2010-2015 in several European Funding Programmes including H2020, FP7 and INTERREG IV against that of a number of other European organisations involved in marine research. Analysis was carried out at overall programme level as well as for individual sub-programmes and thematic areas. Metrics included number of projects participated in and co-ordinated, budget allocation, key collaborating institutions and countries among others.

Marine Knowledge Gate 2.0

> 2,400
European funded marine projects
(1,258 FP7; 219 INTERREG IV)

20
Programmes

> 3,200
Nationally funded marine projects

> 1,800
Knowledge outputs (project results)

Networking

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).

EurOcean Organises Knowledge Management Conference

Marine Knowledge Management was the focus of a conference on **"Knowledge Driving Innovation in the Marine Economy"** which took place in Ostend, Belgium on 19 November 2015. Organised by the Office with the support of the EurOcean Knowledge Expert Group, it was attended by over 35 people and topics discussed included: open access to data via a marine information sharing platform, transforming data into knowledge to fuel marine innovation, transforming research into advice to inform policy, and improving knowledge transfer to support Blue Growth. A full list of participants is available in Annex 4. More information including the presentations is available on the EurOcean website: http://www.eurocean.org.

EurOcean Knowledge Management Conference participants.

In order to assist the European Marine Board with development of its comprehensive position paper "Delving Deeper – Critical Challenges for 21st century deep-sea research", EurOcean provided quantitative information for the period 2003-2013 on a number of parameters including annual amounts of EU funding, numbers of projects funded, numbers of deep sea infrastructures and their national distribution among others. The paper was launched in September 2015, at an official side event of the 14th Deep Sea Biology Symposium in Aveiro, Portugal. EurOcean President Ricardo Serrão Santos was a speaker at the event, which was also attended by the Executive-Director, Ned Dwyer.

European Projects

Marine Knowledge Management was also addressed through participation in several H2020 and FP7 funded projects, namely: **COLUMBUS, RISC-KIT** and **NetBiome-CSA**. EurOcean work on **COFASP** was concluded.

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://www.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 will be 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 2015 Achievements

- As a WP leader, led the development of a methodology for the collection of Knowledge Outputs for the nine thematic areas addressed.
- Contributed to face-to-face training for those leading Knowledge Output collection in each thematic area.
- Numerous contributions to discussions with EC Project Officer in support of the design of the EC Information Sharing Platform on Marine and Maritime Research.
- Identification of relevant FP7 projects for needs and gaps identified in each thematic area.

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.risckit.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 eNewsletter, 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 2015 Achievements

- Organisation of and participation in 2nd End-User Event attended by end-users from many different countries.
- Attendance at and contribution to 4th and 5th Project General Assemblies.
- Compilation, editing and publishing of four eNewsletters.
- Regular news updates to the website, preparation of a Prezi presentation.
- Development of a promotional video script.

End Users Eager to Apply RISC-KIT Tools

During the 2nd RISC-KIT End User Day in Brussels in October 2015, users expressed their enthusiasm to work more closely with scientists to benefit directly from the most up-to-date research. They are eager to apply the RISC-KIT tools in their regions, particularly the Coastal Risk Assessment Framework (CRAF) for pinpointing high risk points along the coast, as well as the Early Warning System. During the event end users were invited to contribute their feedback on the RISC-KIT tools under development and to share their hands-on experiences with disaster risk management. The event was organized by EurOcean and brought together 12 coastal practitioners from 11 regions across Europe as well as representatives of local government and the European Commission. Full details of the event and interviews with the end users can be found on the RISC-KIT website: www.risckit.eu

2nd RISC-KIT End-User Day participants.

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 aims 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 leads communication and dissemination activities including maintenance and updates of the website, production of the regular eNewsletter and the generation of promotional materials. EurOcean is 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 2015 Achievements

- Compilation, editing and publishing of the 1st and 2nd eNewsletter.
- Updates to the website content, facebook and linkedIn and contributions to development of website toolbox.
- Development of a promotional video: www.netbiomecsa.netbiome.eu/np4/211.html
- Contributed to development of policy recommendations and research priorities.
- Review of Best Practises report.
- Attendance at and contribution to 3rd project General Assembly.
- Preparation and delivery of communications and dissemination report.

NetBiome-CSA 3rd General Assembly meeting participants.

