2020 and Beyond Can Europe sustain marine ecosystems and drive Blue Growth at a North Atlantic scale?

J Murray Roberts

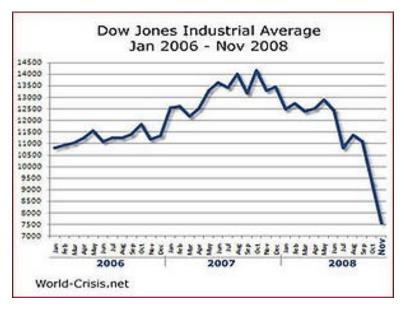
MASTS Annual Science Conference

19th October 2016











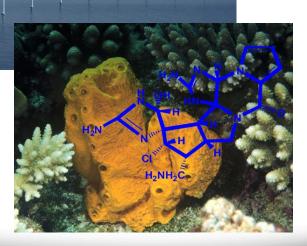












Ocean Warming

Ocean Acidification

Reduced oxygen

Invasive species

Plastics & Pollution



Harmful Fishing Practices

Deep-sea Mining

Hydrocarbon Exploitation

Bioprospecting

Blue Growth

- "Blue Growth is the long term strategy to support sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors as a whole.
- The 'blue' economy represents roughly 5.4 million jobs and generates a gross added value of almost €500 billion a year. However, further growth is possible in a number of areas which are highlighted within the strategy."

Source: EC Maritime Affairs

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/blue_growth/index_en.htm

Blue Growth Strategy

- 1. Develop sectors that have a high potential for sustainable jobs and growth (such as aquaculture, coastal tourism, marine biotech, ocean energy, seabed mining)
- 2. Develop sea basin strategies to ensure tailor-made measures and to foster cooperation between countries





BLUE GROWTH

71% of the Earth surface is WATER



Why?

Blue Growth is the European Commission's initiative to further harness the potential of Europe's oceans, seas and coasts for:



Value



Sustainability

Focus Area

Five sectors with high potential for sustainable Blue Growth are to be further developed:



other **sectors of the blue economy** crucial for value & jobs







Fisheries



Offshore oil & gas







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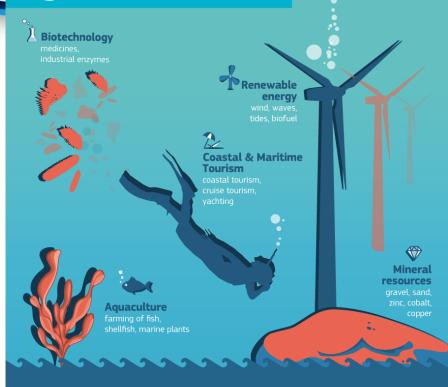
Fisheries



Offshore oil & gas



Blue Growth sectors

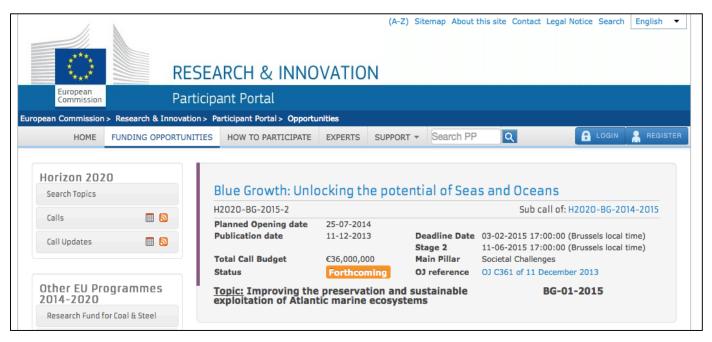


Map of Sea Basins



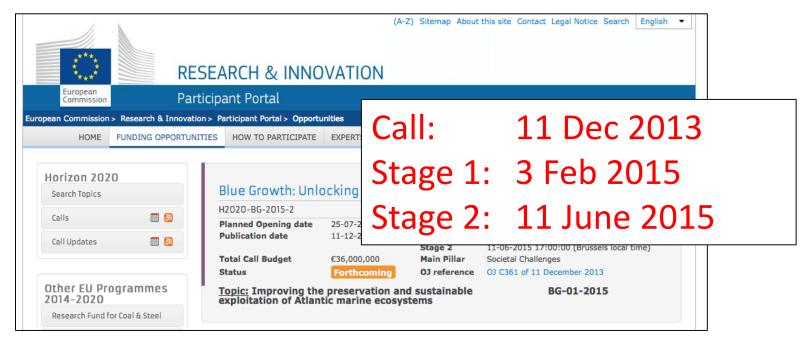
The Blue Economy by sea basin and by country shown in jobs and value

