



# Framework Development of the Atlantic Marine Economy Database

Amaya Vega



Regional Stakeholder Workshop  
National University of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland  
Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2013





# Outline

- Aim of the project
- Partnership
- Activities
  - Framework Development
    - Goals and Actions
    - Economic coverage
    - Geographical coverage
    - Indicators
    - Data compilation and quality
    - Discussion



# Aim of the project

- Establish a marine socio-economic network that will develop a methodology to create and collate comparable marine socio-economic data across the European Atlantic Area
- Use data to support marine socio-economic development initiatives along the Atlantic Area regions



# Objectives

- Examine economic utility of the marine environment
- Develop an agreed methodology for the collection of marine socio-economic indicators across the European Atlantic Area at an appropriate spatial scale and with results that are comparable across partner countries
- Establish a formal charter for sharing marine socio economic research/facilities in the Atlantic Area among network members
- Develop a Marine Socio-Economic Indicator Atlas for the European Atlantic Arc
- Enhance competitiveness of marine economy through provision of a reliable set of useful marine socio economic information vital to policy & economic development across many marine related sectors.
- Act as a framework to collaborate on further marine research initiatives.



# Partnership

Organisation	Project Status
BMW Regional Assembly – IE	Lead Partner
NUI GALWAY – SEMRU – IE	Partner
Fundacion AZTI - ES	Partner
University of Basque Country – ES	Partner
CIIMAR – PT	Partner
IFREMER – FR	Partner
Regional Council of Brittany – FR	Partner
University of Stirling – UK	Partner
CPMR - FR	Associate Partner
CCDR Centro – PT	Associate Partner





# Activities

Activities	Responsible Partner
Management & Co-ordination	BMW Regional Assembly
Communications & Dissemination	CIIMAR
Establishment & Operation of Network	NUI Galway – SEMRU
Framework Development	IFREMER
Marine Socio Economic Indicators compilation	University of Stirling
Atlas of Marine Socio Economic Indicators	University of Stirling
Practical Initiatives	University of Basque Country



# Framework Development

1. Define industries that are in the marine economy of the Atlantic Area
2. Identify the marine sub-sectors for which there is publicly available data
3. **Identify relevant stakeholders' data requirements**
4. Estimate the proportion of economic activity in each region that is marine-based
5. Establish which sectors and data would provide the most instructive indicators of marine social and economic wellbeing
6. Decide the geographical coverage in which the marine regions will be documented in terms of local marine activities or employment



# Framework Development

- The economic coverage of the marine/maritime sector is defined using NACE codes. This allows for presenting internationally comparable data
- Subdivided into marine/maritime-specific activities, marine/maritime-linked activities and impacted activities
- The list of activities includes activities that are fully marine/maritime and activities that are only partially marine/maritime
- The list also includes activities that are public or semi-public – cannot be assessed in the same terms as private businesses
- The current economic framework does not include non-market aspects



# Framework Development

## ***Marine-specific activities***

Use marine resources and the essential physical and spatial characteristics of the sea

They are performed at sea or near the sea:

- Marine biological, mineral and hydrocarbon resource extraction
- The biological, physical and chemical properties of marine waters
- The sea space
- The tourism and leisure value of the sea and coastal zones



# Framework Development

## ***Marine-linked activities***

Defined as suppliers and customers of the marine-specific sector.

They produce inputs for marine-specific activities or use outputs from marine-specific activities in the production process

Some of these activities are not necessarily performed at sea or in coastal zones

The marine-linked sector includes:

- Essential activities are critical for the marine-specific sector and could not exist in its absence
- Complementary activities are important suppliers and customers of the marine-specific sector. They can develop in the absence of the latter and have non-marine outlets



# Framework Development

## ***Impacted coastal activities***

They include a variety of coastal construction, wholesale or retail trade businesses, real estate, renting and leasing, legal, banking and health services, etc., which do not necessarily have any marine/maritime nature but are impacted by the marine-specific and marine-linked activities.

These impacts are part of the multiplier effect of the marine sector.



# Framework Development

- Eurostat's definition of the EU coastal regions: EU coastal regions are statistical regions defined at NUTS3 level, responding to one of the following criteria:
  - Regions with a sea border
  - Regions with more than half of their population within 50 km from the sea
- Eurostat's list of coastal regions being therefore a function of population statistics, it should have to be periodically revised, as a rule. However, under Eurostat's definition of coastal regions, some of the NUTS3 units of the Atlantic Area are not considered coastal.
- This difference in coverage matters for tourism activities and "impacted coastal activities" since these activities will be taken into account depending on their coastal nature.



# Framework Development

- Coastal regions according to Eurostat are not necessarily located near the coast nor in the Atlantic Area
- In the case of Ireland, Eurostat classification includes most of the country except for the Midlands NUTS3 region
- Need to clarify what coastal areas are in the context of Ireland





# Framework Development

- The data identified will be collected from national accounts provided by each partner's national statistics office - direct impact of a sector.
- The indirect impact of the identified marine sectors will be calculated using input-output (IO) multipliers from each partner country.
- Once the data has been gathered it will to be converted into actual indicators of marine economic and social performance of each region.
- Missing data, highlighted as important indicators of marine socio-economic activity in the European Atlantic Area, will be identified and alternative data collection method strategies for such cases proposed.



# Framework Development

## Accounting Indicators

- Turnover, value added purchases, personnel cost, number of persons employed, imports, exports
- Available at the national level, but not at the regional level
- Confidentiality

## Proxies

- These can be useful in characterising the development of a given activity
- Production, tonnage, fish landings, number of accommodation nights, port traffic, vessel capacity
- Used to make estimates
- Geographical coverage depends on the objective of the data user

## Estimates

- Most marine activities are only partially marine and they also include non-marine firms
- Need to adopt a common (AA countries) estimation rules for each indicator of each activity included in the database to account for the proportion of the sector/industrial class that is marine related.
- Traceability



# Framework Development

- Data compilation will result in the aggregation of a comprehensive set of marine socio-economic data using the agreed framework
- Consistent, comparable marine socio-economic data collected for each AA region and converted into indicators of the socio-economic performance of the marine sector
- A structured database of indicators at different spatial scales across the AA regions compiled
- This unique database available to policy makers and regional authorities for follow on analysis and comparisons and it will feed into a web-based Atlas of Marine Socio-Economic Activity



# Framework Development

*What type of marine socio-economic data would your organisation benefit from?*

*What type of socio-economic indicators would your organisation consider relevant?*

---

Thank you,

<http://www.nuigalway.ie/semru/>

[www.marnetproject.eu](http://www.marnetproject.eu)

Contact: Amaya Vega, Socio-Economic Marine Research Unit  
e-mail: [amaya.vega@nuigalway.ie](mailto:amaya.vega@nuigalway.ie), Tel: + 353 91495679