COFASP – Cooperation in Fisheries, Aquaculture and Seafood Processing

Type: EC FP7 Knowledge-based Biotech Economy
EU financial contribution: €2 million
Duration: 48 months (1 February 2013 - 31 January 2017)
Consortium: 27 partners from 16 countries
Coordinator: DASTI, Denmark
Website: www.cofasp.eu

Aims of the project

COFASP is a European Research Area Network (ERA-NET) with a focus on coordinating activities that can help improve the contribution of the marine bioeconomy (i.e. fisheries, aquaculture and seafood processing) to Europe´s economic wellbeing.

EurOcean´s Involvement

EurOcean was responsible (as subcontractor to Member CNR) for the development and implementation of questionnaires for gathering national and European funding projects in the fisheries, aquaculture and seafood processing sectors. It was also responsible for the collection and harmonization of the information gathered through the questionnaires; additionally EurOcean developed a web database for displaying the results and liaised with CNR in relation to the implementation of the map interface to the database. EurOcean concluded its activities in the project during 2015.

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. The proposal was still under evaluation at time of going to press with this report.

![eurOcean - The European Centre for Information on Marine Science and Technology](image)

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07.

Ocean Public Outreach and Education Activities

07. Ocean Public Outreach and Education Activities

The identification, collection, aggregation, analysis and electronic dissemination of marine information are among EurOcean's core activities. In this context, EurOcean's key products are its internet portal and social media components.

EurOcean Portal

www.eurocean.org

The EurOcean portal promotes the organisation's info databases and activities. The website is constantly being updated. Information is gathered from Member websites; websites dedicated to new research and marine technology; the DG MARE, DG Research and Innovation and DG Environment websites and various news sources. Specific information is also incorporated at the request of Members and other interested institutions. A proposal to upgrade the site was developed in 2015 and accepted by the Steering Committee and the new-look website will be launched in 2016. It will be easier to navigate and find the information you want more quickly, whether it is on a desktop, a tablet or a mobile device.

As part of this new look, an updated EurOcean logo was developed. This was inspired by the previous logo to ensure recognition and continuity. We hope you like it!

In addition EurOcean's eNewsletter is sent to approximately 3,000 subscribers on a regular basis and contains relevant news items, funding opportunities, upcoming events and jobs listings. Those interested can subscribe via the website.

![eurOcean - The European Centre for Information on Marine Science and Technology](image)

The new EurOcean logo.

EurOcean Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/eurOcean

EurOcean's Facebook page was regularly updated with relevant information on EurOcean activities, job opportunities, calls and other material.

Launch of Professor Mário Ruivo Prize

With the support of the EurOcean Outreach Expert Group the Office launched the second edition of the Professor Mário Ruivo prize in October 2015. Named after EurOcean's former President and founding father, the contest entitled "Your Ocean, Your Future" invites school-age children from throughout Europe to present a proposal for a study, experiment or project that supports the Blue Society Principles (see Sea for Society project below). The three best proposals will be awarded funding to implement their activity and the project adjudicated to be the best one will be awarded a monetary prize. Information on the prize has been disseminated directly to over 16,000 schools and through 45 national school networks, via relevant events and social media and through EurOcean Member organisations.

Professor Mário Ruivo receives European Citizens' Prize

Professor Mário Ruivo was among those awarded the European Citizens' Prize 2015 (Civi Europaeo Praemium), by the European Parliament. The Professor was the first President of EurOcean, and held the position between 2002 and 2008.

The European Citizens' Prize is awarded to citizens, groups, associations or organizations that have distinguished themselves in promoting mutual understanding between citizens of the European Union, or in encouraging greater integration and transnational cooperation between Member States in order to contribute to strengthen the European spirit.

Professor Mário Ruivo awarded with the European Citizens' Prize.

Networking

2015 European Maritime Day

The EurOcean Office participated in the 2015 European Maritime Day Stakeholder Conference, held in Athens on 27 and 28 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. EurOcean also supported a dedicated Blue Society stand as part of the Sea for Society project.

EurOcean's participation at the European Maritime Day 2015.

Blue Week Business Forum

EurOcean was present with a stand at the Blue Week Business Forum held in Lisbon, Portugal on 4 to 6 June 2015. EurOcean President Ricardo Serrão Santos also attended the event. It provided an opportunity to highlight EurOcean activities, participate in a workshop on Ocean Literacy, and network with numerous other Portuguese organisations involved in marine science and technology.

Ricardo Serrão Santos, EurOcean President and Sofia Cordeiro, EurOcean Science Officer at EurOcean's stand at the Blue Week Business Forum.