Blue Growth Challenge: Topic BG-01



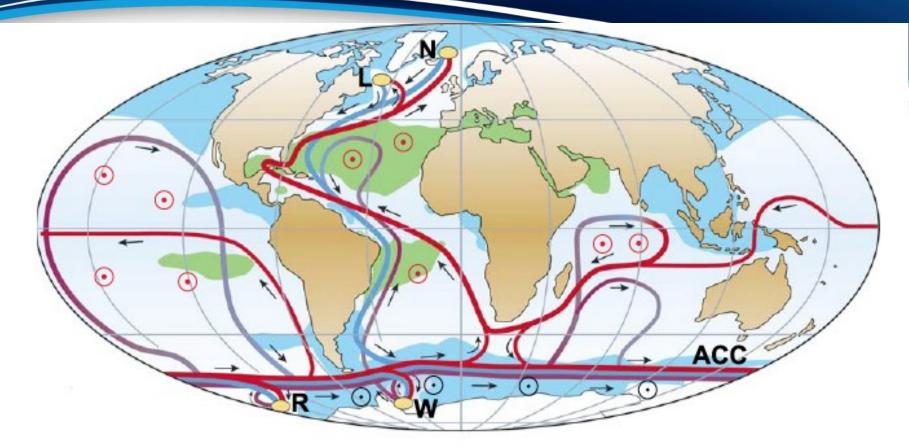
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Blue Growth Challenge: Topic BG-01



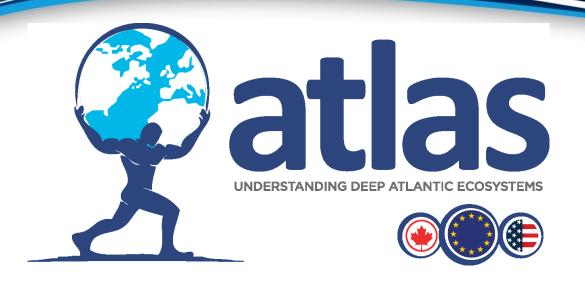
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- Surface flow
- Deep flow
- Bottom flow
- Deep Water Formation
- Wind-driven upwelling
- Mixing-driven upwelling
- Salinity > 36 ‰
- Salinity < 34 ‰</p>

- L Labrador Sea
- N Nordic Seas
- W Weddell Sea
- R Ross Sea



A trans-Atlantic assessment and deep-water ecosystem-based spatial management plan for Europe







At a Glance

A trans-Atlantic assessment and deep-water ecosystem-based spatial management plan for Europe

Call: EU Horizon 2020: BG-2015-2 (Unlocking the potential of seas and oceans)

Duration: May 2016 – April 2020 (48m)

Consortium: 24 partners +1 linked 3rd

party, from 12 countries

Budget: €9.3M

Coordinator: University of Edinburgh (UK)

Focus: Providing essential new knowledge of North Atlantic ecosystems through data gathering and synthesis

Impact: Discoveries and outputs will inform and facilitate stakeholder agreement on marine policy and regulation and spur Blue Growth

Core activities: 25+ research cruises investigating 12 case studies across the Atlantic



Trans-Atlantic Collaboration







ATLAS kick-off meeting Edinburgh (June 2016)

- 1 University of Edinburgh (UEDIN)
- 2 Aarhus Universitet (AU)
- 3 IMAR Instituto do Mar (IMAR -Uaz)
- **4** Secretária Regional do Mar, Ciência e Tecnologia (DRAM)
- 5 British Geological Survey (BGS/NERC)
- 6 Gianni Consultancy (GC)
- **7** Institut Français de Recherche pour L'Exploitation de la Mer (Ifremer)
- 8 Marine Scotland (MSS)
- 9 Universitaet Bremen (UniHB)
- 10 lodine (lodine)





- 11 NIOZ Koninklijk Nederlands Instituut voor Onderzoek der Zee (NIOZ)
- 12 Dynamic Earth (DE)
- 13 University of Oxford (UOX)
- 14 University College Dublin (UCD)
- **15** University College London (UCL)
- **16** National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG)
- 17 University of Liverpool (ULIV)
- **18** Syddansk Universitet (USD)

- 19 UiT The Arctic University of Norway (UiT)
- **20** Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS)
- 21 Seascape Consultants (SC)
- 22 Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO)
- 23 University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW)
- 24 AquaTT UETP Ltd (AquaTT)
- 25 Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)



Objectives

- Advance our understanding of deep Atlantic marine ecosystems and populations
- Improve our capacity to monitor, model and predict shifts in deep-water ecosystems and populations
- Transform new data, tools and understanding into effective ocean governance
- Scenario-test and develop science-led, cost-effective adaptive management strategies that stimulate Blue Growth



Multidisciplinary Approach





Workpackages

WP Leaders:

WP1: Scottish Association for Marine Science

WP2: Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research

WP3: IMAR-University of the Azores

WP4: French Research Institute for Exploration of the Sea

WP5: UIT The Arctic University of Norway

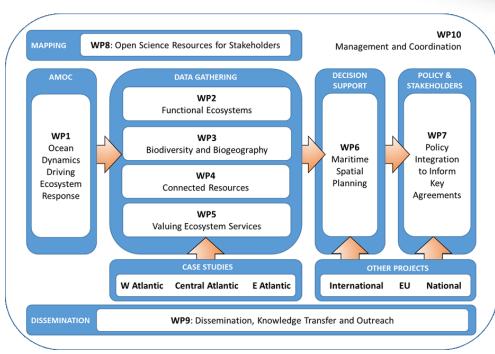
WP6: National University of Ireland, Galway

WP7: Seascape Consultants

WP8: University of Bremen

WP9: AquaTT

WP10: University of Edinburgh





Steering Committee



Stuart Cunningham WP1, SAMS



Dick van Oevelen WP2, NIOZ



Telmo Morato WP3, IMAR-UAz



Sophie Arnaud-Haond WP4, Ifremer



Claire Armstrong WP5, UiT



Anthony Grehan WP6, NUIG



David Johnson WP7, SC



Stéphane Pesant WP8, UniHB



David Murphy WP9, AquaTT



J Murray Roberts WP10, UEDIN



Advisory Board



Jake Rice, DFO Scientist Emeritus

















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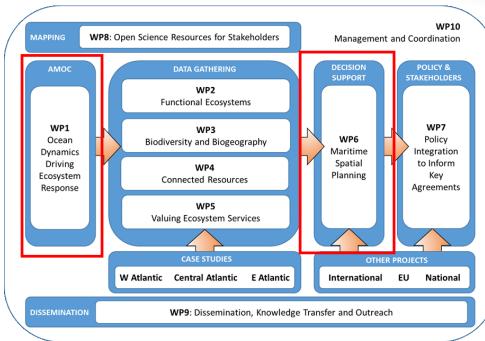
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WP1: Ocean Dynamics Driving Ecosystem Response



"The capacity to monitor and understand living resources in the North Atlantic and unlock their Blue Growth potential must start with synchronised trans-Atlantic measurements of energy and element transport by the AMOC."

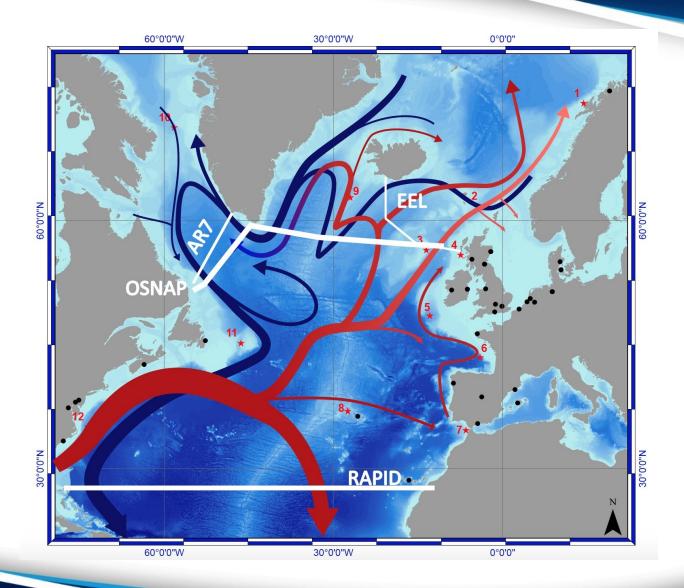




Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation

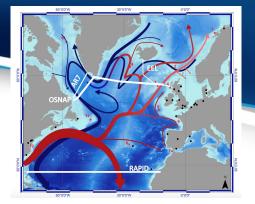
- Transports warm, salty water from equator to sub-polar
- Mediates 25% global heat transport
- Intense air-sea interaction liberates heat to Europe and lead to high ocean C concentration in sub-polar N Atlantic
- Climate models forecast a 25% AMOC slowing by end 21st century BUT natural variability (Atlantic Multi-decadal Oscillation, AMO) produces larger variability signals
- AMO influences ecosystems & fisheries
- What are implications of AMO and long-term AMOC change to deep-water Atlantic ecosystems?