Other networking activities

Executive-Director Ned Dwyer was invited as a guest to attend the European Marine Board´s Autumn plenary and also to present on EurOcean communications work during the EMB´s Communications Panel meeting in Split, Croatia. The panel, chaired by Jan Seys (VLIZ) and made up of representatives from EMB members discussed relevant communications activities over the past year. The meeting also discussed preparations for the 2nd International Marine Science Communication Conference which will take place in Bruges, Belgium in December 2016 and Ned was accepted as a member of the Science Panel.

European Projects

The Public Outreach and Education line of activity was also pursued through participation in the **Sea for Society** FP7 project which was concluded in November 2015, although its legacy lives on through the Blue Society. The Sea for Society project, led by EurOcean Member Nausicaá, can be considered a EurOcean Network achievement as it was developed with the strong support of the Office and brought about a multidisciplinary partnership that included several other EurOcean Members (IOPAN, IEO, MI, IMR, Ifremer and VLIZ as a EurOcean 3rd Party).

SFS – Sea for Society

Type: EC FP7 Science in Society
EU financial contribution: €4.2 million
Duration: 42 months (1 June 2012 – 30 November 2015)
Consortium: 20 partners from 11 countries
Coordinator: Nausicaá, France
Website: www.seaforsociety.eu

Aims of the project

SFS developed a new and ambitious vision for society that is in harmony with the oceans by:

- Bringing together and mobilising researchers, marine and terrestrial actors, Civil Society Organisations and private individuals and youth in a mutual learning, open dialogue process (Consultation Process across Europe);
- Empowering actors and citizens to take tangible actions to help address the challenge identified as a result of the Consultation Process to ensure sustainable management of marine eco-system services by European citizens (Mobilisation Phase);
- Developing and enriching the concept of Blue Society as a basis for improved governance of the Ocean.

EurOcean's involvement

EurOcean was responsible for the project's communication and dissemination activities, including website maintenance and update, design and development of promotional materials and assisting in developing the Blue Society support materials. EurOcean also contributed to several other activities, including planning, mobilization, and analysis of results of the dialogue process, and management of knowledge towards a Blue Society.

EurOcean Major 2015 Achievements

- Organised the Blue Society launch event at European Parliament.
- Organised and manned a booth and assisted with organisation of workshop at European Maritime Day.
- Organised and manned a booth at the ECSITE Annual Conference.
- Attended and contributed to partners meetings, a meeting with the European Commission and regular virtual meetings of Steering Committee.
- Co-ordination and support of development of a range of materials (website, brochure, Citizen and Stakeholder Promises, summary report, posters, quiz, etc.) for the mobilisation phase including the launch of the Blue Society website.
- Regular update of SFS website.
- Preparation and delivery of communication reports.

Huge Interest in Blue Society Launch

The Blue Society Launch saw the bringing together of all stakeholder groups through three targeted events: the Blue Society European Youth Parliament, the Blue Society Expert Think Tank, and the Blue Society Parliamentary Event. The Parliamentary Event surpassed all expectations with 140 guests coming from all parts of Europe. The Blue Society Stakeholder Commitment was signed in the Parliament by 46 Stakeholders whose professional activities relate directly with the Ocean. The Blue Society Parliamentary Event was live streamed to the internet and attracted over 1000 viewers. The Blue Society Photo Competition, organised to support the Blue Society Launch, attracted over 800 entries from all over the world. The Launch event was a key activity in forging links between different actors in the maritime sphere, providing opportunities for cooperation and collaboration that will last long beyond the end of the SFS project. To watch a recording of the event, check out the fantastic winning photos and sign the Stakeholder Commitment visit: www.bluesociety.org

Blue Society Launch event.
Left image: Blue Society Expert Think Tank participants;
Right image: Youth participants discussing key Ocean issues at the Blue Society European Youth Parliament.

New European Project

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 (2016 – 2019)
Consortium: 14 partners from 11 countries
Coordinator: CNR, Italy
Website: not yet available

Aims of the project

The MARINA project, which will start mid-2016, 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 to lead the work package that will produce the Web Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP). This platform will be 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 will also lead a task on identifying available resources, tools and information sources of relevance to RRI and will contribute to other tasks including workshop organisation aiding the fostering of stakeholder dialogue.

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08.

Additional Activities

08. Additional Activities

In addition to the activities undertaken as part of its three main lines of work, in 2015 EurOcean continued to provide dedicated services to its Members such as support in the identification of new and development of European funded project proposals as well as provision of specialised reports. Staff also presented at and attended numerous events and meetings.