WP1 Summary



- Derive co-variability circulation & biogeochemical fluxes on monthly to inter-annual timescales by adding biogeochemical sensors to OSNAP array
- 2. Assess environmental tipping points driving deep coral extinction events by aligning with palaeo-proxies for past circulation strength, bottom water ventilation & food supply
- 3. Map ocean transport pathways using basin-scale eddy-resolving VIKING20 model with water-mass and larval tracking

Fox et al. Thursday 20th Oct 1015 Deep coral connectivity

WP6: Maritime Spatial Planning



"Fully integrated spatial planning products built on basin and regional scales are needed to allow stakeholders to explore, and respond to, alternate scenarios of ocean dynamics and cross-sectoral Blue Growth.

The MESMA (Monitoring and Evaluation of Spatially Managed Areas) framework will be used to develop first adaptive Atlantic MSP approach, and applied in Case Studies spanning the Atlantic against the backdrop of potential climate change."





ATLAS Case Studies

12 Case Studies that follow the major Atlantic current patterns.

- Selected on basis of: proximity to Blue Growth activities, presence of focal ecosystems, availability of existing data/samples and opportunities for offshore cruises during the ATLAS project.
- Case Studies cross-cut the project and give the biogeographic, regulatory and jurisdictional range needed to meet ATLAS's objectives.

Case Study	Focus Ecosystems	Current and	Lead &
	(CWC, cold-water coral)	BG Sectors*	collaborators
1. LoVe Observatory (Norway)	CWC reefs, sponges	F, OG, T	Statoil, NIOZ, UEDIN
2. West of Shetland and W Scotland slope (UK)	Sponge grounds	B, F, OG	<u>UEDIN</u> , BP, OGUK, MSS
3. Rockall Bank (UK & Ireland)**	CWC reefs, coral gardens, carbonate mounds, sponge grounds, cold seeps	B, F, OG	MSS, IEO, OXU
4. Mingulay Reef Complex (UK)	CWC reefs	F, T	<u>UEDIN</u> , MSS
5. Porcupine Seabight (Ireland)	CWC reefs, coral gardens, carbonate mounds, sponge grounds	B, F, OG	NUIG, Woodside
6. Bay of Biscay (France)	CWC on slope and in canyon settings	B, F	<u>IFREMER</u>
7. Gulf of Cádiz/Strait of Gibraltar/Alborán Sea (Spain & Portugal)	CWC reefs, coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F, OG	<u>IEO</u> , IFREMER, IMAR-UAz
8. Azores (Portugal)**	Hydrothermal vents, seamounts, coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F, M	<u>IMAR-UAz</u> , IEO
9. Reykjanes Ridge (Iceland)**	Hydrothermal vents, CWC reefs, coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F, M	UCD
10. S Davis Strait/Western Greenland/Labrador Sea (Canada)	CWC reefs, coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F	<u>DFO</u>
11. Flemish Cap (Canada)**	Coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F, OG	<u>IEO,</u> DFO, OXU, NAFO
12. SE USA (Bermuda transect)**	CWC reefs on slope and in canyon settings	B, F, M, OG	<u>UNCW</u> , AP-TU, NOAA

^{*} Blue Growth sectors: **B**iotechnology; **F**isheries; **M**ining; **O**il & **G**as; **T**ourism; ** indicates data include ABNJ





21th September 2016 - 26th October 2016 (36 days; one scale in Azores) Research Vessel "Sarmiento de Gamboa" (CSIC)



RV Sarmiento de Gamboa (image: Joan Costa, CSIC)

Follow medwayescruise on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/medwavescruise/



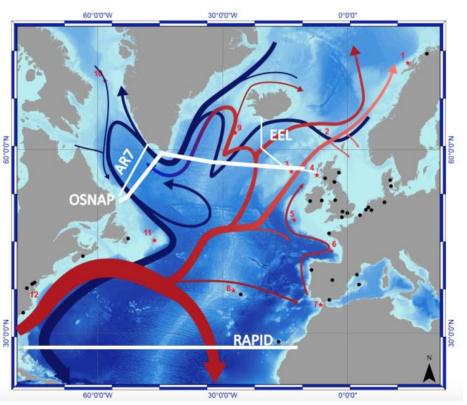
- ROV "Liropus" Super Mohawk
- 2 CDT rosettes
- ADCP and FK-60
- Multibeam echosounder
- Sidescan sonar
- Box corer, Multicorer, van Veen grab

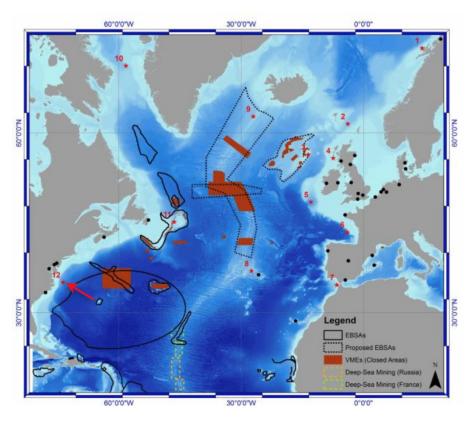






Lea-Anne Henry
Case Study co-ordinator
Chancellor's Fellow, University of Edinburgh







WP6: Maritime Spatial Planning Summary

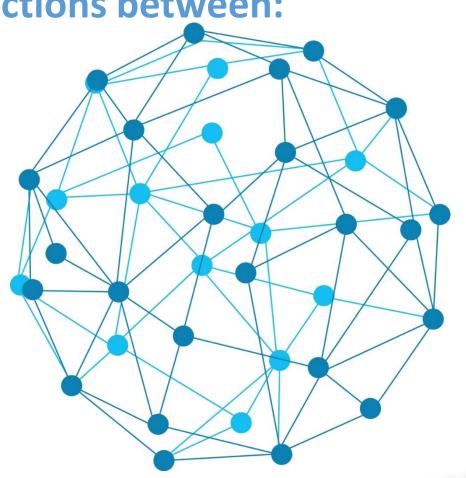
Ten case studies will be used as a basis for delineating areas that might typically require marine spatial plans:

- 1) Set MSP goals and operational objectives.
- Collate maps of VMEs, fish habitat and ecosystem goods and services.
- 3) Carry out Strategic Environmental Assessments.
- 4) Test new Blue Growth scenarios and propose appropriate adaptive management measures against a background of potential climate change.



Investigating interconnections between:

- Ocean circulation
- Surface production
- Ecosystem functioning
- Biological richness
- Socio-economic importance





Expected Impacts

Blue Growth: Opportunities for marine and maritime sustainable growth

- Improve resource management (ecosystem approach) and governance
- Improve cooperation within EU and trans-Atlantic
- Contribute to the EU Integrated Maritime Policy
 - The Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD),
 - The Common Fisheries Policy (CFP),
 - The EU 'Maritime Strategy for the Atlantic Ocean Area'
 - The Galway Statement on Atlantic Cooperation
- Strengthen international agreements to conserve Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems and Ecologically & Biologically Significant Areas



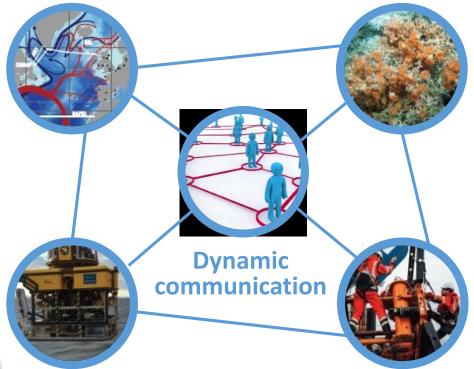
Vital Statistics

- Partnership Industry, SMEs, Govt & Academia
- 24 Partners, One 3rd Party; 15 Associate Partners
- Denmark, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal (incl. Azores), Spain, the UK and USA
- EU contribution €9.1M
- 25 deep-sea cruises planned
- 12 Case Studies
- Project dates May 2016 April 2020



Can Europe sustain marine ecosystems and drive Blue Growth at a North Atlantic scale?





Better predictions

Cost-effective robust monitoring

Stronger policy implementation



Can Europe sustain marine ecosystems and drive Blue Growth at a North Atlantic scale?





Many thanks!



- MASTS PFFR award
- ATLAS consortium
- Changing Oceans research group at University of Edinburgh

PhD and Post-doc positions available

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