Other EurOcean Dedicated Member Services

EurOcean continued in 2015 to identify funding opportunities under H2020 and other European funding programmes for its Members. Furthermore, EurOcean promoted the participation of its Members in specific project proposal consortiums, such as with Nausicaá, VLIZ, IEO, IOPAN, GeoEcoMar and FRCT for the successful CNR led project proposal (MARINA) under the ISSI-03-2015 call: Knowledge Sharing Platform.

The Office also continued to support the establishment of research consortiums for proposal development at the direct request of its members, such as with FRCT, for the BG-03-2016 call: Multi-use of the oceans' marine space, offshore and nearshore: compatibility, regulations, environmental and legal issues, in which, along with FRCT, GeoEcoMar and EurOcean are also contributing partners to the overall consortium.

Furthermore at the request of VLIZ, EurOcean carried out a benchmark study of its participation in European Projects as described elsewhere in this report.

EurOcean Annual Report

Following the 2012 new Annual Report design aimed at improving communication of EurOcean's broad range of activities, the Office released its 2014 Annual Report available for consultation online on the EurOcean Portal.

Meetings

EurOcean participated in a number of other meetings and events in addition to those strictly linked with core activities or connected with European project participation. These included:

- **1st JPI Oceans Conference** (Brussels, Belgium – 7 May). This well attended conference presented the priorities for marine and maritime research in Europe and perspectives for future joint activities as well as outcomes from the FP7 funded CSA Oceans support action. EurOcean President Ricardo Serrão Santos participated in a panel discussion during the event.

- **EMODnet Open Conference** (Ostend, Belgium – 20 October). This was an opportunity to learn about the status of the European Marine Observation and Data Network, in particular the eight thematic portals and also hear user feedback on their experience in using the data available.

- **IODE International Coastal Atlas Project (ICAN) workshop and training** (Cape Town, South Africa - 20-23 April). Executive-Director Ned Dwyer handed over his co-chair role of the ICAN, but remains on the Steering Group. He also delivered training in relation to Maritime Spatial Planning to attendees primarily from Africa and South America. The event provided an opportunity to meet with IOC HQ representatives and discuss ways of enhancing collaboration with cooperating EurOcean Member IOC.

First JPI Oceans Conference.
From left to right: Manuel Barrange - Plymouth Marine Laboratory, UK; Marianne Wenning, European Commission, DG Environment and Ricardo Serrão Santos, EurOcean President.

09. Finances

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 2015 EurOcean finances in accordance with the professional accounting principles, which at the time of this report were independently audited.

Available Funds in 2015	All figures in Euro '000s
Member contributions	103.5
European Projects Contracts	309.0
Contract of Services	26.0
Other contributions	1.2
Total available funds in 2015	**439.7**

Expenditure in 2015	All figures in Euro '000s
Information Management	49.3
Dissemination	61.7
Human Resources Salaries	225.5
Other (office running expenses and meetings)	82.5
Total expenditure in 2015	**419.0**
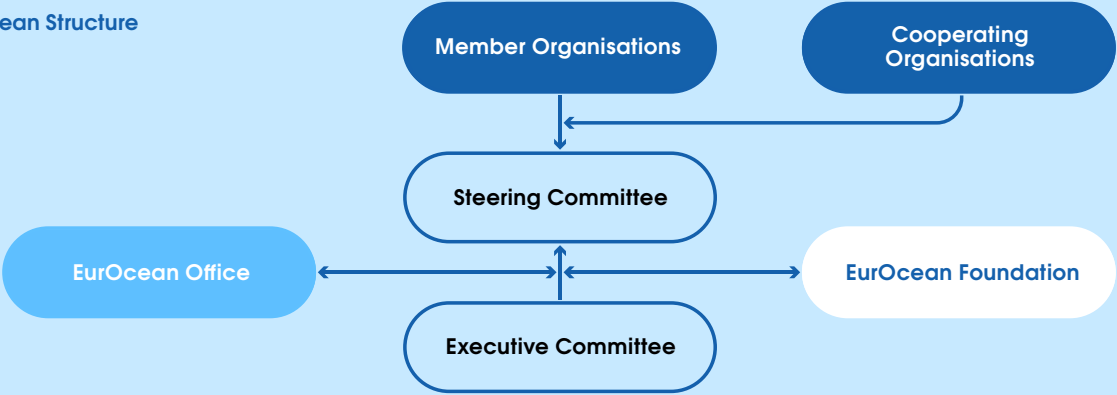
EurOcean Foundation funds available at the end of 2015	All figures in Euro '000s
Available funds in 2015	439.7
Expenditure 2015	419.0
2015 IRC (Corporation Tax)	4.1
Total 2015 Balance	16.5
Capital amount	66.5
Carry over from previous years (excluding capital amount)	58.7
Total funds available at the end of 2015	**141.7**

09. 10.

**Finances 2015
Annexes**

10. Annexes

Annex 1. EurOcean Members and Cooperating Members as of 31 December 2015

Members

BELGIUM

- *Vlaams Instituut voor de Zee* / Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ) - http://www.vliz.be

FRANCE

- *Institut Français de Recherche pour L'exploitation de la Mer* / French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (Ifremer) - http://wwz.ifremer.fr/institut_eng
- *Nausicaá Centre National de la Mer* / Nausicaá National Sea Centre (Nausicaá) - http://www.nausicaa.co.uk

IRELAND

- Marine Institute (MI) - http://www.marine.ie

ITALY

- *Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche* / National Research Council (CNR) - http://www.cnr.it/en

NORWAY

- *Havforskningsinstituttet* / Institute of Marine Research (IMR) - http://www.imr.no/en

POLAND

- *Instytut Oceanologii Polskiej Akademii Nauk* / Institute of Oceanology of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IOPAN) - http://www.iopan.gda.pl

PORTUGAL

- *Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia* / Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) - http://www.fct.pt/index.phtml.en
- *Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia /*

Azores Regional Fund for Science and Technology (FRCT) - http://www.azores.gov.pt/Portal/en/entidades/srmct-frct/
- *Centro de Estudos do Ambiente e do Mar* / Centre for Marine and Environmental Sciences (CESAM) - http://www.cesam.ua.pt

ROMANIA

- *Institutul National de Cercetare - Dezvoltare pentru Geologie si Geoecologie Marina* / National Institute for Research and Development of Marine Geology and Geoecology (GeoEcoMar) - http://www.geoecomar.ro/website/en

SPAIN

- *Instituto Español de Oceanografía* / Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO) - http://www.ieo.es/en/home

INTERNATIONAL

- International Ocean Institute (IOI) - http://www.ioinst.org

Cooperating Members

MALTA

- *Fondation de Malte (FdM)* - http://www.fondationdemalte.org

INTERNATIONAL

- *Conférence des Régions Périphériques Maritimes d'Europe* (CRPM) / Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR) - http://www.crpm.org
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO) - http://ioc-unesco.org

Annex 2. EurOcean Bodies in 2015

EurOcean Structure

Executive Committee Composition

President
Ricardo Serrão Santos, FRCT Member Representative

Vice-President
Jean-François Masset, Ifremer Member Representative

Vice-President
Slawomir Sagan, IOPAN Member Representative

EurOcean Foundation Board Composition

President
Ricardo Serrão Santos

Vice-President
Jean-François Masset

Treasurer/Secretary
Nicolae Panin

Members
António Pascoal
Slawomir Sagan
Manuel Cira

EurOcean Office Staff

Executive-Director
Ned Dwyer

Office Coordinator and European Project Manager
Cristina Costa

European Project Managers
Sandra Sá
Zoi Konstantinou (until 30 June 2015)

Science Officers
Sofia Cordeiro
Ruth Higgins

Annex 3. EurOcean Meetings in 2015

Executive Committee

• **14th Executive Committee Meeting,
30 June 2015, Brussels, Belgium**

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

• **15th Executive Committee Meeting, 12 November 2015,
Spype and 18 November 2015, Brussels, Belgium.**

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

Steering Committee

• **15th Steering Committee Meeting, 19 and
20 November 2015, Ostend, Belgium**

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
	Ennio Marsella	CNR Member Representative
	Telmo Carvalho	FCT Member Representative
	Francisco Pinto	FRCT Member Representative
	Nicolae Panin	GeoEcoMar Member Representative
	Pablo Abaunza	IEO Member Representative
	Fiona Grant	MI Member Representative
	Gaëlle L'Hermitte	Nausicaá Member Representative (on November 19th)
	Manuel Cira	Nausicaá Member Representative (on November 20th)
	Tina Mertens	VLIZ Member Representative
EurOcean Office	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
	Sofia Cordeiro	Science Officer of the EurOcean Centre
	Ruth Higgins	Science Officer of the EurOcean Centre

EurOcean Foundation Board

• **8th EurOcean Foundation Board Meeting,
20 November 2015, Ostend, Belgium**

Participants

Members	Ricardo Serrão Santos	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
	António Pascoal (represented by Ricardo Serrão Santos)	Member of the Board
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

Annex 4. Events organised by the EurOcean Office in 2015

Knowledge Driving Innovation in the Marine Economy Conference, 19 November 2015, Ostend, Belgium

Chairs and Speakers	Organisation
Ned Dwyer	Executive-Director of the EurOcean Centre, Portugal
Ricardo Serrão Santos	President of the EurOcean Centre, Portugal

Invited Speakers	Organisation
Ward Appeltans	IODE, Belgium
Niall McDonough	EMB, Belgium
Oonagh McMeel	EMODNET, Belgium
David Murphy	AquaTT, Ireland
Marco Weydert	European Commission, DG Research and Innovation, Belgium

Registered Participants

Participant Name	Organisation
Wendy Boone	JPI Oceans, Belgium
Telmo Carvalho	FCT; EurOcean Member Representative, Portugal
Manuel Cira	Nausicaá; EurOcean Member Representative, France
Sofia Cordeiro	EurOcean, Portugal
Cristina Costa	EurOcean, Portugal
Willem De Moor	JPI Oceans, Belgium
Fien De Raedemaecker	VLIZ, Belgium

Dina Eparkhina	EuroGOOS, Belgium
Jan Stefan Fritz	KDM, Germany
Svenja Halfter	University of Rostock, Germany
Ruth Higgins	EurOcean, Portugal
Gaëlle L'Hermitte	Nausicaá, France
Ennio Marsella	CNR; EurOcean Member Representative, Italy
Jean-François Masset	IFREMER; EurOcean Member Representative, France
Tina Mertens	VLIZ; EurOcean Member Representative, Belgium
Glenn Nolan	EuroGOOS, Belgium
Nicolae Panin	GeoEcoMar, EurOcean Member Representative, Romania
Francisco Pinto	FRCT, EurOcean Member Representative, Portugal
Sandra Sá	EurOcean, Portugal
Slawomir Sagin	IOPAN, Eurocean Member Representative, Poland
Angela Schultz-Zehden	SUBMARINER Network, Germany
Serge Scory	RBINS-OD Nature, Belgium
Lucky Sitorius	JPI Oceans, Belgium
Gert Verreet	Flanders Department of Economy Science and Innovation, Belgium
Jacky Wood	JPI Oceans, Belgium

Annex 5. Participation in Meetings and Events in 2015

Participation as an Invited Speaker/Presenter

Date	Event	Speaker/Panel Member
16 to 18 March 2015	IODE 23rd session, as co-chair of the IODE International Coastal Atlas (ICAN) project	Speaker - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director of the EurOcean Centre
20 to 23 April 2015	ICAN Workshop and Training, Cape Town, South Africa	Presenter - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director of the EurOcean Centre
10 and 11 June 2015	European Research Vessel Operators (ERVO) annual meeting, Galway, Ireland	Speaker - Cristina Costa, Office Coordinator
13 and 14 October 2015	EMB Communications Panel, Split, Croatia	Speaker - Ned Dwyer, Executive-Director of the EurOcean Centre

Participation in Other Meetings and Events

Date	Event
20 January 2015	Atlantic Stakeholder Conference, Porto, Portugal
7 May 2015	1st JPI Oceans Conference, Brussels, Belgium
27 and 28 May 2015	European Maritime Day, Athens, Greece
4 to 6 June 2015	Blue Week Business Forum, Lisbon, Portugal
18 and 19 June 2015	EMRA workshop, Lisbon, Portugal
1 September 2015	EMB Launch of Position Paper 22 - "Delving Deeper: Critical challenges for 21st century deep-sea research", Aveiro, Portugal
4 September 2015	European Citizens' Prize 2015 Awards, Lisbon, Portugal
14 and 15 October 2015	EMB Autumn Plenary, Split, Croatia
20 October 2015	EMODNET Open Conference, Ostend, Belgium
21 October 2015	Launch of EMB supported Ocean Climate Nexus Consensus Statement, Brussels, Belgium
10 December 2015	Copernicus Marine Service Workshop, Lisbon, Portugal

EurOcean Members:

EurOcean Cooperating Members: