

# Annual Report 2022



*Foras na Mara*  
*Marine Institute*

# BUILDING OCEAN KNOWLEDGE - DELIVERING OCEAN SERVICES

In accordance with the requirements of the Marine Institute Act, 1991, I have the honour of presenting the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Marine Institute for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Dr John Killeen, Chairperson

## The Marine Institute is a national agency with the following mission:

The Marine Institute provides government, public agencies and the maritime industry with a range of scientific, advisory and economic development services that inform policy-making, regulation and the sustainable management and growth of Ireland's marine resources. The Institute undertakes, coordinates and promotes marine research and development, which is essential to achieving a sustainable ocean economy, protecting ecosystems and inspiring a shared understanding of the ocean.

## Our Vision:

The Marine Institute, as a global leader in ocean knowledge, empowering Ireland and its people to safeguard and harness our ocean wealth.



Marine Institute Research Facility in Newport, Co Mayo. Photo: Mixed Bag Media.

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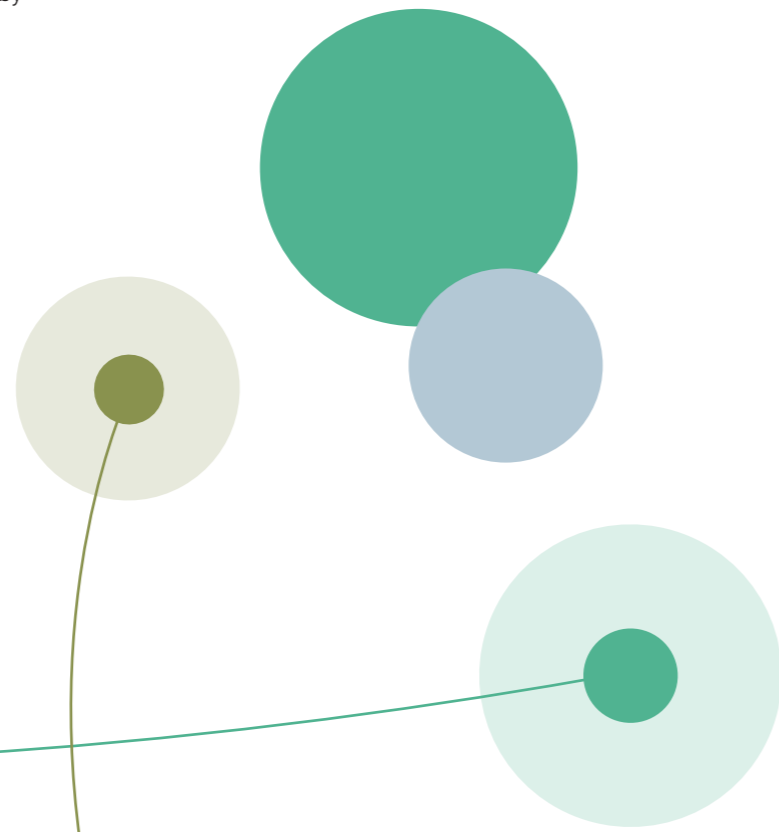
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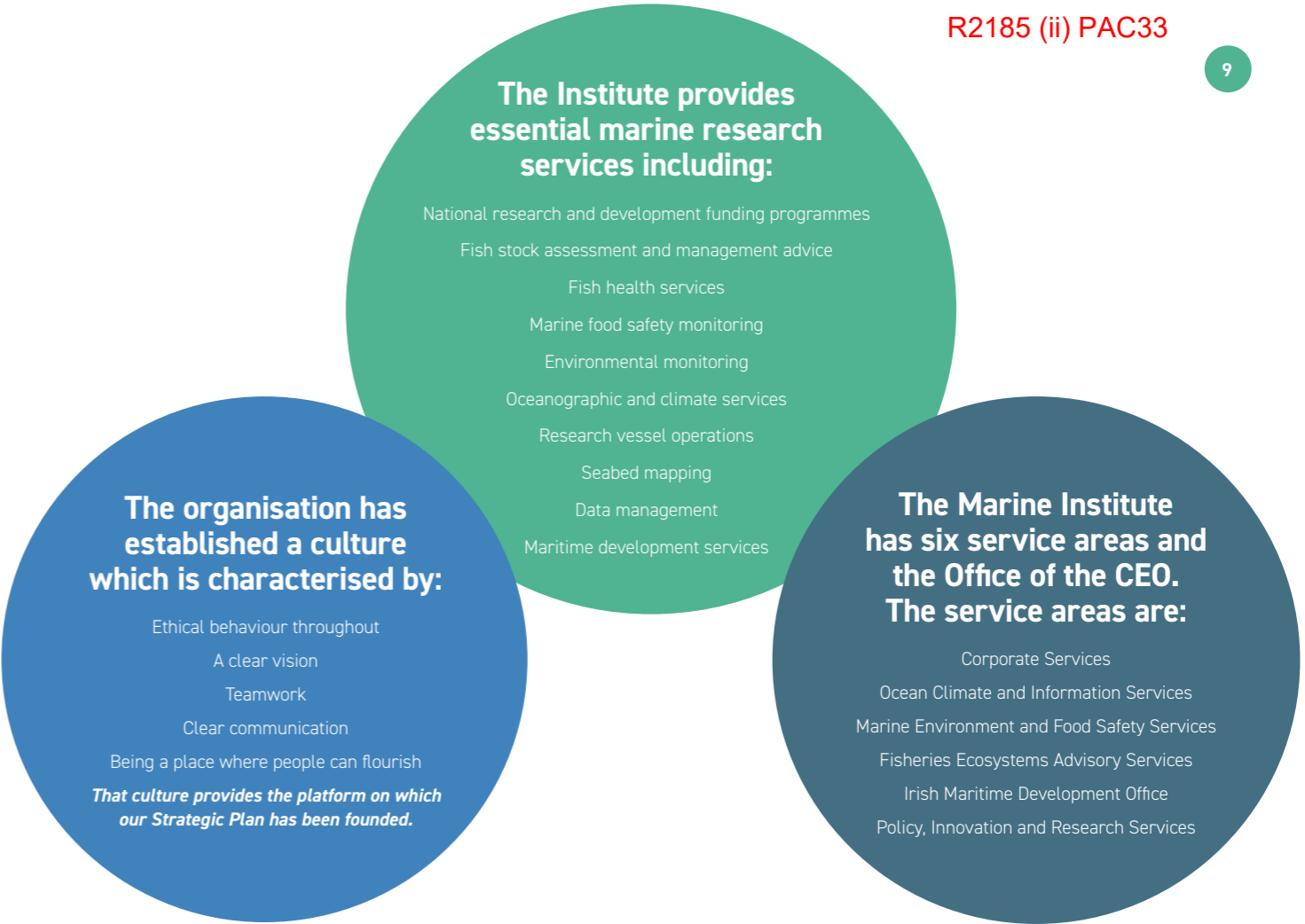
The Marine Institute Annual Report is available in Irish and can be downloaded from [www.marine.ie](http://www.marine.ie)

# INTRODUCTION & MARINE INSTITUTE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Marine Institute is the national agency for marine research, technology, development and innovation. It seeks to assess and realise the economic potential of Ireland's marine resource, promote sustainable development of marine industry through strategic funding programmes and essential scientific services, as well as safeguard Ireland's natural marine resource through research and environmental monitoring.

Ireland has a marine area of approximately 880,000 km<sup>2</sup> under the sea, which is over 10 times its land area, representing an enormous seabed and marine resource. The Marine Institute promotes the sustainable development of this vast resource through research, the application of new technologies and by providing credible science-based advice to industry, the Government and the EU.





**The Institute provides essential marine research services including:**

- National research and development funding programmes
- Fish stock assessment and management advice
- Fish health services
- Marine food safety monitoring
- Environmental monitoring
- Oceanographic and climate services
- Research vessel operations
- Seabed mapping
- Data management
- Maritime development services

**The organisation has established a culture which is characterised by:**

- Ethical behaviour throughout
  - A clear vision
  - Teamwork
  - Clear communication
  - Being a place where people can flourish
- That culture provides the platform on which our Strategic Plan has been founded.*

**The Marine Institute has six service areas and the Office of the CEO. The service areas are:**

- Corporate Services
- Ocean Climate and Information Services
- Marine Environment and Food Safety Services
- Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services
- Irish Maritime Development Office
- Policy, Innovation and Research Services

Since its establishment in 1991, the Marine Institute has been a key component of a national effort to grow our maritime economy, to create new marine business opportunities and jobs and to generate a greater knowledge and understanding of the seas and oceans. This Annual Report highlights the key deliverables and progress made towards our vision during 2022.

**Strategic Framework**

The Marine Institute developed *Building Ocean Knowledge - Delivering Ocean Services*, a Strategic Plan for the period 2018-2022.

The process required extensive input from clients, external stakeholders, the Marine Institute Board, the management team and staff. The engagement process with stakeholders was used to inform how the Institute is performing and how the organisation can serve their current and future needs more effectively.

The Strategic Plan ensures that the Institute continues to meet national needs and international challenges, opportunities and commitments. It sets a strong strategic vision and a clear plan for the journey ahead.

In line with the strategic framework, this Annual Report is organised into four Strategic Focus Areas and four Strategic Enablers. The six service areas of the organisation (outlined on the previous page) feed into these eight sections of the report.

2022 is the final year of the current Strategic Plan, with a new 2023-2027 Strategic Plan set to be published by the Institute in 2023.

**Strategic Focus Areas:**

- Scientific Advice and Services
- Forecasting Ocean and Climate Change
- Research and Innovation
- Ireland's Ocean Economy

**Strategic Enablers:**

- Our People
- Infrastructure
- Data and IT
- Engagement and Education

To deliver on our vision requires strategic enhancement of our organisational strengths and this is where Strategic Enablers are so vital. Our people, our infrastructure, our data and IT capabilities and our engagement and education capabilities all work towards enabling the Strategic Focus Areas and their respective goals.

# BOARD MEMBERS

## Dr. John Killeen (2014-2019), (2019-2024) Chairperson



Dr John Killeen is an engineer and a native of County Roscommon who became an Honorary Freeman of Galway City in 2012. His career spans working with Local Government, with a multinational construction company that built the Grand Canal tunnel in Dublin in 1973 and seven years with Shell International subsidiary. Dr Killeen was President of Engineers Ireland (1995-1996) and was founding President of the Academy of Engineering in Ireland (1996-1998). He is a retired CEO of the Colas Group in Ireland and retired Managing Director of Cold Chon Galway Ltd.

In 2009, he was Chairperson of the Volvo Ocean Race event in Galway. In 2012, he was President of the Volvo Ocean Race Festival and Finale which broke all attendance records for a sporting event in Ireland, valued at approximately €80 million in tourism and business income to the city. Dr Killeen is also President of the Timoney Leadership Institute (a charity that promotes international leadership training for Irish CEOs), is Chairperson of Lifeboats Ireland and a Trustee of the RNLI.

## Prof. Patricia Barker (2013-2018), (2018-2023)



Prof Barker is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland and qualified in 1973. Prof Barker completed an MPhil in Gender Studies at Trinity College Dublin. Her PhD developed a paradigm of disclosure of financial information to employees in organisations. She served her articles with Stokes Bros & Pim in Dublin and worked for Peat Marwick Mitchell in Manchester. She later became a partner in an accounting practice in Manchester for six years, and worked in Manchester University as a principal lecturer.

Patricia was appointed lecturer in Dublin City University (DCU) in 1980 and progressed through senior lecturer, Associate Dean (Business School) and University Vice-President (Academic). She has worked as a visiting professor in universities in New York, Boston, Angers, Malawi, Dares Salaam, Sydney and Cape Town and has been an external examiner for universities and professional bodies.

She served as Chairperson of Chartered Accountants' Accounting Committee for 20 years and was a member of the Council of Chartered Accountants for four years in the 1990s and again for five years in the 2010s. She represented Ireland on the Accounting Standards Board in London for nine years and chaired the expert group reporting to the European Union on the role, structure and functions of the European Court of Auditors. She had several tours of duty as Election Supervisor for the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Ireland (OSCE) in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Republika Srpska, South Africa, Kosovo, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Malawi and Belarus; and with the EU in Africa.

Patricia worked as a Human Rights Monitor in Israel and Palestine. She has been a member of the Boards of Women's Aid, the Sonas Housing Association, the National Chamber Choir and the Higher Education Authority (chairing the Audit Committee), and the HSE. She was Chairperson of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service for three years.

She is currently a Director of Tallaght Hospital, chairing the Audit Committee. She chairs the Oversight Committee of Internal Audit for the Education Training Boards and is also Chair of the Pensions Authority Audit Committee.

Patricia is currently a voluntary counsellor and trainer for the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre. She has written books on group accounting, flexible working in the profession and, more recently, on women who have succeeded in the accountancy profession, as well as on corporate governance and professional ethics.

## Mr. Dermot Clohessy (2015-2020), (2021-2026)



Dermot has an extensive understanding of foreign direct investment (FDI) having worked for 28 years with IDA Ireland. He was the IDA's Executive Director/COO from 2006 to 2015. During his career with the organisation, he had leadership responsibility across all key functional areas of the organisation. He has strong knowledge of and experience in strategy development and implementation, dealing with corporate governance, including compliance and procurement within the public sector.

Dermot was a member the Development Task Force established to support the implementation of *Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth - an integrated marine plan for Ireland*.

He was Chairperson of one of its subcommittees to address the Business Development, Marketing and Promotion agenda that set about sending a clear message to investors that Ireland is open for, and a good place to do, marine business.

Since leaving IDA Ireland in 2015, Dermot now works internationally as a strategic advisor on a very wide range of projects on investment and international business development, for both the private and public sectors. His work concentrates on strategy implementation, capability building and international business development where his expertise is on implementation management. Dermot is an Engineer by profession, with additional qualifications in Business Strategy and Accounting & Finance.

## Dr. Berna Grist B.L. (2015-2018), (2018-2023)



Dr Berna Grist B.L., a barrister and chartered town planner, is Adjunct Professor in the School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy at University College Dublin. She holds a PhD from the University of Ulster on *The Legislative and Regulatory Framework for Development in the Republic of Ireland* and has published widely in the fields of planning and environmental law, public policy and governance. Together with the late James Macken SC, she coedited the *Irish Planning Law Factbook* (2003), which she continues to update annually, and in 2012, she published the second edition of *An Introduction to Irish Planning Law*.

Dr Grist was appointed Deputy Chairperson of the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board on its establishment in 1998. During the period 2001-2006, she served as a member of An Bord Pleanála and in 2013, she was appointed to the Expert Group advising the Minister for Housing and Planning on a successor to the *National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020*. She has contributed to a number of environmental research projects sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is a member of the Irish Environmental Law Association (IELA).

## Mr. Donal Kelly (2013-2018), (2018-2023)



Mr Donal Kelly is Managing Director of Fast Fish Ltd, a successful fish sales and oil supply business based in Castletownbere, County Cork. Mr Kelly served on the Celtic Sea Herring Management Committee for 10 years, and on the West Pelagic Committee for three years.

Mr Kelly has served on a number of boards, both in the private and voluntary sector, including the Cork County Community and Voluntary Forum and the Cork County Development Board and has acted as Chairperson of Castletownbere GAA Management Committee. He is also a member of Berehaven Golf Club and the Castletownbere Community Development Association.

## Mr. David Owens (2012-2018), (2018-2023)



David Owens is EVP and General Manager of International Operations at Tricentis, responsible for leading International Financial Operations, Global Tax, Global Procurement, Global Facilities, and International Location Strategy.

Previously, David was Senior Vice President, Finance and Operations, at SolarWinds where he was responsible for finance and operations across the international business.

Earlier in his career David also worked for Red Hat, Inc. for over seven years, where he served initially as Director of Global Logistics and Production and then as Senior Director of Finance for EMEA.

David is a qualified Chartered Accountant and trained with Ernst & Young.

# BOARD MEMBERS

## Ms. Charlotte O'Kelly de Gallagher (2021-2026)



Charlotte O'Kelly De Gallagher is Managing Director and co-founder of TechWorks Marine. She holds a degree in Environmental Resources from Kingston University and a Masters in Oceanography from University College of Wales, Bangor. More recently she was conferred with a Postgraduate Diploma in International Sales from TU Dublin.

Charlotte has over 20 years' experience in the field of Operational Oceanography, notably in real-time Data Buoys, she has specific sector experience in Coastal Water Quality Monitoring, Coastal Engineering and Marine Offshore Renewables. In her role as Managing Director of TechWorks Marine, she has grown the business from a concept to a solid commercial business which delivers world class marine data services to its clients, enabling them to better manage their marine operations.

Over the last 10 years, she has coordinated a number of European Space Agency (ESA) contracts in the area of Marine Earth Observation, linking in situ and satellite oceanographic data to develop new data services in the marine sector.

She has been an evaluator for the EU Commission and regularly speaks at ESA and marine conferences on real-time marine monitoring. She has received a number of awards on behalf of TechWorks Marine since 2002, notably the first Digital Ocean Achievement Award at the Irish Marine Industry Awards in 2017 and was a finalist in the Irish Times Innovation Awards in 2019.

Over the years, she has been involved in a number of Boards, including Women in Technology and Science (WITS) which she chaired for two years, and The Lycée Francaise d'Irlande which she chaired for three years. She has a strong interest in all things marine, and has been involved in a number of organisations over the years including Irish Surfing, and is an active sailor in Dublin Bay all year round.

## Mr. Aodh O Domhnaill (2021-2026)



Aodh O Domhnaill is a native of Co Donegal. He is CEO of the Irish Fish Producers Organisation (IFPO) and formerly the International Sales Director with Errigal Bay, a Gaeltacht based shellfish processor and exporter. His responsibilities include ongoing development of international seafood markets, with a particular focus on Asian, U.S. and Scandinavian territories.

In March 2022, Aodh took up the position of CEO of the IFPO, a body formed in 1975. The IFPO represents owners of commercial sea-fishing vessels of all sizes in the Pelagic, Whitefish, Shellfish and Inshore sectors. The Organisation is concerned with the management of members' fishing activities, both catching and marketing, with a view to making the best use of the available fish stocks and optimising returns.

Aodh has extensive and lifelong association with the seafood sector and has worked in senior operations and sales roles. He has served as a committee member of the Irish Fish Processors and Exporters Association (IFPEA) and on the North West Pelagic Advisory Committee. Aodh also served as Chairperson of the Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) for a four year term from 2007 to 2011.

Aodh is a native Gaelic speaker and has a primary degree from Trinity College Dublin. He holds a Certified Diploma in Accounting and Finance and an MBA from the Open University.

## Mr. Tom Tynan (2021-2026)



Tom Tynan has a distinguished career in agriculture. He was educated at University College Galway (UCG), University College Dublin (UCD), UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School, and Harper Adams University College, Shropshire. He was the 2015 UCD Alumni Award winner from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science.

Tom worked across a range of agri-business and policy areas where he held a variety of senior management roles. He was Commercial Director for IAWS Agri-business and subsequently Chief Operating Officer of Welcon AS, Norway.

His experience spans commercial, strategy, operations and on-farm advisory. He held posts on the Boards of Teagasc, Agri-Aware and the Scientific Advisory Board of Alltech. In 2021, he was appointed to the Board of the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI) in Northern Ireland. Last year, he was appointed to the Board of Shannon Foynes Port Company.

He recently completed his tenure as a Member of Cabinet to the European Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development and a Member of Cabinet to the European Commissioner for Trade, where his portfolio responsibilities included agricultural markets, trade remedies, research, development & innovation, bioeconomy and biotechnology.



# SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

## Dr. Paul Connolly CEO



Paul has a PhD from University College Dublin (1986), an MBA from National University Ireland Galway (2006) and completed the Timoney Advanced Leadership Programme in 2016.

Paul was appointed CEO of the Marine Institute in October 2019 and previously was Director of Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS) at the Institute.

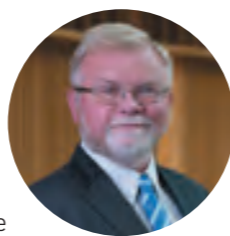
He has considerable expertise in the provision of scientific advice to Government on a range of marine issues, including fisheries, aquaculture and climate mitigation. He has extensive experience in working with stakeholders and chaired the Minister's Irish Fisheries Science Research Partnership (IFSRP) from 2008 to 2019. Paul is also skilled in the crafting of strategies for international organisations, for Government and for the Marine Institute.

Paul has played a leadership role internationally. He was elected President of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) for a three year term (2013-2015). ICES is an intergovernmental organisation of 20 countries that border the North Atlantic. Its objectives are to advance scientific understanding of marine ecosystems and provide impartial scientific advice for meeting ocean conservation, management, and sustainability goals. These issues are very important to the work of the Marine Institute.

In October 2020, Paul was elected by the Member States of ICES to the ICES Board (Bureau) for a three year term (2020-2022).

Under Paul's leadership, the Marine Institute is well placed to support the marine elements of the Programme for Government including the blue economy, offshore renewable energy, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and scientific advice on the sustainable use of our ocean resources, particularly in relation to fisheries and aquaculture.

## Michael Gillooly Director of Ocean Climate & Information Services



Michael holds a Bachelor of Science (University College Galway), a Masters in Environmental Science (Trinity College Dublin) and a National Diploma in Aquatic Biology (Galway Regional Technical College, now Atlantic Technological University).

He is responsible for the leading, managing and developing of services and delivery of programmes including Research Vessel Operations, Advanced Mapping Services, Oceanography and Climate Services, Information and System Development Services, Marine Infrastructures and Ocean Energy.

Michael has 30 years' senior management experience in marine technical research and operational projects, and infrastructure projects e.g. weather and observation buoy networks, Galway Bay cabled scientific observatory. His experience also extends to operational programmes such as INFOMAR mapping, RV (Research Vessel) and ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) programmes, operational oceanography and climate change. Strategic planning experience includes the national marine plan (*Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth*), Integrated Digital Ocean programme and multiple project business planning.

Michael was co-author of the 2005/2006 INFOMAR proposal which was supported by Government as a 20 year programme (scheduled to complete in 2026), Michael was a national delegate to the Steering Council of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) from 2016 to 2018. He is currently a national delegate on the Assembly of Members of the EMSO and EURO ARGO ERICs, and is an Executive Board Member of EurOcean.

Michael was project manager of the programmes to build the Institute's two research vessels, the RV *Celtic Voyager* and RV *Celtic Explorer*, and is the Director responsible for the programme to build RV *Tom Crean*, which replaced the *Celtic Voyager*.

## Patricia Orme Director of Corporate Services



Patricia is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland and holds a First Class Honours Bachelor of Commerce Degree (Law and Accounting) from National University of Ireland Galway. Patricia began her career with the international accountancy firm Mazars, in Dublin.

Prior to joining the Marine Institute, Patricia was a Director in KPMG, one of Ireland's largest professional service providers. There, she had more than 20 years' experience providing financial, audit, risk management, governance and advisory services to public, private, indigenous and international clients. She held leadership roles with responsibility for strategy, client relationship management, financial performance and Human Resources.

Patricia has lectured on the Masters of Accounting programme at NUI Galway, delivered training and presented to Boards on Corporate Governance and other matters. From 2011 to 2018, she served on the Board of Directors and as Company Secretary of Croí Heart and Stroke Foundation.

As Director of Corporate Services, Patricia has responsibility for Corporate Governance, Finance, Human Resources, Facilities, Communications and Library Services. She served as the Institute's Data Protection Officer until December 2020 and currently is Joint Risk Officer.

Patricia is also currently a Member of the Audit and Risk Committee of the Institute of Public Administration.

## Dr. Niall McDonough Director of Policy, Information & Research Services (PIRS)



Niall McDonough originally trained as a marine biologist with research interests in marine aquaculture, shellfish stock restoration and marine resource management. He holds a first class BA Mod. in Zoology from Trinity College Dublin (1993) and a PhD from Queen's University Belfast (1998).

Following two years at the Environmental Change Institute at National University Ireland Galway (NUI Galway), Niall served for five years as General Manager of the Centre for Marine Resources and Mariculture (CMar), an innovation centre at Queen's University Belfast providing research, technical and advisory services for the emerging marine aquaculture sector.

From 2007 to 2009, he worked with the Marine Institute's international cooperation programme. In 2009, he was appointed Executive Director of the European Marine Board (EMB), a European marine science policy organisation based at the InnovOcean campus in Ostend, Belgium. He returned to Ireland in 2017 to take up his current role with the Marine Institute.

As Director of PIRS, Niall oversees a team and programme of work that plays a key role in supporting and promoting marine research and innovation at national and international level. He coordinates the implementation of Ireland's Marine Research and Innovation Strategy (2017-2022) and chairs the national Marine Research Funders' Forum. He oversees the Marine Institute's circa €8 million per annum external research funding programme and is a member of the Irish Government's Innovation 2020 Implementation Group and Horizon Europe High-Level Group. In November 2020, he was elected Chair of the European Joint Programming Initiative on Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans.



# SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Joe Silke**  
 Director of Marine Environment & Food Safety Services (MEFSS)



Joe studied at Galway Regional Technical College (now Atlantic Technological University, ATU) where he qualified with a National Diploma in Aquatic Science and continued his studies at Trinity College Dublin, where he qualified with a Master's Degree in Environmental Science. His career originated in the aquaculture industry where he worked in shellfish hatcheries and on-growing facilities, and innovative production methods through the 1980s.

Following this, he moved into research activities in phytoplankton and oceanography, and carried out several projects in the field of marine aquaculture development and environmental surveying. Joe has extensive experience within the areas of risk assessment, quality control, biological and environmental monitoring.

He has previously managed the Shellfish Safety Team within the Marine Institute, providing scientific monitoring and food safety advice to Government, industry and seafood consumers. He also has a considerable international profile having served on a range of working groups including EU inspections of third countries as shellfish toxin expert, Codex working group and has led a variety of international research activities. He is a past Chair and member of the ICES Working Group on Harmful Algal Bloom Dynamics and is currently the Chair of the FAO-IOC Intergovernmental Panel on Harmful Algal Blooms.

As Director of MEFSS, Joe leads the teams responsible for key scientific services to Government in support of evidence-based policy advice and our objectives for safe seafood, sustainable development of the marine environment, fish health and clean seas programmes.

**Dr. Ciaran Kelly**  
 Director of Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS)



Ciaran trained as a marine biologist and subsequently as a fisheries scientist, with a degree from Trinity College Dublin and a PhD from University College Dublin. He has been involved in advice provision to government managers and policy makers for more than 20 years, working nationally and through international organisations such as the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) and Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF).

Ciaran has previously worked as a manager of integrated advice, and manager of the Office of Research and Development at the Marine Institute which was responsible for the planning and running of the Marine Institute's National Marine Research Investment programme.

He is Director of the Institute's Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS), which undertakes resource assessments of commercial fish stocks, provides advice and policy support to the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine (DAFM) and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), and undertakes research on marine ecosystems, fish stocks and aquaculture.

**Liam Lacey**  
 Director of the Irish Maritime Development Office (IMDO)



Liam is a Fellow of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland and holds a Masters Degree in management from Trinity College Dublin. Before joining the IMDO, Liam lectured in the area of strategic management and innovation in National University of Ireland Maynooth.

He formerly worked with Irish Continental Group as Managing Director of its Container and Terminal Division. He has extensive experience in shipping, chartering and port development. Liam was a member of IBEC's Transport Council, which represents the views of industry in the area of transport and logistics.



RV Celtic Explorer.  
 Photo: Brian Sharkey.

# CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT

2022 was another successful year for the Marine Institute, with progress made on all of the organisation's strategic goals. It was also a significant year in the development of strategic plans for both the Institute and the wider Irish marine sector, in which the Institute plays an intrinsic role.

This was the final year in the current Marine Institute Strategic Plan, *Building Ocean Knowledge - Delivering Ocean Services (2018-2022)*, and a time to reflect on all that has been progressed and accomplished under this ambitious strategy.

Looking back on the goals we collectively defined and committed to in the Plan, we see that we achieved what we set out to do. There were challenges along the way, including Brexit (which had been identified as both a challenge and an opportunity for Ireland in the Strategic Plan) and the major work required to prepare for the impacts of climate change (also identified at the outset of the Plan).

One major challenge which could not have been anticipated was the Covid-19 pandemic and its many impacts. It is a credit to the Institute that so much of the Strategic Plan was successfully achieved against this backdrop of considerable change and uncertainty.

2022 was also the time to come together as an organisation to develop our new Strategic Plan, setting a strong vision and clear path for the journey ahead. We look forward to sharing this new Plan in 2023 and to implementing it over the next five years.

The organisation is working with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) to support progress on the specific action "to position Ireland as an international leader in marine research", contained in 'Impact 2030', Ireland's new national research and innovation strategy. This strategy was launched during 2022.

The Institute was pleased to collaborate with others on further progressing the development of a new national marine Research & Innovation strategy this year, 'Ocean Knowledge 2030', which will be published in 2023.

Another key achievement this year was the work of the Institute with climate stakeholders (including DAFM, other government departments and local authorities) in defining the climate services they need for the marine domain. Ocean Climate and Information Services and colleagues across the Institute supported the Government in reporting of Climate Actions for 2022 and the formulation of the marine components of the Climate Action Plan 2023.

As the new research vessel *Tom Crean* came into service to replace the RV *Celtic Voyager* and to join the RV *Celtic Explorer*; it was an opportune time to reflect on the past, present and future of Ireland's marine research vessels, and their important contributions. The Institute's Oceans of Learning series shone a light on this through new video animations, as well as a library of educational resources and new video content.

In October, the Institute was honoured to welcome the President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, and the President of Portugal, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, on a visit to the RV *Tom Crean* which was docked in Dublin's Sir John Rogerson's Quay. The visit included discussions on further building on the strong cooperation between our two countries in relation to Atlantic Ocean research.

Other key Institute achievements during 2022 included our continued support to the development of the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (2021-2027) and our work in developing the Data Collection Multiannual Programme (2021-2027) with national sampling partners Bord Iascaigh Mhara and Inland Fisheries Ireland.

The Institute also supported the development of the National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) by contributing to Marine Spatial Planning implementation. Seabed mapping continued to be a key service delivery area for the organisation, with 4,164 km<sup>2</sup> of Celtic Sea seabed being mapped by the Institute, during 81 vessel days onboard the research vessels, as part of the INFOMAR programme.

All of the Institute's operations remain underpinned by best practice corporate governance and financial management, and it maintains the highest Governance Standards to comply with the 2016 *Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies*.

2022 marked the 18<sup>th</sup> successive year that the Marine Institute has held the Excellence Through People certification under the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) Standard ETP 1000:2017, with Platinum certification held through 2022. This is a testament to how the organisation values its staff, how teams collaborate and the positive impact achieved by focusing on our people and our collective success.

We developed Blended Working Policies and launched a Pilot programme after a period of consultation. We also welcomed the publication of the Institute's first Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Plan (2021-2023), outlining our commitment to gender equality and publishing related important metrics. Our Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Group of internal champions delivered a programme of information workshops and training to staff throughout the year.

The Explorers Education programme went from strength to strength during 2022, with the launch of a new *We Are Ocean Champions* module and awards, the participation of more than 20 primary schools in 14 coastal counties in Healthy Oceans projects, and the delivery of more than 400 modules to close to 13,000 children during the year.

I'd like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to CEO, Paul Connolly, and the Marine Institute staff for their commitment to excellence and for their contribution to all of the achievements of the Institute in 2022.



**Dr John Killeen**  
Chairperson, Marine Institute



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

Working together, the staff of the Marine Institute strive towards our vision of the organisation as a global leader in ocean knowledge, empowering Ireland and its people to safeguard and harness our ocean wealth.

Nowhere was this collaborative spirit more apparent than in the major milestone achieved this year, with the launch of the new national marine research vessel, the RV *Tom Crean*. Our 2018 Annual Report documented that the Institute had welcomed the announcement of the commencement of the project to build a new vessel, to replace the RV *Celtic Voyager*, and that it was to be put to sea for the first time in 2022.

The new vessel was, indeed, built and delivered on schedule, and on budget. This was a considerable achievement particularly when one notes that it was constructed entirely during the ever-changing and challenging Covid-19 environment.

The RV *Tom Crean* arrived into Irish waters in July and commenced service that same month, with its first survey being an INFOMAR seabed mapping survey. On 6 October, we were delighted to host a commissioning ceremony for the vessel in Dingle Harbour, with attendees including the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue TD, and Aileen Crean O'Brien, granddaughter of *Tom Crean*. The day was a celebration of a significant milestone with the addition of this new state of the art vessel to the national marine research vessel fleet.

The Marine Institute plays an essential role in providing high quality scientific advice and services to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and other government departments, agencies and stakeholders. Our services support a range of commercial activities and important statutory requirements across fisheries, aquaculture, food safety, maritime transport, ocean climate change, environmental compliance and much more.

The building blocks of the many services that the Institute provides are data and significant ongoing development of integrated digital services continues, building on use and re-use of marine data and enabling additional scientific marine services e.g. in marine spatial planning to be developed for Government.

Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS) provided many services this year, including the vital role of supporting DAFM with robust scientific data and advice pertinent to fish stocks and fisheries. This was particularly evident in the annual Stock Book, which was published in November, and used by Government for December Council.

The Irish Maritime Development Office (IMDO) worked to address and overcome challenges to the maritime industry, though its advisory work to the Department of Transport, business development activities and the supports it provides for research, education and training.

The Corporate Services team continue to support and enable the work of our scientific and research teams, ensuring the highest standards of governance, effective financial, procurement and supply chain management, supporting the wellbeing of our People, providing clear communication and facilitating engagement with the public.

Marine Environment and Food Safety Services (MEFSS) played a vital support role for the work of DAFM and other Departments, with its focus on quality science-based support towards the protection of marine environment, monitoring and advising on marine legislation requirements for Government, supporting Marine Spatial Planning development and ensuring the protection of consumer seafood safety.

Ocean Climate and Information Services (OCIS) continued to provide a wide range of services throughout 2022, operating across the whole marine data value chain including seabed mapping, oceanographic and climate services, digital services, infrastructure services and RV Operations with the RV *Celtic Explorer*, RV *Celtic Voyager* and RV *Tom Crean* completing a total of 12 surveys carried out on RV *Celtic Explorer*, 13 surveys on RV *Celtic Voyager* and 17 on RV *Tom Crean*.

Policy, Innovation and Research Services (PIRS) played a central role in managing the multi-layered role of the Marine Institute with respect to Research & Innovation. In 2022, the Research Funding Office managed €7.6 million in new research investments awarded under the Marine Research Programme: €4.7 million for ship-time and €2.9 million on research projects.

A significant achievement this year was the contribution of the Institute to the hosting of the ICES Annual Science Conference at the AVIVA Stadium in Dublin. It was the first in-person ICES conference in three years, with 500 in-person attendees plus 150 online attendees. Marine Institute staff participated in, and contributed to, the successful event, which was attended by leading marine scientists from around the globe, sharing the latest cutting-edge science supporting the sustainable use of our oceans.

The range and quality of activities captured in this Annual Report clearly demonstrate the vital role that the Institute has in providing scientific advice to Government and agencies, and in coordinating funding, promoting and implementing marine research in Ireland and internationally, with partners.

This Report also shows the significant achievements made by the Institute over the past year, and the impact that these are having on people, policy and planet.

Thank you to all of our many partners and stakeholders for their collaboration during the year. My sincere thanks to all the staff of the Marine Institute for their continued high standard of service delivery and to the Board for their diligence and commitment in maintaining the highest standards of corporate governance and their support for our work.



**Dr Paul Connolly**  
Chief Executive Officer, Marine Institute





# 1 YEAR IN REVIEW

## Snapshot of 2022 in the Marine Institute

**€7.6 MILLION**

The amount of new research investments awarded under the Institute's Marine Research Programme, including €4.7 million for ship-time and €2.9 million for research and innovation actions.

**4,164KM<sup>2</sup>**

The area of seabed mapped in the Celtic Sea by the Marine Institute as part of the INFOMAR programme, undertaken in partnership with Geological Survey Ireland.

**33.4%**

Energy saving made by the Institute's headquarters at Oranmore, Galway, since joining Optimising Power @ Work in 2015.

**13,000**

Children in 14 coastal counties took part in the Explorers Education Programme (which delivered more than 400 modules in 2022).

**571**

Survey days undertaken collectively in 2022 by research vessels *Celtic Explorer*, *Celtic Voyager* and the newly commissioned *Tom Crean*.

**12**

Shipwrecks were surveyed offshore in the Celtic Sea as part of INFOMAR's survey operations.

**25**

The number of years that the RV *Celtic Voyager* was in service at the Marine Institute, beginning in July 1997 and retiring in July 2022.

**3,715**

Samples for fish health were analysed for surveillance and diagnostic purposes. This testing supported Ireland's high health in 2022.

**542,000**

Fish and shellfish were measured during the 2022 EUMAP programme with age data collected from nearly 51,000 individuals across all commercial species sampling programmes.

**€2.63 MILLION**

The value of Horizon Europe funding applications which the Institute was successfully awarded in 2022 (six as a single applicant and a further two as a third party).



# DIRECTORS' STATEMENTS

## Corporate Services

Throughout 2022, our Corporate Services team provided Governance, Human Resource, Finance, Facilities, Procurement, Library, Data Protection and Communications services to the Institute. The team's contribution enables and supports our colleagues in their scientific, research, policy and other service provision. It also continues to underpin our Governance Structures and the strategic enablers of Our People, Engagement and Education, and Infrastructure.

### Highlights of 2022 include:

- We continued our commitment to the recruitment, retention and development of talent, supporting a culture of high performance, driven by our People, whose skills, experience and passion for the marine are central to the work we perform for Government and other stakeholders.
- The Institute retained platinum certification from the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) against Excellence Through People (ETP) 1000:2017 (a national human resource management scheme). Maintaining this platinum certification recognises the Institute's investment in and commitment to our teams and people management processes, and reflects the contribution of all managers and teams.
- Our Human Resource Team developed and facilitated the launch of our Blended Working Policies and Pilot after a period of policy development and consultation. This policy contributes to a work environment which attracts, supports and retains an agile and high performing workforce.
- We published our 2021-2023 Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Plan, which includes our commitment to Gender Equality and publishing related important metrics.
- All of our operations remain underpinned by strong, best practice corporate governance and financial management. We continue to maintain the highest Governance Standards to comply with the 2016 *Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies*. Our annual programme of internal and external audits reported no high risk findings. We thank the members of the Audit & Risk Committee and the Board for their oversight and support in this area.

- Many of our team supported colleagues in the procurement, build and delivery of the new national marine research vessel, the RV *Tom Crean*. This is a significant milestone in the history of the Institute and we are pleased to have contributed to the financial, governance and legal oversight of the successful build.
- Our Communications Team continued to inform society on the value of Ireland's marine resource, the importance of our ocean and the work of the Marine Institute. Of particular note were the communications efforts around the delivery and commissioning of the RV *Tom Crean* and the hosting of the ICES Annual Science Conference.



- We produced our first Climate Action Roadmap in 2022. This outlines how the Institute will work towards the new targets for energy usage reduction (50%) and Green House Gas reduction (51%), as set out in the Climate Action Plan 2021. The roadmap outlines our project pipeline, which include transition to renewable technologies and other energy reduction measures to be implemented between 2023 and 2030.

I thank all of my colleagues in Corporate Services for their dedication and expert delivery throughout 2022 while exemplifying the Institute's core values of commitment, integrity, excellence, innovation, collaboration, and respect.

We appreciate the support of our colleagues, partners and stakeholders and look forward to continued success in 2023.

**Ms Patricia Orme**  
Director, Corporate Services

## Policy, Innovation and Research Services (PIRS)

The Marine Institute is both a research performer and a research funder and, in addition, it holds responsibility for coordinating national marine research & innovation (R&I) and supporting Irish-based researchers to achieve success in international programmes.

Policy, Innovation and Research Services (PIRS) provide a range of administrative, coordination and support functions that underpin this multi-layered role of the Institute with respect to R&I. PIRS' work also includes a broad range of policy support functions.

These include the provision of socio-economic data and evidence services to support integrated marine policy and planning, as well as working in partnership with Enterprise Ireland on the promotion of 'Marine Ireland' through the Marine Ireland Industry Network (MIIN).

### Highlights of 2022 include:

- Institute researchers being awarded a combined €11.7 million in research funding under the Horizon 2020 programme which concluded in 2021, exceeding the original target of €8 million set at the outset of the programme.
- Our competitive marine research funding programme, managed by the Research Funding Office, administered €7.6 million in new research investments in 2022. This included €4.7 million for ship-time on the research vessels and remotely operated vehicle; and €2.9 million on research projects. The ship-time programme made 27 awards, supporting 265 combined research days at sea on the RV *Celtic Explorer*, the RV *Celtic Voyager* and the RV *Tom Crean*.
- Four post-doctoral fellowships with total approved funding of €1.6 million, six Cullen Scholarships (total investment of €550,000) and two new EU co-funded investments linked to the Blue Bio ERA-Net and a JPI Oceans call on underwater noise in the marine environment were initiated in 2022.
- Impact 2030, Ireland's new national research & innovation strategy, was launched during 2022. It includes a specific action "to position Ireland as an international leader in marine research." The Institute will work with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) to support progress under this specific Impact 2030 action and others that are relevant.

- In June, the Our Shared Ocean programme was formally launched at an event onboard the Irish naval vessel, the *George Bernard Shaw*. With funding of €3.8 million provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs, this is a new and exciting programme managed by the Institute and fostering cooperation between Irish researchers and researchers based in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to address critical climate and ocean challenges faced by SIDS in different parts of the world.
- A key achievement in 2022 was the development and finalisation of a Gender Equality Plan for the organisation. The plan will ensure that as a research organisation, we integrate gender perspectives across all of our research programmes and actively seek to achieve gender equality and equal opportunities for all principal investigators, scientific leads, researchers and students.
- The Institute was successful in six Horizon Europe funding applications and a further two as a third party. The total value of awards in 2022 comes to €2.63 million.
- With the support of our International Programmes Manager, Ireland achieved a high degree of success in national and international competitive marine research. As of the end of 2022, Irish-based researchers have been awarded a total of €27.8 million for participation in marine research projects across all parts of the EU Horizon Europe programme.
- The Horizon Europe Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) was approved for funding and formally started in September 2022. SBEP is a cooperation between 60 partners including national research funders from 25 European countries and the European Commission with funding of €450 million committed over a seven-year programme (2022-2028).
- PIRS continued to play a leadership role in key international marine science networks including the European Marine Board and JPI Oceans. In 2022, the Marine Institute took the lead to establish in international research action on Blue Carbon through JPI Oceans. This is attracting substantial interest and should move from scoping stage to implementation in 2023.
- Two excellent symposia were organised by our Funding Office bringing together Marine Institute-funded post-doctoral fellows and postgraduate Cullen and Eoin Sweeney scholars respectively to present their research and to foster integration and interdisciplinary cooperation.

- Further progress on the development of a new national marine R&I strategy was also made in 2022. The new strategy will be called 'Ocean Knowledge 2030' and will be published in 2023.
- Following the recruitment of two dedicated economists into the policy support team at the end of 2021, PIRS worked closely with University of Galway researchers to deliver Ireland's Ocean Economy Report in December. The strategic partnership the Institute has with experts in the Socio-Economic Marine Research Unit (SEMRU) in the University, has allowed the Institute to build additional knowledge and skills in line with the Marine Institute's Strategy (Strategic Focus Area 4, Ireland's Ocean Economy).
- PIRS continued to provide leadership in and support to the national blue bioeconomy sector, including via representation on fora such as the Bioeconomy Implementation Group, raising awareness and networking through education and engagement, providing input to the Bioeconomy Action Plan, and funding through the BlueBio Cofund.

2022 was a very busy and productive year for the PIRS service area. As this is the final year of the Marine Institute Strategic Plan 2018-2022, the Institute has met and exceeded its research targets and continues to play a critical role in delivering, coordinating and promoting Irish marine research at both national and international level.

I am extremely grateful to all of my colleagues in the PIRS service area and across the organisation who continue to demonstrate great dedication and innovation in delivering key strategic goals for the Marine Institute and for Ireland in respect of marine research & innovation.

**Dr. Niall McDonough**  
Director - Policy, Innovation and Research Services

## Marine Environment and Food Safety Services (MEFSS)

Delivering scientific services to meet the needs of our major clients and stakeholders comprised the main element of the work programme of Marine Environment and Food Safety (MEFSS) in 2022. The section's focus is on the provision of quality science-based support towards the protection of marine environment, monitoring and advising on marine legislation requirements for Government, and ensuring the protection of consumer seafood safety.

In 2022, a full programme of services was accomplished by the team, working alongside our Institute colleagues. The services and advice are key components in the delivery of Strategic Focus Area 1 (Scientific Advice and Services), but our work in MEFSS also contributes to the other Strategic Focus Areas and Enablers.

MEFSS perform a suite of scientific roles in national and international legislation and obligations, as well as providing advisory services to support sustainable development and management of the marine environment.

### Core functions in MEFSS during 2022 included:

- Carrying out laboratory analyses that support the implementation of national environmental, Seafood Safety and Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring programmes and animal health monitoring programmes.
- Directly talking and cooperating with other agencies to obtain samples to support these analyses.
- Interpreting and advising government and its agencies on the results of such monitoring programmes and suggesting appropriate course of actions.
- Advising Government generally on issues relating to the marine environment and food safety, and advice to support foreshore and aquaculture licensing decisions.
- Preparation for the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) of Appropriate Assessments Reports for licensing of Aquaculture activities in Natura 2000 sites.
- Supporting Ireland's seafood sector through direct advice to industry and development agencies, and ensuring that Irish seafood exports have the benefit of world-class food safety standards and environmental protection credentials.
- Carrying out targeted and applied research to support the above activities.

- Seafood component of National Residues Control Programme to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).
- Inspections and monitoring of movements of fish and shellfish stocks as required under EU Animal Health Law.
- Completion of the Transitional and Coastal Waters elements of the National Water Framework Directive 2016-2021 monitoring programme.
- Delivery of key Marine Strategy Framework Directive milestones and Marine Climate Change monitoring.
- Activities and deliverables under the OSPAR convention, assessment on the impacts of hazardous substances, eutrophication, ocean acidification and human activities in the North East Atlantic to contribute towards the OSPAR Quality Status Report 2023.
- Support to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) to implement the National Marine Planning Framework.
- Planning for activities under the new EMFAF 2023-2027 Marine Knowledge Scheme continued in 2023.
- Quality accreditation across our advisory and laboratory functions.

In 2022, MEFSS continued to play a strong support role for the work of DAFM in several areas, notably in shellfish safety where continuing monitoring of biotoxin and microbiological quality ensures the high standard of Irish shellfish available in national and international markets.

During 2022, approximately 5,150 shellfish samples were analysed from classified aquaculture production and offshore dredged areas for marine biotoxins and E. coli analysis, and also through laboratory research monitoring programmes for Norovirus analysis.

3,330 water samples were analysed for the presence of causative toxin producing and harmful algal bloom phytoplankton species. This volume of analysis ensures the highest levels of food safety, compliance with legislative requirements and supports the Irish aquaculture industry.

Other DAFM supports were provided in aquatic animal health surveillance inspections of approved shellfish and fish establishments, and the authorisation of over 2,000 movements of aquaculture animals for import, export and internal purposes.

3,715 samples for fish health were analysed for surveillance and diagnostic purposes. This testing supported Ireland's high health in 2022 and no diseases listed as notifiable in EU Regulation were recorded during the year. 132 farmed fish samples were collected for testing for a wide range of chemical residues under the 2022 National Residues Control Plan.

1,258 samples were collected during 345 Water Framework Directive sampling events in Transitional and Coastal waters resulting in c. 6,800 water chemistry measurements. Approximately 6,000 measurements of environmental contaminants in biota supported various environmental and food safety monitoring requirements.

The multidisciplinary Winter Environmental Survey was carried out for its 12th straight year. The survey encompasses sampling of offshore and coastal waterbodies around the coast of Ireland for a range of chemical and biological parameters.

During 2022, we continued to provide scientific advice to Government and industry on marine licensing for activities such as aquaculture, foreshore and offshore oil and gas. In compliance with the Birds & Habitats Regulations, we actively participate in the Appropriate Assessment of the impacts of aquaculture activities on Natura 2000 sites by preparing supporting reports and evaluating applications.

We also provided input to the screening of applications to determine whether a supporting Environmental Impact Statement is required. In 2022, a considerable amount of objective scientific opinion was provided on relevant environmental issues related to aquaculture licence applications, in particular salmon licensing, as part of our advisory remit to DAFM.

The Institute's assistance in supporting the implementing new marine planning processes is acknowledged as a great example of cross-Government team work, and the availability of marine data is a key enabler for marine planning decision-making.

I would like to express my gratitude to the MEFSS team who contributed to this collective effort through commitment and consistently high standard of service delivery, and to my colleagues across the Institute and all our stakeholders for their cooperation, collaboration and inspiration in maintaining the highest standards.

**Mr Joe Silke**  
Director - Marine Environment and Food Safety Services

## Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS)

The Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS) team provides the scientific advice that supports the sustainable management of our living marine resources. This service underpins Ireland's Seafood Sector, which was worth over €1.3 billion in 2022 to the Irish economy.

The key client for our advice is the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and the main delivery mechanism is the Stock Book and the Shellfish Stock Book, which were delivered to DAFM during 2022. The web based interactive application of the Stock Book was launched in November alongside the traditional printed and electronic versions. These Marine Institute advisory services are key components in the delivery of Strategic Focus Area 1 of the Marine Institute's Strategic Plan.

In 2022, the restrictions imposed by Covid-19 were resolved through the latter half of the year and although restrictions on access to fish catches continued, these were largely mitigated through close co-operation with the industry and processing sectors and the resourcefulness of the FEAS team. As things moved to the new normal of hybrid meetings and new ways of doing business during the year, FEAS continued to provide support to DAFM in an uninterrupted way, continuously innovating ways to integrate and present complex data sets in the delivery of scientific advice to decision makers.

### Highlights of 2022 include:

- The essential activities of sampling increased with 542,000 Fish and shellfish measured during 2022 and over 30 data calls responded to under the Data Collection Multiannual Programme (DCMAP).
- The Institute worked very closely with Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) throughout 2022 to support DAFM in the development of European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) plans. This work came to fruition in December, with the adoption of the 2022-2027 EMFAF Operational Programme which will fund much of the Institute's seagoing, biodiversity and fisheries work for the next five years.
- Engaging with stakeholders is a very important part of the scientific advisory process. The Irish Fisheries Science Research Partnership (IFSRP) continued in 2022, and FEAS worked through this forum to improve our sea sampling effectiveness.

- FEAS continued to leverage Marine Institute influence at international level through the International Council for the Exploitation of the Sea (ICES). FEAS has a prominent leadership role in ICES and made significant impacts into how this organisation is addressing important issues for Ireland such as the quality and consistency of scientific advice.
- In 2022, FEAS chaired 13 different working groups and two of the seven ICES steering groups. In July, a FEAS expert was appointed to the newly reconstituted Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF). This was the first time that the Marine Institute was represented on the committee since 2015.
- Innovative research is crucial to "future proof" the Institute's scientific advisory services. FEAS had a very successful year in securing research funding, being successful in three major Horizon Europe calls. These research projects reflect the increased profile and broader aspects of Marine Institute work, covering areas such as cumulative ecosystem effects, Marine Protected Areas, and carbon understanding in the ocean using ecosystem modelling.
- Significant investment continued in the Newport research facility, and experts from Newport are now engaged in technical oversight groups for national diadromous research and assessments, captive breeding of endangered pearl mussels. There were seminal publications from long term research on Salmonid genetics, and catchment environmental observations.

Meeting the needs of decision makers in 2022, through a broad portfolio of scientific advisory programmes, was achieved through great teamwork within FEAS and within the wider Marine Institute.

Our close working relationship with colleagues in OCIS (Infrastructure; Research Vessel Operations; Data), PIRS (Research Funding Support), MEFSS (MSFD; NATURA, Aquaculture) and Corporate Services (People; Finance; Procurement) ensured a very high quality scientific service to our key client (DAFM) and a satisfied customer.

### Dr Ciaran Kelly

Director - Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services

## Ocean Climate and Information Services (OCIS)

With continued challenges imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic and other challenges created through significant increases in fuel and energy costs, Ocean Climate and Information Services (OCIS) continued to provide quality science-based services to a wide range of internal, national and international clients and stakeholders, and particularly Government.

Particular progress was made with the delivery of the RV *Tom Crean* while delivering a full operational schedule for two vessels across the year, the strengthening and consolidation of marine observational infrastructure activities and a heightened focus on data integration and delivery of digital services underpinned by an internationally accredited Quality Management Framework.

OCIS staff participated in a wide range of internal, national, European and international programmes and were active across a significant number of EU-funded projects, aligned to the Institute's strategic priorities.

### Significant highlights in 2022 included:

- The completion of the build and delivery of the RV *Tom Crean*, on time and on budget, in July, and its commencement of service for the Institute in late July.
- After 20 very busy years of survey activity, the RV *Celtic Explorer* had a number of engineering surveys and underwent removal, overhaul and re-installation of its main propulsion motors.
- The retirement of the RV *Celtic Voyager* and its completion of successful surveys right up to its retirement day, which fell in July 2022, exactly 25 years after its first survey in July 1997.
- Between all three vessels, a total of 571 survey days were completed with a total of 12 surveys on *Celtic Explorer*, 13 surveys on *Celtic Voyager*, 17 on *Tom Crean* and the ROV *Holland I* completed two research surveys.
- The *Celtic Explorer* completed a challenging survey in the Labrador Sea in the Spring and a ROV survey in the high Arctic in August /September on behalf of the Norwegian MAREANO programme.
- Advanced Mapping Services (AMS) mapped 4,164 km<sup>2</sup> of Celtic Sea seabed during 81 vessel days onboard the three vessels, as part of the INFOMAR programme. This involved acquisition of 12,155 km (survey line kilometres) of multibeam data, investigation of 12 shipwrecks, and acquisition of 53 seabed samples.
- AMS continued to deliver a range of value-added opportunities linked to user demands, commercial markets and external funding sources, supporting the Marine Institute strategy implementation. This included leading the H2020 Mission Atlantic work package on Benthic Mapping: ecosystem, resources and pressures, co-delivery of the INFOMAR-developed, Masters modules, AMS coordination and wrap up of a range of European Maritimes and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) projects.
- AMS undertook both the final science survey prior to decommissioning of the RV *Celtic Voyager*, and the inaugural survey onboard the newly commissioned RV *Tom Crean*.
- The Science Foundation of Ireland (SFI) co-funded EirOOS ocean observation system successfully concluded scientific missions at the Goban Spur off the southwest of Ireland in 2022. This mission supported international scientific effort for monitoring changes to the Gulf Stream through the North Atlantic Current mooring array.
- The two global sea level observing stations (GLOSS) international standard sea level monitoring stations at Howth Harbour, Co. Dublin, and Union Hall, Co. Cork, purchased and installed through the EirOOS ocean observation award became operational in 2022. They relay data to global sea level data centres, contributing to a better understanding of climate induced sea level rise.
- Eight major projects on ocean observing and forecasting continued this year: CE2COAST, BioCeltic, EuroSea, FORCOAST, iFADO, CleanAtlantic, MyCoast and COMPASS. FORCOAST and COMPASS concluded in 2022 and a new Horizon Europe project called Euro GO-SHIP started in December.
- The Irish Marine Data Buoy Observation Network (IMDBON) exceeded its target of delivering near real-time data to Met Éireann's operational forecast centre >90% of the year.
- The Oceanographic and Climate services (OCS) group continued to work with climate stakeholders, including the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and other government departments and local authorities, in defining the climate services they need for the marine domain. OCS supported DAFM and the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) in the reporting of Climate Actions for 2022 and the formulation of the marine components of the Climate Action Plan 2023.
- OCS continued to support Ireland's climate change research with a successful major oceanographic survey off the west coast in early summer.

- A new climate model for the Celtic Sea has been developed and tested under the EMFF programme.
- The upgraded web application for search and rescue, ADRIFT, is now in routine use by the RNLI. A high number of requests for measured and modelled data was received from the research community, renewable energy industry and the Department of Transport, amongst others.
- New IT capabilities were introduced to support data process digitalisation, including cloud-based tools to process and analyse data from oceanographic sensors, with online dashboards and map viewers providing enhanced public access to marine-related data.
- Over 80 Institute data processes are now managed by the Institute's Data Management Quality Management Framework, with over 400 TB of data stored in the Institute's new storage infrastructure, and 718 datasets available online.
- As part of the DAFM AQUAMIS programme to digitalise the aquaculture licensing process, the Institute has developed an online aquaculture licensed sites viewer, available to the public.
- As part of the services provided to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), more than 24 new maps and other data visualisations were developed to support the Marine Strategy Framework Directive programme.
- Institute online data-related services were visited in excess of 103,000 times in 2022. An additional 282 manual data requests were serviced which provided for more customised queries with a focus on oceanography and water quality data.

The wide range of services, described in this report, reflects the commitment, expertise and exemplary teamwork of the staff of OCIS working with the wider Marine Institute, our collaborators and contractors, against the challenging backdrop of Covid-19. I want to thank and commend the extended OCIS group for their efforts.

#### Mr Michael Gillooly

Director - Ocean Climate and Information Services

## Irish Maritime Development Office (IMDO)

The Irish Maritime Development Office (IMDO) has a mandate to develop the Irish maritime industry and to provide policy advice to the Minister and Department of Transport on maritime issues. Its role has been particularly pertinent in recent years because of the challenges associated with Brexit, the Covid-19 pandemic, and the war in Ukraine, all of which have had profound effects on the maritime industry.

Notwithstanding the lingering effects of these events, trade volumes recovered to pre-pandemic levels in 2022. Although trade volumes recovered, Brexit resulted in a shift in trade patterns and greater reliance on direct routes to continental Europe.

The performance of the maritime industry in responding to such challenges was commendable and underlines the industry's innate resilience and agility. Through our work as advisor to the Minister and the Department of Transport and through our business development activities and the supports we provide for research, education and training, the IMDO made an important contribution to the industry in 2022. We continue to play an indispensable role and have a positive impact by building strong relationships with key stakeholders, providing evidence based advice to policy makers, and working with industry partners to advance the interests of the maritime industry.

This year, the importance of developing the Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) industry in Europe was underscored by the war in the Ukraine, bringing Europe's reliance on Russian oil and gas into sharp relief. Like other member states, Ireland has ambitious plans to reduce our usage of fossil fuels and move closer to energy independence. These ambitions can be realised by exploiting Ireland's wind energy resources.

The Climate Action Plan requires Ireland to generate 7GW of offshore wind energy by 2030 and Irish ports are required to play a pivotal role in ensuring these targets are met, through the provision of adequate port infrastructure. Working closely with Departmental colleagues, the IMDO has been active in preparing Irish ports to meet this challenge.

IMDO policy advice informed a Policy Statement on the development of ORE infrastructure in Irish Ports, published in late 2021. This policy statement brought about the creation of development plans in four Irish ports in 2022 and in applications being prepared for funding under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF). Furthermore, a Ports Coordination Group was established, chaired by the Department of

Transport and made up of representatives of the ports industry. This Group, of which the IMDO is a member, coordinates the response of Irish ports to the challenging demands for ORE infrastructure and ensures policy alignment.

In 2022, the IMDO also played an active role as a member of the advisory group to Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan 2 (OREDP 2) and worked with the Department of Transport in the ORE Development Task Force. In summary, 2022 saw ORE emerge a pressing national objective of strategic importance, the success of which is intrinsically linked to the successful development of ORE infrastructure in Irish ports. The IMDO worked with the Department to ensure that ports will be ready to fulfil this role.

This year, the IMDO's term as Pillar Coordinator for Ports in the Atlantic Strategy came to an end and responsibility was transferred to Spanish counterparts. It was a highly successful term, built on a roadmap that advanced critically important topics in the ports industry - Digitalisation, Connectivity, Decarbonisation, and Ports as Hubs for Business. These topics were discussed at a workshop series that was held during our term as Pillar Coordinator. It's notable that the incoming Pillar Coordinator from Spain has adopted the themes in the roadmap for the Ports Pillar to 2024. Ireland's success as Pillar Coordinator for ports was recognised by other member states and resulted in the IMDO being invited to remain part of the Ports Pillar Task Force.

This experience was invaluable and placed Ireland at the centre of a network that is influential in maritime policy development and active in important areas of research and innovation. The IMDO's participation in the Atlantic Strategy is indicative of a general approach, taken throughout 2022, to foster good relationships at a European level and to drive the Irish maritime agenda.

The continued development of shipping services was another striking feature of 2022, which saw new routes being opened and existing routes expanded.

Notwithstanding the unprecedented increase in shipping capacity that occurred in response to Brexit in 2021, additional capacity was added in 2022, the net result of which was to offer Irish importers and exporters more choice than ever before. This outcome highlights the competitiveness and openness of the Irish shipping sector and the readiness of Irish ports to react speedily and effectively to changes in market circumstances.

The IMDO's development mandate is discharged by promoting Ireland as a country of enormous opportunity across all sectors of its maritime industry, giving strong voice to the development ambitions contained in Government policies that relate to port expansion for ORE development and the transition to alternative fuels. In 2022, IMDO supported the important efforts of Irish ports to attract CEF funding for development projects and advanced the International Fast and Secure Trade Lanes project that will result in the digitalisation of important processes in the maritime industry, leading to increased efficiency and competitiveness.

Overall, 2022 was a year of recovery for the maritime industry in Ireland. It was also a year that witnessed the emergence of an important new sector, namely ORE, which represents an enormous opportunity for Ireland to achieve the twin objectives of carbon neutrality and energy independence.

Irish ports will rise to the challenge and have begun to respond to ORE demand, being ready, willing and able to provide the services that will allow wind farms to be built and maintained off our coasts. This project is one that will profoundly affect rural development and will create jobs in parts of the country that find it difficult to attract start-up companies of Foreign Direct Investment. The IMDO was centrally involved in these efforts throughout the year.

The results achieved by the IMDO are a team effort and rely on the excellence of our people, the support of the Department of Transport and the collaboration of industry stakeholders. 2022 was a challenging year that saw progress being made in restoring volumes in Irish ports and foundations being laid to support emerging sectors of national strategic importance. I would like to express my gratitude to all those who contributed to the work of IMDO in 2022 and I look forward to continued support in the years ahead.

#### Mr Liam Lacey

Director - Irish Maritime Development Office



# STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS & STRATEGIC ENABLERS

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# STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA 1

## Scientific Advice and Services

The advice and services provided to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and other government departments, agencies and stakeholders are essential to achieving a sustainable ocean economy, protecting and managing our marine ecosystems and meeting EU obligations. The services provided by the Marine Institute support a range of commercial activities and important statutory requirements across fisheries, aquaculture, food safety, maritime transport and environmental compliance. Scientific advice and services are key deliverables for our parent department and main client DAFM, drawing on work in other areas of work in the strategic plan.

The Marine Institute conducts a broad range of data collection and monitoring programmes, including research vessel surveys, seabed mapping and laboratory analyses that provide the basis for our advice and services. These data are also crucial for an increased understanding of our oceans and climate, and provide a foundation for applied research and innovation.

The management of these diverse data sets and the ability to combine and use them in different ways is increasingly important to the delivery and evolution of integrated advice. It also supports implementation of key marine policies and directives such as the Common Fisheries Policy, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Water Framework Directive and the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive. Modelling, statistical analysis, spatial analysis and the interpretation of these diverse data sets, enable us to deliver services to our clients and stakeholders.

### Marine Environment and Food Safety Services (MEFSS)

Scientific advice and services provided by the MEFSS team is generated from comprehensive monitoring programmes administered by five integrated 'units' within the service area underpinned by our Accredited Quality Management System:

- Shellfish safety.
- Fish health.
- Marine environmental chemistry.
- Licensing and Policy Advice.
- Marine Spatial Planning.

Monitoring and the provision of advice conducted by MEFSS staff is largely driven by EU Directive requirements, with national statutory instruments, reflective of these directives. Below is a summary of the monitoring and advisory services of these units in 2022 in relation to Scientific Advice and Services.

#### Shellfish Safety

The Shellfish Safety section employs a diverse array and range of biological, chemical, and molecular methodologies to fulfil its statutory monitoring obligations and laboratory testing services in ensuring that shellfish produced and harvested from offshore and inshore classified aquaculture production areas which are placed on the market for human consumption are safe to eat. This protects the consumer and supports the quality and reputation of Irish shellfish and its industry.

Our work is conducted in close co-operation with the Competent Authorities, the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) with a strong collaboration with the shellfish aquaculture industry. Ireland has a diverse and varied production of bivalve molluscan shellfish species around its coastline, encompassing over 100 classified production areas for the production and harvesting of marine shellfish species, including mussels, Pacific and native oysters, clams, cockles, razor clams and scallops.



The remit of the Shellfish Safety section is three-fold:

- To provide analysis of shellfish and water samples for official control, in the fields of biotoxin, phytoplankton, and microbiological national monitoring programmes, throughout the year, often on a weekly basis. In all these analyses, a rapid result report turnaround and communication to the Competent Authorities and the shellfish industry is essential.
- The provision and presentation of a wide range of scientific advice and data to a variety of national stakeholders; including government departments, Competent Authorities, state agencies and the shellfish industry/IFA Aquaculture. On the international platform, our advice and data is presented to parent European Union Reference Laboratories (EURL's), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), and EU working/expert groups on live bivalve molluscs (LBMs), and through a wide range of international scientific working groups and organisations (International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) and conferences.
- To conduct and engage in national and international research designed to deliver relevant and appropriate data, information and knowledge in order to support and improve our statutory monitoring programmes and laboratory testing services in the area of food safety.

The Shellfish Safety section is comprised of three laboratory disciplines, **Shellfish Microbiology**, **Phytoplankton** and **Biotoxins**, where all laboratory methods employed in these disciplines are accredited to ISO 17025 standards. They are also conducted in compliance with legislative requirements with those as laid down in the relevant EU legislations (mainly 853/2004, 625/2017 and 627/2019) and to meet the requirements of the Competent Authorities. We are the designated National Reference Laboratories (NRL) for Ireland for both marine biotoxins and microbiology.

#### Shellfish Microbiology

Under our obligations as the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for E. coli (shellfish only) we manage the E. coli testing programme in support of the annual classification of bivalve shellfish production areas in Ireland. This involves the review of test results and the monitoring of the technical competency of the laboratories contracted to provide E. coli testing in live bivalve molluscs (LBMs).

A significant proportion of our laboratory testing relates to norovirus where, as the NRL for foodborne viruses (shellfish only), we provide norovirus testing to the Competent Authorities in Ireland: the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) in response to bivalve shellfish related outbreaks and other work requests. In addition, a new norovirus testing project was established between the Institute and Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) to address the ongoing requirement for norovirus testing and analysis for the Irish Oyster Packers Group, providing quality assurance for Irish oyster exports.

#### Marine Biotoxins

Marine biotoxins are naturally occurring compounds which are produced by a small number of toxigenic phytoplanktonic species, which are ingested by filter feeding bivalve molluscs, where these toxins can accumulate within the tissues of the shellfish. Whilst not causing any direct harm to the shellfish, if these intoxicated shellfish are consumed, the ingested toxins can give rise to several associated human illness syndromes when toxic concentrations are above regulatory levels. We provide a comprehensive biotoxin monitoring programme using highly sensitive chemical instrumentation and methods, which ensures all product placed on the market are below EU regulatory levels.

In Ireland, there are four marine biotoxin groups which can occur, which are known to cause the following human illnesses (poisonings):

- Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning (ASP).
- Azaspiracid Shellfish Poisoning (AZP).
- Diarrhetic Shellfish Poisoning (DSP).
- Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP).



During 2022, 2,882 shellfish samples for the national monitoring programme were analysed by chemical methods (LC-MS/MS & UPLC) for the detection and quantification of the above toxin groups and their associated compounds. This number of samples gave rise to 12,727 analyses.

To summarise, biotoxin concentrations from all four toxin groups occurred above regulatory levels in several shellfish species:

- Diarrhetic Shellfish Toxins - observed above regulatory levels in mussels from the southwest and west in June and July. This Diarrhetic shellfish toxin event was one of the smallest and shortest events observed in recent years.
- Azaspiracid Shellfish Toxins - observed above regulatory levels in mussels and Pacific oysters during July and August in the southwest, and then from September to December in the west and northwest. This is the largest Azaspiracid toxin event observed in the last number of years.
- Amnesic Shellfish Toxins - observed above regulatory levels in non-scallop shellfish species during April in samples of mussels, oysters, and surf clams along the west coast, with one sample of surf clams in July from the south coast.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxins - observed at high concentrations (approximately 3 times above permitted regulatory level) in samples of mussels from one production area in the southwest throughout June and July.

#### Phytoplankton

Several phytoplankton species are toxigenic and known to be the causative organisms and source of the above mentioned biotoxins. Therefore, we conduct a comprehensive national monitoring programme on a weekly basis by microscopy methods, all year round, for the identification and enumeration of these known toxin producing/harmful algal species in seawater samples.

This monitoring programme provides valuable information to the Competent Authorities and industry on the presence of these species and the likelihood of their associated toxins occurring and accumulating in shellfish during incoming periods of toxicity, prior to regulatory levels potentially being exceeded and closure periods being enforced. We also regularly inform and provide advice to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and local county councils on water discoloration events caused by Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) species.

During 2022, 3,129 seawater samples were analysed via light microscopy for the national monitoring programme. The phytoplankton results support the toxic events in shellfish observed and as described above for the year.

The phytoplankton section also analyses water samples collected for the Water Framework Directive (WFD) from 18 sites on a monthly basis, throughout the year for both phytoplankton and chlorophyll analysis. In 2022, approximately 200 samples were submitted and analysed through the WFD monitoring programme

The data from the above national monitoring programmes is used to provide a weekly bulletin report to industry on the prediction and forecasting of the likelihood of any incoming toxin events into production area, therefore giving advance warning to industry of any potential closures. The data is also used to provide information on determining the appropriate frequency of shellfish testing as required during high and low risk periods.

#### Shellfish Safety Advisory Services

MEFSS has continued to provide supportive advice to the Competent Authorities in Ireland and at a European level on microbiological food safety issues associated with bivalve shellfish.

Following the review of *E. coli* monitoring in shellfish production area by the National Reference Laboratory for *E. coli* (shellfish only) in MEFSS, advice was again provided to the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) to assign appropriate classification to each shellfish production area for 2021. In addition, we support the Competent Authorities in Ireland (SFPA and FSAI) with advice relating to public health issues surrounding contamination of LBMs with human pathogenic viruses.

As the NRL for marine biotoxins and shellfish microbiology, there are several reports which are produced on a regular basis, and multiple fora where our data and scientific advice is presented. One forum is the Molluscan Shellfish Safety Committee (MSSC) which met four times during 2022, where the Marine Institute has been an integral part advising from the scientific and food safety perspectives on microbiological, biotoxin and phytoplankton topics and issues associated with shellfish harvesting and human consumption.

In 2022, the Shellfish Microbiology team published a study on the impact of Covid-19 non-pharmaceutical interventions on the extent of norovirus contamination in oyster production areas during winter 2020 to 2021 (Keaveney et al., 2022; *Journal of Food Protection*; doi: [10.4315/JFP-22-031](https://doi.org/10.4315/JFP-22-031)).

This study highlighted a significant reduction in norovirus levels detected in shellfish and the importance of ongoing monitoring now that all public health measures for Covid-19 have been lifted. In October, a seminar was presented to the MSSC on the potential risks for norovirus re-emergence for winter 2022 to 2023.

Through our marine biotoxin and phytoplankton monitoring programmes, our results are reported daily through our Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) database and website ([webapps.marine.ie/habs](http://webapps.marine.ie/habs)), which also present results in a graphical format which illustrates the patterns and trends in increasing or decreasing toxin concentrations in shellfish and toxin producing phytoplankton species cell numbers during toxic and HAB events. We also produce a weekly HAB bulletin which predicts and provides short term forecasts (3-5 day) on the likelihood of toxicity and HAB events occurring in production areas.

#### Fish Health

Ireland is free from all aquatic diseases listed as notifiable in EU regulation. Ireland has also taken measures to ensure freedom from additional diseases identified of national importance.

The Fish Health Unit (FHU) in the Marine Institute is the Competent Authority for implementation of EU regulations and additional aquatic animal health controls in Ireland. The FHU also hosts the National Reference Laboratories (NRLs) for finfish, mollusc and crustacean health which support the mission of maintaining Ireland's high aquatic health status by providing diagnostic and surveillance testing.

3,129

seawater samples were analysed via light microscopy for the national monitoring programme.

No notifiable diseases listed under Commission regulation (EU) 2016/429 were detected in commercial aquaculture production in 2022. One outbreak of koi herpesvirus (KHV) was identified in a Koi carp private pond in 2022. The disease was confirmed by laboratory testing by the FHU. KHV is controlled under national measures and Ireland is declared free of the disease. The disease was contained and movement restriction placed on the animals present in the pond.

#### Laboratory Activities

The FHU tested 1,787 fish for diagnostic, research or surveillance purposes in 2022. These were primarily Atlantic salmon (57%) but also included species used as cleaner fish on salmon farms (Lumpfish & wrasse) and trout (9%), with other species making up the remainder. In addition to the above, the FHU also screened 1,010 gill swabs, submitted from salmon farms, for *Neoparamoeba perurans*, the causative agent of Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD) which remains a disease with a significant impact on the salmon industry worldwide.

The FHU also tested 910 molluscs for diagnostic, research or surveillance purposes in 2022. During 2022 *V. aestuarianus* was detected in all Pacific oyster samples associated with mortalities events in 12 separate bays across Ireland.

In 2022, the FHU also provided NRL support to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This laboratory support facilitates operational activities in Northern Ireland under Official Control regulations required in Northern Ireland Protocol post-Brexit.



### Fish Health Competent Authority Activities

The Marine Institute is the Competent Authority for the implementation of aquatic animal health regulations in Ireland. The regulations address the health of aquaculture animals and lay down specific rules for the prevention and control of certain aquatic animal diseases. The regulations apply to finfish farms, shellfish farms, and put and take fisheries, and require that such aquaculture establishments obtain a Fish Health Approval (FHA) from the Competent Authority prior to operation.

In 2022, 14 new FHAs were granted to Aquaculture Production Businesses (APBs) in Ireland, bringing the total number of Approved Aquaculture Establishments ([fishhealth.ie/fhu/fish-health-authorisation/irish-aquaculture-production-businesses](https://fishhealth.ie/fhu/fish-health-authorisation/irish-aquaculture-production-businesses)) in the State at the end of 2022 to 423.

As the Competent Authority, the FHU co-ordinates the activities of Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) Veterinary Inspectors undertaking statutory health surveillance inspections. A total of 222 inspections of authorised fish and shellfish establishments were completed in 2022. The FHU also processed just over 2,000 applications for movements of live aquatic animals. This included imports, exports, and national movements.

In order to support trade with UK post-Brexit, in excess of 100 export certificates were issued by the CA for consignments of live animals. These consignments required inspection by Veterinary Inspectors, which were organised by the FHU.

During 2022, the FHU continued to provide technical support to DAFM colleagues operating the Border Control Posts to facilitate imports of aquatic animals compliant with Ireland's status.

Overall, the work of the FHU in 2022, in collaboration with the aquaculture industry and other key stakeholders, underpinned the national effort to maintain Ireland's high aquatic animal health status.

### Marine Chemistry

The Marine Chemistry section provides monitoring and scientific advisory services for a wide range of stakeholders to support legislative and other requirements. These are under three broad thematic areas: a) seafood safety - ensuring levels of environmental contaminants and veterinary residues and other substances in seafood are compliant with legislation and that best practices are adhered to by the aquaculture industry, b) pollution - monitoring water quality and chemical pollution and its effects in the marine environment, and c) ocean biogeochemistry - observing and understanding essential ocean viables and ocean change.

These activities are supported by applied research projects.

In 2022:

- The 2022-2027 Water Framework Directive (WFD) monitoring cycle in transitional and coastal waters was commenced. In 2022, 1,258 samples were collected during 345 sampling events resulting in c. 6,800 water chemistry measurements for a wide range of parameters. The results of the 2015-2021 cycle were reported for inclusion in the EPA's Water Quality in Ireland 2015-2021 assessment.
- The results of the 2021 National Residues Control Plan sampling and testing for farmed fish were reported in accordance with Official Control Regulation 2017/625 and Annexes of Council Directive 96/23/EC.

120 samples were collected and a total of 1,870 test results reported with no non-compliant results found. For 2022, 132 samples were obtained in accordance with the 2022 National Residue Control plan with results to be reported in June 2023 to DAFM and onwards to European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Additionally, 40 fish samples collected at Border Control Posts were tested for specified chemical residues as part of Safeguard plus routine surveillance of food imports of animal origin from a third country into the EU.

- Approximately 6,000 individual analytical measurements of environmental contaminants in biota were produced in 2022, supporting a variety of seafood safety and environmental monitoring programmes. 43 test reports were also issued to the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) for cadmium in whole crab to support export certification.
- An LCMS method for determination of 45 antibiotics in fish, used for monitoring veterinary residues in farmed fish, was added to the Marine Institute scope of accredited methods.
- Marine Chemistry provided advice to the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) in relation to Permits for Use and Discharge of Added Chemicals (3); to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ports in relation to dredging activities and Dumping at Sea Licensing (17), and to DAFM on water chemistry aquaculture monitoring reports.
- Experts strongly engaged in OSPAR commission committees and expert groups and associated monitoring and reporting in relation to hazardous substances, eutrophication, ocean acidification and climate change, offshore industry and human activities and contributed significantly to multiple regional assessments as part of the OSPAR Quality Status Report 2023. This was supported by national submissions to the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) data centre.

### Licensing and Policy Advice

#### Water Framework Directive (WFD)

During 2022, 390 grab samples were collected from 31 water bodies and analysed for benthic macro-invertebrates (species identification and abundance), particle size analysis and loss on ignition (Total Organic Matter). Of these, 114 samples were collected from eight coastal water bodies during the annual winter environmental survey aboard the RV *Celtic Voyager* in January 2022.

### Finfish Benthic Monitoring

The Benthos Ecology Group carried out its annual review of reports from finfish operators arising from benthic surveys to examine seabed conditions below fish cages in accordance with DAFM Benthic Monitoring Protocols. A review is prepared annually by the Benthos Ecology Group and is submitted to DAFM. In the review submitted to DAFM in 2022, 24 reports were received from 25 operational sites (96% reporting compliance).

Of the 24 sites for which reports were produced, 12 (50%) were considered to have acceptable environmental conditions (i.e. conditions were within the environmental standards identified in *Monitoring Protocol No. 1 for Offshore Finfish Farms - Benthic Monitoring, 2008*), 11 sites were considered to have unacceptable environmental conditions and one site submitted the report with insufficient information. Nine reports from sites active during 2022 were received in December 2022 and are currently under review.

### Aquaculture Licensing Advice

MEFSS continues to provide advice to DAFM to inform aquaculture licensing decisions that may have implications for marine Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and/or other environmental concerns. The numbers of aquaculture licence applications for consideration during 2022 (n=39), was considerably lower than previous years due to the clearing of the backlog of licences which was executed in no small part due to the numerous Natura 2000 Assessment carried out by the Marine Institute since 2011.

In 2022, highlights of MEFSS advice and technical support in this area included:

- Appropriate Assessments (AAs) reports were completed for seven marine Natura sites: Loughros Beg Bay, Bantry Bay, Carlingford Lough, Slyne Head Peninsula (Mannin Bay), Valentia Harbour, Kenmare Bay and Dunmanus Bay. All of these assessment reports are revisions of earlier AAs but were required on foot of additional (new) aquaculture applications being received by DAFM.
- Follow-on advice to AFMD-DAFM in relation to statutory and public submissions in relation to aquaculture licence applications was provided throughout the year.
- Ongoing monitoring of mitigation measures in relation to oyster culture and bird interactions continues in Dungarvan Harbour SPA, Bannow Bay SPA, Poulmasherry Bay (as part of the River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA) and Castlemaine Harbour.

RV *Celtic Voyager*  
Photo: David Branigan.





Marine Institute welcomes major ICES Conference to Ireland.  
Photo: Hugh Sweeney

- In addition, the modelling exercise of bird resources in Dungarvan Harbour SPA (i.e. Individual Based Models) was completed and a draft report produced.
- Additional monitoring of the Light Bellied Brent Geese Population in Trawbreaga Bay SPA was commissioned. This involves bird count surveys and a telemetry study.
- Additional benthic monitoring in North Inishowen Coast SAC was also carried out to inform licensing advice in this area.
- External contract service provision was commissioned for assistance with finfish licensing advice provision.
- New Offshore Finfish Benthic Monitoring Protocol drafted and submitted to DAFM for approval.
- Input provided to assist DAFM in drafting of standardised finfish licence conditions.
- Statutory advice was provided on 13 shellfish aquaculture licence applications. All advice was provided to DAFM within the 6-week time frame established in legislation.
- Ongoing management of MB09 - benthos core budget (€30,000).
- Ongoing management of EMFAF Natura budgets (Biodiversity programme);

- FL32 - €30,000 SPA AAs;
- FL33 - €20,000 SAC AAs;
- FL34 - €95,000 SEABA Multi Metric Indicator (MMI) development;
- FL36 - €110,000 Mitigation and monitoring at SPA sites;
- FL37 - €120,000 AA support Ornithology.

#### Other Advisory Services

- MEFSS provides a member to the EPA's Dumping at Sea Advisory Committee and advised on a number of maintenance dredging operations.
- MEFSS provides a member to the National Strategic Environmental Assessment Forum.
- MEFSS provides a member to the National Appropriate Assessment Forum.
- Provision of advice to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) and DAFM on 25 applications for foreshore leases/licences. Applications included site investigations related to the potential future development of offshore windfarms on the west coast and in the Irish and Celtic Seas, dredging of harbours, coastal protection works, wastewater treatment facilities in a number of coastal areas and hand harvesting of seaweed.

#### International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Annual Science Conference

The highlight of the year was the hosting of the ICES Annual Science Conference at the AVIVA Stadium in Dublin. In addition to the participation in the internal Marine Institute planning group, as the Science Committee Member from Ireland, Francis O'Beirn, hosted two meetings around the conference and was the primary contact point between the SCICOM who oversee the conference content and the Marine Institute.

The Conference was the first in-person conference in three years, with 500 in-person attendees plus 150 online.

In addition, Licensing and Policy Advice Section staff participated in a number of ICES expert groups and committees which are summarised below:

- Science Committee (SCICOM) - 5 meetings.
- Benthos Ecology Working Group (BEWG).
- Working Group on Marine Benthic and Renewable Energy Developments (WGMBRED).
- Working Group on Risk assessment of Environmental Interactions of Aquaculture (WGREIA).

- Working Group on Ecological Carrying Capacity in Aquaculture (WGECCA).
- Workshop on the Norwegian Sea Aquaculture Overviews (WKNORAO).
- Aquaculture Overviews Advice Drafting Group (ADGAO).
- Annual Science Conference (ASC) 2022 Subgroup - numerous meetings (FOB Chair).
- MI-ICES planning group (for ASC 2022) - numerous meetings.

#### Data Requests

- Data request - 'Occurrence data for native oyster *Ostrea edulis*; the blue mussel *Mytilus edulis*; *Serpula vermicularis*'.
- Data request- 'WFD Benthos monitoring data for Dublin Bay and the Lower Liffey Estuary. The most recent monitoring data and any status classification is priority but a historical perspective based on previous monitoring data'.
- Data request- 'WFD data 2020 and 2021'.
- Data request- 'All PSA data 2021'.

- Data request - 'Benthic data for Boyne, Boyne plume and NWIS'.
- Data request - 'Benthic data for Galway, Tralee and Clew Bay'.
- Data request - ML Heffernan - benthic reports for Mannin, Bertrabouy and Clifden Bays - 26 Oct - delivered 1 Nov.
- Data request - NUI Galway (UoG) WFD data for SEABA project - ongoing.
- Data request - 'Benthic invertebrate data for the east coast of Ireland'.

**Quality Management Framework (QMF)**

Two performance evaluations completed 2022:

- Benthos WFD.
- Benthos Natura AA.

**Benthic data integration and access project**

Following an ad-hoc Marine Institute group established by the Benthos Ecology Unit (BEU) in 2021, to bring together scientists with interest in the benthos and those gathering benthic data, a project was set up to improve benthic data integration and access.

The group comprised of Marine Institute scientists from OCIS, FEAS and MEFSS and represented broad interests such as inshore and off-shore fisheries, seafloor mapping, marine spatial planning, benthic ecology and monitoring data management, and modelling.

The project was funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) and ran throughout 2022. The project was initiated and managed by the BEU and OCIS, with Louise Healy and Frank Kane driving the data and scientific elements. The objective of the project was to support benthic data integration and access across the Institute with the intention of improving the supply of benthic data to the Water Framework Directive, EMODnet and Ireland's National Biodiversity Data Centre.

The project completed at the end of December, with some small tasks remaining to complete. The outcomes of the project included:

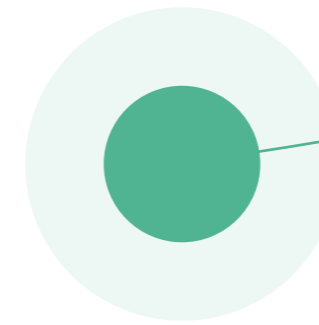
- Improving the maturity of a number of benthic datasets, which were moved from files into databases.
- Increasing data accessibility and utility by developing a centralised access to benthic data.

- Enabling efficient data discovery and sharing through the new benthic dashboard.

Benthic data, WFD data, and some fisheries data were moved to SQL databases, with other data to follow. A 'PowerBI' dashboard was created to allow overview access to these independent databases. Data can be identified and accessed through the dashboard. The dashboard also provides a route to make data more publicly available through platforms such as EMODNET or ERDAP, for use by external organisations. Benthic data is being made available to the National Biodiversity Data Centre.

**Marine Spatial Planning/Marine Strategy Framework Directive**

- The Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)/Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) Service Level Agreement team provided advice and services for MSP to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH). We ensured that the data and digital services were available to support the implementation of the National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF).
- 120+ Datasets covering the breadth of marine activities were sourced, analysed and published on a new marine planning portal ([marineplan.ie](http://marineplan.ie)). 94 datasets were submitted to EMODNet, the European marine spatial data portal.
- In December, DHLGH published an update to *Ireland's Marine Strategy Part 3: Programme of Measures*. Throughout the year, the Institute provided expert advice, data management and analysis services to DHLGH in preparing the report. All data were reported to the Commission (REPORTNET).
- The Marine Institute provided digital data services to support the delivery of data for the Service Level Agreement (SLA). Data management systems were established and spatial layers were published on Ireland's Marine Atlas and delivered to DHLGH for use in a web-based digital tool.
- The SLA Matrix Group met regularly to coordinate delivery of services across all teams at the Marine Institute.
- The Institute and DHLGH developed a monitoring approach for the National Marine Planning Framework which defines 78 environmental, social, economic and sectoral indicators and templates for data collection.
- The Socioeconomic team collated economic data and carried out a survey for the publication of the *Ocean Economy Report* in December.



- Marine Institute experts remain strongly engaged in OSPAR commission work in relation to hazardous substances and eutrophication, ocean acidification, offshore industry and human activities and biological diversity.
- Caitriona Nic Aonghusa is co-chair of the ICES Working Group Marine Planning and Coastal Zone Management (WGMPCZM) and convened its annual meeting in April.
- On-going delivery of products for DHLGH throughout 2022. These included storymaps, GIS assessment of Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECM) in Irish waters, data visualisations and activity ecosystem-based spatial products, chemistry data QC system, Cost Benefit Analysis for POMs.
- The team is supporting the emerging offshore wind developments by assisting with the implementation of the newly established Seafood-ORE (Offshore Renewable Energy) liaison group and supporting the OREDPII data group.
- EMFF BG MSP projects continued in 2022. Benthic data, climate, seaweed. The EMFF webinar series was completed on 2 March and was attended by 74 participants. Three ongoing MSP projects (Invasive Alien Species mapping, Socioeconomic study of seaweed and Climate Change modelling) were profiled.
- Throughout 2022, the Institute guided the development of the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) Seafood Development Plan which was published

in December. A budget of €6.3 million was allocated to the Marine Knowledge Scheme 2022-2027. Data and Digital Services and Climate work programmes were approved in principle.

- The team advise at national and international level by participating on technical expert groups, steering groups and stakeholder advisory group for both Marine Spatial Planning and Marine Strategy Framework Directives.

**Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS)**

**The Seafood Sector**

The seafood sector is a valuable contributor to Ireland's Blue Economy and contributed €1.3 billion to the Irish economy in 2022 (*BIM Business of Seafood 2022*). Irish aquaculture was valued at €196 million. The landed value of the fisheries resource base is worth €507 million (€336 million from Irish vessels and €171 million from foreign vessels) and providing the scientific advice that ensures the sustainable exploitation of these resources is a key part of Marine Institute work programmes.

The European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) is a very important funding mechanism for the Marine Institute's service delivery. The multiannual Union programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector (EU-MAP) is funded under EMFAF and is a central part of the scientific advice and technical support services provided by the Marine Institute to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) in relation to the Common Fisheries Policy. The areas of Marine Biodiversity and Marine Knowledge, as they pertain to Aquaculture and Fisheries, are also supported under the EMFAF Operational Programme

The Institute has responsibility for Ireland's EU-MAP and the updated 2023 to 2027 National Workplan was submitted and approved by the



Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) and the European Commission. The workplan include catch sampling at sea and in ports, internationally coordinated research survey programmes, inshore sampling and surveys including a self-sampling programme for the operators in the inshore fishing sector. It also includes socioeconomic evaluation of the fishing, fish processing and aquaculture sectors.

Over 542,000 fish/shellfish were measured during the 2022 EUMAP programme. Age data were collected from nearly 51,000 individuals across all commercial species sampling programmes and surveys to provide data for the aged-based models used in stock assessments.

In 2022, under the EU-MAP, 18 research surveys were carried out on a variety of commercially exploited species to provide the basic data that supports stock assessment. A total of 1,852 scientist days were spent at sea focused on a broad range of species including mackerel, blue whiting, herring, anglerfish, megrim, Nephrops, cockles, scallop, oyster, crab and lobster. New technologies were developed in Ireland and deployed on *Nephrops* surveys which are at the leading edge of how these surveys are conducted globally.

During 2022, whilst emerging from Covid-19 restrictions which impacted the operation of the annual sampling at sea programme, FEAS began to reinvigorate the At Sea Sampling programme, by retraining samplers who were inactive during the Covid restrictions and training new samplers to the programme.

The 'At Sea Self Sampling', originally developed by FEAS in conjunction with the fishing industry as a Covid mitigation measure, was further promoted and participation increased to help instigate a dual stream approach to at sea data collection. With the 'At Sea Self Sampling' programme, the fishers collect data and samples from a subset of hauls and bring ashore for FEAS staff to collect and analyse.

The 'At Sea Sampling' by its nature collects a more substantive dataset but each stream of data compliments the other and combined increase the number of at sea observations. A self-sampling framework was also established with the inshore fishing sector. This framework allocates specific amounts of work (data reporting and sampling) to skippers in the framework through mini-competition procedures.

Using modified post Covid-19 compliant protocols, it was possible to collect data at sea on a limited number of vessels and on vessels with less than 18 hours at sea. As expected, there was a

reluctance amongst some of the fleet to carry samplers as they themselves were limiting their possible exposure to Covid. In 2022, Marine Institute samplers spent a total of 271 days at sea collecting data on commercial catches on inshore, demersal and pelagic vessels.

The demersal fleet carried out an extra 26 'At Sea Self Sampling' trips and the inshore sector reported a total of 202 self-sampling trips under contract to the Marine Institute. The data sets collected at sea are critical inputs for the national and international stock assessment programmes and help provide the advice that is central to the sustainable exploitation of these species.

The Marine Institute also successfully responded to 30 official EU-MAP data calls. These data calls are a key performance indicator for Ireland's DCMAP programme. As well as basic data for stock assessment purposes, data calls also focused on by-catch of endangered species and on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs), to support decision making under Common Fisheries Policy.

Regional coordination of the EU-MAP was achieved through the Regional Coordination Group (RCG) of the North Atlantic, North Sea and Eastern Arctic (RCG NANSEA) through the work of 15 intersessional subgroups.

### International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

The Marine Institute continues to provide leadership and make a substantial contribution to ICES assessment and advisory work. In 2022, three Marine Institute scientists completed their three-year terms and chairs of key working groups (the Herring Assessment Working Group (HAWG), the Working Group on Widely Distributed stocks (WGWIDE) and the Working Group on NEPhrops Surveys (WGNEPS)).

Five other Marine Institute experts continue to chair various groups - Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE), Working Group on Science to Support Conservation, Restoration and Management of Diadromous Species (WGDIAD), Working Group on Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Surveys (WGMEGS), Working Group on Acoustic Trawl Data Portal Governance (WGAcousticGov) and Working Group on the Governance of Quality Management of Data and Advice (WGQuality).

Marine Institute scientists chaired three ICES benchmark meetings in 2022. In addition, Marine Institute scientists chaired two of the seven ICES steering groups (Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Steering Group (IEASG) and Fisheries Resources Steering Group (FRSG)).

### Summary of Marine Institute (FEAS participation) in ICES expert groups in 2022

ICES meeting type	Meetings Attended	Meetings Chaired
Stock Assessment Working Groups	12	3
ACOM Web Conference	10	0
ACOM Advice Drafting Groups	9	2
Benchmark Working Groups	8	3
Survey Working Groups	7	1
Data related Working Groups	6	2
Training and Coordination Groups	6	0
ICES Workshops	6	12
Ecosystem services and effects Working Groups	4	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>13</b>

In July, a Marine Institute expert was appointed to the newly reconstituted Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF). This was the first time that the Institute was represented on the committee since 2015.

Marine Institute experts regularly participate and chair key STECF expert groups which, in 2022, included the Fisheries Dependent Information (FDI), Assessment and advice for non-quota stocks (to support the development of multi-annual strategies in the context EU-UK), Balance/Capacity, Skates and rays management (Chaired by Marine Institute expert), Evaluation of Work Plans for data collection and data transmission issues.

Throughout 2022, the Institute carried out various analyses and provided scientific support to DAFM in relation to December Council, coastal states fisheries agreements, inshore fisheries and a wide range of other fisheries management topics.

In 2022, FEAS serviced 84 requests from DAFM and nine requests from other clients and stakeholders. The response time for the majority of these queries was within three days and the total working time associated with these requests was approximately 70 person-days.

The Marine Institute continued to work closely with Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) in 2022 on the Technical Expert Group on Salmon (TEGOS) which provides catch advice on all Irish salmon rivers on an annual basis and forms the basis for the advice to the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO) from ICES.

The Institute also provided scientific support to the EU delegation to NASCO for annual Council, Commission and Intersessional meetings. FEAS also provided at sea sampling support to the IFI for collection of at sea data from commercial angling charters.

The Marine Institute continues to provide expertise on the Technical Expert Group for Eel (TEGE) which co-ordinates the national eel monitoring programme and provides the technical stock annex for the triennial national eel management progress reports to the EU under EU Regulation (2007).

The Marine Institute support both IFI and ICES on an annual basis through the provision of data and advice, including the EU and ICES data calls. A Data Collection Framework (DCF) pilot study was completed with IFI to profile the recreational fisheries sector and assess the level of catches by species in recreational fisheries.

The Institute continued to oversee the operational running of the National Sea Lice Monitoring Programme (NSLMP) in 2022 with all active marine Atlantic salmon farms inspected. The annual report for the sea lice monitoring programme is published each year in the Irish Fisheries Bulletin.

Support to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) was provided in the area of marine biodiversity. This work focused on Ireland's obligations under OSPAR, the Regional Seas Convention for the North East Atlantic, and towards the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).

542,000  
Fish and shellfish were measured during the 2022 EUMAP programme.



Opening panel at the ICES Annual Science Conference. Photo: Sinéad Coyne.



Paul Connolly and Ciaran Kelly of the Marine Institute presenting the Stock Book 2022 to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue TD. Photo: Andrew Downes.

This work is partly funded under a Service Level Agreement between DHLGH and the Institute, with new staff recruited in 2021 and 2022. A particular achievement in 2022 was the completion of OSPAR assessments for the forthcoming OSPAR Quality Status Report 2023.

**The Stock Book**

Providing scientific support to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) is central to the work of the Marine Institute. The annual Stock Book, for demersal and pelagic fish, was delivered to DAFM in November and produced in hard copy format, downloadable pdf and web-based app ([shiny.marine.ie/stockbook](http://shiny.marine.ie/stockbook)).

The Stock Book provides the latest scientific advice on 75 Irish stocks exploited by the Irish fishing fleet and is used in negotiations with the EU on fishing opportunities at the December Fisheries Council. The equivalent information for shellfish stocks was produced in March 2022 in the Shellfish Stocks and Fisheries Review. The Review was also presented to the Minister for Food, Agriculture and the Marine and DAFM at an onsite meeting in November.

This Review, which will also be made available online in 2023, provides annual advice on shellfish stocks of national importance. The data from the Stock Book was also used to develop the annual sustainability assessment which was presented by the Minister for Food, Agriculture and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue TD, to the Oireachtas in October.

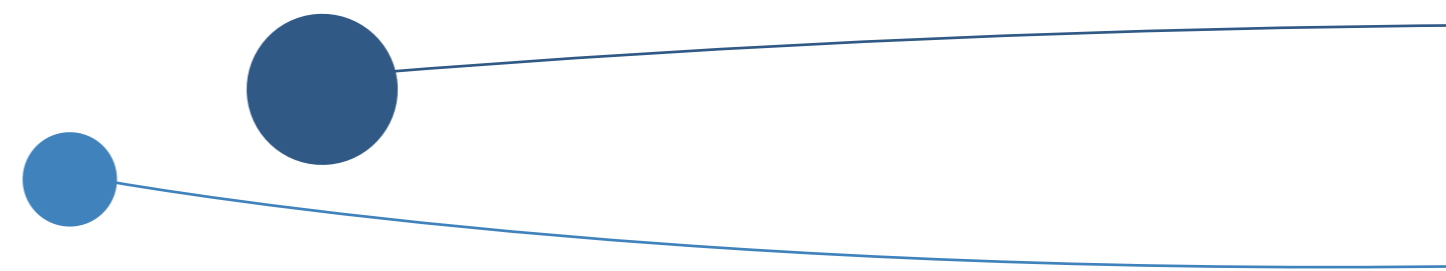
**Marine Biodiversity Scheme**

The Marine Biodiversity Scheme is an important component of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) and the new European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) operational programmes. In 2022, one new project (Marine Mammal Observers on Underwater TV Surveys) was approved under EMFF to run alongside nine existing projects, of which seven of these projects were successfully concluded in 2022 (13 concluded at end 2021).

The existing projects under the EMFF biodiversity scheme included: bycatch monitoring, Continuous Plankton Recorder in Irish waters, Synthesis and development of advisory products - SeaRover and Seabed sediment and ecosystem data collection. Species and habitat restoration continued under the native oyster restoration project.

Three EMFF projects will continue until the closure of the scheme in late 2023. The final EMFF projects to be completed in 2023 are vessel monitoring systems on vessels under 12 metres, Inshore Reef Mapping and the EMFF Outreach and technical support project.

Under the new EMFAF programme (2021-2027), 12 projects were approved in principle by DAFM. Of these one is the Crayfish Project of Strategic Importance which was approved in principle in 2021 and two approved in 2022 will commence in 2023 (CPR, Outreach). These projects cover areas central to Marine Institute service delivery under NATURA and Habitats Directive and the restoration of stocks, such as the native oyster, the crayfish fishery and protecting endangered skates and rays.



EU Horizon-Europe Projects that began in 2022:

- MarinePlan - Reconciling conflicting spatial needs for fishing, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) development, including developing the use of the Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) approach.
- GES4SEAS - developing and applying methods for the understanding of cumulative pressures and impacts from human activities.
- OceanICU - Improving Carbon Understanding in the Ocean. Using ecosystem modelling approaches to understand the impacts of fishing (fish removal and sea-bed impacts) on the overall carbon budget and sequestration to the seabed.

EMFF Projects commenced in 2021 or 2022 included:

- Seabed sediment and ecosystem data collection in support of Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), Natura and Habitat mapping.
- Development of methods for characterisation and conservation assessment of Inshore Reef Habitats.
- UWTV Marine Mammal Observer - a pilot project.
- Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR) in Irish waters which re-established CPR routes. This project has been approved to continue in 2023 under EMFAF.

These projects will provide baseline fisheries and habitat data or provide significant improvement in advice based on risk assessment methods that can be incorporated into management decisions and support tools. These methods are central to provision of advice in relation to Natura 2000 Article 6 assessments, MSFD descriptors on pressures and impacts of exploitation, pollution, climate change, seafloor integrity, OSPAR and the design of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) networks under Marine Spatial Planning.

Under the new EMFAF, 11 new projects were approved in principle throughout 2022. The Crayfish Project of Strategic Importance continued to develop future management options of the crayfish fishery in collaboration with the industry and closely related set net fisheries off the southwest coast of Ireland.

**EMFF 2022 Marine Biodiversity Projects**

Automating data acquisition for vessels under 12 metres in length - Phase 2
Assessment of species catch composition in fisheries posing a risk to biodiversity - Phase 2
Appropriate assessment of aquaculture activities in SPAs - mitigation/monitoring
Restoration of native oysters in Ireland
Support to Scheme: Dissemination & Outreach - Phase 2
Continuous Plankton Recorder in Irish waters
Synthesis and development of advisory products: SeaRover Phase 3
Seabed sediment and ecosystem data collection in support of MSFD, Natura and Habitat mapping.
Inshore Reef Mapping
UWTV Marine Mammal Observer - a pilot project

**EMFAF Approved in Principle 2022**

Appropriate assessment of aquaculture activities in Natura 2000 Special Areas of Conservation
Appropriate assessment of aquaculture activities in Natura 2000 Special Protection Areas
Continuous Plankton Recorder in Irish waters
Ecosystem data collection on Irish fisheries surveys in support of MSFD, Natura and Habitat mapping
Expertise to carry out AA reporting as it relates to aquaculture and fisheries
Implementation of Natura measures for fisheries
Management of the crayfish fishery to protect critically endangered species.
Measure the effectiveness of mitigation measures of managed activities (aquaculture) carried out in Natura sites
Monitoring the recovery of exploited deep-water species
Outreach, Admin and tech support
Restoration of native oysters in Ireland
SEABA: Standardised Ecosystem Approach to Benthic Assessments



This is the list of projects approved throughout 2022:

- Monitoring the recovery of exploited deep-water species.
- Appropriate Assessment (AA) of aquaculture activities in Natura 2000 Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation.
- SEABA: Standardised Ecosystem Approach to Benthic Assessments.
- Measure the effectiveness of mitigation measures of managed activities (aquaculture) carried out in Natura sites.
- Expertise to carry out AA reporting as it relates to aquaculture and fisheries.
- Implementation of Natura measures for fisheries.
- Ecosystem data collection on Irish fisheries surveys in support of Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), Natura and Habitat mapping.
- Restoration of native oysters and development of a management in Ireland.
- Continuous Plankton Recorder in Irish waters. This will in time fulfil Ireland's obligations under MSFD Descriptors 1 and 4 (Pelagic Habitats and Food webs).
- Outreach, Admin and tech support.

Outreach and stakeholder communications are important elements of the EU-MAP and Biodiversity schemes. A dedicated Marine Institute EMFF website is used as an information platform for project outcomes. Regular update meetings were held with Industry and NGOs while progress updates continued to be given at the EMFF Monitoring Committee meetings.

### EMFF Webinar Programme

In 2022, the Marine Biodiversity Scheme and Marine Spatial Planning Scheme joined again to run the EMFF Webinar Series Programme, hosted in March. The session featured three talks from each scheme and hosted over 70 attendees from Government departments, agencies, NGOs and the public at each session for relevant talks. Topics covered under the biodiversity scheme included: Interactions with Wildlife in the Spiny Lobster Fishery off the Southwest Coast of Ireland and Synthesis and Development of Advisory Products from SeaRover.

### Irish Skipper Expo

2022 also saw a return to public events with EMFF Marine Biodiversity FEAS hosting two separate stands at the Irish Skipper Expo in Limerick at the end of March. The inshore fisheries stand presented posters and other material on the inshore fisheries programme and engaged with a lot of fishing industry and other stakeholders, including the Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) sector at the event.

Separately, posters were created and displayed encompassing the various biodiversity themes of EMFF Marine Biodiversity Scheme; Natura fisheries interaction/ Natura Aquaculture interaction, Species and Habitat Restoration and Impact of fisheries on biodiversity / Support for MSFD. The Skates and Ray Project was highlighted in the form of an interactive story map and video highlights from the SeaRover surveys were also on display.

### EMFF Report Series on OAR

Throughout 2022 the EMFF 2014-2020 Marine Institute Report Series saw several project reports published. These included:

- Underwater Television Survey Marine Mammal Observer Report RV *Tom Crean* 13 - 23 August 2022.
- Monitoring the recovery of exploited deep-water species.
- Supply of Vertebrate Necropsy and Sample Recovery Services Merged Final Reports.
- A review of the basis and effectiveness of the Biologically Sensitive Area, Nephrops and Microplastics ([oar.marine.ie/handle/10793/1781](https://oar.marine.ie/handle/10793/1781)).

See more on the Report Series: [oar.marine.ie/handle/10793/1690](https://oar.marine.ie/handle/10793/1690).

### Other key Scientific and Advisory Services during 2022:

- Scientific support to DAFM, providing advice on and support for EU Fisheries Council meeting and at Coastal States meetings, and providing fact sheets and inputs to the CFP review group report published in July.
- Scientific support to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) around the interactions between Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) development, fisheries and marine ecosystems including inputs to the OREDP2 data and scientific group.
- Completion of OSPAR assessments in support of the OSPAR Quality Status Report (2023) which will also be used to populate forthcoming MSFD Article 8, 9 and 10 work due in 2024.
- Completion of Article 17 Assessments for Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) for Marine Strategy Framework Directive for commercial fish, non-commercial fish, marine foodwebs and sea floor integrity.
- The Paradigm3 document management system has become an integral part of the Data Management Quality Management Framework (DM-QMF) and all accredited dataset documentation is version controlled using this system and it is used to track metrics.
- Continued support to other projects outside of the Data Collection Framework (DCF) such as the Bluefin Tuna Research Tagging Programme in collaboration with Stanford University (U.S.) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) as well as continued support to the Bluefin tuna Catch, Tag and Release Angling Fishery (co-ordinated by DAFM, DECC, Marine Institute, Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) and the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA)) which provides catch data for Ireland to ICCAT and the EMFF Reef survey.
- Throughout 2022, FEAS staff played a central role in developing International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) assessments and advice on fish stocks, mixed fisheries and ecosystems services and effects.

- Data collection and maintenance of long term (decadal) ecological datasets describing diadromous fish stocks and catchment ecological quality was continued at the Marine Institute Newport Research Facility. All data requests were filled, including those related to national and international (ICES) stock advice for salmon, eel and trout, and those essential to the continued support of externally funded collaborative projects.
- Continuation and support for the National Salmon Coded Wire tagging and tag Recovery Programme initiated in 1980 and providing essential information on long term marine survival trends in Atlantic salmon populations in the North East Atlantic.
- Participation in the bursar scholarship programme increased following curtailment in recent years due to Covid-19 restrictions with thirteen bursaries completed, an increase on nine in 2021.



Inis Oirr shipwreck.  
Photo: Sinéad Coyne.

# I CASE STUDIES

## Case Study 1: Genetics used to solve long-running herring stock identification problem

In International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Divisions 6.a, 7.b-c (West of Scotland and Northwest of Ireland), there are at least two distinct stocks of herring; one that spawns in Irish waters of 6.a South, 7.b-c and one that spawns in Scottish waters of 6.a North.

Until 2015, these were assessed separately by ICES as two stocks, producing two sets of advice and two TACs each year. However, these stocks are known to mix together on summer feeding grounds on the Malin Shelf (i.e. Northwest Donegal and West of Scotland). An ICES benchmark in 2015 determined that this mixing could not be quantified in the acoustic survey or the stocks' assessments and therefore recommended that the assessments be amalgamated as one.

The resulting joint assessment has resulted in zero catch advice for both stocks since 2015. The herring stock in 6.a South and 7.bc is hugely important to the fishing industry in the Northwest of Ireland so the loss of quota for pelagic vessels was a major issue.

Since 2015, FEAS has supported and collaborated in several genetic stock identification projects in an effort to differentiate the stocks of herring mixing in ICES area 6.a. This work came to fruition in February 2022 when an ICES benchmark for the stocks approved a separate assessment for herring in 6.a South, 7.bc for the first time in seven years.

Central to this development was the ability to split acoustic survey biomass estimates made possible by the novel genetic analyses undertaken by EDF Scientific (jointly funded by FEAS and Industry partners). The analysis proved that the previous geographical boundary used to separate the two stocks was inappropriate and in fact herring of 6.a South origin could be found in large numbers much further north than previously thought (as far north as the Hebrides during summer).

In 2023, the TAC for 6.a South, 7.bc will be 1,892 tonnes. This is based on the new category 3 assessment and ICES advice issued in June, which is around 500 tonnes more than the old monitoring TAC. The news was welcomed by the fishing industry as this stock can now be assessed, managed and rebuilt independent of the 6.a North stock.

Ongoing stock separation using this genetic technology will be funded under the Data Collection Framework (DCF) for 2023-2027. This is the first stock which includes a routine sampling programme and should provide a template for identification work on other stocks.

**Figure 1. Specialised genetic sampling tool used to take tissue samples from herring on surveys and in port.**



## Case Study 2: First dedicated acoustic survey of mesopelagic fish abundance west of Ireland - September 2022

Mesopelagic organisms represent the largest unexploited resource left in the world's oceans, with a recent biomass estimate at 10 billion metric tonnes, 10 times larger than previous estimates.

This estimate led many scientists and also commercial fishing companies to consider the scope for commercial exploitation of this resource. Several EU funded projects were then set up to determine if it would be sustainable to develop such fisheries. In this context, sustainability was considered in terms of biological (stock health), ecological (role of the fish in the ecosystem) and economic (financial viability of fishing these stocks) sustainability. The key to all aspects of sustainability, is first to know how much biomass is out there in the ocean, and the pattern of its spatial distribution.

The key method for estimating pelagic fish biomass, and in particular, the most likely commercial species, the pearlside *Maurollicus muelleri* (see Figure 2) is using acoustics. The Marine Institute research was therefore focused on developing the potential for estimating the biomass using acoustic survey methodology. The Institute has a good track record using multi-frequency echosounders in this role for herring, blue whiting, and boarfish, but not the pearlside.

**Figure 2. Examples of pearlsides (*Maurollicus muelleri*) caught during the survey. The smaller (c. 25mm) are young of the year, and the larger fish (c. 50mm) are the previous year class.**



Over the last two years, the Institute tried to collect acoustic and biological data on these fish during the annual blue whiting surveys but were hampered by the need to focus on the blue whiting. This meant we had a lot of acoustic survey data but little biological data to allow us to analyse the data. In particular, to sort out which echoes seen on the sounder could be allocated to pearlside rather than other species present, including other fish, crustaceans, jellyfish and plankton.

What was required was dedicated vessel time to find the target species, and to collect both targeted acoustic data, and the biological samples to allow the analysis. Fortunately, we were able to find funding from Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) to allow a dedicated 11-day survey on the new Research Vessel *Tom Crean*. The survey included acoustic data collection, targeted biological sampling, and also eDNA sampling to study the biodiversity, and identify if pearlsides were present in the areas where we suspected they occurred.

The survey took place in September 2022, led by Ciaran O'Donnell and Thibault Cariou of the Marine Institute with the eDNA work led by Maddalena Tibone of Atlantic Technological University (ATU). The survey design was set up to ground-truth the acoustic analysis developed by Alina Weiczorek at the Marine Institute, and to study the variability in the distribution of the fish in space and time using repeated short (8-30nm) survey transects.

The survey was very successful - it was possible to identify many large aggregations of pearlsides, and most importantly, these were mainly of the target species. This allowed us to tune the analysis algorithm to pick out pearlside even in the presence of other biota, something that had not previously been possible. We also found that the fish aggregated in patches of between two and six nm, and with considerable consistency between transect replicates.

Both results will be invaluable in allowing us to design an appropriate abundance survey in the future. The eDNA work also went well, and we were able to analyse the eDNA in water samples on board and in near real time and identify the pearlsides. This gives us a second way of confirming the presence of pearlsides in mixed aggregations.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of BIM for the survey through the EMFAF process. We also thank Dr Luca Mirimin of ATU for his support of the eDNA work.

## Case Study 3: Lehanagh Pool Marine Research Site

The Lehanagh Pool Marine Research Site continued to play a pivotal role as a pilot integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA) site, supporting two Horizon 2020 funded research projects, ASTRAL and INEVAL.

These projects are investigating new value chains for IMTA and the benthic remediation potential of sea cucumbers respectively. There is also an ongoing close collaboration with BIM facilitating trials in support of their Marine Challenge Programme.

The research work performed on site was featured in a television programme investigating current methods of sustainable aquaculture development, by the international broadcaster Deutsche Welle. The programme is available on their YouTube channel ([youtube.com/watch?v=VrsY9AljWRE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrsY9AljWRE)) and has received over 144,000 views.

The site was also used as a backdrop for two television documentary series looking at life around coast of Ireland. Macdara Ó Cuaig was interviewed for TG4's series 'An Cóstá Thiar' in addition to an interview with the German channel ARTE.

## Ocean Climate and Information Services (OCIS)

The Marine Research Infrastructure section provides a range of infrastructure services and advice to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), other government departments and agencies, and international organisations, in delivering the Marine Institute's Strategic Focus Area 1: Scientific Advice and Services.

## European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERICs)

Through active involvement as the Irish Government's representative in both the European Multidisciplinary Seafloor and water-column Observatory (EMSO), and the Euro-Argo European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERICs), the Marine Research Infrastructures team contributes to European observing efforts and the continuous monitoring of ocean health. This work provides essential data, which helps scientists to better understand oceanic conditions, interactions between the ocean and the atmosphere, as well as long-term climate trends.

## Deep Sea moorings

The Science Foundation of Ireland (SFI) co-funded EirOOS ocean observation system successfully concluded scientific missions at the Goban Spur off the southwest of Ireland in September 2022. This mission, which commenced in 2020, supported international scientific effort for monitoring changes to the Gulf Stream through the North Atlantic Current mooring array.

The mission was linked with University of Galway and Maynooth University, the German research centres BSH (Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency) and the University of Bremen. The EirOOS shelf edge moorings monitored the European Slope Current, whilst the EirOOS coastal moorings monitored both the Irish coastal current and the Irish shelf currents. The dataset obtained from the moorings' two years of oceanographic monitoring will be analysed during 2023.

## The Irish Marine Data Buoy Observation Network (IMDBON)

The IMDBON is managed and operated by the Marine Institute, on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and consists of five far-field met-ocean data buoys. The IMDBON reports hourly weather measurements of key near surface marine meteorological data: air temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure, wind speed and direction, and also oceanographic data including sea surface temperature, wave height, and wave period. In 2022, the IMDBON exceeded its target of delivering near real-time data to Met Éireann's operational forecast centre >90% of the year.

## Irish National Tide Gauge Network

The Irish National Tide Gauge Network (INTGN) consisting of 19 water level stations around the coast provides for the monitoring of tide levels around Ireland. In 2022, two high precision stations to international GLOSS standards at Howth Harbour, Co. Dublin, and Union Hall, Co. Cork, became operational, making measurements for assessing the long-term climate induced sea-level rise around the Irish coast.

## National Ocean Energy Programme

Under a Service Level Agreement with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), the Marine Research Infrastructures team provided various technical services and scientific advice supporting the national ocean energy programme; managing the SmartBay facility in Galway Bay and providing both science-based and operational services at the Atlantic Marine Energy Test Site (AMETS) off Belmullet, Co. Mayo.

## Oceanographic and Climate Services (OCS)

OCS continues to work with climate stakeholders, including DAFM and other government departments and local authorities, in defining the climate services they need for the marine domain. OCS has worked with the Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs) in northwest Ireland and Dublin to define such services.

# 4,164km<sup>2</sup>

of seabed was mapped in the Celtic Sea by the Marine Institute as part of the INFOMAR programme, undertaken in partnership with Geological Survey Ireland.

OCS has also engaged in the key steering and technical groups in the broader climate area at national and international level. Throughout 2022, OCS supported DAFM and the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) in the reporting of Climate Actions for 2022 and the formulation of the marine components of the Climate Action Plan 2023.

The development of oceanographic services has also been a focus of our work this year. OCS continued to support An Garda Síochána and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) with Search And Rescue and missing persons investigations through a web application and bespoke modelling studies.

OCS developed new oceanographic products and applications for FEAS, namely the Extreme Events Observatory for southwest Ireland and native oyster's restoration and aquaculture support tool for Galway Bay and continued delivering products for the Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) warning system. The group advanced the development of a new biogeochemical model for the Celtic Sea under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) programme and model testing has been carried out.

Eight major projects on ocean observing and forecasting continued in 2022: CE2COAST, BioCeltic, EuroSea, FORCOAST, iFADO, CleanAtlantic, MyCoast and COMPASS. FORCOAST and COMPASS concluded in 2022 and a new Horizon Europe project called Euro GO-SHIP started in December. Despite continued constraints imposed by Covid-19, the remaining projects stay broadly on track for delivery.

## Argo floats

In 2022, the Marine Institute, as the Irish Government's representative in the Euro-Argo ERIC, continued supporting the international Argo programme. To date, the Institute has deployed a fleet of 20 floats. The Argo floats measure a number of key physical ocean variables such as salinity, temperature and currents both at the surface and subsurface to a depth of 2,000 metres.

The data are transmitted in near real time to publicly accessible web portals. The continued support of the Argo network greatly enhances our understanding of ocean health and our capability to monitor it into the future, and places Ireland at the centre of global efforts to measure the potential impacts of climate change.

## Advanced Mapping Services (AMS)

Advanced Mapping Services (AMS) provide support and advice in hydrographic, geophysical and habitat survey planning, operations, and data interpretation and management. AMS also support related outreach and education, and research and development, both within the Institute, and externally for industry, government and public stakeholders nationally and internationally.

AMS provide seabed mapping services through a Service Level Agreement between the Marine Institute and the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC), to deliver and complete the INFOMAR programme by end 2026, in partnership with Geological Survey Ireland (GSI).

2022 Highlights for AMS:

- The team mapped 4,164 km<sup>2</sup> of Celtic Sea seabed during 81 vessel days on-board the RV *Celtic Explorer*, RV *Celtic Voyager* and RV *Tom Crean*, as part of the INFOMAR programme. This involved acquisition of 12,155 km (survey line kilometres) of multibeam data, investigation of 12 shipwrecks, and acquisition of 53 seabed samples.
- The AMS survey team undertook both the final science survey, prior to decommissioning of the RV *Celtic Voyager*, and the inaugural survey on-board the newly commissioned RV *Tom Crean*, having previously also been the team to mobilise and operate the RV *Celtic Explorer* for its first six months upon its commissioning and arrival in Ireland in 2003.
- During 2022, AMS continued to deliver a range of value-added opportunities linked to user demands, commercial markets and external funding sources, widely supporting the Marine Institute strategy implementation. These included:
  - The AMS team leading the H2020 Mission Atlantic work package on Benthic Mapping: ecosystem, resources and pressures, published a report entitled a *Framework for future Atlantic cooperation on seafloor mapping efforts & prioritisation of seabed targets for IEA*.
  - Participation and delivery of the INFOMAR-developed, Masters modules in collaboration with University College Dublin, Maynooth University and SMART SeaSchool, involving in-class and online lectures, workshops and tutorials, and at-sea training onboard the RV *Celtic Voyager* and RV *Tom Crean*.

- Continued AMS coordination and wrap-up of EMFF projects on sediment catalogue development, seaweed resource assessment, SeaRover data synthesis & GIS data compilation, and a Coastal Sediments project to collect and analyse marine sediments to increase confidence in seabed classification charts.
- The INFOMAR programme, through the Marine Institute & Geological Survey Ireland, supported and facilitated the first post-Covid Hydrographic Society UK & Ireland's "Remote Hydrography Conference and Exhibition", held in Dublin Castle on 22-24 February. Bringing together Irish and international commercial operators supporting hydrography and shipping globally, the event showcased innovative autonomous mapping technologies, including a remote operations room, where live in-field unmanned survey activities were monitored and controlled during the event.
- Data processing and map production are ongoing, with outputs contributing to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), Habitats Directive, and OSPAR and ICES reporting, and inputting to Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) map requirements.
- Two major projects incorporating a seabed and habitat mapping focus continued in 2022, including Mission Atlantic and EMODnet Seabed Habitats. The Advanced Mapping Services team leading the H2020 Mission Atlantic work package on Benthic Mapping: ecosystem, resources and pressures, published a report entitled a Framework for future Atlantic cooperation on seafloor mapping efforts & prioritisation of seabed targets for IEA. This report provides oversight and guidance on a strategic approach to large scale mapping of the Atlantic Ocean seabed and benthic habitat.

In 2022, the AMS survey team provided technical support and advice on the mobilisation, alignment surveying, survey commissioning and sea acceptance testing of the RV *Tom Crean* prior to and following its departure from Vigo, Spain.

### Research Vessel Operations

One of the major milestones for the Marine Institute was the completion of the build and delivery of the RV *Tom Crean*, on time and on budget, in July and the commencement of its service for the Institute later that same month.

The new vessel came into service as a replacement for the RV *Celtic Voyager*, which retired after 25 years of service. The ship completed successful surveys right up to its retirement day. During 2022, the RV *Celtic Explorer* underwent a significant refit, including removal and overhaul of its main propulsion motors.

Between all three vessels, a total of 571 survey days were completed in 2022 with a total of 12 surveys on RV *Celtic Explorer*, 13 surveys completed on RV *Celtic Voyager* and 17 on RV *Tom Crean*.

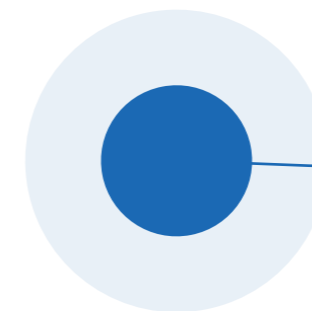
For a detailed overview of research vessels' operations during 2022, see Strategic Enabler 2 - Infrastructure.

### Irish Maritime Development Office (IMDO)

#### Policy Advice Support and Port Development

The IMDO's mandate requires policy support and advice to be provided to the Minister and the Department of Transport (DoT). Throughout 2022, the IMDO provided advice frequently and consistently on the matters that arose, from the implications of the war in Ukraine to the implementation of the policy statement on Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) for port investment in infrastructure. The range of research and advice provided included, but was not limited to:

- The maritime implications of the war in Ukraine.
- The implications of increases in fuel prices on shipping rate.
- Port applications for Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) funding for ORE.
- Trading performance and trading patterns in the Irish maritime industry post Brexit.



- Review of Irish Tonnage Tax regime.
- Sustainability roadmap for Irish ports.
- Irish ports and rail freight.
- Onshore power supply (cold-ironing).

The advice given used evidence-based research and relied on extensive consultation with industry stakeholders.

Working directly with ports and DoT, the IMDO provided advice on how to improve the quality of applications from ports for CEF funding for ORE infrastructure. The IMDO participated in EU events in Huelva, Lisbon, and Brussels to promote the advantages of supporting Irish ORE projects, not only in a national context but also in terms of the very considerable contribution the development of the Irish ORE industry can make to EU climate change ambitions.

The IMDO was and is heavily involved in providing policy advice on these issues and is currently involved in a number of EU projects that supports Ireland's maritime industry, which include:

- The International Fast and Secure Trade Lanes (IFSTL)** pilot study will advance digitalisation in the maritime industry. The project is led by the IMDO and includes Dublin Port and Ports of Normandy as project partners. The consultants appointed to conduct the pilot study made excellent progress in 2022 and will bring the project to a conclusion in March 2023. Initial findings identify the benefits that will accrue to maritime industry stakeholders by using digital processes to drive efficiency and competitiveness through digital transformation. The results are clear and the opportunities irrefutable.
- The Ealing Project** This initiative is a significant component in the drive to decarbonise the maritime industry and to improve air quality in the vicinity of ports.

- The Atlantic Smart Ports Blue Acceleration Network (AspBAN)**

A dynamic acceleration services platform for Atlantic ports to work as blue economy hubs, thus diversifying their business models and revenue sources.

- The Atlantic Maritime Ecosystem Network (MarENet)**

The Marenet project was successfully completed in 2022, with all project objectives achieved. The project improved the professionalisation and resilience of the marine sector, increased the upskilling and reskilling of the workforce and promoted entrepreneurship.

- Maritec-X** is an EU funded project that aims to establish the Cyprus Marine and Maritime Institute (CMMI), along broadly similar lines to Ireland's Marine Institute. Throughout 2022, CMMI has grown and has established strategically important units that will pursue research and business development objectives. The IMDO welcomed our Cypriot colleagues to Galway in 2022 and explored further opportunities for collaboration between our respective researchers and business development specialists.

Together, these EU projects contribute to an evidence-based response to emerging issues in the maritime industry in Ireland and offer opportunities for collaboration and integration across EU borders to address common problems and shared opportunities.

In line with its statutory mandate, the IMDO continued to closely monitor and report on the performance of the shipping and ports sectors through its quarterly traffic bulletins and the publication of the Irish Maritime Transport Economist (IMTE) on an annual basis. The importance of the IMTE and related quarterly publications, as reference documents for policy makers and industry practitioners, is clear and the time series that has been created over almost 20 years is the basis of the analysis that informs policy and strategic decisions.

In 2022, the IMDO's work on the analysis of movements in fuel prices, also informed policy responses to industry stakeholders affected by the fuel price volatility. This research and policy support was invaluable to the Department of Transport and to industry practitioners in 2022.

# STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA 2

## Forecasting Ocean and Climate Change

Ireland's climate is regulated by the relatively warm waters of the Atlantic Gulf Stream, protecting us from climatic extremes but leaving us exposed to climate change impacts. Such impacts include rising sea levels, increasing storm intensity, ocean acidification, climate-driven changes in marine ecosystems and the services they provide. Ireland is uniquely positioned to be at the forefront of efforts to better understand global ocean challenges and to provide essential national services in observing and projecting regional and local impacts.

There is significant demand for greatly enhanced knowledge and services that will allow us to observe the changes in our ocean, to project and model likely future scenarios, and support adaptation planning.

The Marine Institute works with national and international partners to observe and understand how our ocean is changing and to determine how to respond to current and future patterns of change that impact Ireland's economy and people. Robust advice and operational forecasting on projections of our changing ocean and climate are essential for Government to make effective policies and management decisions to address a range of issues and challenges. These include changing fish distributions, food security, low carbon economy, sea-level rise, flooding and, increasingly, extreme weather events.

### Ocean Climate and Information Services (OCIS)

#### Marine Research Infrastructures

The Marine Institute's Strategic Focus Area 2: Forecasting Ocean and Climate Change, especially Strategic Initiative 2.1: 'Advancing Ocean and Climate Observation and Monitoring' is underpinned by OCIS' Marine Research Infrastructure section's ability to deploy, operate and maintain the necessary ocean observing platforms:

- The Science Foundation of Ireland (SFI) co-funded EirOOS ocean observation system successfully concluded its scientific mission at the Goban Spur off the southwest of Ireland with the recovery of the EBS-1 mooring in October 2022. This mission, which commenced in 2020, supported international scientific efforts investigating changes in the North Atlantic Ocean and thus enhancing the NOAC (North Atlantic Changes) mooring array, led by Germany (BSH and University of Bremen).
- The Rockall Deep Sea mooring continued its scientific mission in the Rockall Trough, 400 kilometres off the west coast of Ireland with a swap out of the moorings in April. In conjunction with the M6 data buoy, the Rockall Deep Sea mooring measures oceanographic parameters throughout the water column from the water surface to the sea floor to a depth of 3,000 metres. These ocean observing activities will deliver important Essential Climate Variables (ECV) and Essential Ocean Variables (EOV) datasets to gain a deeper understanding of Atlantic Overturning Circulation, important information on ocean currents at the continental shelf edge and Irish coastal areas and on water properties that influence Ireland's marine ecosystems.
- The Irish Marine Data Buoy Observation Network (IMDBON) provides hourly weather reports consisting of measurements of key near surface marine meteorological data: air temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure, wind speed and direction, oceanographic data including sea surface temperature, wave height, and wave period. The extreme western synoptic M6 location is a sentinel European monitoring site.

IMDBON buoy.  
Photo: Tomas Szumski



- The change in sea level relative to land level is a key Essential Climate Variable (ECV) for climate adaptation and coastal resilience. The two global sea level observing stations (GLOSS) international standard sea level monitoring stations at Howth Harbour, Co. Dublin, and Union Hall, Co. Cork, purchased and installed through the Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) co-funded EirOOS ocean observation award, became operational in 2022 and relay data to global sea level data centres contributing to a better understanding of climate induced sea level rise.
- The long-term, ultra-high precision temperature data collected at Ballycotton, Co. Cork and the Portmore Pier at Malin Head, Co. Donegal are well established and continued throughout 2022. These datasets build on decades of monitoring (at Malin Head) and continue to feed climatological data into global archives of sea water temperature, a fundamental climate change indicator.
- The Marine Institute continues to be an active member of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Working Group of Oceanic Hydrography (WGOH), contributing to the ICES Report on Ocean Climate (IROC) and the ICES 4<sup>th</sup> Decadal Variability of the North Atlantic and its Marine Ecosystems: 2010-2019.
- The Institute is also a member of the Global Ocean Ship-based Hydrographic Investigation Programme (GO-SHIP) Science Committee, which provides scientific leadership and oversight for the development and implementation of the decadal global survey of hydrographic sections operated by national research institutions. In preparation for the next GO-SHIP expedition (A02 line) from St. Johns to Ireland, the Marine Institute hosted a seminar on ship based Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers in November 2022 with a wide national and international audience. Marine Institute staff continue to actively participate in the working groups and task teams of EuroGOOS ([eurogoos.eu](http://eurogoos.eu)), the Operations Committee of the European Ocean Observing System (EOOS) ([eoos-ocean.eu/approach/governance/operations-committee/](http://eoos-ocean.eu/approach/governance/operations-committee/)) and activities as chairs of both ICES WGOH and the Working Group on Operational Oceanographic products for Fisheries and Environment (WGOOFE) in 2022. Two sessions at ICES ASC 2022 were convened by OCS staff.

#### Enhancing ocean observing activities:

- OCIS conducted the annual ship-based physics and chemistry sampling in the Rockall Trough in April/May. Some 57 Conductivity, Temperature, Depth (CTD) stations were occupied in water depths up to 3,300 metres and 1,856 water samples collected to determine the essential ocean variables oxygen, carbon, nutrients and salinity. Quarterly annual CTD sampling was also conducted in Inner Galway Bay at 30+ stations.



### EU Funded Projects

Work has progressed on the €12.6 million EU funded H2020 Innovation Action project 'EuroSea' (coordinated by the GEOMAR Centre for Ocean Research Kiel) that aims to integrate and significantly improve ocean observations that will be sustained in the long term. The Marine Institute leads the Ocean Health demonstrator with colleagues in Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Spain, and is involved in a number of other tasks.

In 2022, the Marine Institute supported the deployment of a data buoy off southwest Ireland, developed a EuroSea data buoy web platform ([eurosea.marine.ie](http://eurosea.marine.ie)), continue to work with colleagues globally on the development of marine heat wave data products and advanced the development of a tide gauge metadata catalogue ([eutgn.marine.ie](http://eutgn.marine.ie)).

### Modelling

The modelling team currently comprises five members, who support the provision of freely available regular ocean and wave forecasts and hindcasts to a range of end users. These datasets include three-dimensional currents, temperature, salinity and the sea surface height (including storm surges).

Research and development of coastal scale models continued in 2022 and includes further upgrades of a high resolution coastal model of Inner Galway Bay and a major revision of a Clew Bay model. The Cullen PhD student based at Maynooth University advanced research on seasonal to decadal sea level and waves prediction.

The SEAI-MÉ-Marine Institute funded project awarded to the Irish Centre for High-End Computing (ICHEC), aiming to develop coupled atmospheric-ocean-wave models in a climate context for Irish waters, continued apace with final results scheduled for delivery in 2023.

OCIS project activity continued with numerical modelling capacity in support of tackling marine litter (CleanAtlantic, Interreg Atlantic Area), Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) implementation (iFADO, Interreg Atlantic Area), building coastal resilience (MyCOAST, Interreg Atlantic Area) and management of Marine Protected Areas Networks (COMPASS, Interreg VA, finished in 2022).

The H2020 FORCOAST project was completed and major outputs included the development of services in support of native oyster restoration and oyster aquaculture in Galway Bay available through a web application. Another web application in support of aquaculture has been developed as part of H2020 EuroSea project and concerns extreme events observations and forecasting.

Significant progress continues towards building the climate modelling capacity, contributing to the implementation of this Strategic Focus Area: Forecasting Ocean and Climate Change. To that end, the Institute runs its operational and climate models at the Irish Centre for High-End Computing (ICHEC). A new climate model for the Celtic Sea has been developed and tested under the EMFF programme. This model will deliver physical and biogeochemical CMIP6 climate projections.

The upgraded web application for search and rescue, ADRIFT, is now in routine use by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). The OCS team also held meetings with the Coast Guard and An Garda Síochána related to the loss of missing persons at sea and responded to a high number of requests for support. High number of requests for measured and modelled data was also received from the research community, renewable energy industry and the Department of Transport, amongst others. We continue to work with colleagues in FEAS and MEFSS to provide bespoke information to underpin their work programmes.

### Delivering Climate Services

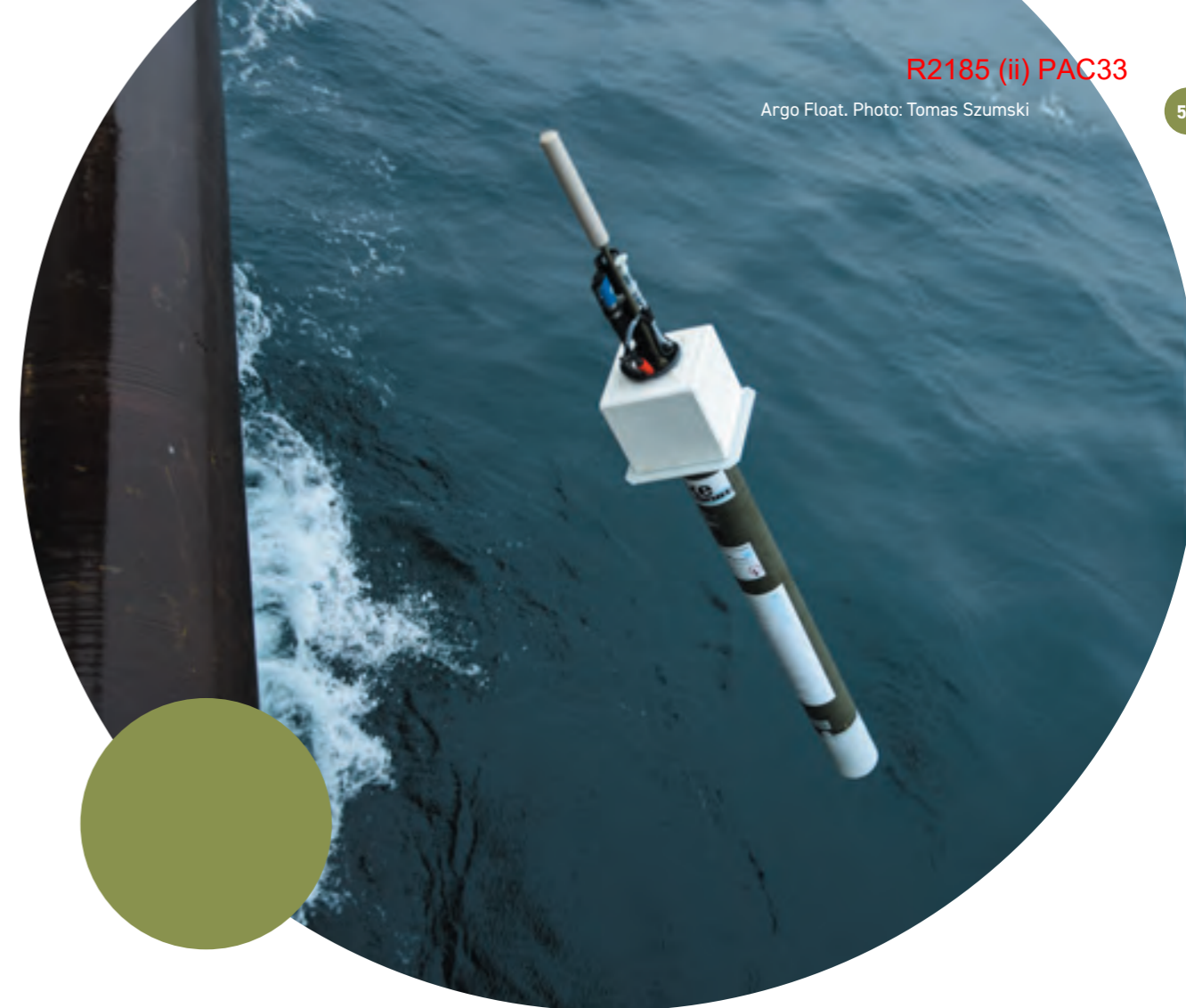
The OCIS team continues to work with colleagues across the Institute, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), other government departments, agencies and local authorities to co-develop new climate services. The Marine Institute's ability to deliver such services is supported by the matrix team for climate services and funding to the third level sector for postdocs and PhD students in the climate area.

### Marine Environment And Food Safety Services (MEFSS)

Climate change is an area of huge significance across the MEFSS service areas, which provide considerable input to data collection and provision of advice through the Marine Institute Climate Change Matrix Team, government agencies and international bodies.

### Marine Spatial Planning/Marine Strategy Framework Directive

- Three European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) Climate Projects continued in 2022. The projects are improving understanding of climate change in Irish waters, by developing ecosystem modelling capacity and assessing trends in zooplankton and carbon distribution in Irish waters.



- The Service Level Agreement (SLA) team and OCIS are working with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage DHLGH to develop a climate monitoring programme that can be addressed through the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). This is an action in the national Climate Action Plan 2021.
- Caitríona Nic Aonghusa is co-leading an international initiative on Climate Change in Marine Spatial Planning (MSP). She is co-convenor of an ICES workshop and an international conference session (ECCWO 2023) on this subject.

### Marine Chemistry

- The Winter Environmental Survey sampled for water quality and essential ocean variables (EOVs) in coastal and shelf waters. The survey sailed south-about from Dublin to Galway in January on board the RV *Celtic Voyager*, collecting 227 water samples. In addition, 40 stations were occupied and 266 samples collected for analysis of biogeochemical EOVs (nutrients, carbon system, oxygen and salinity) during the Rockall Ocean Climate Survey on board the RV *Celtic Explorer* in close collaboration with OCIS. These annual surveys contribute to multiple reporting requirements and ocean products.

- Under the Interreg VA COMPASS project (with OCIS) the observatory at Mace Head Coastal Observatory continued to monitor an extensive suite of physico-chemical and biological EOVs, employing sensors (real-time data) and regular water sampling and analysis. The COMPASS project concluded in 2022.
- Co-convened OSPAR expert group on Ocean Acidification delivering North-East Atlantic Ocean Acidification assessment for the OSPAR Quality Status Report 2023.
- Underwater, atmospheric and sea surface CO<sub>2</sub> measurements were collected on board the RV *Celtic Explorer*. 2020 data was incorporated into the global Surface Ocean CO<sub>2</sub> Atlas from where it is used in globally significant outputs, such as the Global Carbon Budget 2022 ([essd.copernicus.org/articles/14/4811/2022](https://essd.copernicus.org/articles/14/4811/2022)) where Marine Chemistry was a contributory author. CO<sub>2</sub> measurements continue on the RV *Celtic Explorer* with work ongoing to commission a system on the RV *Tom Crean* in 2023.
- The team contributed to the Marine Institute Ocean Climate Status Report and other national climate reports are in development.

# STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA 3

## Research and Innovation

The Marine Institute's role in relation to marine research and innovation in Ireland is dynamic and multifaceted, and is aligned with the organisation's provision of scientific advice and services. The Institute is a national funding agency for marine research, running a competitive funding programme guided by national research and innovation strategies and government policy priorities.

Cross-agency collaboration and joint funding initiatives, involving national and European funding bodies, are important in addressing regional and national requirements and in maximising the benefits of research investments.

Another key responsibility of the Marine Institute is contributing to the setting of national and international research policy - ensuring alignment with Ireland's strategic goals, particularly with respect to integrated marine policy and Ireland's strategy on research and innovation, with a new national strategy due to be launched in 2023.

The Institute has a crucial role in supporting, coordinating and promoting marine research at national and international levels. It provides targeted assistance to marine researchers in Ireland to help them to build partnerships and successfully compete for EU grand-aid. A key goal of the Institute is to support coherence across the various state funders of marine research.

The Marine Institute is also a research performer, participating in and leading national and international research partnerships that are strategically aligned with and add value to its advice and services. It also partners with academic institutions by hosting scientists that work alongside our scientific and technical staff. This provides essential training, facilitates collaboration and increases the research capacity and knowledge in the Institute.

Marine Institute research covers a wide range of areas such as marine resource management, ecosystem assessments, biodiversity, fish genetics, climate change and its impact on our oceans and catchments, maritime economics and marine socio-economics, food safety and fish health, seabed mapping and data, and spatial technologies. The Institute also generates intellectual property arising from the research it funds and performs and from operational programmes it undertakes, putting publicly-funded research to work for Ireland.

### Policy, Innovation and Research Services (PIRS)

The Marine Institute's Policy, Innovation and Research Services (PIRS) division plays a key role in supporting and promoting marine research and innovation both within the Marine Institute and nationally. The role of PIRS has been particularly important in delivering the ambitious goals of Strategic Focus Area 3 of the current Marine Institute Strategic Plan (which concluded at the end of 2022).

Within this Strategic Focus Area, there were three strands of actions - the first of which addresses the Marine Institute's role in coordinating and supporting marine research in Ireland, with a focus on national and international research and innovation policy. The two other strands seek to optimise the performance of the Institute both as a research performer and as a research funder against key performance indicators approved by the Marine Institute's Board.

**€7.6 MILLION**

The amount of new research investments awarded under the Institute's Marine Research Programme.

### Strategic Initiative 1: Coordinate and Promote Marine Research & Innovation

#### National Marine Research & Innovation Strategy

One of the priorities for PIRS this year was the development of a new national marine knowledge, research and innovation strategy. Coordinated and targeted investment in marine research and innovation in Ireland is essential to address key national and global challenges as well as playing a significant role in Ireland's economic recovery and growth.

PIRS commissioned a special report to examine factors influencing the orientation of the new strategy and to set out a proposed direction that such a strategy could take. The report was completed early in 2022. The Marine Research Funders' Forum (MRFF), established in 2018 under the previous national marine research & innovation strategy (2017-2021), met in June to discuss and agree a proposed project plan and draft structure for developing the new strategy. The Marine Institute also engaged bilaterally with forum members during the year on the development of the strategy.

Throughout 2022, PIRS prepared a range of draft material for the new strategy in collaboration with an expert consultant and a number of key stakeholders. In 2023, we will continue to work with the MRFF, the marine research community and other stakeholders to develop a draft strategy for consultation, and finalise, publish and launch a new national marine knowledge, research and innovation strategy, with the working title, *Ocean Knowledge 2030*.

A process to collect and analyse national marine research investment data continued during the year with the support of the MRFF. The MRFF's terms of reference were updated in 2022 to recognise that the Forum will continue to operate for beyond the term of the previous strategy and to include data protection terms related to GDPR and the sharing of information.

In 2022, the National Marine Research Database was expanded to include new information fields, including project summaries and project coordinators. Upgrades were also made to functionality and user interface aspects of the database.

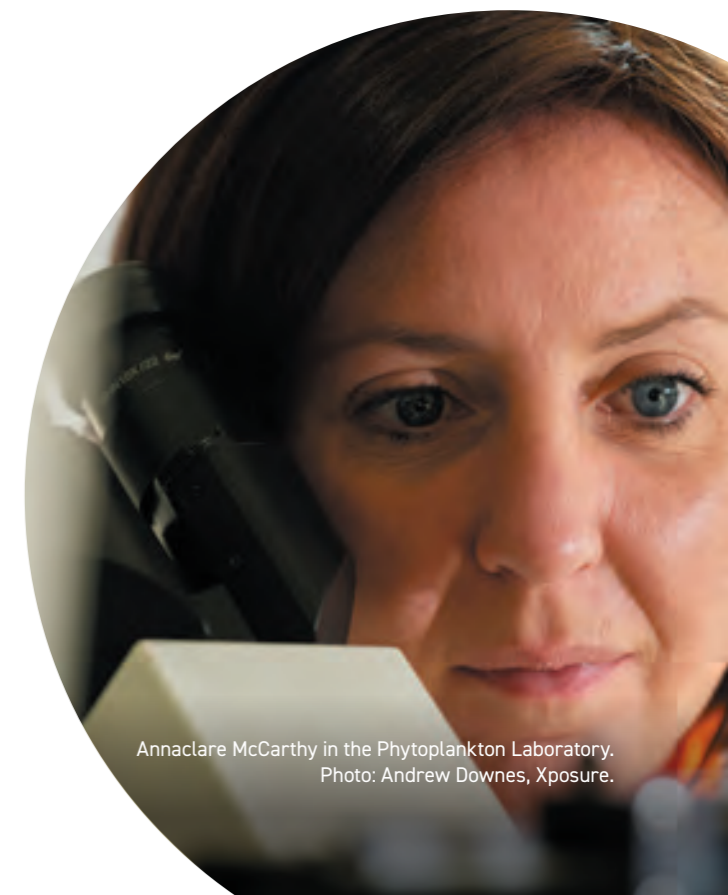
PIRS staff worked with colleagues in Data Management and Application Development to update and expand the database, which now includes information on almost 1,000 marine research projects. The database and accompanying visualisation tools will continue to be maintained in 2023, while new avenues to add value will also be explored.

### Blue Bioeconomy Programme

In 2022, the Blue Bioeconomy Programme focused primarily on the BlueBio Cofund, implementing national support and coordination for the sector and supporting the development of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership under Horizon Europe.

The third and final additional call was launched under the BlueBio Cofund, a targeted call to 'Amplify project reach and knowledge impact'. The Marine Institute, as WP6 lead, also engaged in activity to increase impact of the funded projects with the Research Council of Norway and Flanders Food, and assisted in the development of a training course focusing on Blue Bioeconomy Biorefinery Technologies.

PIRS provided representation on bioeconomy fora during 2022, including the Bioeconomy Implementation Group (BIG) and its external advisory group, and the State's Representative Group of the Circular Bioeconomy Europe Joint Undertaking funding initiative. At national level, PIRS engaged with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) on behalf of the Marine Institute regarding the development of Ireland's Bioeconomy Action Plan.



Annaclaire McCarthy in the Phytoplankton Laboratory.  
Photo: Andrew Downes, Xposure.

### International Programmes

In addition to the international collaborations carried out by the other services areas in the Marine Institute, PIRS takes the lead in international research coordination and policy support. This involves representing the Institute and Ireland at a number of international research fora to inform and influence the international research agenda and to ensure that Irish-based researchers are kept informed and involved in international initiatives and research, development and innovation (RDI) opportunities.

PIRS actively represents the Institute and Ireland on several important European and international fora for ocean research, including the European Marine Board; EurOcean; the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC); and the Management Board (in the role of Chair since November 2020) of the Joint Programming Initiative on Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI Oceans).

On behalf of the Marine Institute and Ireland, PIRS staff are leading the process of developing a new international joint research action on Blue Carbon under JPI Oceans. This was approved as a scoping action in 2022 by the JPI Oceans Management Board with 15 European countries expressing interest to participate. A proposal for a full joint action is in preparation at the end of 2022 for consideration at the JPI Oceans Management Board in April 2023.

In conjunction with DAFM, Enterprise Ireland (EI), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Marine Institute is an expert to the Programme Committee for Cluster 6 of the EU Horizon Europe Programme (Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment). The Institute also continued to be the National Contact Point for marine aspects of Horizon Europe funding.

2022 saw the first of the Horizon Europe results come through and Irish research groups and companies excelled, with funding awards totalling €27.8 million. Thematically, projects cover a broad range of areas, including, for example, a Digital Twin for Shipping, critical raw material resources in sedimentary basins, marine pollution, ecosystem functioning, inland waterways, seaweed applications and seaweed aquaculture, wave energy demonstrations and improving blue carbon understanding.

These results over the first two years of the new Horizon Europe framework programme provide a strong platform for Irish researchers to continue to perform well and be competitive in EU funding applications. A full list of project awards for Irish-based researchers for 2022 is provided in Appendix 3.



President Michael D Higgins and Paul Connolly at the Mission Charter launch in Cork.

On 25 November, President Michael D. Higgins was among the 160 guests at an event held in Cork to launch the European Union's Mission to protect and restore ocean and inland waters in the Atlantic and Arctic regions by 2030. The event was co-organised by the European Commission and the Marine Institute, in close collaboration with the National Maritime College of Ireland, who hosted the event, and University College Cork.

At the event, concrete measures and actions in the Atlantic and Arctic were highlighted to address the ambitious targets for the restoration of our ocean and seas. In hosting this event, Ireland intends to lead the way in advancing the goals of the mission and the Marine Institute has signed the Mission Charter, a commitment of intent to support implementation of the Mission.

The Institute continues to support the Network of Arctic Researchers in Ireland (NARI) ([nari.ie](http://nari.ie)). Research across the network seeks to underpin elements of the Department of Foreign Affairs' Nordic Strategy. The Department of Foreign Affairs in Ireland, together with the Marine Institute, supported NARI in staging a panel event with Irish researchers at the Arctic Circle Assembly conference in Reykjavik in October 2022. Ireland also had high-level engagement at the Arctic Frontiers Conference in Tromsø in May this year. The Department of Foreign Affairs and the Marine Institute have, for a number of years, supported and funded Irish participation in the Emerging Leaders programme run by Arctic Frontiers.

### Strategic Initiative 2: Increasing Marine Institute research capacity and performance

#### EU funding successes

The Marine Institute was successful in six Horizon Europe funding applications in 2022 and a further two as a third party - these include GES4SEAS (Achieving Good Environmental Status for maintaining ecosystem Services, by ASsessing integrated impacts of cumulative pressures); MarinePlan (Improved transdisciplinary science for effective ecosystem-based maritime spatial planning and conservation in European Seas); FAIR-EASE (FAIR EARTH Sciences & Environment services); Ocean ICU (Ocean-ICU Improving Carbon Understanding); SBEP (A climate neutral, sustainable and productive blue economy Partnership); and BlueMissionAA (Building a Coordination Hub to Support the Mission Implementation in the Atlantic and Arctic Basin).

The total value of awards in 2022 comes to €2.63 million.

#### Strategic Initiative 3: Optimise our funding programmes

The Marine Research Programme targets funding to raise the research capacity in the marine sector and to maximise the impact nationally through co-operation with other state research funders. In accordance with the Marine Institute's Strategic Plan 2018-2022, the competitive funding programme targets the highest quality peer-reviewed research that provides scientific knowledge and evidence for government and relevant stakeholders to inform policy and management.

In 2022, the Research Funding Office managed €7.6 million in new research investments awarded under the Marine Institute's Marine Research Programme: €4.7 million for ship-time on the research vessels and Remotely Operated Vehicle; and €2.9 million on research projects (full details are provided in Appendices 1 and 2).

The ship-time investment funded the research vessels and the Remotely Operated Vehicle for multi-disciplinary marine research and student training in Irish waters and beyond. Under the programme in 2022, 112 days were supported for research, 110 days for policy support and 44 days were provided for training on-board the research vessels *Celtic Explorer*, *Celtic Voyager* and *Tom Crean*.

The Marine Institute strategically targets the focus of its research investments in order to build national capacity in research areas that are linked to national development and policy priorities. Following the Post-Doctoral Fellowships Call in 2021, the Institute awarded four fellowships in 2022 for a total value of €1.6 million over four years to Higher Education Institutes. The awards included:

- University of Galway - *Accelerated seaweed production for an innovative and robust seaweed aquaculture in Ireland.*
- University College Cork - *Sustainable Aquaculture: Advancing Irish bivalve biomass production by promoting seed abundance and more disease resilient stocks.*
- University of Limerick - *Artificial intelligence (AI) based bird monitoring at offshore wind installations using long range-unmanned aerial drones.*
- Atlantic Technological University - *Waves of change: promoting sustainable development and behavioural change through ocean literacy.*

The Cullen Scholarship Programme Call in 2022 offered six scholarships. Following the evaluation process, the scholarships were awarded to four Higher Education Institutes - University of Limerick (2), University of Galway (2), Atlantic Technological University (1) and South East Technological University (1), with a total investment of €550,000.

This funding will provide training for two Masters and four PhD students over the next four years and result in scientific research findings that will be important for providing analysis of long-term trends in coastal and marine water quality, evolving environmental monitoring using drone and underwater AI technology, and developing ecosystem accounting for Ireland's marine and coastal ecosystems.



Involvement with co-funded programmes continued in 2022, with two new investments totalling €650,000 concluded as follows:

- BlueBio 2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Call 2021  
Three projects funded with five Irish partners under this ERA-NET Co-fund call, Blue Bioeconomy - Unlocking the Potential of Aquatic Bioresources, with the Institute's investment being €450,000 (€150,000 per award) over three years as follows:
  - University College Cork - *BIVALVI: Advancing European bivalve production systems.*
  - Teagasc - *ImPrESsIVE: Improved Processing to Enhance Seafood Sidestream Valorisation and Exploration.*
  - Atlantic Technological University, Oilean Glas Teo and Donegal Seaweed - *SeaSoil: Value creation and ecosystem services of European Seaweed industry by reducing and handling potentially toxic elements from breeding to soil.*
- JPI Oceans Joint Call on Underwater Noise in the Marine Environment one project funded PURE WIND: Impact of sound on marine ecosystems from offshore wind energy generation with a total investment of €200,000 to University College Cork and Gavin & Doherty Geosolutions Ltd.

Co-funded awards provide an opportunity to establish national and international research collaborations in areas of strategic importance for Ireland and Europe. Co-funding opportunities will continue to be explored in 2023, with other national/international funding partners, where our research priorities align.

While not returning to pre Covid-19 demand, there was a significant increase in 2022 for funding under the Networking and Marine Research Communication Awards call, with 62 grants awarded for attendance at virtual events (conferences, workshops and training courses), open access publications and media production costs to publicise research results. The total grant-aid awarded for the 2022 programme was just under €77,000.

### Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

The Horizon Europe Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) was approved for funding and formally started in September 2022. The SBEP is a cooperation between 60 partners including national research funders from 25 European Countries and the European Commission with funding of €450 million committed over a seven year programme (2022-2028).

The funding is provided by the national funders (70%) with a top-up of 30% from the European Commission. In 2022, the Marine Institute was the sole funding partner from Ireland (other funders may join at a later stage) with a commitment of €4 million in cash and €1 million in kind having been made for the whole partnership. Of this, €1 million cash has been committed under the first transnational joint call to be launched in February 2023, with six calls planned in total.

The SBEP will fund transnational projects that contribute to reducing environmental impact and increasing the sustainability of human activities across multiple maritime sectors, in line with the EU Green Deal and national climate commitments. The first call will focus on five intervention areas dealing with localised digital ocean twins, marine spatial planning and making the seafood sector sustainable.

### Our Shared Ocean

Our Shared Ocean is a €3.8 million programme to build a partnership approach between Irish researchers and those in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) through collaboration on joint transnational projects addressing specific ocean and climate science challenges for SIDS in the Caribbean and the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans.

The programme is wholly funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) in cooperation with the Marine Institute as the funding partner. Our Shared Ocean was formally launched in June 2022 with a dedicated launch event onboard the Irish naval vessel, the George Bernard Shaw, in Lisbon on the occasion of the UN Ocean Conference. The event was organised with the support of the Irish Embassy in Lisbon and the Irish Naval Service. With initial calls launched in 2022, the programme funding calls and investments will be scaled up from 2023, aided by the appointment of a dedicated Programme Manager and Administrator.

## Marine Environment and Food Safety Services (MEFSS)

### Shellfish Safety

In the area of shellfish safety, research activities in 2022 included:

#### National Funded Projects:

- Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) funded project which continues until September 2023, to analyse the impact, management and prevalence of norovirus in a number of production areas around the coast of Ireland.
- Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) funded four year project, 'PSPSafe: Increasing Risk of Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning Events in Ireland', in partnership with University College Dublin (UCD) and Atlantic Technological University (ATU). This project has completed its first year and continues to Nov 2025.

#### International Funded Projects:

- PRIMROSE - Predicting the Impact of Regional Scale Events on the Aquaculture sector is an EU Interreg Atlantic Area project where the Marine Institute is the Lead Partner. This project builds upon our existing datasets, techniques and models for the prediction and forecasting of Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) events and development of a data portal for Atlantic area countries to extract data and information on a variety of biological and oceanographic parameters.
- In November, this project was awarded a third call extension by Interreg Atlantic Area and will continue until July 2023.

#### Marine Institute Funded Research:

- Cullen scholarship (PhD) in Shellfish Microbiology, in conjunction with Munster Technology University (MTU) and Teagasc on the application of next generation sequencing to norovirus genotypic diversity in bivalve shellfish and wastewater.
- Cullen scholarship (PhD) in Phytoplankton/Biodiscovery, in conjunction with Ryan Institute, University of Galway, on the bioactive and toxin properties from the harvesting of biotoxins of large-scale culturing of known toxin producing phytoplankton species in Irish waters.



Our Shared Ocean launch in Lisbon. Pictured are Fiona Grant, Laura McDonagh and Niall McDonough of the Marine Institute with Lt Cmdr Jamie Cotter, LE George Bernard Shaw. Photo: Miguel Valle de Figueiredo.

- Cullen scholarship (PhD) in Phytoplankton Molecular, in conjunction with ATU, 'Development and Implementation of molecular assays for the routine detection of toxigenic and harmful phytoplankton species in Irish coastal waters and sediments'.

### Phytoplankton Survey of Irish Coastal Waters (TC22005)

In August, a short five-day coastal survey of Irish waters was conducted on board the RV *Tom Crean*, where the objectives were designed to deliver data and knowledge to the Irish Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) modelling effort, to continue to map the extent and distribution of known toxigenic phytoplankton species in Irish waters, and to map the physical and phytoplankton characteristics of the coastal current, along transects at stations in the west, southwest, and south coasts.

### Marine Spatial Planning/Marine Strategy Framework Directive

- In 2022, a European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) funded project was completed by the Earth Institute in UCD to investigate the factors that govern the spread of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Irish waters. They developed models to understand future spread of IAS.
- Two European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) seaweed projects were completed in 2022: 1) Developing standard methodologies for assessing the seaweed resource around the Irish coastline; 2) A baseline socioeconomic information about seaweed harvesting activity and product usage in Irish rural marine communities.
- In March, a new benthic biodiversity project began, funded under the EMFF Blue Growth and Marine Spatial Planning Scheme. Benthic data are being collated into a centralised system.
- Co-supervised by Elizabeth Tray (Marine Institute) and Dr. Ainhoa González (University College Dublin), a Cullen Fellow was recruited to develop a cumulative effects assessment framework for Ireland's marine planning process.

- In partnership with FEAS (Prof. David Reid) and a wider international consortium, our Horizon Europe project proposal was successful. The project is called 'Improved transdisciplinary science for effective ecosystem-based maritime spatial planning and conservation in European Seas' (MarinePlan). The project began in October 2022.
- The team presented their work at international conferences including ICES Annual Science Conference, ECSA 59 (Using the best scientific knowledge for the sustainable management of estuaries and coastal seas), IOC UNESCO Marine Spatial Planning Conference, and European Maritime Day.

### Marine Chemistry

- The Marine Chemistry section is involved in a number of collaborative projects investigating marine pollution. Broad topic areas relate to occurrence and risk associated with contaminants of emerging concern, novel approaches evaluating pollution, and contaminant burdens in animals near the apex of the marine food chain (such as marine mammals). Projects included iSECURE, MONITOOL, AQUAGAPS, REVAMP ITN and an EMFF study on contaminants in common dolphin.
- Research projects chemical oceanography include the JPI OCEANS Joint Action on Ocean carbon capacities and the EURO GO-SHIP project.
- Team members were co-authors on five papers published in the scientific press.

### Irish Maritime Development Office (IMDO)

The IMDO continues to improve the quality of its economic research by working closely with relevant Departments, agencies and industry bodies. This work involves listening to industry stakeholders to identify emerging trends and responding with timely, accurate and reliable advice and information.

New research is needed to inform policy in relation to emerging industry sectors such as Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE), alternative fuels and onshore power supply. The accumulation of relevant information starts with consultations with industry stakeholders to map out the domain. This has been ongoing throughout 2022. In addition, the IMDO commenced research in 2022 into the effects the transition to alternative fuels will have on the shipping and ports sectors and how Irish ports can be placed on a pathway to sustainability. This important research will inform policy in this area.

### Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS)

FEAS undertook many Research & Innovation projects during 2022. Highlights of activities during the year include:

- The Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) Team began three new H-Europe funded projects:
  - MarinePlan - with Marine Spatial Planning team in MEFFS Reconciling conflicting spatial needs for fishing, Marine Protected Areas and Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) development, including developing the use of the Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) approach.
  - GES4SEAS - developing and applying methods for the understanding of cumulative pressures and impacts from human activities.
  - OceanICU - Improving Carbon Understanding in the Ocean. Using ecosystem modelling approaches to understand the impacts of fishing (fish removal and sea-bed impacts) on the overall carbon budget and sequestration to the seabed.
- FEAS Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management team published eight international peer reviewed papers.
- FEAS Newport Research Facility team was involved with publishing 13 international peer reviewed papers.
- The research matrix team continued its work in 2022, completing the new PAC form, and moving ahead on developing the Marine Institute Research Strategy. Finally, FEAS, like the other service areas, prepared a contribution to the Marine Institute Research Strategy. This included four themes. Research was linked to advice on stock evaluation and management, aquaculture, marine ecosystem evaluation, and social ecological systems.
- The collaboration with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), Stanford University California, and Trinity College Dublin, which began in 2016, continued in 2022 with 18 more Bluefin tuna tagged with popoff satellite tags and three with accelerometer tags bringing the total number of Bluefin tagged to over 100 since the collaboration began. Data transmitted from these tags when they are released from the fish (usually one year after tagging) has indicated several different migration routes and spawning locations in the Mediterranean, of fish tagged in the Donegal and southwest area with many of the tagged fish returning one year later to the site where they were tagged and released initially.

These data are informing ICCAT stock assessment models and catch advice. In addition, a Cullen Fellowship was awarded to Trinity College Dublin for studies on Bluefin tuna behaviour and ecology.

- The Marine institute continued to provide skipper training, observers and data collection and analyses to support the Bluefin Tuna Catch and Release data collection fishery, which is operated under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) with support from the Marine Institute, Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) and the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SPPA).
- In 2022, over 130,000 juvenile salmon were tagged in six locations under the National Salmon Coded Wire Tagging and Tag Recovery Programme, which was initiated in 1980. This provides over 50 years of information on marine survival of Irish salmon stocks and is used by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) as a national index for advice which they provide annually to the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO).
- The Marine Institute funded a desk study review of ICES reference points which was presented at the ICES Workshop on Reference Points (WKREF1), carried out by Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology (now Atlantic Technological University). This forensic review examined how reference points have been set in recent years by various ICES benchmark meetings and made recommendations on what should be improved in the future.
- Data from a sampling programme for genetic tagging and mark recapture data with lobster fishermen was used by a Cullen PhD fellow based at Queen's University Belfast. Three Cullen fellowships in Burrishoole are complete and the fourth is progressing well, and all are producing peer-reviewed publications.
- Two Cullen fellowships commenced in 2021 in Newport, one on the Wild Nephin National Park (Colin Guilfoyle) and one on biological changes in key commercially exploited fish in the light of climate change (Callum Sturrock). Both are making excellent progress.
- 2022 was another successful year of Burrishoole Long Term Environmental Research data collection in the catchment (meteorological, hydrological, chemical and biological). All data requests were filled as required and the data continued to be used in collaborative research and peer-review publications.

- The InventWater ([inventwater.eu/](https://inventwater.eu/)) MCSA ITN project is running well. Adrian Rinaldo was recruited to the joint University College Cork/Marine Institute position and will work on salmonid modelling of future climate impacts.
- The two Dundalk IT (DkIT) PhDs, funded under the umbrella of the 'Landscape Programme' and working on projects with the Burrishoole catchment team (paleolimnology and freshwater biodiversity), continue to make progress
- In 2022, further development took place of an open-source database and archiving system to consolidate and digitise this collection was developed under the 'Unlocking the Archive, Catchment Cluster' programme. Ongoing time series analyses in relation to changing climate are underway using data from the archive and the long time series of fish census data and coded wire tagging data.
- In 2019, the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), part of the Heritage Division of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, approached the Marine Institute to explore the possibility of using the facilities at the Marine Institute's research station at Furnace to test the feasibility of breeding and rearing freshwater pearl mussels (FPMs) in captivity. FPMs are on the verge of extinction and the National Conservation Strategy for FPMs recognises the importance of captive breeding projects for ensuring the short- to medium-term survival of populations in severe decline. Having established the first cohort of captive mussels in the Furnace hatchery in 2020 and produced the first generation of captive bred juveniles in 2021, we were granted a project licence to the Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) to continue the programme from 2022-2024. Production of the second cohort of FPMs occurred in the hatchery in 2022.

- The BEYOND 2020 project came to a successful end in 2022, following an approved extension to overcome the complications related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Four of the five PhD students have now completed (Molly Williams, Joyce O'Grady, Florian Leseur and Michele de Noia) and Maria Caldero-Pascual will defend her thesis in January 2023. 14 peer-reviewed papers have been published to date, five of which used the long-term ecological data from Burrishoole. There have also been three additional multi-author collaborative papers that include BEYOND 2020 co-authors, one of which was published in Nature Communications. BEYOND 2020 also hosted a special session at the Symposium for European Freshwater Science in July 2022. Significant progress has been made on new sensor development, species specific qPCR eDNA assays and microbiome analyses.
- Six years of genetic stock identification work on herring in ICES area 6.a came to fruition in Q1 2022 when an ICES stock assessment benchmark concluded that the stocks of 6a South and 6a North can once again be assessed separately for the first time since 2015, now that they can be reliably differentiated. This has resulted in the first non-zero TAC advice for the stocks since they were combined.
- The Newport Burrishoole fish (salmon, trout, eel) census programme, which includes the upstream and downstream trap census and the juvenile stock monitoring in the streams and lakes, forms the basis for much of the stock assessment and provision of stock and catch advice for salmon and eel. See Appendix 8 for details for 2022.
- The Horizon2020 funded IMPAQT (Intelligent Management Systems for Integrated Multi-trophic Aquaculture) project was successfully completed. The project, co-ordinated by the Marine Institute, involved 21 international partners with a budget of almost €6 million.

## Ocean Climate and Information Services (OCIS)

### Marine Research Infrastructures

The team was involved in a number of Horizon Europe projects in 2022 including:

- Euro-Argo RISE (E-ARISE) extending the capabilities of the Euro-Argo ERIC contribution to the global Argo float array providing essential ocean observations for i) biogeochemical parameters, ii) in deeper sea, iii) under ice, and iv) in marginal sea regions. This project successfully concluded in December 2022.
- JERICO-S3 (Joint European Research Infrastructure of Coastal Observatories: Science, Service, Sustainability) to (i) provide services for the delivery of high-quality environmental data, (ii) access to solutions and facilities as services for researchers and users, (iii) create product prototypes for EU marine core services and users, (iv) support excellence in marine coastal research to better answer societal and policy needs.
- JERICO-DS (Joint European Research Infrastructure of Coastal Observatories - Design Study) designing a state-of-the-art, fit-for-purpose and visionary observational European Research Infrastructure that will provide forecasting expertise and high-quality data on European coastal and shelf seas, supporting world-class research, high-impact innovation and European excellence worldwide.
- GROOM-II (Gliders for Research, Ocean Observation & Management - Innovation & Industry) also designing a state-of-the-art, fit-for-purpose and visionary Glider European Research Infrastructure (GERI) that will provide high-quality data on European coastal and shelf seas from surface down to 1,000 plus metres.

The team was also involved in a number of successful Horizon Europe proposals which were awarded in 2022 including:

- ANERIS (Operational sensing life technologies for marine ecosystems) to develop the next generation of scientific instrumentation, tools and methods for sensing marine-life. The design of the new instruments and methods will integrate different types of marine life-sensing technologies: genomics, imaging bio-optics and participatory sciences.
- GEORGE (Next generation multiplatform ocean observing technologies for research infrastructures) developing and demonstrating state-of-the-art biogeochemical multi-platform observing system for characterisation of the ocean carbon system through systematic, autonomous, in situ seawater CO<sub>2</sub> system characterisation, and CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes on moving and fixed observation platforms.
- TRIDENT (Technology based impact assessment tool for sustainable, transparent deep sea mining exploration and exploitation) developing a reliable, transparent and cost effective system for prediction and continuous environmental impact monitoring of exploration and exploitation activities in the deep sea. This system will provide real-time data to permitting and supervising authorities to comply with international and national legal frameworks.



Kestutis Sadauskas, Deputy Director-General,  
DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries,  
Fiona Grant, Marine Institute, and  
John Bell, Director of Healthy Planet.

### Oceanographic and Climate Services

The Marine Institute produced six scientifically peer reviewed papers on ocean modelling, ocean observing and climate, including three publications by a Cullen PhD student on wave-current interactions in Irish waters and a collaborative paper with Plymouth Marine Laboratory, UK, on oceanographic drivers of deep sea sponge distribution and two papers from the CoCliME and PRIMROSE projects.

In 2022, the OCS team continued to work closely with colleagues in Maynooth University on co-supervising Cullen PhD students carrying out research on seasonal to decadal sea level and wave prediction and with colleagues at University of Galway on a Cullen PhD project focused on ocean colour using remote sensing satellites and *in-air* hyperspectral sensors on the RV *Celtic Explorer*. A collaboration with University of Galway continued also to advance the Marine Institute funded project on data assimilation.

### Advanced Mapping Services (AMS)

The AMS team continues to lead Work Package 4 on Benthic Habitat Mapping in the EU H2020 Mission Atlantic project. The team co-convened workshops and meetings with project partners and international groups on Atlantic pressure mapping, mapping and modelling of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems in the Atlantic, and challenges and opportunities in Atlantic mapping. AMS supervise the Marine Institute funded University College Cork (UCC) Post Doc (Nomanstif).

The Marine Institute's European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) Seabed Habitat contract is ongoing, with work commencing on a follow-on contract proposal. AMS lead the communications and outreach work package, and ongoing data interpretation and analysis is improving Ireland's contribution to the broad-scale seabed habitat map for Europe.

In support of third level capacity build and Marine Institute funded Ship Time Awards, AMS provided mapping assistance to a range of surveys on board the RV *Celtic Voyager* and RV *Celtic Explorer*, both in survey planning, and remote acquisition.

### Library Services

The Oceanus Library continues to support our teams in their research, by providing access to publications, training, publishing support, and increasing their research impact through Open Access and promotion.

The Librarian collaborates with all departments, including working with scientist and application development teams to visualise data and contributing to internal policies on data, data protection and security, research, and publishing.

On a national level, the Library collaborates with the National Open Research Forum, contributing to and endorsing the National Action Plan for Open Research 2022-2030. The Library, jointly with University of Galway and a consortia of institutes, secured funding to answer one of six priority calls outlined in the National Action Plan which will focus on national alignment of institutional repositories over the next two years.

The Librarian is active across a variety of associations and also attended and presented at a number of conferences in 2022, both virtually and in person. The World Library Conference came to Dublin in July 2022 with over 2,000 librarians gracing the capital from all corners of the globe, including the Marine Institute Librarian, who also presented at the conference.

See Appendices 4 & 5 for information on Marine Institute Publications and Scientific Papers and Publications in 2022.



Marine Institute Librarian Stephanie Ronan in the Oceanus Library in Oranmore.

## STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA 4 Ireland's Ocean Economy

The Marine Institute provides services in partnership with other agencies which underpin and promote sustainable economic development and promote sustainable employment. Most of the activities detailed in other areas of this Annual Report also have a significant economic dimension.

The Institute supports Ireland's ocean and coastal economies through its research, domain expertise, infrastructure, advisory and regulatory services and maritime development opportunities. This includes the mandate of the Marine Institute's Irish Maritime Development Office (IMDO), providing dedicated development, promotional and marketing support for the shipping and shipping services sector. The IMDO's remit also includes supporting the development of Irish ports and the education and training needs of the maritime transport industry.

Through broader education, engagement and outreach programmes with stakeholders, the Marine Institute helps to develop an informed consensus about the sustainable development of our ocean economy (see Strategic Enabler 4: Engagement and Education for more on this).

These enabling services support the Government's ambitions and commitments under the Programme for Government. The Institute facilitates and funds research that delivers policy-relevant knowledge essential for growth and sustainability in the blue economy. Building socioeconomic capacity and capability in PIRS and linking this to a strengthened national capacity is key to achieving this.

The achievement of these economic ambitions relies on the combined efforts of Ireland's development agencies. The opportunity for significant additional growth in our blue economy will continue, underpinned by the Marine Area Planning Act and guided by cross-government cooperation and cross-agency cooperation. The Institute will continue to support national goals for sectoral development through its scientific advice and services, data and evidence provision, and addressing critical knowledge gaps through funding and performing research.

Collaboration nationally and internationally is an important aspect of this. Working in partnership with Enterprise Ireland, Bord Iascaigh Mhara, and other enterprise-focused agencies, the Marine Institute continued in 2022 to support initiatives such as the Marine Ireland Industry Network (MIIN).

### Irish Maritime Development Office (IMDO)

The IMDO continues to promote the opportunities that exist in Ireland's maritime industry, specifically in sectors such as shipping, port services, Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE), education and maritime commerce. Ireland's heavy reliance on international trade means that maritime transport is of significant interest to most industry sectors, drawing the IMDO into diverse sectors of the Irish economy. The IMDO's business development activity in 2022 was heavily influenced by the lifting of Covid-19 travel restrictions and the recommencement of national and international events and conferences.

During the year, the IMDO participated in various events and conferences, reaching national and international audiences.



Where possible, the involvement and collaboration of other development agencies was sought to strengthen the impact of Ireland's presence at these events. The growing emphasis on ORE resulted in the IMDO participating in several events during the year, which presented opportunities to advance the case for a multi-port response to the provision of ORE capacity.

During 2022, the IMDO welcomed inward trade missions for different countries and showcased the ORE opportunities set out in the Climate Action Plan and in the Programme for Government.

Responding to shift in trade patterns that was brought about by the UK's decision to leave the EU, the IMDO intensified its business development activities in the shipping sector, which resulted in services commencing or expanding to meet changes in the demand profile. In doing so, the IMDO supported new entrants to the industry and welcomed the additional capacity and route choices provided by incumbents. The results of these efforts are apparent in the increased number of shipping companies now offering services to Irish importers and exporters.

The IMDO participated in international and national events with industry stakeholders and policy makers related to business development opportunities. These efforts will continue into 2023 to ensure that the changes in trading patterns that have occurred are known to shipping industry stakeholders and that opportunities to expand capacity and increase competition are optimised.

The IMDO's coordinated and collaborative approach to business development engages all relevant Government departments and development agencies. The IMDO's presence on the steering group for the Marine Ireland Industry Network (MIIN) ensures that maritime opportunities are brought to the attention of Irish Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and that relevant industry analysis is provided in our quarterly and annual reporting to inform investment decisions.

The combined effects of these efforts resulted in the maritime industry achieving impressive results in 2022 by taking full advantage of market opportunities and by relying on IMDO generated advice and research.

2022 saw signs of growth and recovery in the Irish maritime industry, notwithstanding the suppressive effects of the war in Ukraine on trade. ORE has become the most pressing matter on the agenda of the IMDO because of its prominence in the Programme for Government, its centrality to the Climate Action Plan and the unprecedented opportunity it presents to the Irish maritime industry to secure a new revenue stream and contribute to regional development.

Economic forecasts for 2023 recognise the uncertainty caused by current geo-political issues. Against the backdrop of this uncertainty, the IMDO will prepare to furnish robust advice to policy makers, and strong support to ports and shipping industry in the coming year.



## Ocean Climate And Information Services (OCIS)

### Marine Infrastructures

#### Test Site and Observatory

The SmartBay Observatory, located on the seabed in Galway Bay off the coast of Spiddal, provides fibre optic data and power connectivity allowing scientific experiments and novel marine sensors and equipment to be tested in a real marine environment with real-time monitoring of performance. The Observatory is a regional facility of EMSO ERIC, the legal framework created for large scale pan-European Multidisciplinary Seafloor and water column Observatory infrastructures.

To improve the future service offering to researchers and commercial technology developers, the SmartBay Observatory underwent a major upgrade during the course of 2022. Two research projects were secured in 2022 for use of the Observatory by international research teams from both the U.S. and Finland to evaluate the effectiveness of novel marine monitoring technologies. A further two projects were confirmed in 2022 and are awaiting the determination on the SmartBay test site lease application to deploy novel technologies at the test site.

Following a judicial review in 2020 of the Institute's application for a new foreshore lease to upgrade the test site, remittal of the application back to the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and further public consultation on updated environmental information, the Institute awaits a determination on the foreshore lease application in early 2023.

### Advanced Mapping Services (AMS)

- INFOMAR partners Marine Institute & Geological Survey Ireland supported and facilitated the first post-Covid Hydrographic Society UK and Ireland's "Remote Hydrography Conference and Exhibition", held in Dublin Castle, 22-24 February. Bringing together Irish and international commercial operators supporting hydrography and shipping globally, the event showcased the most innovative autonomous mapping technologies, including a remote operations room, where live in-field unmanned survey activities were monitored and controlled during the event.

- The recent scale-up in the Irish commercial survey sector, underpinning the growth in Offshore Renewable Energy development, was evident in the increased attendance at the subsequent Irish branch meeting hosted by INFOMAR in Dublin in December.

## Policy, Innovation and Research Services (PIRS)

### Policy Support - Marine Socio-Economic Data Programme

PIRS, working in partnership with University of Galway (and its Socio Economic Research Unit), continues to progress the reporting, analysis and monitoring of Ireland's ocean economy required to underpin a range of socioeconomic services to Government. This follows the signing of a five-year strategic partnership agreement with University of Galway in December 2020. This work was supported in PIRS by the hiring of two economists in late 2021.

One of the outcomes of this work in 2022 was the publication of the latest update of *Ireland's Ocean Economy Report*. The report shows that in 2021, Ireland's ocean economy had a turnover of €4.98 billion, had a direct economic contribution, as measured by Gross Value Added (GVA), of €2.1 billion and employed 32,100 full time equivalents.

Both 2021 turnover and employment are 8% below 2019 figures primarily as a result of the Covid-19 shock to the ocean economy, but GVA increased by 3% over 2019 figures, mostly driven by gas production and energy price increases. In 2023, work will be focused on developing a dashboard for Ireland's ocean economy.

The Marine Socio-Economic Data Programme team also worked through the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) Service Level Agreement on the development of socio-economic indicators for the National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) monitoring approach and on undertaking cost-benefit analysis for new programme of measures required by the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).

In 2022, the Marine Institute progressed work with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Ocean Economy Group as part of the wider work within PIRS with the OECD. This work also included a number of national partners (Bord Iascaigh Mhara, Central Statistics Office, University of Galway) on the development of an ocean satellite account for Ireland, particularly on the development of supply and use tables. The OECD is producing initial experimental estimates for an international satellite account for ocean economic activities with Ireland chosen as one of its pilot countries.

A workshop held by the OECD in December provided a forum for countries to discuss progress and challenges faced when measuring ocean economic activity. Progress in ocean accounting in Ireland was presented by PIRS socio-economists, with participation also from national partners including Bord Iascaigh Mhara and the Central Statistics Office (CSO).

In 2022, PIRS also secured a Cullen Fellowship jointly supervised with the Ecosystem Accounts Division (EAD) of the CSO. Following a competitive funding call, the funding was awarded to University of Galway. The Cullen Fellow is expected to start in 2023 and will investigate how the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting-Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA-EA) can be applied to Ireland's coastal and marine ecosystems.

### Marine Ireland Industry Network (MIIN)

BlueWise Marine, contracted by PIRS to support the Marine Ireland Industry Network (MIIN), continued to work with the section on the delivery of secretariat services to the Network. The aim of the Network is to enhance the overall understanding of what the Irish marine capabilities are, the services and products on offer and the markets being served. The Network is made up of a diverse range of companies, state organisations, research groups and higher education institutes.

As of the end of 2022, the Network includes over 214 organisations signed up to the MIIN Directory and over 585 members subscribed to the MIIN mailing list. The Network and its activities are guided by an interagency and industry focussed steering group, chaired by Enterprise Ireland, with support and participation from the Marine Institute (PIRS and the IMDO) and BlueWise Marine.

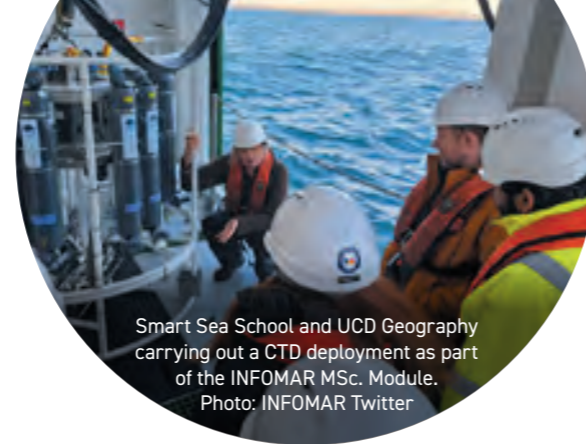
Three MIIN events were held in 2022. 'MIIN in Cork' was held in the National Maritime College in Ringaskiddy in March, with 51 attendees. This was followed by a second regional event in November, 'MIIN in Wexford', attended by 63 members. A virtual event, attended by over 80 members 'Blue Skills and Training in Ireland's Marine & Maritime Industry', was held in August.

The Network's tools such as the Marine Ireland website, directory, ezine/newsletter and social media platforms, are used to showcase MIIN nationally and internationally, offering a vantage point where national capabilities in the marine and maritime sectors (Ireland's Blue Edge) are showcased under the Marine Ireland brand identity.

The website and social media channels, run by the secretariat, also saw significant activity in 2022 with marine news, funding alerts, events and job adverts shared across a range of platforms and communications channels. As part of the 2022 communications activities, MIIN members took part in 'MIIN Member Spotlight', where MIIN companies provided insights into their vision for the company and the marine industry in general.

In December, the secretariat distributed more than 200 MIIN 2023 calendars to Directory Members, Steering Group Members and Competition Winners. This calendar featured photography from the MIIN Photography Competition 2022 that took place on the @MarineIrlNet Twitter account in October.





# STRATEGIC ENABLER 1

## Our People

The Strategic Enabler, Our People, has three strategic initiatives - ensuring agility, diversity and flexibility, cultivating the Institute as a great place to work and, building and retaining the capabilities of our staff. Our People are central to all of the service areas and strategic focus areas outlined in this Annual Report.

2022 was a year of prioritising Our People and their development and wellbeing, reflected in the review with staff of our current Strategic Plan (2018-2022) and development of our new 2023-2027 Plan.

There was a focus on living our Organisation Values to further embed our Culture, 'Inspiring Our People to Deliver Excellence'. Our agile and flexible workforce continued to deliver all programmes and services during a post pandemic national return to the workplace and saw the launch of our Blended Working Policy and Pilot Programme.

We continued to embrace new ways of working and new technology to work efficiently and effectively while staying connected and collaborating with others. Internal communications were prioritised using online platforms to bring everyone together as well as online videos from our Board, CEO and Service Group Directors to keep all staff members informed about programmes, projects, Strategic Plans and initiatives.

In addition, our internal newsletter, 'Voices, Views and News', promoted access each month to wellbeing supports, introduced new joiners and movers in the Institute, kept staff informed about events internally and externally and celebrated the many successes of Our People.

### Human Resources

The Marine Institute's Human Resource focus in 2022 aligned with our Strategic Plan 2018-2022 with a commitment to support a culture of high performance, driven by our people, whose skills, experience and passion for the marine are central to the work we perform for Government and other stakeholders.

We embraced our values of Commitment, Integrity, Excellence, Innovation, Collaboration and Respect while emphasising the importance of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) in 2022. We published our 2021-2023 Action Plan and launched a programme of actions to increase awareness of ED&I and give everyone a voice while ensuring accessibility to training, work experience, recruitment opportunities, infrastructure and tailored supports.

We continue to be a member of the ASIAM community of practice, committed to better accessibility for neurodiverse individuals. The Institute continues to facilitate a number of programmes that provide staff with options in relation to meeting their career and personal needs such as flexible working arrangements, tailored supports, access to family friendly policies that include tailored parental leave, parents leave, study leave and educational programmes.



Marine Institute Bursars 2022

Our committed staff, managers and directors invested significant effort to ensure high quality service delivery in safe working environments while navigating the move from pandemic response to a return to onsite working.

Our Performance Management & Development Framework, reflecting our ongoing commitment to compliance and to professional and personal development, continued to foster regular communications and feedback, strategic delivery of ambitious and measurable targets, continuous professional development and celebrating our people and values.

The Marine Institute invested €275,482 in Learning and Development related activities to build capacity, develop essential skills, manage risk, promote governance and compliance while meeting strategic goals. Our training focus outside of essential and mandatory programmes included Leadership; Effective Communications; Equality, Diversity & Inclusion; Compliance Training (Safety, Procurement, Governance, Seagoing); Risk Management; as well as Ocean Modelling and Cyber Security.

We continued with our building of resilience and ensuring wellbeing for our people across all locations. We invested in developing the future marine and maritime workforce via our Summer Bursary Programme where 13 students availed of work experience. And the Institute continued to invest in Cullen and Eoin Sweeney Fellowships (45) for postgraduate learning and also invested in online training platforms. This led to an investment in Learning & Development totalling €879,482 (approximately 5.49% of payroll costs for 2022).

In total, 53 opportunities were offered during 2022 with 195 applications received, resulting in 16 males and 37 females appointed into roles ranging from short-term to contracts of indefinite duration. Of these 53 appointments, 32 were allocated to internal candidates and 21 to external candidates.

These roles, which provided career and professional development opportunities, were created via new temporary research projects, the filling of core vacancies, temporary redeployments and career break, maternity or sick leave cover. The attrition rate amongst core employees in 2022 was 2%, which includes resignation, retirements and career break commencements.

The organisation was audited and retained its platinum level certification from the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) against Excellence Through People (ETP) 1000:2017. This is a national human resource management scheme promoting better communications and engagement, innovation and efficiency while recognising the importance of valuing and investing in people. The Marine Institute has held this certification since 2005.

While it was not possible to host Transition Year students in person during 2022, we updated and circulated an interactive manual sharing information about the work that the Marine Institute does and possible careers within the Institute and also the wider marine and maritime sector to 86 students. We profiled careers in marine science, technology and related disciplines, engaging students in activities related to fisheries science, marine chemistry, seabed mapping, food safety, research vessel operations, shipping and maritime development, oceanography and marine climate, data, applications development. The manual also provides tips and information on college courses and communications.

The Marine Institute is proactive in implementing appropriate measures to protect the safety and health of all employees and visitors to its premises. The Health & Safety (H&S) Committee, representing all locations and programmes, met eight times in 2022 and the Workers Representative Group held 11 meetings. Annual risk assessments, risk management reviews and business continuity reviews were completed across all locations to ensure wellbeing, compliance and service delivery. Internally, we logged three minor incidents and 12 near misses in 2022.

In addition to ensuring implementation of all of our safety procedures and standards, our compliance in this area was independently reviewed as part of audits for risk management and business continuity planning and also a review of Human Resources policies and practices - with high levels of assurance from both audits.

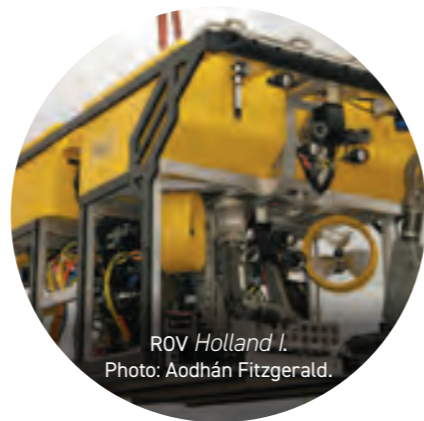
**18**  
The number of years that the Marine Institute has successively held the prestigious Excellence Through People (ETP) certification



Marine Institute Bursars 2022 with staff from the Institute



**33.4%**  
Energy saving made by the Institute's headquarters at Oranmore, Co. Galway, since joining Optimising Power @ Work in 2015



# STRATEGIC ENABLER 2 Infrastructure

The Marine Institute operates national infrastructures that provide essential platforms for its government services, national and international research and early technology development. These national assets include nine Marine Institute facilities nationwide that accommodate staff and laboratory facilities, including the Institute's headquarters in Oranmore, Co. Galway, and its research facility in Newport, Co. Mayo.

Other infrastructure includes: two multi-purpose research vessels (RV *Celtic Explorer* and RV *Tom Crean* which came into service in 2022 (replacing the RV *Celtic Voyager*). Infrastructure also includes a deep water Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), IT infrastructure and data, mobile and fixed oceanographic equipment as well as research and test and demonstration platforms such as the Galway Bay Observatory.

The Institute also provides technical services and equipment to other national infrastructure operators, which includes supporting ocean energy test sites, the Irish Marine Data Buoy Observation Network (IMDBON), as well as coastal protection and flood risk management programmes.

## Facilities Management

The Facilities team's primary role is the management of the Institute's buildings and vehicles, whilst providing a strong customer service to both our internal and external clients. The team ensures operational plant and equipment is serviced and maintained to a high level in line with health & safety and regulatory standards.

In 2022, we operated our buildings in accordance with the Climate Action Mandate and the Government's Reduce Your Use campaign. The team is responsible for the daily operations of Reception and Stores and manages the operational functions of maintenance, cleaning, catering, grounds maintenance, and energy management and sustainability.

## Energy Efficiency Reporting by Public Sector Bodies (S.I. 542 of 2009)

The Marine Institute consumed the following in 2022:

Energy Type	Unit	2022
Net Electricity Imports (MPRN data)	kWh	2,235,993
Marine gasoil	litre	1,790,924
Natural Gas (GPRN data)	kWh (Gross)	852
Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) (purchased by volume)	litre	236,036
Kerosene	litre	12,950
Road Diesel (DERV)	litre	9,900

The Institute, as a whole, has achieved a 19.4% energy reduction since 2009 (33% reduction as measured at 2021).

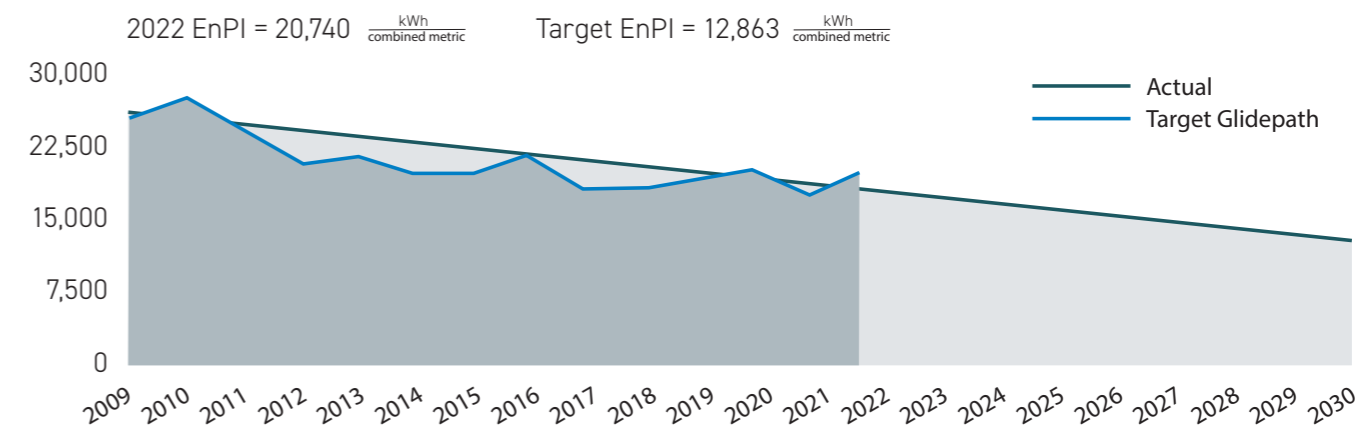
This metric has declined as it is impacted by the delivery of the new national research vessel, the RV *Tom Crean*, in July 2022. While it was designed with energy efficiency in mind, it is larger than the RV *Celtic Voyager* which it replaced. We have, as a result, increased the usage of Marine Gas Oil (MGO) in 2022.

We do note that the RV *Tom Crean* is an essential part of Ireland's marine infrastructure; enabling critical marine observations to be made and supporting research in national and international programmes contributing to the national and international sustainability agenda.

A breakdown of overall consumption is on the next page:

- Electricity: 5.1% improvement on 2021.
- Thermal (Kerosene & LPG): 13.8% improvement on 2021.
- Transport (MGO and fleet diesel/petrol): 31% adverse versus 2021.

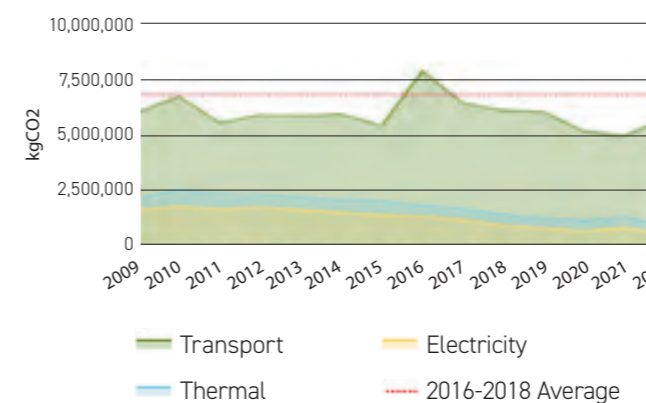
## Energy Performance Indicators - 2022



Whilst our Green House Gas emissions are lower than the 2016-2018 baseline, we produced 19% more CO2 in 2022 as shown below. This is directly linked to Transport; increase in MGO for the RV *Tom Crean*. Electricity and Thermal CO2 has reduced since 2021.

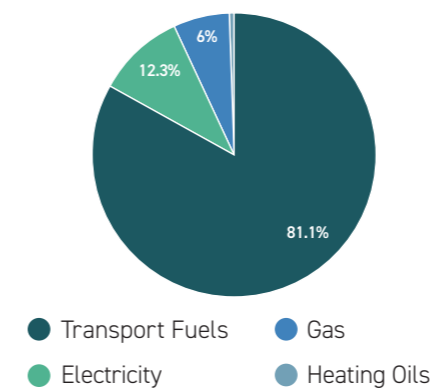
## Energy-related CO2 Emissions Since Energy Efficiency Baseline

Indicative values subject to revision as target methodology is finalised



19% more than 2021

## Energy-related CO2 Emissions - 2022

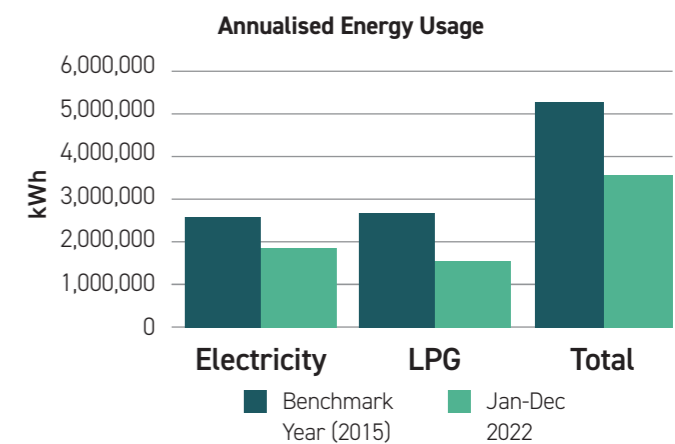


950,923 kg CO2 more than 2021

The Oranmore Headquarters reached the 33% energy saving target since joining Optimising Power @ Work in 2015. Electricity consumption between 2015 and 2022 has reduced by 27% and LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) consumption has reduced by 40% during this period. 2022 saw an increase in LPG consumption as we returned in full to the office after some teams remote working during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Changes since the benchmark year of 2015 are outlined below:

- The total annual unit consumption of energy has decreased from 5,259,595 kWh to 3,502,955 kWh.
- Electricity consumption onsite has decreased from 2,599,985 kWh to 1,903,349 kWh.
- LPG consumption onsite has decreased from 2,659,610 kWh to 1,599,606 kWh.



Description	Electricity	LPG	Total
Benchmark Year (2015)	2,599,985	2,659,610	5,259,595
Jan-Dec 2022	1,903,349	1,599,606	3,502,955
<b>% Difference</b>	<b>-26.8%</b>	<b>-39.9%</b>	<b>-33.4%</b>

In 2022, we produced our first Climate Action Roadmap, which outlines how the Institute will work towards the new targets for energy (50%) and Greenhouse Gas (51%) reduction as set under the Climate Action Plan 2021. The roadmap highlights project pipelines, both renewable technologies and energy reduction to be implemented between 2023-2030.

## Research Vessels Operations (RVOPs)

2022 was a challenging year for the Research Vessel Operations and P&O teams for several reasons, including Covid-19, which still had an effect particularly in the early part of the year and occasionally impacted surveys throughout the year. The energy crisis created by the Russian invasion of Ukraine impacted ships' fuel prices severely, requiring stringent measures to minimise the impact of the operating cost increase for the vessels.

The RV *Tom Crean* required an increasing presence of deck officers, engineers, crew and technical personnel, as its construction was completed and sea trials commenced in Vigo. A mostly relief crew were required to allow the RV *Celtic Voyager* to complete its final survey programme. This all resulted in a very busy year for those afloat and ashore. Despite the challenges, a full year's survey programme was completed on RV *Celtic Explorer*, with the *Celtic Voyager* and the *Tom Crean* crews and scientists almost seamlessly delivering a year's survey effort between the two ships.

2022 highlights include:

- The completion of the build and delivery of the RV *Tom Crean*, on time and on budget, in July and the commencement of its service for the Institute later that month.
- The completion of a 20-year survey and significant refit of the RV *Celtic Explorer* in October, including removal and overhaul of its main propulsion motors.
- The retirement of the RV *Celtic Voyager* after 25 years of service and its completion of successful surveys right up to its retirement day.
- Between all three vessels, a total of 571 survey days were completed with a total of 12 surveys on RV *Celtic Explorer*, 13 surveys completed on RV *Celtic Voyager* and 17 on RV *Tom Crean*.
- The RV *Celtic Explorer* completed a challenging survey in the Labrador Sea in the Spring and a ROV survey in the high Arctic in August /September on behalf of the Norwegian MAREANO programme.

## RV *Celtic Voyager*

2022 was a monumental year for all parties involved with the RV *Celtic Voyager* research vessel. It reached a milestone of 25 years undertaking scientific surveys and student training activities (organised by the Marine Institute and partnering with Irish universities).

During that period, the vessel has also been chartered to international institutes, such as Ifremer who used the vessel for nine consecutive years for underwater TV camera operations. And 2022 also marked the final year of survey activities on the *Celtic Voyager*. Works on the building of the replacement vessel, RV *Tom Crean*, were completed in July, leading to the cessation of survey operations on the *Celtic Voyager* during summer 2022.

Although the arrival of the replacement vessel was on the horizon, it didn't hamper the scheduling of surveys on the *Celtic Voyager* for the first six months of 2022. The vessel began the year in mid-January with a maintenance period while alongside in Cork city and then began its first survey of the year, the annual Marine Institute Winter Environment Survey (WES).

The survey track for WES was south-about, with the vast majority of stations being scattered along the south coast, so it worked out well having the *Celtic Voyager* docked in Cork at the start of the year. Scientists could commence sampling operations soon after leaving port, with more efficient use of the vessel and fuel usage minimised.

Due to Covid-19 measures in place (primarily the limitation on the number of berths available,) the WES was split up into two survey legs with the Marine Institute benthos team sailing first, followed by the Institute's chemistry team joining several days later. Scheduling the survey in this way was advantageous during Covid-19 as it allowed both scientific teams to achieve their objectives in a safe manner.



Eoin Warner on board the RV *Celtic Voyager*.



RV *Celtic Voyager*.  
Photo: Andrew Downes, Xposure.

Cruise objectives were fully achieved for the benthos team with 117 sediment grabs deployed and 109 successful grabs recorded. Cruise objectives were not fully achieved on Leg 2 for the chemistry team, primarily due to weather downtime. All Conductivities, Temperatures and Depths (CTDs) were achieved on the east coast transects, but operations were hampered by weather along the southwest coast. 66 CTDs, 208 underway samples and three sediment samples were acquired in total - approximate 60% completion.

In early February, the survey passed to Cork for the first student training surveys of 2022. John Boyd, coordinator of SMART Sea School, took out students from University of Galway and Maynooth University for two days each. The final student training survey on the *Celtic Voyager* took place in April.

The first Ship-Time Programme survey of 2022 took place in March on the *Celtic Voyager*. 'There Be Giants' was led by Chief Scientist Dr Patrick Collins from Queen's University Belfast, in partnership with researchers from Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin. The objectives of the cruise involved investigations of populations of the critically endangered flapper skate (*Dipturus intermedius*) and the poorly studied and usually deep-sea bluntnose six-gill shark (*Hexanchus griseus*). The coastline from Loop Head to Spanish Point is home to both species.

The aim of Dr. Collins' research was to investigate the presence of egg-case nurseries of the flapper skate species, using the underwater camera system. It has been reported that Spanish Point is the only site outside of Scotland where quantities of these egg cases are regularly stranded, hinting at a potential critical habitat for these species in Co. Clare.

In relation to the deep-sea bluntnose six-gill shark, the aim was to determine the presence of the species along the west coast. Ireland has emerged as one of the few places in the world where the bluntnose six-gill shark has been regularly found in shallow (< 100m) coastal habitats. Unfortunately, due to weather downtime the cruise objectives were not achieved for the 'There Be Giants' team.

The team spent three days in total surveying and a total of seven days were lost due to weather. Dr Collins had the opportunity to test the camera systems and the target sites for the eDNA sampling was achieved with additional eDNA data acquired in Cork harbour.

The final funded research survey on the *Celtic Voyager* was scheduled for eight days in March and was led by Dr Mark Coughlan with the Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences (iCRAG), University College Dublin. The 'Data acquisition for leakage monitoring for carbon capture and storage (InStor) survey' planned sampling area was in the North Celtic Sea.

The aim of the geophysical survey was to gather high-resolution multibeam data (and geochemical data) to create an integrated baseline geological model of existing seabed morphologies related to passive and active seepage of fluids, such as pockmarks and mounds. While the survey was cut short, the team were delighted with the data collected which will provide a preliminary understanding of the substrate type in the sampling area, which will be useful for future surveys in this area.

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Survey days were undertaken collectively in 2022 by research vessels *Celtic Explorer*, *Celtic Voyager* and *Tom Crean*.

From mid-April to mid-July, surveys on the *Celtic Voyager* involved INFOMAR seabed mapping activities (led by the Marine Institute Advanced Mapping Services team) and underwater TV (UWTV) camera operations (Ifremer & the Marine Institute). In April, the *Celtic Voyager* made its final voyage to the Bay of Biscay to allow the team of biologists from Ifremer to embark in Lorient to commence the 14 day annual UWTV survey on *Nephrops norvegicus* burrow densities.

The survey was led by Mr. Jean-Philippe Vacherot and involved the use of an underwater camera (Cathx Ocean camera) to investigate the quantity of prawn burrows present in a ten-minute tow. It was a hugely successful survey with 181 stations visited and excellent footage collected at 176 of those stations.

The final two UWTV surveys on the *Celtic Voyager* took place over two legs between late May to mid-June. The first leg, survey code CV22015, was led by Marine Institute scientist Mikel Aristegui and the original plan was to carry out UWTV operations at the Aran Ground and Porcupine Grounds. However, this wasn't achieved on this survey leg, as a result of the unfavourable weather conditions occurring west of Ireland at the time of the survey.

Instead, the team completed all stations at The Smalls, Labadie and other areas. The survey leg was a huge success in terms of the number of stations recorded (158 stations), along with the number of stations reviewed (103 stations) onboard the vessel. This is a record for the most stations completed on a Marine Institute UWTV survey.

The second leg (survey CV22016), led by Marine Institute scientist Jennifer Doyle, was severely hampered by weather conditions. The team captured footage at c. 30 stations during CV22016 and survey activities on CV22015 and CV22016 amounted to 65% of the total 2022 survey area being completed over Leg 1 and Leg 2 (Leg 3 took place on the RV *Tom Crean* in August).

Three INFOMAR survey legs took place on the *Celtic Voyager* in 2022. The first INFOMAR survey took place from 29 March to 10 April. Leg 2 from 1-22 May and then the final survey leg from 19 June to 12 July. Over the course of the three survey legs, 2,703 square kilometres of seabed were surveyed in total.

The RV *Celtic Voyager* demobilised from its final survey in Howth on 12 July and was retired from service.

### RV Celtic Explorer

The first survey of 2022 was a new survey onboard the *Celtic Explorer*, which primarily involved the deployment of cone penetration testing (CPT) equipment and was led by Dr. Mark Coughlan, with the Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences (iCRAG), University College Dublin.

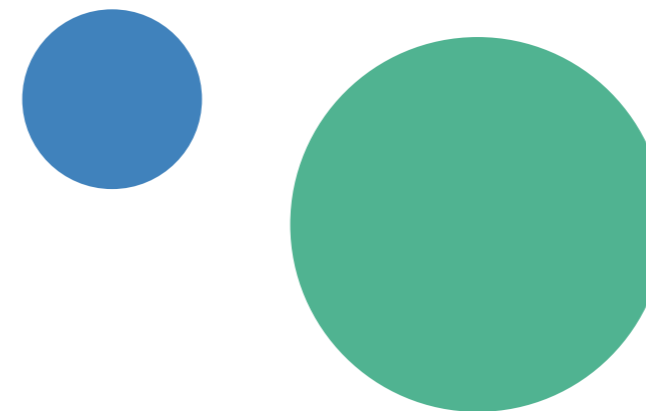
21 CPT stations were successfully completed during the project which involved partnerships with geophysicists in a range of organisations. The vessel then travelled to Hamburg, Germany, to carry out the annual BSH (Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency) oceanographic and environmental survey, led by Dr. Katrin Latarius. The BSH survey departed from Hamburg and steamed north to the Baltic and North Seas to commence their survey activities. The science team achieved their cruise objectives, despite encountering unfavourable weather conditions during the survey.

In early February, the vessel travelled from Kiel back to Galway to allow for the mobilisation for the first leg of the annual Marine Institute Irish Anglerfish & Megrim Survey (IAMS). The survey involves one hour trawls, between depths from 150 to 1,000 metres, in order to gather sufficient data to provide abundance indices for anglerfish and megrim, while also providing maturity data for a range of species.

The vast majority of cruise objectives were achieved during the first leg which ended in Cork in mid-February. However, the second IAMS leg was severely impacted by weather due to Storm Dudley, Storm Eunice and Storm Franklin. Over the two legs, a total of 42 tows were complete (41 valid tows and 1 test tow). This is approximately 50% of normal IAMS targets (approximately 80 tows) for this survey period, with weather being the key factor hampering survey activities.

The third and final leg of IAMS took place in April, with a lot to achieve on this survey leg due to the amount of weather downtime experienced during the previous leg. A total of 50 tows were carried out on Leg 3 and although sampling along the entire track was not feasible due to time constraints, the science team achieved more than originally envisaged.

The Mackerel Egg Survey, which happens every three years, took place in March. The primary aim of this survey is to collect plankton samples, from which mackerel, horse mackerel and hake eggs will be extracted, identified and staged. Temperature and salinity data were also collected from a CTD mounted on the GULF VII sampler.



Although there was weather downtime for circa six days of the Mackerel Egg Survey (21 days in total), the science team achieved their objectives, completing 95 Gulf tows and covered 3,049 nautical miles of transect lines.

March brought a first to all involved with the operation of the *Celtic Explorer* as the first case of Covid-19 was detected on the vessel during the annual Marine Institute Blue Whiting Acoustic Survey (BWAS), even though the Covid-19 protocols for joining the vessel were very stringent.

The knock on effect on the survey was that less than 40% of cruise objectives were achieved. The primary aim of the BWAS is to survey the blue whiting spawning stock using acoustic techniques, in coordination with other participating vessels across Europe.

In addition, fishing tows are done in order to determine species composition, age, spawning state and age profiles of blue whiting, along with CTD deployments to gather sufficient data for a more thorough assessment of the ecosystem. During the 2022 survey, circa 1,060 nautical miles of transect were covered; five fishing tows completed (one invalid) and 16/42 CTD casts completed.

The annual Marine Institute Ocean Climate Survey took place at the end of April and into May and was a hugely successful survey for the oceanographic team, led by Dr Caroline Cusack. It is a hugely important survey as the science team collects high quality oceanographic data which contribute to the Atlantic Ocean Observing System.

The Ocean Climate Survey facilitates long-term monitoring of the deep water environment to the west of Ireland and the survey results are included in Ireland's national report submitted each year to the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Working Group on Oceanic Hydrography (WGOH). This Working Group produces an annual ICES Report on Ocean Climate (IROC) which summarises oceanic variability from year to year in the ICES region. The cruise objectives were fully achieved with 38 CTD stations completed, including the priority stations, along with the successful deployment of the M6 weather buoy and Rockall Deepwater mooring.

May was an exciting time for all involved with *Celtic Explorer* operations as the 'The North Atlantic as a Climate Ocean: Projecting Future Changes in Productivity and the Biological Carbon Pump' survey, led by Professor Brian Ward (University of Galway), took place. The objective was to use their scientific findings to enhance the understanding of the controls on the biological and microbial carbon pumps in the Labrador Sea.



RV *Celtic Explorer*.  
Photo: Andrew Downes,  
Xposure.

Following on from the Covid-19 incident on the BWAS, the protocols were increased for the Transatlantic survey and one of the key measures involved the Canadian team arriving into Ireland ahead of the seven day Covid-19 pre-screening period and quarantining for a week in Galway prior to joining the vessel. Thankfully Covid never entered the vessel, which was always a concern when transiting to the remote Kap Farvel, off the south coast of Greenland.

Before setting off on the passage to the Labrador Sea, the *Celtic Explorer* had a busy four days mobilising for this survey while alongside in Galway. There was a large amount of user equipment brought onboard for this climate survey including marine snow catchers, an underwater vision profiler and an air-sea interaction profiler (ASIP), all shipped from Canada.

The Marine Institute's 20' constant temperature container was also mobilised for the survey and proved to be a crucial piece of kit for conducting salinity analysis while offshore, from the water samples collected with the niskin bottles. Approximately 75% of the cruise objectives were achieved on the survey, with the Chief Scientist acknowledging the hugely ambitious work plan.

Roughly 53 CTD casts were completed, circa 25 MSC deployments, several multinet deployments, four ASIP deployments, five multicores with two being successful. The science team carried out survey activities at 8 of the 12 planned sites.

The vessel then had a maintenance period, combined with a busy demobilisation/mobilisation, before it departed on its annual Western European Pelagic Acoustic Survey (WESPAS).

This survey covers the largest area of transects in Europe, with over 6,000 nautical miles of track covered each year. Using advanced split beam acoustic techniques, the science team on WESPAS aim to gather stock assessment data on herring, boarfish and horse mackerel over a 42 day period, split across two survey legs.

Although the team experienced a couple of days' weather downtime during Leg 1, overall cruise objectives were not hampered. In fact, cruise objectives were exceeded with a transect of 5,800 nautical miles on the EK60 and the target was circa 5,400 nautical miles across the two survey legs. The science team carried out 71 CTD casts, 62 plankton tows and 40 trawls.

The next survey involved the mobilisation of the ROV *Holland I* for the first ROV survey of 2022, led by Professor Andrew Wheeler from University College Cork. The 'Sediment Plume Sampling, Bedrock Drilling & Coral Surveying' (SPeED) survey involved research on several components of cold-water coral (CWC) reefs.

Some of the key aims of the survey included mapping, in high resolution, an area of cold-water coral (CWC) ridge-reefs to better understand CWC reef development models and biogeoenvironmental interactions; the collection of cold-water coral samples for the study of coral pollutant absorption and microplastic accumulation and the recovery of long-term deployments of lander platforms from the Moira Mounds (Porcupine Seabight) in order to delve further into the effect of environmental controls on CWC reefs.

Due to a Covid-19 incident on board again, however, the vessel had to come back to port a few days into the survey and stayed alongside in Cork for 10 days. The decision was then made that with a reduced scientific complement, the vessel would sail for a few days to try and achieve as many cruise objectives as possible in the few days remaining of the scheduled survey time.

There were three main objectives for this survey. One of those objectives was to continue operations within the Belgica Mounds Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and this was almost fully achieved with the team recovering two landers, deploying two other landers and also some other sampling in the area. The other two main objectives included dives in the Whittard Canyon and deployment of the NOC landers to monitor benthic trawling but these operations were abandoned as the team didn't have sufficient time.

In terms of the operational summary, the team carried out five dives, collected and recovered landers, sampled corals for microplastics, took five CTDs, carried out three plankton tows and collected a significant amount of multibeam data during the night in those final few days of survey time.

The SPeED survey finished in Killybegs before setting sail for Tromsø with Norway's Institute of Marine Research (IMR) to work on their long term seabed mapping programme, MAREANO. The vessel sailed to north of Svalbard where the team of scientists from IMR and the Geological Survey of Norway carried out ROV dives and mapping activities at their selected stations in order to determine the presence of trawl marks, from bottom trawl activities.

One of the highlights during the survey was that at one stage, the *Celtic Explorer* was the most northerly positioned vessel in the world at 81° 40'N. Credit is due to the P&O onshore operations team who worked tirelessly prior to the MAREANO survey to ensure that the *Celtic Explorer's* Polar Code certification was amended to allow the vessel to transit as far as 82° North.

Following the completion of the MAREANO survey, the vessel sailed back to Galway to demobilise the ROV *Holland I* before heading to the UK Docks Marine Services in Middlesbrough for the refit period. Having the refit period in October was a first on the schedule and was feasible due to having the *Celtic Voyager's* replacement vessel, the RV *Tom Crean*, available to carry out the annual Celtic Sea herring acoustic survey.

The refit took place over three weeks with key works including the installation of a ballast water treatment plant, the removal, overhaul and re-installation of the vessel's main electrical propulsion motors, cleaning and antifouling of the underwater hull, painting of the vessel's superstructure and overhaul of several essential systems.

Aileen Crean O'Brien, Norma Foley TD and Charlie McConalogue TD at the commissioning event for the RV *Tom Crean*.  
Photo: Andrew Downes.



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Following the refit, the *Celtic Explorer* sailed back to Killybegs to commence the final survey of 2022, the annual Irish Groundfish Survey (IGFS). IGFS is conducted as part of an internationally coordinated demersal trawl survey effort under an ICES working group, aimed at using trawl sampling to provide an annual relative index of abundance and recruitment for commercially exploited fish stocks.

The survey is split up into four legs and the science team completed their primary objective, carrying out a total of 161 hauls from a target of 171. During Leg 4, the team had the opportunity to trial the new bottom trawl, with success. The survey ended in December, with the vessel remaining in Cork for scheduled maintenance over the Christmas period.

### RV *Tom Crean*

The RV *Tom Crean*, a 52.8 metre multipurpose research vessel, which was planned as a replacement for the RV *Celtic Voyager*, came into service in July 2022.

This new marine research vessel enables the Marine Institute to continue to lead and support scientific, high quality surveys that contribute to Ireland's position as a leader in marine science. The vessel was designed by Skipsteknisk AS of Norway and was built by Astilleros Armon, Vigo, Spain.

Following its hull launch in November 2021, the vessel was fitted out whilst afloat in Vigo. The vessel undertook yard and scientific sea trials in May and June 2022 in the waters offshore Vigo before the official handing over of the vessel to the Marine Institute took place on Friday 8 July (three weeks ahead of schedule). This was a great achievement for all concerned as the vessel was constructed entirely during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The ship's crew from P&O Maritime took over the vessel on 8 July and the vessel sailed from Vigo on the evening of 15 July, following final sea trials and inspections by the Irish Flag. The vessel arrived in Galway to a great reception on the morning of 18 July.

Following a week of crew training and calibration of scientific equipment, the vessel sailed on its first survey early in the morning of 26 July to commence the first INFOMAR survey on the new vessel. The survey managed to map almost 1,000km<sup>2</sup> of seabed in the Celtic Sea despite some teething problems with the vessel's new survey equipment.

Following a week of crew training and configuration work on the vessel's network, it sailed on the Porcupine Underwater TV survey on 14 August. Despite adverse weather and undertaking the survey on a brand new vessel, the team managed to complete the important Porcupine UWTV stations before demobilising in Castletownbere, Co Cork.

Successful Harmful Algal Bloom and Mesoplegaic acoustic/fishing surveys followed this port call, before the vessel completed its second INFOMAR survey of the season, which saw an amazing 1,177 km<sup>2</sup> of sea bed mapped in just nine operational days. The vessel undertook the successful Aimsir/EirOOS survey on behalf of Maynooth University/Marine Institute from 24 September to 1 October.

Despite some severe weather, the RV *Tom Crean* successfully recovered some deepwater oceanographic moorings and completed a successful deep (3500 metres) CTD transect, which was a great test of the vessel's CTD deployment system.



The RV *Tom Crean* build team.



Interior of the RV *Tom Crean*.  
Photo: Andrew Downes.

Following a period of maintenance, the vessel entered Dingle Harbour on 4 October and had a very successful commissioning ceremony on 6 October, when the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue TD, and Aileen Crean O'Brien, granddaughter of *Tom Crean*, were amongst the many attendees present to mark its official naming and commissioning. The day was a celebration of a significant milestone with the addition of this new state of the art vessel to the national marine research vessel fleet.

A successful Open Day took place that afternoon with more than 2,000 people visiting and enjoying the vessel.

The *Tom Crean* departed on 7 October to complete an acoustic calibration of its EK80 fisheries acoustic system, before commencing the Celtic Sea Herring Survey. The survey was briefly paused to accommodate a State visit and lunch by Uachtaráin na hÉireann, Michael D Higgins, and the Portuguese President, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa. This successful event was hosted at Sir John Rogerson's Quay in Dublin, which marked the first port of call for the vessel to Dublin.

Following the successful completion of the Celtic Sea Herring Survey, the vessel spent time in both Cork and Galway, providing third level training under the auspices of the SMART programme.

In December, the vessel undertook two research cruises in the Irish Sea, the first exploring novel use of fibre optics for geophysical investigation with Andrew Trafford (ICRAG, University College Dublin) as Chief Scientist. This survey was then followed by the mobilisation of the University of Limerick's Étaín ROV prior to embarking on a successful survey investigating automated ROV inspection for offshore wind in the Irish and Celtic Seas.

The vessel then returned to Cork for a well-deserved Christmas break. The vessel completed a remarkable 139 survey days following its delivery to Ireland in July. This achievement is a credit to the RVOPS team and various science teams, particularly the crew and shore support provided by P&O Maritime Ltd.



RV *Tom Crean*.  
Photo: Andrew Downes.

## Marine Research Infrastructures

### Irish Marine Data Buoy Observation Network (IMDBON)

The Irish Marine Data Buoy Observation Network (IMDBON), originally established over 20 years ago, provides essential meteorological and sea state information to forecasters, marine users, and researchers to improve the accuracy and temporal range of mainland and coastal forecasts to enhance safety at sea. The network of five offshore marine observation buoys around Ireland is managed by the Marine Institute in collaboration with Met Éireann, and funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).

While the IMDBON is fundamental national infrastructure for ensuring maritime safety, it offers considerable added value to a number of sectors. IMDBON data is now used across a range of national and international programmes and services in addition to weather forecasting; the network provides vital data for shipping bulletins, gale and swell warnings, as well as data for oceanographic monitoring, climate observations, general public information and research.

### Irish National Tide Gauge Network

Operated by the Marine Institute, the Irish National Tide Gauge Network (INTGN) of 19 water level monitoring stations around the country provides for continuous monitoring of tide levels around the Irish coast. The increased level of monitoring in recent years means that greater resolution of the tidal harmonic is now possible with tidal predictions from an increasing number of locations freely available on the Marine Institute Tidal Predictions homepage ([marine.ie/Home/site-area/data-services/marine-forecasts/tidal-predictions](https://marine.ie/Home/site-area/data-services/marine-forecasts/tidal-predictions)).

### GLOSS Sea Level Stations

The two global sea level observing stations (GLOSS) international standard sea level monitoring stations purchased and installed at Howth Harbour, Co. Dublin, and Union Hall Harbour, Co. Cork, through the SFI co-funded EirOOS Ocean Observation Award 18/RI/5731 became operational in 2022.

## SmartBay Test Site

Under a Service Level Agreement with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), the Marine Institute manages the open water research, test and demonstration facilities at the SmartBay Test Site located offshore of Spiddal village, Co. Galway. The team also provide ongoing operational services at the Atlantic Marine Energy Test Site (AMETS) located offshore of Belmullet, Co. Mayo.

Following a judicial review in 2020 of the Institute's application for a new foreshore lease to upgrade the test site, remittal of the application back to the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and further public consultation on updated environmental information, the Institute await a determination on the foreshore lease application in early 2023.

### National Waverider Buoy Network

Under a Service Level Agreement with SEAI, the Institute operates and maintains the national waverider buoy network. The network consists of i) a waverider buoy at SmartBay, Co. Galway, ii) two waverider buoys at AMETS, Co. Mayo, providing near real-time data on wave characteristics which are used to define the wave climate at each site, inform oceanographic models, and various other stakeholders, iii) a waverider buoy in Brandon Bay, Co. Kerry, providing near real-time data on wave characteristics to investigate climate change induced effects on coastal erosion and beach nourishment processes.

Waverider buoys deployed in both Bantry Bay and Clew Bay in 2021 to support research projects examining wave forces on aquaculture structures continued throughout 2022. Another waverider buoy was deployed in September to support the development of Met Éireann's National Coastal Flood Forecasting Centre in the vicinity of the Commissioners of Irish Lights' Finnis Buoy, off the coast of Co. Galway.

### SmartBay Observatory

The SmartBay cabled observatory located in Galway Bay, providing fibre optic data and power connectivity for scientific experiments and novel marine sensors and equipment to be tested in a real marine environment with real-time monitoring of performance. The observatory is a regional facility of the EMSO ERIC - a legal framework created for large scale pan-European Multidisciplinary Seafloor and water column Observatory infrastructures.

Over the past eight years, more than 50 projects have been facilitated supporting multi-disciplinary marine research, development and innovation at this facility. Throughout 2022, the SmartBay Observatory remained ashore as it underwent a major upgrade to facilitate an improved service offering to the research community.

### Euro-Argo Floats

Since 2015, Ireland has been an established member of the Euro-Argo ERIC and the participation of the Marine Institute, as the Irish Government's representative, allows Ireland to build national capacity in ocean observation and to leverage opportunities through EU research and infrastructure funding mechanisms. To date, the Institute has deployed a fleet of 20 floats.

The Argo floats measure a number of key physical ocean variables such as salinity, temperature and currents both at the surface and subsurface to a depth of 2,000 metres. The data is transmitted in near-real time to publicly accessible web portals. The continued support of the Argo network greatly enhances our understanding of ocean health and our capability to monitor it into the future, and it places Ireland at the centre of global efforts to measure the potential impacts of climate change.

### National Glider Fleet

The national glider fleet consist of three Teledyne G3 Slocum gliders equipped with physical and biogeochemical sensors to address a wide range of observation and research challenges to fill large gaps in time-space of measured variables. Two glider were purchased through the Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) co-funded EirOOS ocean observation award 18/RI/5731, with the third funded through the EU INTERREG project SeaMonitor.

In 2022, three glider missions were undertaken i) from Belmullet, Co. Mayo to north of Malin Head during the period from May to July, supporting fish tracking studies and acoustic monitoring for the SeaMonitor project, ii) from Belmullet, Co. Mayo, to the continental shelf edge during October and November, supporting oceanographic climate studies by the Institute, and iii) from the Goban Spur in the southwest of the Celtic Sea to the Porcupine Abyssal Plain deep sea observatory in December, in support of the iFADO project.

### Deep Sea Moorings and Shelf Landers

The Marine Institute operates a deep sea mooring in the Rockall Trough and continental shelf seabed landers in the northeast Atlantic to advance understanding of ocean circulation patterns and key environmental processes. The Deep Rockall mooring established in 2018 at the south Rockall Trough at a depth of 3,012 metres collects time series data from several autonomous sensors measuring temperature, salinity, and current speeds from the surface to seabed.

The EirOOS seabed landers, co-funded through SFI award 18/RI/5731, have been deployed on the continental shelf in the Celtic Sea since 2020 in depths of water from ranging from 200 to 1,000 metres. The shelf landers support national and international ocean observing efforts investigating changes in the North Atlantic Ocean and thus enhancing the NOAC (North Atlantic Changes) mooring array, led by Germany (BSH and University of Bremen).

The Deep Rockall mooring was swapped out in April 2022 with a new mooring and calibrated instruments thus ensuring the continued collection of high quality ocean observations. The EirOOS landers in the Celtic Sea, having completed their scientific mission, were recovered in October.

The deep sea mooring and shelf landers deliver important Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) and Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) datasets to gain a deeper understanding of Atlantic Overturning Circulation, important information on ocean currents at the continental shelf edge and Irish coastal areas and on water properties that influence Ireland's marine ecosystems.

# STRATEGIC ENABLER 3

## Data and IT



**103,000 +**  
The number of times data services were accessed in 2022.

Digital technologies and data integration represent both challenges and opportunities that have a profound effect on innovation, competitiveness and scientific research. These are of huge relevance to the Marine Institute and its services, as it generates a vast amount of data through data collection, monitoring and research programmes. Data is the foundation for the Institute's evolving integrated advice and services portfolio and how it supports integrated maritime policy at national, EU and international levels.

The Marine Institute develops and promotes open access to national datasets, data integration, online data and information services. This results in the optimal re-use and sharing of data. Open access to data also promotes research and innovation and stimulates new commercial products and services.

### Ocean Climate And Information Services (OCIS)

#### Information Services and Development (IS&D)

The Information Services and Development team develops and manages the operational information and communications technology (ICT) systems and networks that underpin much of the Marine Institute's operational and research activities.

The team also develops new technical capabilities, including software services and data management practices, to support the Institute's service delivery.

In 2022, the team provided a range of supports to operational programmes delivering on national requirements, including for the Data Collection Framework, Marine Spatial Planning and the National Marine Planning Framework, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Water Framework Directive, the INFOMAR seabed survey programme, aquaculture licensing, fish health and food safety, and for renewable ocean energy-related services.

Online data services continue to be developed with Institute data being made available through the Marine Institute's Data Request Service, and a variety of online services, such as [data.marine.ie](#), [digitalocean.ie](#) and [atlas.marine.ie](#). These services also include the Institute-managed Irish Spatial Data Exchange ([Isde.ie](#)) to allow continued integration with the Irish Government's data portal ([data.gov.ie](#)).

Taken together, these online services were visited more than 103,000 times in 2022. An additional 282 manual data requests were serviced in 2022, which complements the online self-service access to data and allows for customised data to be delivered for specific user needs.

To support the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine's (DAFM's) AQUAMIS programme to digitalise the aquaculture foreshore licensing process, the Institute developed the online Aquaculture Licensed Site Viewer ([dalim-maps-marine.ie/aquaculture-viewer/](#)). This online service was launched by Minister Charlie McConalogue TD in June 2022 and is publicly available to allow members of the public to see whether aquaculture activities are licensed in Ireland. The Institute continues to work with DAFM to further develop digital capabilities to support the license process and for decision-support.

Support to the DHLGH (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) in 2022 included the development of over 24 new maps and other data visualisations to support the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) Programme of Measures Report, with contributing data from Marine Institute programmes, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) and DAFM. These datasets are available online through Ireland's Marine Atlas ([atlas.marine.ie](#)) with supporting metadata published through [data.marine.ie](#).

The International Oceanographic Data Exchange (IODE)-accredited Data Management Quality Management Framework (DM-QMF) continues to underpin much of the Marine Institute's data services, and has now been extended to over 80 Institute data processes. The framework provide assurance with regard to the data processes underpinning the Institute's services and continues to drive improvements in how data are processed, stored, analysed and reported.

Over 400 TB of data is stored in the Institute's new storage infrastructure, and 718 datasets are available online through the Institute's data catalogue.

New IT capabilities were introduced to support data process digitalisation, including cloud-based tools to process and analyse data from oceanographic sensors, with online dashboards and map viewers providing enhanced public access to marine-related data.

Several new dashboards and tools have also been developed or updated to improve the visualisation of data, including for the Primrose Harmful Algal Blooms (HABS) project, the PIRS Research Database and to publish data for Marine Research Infrastructures.

These services support access to important Irish marine data and information, providing data and information to the wider Irish marine sector, the academic community and the public, to support an enhanced understanding of our oceans.

### Operational

The Information Services and Development (IS&D) team provides operational programme support across Marine Institute services areas including for fisheries data, oceanographic data, the INFOMAR and Marine Ocean Energy programmes, the Marine Spatial Planning programme, as well as other marine environment management activities. In addition to technology development for the specific programmes, the team serviced over 2,900 support requests covering information and communications technology (ICT) and data management needs and providing in-house technical expertise and training in 2022.

Of particular note this year, was the support for design and deployment of the ICT equipment and networking for the RV *Tom Crean*, the new national research vessel. This work contributed to the very successful completion and deployment of the vessel on time and budget.

The team also deployed a significant upgrade to the Institute's data storage capabilities. The solution which is shared with the INFOMAR programme, provides 400TB of high-performance storage with additional cloud connectivity. This provides an up-to-date solution to meet the increasing requirements for data storage from a wide range of marine programmes, including the more than 200TB of data from the INFOMAR seabed survey programme, and the growing volumes of data being acquired from oceanographic observations and models, from fisheries and marine environment surveys, and from a range of other Marine Institute programmes.

Other operational capability improvements in 2022 included cyber-security upgrades, a new IT service management solution, and ongoing upgrades to Marine Institute websites and software services.

The IS&D team are also active in EU data-related research projects connected to the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) and the new FAIR-EASE Horizon Europe which aims to develop methods for integrated access to multi-disciplinary European environmental data.



Killian Cookley, Fish Health Unit.  
Photographer: Andrew Downes, Xposure.

### Advanced Mapping Services (AMS)

Multi-sectoral seabed mapping related data requests have been supported across fisheries, aquaculture, renewable energy, environment, engineering, research and education. Data were used for multiple applications, including oceanographic modelling, infrastructure planning, site investigations, Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA), and multi-disciplinary research.

The team mapped 4,164 km<sup>2</sup> of Celtic Sea seabed during 81 vessel days on-board the RV *Celtic Explorer*, RV *Celtic Voyager* and RV *Tom Crean* in 2022, as part of the INFOMAR programme. This involved acquisition of 12,155 km (survey line kilometres) of multibeam data, investigation of 12 shipwrecks, and acquisition of 53 seabed samples.

### Marine Environment and Food Safety Services (MEFSS)

MEFSS continued to develop new tools and approaches to enhance the efficiency and quality of data collection and reporting of complex datasets. These data are reported to a multiple national and international organisation and datacentres.

#### Shellfish Safety

The Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) database and website ([webapps.marine.ie/habs](http://webapps.marine.ie/habs)) is the public facing data visualisation platform, at the forefront of advisory services provided by of the Shellfish Safety team. This is particularly in the areas of result dissemination and data analytics from our national monitoring programmes for marine biotoxins and phytoplankton to the Competent Authorities and industry.

During 2022, the HABs website was accessed by 1,764 users which gave rise to a total of 42,541 page views from 11,735 sessions with a country breakdown of 88% users from Ireland, 3% each from France and UK, with the remainder percentages from Spain, United States and Netherlands.

The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Harmful Algal Events DATAbase (HAEDAT), which is managed through the IODE is updated on a regular basis and records both biotoxin and algal events which cause closures in the North Atlantic area coastal countries, and incorporates the Irish data sets from the 1990s.

This is updated on an annual basis to include data on toxin events in Ireland, which are subsequently presented at the annual ICES-IOC Working Group on Harmful Algal Bloom Dynamics.

### Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS)

The FEAS data team worked on several Data and IT projects during 2022 - here are some of the significant projects and activities during the year:

- The Marine Institute Data Management Quality Management Framework (DM-QMF) is strongly supported by FEAS. In 2022, four further datasets were brought under implementation pack status giving a total of 17 datasets now under International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) accreditation within FEAS. Annual reviews were also carried out on all completed operational packs. DM-QMF progress continued in Newport, with one implementation pack completed in Quarter 3 2022.
- During 2022, over 20 FEAS applications and their respective databases were supported and developed. Across all applications, 71 support calls were completed during the year. A number of enhancements were undertaken during the year:
  - The *Nephrops* data capture application's remote data synchronisation functionality was improved.
  - Development and testing continued on the port sampling remote data capture application.
  - The new user interface for the Shellfish team's database was released and further improvements to it were then made during the year.
  - The Under Water TV Survey application was also redeveloped to ensure compatibility with the RV *Tom Crean*.
  - Initial development on a new pelagic catch sampling application commenced - this will be continued during 2023.
  - Work continued on moving all FEAS databases onto centralised Marine Institute database servers.

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Datasets are available online via the Marine Institute data catalogue.

- FEAS continued to contribute to the development of the new International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Regional Database & Estimation System (RDBES). Marine Institute scientists participated in the 'Core Group' and a number of other meetings and workshops. The new RDBES will begin replacing the existing regional database and ICES InterCatch functionality from 2024 onwards and will have a significant impact on data quality for ICES assessments as well as supporting the relevant Data Collection Framework (DCF) Regional Coordination Groups.
- FEAS is chairing the ICES Working Group on the Governance of Quality Management of Data and Advice (WGQuality). This group's work supports the ICES aim of creating an end-to-end quality assurance framework for advice production - from data management, data integration, data analysis, and data use, to the process of translating that data into advice.
- The EU FishNCo project continued during this year, addressing the need to develop Regional Work Plans for the North Atlantic, North Sea and Eastern Arctic (RCG NANSEA), and Baltic regions (RCG Baltic) ([fisheries-rcg.eu/fishnco/](http://fisheries-rcg.eu/fishnco/)). The expected outputs will be of direct relevance for strengthening regional and EU-wide cooperation on fisheries data collection and enhance data quality. FEAS is leading the data quality thematic work area in this project.
- FEAS successfully fulfilled all data calls during 2022. These are used to provide an evidence base for fisheries management by organisations including ICES, and the European Commission. Key data calls fulfilled by FEAS include the ICES data call for landings, discards, biological sample, catch and effort data and the EU FDI (Fisheries Dependent Information) data call. Successfully fulfilling these data calls requires a collaboration between a large number of scientists in terms of both planning data collection activities and analysing the resulting data.
- Data and IT has been identified as a key enabler of the Marine Institute's strategy and a Data and IT Matrix team supports this work in the Institute. The aims of this team are to enhance digital information services on an integrated basis, integrate data and IT capabilities into the wider organisation, and to evolve our approach to the area.



Lehanagh Pool.



We Are Ocean Champions programme.  
Photo: Andrew Downes.



Explorers Education team.  
Photo: Aengus McMahon.



Explorers Ocean  
Champion Awards.  
Photo: Brendan Diver.

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# STRATEGIC ENABLER 4 Engagement and Education

The Institute's strategic initiatives in the engagement and education area are focused on increasing awareness and participation, communicating science and ocean knowledge and, encouraging a new generation of ocean professionals who will become leaders and champions for the marine environment.

Through various outreach and educational activities, the Marine Institute works in partnership with government departments, other agencies and local organisations to promote our ocean wealth and increase ocean literacy amongst our citizens.

## Oceans of Learning

The Marine Institute's Oceans of Learning series focused on the importance and history of Ireland's marine research vessels, and, in particular, the arrival of the RV *Tom Crean* and the legendary Irish explorer it was named after.

Over three weeks, the initiative offered new video animations celebrating Ireland's marine research vessels of the past, present and future, as well as a library of educational resources and new video content.

The Marine Institute broadcasted a Live Chat with our marine scientists on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube for World Oceans Day on 8 June, which attracted over 5,000 viewers. Oceans of Learning also supported a number of in-person and virtual events taking place in Ireland and in Europe. The 2022 Oceans of Learning series was supported by 15 partners from government departments, state agencies, and other organisations across Ireland. All resources are available on the Marine Institute website ([marine.ie](https://marine.ie)).



The Helga, which featured in this year's Oceans of Learning campaign.

## Explorers Education Programme

2022 saw the launch of the Explorers Education programme's new We Are Ocean Champions school project module and awards. The new module adopts an all-school approach where the Explorers outreach teams around Ireland work with teachers, children and the wider community, in developing their own healthy ocean projects.

The project and awards focus on the concept of healthy oceans and marine environmental care. Over 20 primary schools in 14 coastal counties around Ireland completed Healthy Oceans projects in 2022 with the overall national award presented by Minister Charlie McConalogue TD to Scoil Cholmchille Primary School in Glengad, Malin, Co. Donegal.

The Explorers Education Programme delivered more than 400 modules to close to 13,000 children, in 14 coastal counties. Teacher and student teacher training was delivered through Education Centres and to student teachers in Mary Immaculate College and Dublin City University (DCU).

## The Wild Atlantic - Sea Science

The enhanced exhibition at Galway City Museum, *The Wild Atlantic - Sea Science*, attracted over 100,000 visitors in 2022. The gallery space includes displays on climate change, 'Sea Our Surveys', seabed mapping and shipwrecks, deep sea species and scientific discoveries.

A Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) simulator enables visitors to 'Dive Deep with the ROV *Holland I* and explore cold-water corals, shipwrecks and a rare shark nursery in Irish waters. The upgraded 3D Globe exhibit provides visualisations on climate change, seabed mapping and the Argo Float Programme.

## Galway Science and Technology Festival

This year, the Galway Science and Technology Festival attracted a record attendance of 22,000 people. Visitors to the Marine Institute stand spoke to Institute scientists about important fisheries research, seabed mapping and climate

surveys undertaken by the RV *Tom Crean* and RV *Celtic Explorer*. Children received an 'RV *Tom Crean* Activity Book' and completed a Test Your Ocean Knowledge Quiz and competition, which received over 200 entries.

The Explorers Education Programme also exhibited activities on 'The Good, The Bad & The Ugly: Deep-Sea Species.' There were also displays on the research project, EuroSea, and Marine Institute scientists presented at a public talk about the Innovation in the Framework of the Atlantic Deep Ocean (iFADO) research project.

## Media engagement with the RV *Tom Crean* arrival and commissioning

The official commissioning event for the RV *Tom Crean* in Dingle Harbour on 6 October 2022, achieved an audience reach of 6.3 million. The RV *Tom Crean* was featured on RTÉ One News, TG4 News, *The Irish Times*, and RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta's morning programme.

The commissioning of the research vessel also featured on RTÉ One's Nationwide in November, and included interviews with Marine Institute's CEO Dr Paul Connolly, Dr Ciaran Kelly and Dr Caroline Cusack.

The RV *Tom Crean*'s arrival into Irish waters in July and its commissioning in October also generated coverage in Galway and Kerry regional media, online news sites and specialist marine trade media.



Arrival of the RV *Tom Crean* in Dingle, Co Kerry.  
Photo: Jason Clarke.

Also in October, the Institute was honoured to welcome the President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, and the President of Portugal, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, on a visit to the newly commissioned research vessel, the RV *Tom Crean* which had docked in Dublin's Sir John Rogerson's Quay. The visit included discussions on further building on the strong cooperation between our two countries in relation to Atlantic Ocean research.

## ICES Annual Science Conference engagement

In September, the Marine Institute welcomed the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Annual Science Conference to Ireland. Held in Dublin, this prestigious international marine conference was attended by leading marine scientists from across the globe, sharing the latest cutting-edge science supporting the sustainable use of our oceans.

For the Conference, hosted from 19-22 September, the Marine Institute was the most influential organisation leading the conversation on #ICESASC22, publishing almost 300 original tweets. The event hashtag #ICESASC22 trended on Twitter in Ireland on the first two days of the conference.

## Website and social media

In 2022, 75 news stories and events were published on the Marine Institute website ([marine.ie](https://marine.ie)).



Visit of the Presidents of Portugal and Ireland to the RV *Tom Crean*.  
Photo: Kenneth O'Halloran.



ICES Annual Science Conference, 2022.  
Photo: Jason Clarke.



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news stories and events were published on the Marine Institute website (marine.ie) during 2022



On World Oceans Day, a dedicated Twitter campaign from the Institute resulted in #WorldOceansDay trending on Twitter in Ireland, and the Institute was the most active authentic organisation globally on the day. As part of the Oceans of Learning #SeaToMe competition, 356 entries were submitted by people across Ireland who shared what the sea means to them on social using the hashtag #SeaToMe.

Throughout the year, the Marine Institute celebrated the diversity of its people with various social campaigns. During the ICES Annual Science Conference, video interviews with participating Marine Institute scientists communicated their scientific expertise. In the lead up to the arrival of the RV *Tom Crean* and the commissioning event, there were also several video interviews with Marine Institute people and live social reporting from Dingle Harbour.

## Policy, Innovation and Research Services (PIRS)

### Blue Bioeconomy Programme



Three events were held as part of the Blue Bioeconomy webinar series to raise awareness and were co-organised with Nua na Mara and Údarás na Gaeltachta. Bioeconomy Ireland Week (October) was busy for blue bioeconomy with an event in Galway (Diversity in the Bioeconomy), children's art competition (Westside Library), a library campaign and a talk at the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centres Conference (paper in conference proceedings).

The Blue Bioeconomy Programme Manager delivered a lecture to post graduate students in the University of Galway (MSc Plant and Agri-Bioscience).

In addition, the programme sponsored several activities aimed at building awareness of the blue bioeconomy sector both within and outside Ireland. The inaugural event in Ireland for 'Invent for the Planet' was held in February in Atlantic Technological University (ATU). This event involved 29 universities from 15 countries, with one of the Irish participants going on to participate in the HATCH Aquaculture Accelerator.



Seaweed Around the Clock, a 24-hour online event showcasing the global seaweed sector, took place in June. An 'Irish Hour' was organised by the Marine Institute, Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM), Irish Seaweed Consultancy and Nua na Mara. In August, PIRS provided an overview of the blue bioeconomy as part of Campa Eolais na Mara, a summer camp for teenagers to raise awareness of the marine sector and highlight career prospects.

Finally, the Twitter Blue Bioeconomy Ireland platform is actively maintained to raise awareness of opportunities for the sector and is increasing in impact and reach.

### Irish Maritime Development Office (IMDO)

Skilled mariners, graduates and trained professionals are the life blood of the maritime industry in Ireland and elsewhere. The IMDO recognises the need to increase interest in the maritime industry among school leavers, graduates and the general public, and acts in a number of different ways to achieve this objective.

In 2022, the IMDO:

- Supported the training of professional mariners through the Irish Seafarers Education Assistance Scheme (ISEAS) which provides training berths for cadets from the National

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entries were submitted as part of the Oceans of Learning #SeaToMe competition

Maritime College of Ireland (NMCI) to do mandatory sea time, as part of their professional training. In 2022, more than €170,000 was paid out under this scheme, enabling cadets to undertake training with prestigious international shipping companies and to find employment in the maritime industry.

- Supported professional training and education by funding the activities of strategically important professional bodies such as the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers and the Institute of Master Mariners.
- Highlighted career opportunities in the maritime industry through the jobs portal on its website.
- Developed research projects, such as those underway in University of Galway and Queen's University Belfast, into interesting and relevant aspects of research that can inform policy and build research capacity in the strategically important maritime sector.

## Ocean Climate and Information Services (OCIS)

### Research Vessel Operations

A summary of the research vessels' activities is documented in Strategic Enabler 2 - Infrastructure but below are captured key engagement and education activities undertaken during the year:

- Education and training related surveys and operations on research vessels were undertaken in conjunction with third level institutions, including Queen's University Belfast, Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin, University of Galway, University College Cork, Maynooth University and Atlantic Technological University, South East Technological University and University of Limerick.
- In early February, the RV *Celtic Voyager* travelled to Cork for the first student training surveys of 2022. John Boyd, coordinator of SMART Sea School, took out students from University of Galway and Maynooth University for two days each. The RV *Tom Crean* spent time in both Cork and Galway this year, also providing third level training under the auspices of the SMART programme.

## Marine Research Infrastructures

Following a public tendering process in late 2021, a dynamic and interactive online virtual tour of the SmartBay Facility was developed in 2022 including interactive 360° aerial photographs and informational videos. The tour is hosted on the SmartBay website ([smartbay.ie/sites/default/files/VirtualTour/index.html](https://smartbay.ie/sites/default/files/VirtualTour/index.html)) and has received considerable traffic since its launch in May 2022.

As well as the SmartBay website ([smartbay.ie](https://smartbay.ie)), online communications channels include the SmartBay Observatory online portal ([smartbay.marine.ie](https://smartbay.marine.ie)) and social media channels across Facebook (@SmartBayie), LinkedIn (@SmartBay\_ie) and Twitter (@SmartBay\_ie).

The website continues to be the main information source for the SmartBay Facility with social media helping us to share our work and raise awareness and increase engagement with the local community as well as the marine industry.

On 5 and 6 March 2022, the team supported STEPS Engineers Week at Galway Atlantaquaria in Salthill. The weekend event was dedicated to the Argo floats and showcased the importance of marine engineering.

To celebrate European Maritime Day, on 20 and 21 May 2022, the team hosted a two-day Community Engagement and Open Day event for the SmartBay Observatory in Spiddal, Co. Galway. Marine Research Infrastructures staff were on site to explain the inner workings of the actual SmartBay Observatory and sensor arrays and this was complemented by the launch of the SmartBay Virtual Tour. Supporting themes of the event included Coastal Communities, Community Engagement and Careers in Marine Engineering.

Day One on Friday 20 May was an invitation only event with local stakeholders, schools and media in attendance. Day Two on Saturday 21 May was an Open Family Day with educational aspects and free entertainment.



# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

## Code of Practice

The Marine Institute operates to best practice corporate governance principles in line with the 2016 Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. The Marine Institute has in place a range of procedures, policies and guidelines to ensure compliance with the Code and it is the policy and practice of the Institute to support the development and strengthening of an effective control environment, risk management system and Internal Audit function.

## Internal Audit Plan

The three year rolling internal audit plan considers the risks identified in the Marine Institute Risk Register, requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies, the recommendations of the Comptroller and Auditor General and the views of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC).

The System of Internal Control is reviewed on an annual basis by the outsourced internal auditors. Other internal audits in 2022 included a Risk Management Audit, a Business Continuity and Crisis Management Planning Audit, and a Human Resources Audit.

All Internal Audit recommendations arising were actioned and reported to the ARC. The ARC's review of the effectiveness of Internal Audit during 2022 concluded that there was a satisfactory output during the year with good assurance for the Board on the systems of control and management of risk and governance.

## Procurement and Financial Management

The Marine Institute has an appropriate public procurement process which is compliant with EU and national rules. 39 tenders were advertised on the Etenders website ([etenders.gov.ie](https://etenders.gov.ie)) in 2022, in addition to procuring through the Office of Government Procurement's relevant Framework Agreements. Several mandatory procurement training courses were given to our teams.

It is Marine Institute policy to ensure that all invoices are paid promptly within the terms of the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act, 1997, and the European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations 2012. Systems and procedures are in place enabling invoices to be tracked and to ensure that payments are made in a timely and efficient manner. Procedures are also in place to ensure that late interest is paid, if required.

## Protected Disclosure

There were no Protected Disclosures during the year.

## Compliance Standards in relation to Queries from Oireachtas Members

The Marine Institute materially complied with its policy in responding promptly to queries from Members of the Oireachtas.

## Diversity and Inclusion

Diversity, Inclusion and Equality (ED&I) was an organisational priority in 2022, reflected in our culture, actions and behaviours. We set up a proactive ED&I Group of internal champions during the year who published our 2021-2023 Action Plan, surveyed our people and launched a programme of actions to increase awareness of ED&I and to give everyone a voice whilst ensuring accessibility to training, work experience, recruitment opportunities, infrastructure and tailored supports.

We continue to be a member of the ASIAM community of practice, committed to better accessibility for neurodiverse individuals.

Our internal ED&I programme in 2022 aimed to ensure that our actions, communications, interactions, engagement, management and delivery of our work programmes were conducted with accessibility, transparency and proactivity in mind.

At the end of 2022, Marine Institute employees comprised of 49.4% male and 50.6% female. Of the 53 roles recruited in 2022, 16 were offered to males and 37 to females. We reported to the National Disability Authority in Q1 of 2022 that 6.75% of our workforce had declared a disability in the preceding 12 months.

We ensure that all of our people are treated fairly receiving the same salary, terms and conditions and equal access to personal and career development, recruitment opportunities and flexible working arrangements.

We launched our Blended Working Pilot Programme in Q4 of 2022 and offer a range of policies and practices that support our people in reaching their potential while maintaining balance and wellbeing. We welcome the benefits that come with celebrating all of Our People and in ensuring Equality, Diversity and Inclusion within our organisation.

## Gender Balance in the Board Membership

As at 31 December 2022, the Board had three (33%) female and six (67%) male members.

Appointments to the Board are for an initial period of five years with an option to extend the term of engagement for a second term. In filling upcoming Board vacancies in 2023, the Minister shall have regard to the desirability for gender balance, diversity and inclusion on the Board.

## GDPR

The Data Protection Officer (DPO) coordinates and provides training on data protection in the Marine Institute, focusing on compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Acts 1988-2018. The DPO is a key point of contact for personal data protection matters and works with the data privacy team to establish, update and amend policies and procedures surrounding data protection. That team consists of data coordinators from all service areas, Risk Officers, the DPO, and members of data management and IT teams.

No breaches took place during the year that necessitated reporting to the Data Protection Commissioner.

## Risk Management Report

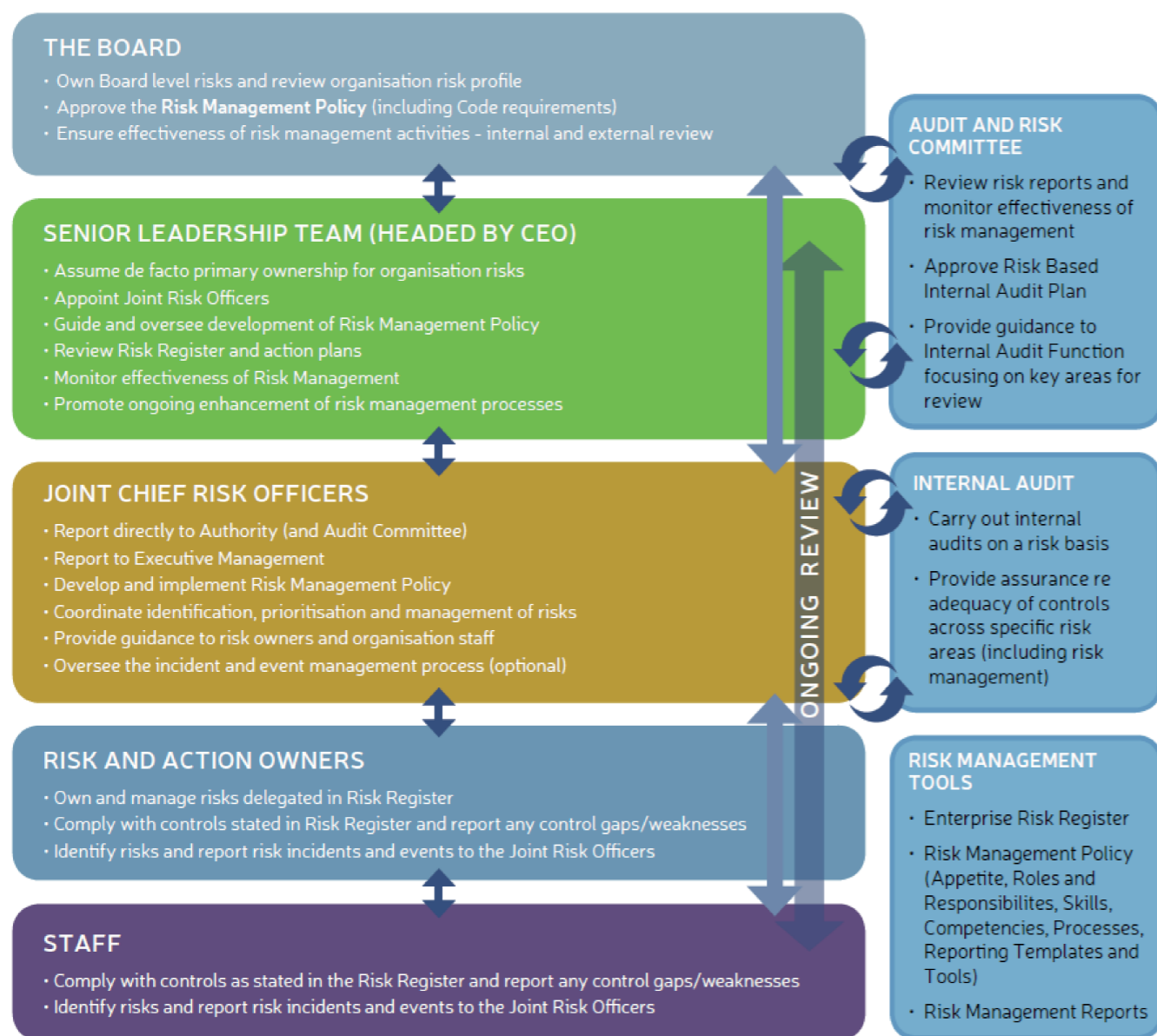
The Board of the Marine Institute has established and maintains a robust risk management framework that supports the ongoing management of risk in accordance with the established risk appetite and corporate strategy. The risk framework addresses all the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) and is a practical process for the formal management of organisational risks.

2022 was, in general, a busy year from a Risk Management and Business Continuity Planning (BCP) perspective. We completed a review of our Risk Appetite in Q1, conducted a Blank Page Review of Risk Management including how risk is assessed and mitigated - this saw a new Risk Appetite Overview, a Revised Risk Register and a refreshed approach to assessing and managing risk across the organisation. In addition, there was an audit of Risk Management and Business Continuity Planning by an outsourced internal auditor with high levels of assurance given.

The Risk Management Policy, which is reviewed annually by the Board, sets out the organisation's risk management objectives; the organisation's risk appetite; and the risk management framework which details the roles and responsibilities of staff and Board members, and the process for identifying, categorising and escalating risk. In line with Risk Management and Business Continuity Policies, the Board and its Audit and Risk Committee, with the Executive and Risk Officers, reviewed and signed off on the appropriate policies and processes in 2022.

The Chief Risk Officer and Executive were proactive in monitoring, assessing and managing risk in 2022, reviewing and reporting on Risk and BCP quarterly and ensuring that our business continuity systems and practices were tested and continued to be resilient.

### Marine Institute Risk Management Framework



### Risk Register

A Risk Register is in place which identifies the key risks facing the Marine Institute and details the controls and actions needed to mitigate against those risks and assigns responsibility for the operation of mitigating controls to specific risk owners.

As a result of the 2022 Blank Page Review of risk, there were several changes to the Risk Register resulting in the consolidation of several risks and the addition of new risks or additional focus on Financial Risk, Supply Chain, Cyber Security and People.

The Risk Register is reviewed and updated by the Joint Risk Officers in consultation with Risk Owners and the Senior Leadership Team quarterly, and reported to both the Audit and Risk Committee and to the Board.

The Marine Institute confirms that it has carried out an assessment of the organisation's risks and the following principal risks were identified:

Risk	Mitigations
Maintaining the trust and confidence of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), other Government Departments and State Agencies, clients, key stakeholders, local communities and the general public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of the Marine Institute's Strategic Plan 2018 to 2022 - Building Ocean Knowledge - Delivering Ocean Services.</li> <li>Implementation and reporting of an Oversight Performance Delivery Agreement with DAFM.</li> <li>Service Level Agreements with State Agencies.</li> <li>Regular Communications and Engagement with Stakeholders.</li> </ul>
Impacts of changing international and national landscape and events on resourcing including People, Financial and Operational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Careful management of these risks by Joint Risk Officers with the Executive and Board as part of Risk Management and Business Continuity policies and practices each month.</li> <li>Effective rolling three to five-year Workforce, Financial and Operational plans in place and monitored monthly, taking account of increasing demands and pressures related to supply.</li> <li>The use of Business Continuity Frameworks, Efficiency Plans to manage financial challenges should they arise, and Staff training/cross training plans and access to emergency supports.</li> <li>Open dialogue with parent departments and other government departments and agencies with whom we have Service Level Agreements and Funding arrangements in place.</li> <li>Regular independent audits of our operational and risk management frameworks and practices.</li> </ul>
Adequate security controls and procedures in place to protect against cyber-attacks and loss of functionality and protection of data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of ICT data and security policies, procedures and practices.</li> <li>Investment in current training for staff and continuous updating of security defences.</li> <li>Implementation of IT disaster recovery plans for Marine Institute as part of overall Business Continuity Frameworks.</li> </ul>
Risk of failure or loss of significant infrastructure including vessels, facilities and equipment deployed at sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of maintenance and safety policies, procedures and practices, adhering to International Safety Management Code codes for the vessels.</li> <li>A Health, Safety, Environment &amp; Quality plan is in place; coupled with tested Business Continuity Plans which include access to alternate research facilities and vessels. There are also effective crisis response frameworks in place. In the event of a total loss, the high value items are covered by insurance.</li> <li>Appropriate, industry standard training is in place for all land based and sea faring personnel, including seagoing.</li> </ul>

## Liaison

The programme of the Marine Institute covers a wide range of activities that require close liaison and cooperation with many individuals and organisations.

These include the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the Department of Transport, the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, as well as other governmental departments and State agencies (such as Bord Iascaigh Mhara, the Environmental Protection Agency, Science Foundation Ireland, the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland and many more), private enterprises and the higher education sector.

The Institute acknowledges the continued support and cooperation of all concerned.

## Ethics and Public Office Act

All persons holding a designated position within the Marine Institute complied with the requirements of the Public Office Commission in accordance with Sections 18 and 20 of the Ethics in Public Office Act, 1995.

## Audit Risk Committee

### The Role of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)

The role of the ARC is to oversee and advise the Board and the Chief Executive Officer on matters relating to:

- Financial, operating and governance risks, including overall risk management.
- The effectiveness of the internal controls and risk management.
- The effectiveness of internal audit function.
- Communication with the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG).
- Matters raised by the Internal Auditor and the C&AG.
- The adequacy of governance procedures.
- Value for money issues.

The Marine Institute is audited by the Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General. In exercising oversight of the relationship with the External Auditor, the ARC meets with representatives of the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General in advance of the commencement of the audit and again following completion of the audit. There were no material matters of concern arising from those meetings.

The Committee also monitors the integrity of the financial statements prepared by the Institute.

### Terms of Reference

Terms of reference of the ARC have been approved by the Board and are reviewed on an annual basis and amended as appropriate.

### Membership

During the year ended 31 December 2022, the ARC comprised of four non-executive members of the Board and one independent non-Board member: Patricia Barker (Chairperson), Dermot Clohessy, Donal Kelly, David Owens, and Pauline Cronin (non-Board member).

### Meetings

Seven meetings were held during 2022 and ARC member attendance was as follows:

Date	Patricia Barker	Dermot Clohessy	Donal Kelly	David Owens	Pauline Cronin
24 Jan 22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21 Feb 22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25 Apr 22	✓	✓			✓
27 Jun 2022*	✓	✓			✓
26 Sep 22	✓	✓			✓
27 Oct 22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
05 Dec 22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

\*Meeting with External Auditors

Ms. Helen Boles is Secretary to the Committee. Ms. Patricia Orme, Director of Corporate Services, is the Executive Lead.

### Conflicts of Interest

At each of its meetings, the ARC considers the possibility of conflicts of interest arising in relation to its agenda and such conflicts are dealt with in accordance with the Board's policy.

## The 2022 Work Programme and Areas identified for focus

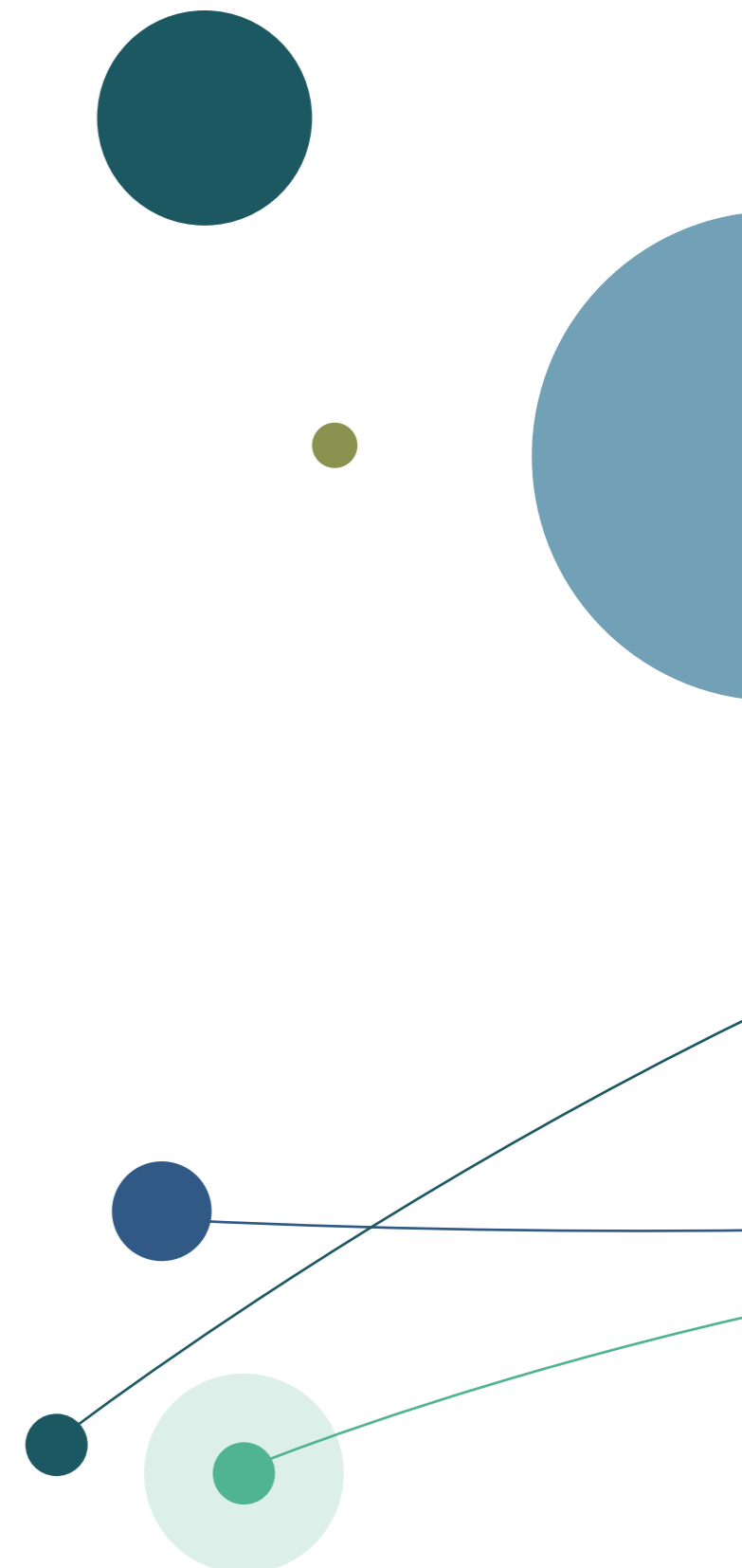
During the year, the ARC also met with members of the management team in order to receive briefings and have an opportunity to have all queries and suggestions discussed in relation to the following areas: Risk Management, Health and Safety, Business Continuity Planning, GDPR, Procurement, ICT and Cyber Security, and new vessel procurement.

Additionally, the ARC sought specific reports from the Director of Corporate Services to assure the Committee on the following areas: fraud, corruption and bribery, capital expenditure, taxation compliance, and Protected Disclosures.

The Chairperson of the ARC also met with the Chairperson of the Board on a number of occasions during the year to discuss issues relating to the work of the ARC and ways in which the ARC could assist the Board in the conduct of its work.

### The ARC also focused on the following specific areas in 2022:

- **Review of Risks including those associated with Covid-19**  
Issues such as the appropriate use of the Going Concern Concept, Post Balance Sheet events, Procurement Risks, Risks relating to remote working, GDPR risks, Fraud Risks, Cyber Security and IT Risks, Health and Safety Risks, Risk to Service Delivery and Risk of Inadequate Levels of People and Skills were constantly monitored formally and informally by regular communication with the management team and the Chairperson of the Board during the year.
- **New Vessel Procurement**  
The ARC closely monitored the expenditure element of the project to acquire the new research vessel up to delivery in July 2022.
- **Self-Evaluation**  
Each year, the ARC conducts a self-evaluation of its own performance.
- **Policy Updates**  
The ARC considered and offered recommendations on the matters as follows including new or amended policies which were drafted, discussed and approved during 2022 including consideration of the level of spend to be approved by the Board and that delegated to management.
- **Internal Audit Services**  
The ARC completed an Internal Audit Effectiveness evaluation on the outsourced internal audit service provider.



# APPENDIX 1

## Marine Research Programme 2021-2027 Ship-Time Programme Awards 2022

Research Theme	Project Type	Project Reference	Project Title	Grantees/Lead Partner	Total Grant-Aid
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	CV22005	SMART University College Cork MaREI Ocean Energy Training	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 9,000
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	CV22004	SMART University of Galway Multidisciplinary Offshore Operations in Marine Science	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 18,000
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	CV22006	SMART Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing Training: INFOMAR and Maynooth University	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 18,000
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	CV22007	SMART University of Galway SEMRU Training	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 9,000
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	CV22009	Undergraduate Shipboard Training in methods of oceanographic, benthic, megafauna and fisheries research	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 54,000
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	CV22011	SMART Science@Sea	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 36,000
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	TC22009	University of Galway MSc Training	University of Galway	€ 64,000
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	TC22011	Multidisciplinary Survey Planning - A Peer Assisted Learning exercise led by postgraduates	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 80,000
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	TC22012	SMART University of Galway Multidisciplinary Offshore Operations in Marine Science	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 96,000
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	TC22013	University College Cork MSc Marine Biology Training	University College Cork	€ 48,000 Note 1
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	TC22014	SMART GIS and Remote Sensing Training: INFOMAR & University College Dublin	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 48,000 Note 1
Ocean Literacy and Education	Dedicated Training Programme	TC22015	SMART University College Cork Multidisciplinary Offshore Operations in Marine Science	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 112,000 Note 1
Climate Change	Integrated Research Survey	CE22009	The North Atlantic as a Climate Ocean: Projecting Future Changes in Productivity and the Biological Carbon Pump	University of Galway	€ 682,000
Ocean Observation & Seabed Mapping	Integrated Research Survey	CE22013	Sediment Plume Sampling, Bedrock Drilling & Coral Surveying (SPeeD)	University College Cork	€ 566,000 Note 2

Research Theme	Project Type	Project Reference	Project Title	Grantees/Lead Partner	Total Grant-Aid
Biodiversity, Ecosystems & Food-webs	Integrated Research Survey	CV22010	There be Giants	Queen's University Belfast	€ 90,000
Ocean Observation & Seabed Mapping	Integrated Research Survey	CV22017	Site Investigation and Baseline data acquisition for leakage monitoring at Carbon Capture and Storage site in the north Celtic Sea (InStor)	University College Dublin	€ 72,000
Bioresources: Aquaculture & Biomass Production	Integrated Research Survey	TC22006	Coastal pathways and connectivity for harmful jellyfish species (CoCoJet) 2	University College Cork	€ 112,000
Climate Change	Integrated Research Survey	TC22008	A4-Eir00S-NOAC mooring refurbishment and deployment	Maynooth University	€ 176,000
Engineering	Integrated Research Survey	TC22016	Development of an integrated geophysical approach using fibre-optics for scour potential and assessment	University College Dublin	€ 208,000 Note 1
Advanced Technologies	Integrated Research Survey	TC22017	Automated Inspection for Offshore Wind	University of Limerick	€ 200,000 Note 1
Bioresources: Wild Resources	Policy Support Survey	CE22004	Irish Anglerfish and Megrim Survey (Leg 1 Feb-22)	Marine Institute	€ 195,000 Note 1
Bioresources: Wild Resources	Policy Support Survey	CE22005	Mackerel Egg Survey	Marine Institute	€ 163,800 Note 3
Bioresources: Wild Resources	Policy Support Survey	CE22007	Irish Anglerfish and Megrim Survey (Leg 2 Apr-22)	Marine Institute	€ 88,000 Note 3
Climate Change	Policy Support Survey	CE22008	Ocean Climate Section: South Rockall Trough	Marine Institute	€ 362,000 Note 4
Bioresources: Wild Resources	Policy Support Survey	CE22010	WESPAS Survey (Boarfish, Herring and Horse Mackerel Stocks)	Marine Institute	€ 184,800 Note 3
Bioresources: Wild Resources	Policy Support Survey	CE22012	Irish Groundfish Survey (Haddock, Whiting, Plaice, Cod, Hake and Sole)	Marine Institute	€ 413,600 Note 3
Pollution and Litter	Policy Support Survey	CV22003	Winter Environmental Survey of Irish Coastal Waters	Marine Institute	€ 153,000
Bioresources: Aquaculture & Biomass Production	Policy Support Survey	TC22005	Biological Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABS) in Irish Waters	Marine Institute	€ 96,000
Trials and Testing of RV <i>Tom Crean</i> (new vessel) in Irish Waters and Vessel Launch Event				Marine Institute	€ 368,000 Note 5
<b>Total (Ship-Time Programme Awards)</b>					<b>€ 4,722,200</b>

### Notes:

1. Includes passage costs.
2. Includes costs for the remotely operated underwater vehicle (*Holland I*).
3. This represents the Marine Institute contribution of 40% (with 60% funded under EMFF - European Maritime and Fisheries Fund).
4. Includes glider costs.
5. *Celtic Voyager* retired from service in summer 2022, and was replaced with new vessel *Tom Crean*.

# APPENDIX 2

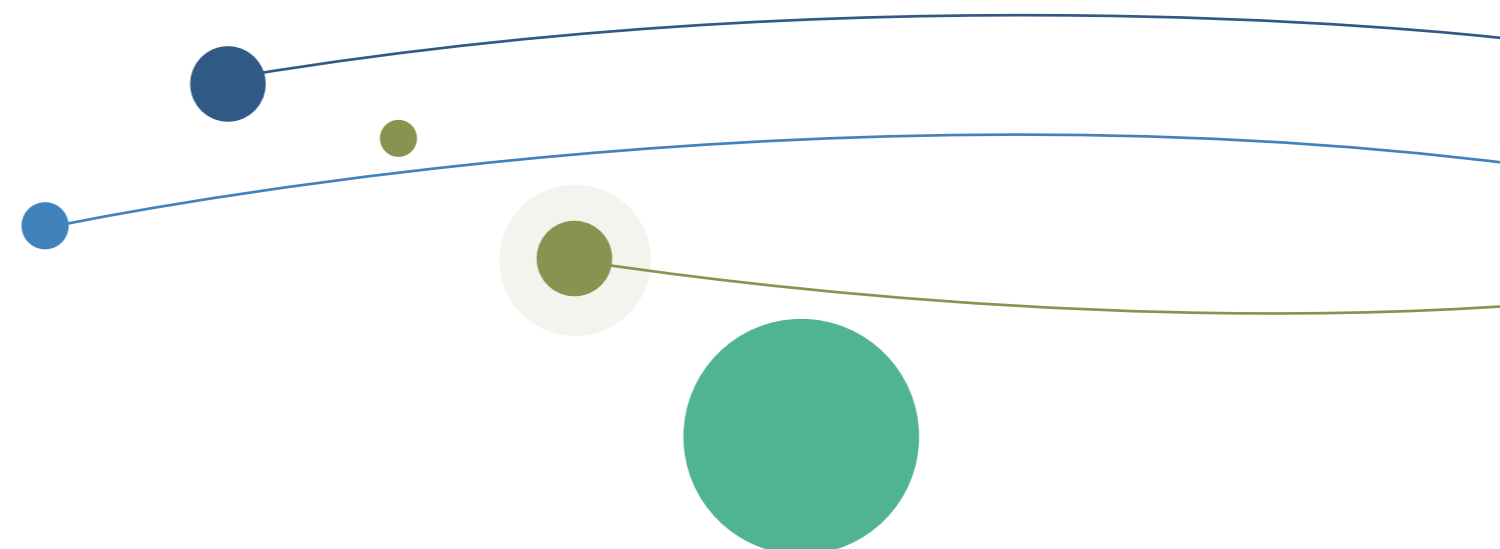
## Marine Research Programme 2021-2027 Funded Research Projects 2022

Research Theme	Project Type	Project Reference	Project Title	Grantees/Lead Partner	Total Grant-Aid
Bioresources: Aquaculture & Biomass Production	Post-Doctoral Fellowship	PDOC/21/01/03	Accelerated seaweed production for an innovative and robust seaweed aquaculture in Ireland (ASPIRE)	University of Galway	€ 399,539
Bioresources: Aquaculture & Biomass Production	Post-Doctoral Fellowship	PDOC/21/01/04	Sustainable Aquaculture: Advancing Irish bivalve biomass production by promoting seed abundance and more disease resilient stocks (SusAqua)	University College Cork	€ 399,418
Renewable Energy	Post-Doctoral Fellowship	PDOC/21/03/02	AI-based Bird monitoring (of offshore wind installations) using long Range-unmanned aerial Drone (AI-BIRD)	University of Limerick	€ 398,043
Ocean Literacy and Education	Post-Doctoral Fellowship	PDOC/21/04/02	Waves of change: promoting sustainable development and behavioural change through ocean literacy	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 397,986
Pollution and Litter	Cullen Masters Scholarship	CS/22/002	Analysis of Long-term Trends in WFD Benthic Invertebrates Quality Element in transitional and Coastal Waterbodies Across Ireland	Atlantic Technological University (Galway)	€ 55,000 Note A
Integrated Policy & Governance: Socio Economics	Cullen PhD Scholarship	CS/22/003	Developing ecosystem accounting for Ireland's marine and coastal ecosystems	University of Galway	€ 110,000
Advanced Technologies	Cullen PhD Scholarship	CS/22/004	Marine and Coastal Environmental monitoring using drone and aerial Hyperspectral Imaging sensor	University of Limerick	€ 110,000 Note A
Biodiversity, Ecosystems & Food-webs	Cullen Masters Scholarship	CS/22/006	Analysis of Long-term Trends in WFD Benthic Invertebrates Quality Element in transitional and Coastal Waterbodies Across Ireland	University of Galway	€ 55,000 Note A
Advanced Technologies	Cullen PhD Scholarship	CS/22/008	Developing new underwater AI algorithms for real time data analysis, mission planning and investigations	University of Limerick	€ 110,000
Information & Spatial Technologies, Analytics and Modelling	Cullen PhD Scholarship	CS/22/009	Marine and Coastal Environmental monitoring using drone and aerial Hyperspectral Imaging sensor	South East Technological University (Carlow)	€ 110,000 Note A
Bioresources: Aquaculture & Biomass Production	Transnational Project	PBA/BIO/22/01	BIVALVI: Advancing European bivalve production systems	University College Cork	€ 150,000 Note B
Bioresources: High Value Products	Transnational Project	PBA/BIO/22/02	ImPREsSIVE: Improved Processing to Enhance Seafood Sidestream Valorisation and Exploration	Teagasc	€ 150,000 Note B

Research Theme	Project Type	Project Reference	Project Title	Grantees/Lead Partner	Total Grant-Aid
Bioresources: High Value Products	Transnational Project	PBA/BIO/22/03	SeaSoil: Value creation and ecosystem services of European Seaweed industry by reducing and handling potentially toxic elements from breeding to soil	Atlantic Technological University (Galway), Oilean Glas Teo and Donegal Seaweed	€ 150,000 Note B
Pollution and Litter	Transnational Project	PBA/PL/22/01-A and B	PURE WIND: Impact of sound on marine ecosystems from offshore wind energy generation	University College Cork and Gavin & Doherty Geosolutions Ltd.	€ 199,727 Note C
Various	Networking and Marine Research Communication Awards	NET/22/01 to NET/22/94	Publicising Research Results via Marine Conferences/Events, Open Access Publications and Media Productions	Various (62 awards granted in 2022)	€ 76,743
<b>Total (Funded Research Projects)</b>					<b>€ 2,871,456</b>

**Notes:**

- A. Funded two Masters and two PhD scholarships under the same topic, but different research themes.
- B. This represents the Marine Institute contribution to these transnational projects for the Irish partners. Projects awarded under the 2nd Additional Call 2021 of the BlueBio ERA-NET Co-fund (H2020 Project number 817992).
- C. This represents the Marine Institute contribution to this transnational project for the Irish partners. Project awarded under the JPI Oceans 2021 Joint Call on *Underwater Noise in the Marine Environment*.



# APPENDIX 3

## Horizon Europe Projects

### Project Title: DT4GS - Open collaboration and open Digital Twin infrastructure for Green Smart Shipping

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** Konnecta Systems Ltd; IBM Ireland Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** Konnecta Systems Ltd = €579,375; IBM Ireland Ltd = €435,437.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101056799>

#### Objective

DT4GS is aimed at delivering an "Open Digital Twin Framework" for both shipping companies and the broader waterborne industry actors to tap into new opportunities made available through the use of Digital Twins (DTs). The project will enable shipping stakeholders to embrace the full spectrum of DT innovations to support smart green shipping in the upgrade of existing ships and new vessels.

DT4GS will cover the full ship lifecycle by embracing federation of DT applications as well as utilising DTLF policies and related shared-dataspace developments for the sector. DT4GS applications will focus on shipping companies but will also provide decarbonisation decision-support system for shipyards, equipment manufacturers, port authorities and operators, river commissions, classification societies, energy companies and transport/corridor infrastructure companies.

DT4GS's objectives are to:

1. Support shipping companies in achieving up to 20% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>e with a 2026 horizon, by developing and deploying real-time configurable DTs for ship and fleet operational performance optimisation in four Living Labs involving shipping companies, with different vessel types, and establishing fully validated industry services for Green Shipping Operational Optimisation DTs expected to be adopted by 1000+ ships by 2030.
2. Establish a comprehensive zero-emission shipping methodology and support Virtual Testbed and Decision Support Systems that address both new builds and retrofits comprising:

- a. A DT4GS (Green Shipping) Dataspace for the broader shipping sector contributing to GAIA-X by establishing a core European industry resource that accelerates the green and digital transition of waterborne shipping and transport value chains.
- b. Simulation based solutions to retrofit ships, targeting 55% reduced CO<sub>2</sub>e reduction by 2030.
- c. A smart green "new-build" reference design per vessel type.
- d. Virtual Testbed services for reducing the cost of physical testing of GS solutions by 20%.

### Project Title: Game Changer - Game Changing Deep-Tech removing barrier to farmed salmon production growth for climate- & planet-friendly low carbon footprint animal protein

**Instrument:** Coordination and Support Action (CSA).

**Irish Partners:** Konree Innovation Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** Konree Innovation Ltd = €75,000.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101071540>

#### Innovative technology for pest treatment in salmon production

The salmon aquaculture industry offers a highly nutritious source of animal protein with a low carbon footprint. However, a tiny sea louse is one of the most feared and persistent pests in the salmon industry.

The pest and treatments cause considerable direct and indirect damage to the industry due to fish deaths caused by sea lice-induced wound infections and bacterial diseases. The EU-funded Game Changer project proposes a deep-tech non-fish-handling solution. The technology will employ Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning to outsmart sea lice. It will consider the harsh sea environment and avoid harm to the fish in farms and the environment.

#### Objective

Globally the salmon aquaculture industry is worth circa US\$14 billion (2019 figures). The main obstacle to further growth is the tiny sea louse. Konree Innovation is developing a deep-tech game-changing and disruptive technology to tackle this, the single most feared and persistent, pest in salmon aquaculture - the sea louse.

The sea louse is regulated everywhere it is farmed, once the levels present reach the regulatory threshold, it triggers treatment. The direct cost to the industry in treatments for sea lice is approximately US\$1 billion (2019 figures), while the indirect cost is estimated to be c. US\$3 billion, mainly due to fish deaths brought about by weakening of the salmon due to sea lice induced wound infections and bacterial diseases therein as well as the non-optimised handling of the fish during treatments. Up to 20% of production can be lost in this way.

Konree Innovation is developing a deep-tech non-fish-handling solution that will employ both artificial and machine learning to outsmart the sea louse's biological strategy for infestation. The sea is a tough harsh environment, the technology will need to perform well in this environment and do no harm to the fish in the pen, the pen itself or the environment.

All these requirements demand a deep-tech solution. Konree Innovation is internationally focused: Norway has 56% of global production, next Chile at 28%, North America at 7%, Scotland at 6%, Australia and New Zealand at 2.4%, Ireland at 0.6%. Iceland and the Faroe Islands are now also farming Atlantic salmon.

Consumer demand for alternative climate- and planet-friendly sources of protein is expected to get much higher, and farmed salmon offers a highly nutritious source of animal protein with a low carbon footprint. An effective way to maintain control and manage sea lice numbers will overcome the barrier to growth and enable the salmon producer industry to compete with the big meat producers that have a much higher carbon footprint.

### Project Title: PREP4BLUE - Preparing the Research & Innovation Core for Mission Ocean, Seas & Waters

**Instrument:** Coordination and Support Action (CSA).

**Irish Partners:** Erinn Innovation Ltd; University College Cork; Galway Atlantaquaria Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** Erinn Innovation Ltd = € 409,000; University College Cork = €267,687; Galway Atlantaquaria Ltd = €83,187.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101056957>

#### Co-creation and co-implementation of research for ocean and water health

Research and Innovation (R&I) will be a central component of the Mission Ocean, Seas and Waters, which aims to restore ocean and water health by 2030. The Mission will connect initiatives across disciplines, mobilise policymakers, stakeholders and citizens, and leverage public and private investments.

The EU-funded PREP4BLUE project will develop tools and methods for co-creation and co-implementation of R&I modalities, which are required by the Mission objectives. It will also prepare the ground for stimulating and engaging various actors for a successful first phase (2022-2025). The project will deliver tools, guidelines, methodologies and recommendations tested through pilots, which will interconnect, leverage and optimise actions among the projects contributing to the Mission.

#### Objective

Mission Ocean, seas and water aims at restoring the health of our ocean and waters by 2030, as a major contributor to the European Green Deal and the Sustainable Development Goals. Research and innovation will be a key component of the Mission, which will link initiatives across disciplines, mobilise policymakers, stakeholders and citizens, and leverage public and private investments.

PREP4BLUE overarching objective is to facilitate a successful first phase (2022-2025) of the Mission, by developing the co-creation and co-implementation R&I modalities required to achieve the Mission objectives and preparing the ground for inspiring and engaging citizens and stakeholders.

The project is designed to deliver a series of tools, guidelines, methodologies and recommendations tested through pilots, which will interlink, leverage and optimise activities among the projects funded under the Mission. Our systemic approach will foster cohesion and connectivity between knowledge and technology, funding, regulation, education and skills, social structures and co-creation with R&I actors, citizens and stakeholders.

PREP4BLUE multidisciplinary and multi-actor consortium is actively engaged in basin-based strategies and related R&I activities, with strong experience in co-developing business models and recommendations for policy-makers, expertise in social sciences related to participative democracy and citizen engagement and excellent track-record in methodologies for knowledge management and transfer, as well as in stakeholder engagement.

PREP4BLUE will also carry out strategic actions to assure the alignment of our CSA with the evolution of the Mission components, including the Mission Core Network, other contributors to the Mission and other Missions. The project will contribute to preparedness and engagement of all relevant stakeholders to empower them to play an active role in the Mission.

### **Project Title: VECTOR - Vectors to Accessible Critical Raw Material Resources in Sedimentary Basins**

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** University College Dublin; Group Eleven Mining & Exploration Ltd; Boliden Tara Mines Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** University College Dublin = €1,308,727.50; Group Eleven Mining & Exploration Ltd = €10,000; Boliden Tara Mines Ltd = €0.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101058483>

#### **Pathways towards responsible and sustainable mineral exploration in the EU**

Achieving the EU's Green Deal targets will require more responsible use of, and a sharp increase in, the supply of critical raw materials. The EU is currently reliant on imports and is therefore vulnerable to changes in the geopolitical landscape and supply chain interruptions.

Complex social, environmental and technical challenges need to be understood to explore the potential of domestic sourcing of metals and minerals. The EU-funded VECTOR project seeks to explore these challenges by bringing geosciences and social sciences together. VECTOR aims at developing human-centred solutions for a socially acceptable, responsible and sustainable supply of critical raw materials in Europe and thus contribute to achieve the Green Deal.

#### **Objective**

The EU imports 80% of its industrial raw materials making European supply chains highly vulnerable to disruption and threatening the EU's ability to manufacture raw material-intensive technologies, such as electric cars, wind turbines, and ICT hardware, that are essential to the green and digital transformations. Europe possesses significant mineral potential but development is limited by the lack of sustainable, low-impact exploration methods and by social opposition to mineral projects.

With VECTOR, we will generate new knowledge to overcome these technical and social barriers, unlocking Europe's raw material potential and improving the resilience of EU raw materials supply chains. Overcoming issues will require major changes of the business models in the extractives industry and to integrate a more human-centred approach.

The VECTOR project is based on the premise that a prerequisite to any sustainable human activity is to minimise the environmental and social costs and include all the stakeholders in the decision making processes around this.

VECTOR's overall objective is to deliver evidence-based and accessible knowledge that integrates the scientific and social pathways to successful mineral exploration and mining.

The first pillar of our approach is a geological prospectivity toolkit based on an entirely new workflow using machine learning-based integration of less invasive geological, geochemical and geophysical measurements. The workflow will be validated in three European sedimentary basins and will be transferable worldwide.

The second pillar is a social acceptance procedure that identifies, for the first time, the values that the European public invokes when deciding about mineral development. This will result in a Social Acceptance index and a new body of knowledge that reflects diverse values-based perspectives.

The third pillar is an integrated toolkit consisting of a unique, distributed, multimodal, self-learning, and interactive platform that will consider both geological exploration potential and socio-economic factors to yield a data-driven, quantitative and integrative assessment of regions more suitable for exploration and, eventually, mining.

The results will be freely available via an engaging, web-based interface designed to support evidence-based decision making and the UNFC and UNRMS.

### **Project Title: EmpowerUs - Socio-economic Empowerment of coastal communities as users of the sea to ensure sustainable coastal development**

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** Erinn Innovation Ltd; Institute of Technology Sligo; Údarás na Gaeltachta.

**Value to Irish Partners:** Erinn Innovation Ltd = €603,512.50; Institute of Technology Sligo €481,625; Údarás na Gaeltachta = €236,461.25.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101059957>

#### **Green transition through coastal communities**

Coastal communities are significant to maintaining healthy climates and transitioning to a more sustainable, green and inclusive world. Unfortunately, in many cases, policies, funding and novel solutions do not take these communities into account, either making inefficient changes or forgetting them altogether.

The EU-funded EmpowerUs project will develop a network of six transition coastal labs across EU coastal regions promoting new effective methodologies for inclusive policymaking. EmpowerUs will enhance social innovation and self-sustainability, allowing the optimisation of each community and pushing for a greener future.

#### **Objective**

EmpowerUs will enable coastal communities to act for change and transition towards sustainable, inclusive and resilient coastal developments. We assume that true empowerment implies R&I should catalyse, facilitate and support coastal communities in the acquisition of power through a variety of tools, methods and coproduction with the inclusion of all actors, at local, regional, national and European levels.

EmpowerUs will develop an adaptive transformation mechanism via a network of six Transition Coastal Labs (TCLs) across all EU coastal regions. Recognising that no one solution will address the myriad of challenges coastal communities face, the EmpowerUs transformation mechanism will be adaptive and based on a multi-actor transdisciplinary approach.

The project will co-create, pilot and evaluate Tailored Empowerment Programmes that include a portfolio of social innovation and Nature-Based Solutions. By facilitating capacity building through improved understanding of challenges, barriers and enablers of change and increasing Ocean Literacy through nature connectedness and cultural heritage, EmpowerUs will support social innovation and self-sustaining communities. The EmpowerCoast digital twin/digital GIS platform will ensure the EmpowerUs mechanism is available to all coastal communities to uptake and use to support sustainable action.

EmpowerUs consortium is balanced, complementary and transdisciplinary with key expertise in socio-economic technical, and ecological issues and the science-policy needed to achieve the project's aims and objectives. EmpowerUs will provide innovative platforms to empower citizens to take transformative actions in line with EU policies to meet global challenges including biodiversity degradation and climate change at a local scale, supporting just, inclusive and sustainable coastal development.

### **Project Title: WATERUN - Innovative methodology to prevent and mitigate diffuse pollution from urban water runoff**

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** Dublin City University.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €345,820.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060922>

#### **Ensuring high water quality**

Urban storm water runoff is considered a major source of pollution for receiving waters. It's a barrier to meeting objectives of water quality and aquatic biodiversity. In this context, the EU-funded WATERUN project will develop an innovative methodology to contribute to the implementation of urban water runoff management plans in cities.

Specifically, it will provide preventive and mitigation solutions and best management practices adopting a holistic perspective (from source identification to remediation strategies) for diffuse water pollution control in urban catchments. Three case studies (city of Santiago de Compostela, city of Aarhus and city of Amman) have been selected according to different climate conditions, land use and level of implementation of measures for diffuse pollution.



**Objective**

The WATERUN project aims to develop an innovative methodology to contribute to the implementation of urban water runoff management plans in cities based on the Water-Sensitive Urban Design concept. This methodology will provide preventive and mitigation solutions and best management practices adopting a holistic perspective (from source identification to remediation strategies) for diffuse water pollution control in urban catchments.

The target is to transform the urban water runoff management by the development of identification, planning and risk-based tools and new working procedures (guidance), counting on the early involvement of the main urban water management and governance actors (co-creation process) to ensure a wider and faster adoption.

Three case studies (city of Santiago de Compostela, city of Aarhus and city of Amman) have been chosen to obtain data and to elaborate, perform and validate the proposed WATERUN methodology. These case studies have been selected according to different climate conditions, land use and level of implementation of measures for diffuse pollution, in order to validate the tools in different scenarios.

Key stakeholders as RTO, industry, public authorities, urban planners and citizens will participate in a continuous co-creation process from a multi-disciplinary approach ensuring that decisions for urban water runoff management are made with complete comprehension of environmental, social and economic dimensions.

In addition to providing solutions for sustainable urban water management, the WATERUN methodology will allow to gain advanced knowledge on diffuse water pollution in cities in a climate change context, thus contributing to protect water bodies and the environment, and ensuring high water quality for all.

**Project Title: SOS-ZEROPOL2030 - Source to Seas - Zero Pollution 2030**

**Instrument:** Coordination and Support Action (CSA).

**Irish Partners:** University College Cork.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €329,375.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060213>

**Taking a holistic approach to fight marine pollution**

Curbing water pollution is a top priority in Europe. Keeping seas healthy and clean can help protect the various ecosystem services we depend on such as climate regulation and food provision. The EU-funded SOS-ZEROPOL2030 project seeks to make a significant contribution to this effort.

To that end, it will develop a holistic framework aiming towards zero pollution in European seas by 2030. This framework will provide practical guidance from source to sea and address shortcomings in marine pollution management. Moreover, it will increase understanding of existing obstacles regarding prevention, reduction, mitigation and monitoring of marine pollution in European seas.

**Objective**

The overall aim of 'Source to Seas - Zero Pollution 2030 (SOS-ZEROPOL2030)' is to develop a holistic zero pollution framework which can guide the process towards achieving zero pollution in European seas by 2030. Marine contamination (including pollution) occurs as a direct result of human activities on both; land and in the marine environment; and requires urgent attention as healthy and clean seas provide numerous ecosystem services (e.g. food, oxygen production, climate regulation), which are critical for our survival and wellbeing.

Given the complex and interconnected nature of marine pollution, the integration of sustainability-focused agendas and circular economy principles and practices is essential for the development of effective actions that can address its impacts.

The implementation of processes and measures to reduce marine pollution will have consequences for numerous economic sectors (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, food and beverage industry, waste management, packaging industry, tourism, offshore energy) at multiple scales (local, national, regional and international), framing marine pollution as a considerable global socio-economic challenge that requires active collaboration from multiple stakeholders, across a range of geographic areas.

In this context SOS-ZEROPOL2030 aims to co-design, co-produce, and co-deliver a stakeholder lead European Seas zero-pollution framework that provides practical guidance from source to sea addressing shortcomings in marine pollution management and governance.

This holistic approach is based on best practice, puts emphasis on human behaviour, socioeconomics and governance; and is underpinned in knowledge about and understanding of current barriers to effective and efficient prevention, reduction, mitigation and monitoring of marine pollution in European Seas.

**Project Title: MARBEFES - MARine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning leading to Ecosystem Services**

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** University College Dublin.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €1,046,607.50.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060937>

**Objective**

The European Union and its Member States (MSs) have a fundamental need to understand how biodiversity and ecosystem functioning must be maintained to ensure that they deliver ecosystem services, goods and benefits, which in turn must be sustainably used by society. Central to this, and as the *raison d'être* of this call, the MSs need to value these natural and social capital aspects of ecosystems.

The overall aim of MARBEFES is to determine the links between the biodiversity and functioning of coastal and marine ecosystems and the resulting ecosystem services and societal goods and benefits. In this it will achieve ecological and socio-economic valuation through a validated set of innovative tools in a distributed toolbox (TRL 6) to enhance policy and governance to secure benefits for current and future generation.

We will progress substantially beyond the current state-of-the-art understanding of the causes and consequences of the maintenance, loss and gain of biodiversity and ecological and economic value and the repercussions of this for the management and governance of European seas.

Involving 23 highly experienced partners, the project outputs and outcomes are based on developing and validating a set of ecological, economic and socio-cultural valuation tools using existing and new information and data in 12 Broad Belt Transect case studies. These cover the breadth of European marine biodiversity, from the Arctic to semi-tropical areas, across dominant habitats and iconic species, and from shallow to deep areas and encompass a range of socio-economic contexts.

As such, and through stakeholder co-creation for policy relevance, MARBEFES shows the tools to value different natural capital resources and inform planning from financial allocations to management and with monetary and non-monetary benefits. In this, the project advances our knowledge through linking marine biodiversity and its ecological structure and functioning to ecological and economic valuation.

**Project Title: CIRCALGAE - CIRCular valorisation of industrial ALGAE waste streams into high-value products to foster future sustainable blue biorefineries in Europe**

**Instrument:** Innovation Action (IA).

**Irish Partners:** Teagasc - Agriculture and Food Development Authority.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €329,646.50.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060607>

**An innovative system to make the most out of algae**

Algae biomass is a treasure in the water, while capturing CO<sub>2</sub> vast amounts of biomass are generated. However, this treasure is not being used to the fullest. The EU-funded CIRCALGAE project aims to develop a ground-breaking exploitation system where the algae industrial waste streams will be further valorised, in a more sustainable and circular approach.

Through a set of simple, water-based technologies, the project focuses on introducing an integrated biorefinery concept and delivering novel macro- and microalgae ingredients to the food, feed and cosmetic sector. Bringing together a team of key algae cross-sectoral actors, CIRCALGAE aspires to revolutionise the blue bioeconomy and scale up the sustainable use of living aquatic resources.

**Objective**

Algae biomass is highly underexploited and its efficient utilisation is one of the main challenges in current and future EU marine policies towards sustainability. CIRCALGAE will boost the blue bioeconomy by applying an integrated biorefinery concept to valorise the massively produced (over 36 Mt of algae biomass annual world production) and vastly underexploited algae industrial waste streams (which can add up to 95% of the initial biomass) from the main existing sources to date: the phycollid production from macroalgae and protein/lipid microalgae industries.

CIRCALGAE's simple, water-based technologies, will transform these waste streams into value-added ingredients to be used in specific texturized vegan foods, health-promoting food ingredients, protein rich feed, and cosmetic formulations incorporating texturizing or highly bioactive ingredients for topical use. 3 blue biorefinery schemes up-scaled to hundreds of kg will be demonstrated throughout CIRCALGAE project. 12 demonstrator products will be developed by food, feed and cosmetic industry partners validating the great potential of novel algae ingredients in these key sectors. Additionally, 2 final products will be qualified for market including their studies in consumer acceptance assessments.

Through co-creating and co-learning, CIRCALGAE will connect all algae cross-sectional actors, including industrial end-user partners, RTOs, technological and consultancy SMEs, for the validation of all health-promoting effects and claims, regulatory aspects and environmental, economic and social impacts, engaging all relevant stakeholders in the primary sector to re-shape the current industrial network for a future thriving blue bioeconomy.

### Project Title: Marine SABRES - Marine Systems Approaches for Biodiversity Resilience and Ecosystem Sustainability

**Instrument:** Innovation Action (IA).

**Irish Partners:** University College Cork.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €1,253,625.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101058956>

Marine systems approaches for sustainable management

Social-ecological systems (SES) and ecosystem-based management (EBM) are globally recognised tools to enable balanced marine development and conservation. The EU-funded Marine SABRES project will co-design a simple SES approach to rapidly enable and upscale EBM across Europe and abroad.

The project will set European marine management on a course to reverse biodiversity decline by integrating sustainable ecosystems and a resilient blue economy. Marine SABRES will empower managers to make sustainable decisions and citizens to engage with marine biodiversity conservation. The project will demonstrate the practical management efforts in the Tuscan Archipelago, the Arctic North-East Atlantic and the Macaronesian archipelagos.

#### Objective

Marine Biodiversity loss is continuing to decline despite current conservation efforts. Reversing the decline in biodiversity requires rapid roll out of effective conservation measures that can also enable a sustainable and resilient blue economy. Social-ecological systems-thinking and Ecosystem-Based Management are globally recognized tools to enable balanced marine development and conservation. Marine SABRES will co-design as Simple Social Ecological Systems approach (the Simple SES) to rapidly enable and upscale EBM across Europe and abroad.

Marine SABRES will set European marine management on a course to reverse biodiversity decline, it will conserve and protect biodiversity by integrating sustainable ecosystems and a resilient blue economy; enable managers to make sustainable decisions; empower citizens to engage with marine biodiversity conservation; promote sustainable development and in coastal and marine sectors.

Marine SABRES is comprised of an interdisciplinary consortium including world leaders in the field of EBM and Social Ecological System distributed across Europe and focusing demonstration of practical management efforts in three Demonstration Areas (Tuscan Archipelago, the Arctic North-East Atlantic and Macaronesia) before upscaling throughout Europe and beyond.

### Project Title: GES4SEAS - Achieving Good Environmental Status for maintaining ecosystem Services, by Assessing integrated impacts of cumulative pressures

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish partners:** Marine Institute.

**Value to Irish Partner:** €469,205.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101059877>

#### Enhancing the management of European and international marine ecosystems

Human activities exert great pressures on the health of our marine environment, its biodiversity and the functioning of its ecosystem. The EU-funded project GES4SEAS will inform and guide marine governance with a view to minimising these pressures and their impacts to ensure continued provision of ecosystem services. It will develop, test, demonstrate and upscale an innovative and flexible toolbox relevant to adaptive ecosystem-based management.

This will support Good Environmental Status in the context of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and support policies at national, European and international levels. GES4SEAS solutions will be tested and demonstrated at 11 learning sites, including one in the Caribbean Sea.

#### Objective

GES4SEAS will inform and guide marine governance in minimizing human pressures and their impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, while maintaining the sustainable delivery of ecosystem services. This will be achieved through developing an innovative and flexible toolbox, tested, validated, demonstrated and upscaled, in the context of adaptive Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM).

This will allow competent authorities to assess and predict the effect of multiple stressors (including climate change) and pressures from human activities, at the national, sub-regional, regional and European level. This will ensure they achieve Good Environmental Status (MSFD), and support different policies at national, European and global levels (e.g. BHD, Biodiversity Strategy, SDG).

This will be achieved by integrating stakeholders and the key competent authorities in a Practitioner Advisory Board, in co-creating and validating the toolbox and the EBM approach. In this, we focus on real problem solving and following an iterative and incremental development approach. This will allow GES4SEAS to achieve Technological and Societal Readiness Levels 6, since our solutions will be tested and demonstrated at 11 Learning Sites (LSs) covering important regions and environments.

These LSs have been selected to explore geographical specificities, in the four regional seas, with regards to the impacts of cumulative pressures (including climate change) on the functioning of ecosystems, and their capacity for providing ecosystem services, to ensure better management. This includes LSs to explore transboundary issues and a LS at pan-European scale, to explore comparability and harmonization across regional seas, and gain understanding on the functioning of transverse topics (e.g. invasive species, HABs and jellyfish blooms, and top predators). Finally, to internationalize outputs, we have included a LS in the Caribbean Sea, in relation to the SDGs framework and intense extreme events.

### Project Title: SeaMark - Seaweed based market applications

**Instrument:** Innovation Action (IA).

**Irish partners:** NUI Galway.

**Value to Irish Partner:** €368,640.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060379>

#### Increasing biomass, where life begins

There's a natural solution for mitigating climate change and it's seaweed. A valuable and underutilised resource right from the oceans where all life began, seaweed has a large potential for exploitation in a variety of markets. The European industry, however, remains in its infancy and requires significant growth to become commercially viable.

The EU-funded SeaMark project will use new breeding technologies within EU seaweed crop genetics to increase biomass yield. The goal is to upscale circular ocean cultivation and land-based integrated multi-trophic aquaculture systems, as well as to develop novel processing methods like fermentation and biotransformation. This will result in a more resilient food system, helping fulfil the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

#### Objective

Seaweed is a valuable and underutilised resource that has large potential for exploitation in a variety of markets. Seaweed cultivation is a natural solution for mitigating climate change. The European seaweed industry remains in its infancy and requires significant growth in order to become commercially viable. Seamark will utilise recent ground-breaking selective breeding technologies within EU seaweed crop genetics to increase biomass yield.

SeaMark aims to upscale circular ocean seaweed cultivation and land-based integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA) systems and develop novel processing methods involving fermentation and biotransformation into twelve innovative seaweed-based products. The entire value chain will be analysed for techno-economic feasibility and socio-economic impact.

SeaMark will also identify and quantify ecosystem services provided by seaweed cultivation. This will feed into a strategic development plan for upscaling seaweed production, and addressing the carrying capacity of seaweed cultivation in Europe.

Due to the need to build more resilient food systems and decrease reliance on fossil-based products, it is necessary to grow the blue bio-economy through seaweed cultivation and product innovation. SeaMark will help fulfil the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (3, 8, 9, 12, 13 & 14) by developing this industry and, simultaneously, providing a positive impact on people and the planet.

### Project Title: MarinePlan - Improved transdisciplinary science for effective ecosystem-based maritime spatial planning and conservation in European Seas

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** Marine Institute.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €253,750.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101059407>

#### Objective

One of today's most pressing challenges is to safeguard the loss of ecosystem biodiversity and functioning, while simultaneously allowing for their exploitation by those who depend on their services, goods and benefits. In Europe, Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is the main governance process to ideally integrate sustainability and exploitation. This requires tools and knowledge to align MSP and marine protected area (MPA) designation processes, which are lacking particularly regarding transboundary coordination and connectivity.

Founded on a large amount of expertise and a solid theoretical basis, MarinePlan will co-develop with stakeholders a Decision Support System (DSS) for ecosystem-based maritime spatial planning (EB-MSP) together with best practice guidance to enhance the effectiveness of spatial conservation and restoration measures for marine biodiversity in European Seas.

Tools will comprise operational criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSA), enabling the allocation of conservation and restoration areas at various scales in complex sea areas with multiple uses, while including the effects of climate change. The DSS will be developed and applied at eight European planning sites, from coastal ecosystems to open ocean and the deep sea and from local to trans-boundary scales.

Applying and validating the DSS will incorporate realistic planning scenarios, key action points to achieve the EU Biodiversity Strategy, and policy recommendations how to enhance EB-MSP implementation in European Seas. MarinePlan will communicate results to decision-makers at horizontal (between sectors) and vertical (from local to European) levels and enable the transfer of knowledge to areas in differing socio-ecological settings. The improved natural and social science base will ensure effective policymaking to support a greater coherence in implementing environmental policies as well as to enable streamlined planning for marine industries.

### **Project Title: ReNEW - Resilience-centric Smart, Green, Networked EU Inland Waterways**

**Instrument:** Innovation Action (IA).

**Irish Partners:** Research Driven Solutions Ltd; Konnecta Systems Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** Research Driven Solutions Ltd = €220,074.75; Konnecta Systems Ltd = €294,000.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101069682>

#### **Making inland waterway transport greener and more sustainable**

Hundreds of cities and industrial regions in Europe are connected via waterways, facilitating the transport of goods and bridging the gap between producers and consumers. Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) is energy efficient and reliable, with huge potential for further exploitation, but there is still room for it to become more sustainable.

The EU-funded ReNEW project will bring together key actors from 11 EU countries who will systematically work towards this goal. The consortium will develop a resilience and sustainability decision-support framework that will inform measures and solutions towards greener IWT options, including suitable infrastructure.

Moreover, a digital twin model will enable the exchange of information between relevant systems, and outreach and upscale activities will create maximum impact towards smarter, greener IWT.

#### **Objective**

ReNEW represents a multidisciplinary group composed of 24 participants from 11 countries of the European Union capable of playing a key role in supporting the transition of IWT to smart, green, sustainable and climate-resilient sector.

To achieve this, the project will build on previous results, will capitalise on cooperation opportunities with ongoing projects and initiatives and will deliver:

1. An interdisciplinary IWT Resilience and Sustainability decision-support framework incorporating innovative models for IWT infrastructure networking interdependencies linking to probabilistic risk and safety analyses and resilience quantification (Resilience Index), supporting the identification of short- and long-term measures that enhance resilience utilising SOA building blocks from Reference Projects
2. Targeted innovative infrastructure resilience and sustainability solutions building on autonomy developments and maturing green energy options
3. A Green Resilient IWT Dataspace and generic Digital Twin providing primarily data sharing between infrastructure monitoring, RIS and traffic management and emergency systems and climate solutions
4. Four Living Labs designed to provide exemplars from a) LLs focusing on integrated IW and hinterland infrastructure [Gent-urban, Douro- corridor, Netherlands - EU network perspectives] and a LL addressing specifically inland waterway resilience
5. ReNEW Outreach and Upscale activities designed to maximise impact pathways.

### **Project Title: FAIR-EASE - FAIR Earth Sciences & Environment services**

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** Marine Institute.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €139,397.50.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101058785>

#### **Objective**

Earth and environmental sciences require a large panel and volume of data from satellite, in-situ observations, models, omics experiments. Earth system domains are interconnected and even if interfaces between domains appear of primary importance for several studies with large societal impacts, such as climate change, agriculture and food, human safety and health, the present digital architecture is based essentially on distributed and domain-dependent data repositories inducing real difficulties for integrated uses of all the environmental data.

To go beyond this state-of-the-art, the overall objective of FAIR-EASE is to customise and operate distributed and integrated services for observation and modelling of the Earth system, environment and biodiversity by improving the TRL of their different components implemented in close cooperation with user-communities, the European Open Science Cloud and research infrastructures in their design and sustainable availability.

The project will: (1) Improve a FAIR-EASE data discovery and data access service, relying on pre-operational existing services, in order to provide users with an easy and FAIR tool for discovery and access to environmental multidisciplinary and aggregated data-sets as managed and provided by a range of European data infrastructures; (2) Set up a FAIR-EASE Earth Analytical Lab, with EOSC connectivity supporting, through web-based interfaces, predefined processing tools and on-demand data visualisation services for remote analysis and processing of heterogeneous data facilitating the cross-disciplinary collaboration, reducing the time to results and increasing productivity; and (3) Develop a number of multidisciplinary Use Cases (UCs) to contribute requirements for the FAIR-EASE system components and to validate and demonstrate the capabilities of the FAIR-EASE service for supporting open science.

### **Project Title: ASPIRE - Accelerated Seaweed Production for Innovative and Robust seaweed aquaculture in Europe**

**Instrument:** Postdoctoral Fellowships - Global Fellowships.

**Irish Partners:** NUI Galway.

**Value to Irish Partners:** NUI Galway = €215,534.40; Mungo Murphy's Seaweed.

Company = No data available on CORDIS

#### **Strengthening seaweed aquaculture in Europe**

Seaweed cultivation is the fastest growing aquaculture sector in Europe. The red algae *Palmaria palmata* is a target species of the European seaweed industry due to its high protein

content (between 20% and 35%), essential minerals, and appealing flavour. However, current aquaculture still uses randomly collected wild types of *Palmaria*.

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) ASPIRE project will develop fast growing seaweed strains by screening and characterising high yielding and robust *Palmaria* strains. The project will use advanced sequencing and bioinformatics tools (TASSEL pipeline) to identify the biochemical and genetic markers of high-yielding *Palmaria* strains. ASPIRE will establish an innovative web-based database (MySQL, VueJS) and perform farm-level trials to validate the productivity of the selected elite seaweed strains.

#### **Objective**

The ASPIRE project will develop fast growing seaweed strains to strengthen Europe's potential to thrive in an emerging seaweed aquaculture industry. Seaweed cultivation is the fastest growing aquaculture sector and provides huge potential for market growth in Europe. The red algae *Palmaria palmata* is one of the target species of a growing European seaweed industry due to its high content of protein (20-35%), essential minerals and its appealing flavour.

Recently, there have been significant advancements in the aquaculture procedures for *Palmaria*, but these approaches are still mainly built on the utilisation of randomly collected wild-types of *Palmaria*. A targeted strain selection has therefore huge potential to increase the prospects of *Palmaria* aquaculture in Europe.

The objective of the ASPIRE project is to screen and characterise high-yielding and robust *Palmaria* strains. This will be implemented utilising high-throughput phenotyping technologies using performance screening (growth, morphology characteristics and photosynthetic parameters) and metabolomic analysis (primary/secondary metabolites using GC-MS, spectrophotometer, NMR etc.).

These results, in conjunction with next generation sequencing (Illumina seq.) and bioinformatics tools (TASSEL pipeline), will be utilised to identify both biochemical and genetic markers of high-yielding *Palmaria* strains. To ensure that the results have a high impact and find their way to the commercial end-user, the project will establish a novel and easy-to-use web-based database (MySQL, VueJS) specifically designed for use by the aquaculture stakeholders.

The ASPIRE project will conduct farm-level trials to validate the advantages of growing the selected elite seaweed strains in terms of productivity and overall biomass quality. The multi-disciplinary project will set the bases for an urgently needed modern seaweed breeding programme to further develop the emerging European seaweed aquaculture sector.

### Project Title: GREENLand - TWINNING MICROPLASTIC-FREE ENVIRONMENT

**Instrument:** Coordination and Support Action (CSA).

**Irish Partners:** NUI Galway.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €237,851.25.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101079267>

#### The fight against microplastics moves to the cloud

Tiny plastics are present in all ecosystems, affecting our soil and water. The battle against microplastics can be fought on the ground and in the cloud. The EU-funded GREENLand project will apply an innovative strategy using a digital cloud-based system.

Specifically, it will provide researchers and practitioners with new digital tools to increase efficiency in their efforts to fight against microplastics. GREENLand will create opportunities for networking with excellent institutions and stakeholders who are interested in the results of scientific research and establish cooperation with institutions and industry.

#### Objective

GREENLand is an innovative strategy for transforming to a digital Cloud-Based System with the education of staff for research of microplastics in soil, water, and microorganisms, as well as networking with the excellent institutions and stakeholders who are interested in the results of scientific research.

The essence of GREENLand is to change the system in which a great contribution will be made to the planet without plastic by working on preventive measures, innovations, and a plan for remediation. Trained professional staff will be able to be more efficient with the help of new digital tools, which will result in the establishment of strong cooperation with institutions and industry.

#### Project Title: BlueAdapt - Reducing climate based health risks in blue environments: Adapting to the climate change impacts on coastal pathogens

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** NUI Galway.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €889,712.50.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101057764>

#### Objective

BlueAdapt brings together an interdisciplinary team of biologists, climate scientists, economists, epidemiologists and public health experts to investigate and quantify the future health risks associated with selected coastal pathogens. BlueAdapt will provide tools to assess the impacts of policy responses and communicate the results to a wide audience, including both policymakers and the public.

A conceptual framework will be developed around existing models of One Health and Ecological Public Health, to help wider engagement with the complex nature of the issue. Horizons scanning and downscaled climate modelling will feed into lab based experiments and the development of simulations around how changes in climate variables, interacting with other environmental change, may influence the state of selected microbial pathogens of public health concern in coastal waters.

Case studies will illustrate how One Health and Ecological Public Health concepts can be used to generate action and identify potential barriers to adaptation. Health impact assessment and cost-benefit analysis will inform appropriate action. BlueAdapt Innovation Slams and policy workshops will help deliver wider impact from the project including new-to-firm and new-to-market products and services.

#### Project Title: SEETIP Ocean - Support to SET Plan Implementation Working Group and European Technology and Innovation Platform for Ocean Energy

**Instrument:** Coordination and Support Action (CSA).

**Irish Partners:** Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI).

**Value to Irish Partners:** € 65,875.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101075412>

#### Objective

SEETIP Ocean's mission is to enhance cooperation and collaboration amongst stakeholders both inside and outside of the European ocean energy sector. This mission is broken down into six objectives:

1. Maximise European scientific excellence in ocean energy.
2. Make sustainability and the Just Transition an integral part of ocean energy's development.
3. Build a deeper understanding of how ocean energy can optimally fit into the wider energy, industrial and infrastructure systems and planning systems, and help realise this integration.

4. Empower the SET Plan Ocean Energy Implementation Working Group and other public authorities by monitoring, analysing and reporting annual commentary on the sector's progress.
5. Reinforce and expand the ocean energy network through strong outreach actions.
6. Continue the work of ETIP Ocean and SET Plan Ocean Energy IWG after the project ends.

Ocean energy can power European society and economic life with electricity that is renewable, dependable and in harmony with local communities and environments. To reach this potential, sectoral stakeholders must collaborate, share knowledge and avoid duplication of efforts. SEETIP Ocean will do this by supporting the activities of both the European Technology & Innovation Platform for ocean energy (ETIP Ocean) and the SET Plan Ocean Energy Implementation Working Group.

The project's objectives will be achieved through coordination actions bringing individuals and organisations together to exchange knowledge, creating new knowledge and building more and deeper connections. Widespread knowledge-sharing will be facilitated via webinars and workshops. Based on these exchanges, SEETIP Ocean will publish accessible studies and reports that will be widely disseminated across and beyond the ocean energy sector.

The SET Plan Ocean Energy IWG's work will be supported with annual updated information on sector's progress and policy and funding support. Up-to-date and accurate data will inform the IWG's decision-making.

#### Project Title: SEACHEM - Training a new generation of researchers in offshore seaweed aquaculture to produce high-value chemicals

**Instrument:** Doctoral Networks - Joint Doctorates.

**Irish Partners:** NUI Galway; Bantry Marine Research Station Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** NUI Galway = €572,976; Bantry Marine Research Station Ltd = €286,488.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101073471>

#### Objective

SeaChem will provide high-level R&D training for early-stage researchers in the emerging field of marine biomass production. By addressing hot issues in offshore seaweed cultivation and its application as a source of renewables, SeaChem will take away current hurdles for its wide adoption in the EU.

Concurrently, the interdisciplinary SeaChem network (composed of academia, industry and sector organisations) and the variety of scientific disciplines integrated into the SeaChem R&D scheme, guarantees a multidisciplinary formation of the 10 next-generation highly-trained doctoral candidates. The main SeaChem R&D objectives are indeed spread over construction engineering (development of stainless steel offshore structures), biology (optimal conditions for seaweed cultivation) and chemical engineering (intensified extraction of valuable compounds).

By the combination of state-of-the-art research topics with multiple transferrable and social skills training events, SeaChem will ensure the broad scientific and personal development of the doctoral candidates. The high societal and economic relevance of this field is supported by the ever increasing societal pressure for the development of renewable resources, also relieving the dependency of the EU on imported (fossil) raw materials.

The growing worldwide market in renewable and sustainable products is driving this economic sector and is already creating a large need of highly-skilled professionals, hence ensuring a myriad of job opportunities for the doctoral candidates.

#### Project Title: MolStressH2O - Molecular mechanisms and consequences of thermal stress rippling through changing aquatic environments

**Instrument:** ERC Grants.

**Irish Partners:** University College Dublin.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €1,999,845.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101044202>

#### Objective

Heat stress is a driver of current mass mortalities related to anthropogenic global warming. However, current approaches to study heat stress have not considered three major but little known aspects. These are (i) the ripple effect, which could amplify negative outcomes through propagating heat stress among organisms, (ii) heat stress as an evolutionary mutagen and (iii) genomic networks as filters for prezygotic selection, which together could speed up the process of evolutionary adaptation to rapidly changing environments.

In this project, these properties of heat stress will be studied in vulnerable early life stages of three distinct aquatic ectotherms (a ragworm, a fish and a frog), to achieve an understanding of how universal these aspects of heat stress are among distinct, unrelated species. First this project will explore whether thermal stress can be propagated by means

of chemical communication (stress metabolites) to naive receivers of different species. Outcomes on development will be compared with differential gene expression.

We will then identify heat-induced stress metabolites and their molecular pathways of action, through RNAsequencing, Metabolomics and CRISPR-mediated gene editing. We will then test whether thermal stress and stress metabolites exposure induce higher mutation rates, through heat-induced transposon activity and reduced DNA repair capacity. gDNA sequencing will be combined with optical genome mapping to identify mutation rates and new structural variants.

Lastly, we will identify the role of functional genomic network constraint in filtering such variants. We will sequence a reference genome, and explore through AI-led simulations whether networks with topological node constraints outperform those without constraint. Together, these objectives will transform our understanding of the mechanisms, and the extent to which organisms will respond to anthropogenic warming.

#### **Project Title: WEDUSEA - Wave Energy Demonstration at Utility Scale to Enable Arrays**

**Instrument:** Innovation Action (IA).

**Irish Partners:** New Wave Technologies Ltd; University College Cork; Gavin and Doherty Geosolutions Ltd; Exceedence Ltd; Wood Group Kenny Ireland Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** New Wave Technologies Ltd = €2,892,037.50; University College Cork = € 576,750; Gavin and Doherty Geosolutions Ltd = €158,725; Exceedence Ltd = €90,475; Wood Group Kenny Ireland Ltd = €122,850.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101075527>

#### **Objective**

WEDUSEA led by Irish Wave Energy Developer, Ocean Energy, will demonstrate a grid connected 1MW OE35 floating wave energy converter (known as the OE Buoy) at the European Marine Energy Test Site (EMEC) in Orkney, Scotland. This rigorous technical and environmental demonstration will happen over a two year period in Atlantic wave conditions with outcomes directly impacting policy, technical standards, public perception and investor confidence.

The project will demonstrate that the technology is on a cost reduction trajectory in line with the EU SET Plan targets and will be a stepping stone to larger commercial array scale up and further industrialisation. The action will integrate sub components such as moorings and PTOs - improving efficiency, reliability, scalability, sustainability and circularity of the technology.

The combined actions of the work programme are expected to reduce the LCOE for the technology from €361/MWh to €245/MWh, a 32% reduction. For a 20MW array the LCOE would reduce from €185/MWh to €127/MWh.

The project has three clear phases, Phase 1: the initial design phase leading into a Go/No Go, Phase 2: demonstration in which it is expected that the baseline device will generate in excess of 1,650 MWh over the deployment and Phase 3: commercialisation and dissemination which sees the capitalisation and exploitation of the results. Ocean Energy and other consortium companies will actively exploit the results through new innovations, products and services. The results will be disseminated to feed both environmental databases and IEC electrotechnical standards.

This action will take wave energy beyond the state of the art, building on the partners experience in prior EU projects enabling arrays of reliable devices to achieve the 1GW target set out in the 2030 DG-ENER Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy. Planned engagement will create more public perception, empower and inform policy makers and de-risk larger scale investments to meet the 2050 targets.

#### **Project Title: DANUBIUS IP - DANUBIUS Implementation Phase Project**

**Instrument:** Coordination and Support Action (CSA).

**Irish Partners:** University College Cork.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €81,250.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101079778>

#### **Objective**

DANUBIUS-IP is a 36-month Coordination and Support Action to support the ongoing development of DANUBIUS-RI - an environmental research infrastructure linking rivers and seas - as it proceeds towards its Operational Phase.

The project proposes seven work packages, in two parallel workstreams, that together will:

- deliver a new governance structure for the RI as it transitions to DANUBIUS-ERIC.
- enhance the ICT potential of the RI to enable virtual delivery of key services.
- implement the Science and Innovation Agenda supported by agile and quality assured scientific services.

- demonstrate the value of the RI through examples of the unique services that the RI can offer to end-users across Europe and internationally.
- expand the DANUBIUS-RI community and enhance its standing in the wider European and International environmental RI landscape.
- ensure that the potential of DANUBIUS-RI to have significant social and economic impact is widely communicated.

DANUBIUS-IP is coordinated by GeoEcoMar (Romania) and brings together 25 experienced partners from 14 countries from across Europe in a consortium with complimentary areas of multi-disciplinary expertise across the freshwater and marine research fields. The project specifically seeks to address recommendations from the recent ESFRI and High-Level Expert Group reports (on DANUBIUS-RI) and make a significant contribution to the expected outcomes and wider impacts of the Horizon Europe Programme.

As such, the project considers the importance of sustainability of financial commitments, the need to test the funding model and to enhance the visibility of the RI. DANUBIUS-IP will further demonstrate the efficacy of an integrated and interdisciplinary approach embracing a 'river-sea continuum' perspective to fill current gaps in the Research and Innovation landscape to address key societal challenges in these environments impacted by anthropogenic pressures and climate change.

#### **Project Title: OCEAN - Operator-Centred Enhancement of Awareness in Navigation**

**Instrument:** Innovation Action (IA).

**Irish Partners:** Irish Ferries Ltd; Irish Whale and Dolphin Group.

**Value to Irish Partners:** Irish Ferries Ltd = €110,616; Irish Whale and Dolphin Group = €174,831.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101076983>

#### **Objective**

The OCEAN project approach is to contribute to the mitigation of navigational accidents by supporting the navigators to do an even better job than they do presently. Such support does not only relate to an 'on-the-spot' enhancement of navigational awareness - including the presence of marine mammals and floating containers - or an improved performance of evasive manoeuvring and other mitigating actions.

The project will go both deeper and wider, to identify and suggest amendments or improvements in the most pertinent factors that may contribute to events becoming accidents: training, technical, human or organisational factors, operational constraints, processes and procedures, commercial pressures or structural issues like shortcomings in rules and regulations.

From an implementation perspective, the OCEAN project will develop new design methods and operational processes, as well as integrating existing technologies to provide novel and improved functionalities. A key convergence point is the overall navigation situation assessment made by the operator, and the project aims at providing an integrated and designed-for-the-purpose presentation of near-field threats and navigational hinderances.

The project outputs will include an Evasive Manoeuvring Agent, intended to work in tandem with existing ship systems, continuously assessing navigational safety with respect to grounding or collision with other ships, fixed structures or other threats, and the visualization of advanced manoeuvring prediction. OCEAN will suggest the creation of a European Navigational Hazard infrastructure to collect, process and distribute data relating to the presence of marine mammals and floating containers. Further innovations comprise input to upcoming and revised international standards for maritime communications and practical methods to design maritime instruments and devices, all of which will be demonstrated in consolidated scenarios.

#### **Project Title: Water4All - Water Security for the Planet**

**Instrument:** Programme Cofund Actions.

**Irish Partners:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**Value to Irish Partners:** = €418,953.75.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060874>

#### **Objective**

Water is central to all human activities, to all components of the EU Green Deal and to several UN SDGs. The Water4All Partnership aims at enabling water security for all on the long term through boosting systemic transformations and changes across the entire research - water innovation pipeline, fostering the matchmaking between problem owners and solution providers.

It gathers more than 70 partners, R&I funders, environment ministries, local authorities, European, national and regional-scale networks, research performing organisations. It will collaborate with other relevant R&I initiatives. Water4All proposes a portfolio of multi-national, cross-sectoral activities,

targeting a variety of actors, intending to generate the following outputs:

- Strengthen the water R&I collaboration at European and international levels, across at least 31 countries, notably through Joint Transnational Calls.
- Coordinate and leverage the activities of the Water R&I community.
- Support and promote the demonstration and access to market of innovative solutions.
- Produce, share and better communicate water-related knowledge & data, from local to global scales.
- Enhance talent development of water R&I professionals.
- Foster capacity development and life-long training of water policy-makers, stakeholders and civil society.
- Design and implement approaches for participatory development of innovation.

Water4All will run its activities across seven themes of its strategic agenda: water for circular economy; water for ecosystems and biodiversity; sustainable water management; water and health; water infrastructure; international cooperation; water governance.

Water4All's outputs will contribute to:

- Deliver sound knowledge, tools and evidence basis on water for policy & decision-making.
- Improve consideration of water impacts in all relevant policies.
- Enhance the field/market use of innovative solutions to water challenges.
- Increase citizens' awareness and engagement for an inclusive water.

#### Project Title: SAFE - SmartAqua4Future

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** NUI Galway; Keywater Fisheries Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** NUI Galway = €786,922; Keywater Fisheries Ltd = €362,687.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101084549>

#### Objective

The objective of SAFE project is to reduce the environmental impact and improve the viability of the FW aquaculture by applying circular economy approaches to the valorisation of solid and liquid wastes from recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS) and integ. The main objective of SAFE project is to reduce the environmental impact and improve the viability of the FW aquaculture by applying circular economy (CE) approaches to the valorisation of solid and liquid wastes from recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS) and integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA) systems.

The economic viability of FW aquaculture will be improved through major advances in management systems and the integration of waste streams from FW aquaculture systems (FWAS) into the aquaculture feed chain. SAFE will enable the uptake of these solutions through local and regional scale demonstrations across the EU and will document the necessary management and governance conditions for successful transferability.

The multidisciplinary expertise of the consortium across a wide range of systems, species and geographies will target the enhancement of species of particular biodiversity concerns, such as European native crayfish. We will improve the sustainability of FW aquaculture production and investigate the feasibility of diversification through the culture of under-represented species (perch) and valuable crayfish species with declining populations. Lastly, we will compare the experiences of EU FW aquaculture to Chinese FWAS and value chains, the largest, fastest-growing and most diverse aquaculture sector in the world, using mutual knowledge sharing to improve the sustainability of aquaculture in China and the EU.

SAFE, through extensive dissemination activities, knowledge transfer programmes, training workshops and collaborative engagement with industry and stakeholders, will support the development of professional skills and competencies of the FW aquaculture both within the EU and partner countries.

#### Project Title: MARCO-BOLO - MARine COastal BiODiversity Long-term Observations

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** Erinn Innovation Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €467,500.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101082021>

#### Objective

MARCO-BOLO (MBO) aims to structure and strengthen European coastal and marine biodiversity observation capabilities, linking them to global efforts to understand and restore ocean health, hence ensuring that outputs respond to explicit stakeholder needs from policy, planning and industry. To this end, MBO will establish and engage with a Community of Practice (CoP) to determine end-user needs with the aim of optimising marine data flows, knowledge uptake, and improving governance based on biodiversity observations.

By exploiting synergies with concurrent projects MBO will develop and demonstrate new autonomous technology for biodiversity mapping and monitoring, and data streams from remote sensing, eDNA, robotics, optical and acoustic observations. Protocols for eDNA-based biodiversity observations are established and validated across applications, taxa and ecosystems.

The sequence of the analytical and technical processes for the different use cases will be incorporated into operational Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) and Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs) and included into online reusable workflows, contributing to the free and open access of EU and global biodiversity information facilities, and to support major EU biodiversity directives and global initiatives.

The project partnership will leverage its international activities (MBON, GOOS, OBIS) and participation in UN Ocean Decade Programmes (Marine Life 2030, OBON, ODIS, Ocean Practices for the Decade) to align the MBO work programme to global CoP, ensuring European participation and leadership in global biodiversity monitoring and global science. MBO results will be designed to build upon existing capability and infrastructures, and to be relevant to existing frameworks so that outputs can be easily integrated into national, regional (EU and adjacent sea basins), and global observation systems, with no delay ensuring the reusability of the investments Europe is already making in data generation.

#### Project Title: IGNITION - Improving Green Innovation for the blue revolution: new tools and opportunities for a more sustainable animal farming

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** University College Cork.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €404,361.25.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101084651>

#### Objective

Animal health and welfare are issues of high research priority for European aquaculture. In particular, improving animal welfare whilst reducing the use of veterinary drugs are current research priorities in line with minimizing the environmental impact of the industry. Preventing, or reducing the impact of disease is of prime importance for producers, researchers and stakeholders.

In addition, public awareness of aquatic animal health and welfare leads to the increased attention of policy-makers, scientific community and the consumers into new methods for disease prevention.

The IGNITION project aims to unveil new knowledge regarding animal welfare in the context of climate change and propose new tools to mitigate the adverse effects of stress. An improvement in animal welfare will translate in higher-quality farmed animals thus improving farming productivity and sustainability performance. Through IGNITION, it is expected to provide new knowledge through genotyping and molecular phenotyping techniques to develop future breeding strategies for fish and shellfish.

New innovative tools regarding immunization in fish will also be provided, aiming at improving fish welfare and targeting early life stages. Animal feeds will be formulated to include bioactive compounds extracted from halophytes through a novel upstream cascade salt removal.

Special emphasis will be given to the study and discovery of new non-invasive biomarkers of health and welfare, which will in turn allow the development of biosensors and disease prediction through machine learning approaches. The tools developed in IGNITION will be able to avoid the colonization and spread of pathogenic microorganisms, including multi-resistant microorganisms, among farmed animals and the subsequent spread to humans through the food chain.

#### Project Title: BlueRemediomics - BlueRemediomics: Harnessing the marine microbiome for novel sustainable biogenics and ecosystem services

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** Erinn Innovation Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €368,000.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101082304>

#### Objective

Marine microbial communities perform critical life sustaining functions on Earth and represent a vast unexploited treasure trove of bioresources that have the potential to strengthen the European blue economy.

To unlock this hidden potential, as well as responsibly conduct biodiscovery from marine microbes, requires multiple developments.

We need to amalgamate and apply advanced technologies to elucidate the composition, interactions and functional repertoire of the marine microbiome, while concomitantly ensuring sustainable and equitable exploitation, maintaining ocean health, and improving ocean literacy through an improved appreciation of ocean microbes.

To address these needs, BlueRemediomics will: (1) develop and provide an integrated bioinformatics platform to explore the marine microbiome potential; (2) establish innovative culturomics and high-throughput screening platforms to experimentally exploit consortia of marine microbes; (3) apply the platforms to identify and develop natural products derived from marine microbes; (4) foster aquaculture and ecosystem services that embody the “do no significant harm” principle; (5) maximise equitable access to ocean microbiome resources and increase awareness of the marine microbiome to a diverse range of stakeholders; (6) provide training, tools and resources to a variety of stakeholders.

To achieve these objectives, BlueRemediomics interlinks an advanced “Discovery Platform” with “Applications”, so designed to facilitate cyclical and iterative crosstalk. By federating multiple, currently fragmented key data resources, the Discovery Platform will accelerate new product identification and development, reduce resource dependence, raise consumer benefits and address key societal issues.

New modalities in access and benefit sharing will be established that balance sustainable and equitable use of marine genetic resources with intellectual property protection.

### Project Title: Cure4Aqua - Curing EU aquaculture by co-creating health and welfare innovations

Instrument: Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

Irish Partners: Rodger Hamish; Erinn Innovation Ltd.

**Value to Irish Partners:** Rodger Hamish = €214,680; Erinn Innovation Ltd = €298,375.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101084204>

#### Objective

Farmed seafood is an important source of protein for food and feeds with a low-carbon footprint which has an important role to play in helping to build a sustainable food system. A strategic and long-term approach for the sustainable growth of a resilient EU aquaculture is, therefore, more relevant today than ever. However, the efficient and cost-effective control of pathogens remains among the main challenges for the sector, particularly

relevant for Europe, where there is a great variety of species and production systems, which hinders the implementation of good husbandry practices tailored to each aquatic species.

Through active engagement with key stakeholders, Cure4Aqua aims to jointly improve the resilience of EU aquaculture under environmental, biological, and socio-economic stress, by improving aquatic animal health and welfare and supporting the environmentally friendly, inclusive, safe, and healthy production of seafood.

Cure4Aqua will do so by 1) Developing cost-effective vaccines to prevent disease caused by 5 pathogens of economic significance to EU aquaculture; 2) Identifying markers with diagnostic capacity to be integrated to selective breeding programs to improve stress and disease management; 3) Developing innovative, bio-based and sustainable solutions as an alternative to antibiotics for controlling fish pathogens at various life stages and alleviate the pressure of global antimicrobial resistance; 4) Developing new tools and technology to improve health and welfare monitoring at the fish farm level and diagnostics of fish pathogens both at the laboratory and the fish farm levels; 5) Placing fish welfare at the foreground of aquaculture production, through the development of high welfare standards that consider different life-stages, production systems, and knowledge of welfare needs, and 6) Ensuring effective external communication, dissemination and exploitation of project activities and results to all relevant target groups.

### Project Title: OceanICU - Improving Carbon Understanding

**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action (RIA).

**Irish Partners:** Marine Institute; NUI Galway.

**Value to Irish Partners:** Marine Institute = €772,095; NUI Galway = €177,111.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101083922>

#### Objective

The ocean plays a crucial role in the global C cycle, taking up approximately 25% of the CO<sub>2</sub> we emit to the atmosphere, and thus slowing the rate of climate change. The future trajectory of this sink will affect the timing and intensity of the modifications to human processes that we need to undertake in order to stabilise atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> at 450ppm.

Our ability to measure and model this sink is limited (evidenced by significant discrepancies between measured and modelled C uptake) with the current frontier area of research being a suite of biological processes related to higher trophic level behaviour within the so called biological C pump.

This involvement of higher organisms suggests that human activities (fishing, energy and mineral extraction) has the capacity to affect the ocean C sink however we lack the ability to quantitatively link direct human pressures and ocean C storage.

OceanICU will measure these key processes and evaluate their overall significance, transferring those that are important into models that inform the IPCC process and in this way contribute to resolving the observed model data mismatch of Ocean C sink estimates.

We will take this message directly to the COP in support of the ambition the UNFCCC has to include the ocean C sink in the global stocktake. We will use the fundamental knowledge we acquire around biological systems to evaluate the ability of human interventions in the ocean to alter the carbon cycle and produce management tools that allow the tension between resource extraction and C storage to be addressed.

This component will involve extensive dialogue with end users and stakeholders and lead to a Decision Support Tool that will constitute a major contribution to our ability to deliver the Green Deal by allowing us to ask questions around how to manage fisheries and resource extraction in a changed ocean in 50 years' time.

### Project Title: SBEP - A climate neutral, sustainable and productive blue economy Partnership

**Instrument:** Programme Cofund Actions.

**Irish Partners:** Marine Institute.

**Value to Irish Partners:** €642,642.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101086379>

#### Objective

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) aims to design, steer and support a just and inclusive transition to a regenerative, resilient and sustainable blue economy, boosting the transformation needed towards a climate-neutral, sustainable, productive and competitive EU by 2030.

The SBEP will deliver solutions to strengthen EU and international science-policy interfaces in marine- and maritime-related domains of the EU Green Deal and Digital Europe strategies through aligning national, regional and EU R&I priorities bringing together science, industry, policy and society. It will also contribute to accelerate the post-pandemic recovery and resilience.

In line with the EC new approach for a sustainable blue economy in the EU, the SBEP rolls-out impact pathways to: catalyse the transformation of ocean economy value chains;

deliver ocean knowledge and impact-driven R&I solutions; cooperate to respond to international, EU and national regulations, recommendations and policy strategies; contribute to the social and digital transition by developing innovative governance frameworks that benefit coastal communities, including by reinforcing skills and enhance ocean observation capacity contributing to E00S and GEOSS.

59 partners from 25 countries (MS and AC) together with the EC will join an unprecedented effort to pool R&I investments, aligning programmes at pan-European scale. The ambition is to launch 6 co-funded calls over a seven-year timeframe to support R&I joint programming on thematic priority areas of interventions stemming from a co-designed SRIA.

The SBEP will also identify additional mechanisms for alignment and look for further economic support of R&I programs leveraging other funding and finance streams. In parallel, a long-term structuring ambition will support the creation of a community of practice, fostering co-creation, coordinating all relevant initiatives at sea-basins/Atlantic ocean level and further promoting the EU blue economy at global level.

### Project Title: BlueMissionAA - building a coordination hub to support the mission implementation in the atlantic and arctic basin

**Instrument:** Coordination and Support Action (CSA).

**Irish Partners:** Marine Institute; University College Cork.

**Value to Irish Partners:** Marine Institute = €353,075; University College Cork = € 256,250.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101093962>

#### Objective

BlueMissionAA will be the coordination hub that will support the implementation of the EU Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030 in the Atlantic and Arctic basins. It will focus on restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems and increased climate resilience. BlueMission AA will have a structuring effect to consolidate and mobilise a wide community of relevant stakeholders and EU citizens towards the achievement of Mission objectives at basin level.

It will deliver an effective governance framework aligned with policies, initiatives and actions at national, regional and EU level [WP1], build a well-coordinated monitoring framework to assess the progress of the implementation on an ongoing basis [WP2], provide a wide range catalogue of supporting services [WP3], foster an attractive innovation ecosystem for ecological restoration [WP4], and give the opportunity and empower EU citizens to engage in the preservation and restoration of oceans and waters through participative means [WP5].

Six case studies will be selected across a range of representative restoration approaches to represent restoration approaches (e.g. protection, active restoration, sustainable harvesting) to represent existing and proven methodologies from recent and ongoing projects and networks.

The case studies will deliver guidelines and recommendations in respect of optimum governance approaches for delivering environmental protection and restoration in marine, freshwater and transitional water systems and scalability for achieving mission objectives. BlueMissionAA will develop two region-specific proposals towards an effective mission lighthouse governance, one for the Atlantic and one for the Arctic.

**Project Title: I-SEAMORE - Integrated surveillance ecosystem for European authorities responsible for maritime operations leveraged by reliable and enhanced aerial support**

**Instrument:** Innovation Action (IA)

**Irish Partners:** F6S Network Ireland Ltd

**Value to Irish Partners:** €238,218.75

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101073911>

**Objective**

I-SEAMORE is an Ecosystem composed of an advanced platform solution to host and manage the operation of several innovative assets, services and systems that aim to provide European Authorities with increased situational awareness and operational capabilities for Maritime surveillance operations resorting to aerial and water surface support. The core platform (infrastructure and software layers) is conceptualized to be deployed and operated at Maritime Operation Centres (MOCs) with interfaces to other systems including the UxVs Ground Control Stations (GCSs), as well as external systems.

It thus provides end-users with a holistic platform capable of handling several multipurpose tasks including, e.g. wide maritime border and coastal areas monitoring, analysis of potential threats, support to search and rescue operations, detection of illegal activities, among others.

Such tasks will be possible since I-SEAMORE platform provides a complete set of functionalities and capabilities to mission commanders, focusing on 4 main pillars: 1) employment and indirect tasking of multiple types of long-endurance Unmanned Assets (aerial and water surface), 2) exploitation of heterogeneous data sources e.g. payload data and open data sources including Copernicus Services, 3) provision of a common operational picture empowered by a novel and comprehensive suite of data fusion services based on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data Analysis, for optimal decision making and successful mission execution of the desired missions, and 4) interoperability within the Ecosystem and its interface with key existing external systems.

Moreover, the project will also generate additional knowledge to support the uptake of the solution at EU level, as well as multi-country, multi-authority collaboration, including novel concepts of operation, standard operating procedures for joint operations, and new methodologies for co-creation and validation of maritime security solutions by end-users.

# I APPENDIX 4

## Marine Institute Publications (Authors highlighted in bold indicate Marine Institute contributors)

### Special Reports

**Glynn, D., McGovern, E., Farragher, E., Kelly, C., Moffat, R., Kaur, N., & Toomey, M.** (2022). Summary Report on 2021 Residue Monitoring of Irish Farmed Finfish & 2021 Border Inspection Post Fishery Product Testing undertaken at the Marine Institute. Marine Institute, Ireland.  
<http://hdl.handle.net/10793/1786>

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<http://hdl.handle.net/10793/1784>

**Marine Institute** (2022). The Stock Book 2022: Annual Review of Fish Stocks in 2022 with Management Advice for 2023. Marine Institute, Ireland.  
<http://hdl.handle.net/10793/1805>

**Marine Institute** (2022). Year in Review 2021. Marine Institute, Ireland.  
<http://hdl.handle.net/10793/1743>

**Marine Institute** (2022). Newport Research Facility, Annual Report No. 66, 2021. Marine Institute, Ireland.  
<http://hdl.handle.net/10793/1828>

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# I APPENDIX 5

## Scientific Papers and Publications (Authors highlighted in bold indicate Marine Institute contributors)

### Scientific Papers

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**Theses**

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# APPENDIX 6

## Research Vessel Programme 2022

Research Vessel: <i>Celtic Explorer</i> Start Date: 01/01/2022 End Date: 31/12/2022 No. of Surveys: 12						
Survey Code	Survey Name	Start Date	End Date	Survey Days	No. of Scientists	Scientist Days
CE22002	Informing and Mapping the Offshore Renewable Environment (I-MORE)	05/01/2022	13/01/2022	9	11	99
CE22003	BSH Survey no.1_	18/01/2022	31/01/2022	14	11	*German charter
CE22004	Irish Anglerfish and Megrim Survey	05/02/2022	01/03/2022	25	18	450
CE22005	Mackerel egg survey March 2022	02/03/2022	22/03/2022	21	5	105
CE22006	Blue whiting acoustic survey	23/03/2022	12/04/2022	21	10	210
CE22007	Irish Anglerfish and Megrim Survey	13/04/2022	22/04/2022	10	11	110
CE22008	Ocean Climate Section	24/04/2022	07/05/2022	14	12	168
CE22009	The North Atlantic as a Climate Ocean: Projecting Future Changes in Productivity and the Biological Carbon Pump	08/05/2022	12/06/2022	36	12	432
CE22010	WESPAS	14/06/2022	25/07/2022	42	12	504
CE22013	Sediment Plume Sampling, Bedrock Drilling & Coral Surveying (SPeeD)	27/07/2022	13/08/2022	18	7	126
CE22014	MAREANO survey	20/08/2022	16/09/2022	28	14	*Norway charter
CE22012	IGFS 2022 Leg I_IV	01/11/2022	17/12/2022	47	12	564
				<b>285</b>		<b>2,768</b>
Research Vessel: <i>Celtic Voyager</i> Start Date: 01/01/2022 End Date: 31/12/2022 No. of Surveys: 13						
Survey Code	Survey Name	Start Date	End Date	Survey Days	No. of Scientists	Scientist Days
CV22003	Winter Environmental Survey	17/01/2022	02/02/2022	17	6	102
CV22004	SMART Training	07/02/2022	08/02/2022	2	3	6
CV22006	GIS and Remote Sensing: INFOMAR & Maynooth Training Programme & Module 2022	10/02/2022	11/02/2022	2	4	8
CV22009	GMIT Undergraduate Ship-based Training	24/02/2022	01/03/2022	6	2	12
CV22010	There be Giants	03/03/2022	12/03/2022	10	4	40
CV22011	Science@Sea Multidisciplinary Marine Science Training 2022	14/03/2022	17/03/2022	4	2	8
CV22017	Data acquisition for leakage monitoring for Carbon Capture and Storage in the Celtic Sea	19/03/2022	26/03/2022	8	3	24
CV22012	Infomar	29/03/2022	10/04/2022	13	3	39
CV22013	Langolf TV 2022	15/04/2022	28/04/2022	14	6	*French Charter
CV22014	INFOMAR	01/05/2022	22/05/2022	22	5	110
CV22015	Aran-Porcupine Nephrops UWTV	23/05/2022	04/06/2022	13	6	78
CV22016	UWTV CELTIC Sea Leg 1	06/06/2022	17/06/2022	12	5	60
CV22018	Infomar	19/06/2022	12/07/2022	24	2	48
				<b>147</b>		<b>535</b>

# APPENDIX 7

## Foreign Marine Scientific Research Activities in Irish Waters 2022

### Foreign Vessel Observer Scheme 2022

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, many foreign vessels did not accept observers in 2022. Hence, the Marine Institute placed only two Irish observers in 2022 on foreign vessel surveys for a total of 47 days at sea.

47 foreign vessels surveys were completed in total in Irish waters in 2022. Of the surveys, 33 were undertaken by UK/Northern Ireland vessels and the rest were French (1), Danish (1), Belgian (1), Norwegian (3), Spanish (3), Dutch (3) and German (2). The higher number of surveys compared to previous years was due to a backlog of cancelled surveys due to Covid-19 and the completion of the internationally co-ordinated Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Survey, which is completed every three years.

Scientist Days Ireland	Scientist Days Foreign
4,164	5,437

2022 Foreign Vessel Activity in Irish Waters					
Country	Vessel Name	Survey details	Actual Days (in Irish Waters)	Scientists	Actual Scientist Days
Belgium	RV Belgica	DynaMOD : an oceanographic and sediment DYNAMIC MODelling study of mounded contourite drifts	13	20	260
Denmark	Jakup Sverri	International Blue Whiting survey	6	4	24
France	EVHOE Thalassa	French Bottom Trawl Surveys in Bay of Biscay and Celtic Sea	35	25	875
Germany	RV Maria S.Merian	Organic matter formation, transport and transformation on and off the western Irish shelf	15	23	345
Germany	Walther Herwig III	Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Survey	25	12	300
Netherlands	Tridens	ICES-coordinated International Blue Whiting Survey	27	7	189
Netherlands	Tridens	Biomass estimation of Mackerel and Horse Mackerel stock	15	5	75
Netherlands	Tridens	Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg survey Period 6	15	5	75
Norway	Vikingbank	To test catch regulation devices in the Blue Whiting fisheries	14	4	56
Norway	MV Vendla	Acoustic assessment of the Blue Whiting spawning stock	8	7	56
Norway	Fiskebas	Tagging and biological sampling of mackerel	14	5	70
Spain	Vizconde De Eza	International Blue Whiting Spawning Stock Survey (IBWSS)	11	12	132

2022 Foreign Vessel Activity in Irish Waters					
Country	Vessel Name	Survey details	Actual Days (in Irish Waters)	Scientists	Actual Scientist Days
Spain	Ramon Margalef	Mackerel Egg Survey	8	12	96
Spain	Vizconda De Eza	Bottom trawl survey	24	15	360
UK	Scotia	Bottom trawl survey targeting juvenile gadoid species	6	7	42
UK	FV ACHILLES	Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute Irish Sea Cod and round Fish Survey 2022 - Fishery Science Partnership	15	2	30
UK	CEFAS Endeavour	Q1SWECOS beam trawl survey time-series	7	10	70
UK	Queen Of Ulster	Retrieval and redeployment of an acoustic array	3	2	6
UK	Altaire	Blue Whiting Survey 0122H	20	5	100
UK	Scotia	Trawl survey to estimate the abundance and distribution of anglerfish	6	8	48
UK	RRS JAMES COOK (JC231)	Mooring recovery and deployment in Whittard Canyon (Irish EEZ)	5	20	100
UK	Scotia	Mackerel Egg Survey	12	7	84
UK	Altaire	Mackerel Egg Survey	12	6	72
UK	Discovery	DY152: NMF-MARS Commissioning and Science trials	9	20	180
UK	Discovery	Bottom Boundary Layer Turbulence and Abyssal Study	20	20	400
UK	James Cook	Habitat mapping in Whittard Canyon and the Porcupine Abyssal Plain	15	31	465
UK	CEFAS Endeavour	Irish Sea and Bristol Channel beam trawl survey	17	7	119
UK	MV Scotia	1122S Rockall Haddock Survey	5	8	40
UK	Queen Of Ulster	Retrieval and redeployment of acoustic array in the northwest of Ireland (The SeaMonitor - EU INTERREG VA Project)	3	2	6
UK	MV Scotia	West Coast Q4 Demersal Trawl Survey 2022, 1722S	7	8	56
UK	Corystes	To maintain oceanographic moorings and undertake sampling with the CTD Rosette	5	6	30

2022 Foreign Vessel Activity in Irish Waters					
Country	Vessel Name	Survey details	Actual Days (in Irish Waters)	Scientists	Actual Scientist Days
UK	Corystes	Scallop survey	5	6	30
UK	Corystes	To maintain oceanographic moorings and undertake sampling with the CTD Rosette to maintain the continuous oceanographic data-set in the western Irish Sea	6	6	36
UK	Corystes	AFBI request permission to undertake their annual quarter 1 Groundfish Survey within the Irish Sea and St George's Channel.	12	8	96
UK	Corystes	Ecosystems Cruise	5	6	30
UK	Corystes	Ecosystems Cruise	6	6	36
UK	Corystes	Irish Sea MIK Net Survey	9	8	72
UK	Corystes	Queenie survey	8	6	48
UK	Corystes	Ecosystems Cruise	8	6	48
UK	Corystes	Ecosystems Cruise	4	6	24
UK	Corystes	Ecosystems Cruise	4	6	24
UK	Corystes	Mackerel Egg	0	9	0
UK	Corystes	Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute Irish Sea Nephrops Assessment Trawl Survey.	5	8	40
UK	Corystes	Irish Sea Pelagic Acoustic survey	4	8	32
UK	Corystes	Groundfish Survey within the Irish Sea and St George's Channel	8	8	64
UK	Prince Madog	Glacial processes impacting seabed dynamics as a key consideration for renewable energy projects.	11	6	66
UK	Corystes	Ecosystems Cruise	5	6	30
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>497</b>		<b>5,437</b>



RV Tom Crean.  
Photo: Andrew Downes, Xposure.

# APPENDIX 8

## Fish Census Provisional Overview for 2022

The Newport Burrishoole fish (salmon, trout, eel) census programme, which includes the upstream and downstream trap census and the juvenile stock monitoring in the streams and lakes using electrofishing and beach seine, forms the basis for much of the stock assessment and provision of stock and catch advice for salmon and eel.

Research includes stock-recruitment and linking S-R with juvenile abundances, run timing, fish production analysis, fecundity and fish behaviour. Special emphasis is now also being placed on evaluation of marine survival and growth, especially in relation to changes in the environment, and on the development of eel survey techniques to support the EU Regulation on the Recovery of the Eel Stock. Data from the traps are included in the annual International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) data calls for salmon, sea trout and eel.

The fish census programme in the main traps in Newport continued to operate in 2022 with all data series being maintained under restricted Covid-19 conditions. Water conditions during the salmon and trout downstream migration period were generally good for fish movement in the first half of the year although a prolonged drought through July until the end of September impacted on the return timing of adult

salmon and trout and on the early period of the downstream silver eel migration.

The salmon smolt run commenced during March, with two main peaks of migration, one at the end of April and a second at the beginning of May. The numbers of both wild and ranched adult salmon returning in 2022 were low. Water levels were sufficient during the most of June to enable upstream migration but levels dropped during July and few fish were recorded in the upstream traps.

Heavy rain at the end of July resulted in high water levels. However, despite the increase in water level, the numbers of fish migrating upstream was lower than expected. Few fish appear over the remainder of the year. As in previous years some ranched and wild salmon were observed holding in the Mill Race pool.

The installation of new aluminium horizontal grids in the Salmon Leap and Mill Race downstream traps in 2020 has vastly improved the efficiency, fish health, data quality and management of the downstream traps especially in high water levels and the new stainless-steel floor installed in 2021 in the Upstream Trap at the Salmon Leap has further improved the fish trapping facility and the welfare of the fish.

Upstream census data for the Burrishoole System, 2022 (Data for 2022 is provisional).

Species	Salmon Leap Upstream 2022	Mill Race Upstream 2022	Totals Upstream 2022	Totals Upstream 2021	Totals Upstream 2020	Totals Upstream 2019
Wild Grilse	235	78	313	422	590	443
Wild Spring Salmon	6	2	8	7	9	14
Reared Grilse	208	152	360	787	1,431	1,133
Wild Sea Trout	5	2	7	62	36	18
Wild Brown Trout	40	20	60	67	57	75

Downstream census data for the Burrishoole System, 2022 (Data for 2022 is provisional)

Species	Salmon Leap Downstream 2022	Mill Race Downstream 2022	Totals Downstream 2022	Totals Downstream 2021	Totals Downstream 2020	Totals Downstream 2019
Wild Salmon Smolt	5,642	1,451	5,642	5,354	5,996	5,863
Wild Sea Trout Smolt	222	21	243	231	92	243
Silver Eel	2,797	934	3,731	3,026	2,122	2,227



Traps at Newport Research Facility. Photo: Ger Rogan.

# GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

AFMD	Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
AMS	Advanced Mapping Services	ERICs	European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERICs)
APB	Aquaculture Production Business	EU	European Union
ARC	Aquaculture Research Committee AND Audit Risk Committee	EurOcean	European Centre for Information on Marine Science and Technology
ASP	Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
BEU	Benthos Ecology Unit	FIRM	Food Industry Research Measure
BIG	Bioeconomy Implementation Group	FEAS	Fisheries Ecosystems and Advisory Services
BIM	Bord Iascaigh Mhara (the Irish Sea Fisheries Board)	FHA	Fish Health Authorisation
BSA	Biologically Sensitive Area	FHU	Fish Health Unit
BSc	Bachelor of Science	FP7	Seventh Framework Programme
CA	Competent Authority	FPMS	Freshwater Pearl Mussels
CEFAS	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (UK)	FSAI	Food Safety Authority of Ireland
CPR	Continuous Plankton Recorder	FSS	Fisheries Science Services
CTD	Conductivity, Temperature and Depth	GIS	Geographic Information System
DAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	GDP	Gross Domestic Product
DCMAP	Data Collection Multiannual Programme	GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
DCU	Dublin City University	GO-SHIP	Global Ocean Ship-based Hydrographic Investigation Programme
DECC	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications	GSI	Geological Survey of Ireland
DFA	Department of Foreign Affairs	HABs	Harmful Algal Blooms
DFHERIS	Department of Further and Higher Education, Research and Science	HEI	Higher Education Institutions
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	HR	Human Resources
DoT	Department of Transport	IBM	International Business Machines Corporation
DSP	Diarrhetic Shellfish Poisoning	ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
ECVs	Essential Climate Variables	ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
EEZ	European Economic Zone	ICHEC	Irish Centre for High-End Computing
EI	Enterprise Ireland	ICT	Information Communications Technology
EMFAF	European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund	IDA	Industrial Development Authority
EMFF	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund	IFI	Inland Fisheries Ireland
EOVs	Essential Ocean Variables	IFREMER	Institut français de recherche pour l'exploration de la mer (French Research Institute for the Exploration of the Sea)
		IFSRP	Irish Fisheries Research Science Partnership

IHO	International Hydrographic Organisation	ORE	Offshore Renewable Energy
IMDBON	Irish Marine Data Buoy Observation Network	OSPAR	Oslo and Paris Convention (1992)
IMDO	Irish Maritime Development Office	PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
INAB	Irish National Accreditation Board	PIRS	Policy, Innovation and Research Services
INFOMAR	Integrated Mapping for the Sustainable Development of Ireland's Marine Resource	PSP	Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning
INTERREG	EU Inter-Regional Cooperation Programme	QUB	Queen's University Belfast
INTGN	Irish National Tide Gauge Network	R&D	Research and Development
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission	R&I	Research and Innovation
IODE	International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange	ROV	Remotely Operated Vehicle
IP	Intellectual Property	RV	Research Vessel
IROC	ICES Report on Ocean Climate	RVOps	Research Vessel Operations
LBM	Live Bivalve Molluscs	SACs	Special Areas of Conservation
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas	SBIR	Small Business Innovation Research
MaREI	Research Centre for Marine and Renewable Energy Ireland	SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
MCG	Marine Coordination Group	SEMURU	Socio-Economic Marine Research Unit
MEFSS	Marine Environment and Food Safety Services	SFI	Science Foundation Ireland
MIIN	Marine Ireland Industry Network	SFPA	Sea Fisheries Protection Authority
MPA	Marine Protected Area	SMEs	Small to Medium Sized Enterprises
MRFF	Marine Research Funders' Forum	TCD	Trinity College Dublin
MSc	Master of Science	TTX	Tetrodotoxin group of toxins
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive	TU Dublin	Technological University Dublin
MSP	Marine Spatial Planning	UCC	University College Cork
MSPD	Marine Spatial Planning Directive	UCD	University College Dublin
MSSC	Molluscan Shellfish Safety Committee	UK	United Kingdom
MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield	U.S.	United States
NASCO	North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation	UU	University of Ulster
NCPSP	National Crayfish Plague Surveillance Programme	VIVALDI	Preventing and mitigating farmed bivalve diseases
NDP	National Development Programme	VMEs	Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems
NMCI	National Maritime College of Ireland, Cork	WFD	Water Framework Directive
NMPF	National Marine Planning Framework		
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration		
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service		
NRL	National Reference Library		
OAR	Open Access Repository		
OCIS	Ocean Climate and Information Services		
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development		

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For The Year Ended 31 December 2022

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## Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste Comptroller and Auditor General

### Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

#### Marine Institute

#### Opinion on the financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of the Marine Institute for the year ended 31 December 2022 as required under the provisions of section 12 of the Marine Institute Act 1991. The financial statements comprise

- the statement of income and expenditure and retained revenue reserves
- the statement of comprehensive income
- the statement of financial position
- the statement of cash flows, and
- the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Marine Institute at 31 December 2022 and of its income and expenditure for 2022 in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 — *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland*.

#### Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of the Marine Institute and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Report on information other than the financial statements, and on other matters

The Marine Institute has presented certain other information together with the financial statements. This comprises the governance statement and Board members' report, and the statement on internal control. My responsibilities to report in relation to such information, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

I have nothing to report in that regard.

**Andrew Harkness**  
For and on behalf of the  
Comptroller and Auditor General

30 June 2023

### Appendix to the report

#### Responsibilities of Board members

As detailed in the governance statement and Board members' report, the Board members are responsible for

- the preparation of annual financial statements in the form prescribed under section 12 of the Marine Institute Act 1991
- ensuring that the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with FRS 102
- ensuring the regularity of transactions
- assessing whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, and
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under section 12 of the Marine Institute Act 1991 to audit the financial statements of the Marine Institute and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures.

- I conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, on whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Marine Institute's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Marine Institute to cease to continue as a going concern.
- I evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

#### Information other than the financial statements

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information presented with those statements, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, I am required under the ISAs to read the other information presented and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

#### Reporting on other matters

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. I report if I identify material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I report if I identify any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.



## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT

### Governance

The Board of the Marine Institute was established under the Marine Institute Act, 1991. The functions of the Board are set out in Section 3 of this Act. The Board is accountable to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine and is responsible for ensuring good governance, and performs this role by setting strategic objectives and targets, and taking strategic decisions on all key business issues. The regular day-to-day management, control and direction of the Marine Institute are the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the senior management team. The CEO and the senior management team must follow the broad strategic direction set by the Board, and ensure that all Board members have a clear understanding of the key activities and decisions related to the entity, and of any significant risks likely to arise. The CEO acts as a direct liaison between the Board and management of the Marine Institute. In accordance with the Marine Institute Act, the Board discharges its duties as set out below.

### Board Responsibilities

The work and responsibilities of the Board are set out in the *Board Standing Orders, The Schedule of Matters for Board Decision and The Roles of the Board, Chairman, Chief Executive and Board Secretary*, which also contain the matters specifically reserved for Board decision. Standing items considered by the Board during the period included:

- Declaration of interests
- Reports from committees
- Financial statements and items of expenditure in excess of €150,000
- Implementation of strategy and
- Reserved matters.

The Board of the Marine Institute provides leadership and strategic direction for the organisation, defining the purpose of the Institute and developing the policies required to achieve its goals. The Board sets performance indicators and measures progress against these, closely monitoring budgets and financial performance. The Board leads the organisation in behaving ethically and in a manner that accords with the core values and culture of the organisation.

Section 12 of the Marine Institute Act, 1991 requires the Board of the Marine Institute to keep, in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine with consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, all proper and usual accounts of money received and expended by it.

In preparing these financial statements, the Board of the Marine Institute is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that it will continue in operation, and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Board is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records, which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, its financial position and enables it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 12 of the Marine Institute Act, 1991. The maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information on the Marine Institute's website is the responsibility of the Board.

The Board is responsible for approving the annual plan and budget. The Board is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Board considers that the financial statements of the Marine Institute give a true and fair view of the financial performance and the financial position of the Marine Institute for the year ended 31 December 2022 and as at 31 December 2022, respectively.

### Board Structure

The Board consists of a Chairperson and eight ordinary members, all of whom are appointed by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The members of the Board were appointed for a period of five years and met twelve times in 2022. The table below details the appointment period for current members and those who were in office during the period:

Board Member	Role	Term of office
John Killeen	Chairperson	Second term commenced on 8 January 2019
David Owens	Ordinary Member	Second term commenced on 6 February 2018. Retired from Board at end of term on 5 February 2023
Berna Grist	Ordinary Member	Second term commenced on 6 February 2018. Reappointed to Board on 6 February 2023
Patricia Barker	Ordinary Member	Second term commenced on 19 February 2018. Retired from Board at end of term on 18 February 2023
Donal Kelly	Ordinary Member	Second term commenced on 15 April 2018
Dermot Clohessy	Ordinary Member	Second term commenced on 4 June 2021
Charlotte O'Kelly	Ordinary Member	First term commenced on 4 June 2021
Aodh O Domhnaill	Ordinary Member	First term commenced on 4 June 2021
Tom Tynan	Ordinary Member	First term commenced on 11 November 2021

### Gender Balance in the Board membership

As at 31 December 2022, the Board had 3 (33%) female and 6 (66%) male members. This does not meet the Government target of a minimum of 40% representation of each gender in the membership of State Boards. In filling Board vacancies during 2023, the Minister shall have regard to the desirability for gender balance, diversity and inclusion on the Board. Appointments to the Board are generally for an initial period of 5 years with an option of a second term.

## Audit and Risk Committee

### Introduction

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) is a committee of the Board of the Marine Institute and, during the year ended 31 December 2022, the membership comprised:

Prof. Patricia Barker (Chairperson)

Mr. Dermot Clohessy

Mr. Donal Kelly

Mr. David Owens

Ms. Pauline Cronin (external member)

The ARC is independent from the financial management of the Marine Institute.

### Role of ARC

The role of the ARC is to oversee and advise the Board and the Chief Executive Officer on matters relating to:

- Financial, operating and governance risks, including overall risk management;
- The effectiveness of the internal controls and risk management;
- The effectiveness of internal audit function;
- Communication with the Comptroller and Auditor General;
- Matters raised by the Internal Auditor and the Comptroller and Auditor General;
- The adequacy of governance procedures;
- Value for money issues;
- Such other matters as the Board requests ARC to deal with.

The ARC's work programme was approved by the Board in January. That programme was reviewed in December to ensure that all matters were dealt with during the course of the year. The ARC met seven times during 2022. The ARC had two meetings with the Comptroller and Auditor General. The ARC gives an oral report to the Board directly after each meeting; presents its minutes to the Board after approval and reports formally to the Board annually. Other issues were added to the work programme to deal with additional matters which arose during the year. Those additional matters included:

- Risks arising from the invasion of Ukraine and the concomitant price increases and supply chain challenges;
- Technical accounting issues as they arose;
- Succession planning;
- Monitoring of ESG reporting;
- Risks associated with blended working;
- Protected Disclosure Act 2022;
- Gender Gap Reporting.

### Performance Evaluation

An external review of ARC was completed during 2020/21. The recommendations arising from that review were fully implemented. The instrument used for the self-evaluation review conducted at the end of 2022 was revised and updated.

## Schedule of Attendance, Fees and Expenses

A schedule of attendance at the Board and Committee meetings for 2022 is set out below. The table also includes the fees and expenses received by each member:

Name	Board Attendance	Audit and Risk Committee Attendance	Fees 2022 €	Expenses 2022 €
John Killeen	12		11,970	-
Patricia Barker	12	7	7,695	2,247
David Owens	7	4	7,695	351
Berna Grist	12		7,695	785
Donal Kelly	10	4	7,695	-
Dermot Clohessy	12	7	7,695	2,404
Aodh O Domhnaill	11		7,695	3,439
Charlotte O'Kelly	11	1*	7,695	2,726
Tom Tynan **	12	2*	-	-
Pauline Cronin ***	n/a	7	-	-
<b>Total - Fees/Expenses €</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>65,835</b>	<b>11,952</b>
<b>Total Number of Meetings</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>		

\* Attended as Observer.

\*\* Mr Tom Tynan waived his annual fee.

\*\*\* Ms Pauline Cronin (independent ARC member) did not receive fees under the One Person One Salary (OPOS) principle in 2022.

## Disclosures Required by Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016)

The Board is responsible for ensuring that the Marine Institute has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies ("the Code"), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in August 2016 (as amended in 2020). The following disclosures are required by the Code:

### Consultancy Costs

Consultancy costs include the cost of ad-hoc external advice and excludes outsourced business functions.

	2022 €	2021€
Legal	36,024	36,124
Financial and Governance	63,514	68,000
Communications/Engagement/Marketing	16,667	33,935
HR and Pension	10,025	11,316
Business Planning	23,616	18,327
Evaluators	47,803	67,090
IT	50,075	18,492
Shipping Development and related Research Consultancy	150,545	42,742
Other	73,169	85,104
	<b>471,438</b>	<b>381,130</b>

**Legal Costs and Settlements**

The Marine Institute had no legal costs or settlements in connection with dealings with third parties. This does not include expenditure incurred in relation to general legal advice received by the Marine Institute, which is disclosed in Consultancy costs above.

**Travel and Subsistence Expenditure**

Travel and subsistence expenditure is categorised as follows:

	2022 €	2021 €
<i>Domestic</i>		
Board	13,511	-
Employees	523,309	312,553
<i>International</i>		
Board	147	730
Employees	279,142	29,155
	<b>816,109</b>	<b>342,438</b>

The amount of €13,511 (2021: €nil) includes €11,952 which was paid directly to Board Members to reimburse them for domestic travel and subsistence incurred during 2022. The balance of €1,559 (2021: €nil) related to travel and subsistence expenditure paid directly by the Marine Institute in respect of the business travel of the Board Members.

The amount of €147 (2021 €730) related to international travel and subsistence expenditure paid by the Marine Institute in respect of the business travel of the Board Members.

**Hospitality Expenditure**

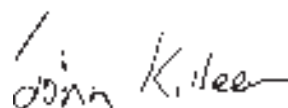
The Statement of Income and Expenditure includes the following hospitality expenditure:

	2022 €	2021 €
Staff	10,263	
Client	49,313	7,162
	<b>59,576</b>	<b>7,162</b>

**Statement of Compliance**

The Board has adopted the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) and has put procedures in place to ensure compliance with the Code. The Marine Institute was in full compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies at 31 December 2022.

On behalf of the Board



Dr John Killeen  
Chairperson

Date: 28th June 2023

**MARINE INSTITUTE STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL****1. Scope of Responsibility**

On behalf of the Marine Institute, I acknowledge the Board's responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2016.

**2. Purpose of the System of Internal Control**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way.

The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, has been in place in the Marine Institute for the year ended 31 December 2022 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

**3. Key Control Procedures**

The Board of the Marine Institute has established a strong and robust control environment in the Marine Institute through:

- Holding regular Board meetings where the agenda includes strategic issues such as corporate governance, financial management and corporate strategy;
- The implementation of the Marine Institute Strategy;
- Clearly defined management responsibilities, authority and accountability, delegation of appropriate functions and reviewing and approving all Marine Institute policies;
- Approval of annual budgets, cash flow forecasting and capital programme expenditure with formal review of these at each Board meeting;
- The work of the Audit and Risk Committee, which met seven times in 2022;
- Completion of a programme of internal audits. Regular meetings were held between the Audit and Risk Committee and the Internal Auditors to discuss their work programme, the outcomes of their audits, their recommendations and a private meeting was held without members of the executive;
- The operation of a risk management system with annual review of the risk policy and regular review of the risk register and report from the joint risk officers;
- Robust systems of health and safety, with monthly reports to the Board;
- Monitoring of compliance with legislation including Freedom of Information and Access to Environmental Information;
- Implementation of a Protected Disclosures Policy, through which the Institute encourages anyone having in good faith suspicions of fraud, financial irregularity of other improper behaviour or practice; to report this in accordance with the procedures set out in the policy. There were no protected disclosures made in 2022;
- Consideration of any recommendations made by the External Auditor;
- The systems of internal control as detailed in the Marine Institute Operating Control Framework which sets out the key controls in place within the Institute, together with the owner of each control. To further improve the quality of the report, certain control owners have submitted an Assurance Statement for each set of controls in respect of 2022.

**Statement on Internal Control**

The Statement on Internal Control was reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee on 27 February 2023 and approved by the Board of Directors on 28 February 2023.

### Financial and Budgetary Management Systems

There is a comprehensive annual budgeting system with annual income, budget allocation process, cash flow forecasting and capital programme budgeting reviewed and approved by the Board at the start of each year, with formal review at each subsequent Board meeting. Policies and procedures are in place in relation to budgetary and financial matters, with all contracts during the period with a value in excess of €150,000 coming to the Board for consideration and approval. There are regular reviews by the Executive of financial management reports and a Corporate Procurement Plan is in place.

### Procedures for monitoring the effectiveness of the Internal Control System

The 2022 Internal Audit Plan was implemented in full with the following audits commenced or completed during the calendar year:

- High Level Review of Internal Controls for 2021 (commenced in 2021, completed in 2022);
- Culture Audit (commenced in 2021, completed in 2022);
- Risk Management Framework Audit;
- Business Continuity and Crisis Management Planning Audit;
- Human Resources and People Management Audit;
- High Level Review of Internal Controls for 2022 (commenced in 2022, completed in 2023).

Implementation plans to address internal audit recommendations are approved by the Audit & Risk Committee. Progress on the implementation of the agreed actions is reviewed annually and reported to the Audit & Risk Committee.

The Internal Audit Plan for 2022 reflected the risks identified in the Marine Institute's Risk Register, the management letter of the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General and general developments in relation to Corporate Governance. The Internal Audit Plan for 2022-2024 was approved by the Audit & Risk Committee in January 2022 and by the Marine Institute Board in February 2022. This is a rolling plan which is updated annually for current risk assessments, the results of audits and to consider the impact of any change in the environment in which the Institute operates and general corporate governance developments.

### Capacity to Handle Risk

The Marine Institute has an Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) comprising four Board members, one of whom is the Chair, and one non Board member, with a broad range of experience including financial and audit expertise.

The Marine Institute has also established an internal audit function, which is outsourced to a commercial firm. It is adequately resourced and conducts a programme of work agreed with the ARC and approved by the Board.

The ARC oversees the implementation of the risk management policy, which sets out the Marine Institute's risk appetite, the risk management processes in place and details the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to risk. The policy has been issued to all staff so as to ensure management are alert to emerging risks and so that each staff member is aware of their responsibility for mitigation of risk and operation of controls within their own area of work.

In 2022, the ARC work plan included specific review of the risks arising as a result of the Ukraine War and COVID 19 response, issues such as the appropriate use of the Going Concern Concept, the new vessel build, Post Balance Sheet events, Procurement Risks, Risks relating to remote working and movement of assets, GDPR risks, Legal exposures, Fraud risks, Cyber security and IT risks, and management oversight and monitoring risks. These were constantly monitored formally and informally by regular communication between the ARC, the Senior leadership team and the Chairman of the Board during the year.

The financial implications of business risks have been considered through the formal business risk assessment process and in the preparation of the Marine Institute's Internal Audit Plans. A comprehensive set of Financial Procedures have been put in place to control the significant financial elements of the Marine Institute's business including authorisation limits for purchasing/expenditure. These Procedures are subject to regular review.

### Risk and Control Framework

The Marine Institute has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks.

The Marine Institute's Risk Management Policy and Business Continuity Policy are in compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2016. The Marine Institute has appointed two Risk Officers. A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks facing the Marine Institute and these have been identified, evaluated and ranked according to their significance. The register is updated by the Executive on a quarterly basis and presented to the ARC. The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are mitigated against and managed to an acceptable level.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate against risks and assigns responsibility for the operation of controls to specific staff. I confirm the following with regard to the control environment:

- Procedures for all key business processes have been documented and are regularly reviewed;
- Financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability;
- There is an appropriate budgetary system with an annual budget which is kept under review by senior management;
- There are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the information and communication technology systems;
- There are systems in place to safeguard the assets; and
- Control procedures over grant funding to outside agencies ensure adequate control over approval of grants and monitoring and review of grantees to mitigate against the risk that grant funding might not be applied solely for the purpose intended.

### Ongoing Monitoring and Review

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes and control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action and to management and the Board, where relevant, in a timely way. I confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- Key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies;
- Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned; and
- There are regular reviews by senior management of periodic and annual performance and financial reports which indicate performance against budgets/forecasts.

### Procurement

I confirm that the Marine Institute has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines. Except for the issues noted in the Internal Control paragraph below, the Institute was in compliance with these procedures during 2022.

### Review of Effectiveness

I confirm that the Marine Institute has procedures in place to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. An external independent review of the Board and the Audit and Risk Committee was completed in 2020. A self-evaluation was conducted in 2021 and 2022. The Marine Institute's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors, the Audit and Risk Committee which oversees their work, and the senior management within the Marine Institute responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

## Annual Review of the Effectiveness on Internal Control

I confirm that the Board conducted an annual review of the effectiveness of internal controls for 2022 and was approved by the Board on 28 February 2023. In undertaking this review, the Board considered the following:

- Risk management policies, systems and procedures;
- The internal audits conducted;
- The operating control framework and related assurance statements;
- Results of the external audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General;
- The work of the Audit and Risk Committee;
- Other elements of the Governance Structure and system of controls.

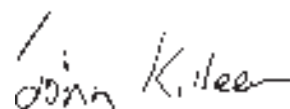
## Internal Control Issues

There were no material losses, frauds or breaches in control in 2022.

Historically, laboratory supplies were considered from a procurement perspective on a case by case basis, with three quotes or tenders being issued depending on the anticipated value of the specific order involved. In certain instances, cumulative purchases of multiple consumable types over time by different buyers from certain suppliers may have exceeded €25,000 and the total may not have been the subject of a tender. Significant progress has been made over 2022 relating to this matter, with the Institute joining a number of related Office of Government Procurement (OGP) frameworks and increasing the reporting and analysis available to those with oversight of this area. Notwithstanding the progress made, it is still possible that during 2022, in certain instances, cumulative purchases of multiple consumable types over time by different buyers from certain suppliers exceeded €25,000 and the total was not the subject of a tender.

No other weaknesses in internal control were identified in 2022 that require disclosure in the Statement on Internal Control.

On behalf of the Board



Dr John Killeen  
Chairperson

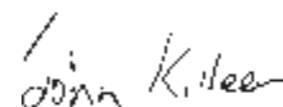
Date: 28th June 2023

## MARINE INSTITUTE STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND RETAINED REVENUE RESERVES YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Income</i>			
Oireachtas Grants	2	44,285	43,236
Other State Grants	3	7,896	7,359
EU and Other Income	4	7,710	5,871
Net Deferred Funding For Retirement Benefits	19	5,746	4,999
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>65,637</b>	<b>61,465</b>
<i>Expenditure</i>			
Remuneration and Pension Costs	5	16,041	14,908
Retirement Benefit Costs	19	5,654	4,835
Vessel Operating Costs	6	10,913	8,533
Travelling Expenses	7	816	342
Grants and External Service Providers	8	12,259	11,867
Facilities Costs	9	2,873	2,146
IT, Telephone & Communications		2,230	2,580
Laboratory & Field Costs		1,055	1,169
Other Administration and Equipment Hire Costs	10	3,057	2,530
Depreciation	15	5,542	4,918
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>60,440</b>	<b>53,828</b>
Transfer to Capital Account	14	(5,194)	(7,631)
Surplus for the year		3	6
Balance brought forward at 1 January		2,035	2,029
<b>Balance carried forward at 31 December</b>		<b>2,038</b>	<b>2,035</b>

The Statement of Cash flows and Notes 1 – 24 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board



Dr John Killeen  
Chairperson

Date: 28th June 2023

On behalf of the Board



Dermot Clohessy  
Board Member

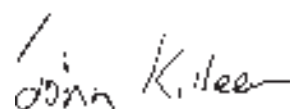
Date: 28th June 2023

## MARINE INSTITUTE STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Surplus for the year		3	6
Experience Gains (Losses)	19	(4,065)	1,515
Changes in actuarial assumptions	19	46,138	(5,311)
Adjustment to defined benefit scheme funding		(42,073)	3,796
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the year</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>

The Statement of Cash flows and Notes 1 - 24 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board



Dr John Killeen  
Chairperson

Date: 28th June 2023

On behalf of the Board



Dermot Clohessy  
Board Member

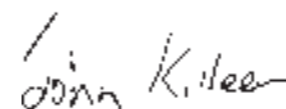
Date: 28th June 2023

## MARINE INSTITUTE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	15		40,990		35,803
<i>Current Assets</i>					
Receivables	17	1,582		1,311	
Cash and cash equivalents		8,319		8,064	
		9,901		9,375	
<i>Current Liabilities (amounts falling due within one year)</i>					
Payables	18	(7,863)		(7,340)	
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			<b>2,038</b>		<b>2,035</b>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities before Retirement Obligations</b>			<b>43,028</b>		<b>37,838</b>
Deferred Retirement Benefit Obligations	19	(61,278)		(97,605)	
Deferred Retirement Benefit Funding	19	61,278		97,605	
<b>Total Net Assets</b>			<b>43,028</b>		<b>37,838</b>
<i>Representing:</i>					
Capital Account	14	35,962		30,667	
Revaluation Reserve	16	5,028		5,136	
Retained Revenue Reserves		2,038		2,035	
			<b>43,028</b>		<b>37,838</b>

The Statement of Cash flows and Notes 1 - 24 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board



Dr John Killeen  
Chairperson

Date: 28th June 2023

On behalf of the Board



Dermot Clohessy  
Board Member

Date: 28th June 2023

## MARINE INSTITUTE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Net Cash flows from operating activities</i>		
Surplus for the financial year	3	6
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation of tangible Property, Plant and Equipment	5,542	4,918
Transfer to Capital Account	5,194	7,631
Increase /(Decrease) in Payables	523	(975)
(Increase) /Decrease in Receivables	(271)	6,984
Surplus on Disposal of Fixed asset	(10)	(7)
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>10,981</b>	<b>18,557</b>
<i>Cash flows from investing activities</i>		
Payments for tangible Property, Plant and Equipment	(10,736)	(12,549)
Proceed from disposal of fixed assets	10	7
<b>Net cash flows from investing activities</b>	<b>(10,726)</b>	<b>(12,542)</b>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>6,015</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	8,064	2,049
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>8,319</b>	<b>8,064</b>

## MARINE INSTITUTE NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

### 1. Accounting Policies

The basis of accounting and significant accounting policies adopted by the Marine Institute are set out below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the year. The Institute has analysed its expenditure based on the nature of the expense as opposed to a programme basis.

#### a) General Information

The Marine Institute was established on 30 October 1992 under the provisions of the Marine Institute Act, 1991. The Institute headquarters is located in Rinville, Oranmore, County Galway, H91 R673.

The Marine Institute's primary objectives as set out in Section 4 of the Act are "to undertake, to co-ordinate, to promote and to assist in marine research and development and to provide such services related to marine research and development, that in the opinion of the Institute will promote economic development and create employment and protect the marine environment".

The Marine Institute is a Public Benefit Entity (PBE).

#### b) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of The Marine Institute for the year ended 31 December 2022 have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC).

#### c) Currency

The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the Institute. In instances where amounts have been rounded to the nearest thousand Euro, this is indicated by the symbol €'000.

#### d) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the accruals method of accounting and under the historical cost convention, except that land and property is stated at valuation less accumulated depreciation, in the form approved by the Minister for Food, Agriculture and the Marine with the concurrence of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, in accordance with Section 12(1) of the Marine Institute Act, 1991.

The financial statements are prepared using the going concern basis of accounting. There are no events between the reporting date and the date of approval of these financial statements for issue that require adjustment to the financial statements. The Board has considered the impact of COVID19 and the impact of the Ukraine War on the price of energy and other items in particular, the future funding of the Institute and its strategic and operational planning and have concluded that there are no material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about Institute's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to The Marine Institute's financial statements.

#### e) Income

Oireachtas Income from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is recognised as it is received. It is received in the year to which it relates.

European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFF/ EMFAF) funded income is recognised in the year in which related spend is incurred.

Other State Grants are recognised on an accruals basis.

Income received in relation to EU and other contract research projects is recognised on an accruals basis whereby the income is recognised in the accounting period in which the related expenditure is charged. Income received in advance is treated as deferred income and included within Payables in the Statement of Financial Position. Expenditure incurred where the related income has not been received is treated as accrued income and shown as a Receivable in the Statement of Financial Position.

#### f) Property, Plant and Equipment and Depreciation

Plant and Equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Land and property is stated at valuation less accumulated depreciation. Land and properties were revalued in 2018 by independent professionally qualified valuers. Land and property will be revalued every five years by an independent professionally qualified valuer.

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis at rates estimated to reduce the assets to their realisable value by the end of their expected lives. The rates in use are as follows:

Property (excluding land) .....	2%
Leasehold Improvements .....	4%
Fixtures and Fittings/Equipment .....	25%
Computers .....	33%
Research Vessel .....	4%
Motor Vehicles .....	20%

The carrying values of the Property, Plant and Equipment are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. If there is objective evidence of impairment of the value of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves in the year.

Up to 31 December 2020, assets or groups of assets which cost at least €1,000 were capitalised on the fixed asset register. From 1 January 2021, the Marine Institute increased the threshold for capitalising assets or groups of assets from €1,000 to €10,000. This considers the nature and materiality of the Institute's assets and is also in line with Government circular 21/2020.

#### g) Intangible Assets

Intangible assets comprise fishing rights held by the Marine Institute to Lough Feeagh, Lough Furnace and Estuaries in Newport, County Mayo. These intangible assets are carried in the Statement of Financial Position at their cost of €nil as their fair value cannot be reliably determined by reference to an active market.

#### h) Leased Assets

Rental expenditure under operating leases is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves over the life of the lease. Expenditure is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease period, except where there are rental increases linked to the expected rate of inflation, in which case these increases are recognised when incurred. Any lease incentives received are recognised over the life of the lease.

#### i) Capital Account

The Institute recognises funding received for capital purposes under the Accruals Model specified in FRS 102. The amount received is recognised in income on a systematic basis over the expected useful life of the asset.

#### j) Foreign Currencies

Transactions denominated in a foreign currency are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the date of the transactions. At the end of each financial year, foreign currency monetary items are translated to Euro using the closing rate. Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction and non-monetary items measured at fair value are measured using the exchange rate when fair value was determined.

#### k) Marine Research Programme

The Marine Institute enters into commitments in respect of contracts awarded for Marine Research Programme projects. Expenditure is charged in the financial statements as it is incurred. An initial payment is made on the signing of the project contract, an interim payment may be made subject to satisfactory performance under the contract and further payments are made on receipt and verification of claims in respect of work completed. Costs incurred by the Institute in the administration of Marine Research Programme projects are funded by the capital vote of the Marine Institute and charged to the financial statements as they are incurred.

#### l) Employee Benefits - Short term benefits

Short term benefits such as holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the year in which the employee renders service, and benefits that are accrued at year-end are included in the payables figures in the Statement of Financial Position.

#### m) Retirement Benefits

The Marine Institute operates its own defined benefit pension scheme, funded annually on a pay-as-you-go basis from monies provided by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Contributions deducted from members' salaries are paid over to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

The Marine Institute also participates in the Single Public Service Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme"), which is a defined benefit scheme for pensionable public servants appointed on or after 1 January 2013. Single Scheme members' contributions are paid over to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER).

Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees, and are shown net of staff pension contributions which are remitted to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. An amount corresponding to the pension charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable, and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments.

Actuarial gains or losses arising on scheme liabilities are reflected in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

The financial statements reflect, at fair value, the assets and liabilities arising from The Marine Institute's pension obligations and any related funding, and recognises the costs of providing pension benefits in the accounting periods in which they are earned by employees. Retirement benefit scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. They are matched by a Deferred Retirement Benefit Funding asset as the pension liabilities are guaranteed by the State.

#### n) Receivables

Receivables are recognised at fair value, less a provision for doubtful debts. The provision for doubtful debts is a specific provision, and is established when there is objective evidence that the Marine Institute will not be able to collect all amounts owed to it. All movements in the provision for doubtful debts are recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves.

#### o) Contingencies

Contingent liabilities, arising as a result of past events, are not recognised when (i) it is not probable that there will be an outflow of resources or that the amount cannot be reliably measured at the reporting date or (ii) when the existence will be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of uncertain future events not wholly within the Institute's control. Contingent liabilities are disclosed in the financial statements unless the probability of an outflow of resources is remote.

Contingent assets are not recognised. Contingent assets are disclosed in the financial statements when an inflow of economic benefits is probable.

#### p) Related Parties

Related party transactions have been disclosed in the notes to the financial statements in accordance with FRS 102. See note 21 for disclosure of the related party transactions during 2022.

#### q) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the reporting date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The following judgements have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

##### *Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment*

Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less cost to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

##### *Depreciation and Residual Values*

The Board has reviewed the asset lives and associated residual values of all fixed asset classes and in particular, the useful economic life and residual values of fixtures and fittings and have concluded that asset lives and residual values are appropriate.

##### *Retirement Benefit Obligation*

The assumptions underlying the actuarial valuations for which the amounts recognised in the financial statements are determined (including discount rates, rates of increase in future compensation levels, mortality rates and healthcare cost trend rates) are updated annually based on current economic conditions and for any relevant changes to the terms and conditions of the pension and post-retirement plans.

The assumptions can be affected by:

- i. the discount rate, changes in the rate of return on high-quality corporate bonds;
- ii. future compensation levels, future labour market conditions;
- iii. health care cost trend rates and the rate of medical cost inflation.



## 2. Oireachtas Grants from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Current Purposes</i>				
Marine Institute - Vote 30, Subhead D.4/D.3	25,177		24,329	
Less Superannuation contributions repayable	(642)		(593)	
		<b>24,535</b>		<b>23,736</b>
<i>Capital Purposes</i>				
Marine Research Programme Vote 30, Subhead D.4 (Note 12)	19,750		19,500	
		<b>19,750</b>		<b>19,500</b>
		<b>44,285</b>		<b>43,236</b>

By agreement with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, employee pension contributions are refunded directly to the Department and are shown as a reduction in grant levels. Single scheme pension contributions are remitted to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

## 3. Other State Grants

	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Infomar (National Seabed Survey) – Department of Environment, Climate and Communications Vote 29, Subhead C.5</i>				
Cash Received and recorded as income	2,000		2,051	
Amounts deferred/accrued as income	4		-	
Amount recorded as income		2,004		2,051
<i>Water Framework Directive funded by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Water Quality Budget Vote 34, Subhead B.3</i>				
Cash Received and recorded as income	1,122		1,031	
Amounts deferred/accrued as income	27		(8)	
Amount recorded as Income		1,149		1,023
<i>Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Ospar funded by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Marine Environment Budget Vote 34, Subhead B.8</i>				
Cash Received and recorded as income	656		273	
Amounts deferred/accrued as income	6		-	
Amount recorded as Income		662		273
<i>Marine Spatial Planning funded by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Marine Spatial Planning Budget Vote 34, Subhead D.14</i>				
Cash Received and recorded as income	501		447	
Amounts deferred/accrued as income	5		-	
Amount recorded as Income		506		447
<i>Wave Energy programme funded by SEAI Vote 29, Subhead B.5</i>				
Cash Received and recorded as income	1,360		1,018	
Amounts deferred/accrued as income	15		16	
Amount recorded as Income		1,375		1,034
<i>EMFF projects funded by Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine Vote 30, Subhead D.3</i>				
Cash Received and recorded as income	2,174		2,609	
Amounts deferred/accrued as income	1		(78)	
Amount recorded as Income		2,175		2,531
<i>Our Shared Ocean Programme funded by Department of Foreign Affairs Vote 27, Subhead A.3</i>				
Cash Received and recorded as income	500		-	
Amounts deferred/accrued as income	(475)		-	
Amount recorded as Income		25		-
<b>Total</b>		<b>7,896</b>		<b>7,359</b>

## 4. EU and Other Income

	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>EU Contract Research Income</b>		<b>3,891</b>		<b>2,968</b>
<i>Other Income</i>				
Research Vessel Charterage	1,917		912	
Sundry and Other Contract Income	1,902		1,991	
		3,819		2,903
<b>Total</b>		<b>7,710</b>		<b>5,871</b>

## 5. Remuneration and Pension Costs

Aggregate Employee Benefits	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Staff Short term benefits	14,008	13,090
*Pension Contribution	483	433
Termination Payments	11	14
Board Fees	66	56
Movement in Holiday Pay Accrual	64	(5)
Employers Contribution to Social Welfare	1,409	1,320
	<b>16,041</b>	<b>14,908</b>

Total salary costs include an accrual of €0.465m (2021: €0.401m) in respect of accumulated staff annual leave entitlements. Pension related deductions of €0.437m (2021: €0.416m) were made from salaries and were remitted to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Single pension related deductions of €0.205m (2021: €0.177m) were made from salaries and were remitted to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

\*The Pension contribution separately disclosed above is to cover the deferred cost to the Exchequer of future pension entitlements for employees on contract research and other externally funded posts. This amount was refunded to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

Staff Short term Benefits	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Basic Pay	13,530	12,640
Overtime	-	-
Allowances	478	450
	<b>14,008</b>	<b>13,090</b>

Termination Benefits	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Redundancy payment	11	14
	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>

The 2022 statutory redundancy payments were made to three staff, on cessation of their fixed term or other employment contracts.

The average number of employees by location at year end is as follows:

Employees	2022 No.	2021 No.
Rinville Galway	203	195
Newport	16	18
Dublin	9	9
Ports	11	13
EU Based	2	2
	<b>241</b>	<b>237</b>

The whole time equivalents at each year end	232.83	228.04
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Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Salary and Expenses	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Basic Pay	162	192
	<b>162</b>	<b>192</b>

Basic pay includes €150,827 (2021: €112,099) in salary in respect of the CEO and €11,274 (2021: €80,304) in salary in respect of an interim CEO required to cover a period of statutory leave. The total expenses incurred for business purposes in 2022 by the Marine Institute in connection with the CEO or Interim CEO was €10,008 (2021: €1,963). This includes foreign travel expenses of €2,409 (2021: €1,237).

Key Management and Personnel	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Salary	886	840
	<b>886</b>	<b>840</b>

Key Management personnel in the Marine Institute include the members of the Board and the members of the Senior Leadership Team of the Marine Institute, including the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The total value of employee benefits for key personnel is set out above. No payments in respect of termination payments or health insurance were made in 2022. This does not include the value of retirement benefits earned in the period. The Senior Leadership Team including the CEO are members of the Marine Institute Staff Superannuation Scheme 1998 or the Single Public Service Pension scheme and their entitlements in that regard do not extend beyond the terms of the model public service pension scheme. The total expenses reimbursed to key executive management in respect of business related spend was €33,545 (2021: €15,727).

#### Employee Short-Term Benefits Breakdown

Employees' short-term benefits (wages and salaries) in excess of €60,000 are categorised into the following bands:

	2022 No's	2021 No's
€60,000 - €69,999	33	28
€70,000 - €79,999	35	33
€80,000 - €89,999	16	14
€90,000 - €99,999	12	6
€100,000 - €109,999	3	2
€110,000 - €119,999	2	2
€120,000 - €129,999	1	2
€130,000 - €139,999	1	-
€140,000 - €149,999	-	-
€150,000 - €159,999	1	-

Note: For the purposes of this disclosure, short-term employee benefits in relation to services rendered during the reporting period include salary, overtime allowances and other payments made on behalf of the employee, but exclude employer's PRSI and accrued holiday pay.

## 6. Vessel Operating Costs

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Payroll and Associated Costs	5,702	5,087
Fuel	2,178	939
Insurance	363	277
Victualling	267	169
Management Fee	279	263
Port Fees and Safety	103	75
Leases and Rental Storage	126	154
Engineering and Maintenance Costs	1,079	905
Operating and Administration Costs	816	664
	<b>10,913</b>	<b>8,533</b>

The vessel operating costs exclude the cost of vessel equipment and refits, which are capitalised per note 15, as they meet the criteria for recognition as property, plant and equipment. The vessels are owned by the Marine Institute and the operations of the vessels are subcontracted to a third party vessel management company.

## 7. Travelling Expenses

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Travel and Subsistence		
Domestic	536	312
Foreign	280	30
	<b>816</b>	<b>342</b>

An element of these expenses relate to funded projects, where the cost incurred will be reimbursed to the Marine Institute.

## 8. Grants and External Service Providers

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Marine Research Programme Grants and support costs (Note 12)	3,791	4,821
Seafarer Training & Education	140	121
Contractors, External Service Providers, Professional Fees and Other Research Funding*	8,031	6,618
Sample Analysis	297	307
	<b>12,259</b>	<b>11,867</b>

\*This includes project payments to partners where the Marine Institute is the lead partner in EU funded projects, payments relating to EMFF/EMFAF funded projects and payments to other contract providers for samples, scientific surveys, operations support, external survey contractors and other items required in order for the Marine Institute to fulfil its statutory mandate.

## 9. Facilities Costs

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Maintenance	1,416	1,287
Light & Heat	769	450
Replacements	394	172
Other	294	237
	<b>2,873</b>	<b>2,146</b>

## 10. Other Administration and Equipment Hire Costs

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Rent, Rates & Other Property Costs	243	215
Journal Subscriptions, Memberships and Library Costs	230	308
Training	238	171
Stationery & Consumables	151	131
Publications, Promotional Materials and Design	296	284
Insurance	167	136
Audit fee	29	27
Hire of Equipment & Vessels	442	253
Sundry Equipment	456	456
Other Administration Costs	803	549
	<b>3,055</b>	<b>2,530</b>

The provisions of the European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations 2012 (S.I. No. 580 of 2012) apply to the Marine Institute. Interest and compensation paid during 2022 was €171 (2021: €396).

## 11. Taxation

The Marine Institute is specifically exempted from taxation under the provisions of Section 32 and Schedule 2 of the Finance Act 1994. Accordingly, no taxation charge has been included in the financial statements.

## 12. Marine Research Programme Payments - Capital Exchequer Funded

This is a memorandum note, the function of which is to show the application of the €19.75m capital funding received in 2022 (2021: €19.5m), as it was expended in support of the *National Marine Research & Innovation Strategy 2017-2021*. The spend is categorised throughout the financial statements as described below.

The *National Marine Research & Innovation Strategy 2017-2021* was published in June 2017, and identified 15 research themes under the three goals of *Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth*. This strategy set the research priorities in 2021 and 2022, pending publication of a new national Marine Research and Innovation strategy in 2023.

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Oireachtas Income (Note 2)	19,750	19,500
Other Income or Co-funded Income	464	294
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>20,214</b>	<b>19,794</b>
<i>Expenditure on Marine Research Programme projects</i>		
Access to Shiptime Award	4,722	3,200
Marine Research Programme Grants (Note 8)	3,791	4,821
Marine Research Policy Support, Education and Outreach and Administration Payments	1,106	624
Capital, IT, Vessel, Vessel Refit and Oceanographic Equipment	2,615	2,144
Acquisition of New Vessel final payment	7,983	9,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>20,217</b>	<b>19,789</b>

### Access to Shiptime Award

Access to the Institute's research vessels is provided to Researchers, including to Higher Education Institutions for research and education purposes, after an annual competitive call "Shiptime Award". The €4,722,000 is the value of this "in kind" award to the successful applicants, who are not charged a monetary usage fee. The €4,722,000 is the estimated operating cost of the vessels, while in use by such applicants. This sum is part of the total vessel operations costs included in the income and expenditure account.

### Marine Research Programme Grants

This includes payments linked to the *National Marine Research & Innovation Strategy 2017-2021* for awards in strategically important areas of marine research. Research projects awarded are subject to contracts which specify that an initial payment will be made on signature of the contract; an interim payment(s) may be made subject to satisfactory performance with a final payment made on receipt of and verification of claims. These payments are included in "Grants and External Service Providers" in the Income and Expenditure account.

### Marine Research Policy Support / Education and Outreach/ and Administration Payments

This includes the administration, auditor and evaluation costs of the Marine Research Programme, policy support to International research organisations and the cost of education and outreach programmes. These payments are included in various captions in the Income and Expenditure account.

### Capital, IT, Vessel, Vessel Refit and Oceanographic Equipment

This includes capital equipment purchase, refit costs and IT costs. These costs, to the extent that they meet the definition of an asset under FRS 102, are capitalised in the statement of financial position.

### Acquisition of New Vessel "RV Tom Crean"

In 2019, the Marine Institute entered into contractual commitments of €25m relating to the build of a new research vessel. The Tom Crean research vessel was delivered and brought into service during 2022 at a total cost of €24.983m.

Expenditure is charged in the financial statements as it is incurred in accordance with the Marine Research Programme accounting policy. At 31 December 2022 payments in the amount of €513,576 (2021: €357,003) were outstanding and are included within payables.

### 13. Marine Research Programme Future Capital Commitments

The Marine Research Programme runs in seven-year funding cycles, with the current cycle from 2021 to 2027. At the start of 2022 there were 85 projects still ongoing, there were 42 new awards made in 2022, with 37 awards completed in 2022, leaving 90 projects ongoing at the 31 December 2022.

Contractual commitments at 31 December 2022, which have not yet been charged to the financial statements are analysed as follows:

	Total €'000
<b>Commitments as at 1 January 2022</b>	<b>22,191</b>
Decommitments 2022	(62)
New Commitments 2022 - Marine Research Programme Grants	2,857
Paid in 2022	(11,879)
<b>Commitments as at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>13,107</b>

### 14. Capital Account

	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
Balance at 1 January		30,667		22,712
<i>Transfer (to) /from Statement of Income and Expenditure</i>				
Income (net) allocated for Capital funding	10,736		12,549	
Depreciation charge for the year	(5,542)	5,194	(4,918)	7,631
Charge to Revaluation reserve		108		324
Impact of disposals of property, plant and equipment		(7)		
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>		<b>35,962</b>		<b>30,667</b>

The aggregate balance of the Capital Account (€35.962m) and the Revaluation Reserve (€5.028m) equates to the Net Book Value of Property, Plant and Equipment of €40.990m at 31 December 2022.

### 15. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Land & Property and Leasehold Improvements €'000	Research Vessels €'000	Assets Under Construction €'000	Vessel Equip €'000	Equipment Fixtures & Fittings €'000	Computers €'000	Motor Vehicles €'000	Total €'000
<i>Cost or Valuation</i>								
Balance at 1 January 2022	9,916	31,803	17,092	7,918	28,354	7,804	451	103,338
Additions	-	1,056	8,134	123	759	664	-	10,736
Disposals	-	(265)	-	(268)	(250)	(153)	-	(936)
Transfer of assets	-	24,983	(25,075)	-	92	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>9,916</b>	<b>57,577</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>7,773</b>	<b>28,955</b>	<b>8,315</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>113,138</b>
<i>Depreciation</i>								
Balance at 1 January 2022	2,047	25,718	-	7,096	25,121	7,130	423	67,535
Charge for the financial year	200	2,581	-	483	1,631	634	13	5,542
Disposal	-	(265)	-	(266)	(245)	(153)	-	(929)
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>2,247</b>	<b>28,034</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,313</b>	<b>26,507</b>	<b>7,611</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>72,148</b>
<i>Net Book Value</i>								
At 31 December 2022	7,669	29,543	151	460	2,448	704	15	40,990
At 31 December 2021	7,869	6,085	17,092	822	3,233	674	28	35,803

The Marine Institute's headquarters are at Rinville, Oranmore, County Galway. This building, which is owned by the OPW, is provided rent-free. The Institute owns land and buildings in Newport, Co Mayo and in Parkmore, Galway. All the land, and buildings owned by the Marine Institute were revalued by independent professional qualified valuers during 2018. The other various premises used by the Institute in Dublin and at the port locations around Ireland are held under either operating leases or rental agreements as set out in Note 20.

Depreciation was not recognised at 31 December 2022 in relation to €0.151m of assets which are under construction. These items which meet the definition of an asset but were not in use at 31 December 2022 had not commenced their useful lives for depreciation purposes in 2022.

During 2022, the Institute's new research vessel and equipment which were under construction at 31 December 2021 were completed and brought into use. These items were transferred from assets under construction to relevant asset categories and have been subject to depreciation during year ended 31st December 2022.

In accordance with the Institute's policy, depreciation will commence, with a full year's depreciation charged in the year in which the asset comes into use.

## 16. Revaluation Reserve

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Balance at 1 January	5,136	5,460
Movement in year	(108)	(324)
<b>Balance at 31 December 2021</b>	<b>5,028</b>	<b>5,136</b>

The basis of the valuation of land and property was changed in 2018 from cost to revaluation, and the amount of €5.460m was the resultant increase in value, which was included in the revaluation reserve in 2018. The amount of €5.028m at 31 December 2022 is the balance on the revaluation reserve account after accounting for depreciation charged on the revalued assets.

## 17. Receivables

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Trade Receivables	274	77
Contract Income	779	863
Prepayments	529	371
	<b>1,582</b>	<b>1,311</b>

All receivables are due within one year. Trade receivables are shown net of impairment in respect of doubtful debts.

## 18. Payables

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Amounts falling due within one year</i>		
Trade Payables	1,466	2,892
Deferred Income	4,900	3,225
Marine Research Programme Accrual (Note 12)	513	357
Accruals	38	48
Payroll and Revenue Accruals	482	417
Holiday Pay Accrual (Note 5)	464	401
	<b>7,863</b>	<b>7,340</b>

Included in payables above are the following amounts due to the Revenue Commissioners:

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Professional Service Withholding Tax	161	203
PAYE/PRSI/USC	452	414
VAT	107	96
Relevant Contract Tax	6	1
	<b>726</b>	<b>714</b>

## 19. Superannuation Scheme and Spouse & Children's Contributory Retirement Benefits Scheme

### a) General Description of the Scheme

The Marine Institute is a statutory State agency, established under section 3(1) of the Marine Institute Act, 1991 (No. 2 of 1991). Section 9(1) of the Act provides that the Institute shall make schemes for the granting of superannuation benefits to and in respect of staff members, subject to Ministerial approval. Two such approved schemes – the Marine Institute Staff Superannuation Scheme 1998 and the Marine Institute Spouses' and Children's Contributory Pension Scheme 1998 are being operated by the Institute. The former scheme provides retirement benefits (lump sum and pension) to staff members and death gratuity benefits in respect of death in service. The latter scheme provides pension benefits for the surviving spouses and dependent children of deceased members. Normal retirement age is a member's 65th birthday. Both schemes are defined benefit superannuation schemes. Staff Superannuation contributions are paid to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

The Single Public Service Pension Scheme (Single Scheme) is the defined benefit pension scheme for pensionable public servants appointed for the first time on or after 1 January 2013 in accordance with the Public Service Pension (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012. The scheme provides for a pension and retirement lump sum based on career-average pensionable remuneration, and spouses' and children's pensions. The minimum pension age is 66 years (rising in line with State pension age changes). It includes an actuarially reduced early retirement facility from age 55. Pensions in payment increase in line with the consumer price index.

For the purposes of reporting in accordance with FRS 102, the Institute has been advised by a qualified actuary who has prepared a full valuation in order to assess the liabilities of the superannuation schemes at 31 December 2022.

The principal actuarial assumptions which are based on professional actuarial advice, per annum, are as follows:

	2022	2021	2020
Inflation rate increase	2.60%	1.50%	1.50%
Salary rate increase	3.60%	2.50%	2.50%
Pension rate increase	3.10%	2.00%	2.00%
Scheme liabilities discount rate	4.25%	1.25%	0.80%

As pension increases under the Marine Institute schemes are based on salary increases rather than on price increases, a price inflation assumption is not necessary for the purposes of this valuation. However, since FRS 102 requires reference to an assumed rate of inflation, the above rate would be appropriate for this purpose.

The average remaining future life expectancy according to the mortality tables used to determine pension liabilities, is as follows:

	2022	2021
Male aged 65	22.6	21.8
Female aged 65	24.3	24.2

On the basis of these and other assumptions and applying the projected unit method prescribed in FRS 102, the deferred funding asset and retirement benefits liability are as follows:

	2022	2021
Total accrued retirement benefits liability	€61.28m	€97.60m

## b) Analysis of the Total Pension Costs charged to Expenditure

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Current Service Cost	5,079	4,721
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	1,217	708
Employee Contributions	(642)	(594)
	<b>5,654</b>	<b>4,835</b>

## c) Analysis of the amount recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Experience Gains/(Losses)	(4,065)	1,515
Changes in actuarial assumptions underlying the present value of scheme	46,138	(5,311)
<b>Actuarial gain/(loss) recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>42,073</b>	<b>(3,796)</b>

## d) Net Deferred Funding for Pensions Recognised in the year

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Current Service and Interest Cost	6,296	5,429
Less benefits paid in the year	(550)	(430)
	<b>5,746</b>	<b>4,999</b>

The Marine Institute recognises amounts owing from the State as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for pensions on the basis of the set of assumptions described above and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the superannuation scheme and the policy and practice in relation to funding public service pensions, including contributions from employees and the annual estimates process. In common with the generality of public service superannuation schemes, no separate fund is maintained, or assets held, to finance the payment of pensions and gratuities.

In line with the custom and practice as adopted by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to date, the Marine Institute has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current practice. The deferred funding asset for pensions as at 31 December 2022 amounted to €61.28million (2021: €97.6million). The quantification of the liability is based on the financial assumptions set out in this note.

## e) Analysis of movement in net pension liability during the year

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2020 €'000	2019 €'000	2018 €'000
Liability at the beginning of the year	97,605	88,810	74,341	63,129	59,599
Current Service Cost	5,079	4,721	4,066	3,550	3,493
Interest on Scheme Liabilities	1,217	708	889	1,194	1,188
Actuarial (Gain)/Loss recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income	(42,073)	3,796	9,946	7,145	(766)
Benefits paid in the year	(550)	(430)	(432)	(677)	(385)
<b>Liability at the end of the year</b>	<b>61,278</b>	<b>97,605</b>	<b>88,810</b>	<b>74,341</b>	<b>63,129</b>

## f) History of Defined Benefit Obligations

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2020 €'000	2019 €'000	2018 €'000
Deficit benefit obligations	61,278	97,605	88,810	74,341	63,129
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Scheme Liabilities	(4,065)	1,515	(1,124)	273	(1)
<b>Percentage of Scheme Liabilities</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
Assumption Gains/(Losses) on Scheme Liabilities	46,138	(5,311)	(8,822)	(7,418)	(767)
<b>Percentage of Scheme Liabilities</b>	<b>75.3%</b>	<b>5.44%</b>	<b>9.93%</b>	<b>9.97%</b>	<b>1.21%</b>

The cumulative actuarial gain recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income amounts to €13,091,000.

## 20. Operating Lease commitments

The Marine Institute occupies leased and rented premises at the following locations:

- **Lease 1:** 3 Park Place, Dublin 2, commenced in June 2019 for a period of 25 years and is due to terminate on 31 October 2044.
- **Lease 2:** Parkmore Office Park, Galway, commenced in 1999 for a period of 25 years with five yearly rent reviews.
- **Lease 3:** Red Sail Warehouse, Galway Harbour, commenced in 2013 for a period of 11 years with a rent review in 2018.
- **Lease 4:** Industrial Land, Galway Harbour, commenced in 2014 for a period of 5 years with the option to extend to August 2024. This option was exercised.
- **Lease 5:** Industrial Land, Galway Technology Park, commenced in 1988 for a period of 999 years, with five yearly rent reviews.
- **Lease 6:** Foreshore lease in Spiddal, granted for 35 years with effect from 15 December 2017.
- **Lease 7:** Laboratory Space in Bantry granted for 3 years with effect from 1 December 2019. This lease expired on 1 December 2022, however occupation and charges remain in line with the expired agreement.
- **Lease 8:** Laboratory Space in Castletownbere granted for 10 years with effect from 1 December 2013.
- **Lease 9:** Laboratory Space in Greencastle for 5 years with effect from 1 June 2020.
- **Rental Agreements:** The Institute also has a number of short term rental agreements relating to piers, labs and sheds.

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, all of which relate to Land & Buildings, are as follows:

Relating to leases	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Payable within 1 year	288	296
Payable between 2 and 5 years	537	704
Payable thereafter	2,046	2,173
	<b>2,871</b>	<b>3,173</b>

Operating lease payments recognised as an expense in 2022 amounted to €296,935 (2021: €295,997).

## 21. Related Party Transactions

On 4 June 2021, Ms Charlotte O'Kelly was appointed to the Board of the Marine Institute. Ms O'Kelly is a controlling party and Board member of Techworks Marine Limited, a supplier to the Marine Institute. Purchases (ex VAT) from Techworks Marine Limited amounted to €41,513 in 2022 and €133,456 in 2021 in the period after Ms O'Kelly's appointment to the Board. All transactions were conducted on an arms-length basis following the Institute's normal procurement procedures, in compliance with public procurement regulations.

## 22. Register of interests

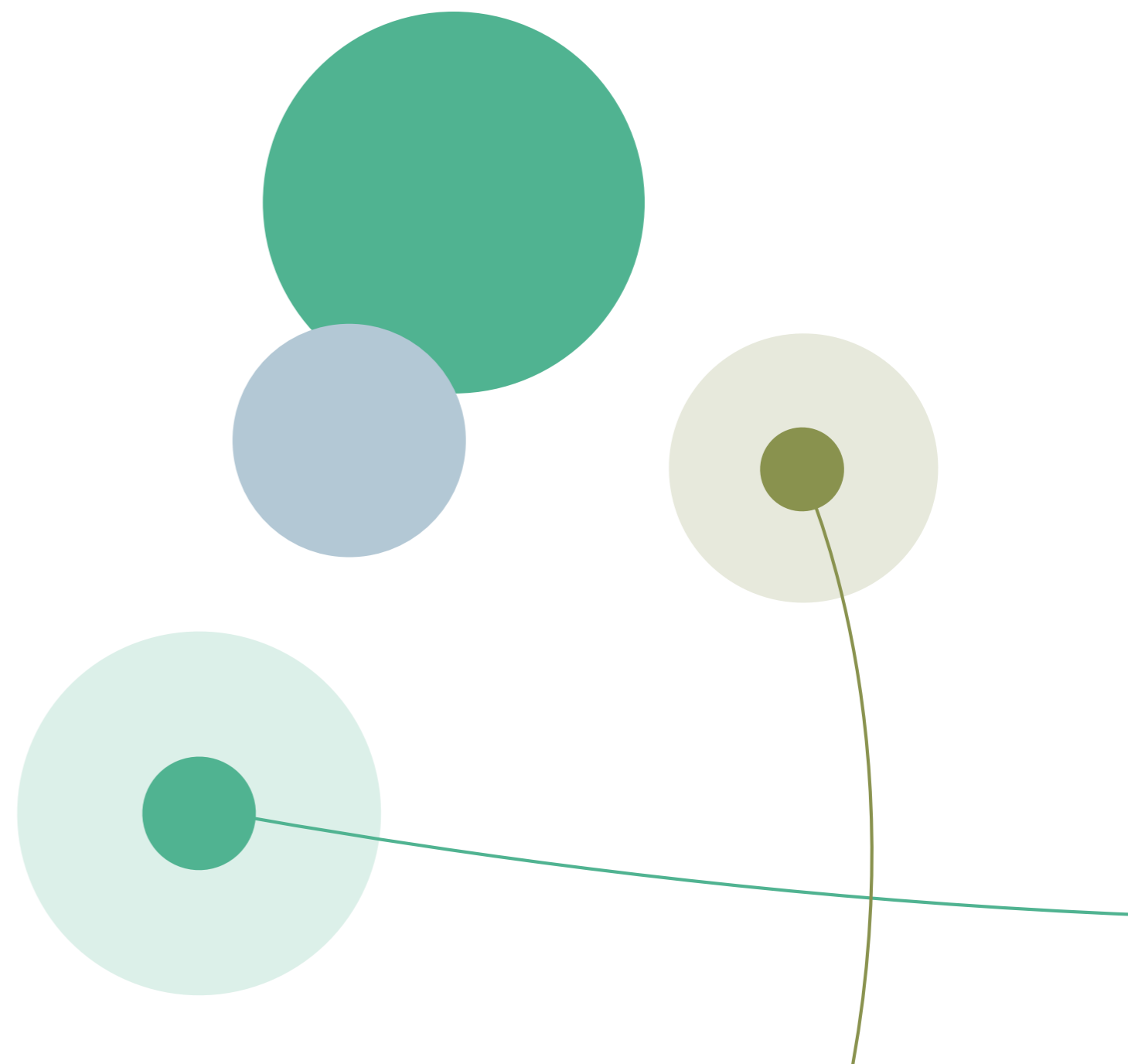
The Institute has adopted procedures in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to the disclosure of interests by the Board and the Institute has adhered to these procedures. Except for the transactions with Techworks Marine Limited disclosed in note 21, there were no transactions in the year in relation to the Institute's activities in which members of the Board had a beneficial interest.

## 23. Events after the end of the financial year

The Board is not aware of any events occurring after 31 December 2022 which affect these financial statements. The Board recognises that the impact of the Ukraine War on the price of energy and other items in particular is a significant event which the Board is taking seriously and monitoring in conjunction with management, on an ongoing basis.

## 24. Board Approval

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 28th June 2023.





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# Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2022



*Foras na Mara*  
*Marine Institute*

# EOLAS FARRAIGE A THÓGÁIL - SEIRBHÍSÍ AIGÉIN A SHEACHADADH

De réir cheanglais Acht Fhoras na Mara, 1991, is mór an onóir dom Tuarascáil Bhliantúil agus Ráitis Airgeadais Fhoras na Mara don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022 a thíolacadh.

An Dr John Killeen, Cathaoirleach

## Is gníomhaireacht náisiúnta í Foras na Mara a bhfuil an misean seo a leanas aici:

Soláthraíonn Foras na Mara raon de sheirbhísí eolaíocha, comhairleacha agus forbartha geilleagracha don rialtas, do ghníomhaireachtaí poiblí agus don tionscal muirí a thugann eolas do cheapadh beartais, do rialáil agus do bhainistiú inbhuanaithe agus d'fhás acmhainní muirí na hÉireann. Déanann an Institiúid taighde agus forbairt mhara a ghabháil de láimh, a chomhordú agus a chur chun cinn, rud atá riachtanach chun geilleagar aigéin inbhuanaithe a bhaint amach, chun éiceachórais a chosaint agus chun comhthuiscint ar an aigéan a spreagadh.

## Ár bhFís:

Foras na Mara, mar cheannaire domhanda san eolas aigéin, ag cur ar chumas na hÉireann agus a muintir saibhreas ár n-aigéin a chosaint agus leas a bhaint as.



Áis Taighde Fhoras na Mara i mBaile Uí Fhiacháin, Co. Mhaigh Eo.  
Grianghraf: Mixed Bag Media.

**Creidmheasanna Grianghraf:** P3 – Mixed Bag Media, P17 – Brian Sharkey, P21 – Andrew Downes, Xposure, P24 – Tomas Szumski, P35, 36 & 37 – Andrew Downes, Xposure, P38 – David Branigan, P40-41 – Hugh Sweeney, P43 – Nick Pfeiffer, P45 – Sinéad Coyne, P46 – Andrew Downes, Xposure, P49 – Sinéad Coyne, P57 & 59 – Tomas Szumski, P61 – Andrew Downes, Xposure, P65 – Miguel Valle de Figueiredo, P80 – Aodhán Fitzgerald, P83, 85, 87, 88, 91 & 94 – Andrew Downes, Xposure, P95 – Aengus McMahon, Brendan Diver, Kenneth O'Halloran, Jason Clarke, P149 – Andrew Downes, Xposure, P151 – Ger Rogan.

**Grianghraif eile** – Foras na Mara agus grianghrafadóireacht stoic.

# I ÁBHAIR

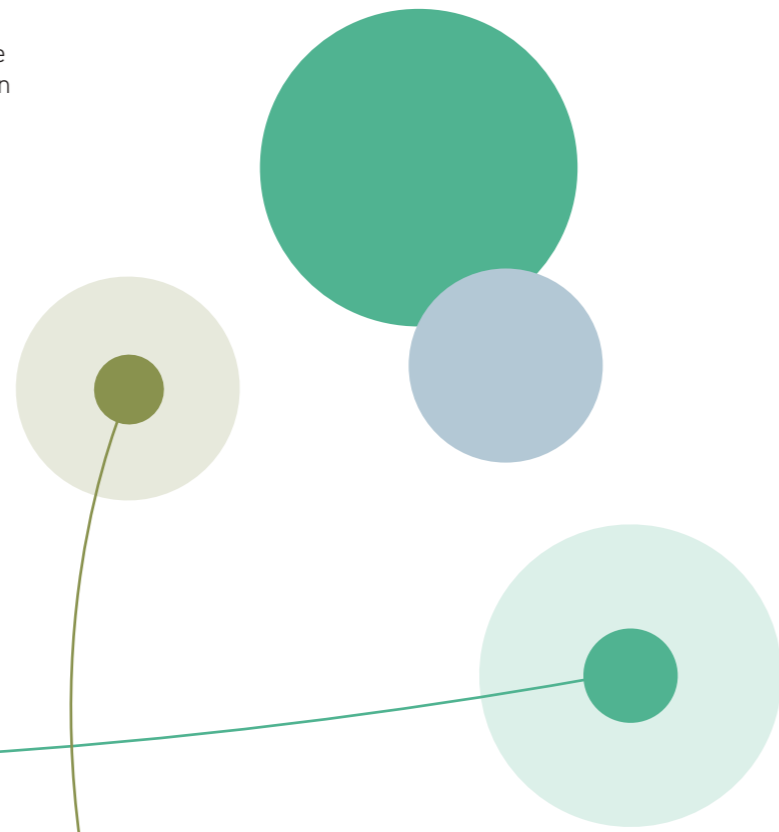
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Tá Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Fhoras na Mara ar fáil i nGaeilge agus is féidir í a íoslódáil ó [www.marine.ie](http://www.marine.ie)

# RÉAMHRÁ & STRUCHTÚR EAGRÚCHÁIN FHORAS NA MARA

Is é Foras na Mara an ghníomhaireacht náisiúnta um thaighde, teicneolaíocht, forbairt agus nuálaíocht mhuirí. Tá sé mar aidhm aige cumas eacnamaíoch acmhainn mhuirí na hÉireann a mheasúnú agus a bhaint amach, forbairt inbhuanaithe an tionscail mhuirí a chur chun cinn trí chláir mhaoinithe straitéiseacha agus seirbhísí riachtanacha eolaíoch, chomh maith le hacmhainn mhuirí nádúrtha na hÉireann a chosaint trí thaighde agus monatóireacht comhshaoil.

Tá achar mara de thart ar 880,000 km<sup>2</sup> ag Éirinn faoin bhfarraige, atá os cionn 10 n-oiread a hachar talún, rud a léiríonn acmhainn ollmhór ghrinneall na farraige agus na mara. Cuireann Foras na Mara forbairt inbhuanaithe na hacmhainne ollmhóra seo chun cinn trí thaighde, trí theicneolaíochtaí nua a chur i bhfeidhm agus trí chomhairle inchreidte eolaíoch-bhunaithe a sholáthar don tionscal, don Rialtas agus don AE.





**Tá cultúr bunaithe ag an eagraíocht arb iad is sainairíonna é:**

- Iompar eiticiúil ar fud
- Fís shoiléir
- Obair foirne
- Cumarsáid shoiléir
- A bheith ina áit inar féidir le daoine bláthú
- Soláthraíonn an cultúr sin an t-ardán ar a bhfuil ár bPlean Straitéiseach bunaithe.**

**Soláthraíonn an Institiúid seirbhísí taighde mara riachtanacha lena n-áirítear:**

- Cláir maoinithe taighde agus forbartha náisiúnta
- Measúnú stoic éisc agus comhairle bainistíochta
- Seirbhísí sláinte éisc
- Monatóireacht ar shábháilteacht bia mara
- Monatóireacht comhshaoil
- Seirbhísí aigéaneolaíochta agus aeráide
- Oibríochtaí árthaí taighde
- Mapáil ghrinneall na farraige
- Bainistíocht sonraí
- Seirbhísí forbartha muirí

**Tá sé réimse seirbhíse ag Foras na Mara agus Oifig an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh. Is iad na réimsí seirbhíse:**

- Seirbhísí corparáideacha
- Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise Aigéin
- Seirbhísí Muirthimpeallachta agus Sábháilteachta Bia
- Seirbhísí Comhairleacha Éiceachórais Iascaigh
- Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann
- Seirbhísí Beartais, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde

Ó bunaíodh é i 1991, tá Foras na Mara ina phríomhchuid den iarracht náisiúnta chun ár ngeilleagar muirí a fhás, chun deiseanna agus poist nua gnó muirí a chruthú agus chun eolas agus tuiscint níos fearr a ghiniúint ar na farraigí agus na haigéin. Leagann an Tuarascáil Bhliantúil seo béim ar na príomhspriocanna inghnóthaithe agus ar an dul chun cinn atá déanta i dtreo ár bhfís le linn 2022.

**Creat Straitéiseach**

D'fhorbair Foras na Mara *Building Ocean Knowledge - Delivering Ocean Services*, Plean Straitéiseach don tréimhse 2018-2022.

D'éiligh an próiseas ionchur fairsing ó chliaint, ó pháirtithe leasmhara seachtracha, ó Bhord Fhoras na Mara, ón bhfoireann bhainistíochta agus ón bhfoireann. Baineadh úsáid as an bpróiseas teagmhála le geallsealbhóirí chun eolas a chur ar an gcaoi a bhfuil ag éirí leis an Institiúid agus conas is féidir leis an eagraíocht freastal níos éifeachtaí ar a riachtanais reatha agus amach anseo.

Cinntíonn an Plean Straitéiseach go leanann an Institiúid ag freastal ar riachtanais náisiúnta agus ar dhúshláin, deiseanna agus tiomantais idirnáisiúnta. Leagann sé amach fís láidir straitéiseach agus plean soiléir don aistear atá romhainn.

Ag teacht leis an gcreat straitéiseach, tá an Tuarascáil Bhliantúil seo eagraithe i gceithre Réimse Fócais Straitéiseacha agus i gceithre Chumasóir Straitéiseach. Cuireann na sé réimse seirbhíse den eagraíocht (a bhfuil breac-chuntas orthu ar an leathanach roimhe seo) leis na hocht gcuid seo den tuarascáil.

Is í 2022 an bhliain deiridh den Phlean Straitéiseach reatha, agus tá Plean Straitéiseach nua 2023-2027 le foilsiú ag an Institiúid in 2023.

**Réimsí Straitéiseacha le Fócas:**

- Comhairle agus Seirbhísí Eolaíochta
- Réamhaisnéisigh Aigéan agus Athrú Aeráide
- Taighde agus Nuálaíocht
- Geilleagar Aigéin na hÉireann

**Cumasóirí Straitéiseacha:**

- Ár nDaoine
- Bonneagar
- Sonraí agus TF
- Rannpháirtíocht agus Oideachas

Chun ár bhfís a sheachadadh tá gá le feabhsú straitéiseach ar ár láidreachtaí eagraíochtúla agus seo an áit a bhfuil Cumasóirí Straitéiseacha chomh ríthábhachtach. Oibríonn ár ndaoine, ár mbonneagar, ár n-acmhainní sonraí agus TF agus ár gcumas rannpháirtíochta agus oideachais i dtreo na Réimsí Fócais Straitéiseacha agus a gcuid spriocanna faoi seach a chumasú.

# BAILL AN BHOIRD

## An Dr. John Killeen (2014-2019), (2019-2024) Cathaoirleach



Is innealtóir é an Dr John Killeen agus is as Contae Ros Comáin ó dhúchas é agus rinneadh Saorfhear Oinigh de Chathair na Gaillimhe de in 2012. Cuimsíonn a ghairm bheatha ag obair le Rialtas Áitiúil, le cuideachta tógála ilnáisiúnta a thóg tollán na Canálach Móire i mBaile Átha Cliath i 1973 agus seacht mbliana le fochuideachta Shell International. Bhí an Dr Killeen ina Uachtarán ar Innealtóirí Éireann (1995-1996) agus bhí sé ina Uachtarán bunaithe ar Acadamh na hInnealtóireachta in Éirinn (1996-1998). Tá sé ina Phríomhfheidhmeannach ar scor ar an Colas Group in Éirinn agus ina Stiúrthóir Bainistíochta ar scor ar Cold Chon Galway Ltd.

In 2009, bhí sé ina Chathaoirleach ar imeacht Volvo Ocean Race i nGaillimh. In 2012, bhí sé ina Uachtarán ar Volvo Ocean Race Festival agus Finale a sháraigh gach taifead freastail ar imeacht spóirt in Éirinn, arbh fhiú thart ar €80 milliún é in ioncam turasoireachta agus gnó na cathrach. Tá an Dr Killeen ina Uachtarán freisin ar Institiúid Ceannaireachta Timoney (carthanas a chuireann oiliúint cheannaireachta idirnáisiúnta chun cinn do Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh na hÉireann), ina Cathaoirleach ar Bháid Tarrthála Éireann agus ina Iontaobhaí ar an RNLI.

## An tOllamh Patricia Barker (2013-2018), (2018-2023)



Is Comhalta de Chuntasóirí Cairte na hÉireann é an tOllamh Barker agus cháiligh sé i 1973. Chríochnaigh an tOllamh Barker MPhil i Staidéar Inscne i gColáiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath. D'fhorbair a PhD paraidím maidir le faisnéis airgeadais a nochtadh d'fhostaithe in eagraíochtaí. Sheirbheáil sí a cuid alt le Stokes Bros & Pim i mBaile Átha Cliath agus d'oibrigh sí do Peat Marwick Mitchell i Manchain. Ina dhiaidh sin rinne sí páirtneir i gcleachtas cuntasaoíochta i Manchain ar feadh sé bliana, agus d'oibrigh sí in Ollscoil Mhanchain mar phríomhléachtóir.

Ceapadh Patricia ina léachtóir in Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath (DCU) i 1980 agus chuaigh sí ar aghaidh mar léachtóir sinsearach, Déan Comhlach (Scoil Ghnó) agus Leas-Uachtarán na hOllscoite (Acadúil). D'oibrigh sí mar ollamh cuairte in ollscoileanna i Nua-Eabhrac, Boston, Angers, an Mhaláiv, Dares Salaam, Sydney agus Cape Town agus bhí sí ina scrúdaitheoir seachtrach d'ollscoileanna agus do chomhlachtaí gairmiúla.

D'fhóin sí mar Chathaoirleach ar Choiste Cuntasaoíochta na gCuntasóirí Cairte ar feadh 20 bliain agus bhí sí ina comhalta de Chomhairle na gCuntasóirí Cairte ar feadh ceithre bliana sna 1990idí agus arís ar feadh cúig bliana sna 2010idí. Rinne sí ionadaíocht thar ceann na hÉireann ar an mBord um Chaighdeán Chuntasaoíochta i Londain ar feadh naoi mbliana agus bhí sí ina cathaoirleach ar an sainghrúpa a thuiriscíonn don Aontas Eorpach ar ról, struchtúr agus feidhmeanna Chúirt Iníochóirí na hEorpa. Bhí cúpla turas dualgais aici mar Mhaoirseoir Toghcháin don Eagraíocht um Shlándaíl agus Chomhoibriú in Éirinn (OSCE) sa Bhoisnia-Heirseagaivéin, i Republika Srpska, san Afraic Theas, sa Chosaiv, sa Chasacstáin, i Montainéagró, sa Mhaláiv agus sa Bhealarúis; agus leis an AE san Afraic.

D'oibrigh Patricia mar Monatóir Cearta Daonna in Iosrael agus sa Phalastín. Bhí sí ina ball de Bhoird Chúnamh na mBan, de Chumann Tithíochta Sonas, den Chór Aireagail Náisiúnta agus den Údarás um Ard-Oideachas (ina cathaoirleach ar an gCoiste Iníochóireachta), agus de FSS. Bhí sí ina Cathaoirleach ar Sheirbhís Fuiltraíochtaí na hÉireann ar feadh trí bliana.

Faoi láthair tá sí ina Stiúrthóir ar Ospidéal Thamhlachta, agus í ina cathaoirleach ar an gCoiste Iníochta. Tá sí ina cathaoirleach ar an gCoiste Maoirseachta ar Iníochadh Inmheánach do na Boird Oideachais Oiliúna agus tá sí ina Cathaoirleach freisin ar Choiste Iníochta an Údaráis Pinsean.

Is comhairteoir deonach agus oiliúnaí í Patricia d'Ionad Éigeandála um Éigníú Bhaile Átha Cliath faoi láthair. Tá leabhair scríofa aici ar chuntasaoíocht ghrúpa, obair sholúbtha sa ghairm agus, le déanaí, ar mhná ar éirigh leo i ngairm na cuntasaoíochta, chomh maith le rialachas corparáideach agus eitic ghairmiúil.

## An tUasal Dermot Clohessy (2015-2020), (2021-2026)



Tá tuiscint fhairsing ag Dermot ar infheistíocht dhíreach eachtrach (FDI) tar éis dó a bheith ag obair le GFT Éireann le 28 bliain. Bhí sé ina Stiúrthóir Feidhmíocháin/COO ar an IDA ó 2006 go 2015. Le linn a ghairmréime leis an eagraíocht, bhí freagracht cheannaireachta air thar gach príomhréimsí feidhme den eagraíocht. Tá eolas láidir agus taithí aige ar fhorbairt agus ar chur i bhfeidhm straitéise, ag déileáil le rialachas corparáideach, lena n-áirítear comhlíonadh agus soláthar laistigh den earnáil phoiblí.

Bhí Dermot ina bhall den Tascfhórsa Forbartha a bunaíodh chun tacú le feidhmiú *Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth - an integrated marine plan for Ireland*.

Bhí sé ina Chathaoirleach ar cheann dá fhochoistí chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar an gclár Forbartha Gnó, Margaíochta agus Cur Chun Cinn a d'fhéach le teachtaireacht shoiléir a chur chuig infheisteoirí go bhfuil Éire oscailte do ghnó muirí agus gur áit mhaith í le déanamh.

Ó d'fhág sé GFT Éireann in 2015, oibríonn Dermot go hidirnáisiúnta anois mar chomhairleoir straitéiseach ar raon an-leathan tionscadal ar infheistíocht agus ar fhorbairt gnó idirnáisiúnta, don earnáil phríobháideach agus phoiblí araon. Díróinn a chuid oibre ar chur i bhfeidhm straitéise, tógáil inniúlachta agus forbairt gnó idirnáisiúnta áit a bhfuil a shaineolas ar bhainistíocht feidhmithe. Is Innealtóir é Dermot ó thaobh gairme, le cáilíochtaí breise i Straitéis Gnó agus Cuntasaoíocht & Airgeadas.

## An tUasal Berna Grist B.L. (2015-2018), (2018-2023)



Tá an Dr Berna Grist B.L., abhcóide agus pleanálaí baile cairte, ina hOllamh Cúnta i Scoil na hAiltireachta, Pleanála agus Beartais Timpeallachta sa Choláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath. Tá PhD aici ó Ollscoil Uladh ar *The Legislative and Regulatory Framework for Development in the Republic of Ireland* agus tá go leor foilsithe aici i réimsí an dlí pleanála agus comhshaoil, polasaí poiblí agus rialachais. In éineacht le James Macken SC nach maireann, rinne sí comheagraíocht ar an *Irish Planning Law Factbook* (2003), a leanann sí á nuashonrú go bliantúil, agus in 2012, d'fhoilsigh sí an dara eagrán de *An Introduction to Irish Planning Law*.

Ceapadh an Dr Grist ina Leas-Chathaoirleach ar an mBord Achomhairc um Cheadúnais Dobharshaothraithe nuair a bunaíodh é i 1998. Le linn na tréimhse 2001-2006, d'fhóin sí mar chomhalta den Bhord Pleanála agus in 2013, ceapadh í ar an nGrúpa Saineolaithe a thug comhairle don Aire Tithíochta agus Pleanála maidir le comharba ar an *Straitéis Spáis Náisiúnta 2002-2020*. Chuir sí le roinnt tionscadal taighde comhshaoil atá urraithe ag an nGníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (EPA) agus tá sí ina ball de Chumann Dlí Comhshaoil na hÉireann (IELA).

## An tUasal Donal Kelly (2013-2018), (2018-2023)



Tá an tUasal Donal Kelly ina Stiúrthóir Bainistíochta ar Fast Fish Teo, gnó rathúil díolachán éisc agus soláthair ola atá lonnaithe i mBaile Chaisleáin Bhéarra, Contae Chorcaí. D'fhóin an tUasal Kelly ar Choiste Bainistíochta Scadán na Mara Ceiltí ar feadh 10 mbliana, agus ar Choiste Peiligeach an Iarthair ar feadh trí bliana.

D'fhóin an tUasal Kelly ar roinnt bord, san earnáil phríobháideach agus dheonach araon, lena n-áirítear Fóram Pobail agus Deonach Chontae Chorcaí agus Bord Forbartha Contae Chorcaí agus d'fheidhmigh mar Chathaoirleach ar Choiste Bainistíochta CLG Bhaile Chaisleáin Bhéarra. Tá sé ina bhall freisin de Chlub Gailf Bhéarra agus de Chumann Forbartha Pobail Bhaile Chaisleáin Bhéarra.

## An tUasal David Owens (2012-2018), (2018-2023)



Tá David Owens ina EVP agus ina Bhainisteoir Ginearálta ar Oibríochtaí Idirnáisiúnta ag Tricentis, freagrach as Oibríochtaí Airgeadais Idirnáisiúnta, Cáin Dhomhanda, Soláthar Dhomhanda, Saoráidí Dhomhanda, agus Straitéis Suímh Idirnáisiúnta a threorú.

Roimhe sin, bhí David ina Leas-Uachtarán Sinsearach, Airgeadas agus Oibríochtaí, ag SolarWinds áit a raibh sé freagrach as airgeadas agus oibríochtaí ar fud an ghnó idirnáisiúnta.

Níos luaithe ina shaol oibre d'oibrigh David freisin le Red Hat, Inc. ar feadh níos mó ná seacht mbliana, áit ar d'fhóin sé ar dtús mar Stiúrthóir ar Lóistíocht agus Táirgeadh Dhomhanda agus ansin mar Stiúrthóir Sinsearach Airgeadais do EMEA.

Is Cuntasóir Cairte cáilithe é David agus cuireadh oiliúint air le Ernst & Young.

# BAILL AN BHOIRD

## Iníon Charlotte O'Kelly de Gallagh (2021-2026)



Tá Charlotte O'Kelly De Gallagh ina Stiúrthóir Bainistíochta agus ina comhbhunaitheoir ar TechWorks Marine. Tá céim aici in Acmhainní Comhshaoil ó Ollscoil Kingston agus Máistreacht san Aigéaneolaíocht ó Choláiste Ollscoile na Breataine Bige, Beannchar. Le déanaí bronnadh Dioplóma Iarchéime i Díolacháin Idirnáisiúnta uirthi ó TU Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Tá os cionn 20 bliain taithí ag Charlotte i réimse na hAigéaneolaíochta Oibríochtúla, go háirithe i mBaoithe Sonraí fíor-ama, tá taithí shainiúil eárnála aici ar Mhonatóireacht ar Cháilíocht Uisce Cósta, Innealtóireacht Chósta agus In-athnuaithe Muirí Amach ón gCósta. Ina ról mar Bhainisteoir Stiúrtha ar TechWorks Marine, d'fhás sí an gnó ó choincheap go gnó soladach tráchtála a sheachadann seirbhísí sonraí mara den scoth dá chliant, rud a chuireann ar a gcumas a gcuid oibríochtaí muirí a bhainistiú níos fearr.

Le 10 mbliana anuas, chomhordaigh sí roinnt conarthaí de chuid Ghníomhaireacht Spáis na hEorpa (ESA) i réimse Fhaire na Cruinne Mara, ag nascadh sonraí aigéaneolaíochta in situ agus satailíte chun seirbhísí sonraí nua a fhorbairt san eárnáil mhuirí.

Bhí sí ina meastóir do Choimisiún an AE agus labhraíonn sí go rialta ag ESA agus ag comhdhálacha mara ar mhonatóireacht mhuirí fíor-ama. Tá roinnt dámhachtainí faighte aici thar ceann TechWorks Marine ó 2002 i leith, go háirithe an chéad Gradam Gnóthachtála Aigéin Dhigiteach ag Gradaim Thionscal Mara na hÉireann in 2017 agus bhí sé sa bhábhta ceannais i nGradaim Nuálaíochta an Irish Times in 2019.

Thar na blianta, bhí baint aici le roinnt Bord, lena n-áirítear Mná sa Teicneolaíocht agus san Eolaíocht (WITS) a raibh sí ina cathaoirleach air ar feadh dhá bhliain, agus an Lycée Française d'Irlande a raibh sí ina cathaoirleach air ar feadh trí bliana. Tá suim láidir aici i ngach rud mara, agus bhí baint aici le roinnt eagraíochtaí thar na blianta lena n-áirítear Irish Surfing, agus tá sí ina mairnéalach gníomhach i gCuan Bhaile Átha Cliath an bhliain ar fad.

## An tUasal Aodh O Domhnaill (2021-2026)



Is as Co. Dhún na nGall ó dhúchas é Aodh O Domhnaill. Tá sé ina Phríomhfheidhmeannach ar Eagraíocht Táirgeoirí Éisc na hÉireann (IFPO) agus roimhe seo ina Stiúrthóir Díolacháin Idirnáisiúnta le Cuan Earagail, próiseálaí agus easpórtálaí sliogéisc atá lonnaithe sa Ghaeltacht. I measc a chuid freagrachtaí tá forbairt leanúnach ar mhargáí bia mara idirnáisiúnta, le fócas ar leith ar chríocha na hÁise, na SA agus Chríoch Lochlann.

I mí an Mhárta 2022, ghlac Aodh le post POF an IFPO, comhlacht a bunaíodh i 1975. Déanann an IFPO ionadaíocht ar úinéirí soithí iascaireachta mara tráchtála de gach méid sna hearnálacha Peiligeach, Éisc Geal, Sliogéisc agus Cladaigh. Tá cúram ar an Eagraíocht maidir le gníomhaíochtaí iascaireachta na gcomhaltaí a bhainistiú, idir ghabháil agus margaíocht, d'fhonn an úsáid is fearr a bhaint as na stoic éisc atá ar fáil agus torthaí a bharrfheabhsú.

Tá caidreamh fairsing fadsaoil ag Aodh leis an eárnáil bia mara agus d'oibrigh sé i ról oibríochtaí sinsearachta agus díolacháin. Bhí sé ina bhall coiste de Chumann Próiseálaithe agus Onnmhaiseoirí Éisc na hÉireann (IFPEA) agus ar Choiste Comhairleach Peiligeach an Iarthuaiscirt. D'fhóin an tUasal Ó Domhnaill mar Chathaoirleach ar Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Leitir Ceanainn (LYIT) ar feadh téarma ceithre bliana ó 2007 go 2011 freisin.

Cainteoir dúchais Gàidhlig é Aodh agus tá bunchéim aige ó Choláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath. Tá Dioplóma Deimhnithe aige sa Chuntasáíocht agus Airgeadas agus MBA ón Ollscoil Oscailte.

## Tom Tynan (2021-2026)



Tá slí bheatha cháiliúil ag Tom Tynan sa talmhaíocht. Cuireadh oideachas air i gColáiste na hOllscoile Gaillimh (UCG), sa Choláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath (UCD) agus i gColáiste Ollscoile Harper Adams, Shropshire, agus ba é buaiteoir Ghradam Alumni UCD 2015 ó Scoil na Talmhaíochta agus na hEolaíochta Bia UCD.

D'oibrigh Tom thar raon réimsí agra-ghnó agus beartais áit a raibh ról éagsúla bainistíochta sinsearaí aige. Bhí sé ina Stiúrthóir Tráchtála ar Agra-ghnó IAWS agus ina dhiaidh sin ina Phríomhoifigeach Oibríocháin ar Welcon AS, an Iorua.

Cuimsíonn a thaithí thráchtála, straitéise, oibríochtaí agus comhairleach ar an bhfeirm. Bhí poist aige ar Bhoird Theagasc, Agri-Aware agus Bhord Comhairleach Eolaíochta Alltech, agus anuraidh ceapadh é ar Bhord na hInstitiúide Agraibhia agus Eolaíochtaí Bitheacha (AFBI) i dTuaisceart Éireann.

Chríochnaigh sé le déanaí a thréimhse mar Chomh-Aireachta don Choimisinéir Eorpach um Thalmhaíocht, Forbairt Tuaithe agus Ball Comh-Aireachta don Choimisinéir Eorpach um Thrádáil, áit ar áiríodh ar a fhreagrachtaí punainne margaí talmhaíochta, leigheasanna trádála, taighde, forbairt & nuálaíocht, bithghéilleagar agus biteicneolaíocht.



# FOIREANN CEANNAIREACHTA SINSEARACH

## An Dr. Paul Connolly CEO



Tá PhD ag Paul ón gColáiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath (1986), MBA ó Ollscoil na hÉireann Gaillimh (2006) agus chríochnaigh sé Clár Ardcheannaireachta Timoney in 2016. Ceapadh Paul ina Phríomhfheidhmeannach ar Fhoras na Mara i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2019 agus roimhe sin bhí sé ina Stiúrthóir ar Sheirbhísí Comhairleacha Éiceachórais Iascaigh (FEAS) ag an bhForas.

Tá saineolas suntasach aige ar chomhairle eolaíoch a sholáthar don Rialtas ar raon saincheisteanna muirí, lena n-áirítear iascach, dobarshaothrú agus maolú aeráide. Tá taithí fhairsing aige ar oibriú le páirtithe leasmhara agus bhí sé ina chathaoirleach ar Chomhpháirtíocht Taighde Eolaíochta Iascaigh na hÉireann (IFSRP) an Aire ó 2008 go 2019. Tá Paul oile freisin i ndéanamh straitéisí d'eagraíochtaí idirnáisiúnta, don Rialtas agus d'Fhoras na Mara.

Bhí ról ceannaireachta ag Paul go hidirnáisiúnta. Toghadh é ina Uachtarán ar an gComhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES) ar feadh téarma trí bliana (2013-2015). Is eagraíocht idir-rialtasach é ICES ina bhfuil 20 tír ar an teorainn leis an Atlantach Thuaidh. Is iad na cuspóirí atá leis ná tuiscint eolaíoch ar éiceachórais mhuirí a chur chun cinn agus comhairle eolaíoch neamhchlaonta a sholáthar chun spriocanna caomhnaithe, bainistíochta agus inbhuanaitheachta aigéin a bhaint amach. Tá na ceisteanna seo an-tábhachtach d'obair Fhoras na Mara.

I mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2020, thogh Ballstáit ICES Paul ar Bhord ICES (Biúró) ar feadh téarma trí bliana (2020-2022).

Faoi cheannaireacht Phóil, tá Foras na Mara suite go maith chun tacú le gnéithe muirí an Chláir don Rialtas lena n-áirítear an geilleagar gorm, fuinneamh in-athnuaite amach ón gcósta, Limistéir Chosanta Mhuirí (MPAanna), Pleanáil Spásúlachta Mhuirí (MSP) agus comhairle eolaíoch maidir le húsáid inbhuanaithe ár n-acmhainní aigéin, go háirithe maidir le hiascach agus dobarshaothrú.

## Michael Gillooly Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí Faisnéise agus Aeráide Aigéin



Tá Baitsiléir Eolaíochta ag Michael (Coláiste na hOllscoile Gaillimh), Máistreacht in Eolaíocht Chomhshaoil (Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath) agus Dioplóma Náisiúnta i mBitheolaíocht Uisceach (Coláiste Teicniúil Réigiúnach na Gaillimhe, Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh anois).

Tá sé freagrach as seirbhísí a threorú, a bhainistiú agus a fhorbairt agus as cláir a sheachadadh lena n-áirítear Oibríochtaí Árthaí Taighde, Ardseirbhísí Mapála, Seirbhísí Aigéaneolaíochta agus Aeráide, Seirbhísí Forbartha Faisnéise agus Córais, Bonneagair Mhuirí agus Fuinneamh Aigéin.

Tá 30 bliain de thaithí bainistíochta sinsearaí ag Michael ar thaighde teicniúil mara agus tionscadail oibríochtúla, agus tionscadail bhonneagair m.sh. líonraí baoithe aimsire agus breathnóireachta, réadlann eolaíoch cáblaithe Chuan na Gaillimhe. Síneann a thaithí freisin chuig cláir oibríochtúla ar nós mapáil INFOMAR, cláir RV (Árthach Taighde) agus ROV (Feithicil Chianoibrithe), aigéaneolaíocht oibríochtúil agus athrú aeráide. Áirítear leis an taithí pleanála straitéisí an plean mara náisiúnta (*Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth*), clár an Aigéin Dhigiteach Chomhtháite agus pleanáil gnó ilthionscadail.

Bhí Michael ina chomhúdar ar thogra INFOMAR 2005/2006 ar thacaigh an Rialtas leis mar chlár 20 bliain (a bhí le críochnú in 2026), bhí Michael ina thoscaire náisiúnta ar Chomhairle Stiúrtha na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES) ó 2016 go 2018. Faoi láthair is toscaire náisiúnta é ar Thionól Comhaltaí EMSO agus EURO ARGO ERIC, agus is Comhalta de Bhord Feidhmiúcháin EuroOcean é.

Bhí Michael ina bhainisteoir tionscadail ar na cláir chun dhá árthach taighde na hInstitiúide a thógáil, RV *Celtic Voyager* agus RV *Celtic Explorer*, agus is é an Stiúrthóir atá freagrach as an gclár tógála RV *Tom Crean*, a tháinig in áit *Celtic Voyager*.

## Patricia Orme Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí Corparáideacha



Is Comhalta de Chuntasóirí Cairte na hÉireann í Patricia agus tá Céim Bhaitisiléara sa Tráchtáil Céad Onóracha (Dlí agus Cuntasáíocht) aici ó Ollscoil na hÉireann Gaillimh. Thosaigh Patricia a gairm bheatha leis an ngnólacht cuntasáíochta idirnáisiúnta Mazars, i mBaile Átha Cliath.

Sular thosaigh sí le Foras na Mara, bhí Patricia ina Stiúrthóir ar KPMG, ceann de na soláthraithe seirbhíse gairmiúla is mó in Éirinn. Bhí breis is 20 bliain de thaithí aici ansin ag soláthar seirbhísí airgeadais, iniúchta, bainistíochta riosca, rialachais agus comhairleacha do chliaint phoiblí, phríobháideacha, dhúchasacha agus idirnáisiúnta. Bhí ról cheannaireachta aici le freagracht as straitéis, bainistíocht caidrimh le cliaint, feidhmíocht airgeadais agus Acmhainní Daonna.

Thug Patricia léachtaí ar an gclár Máistreachta Cuntasáíochta in OÉ Gaillimh, chuir sí oiliúint ar fáil agus chuir sí i láthair Boird ar Rialachas Corparáideach agus nithe eile. Ó 2011 go 2018, d'fhóin sí ar an mBord Stiúrthóirí agus mar Rúnaí Cuideachta ar Fhondúireacht Croí agus Stróc Croí.

Mar Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí Corparáideacha, tá Patricia freagrach as Rialachas Corparáideach, Airgeadas, Acmhainní Daonna, Áiseanna, Cumarsáid agus Seirbhísí Leabharlainne. D'fheidhmigh sí mar Oifigeach Cosanta Sonraí na hInstitiúide go dtí mí na Nollag 2020 agus tá sí ina Comhoifigeach Riosca faoi láthair.

Tá Patricia ina Ball de Choiste Iniúchta agus Riosca an Fhorais Riaracháin faoi láthair freisin.

## Dr. Niall McDonough Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí Beartais, Faisnéise & Taighde (PIRS)



Chuir Niall McDonough oiliúint ar dtús mar bhitheolaí mara le spéiseanna taighde i ndobharshaothrú na mara, athchóiriú stoc sliogéisc agus bainistíocht acmhainní mara. Tá BA Mod. den chéad scoth aige. sa Zó-eolaíocht ó Choláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath (1993) agus PhD ó Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste (1998).

Tar éis dhá bhliain ag an Institiúid um Athrú Comhshaoil in Ollscoil na hÉireann Gaillimh (OÉ Gaillimh), d'fhóin Niall ar feadh cúig bliana mar Bhainisteoir Ginearálta ar an Ionad Acmhainní Mara agus Muirí (CMar), ionad nuálaíochta in Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste a chuireann seirbhísí taighde, teicniúil agus comhairleacha ar fáil don earnáil dobarshaothraithe muirí atá ag teacht chun cinn.

Ó 2007 go 2009, d'oibrigh sé le clár comhoibrithe idirnáisiúnta Fhoras na Mara. In 2009, ceapadh é ina Stiúrthóir Feidhmiúcháin ar an mBord Eorpach Muirí (EMB), eagraíocht Eorpach um beartas eolaíochta muirí atá bunaithe ar champas InnovOcean in Ostend, an Bheilg. D'fhill sé ar Éirinn in 2017 chun dul i mbun a ról reatha le Foras na Mara.

Mar Stiúrthóir PIRS, maoirsíonn Niall foireann agus clár oibre a bhfuil príomhról acu chun tacú le taighde mara agus nuálaíocht agus iad a chur chun cinn ar leibhéal náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta. Comhordaíonn sé cur i bhfeidhm Straitéis Taighde agus Nuálaíochta Mara na hÉireann (2017-2022) agus tá sé ina chathaoirleach ar an bhFóram náisiúnta do Mhaoinitheoirí Taighde Mara. Maoirsíonn sé clár maoinithe taighde seachtrach timpeall €8 milliún in aghaidh na bliana Fhoras na Mara agus tá sé ina bhall de Ghrúpa Forfheidhmithe Nuálaíochta 2020 Rialtas na hÉireann agus de Ghrúpa Ardleibhéil Fhís Eoprach. I mí na Samhna 2020, togadh é ina Chathaoirleach ar an gComhthionscnamh Eorpach um Chlárú ar Muir agus Aigéin Shláintiúla agus Tháirgiúla.

# FOIREANN CEANNAIREACHTA SINSEARACH

## Joe Silke

Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí  
Timpeallachta Muirí &  
Sábháilteachta Bia (MEFSS)



Rinne Joe staidéar i gColáiste Teicniúil Réigiúnach na Gaillimhe (Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh anois, ATU) áit ar cháligh sé le Diplóma Náisiúnta in Eolaíocht Uisceach agus lean sé lena chuid staidéir i gColáiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath, áit ar cháligh sé le Máistreacht in Eolaíocht Chomhshaoil. Thosaigh a ghairm bheatha i dtionscal an dobharshaothraithe áit ar oibrigh sé i gortanna sliogéisc agus saoráidí fáis, agus i modhanna nuálacha táirgthe i rith na 1980idí.

Ina dhiaidh sin, bhog sé isteach i ngníomhaíochtaí taighde i bhfiteaplanctón agus aigéaneolaíocht, agus rinne sé roinnt tionscadal i réimse na forbartha dobharshaothraithe mara agus suirbhéireachta comhshaoil. Tá taithí fhairsing ag Joe sna réimsí a bhaineann le measúnú riosca, rialú cáilíochta, monatóireacht bhitheolaíoch agus comhshaoil.

Roimhe seo rinne sé bainistíocht ar an bhFoireann Sábháilteachta Sliogéisc laistigh d'Fhoras na Mara, ag cur monatóireacht eolaíoch agus comhairle ar shábháilteacht bia ar fáil don Rialtas, don tionscal agus do thomhaltóirí bia mara. Tá próifíl idirnáisiúnta nach beag aige freisin tar éis dó freastal ar raon grúpaí oibre lena n-áirítear iniúchtaí AE ar thríú tíortha mar shaineolaí tocsain sliogéisc, grúpa oibre Codex agus bhí sé i gceannas ar ghníomhaíochtaí taighde idirnáisiúnta éagsúla. Is iar-Chathaoirleach agus ball é de Ghrúpa Oibre ICES ar Dhinimic Dhíobhálacha Algacha Bloom agus faoi láthair tá sé ina Chathaoirleach ar Phainéal Idir-Rialtasach FAO-IOC ar Bhláthanna Díobhálacha Algacha.

Mar Stiúrthóir MEFSS, tá Joe i gceannas ar na foirne atá freagrach as príomhsheirbhísí eolaíochta don Rialtas chun tacú le comhairle beartais atá bunaithe ar fhianaise agus lenár gcuspóirí maidir le bia mara sábháilte, forbairt inbhuanaithe an chomhshaoil mhuirí, sláinte éisc agus cláir na bhfarraigí glan.

## An Dr. Ciaran Kelly

Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí  
Comhairleacha Éiceachórais  
Iascaigh (FEAS)



Fuair Ciaran oiliúint mar bhitheolaí mara agus ina dhiaidh sin mar eolaí iascaigh, le céim ó Choláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath agus PhD ó Choláiste na hOllscoile, Baile Átha Cliath. Tá baint aige le soláthar comhairle do bhainisteoirí rialtais agus do lucht déanta beartais le breis is 20 bliain, ag obair go náisiúnta agus trí eagraíochtaí idirnáisiúnta amhail an Chomhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES) agus an Coiste Eolaíoch, Teicniúil agus Eacnamaíoch um Iascach (STECF).

D'oibrigh Ciaran roimhe seo mar bhainisteoir ar chomhairle chomhtháite, agus ina bhainisteoir ar an Oifig Taighde agus Forbartha ag Foras na Mara a bhí freagrach as pleanáil agus reachtáil an chláir Infheistíochta Náisiúnta um Thaighde Mara de chuid Fhoras na Mara.

Tá sé ina Stiúrthóir ar Sheirbhísí Comhairleacha Éiceachórais Iascaigh (FEAS) an Fhorais, a dhéanann measúnuithe acmhainne ar stoic éisc tráchtála, a sholáthraíonn comhairle agus tacaíocht beartais don Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) agus don Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht (DHLGH), agus déanann sé taighde ar éiceachórais mhuirí, stoic éisc agus dobharshaothrú.

## Liam Lacey

Stiúrthóir Oifig Forbartha Muirí  
na hÉireann (IMDO)



Is Comhalta é Liam d'Institiúid na gCuntasóirí Poiblí Deimhnithe in Éirinn agus tá Céim Mháistreachta aige sa bhainistíocht ó Choláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath. Sula ndeachaigh sé leis an IMDO, thug Liam léachtaí i réimse na bainistíochta straitéisí agus na nuálaíochta in Ollscoil na hÉireann, Má Nuad.

D'oibrigh sé roimhe seo le Irish Continental Group mar Stiúrthóir Bainistíochta ar a Rannán Coimeádán agus Teirminéil. Tá taithí fhairsing aige ar loingseoireacht, cairtfhostú agus forbairt calafoirt. Bhí Liam ina bhall de Chomhairle Iompair IBEC, a dhéanann ionadaíocht ar thuairimí an tionscail i réimse an iompair agus na lóistíochta.



RV Celtic Explorer.  
Grianghraf: Brian Sharkey.

# RÁITEAS AN CHATHAOIRLIGH

Bliain rathúil eile a bhí in 2022 d'Fhoras na Mara, le dul chun cinn déanta ar spriocanna straitéiseacha uile na heagraíochta. Bliain shuntasach a bhí ann freisin maidir le pleananna straitéiseacha a fhorbairt don Institiúid agus d'earnáil mhuirí na hÉireann i gcoitinne, a bhfuil ról intreach ag an Institiúid iontu.

Ba í seo an bhliain dheireanach i bPlean Straitéiseach reatha Foras na Mara, *Building Ocean Knowledge, Delivering Ocean Services (2018-2022)* agus tráth chun machnamh a dhéanamh ar gach a cuireadh chun cinn agus a baineadh amach faoin straitéis uailmhianach seo.

Ag breathnú siar ar na spriocanna a shainmhíomar le chéile agus a gheallamar sa Phlean, feicimid gur bhaineamar amach an méid a bhí le déanamh againn. Bhí dúshlán ann ar an mbealach, lena n-áirítear Breatimeacht (a bhí aitheanta mar dhúshlán agus deis d'Éirinn araon sa Phlean Straitéiseach) agus an obair mhór a theastaíonn chun ullmhú le haghaidh tionchair an athraithe aeráide (a aithníodh freisin ag tús an Phlean).

Dúshlán mór amháin nárbh fhéidir a bheith ag súil leis ná paindéim Covid-19 agus an iliomad tionchair a bhí aige. Is mór an chreidiúint don Institiúid gur éirigh leis an oiread sin den Phlean Straitéiseach a bhaint amach i gcomhthéacs athruithe agus éiginnteachta suntasacha.

Ba í 2022 an t-am freisin le teacht le chéile mar eagraíocht chun ár bPlean Straitéiseach nua a fhorbairt, ag leagan síos fíis láidir agus cosán soiléir don aistear atá romhainn. Táimid ag tnúth leis an bPlean nua seo a roinnt in 2023 agus lena chur i bhfeidhm sna cúig bliana amach romhainn.

Tá an eagraíocht ag obair leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) chun tacú le dul chun cinn ar an ngníomh sonrath "Éire a shuíomh mar cheannaire idirnáisiúnta i dtaighde mara", atá in 'Impact 2030', taighde agus nuálaíocht náisiúnta nua na hÉireann. straitéis. Seoladh an straitéis seo le linn 2022.

Bhí áthas ar an Institiúid comhoibriú le daoine eile chun tuilleadh forbartha a dhéanamh ar fhorbairt straitéise nua náisiúnta um Thaighde agus Nuálaíocht mhara i mbliana, 'Ocean Knowledge 2030', a fhoilseofar in 2023.

Ba Príomhéacht eile i mbliana é obair an Fhorais le geallsealbhoirí aeráide (lena n-áirítear an DAFM, ranna rialtais eile agus údarás áitiúla) maidir le sainiú na seirbhísí aeráide a theastaíonn uathu don réimse muirí. Thacaigh Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise Aigéin agus comhghleacaithe ar fud na hInstitiúide leis an Rialtas maidir le tuairisciú ar Ghníomhaíochtaí Aeráide do 2022 agus foirmlíú na gcomhpháirteanna mara den Phlean Gníomhaíochta Aeráide 2023.

Agus an t-árthach taighde nua *Tom Crean* ag teacht i mbun seirbhíse in ionad an RV *Celtic Voyager* agus chun dul isteach san RV *Celtic Explorer*, ba am tráthúil a bhí ann machnamh a dhéanamh ar an am atá caite, ar an láthair agus ar an tothchaí d'árthaigh taighde mara na hÉireann, agus ar an méid a chuir siad le chéile. Léirigh sraith Oceans of Learning na hInstitiúide é seo trí bheochan físe nua, chomh maith le leabharlann acmhainní oideachais agus ábhar físe nua.

I mí Dheireadh Fómhair, ba mhór an onóir don Institiúid fáilte a chur roimh Uachtarán na hÉireann, Michael D. Higgins, agus Uachtarán na Portaingéile, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, ar chuairt ar an RV *Tom Crean* a bhí suite i gCé Sir John Rogerson i mBaile Átha Cliath. Áiríodh leis an gcuairt plé ar thógáil tuilleadh leis an gcomhoibriú láidir idir an dá thír maidir le taighde san Aigéan Atlantach.

I measc na n-éachtaí tábhachtacha eile de chuid na hInstitiúide le linn 2022 bhí ár dtacaíocht leanúnach d'fhorbairt an Chiste Eorpaigh Mhuirí, lascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe (2021-2027) agus ár gcuid oibre chun an Clár Ilbhliantúil um Bhailiú Sonraí (2021-2027) a fhorbairt le comhpháirtithe samplála náisiúnta Bord lascaigh Mhara agus lascach tíre Éireann.

Thacaigh an Foras freisin le forbairt an Chreata Náisiúnta um Pleanáil Mhuirí (NMPF) trí rannchuidiú le Pleanáil Spásúlachta Mhuirí a chur i bhfeidhm. Lean léarscáiliú ghrinneall na farraige de bheith ina príomhréimse seachadta seirbhíse don eagraíocht, le 4,164 km<sup>2</sup> de ghrinneall na farraige Ceilteach á léarscáiliú ag an Institiúid, le linn 81 lá soitheach ar bord na n-árthaí taighde, mar chuid den chlár INFOMAR.

Tá dea-chleachtas rialachais chorparáidigh agus bainistíocht airgeadais mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag oibríochtaí uile na hInstitiúide, agus coinníonn sí na Caighdeáin Rialachais is airde chun cloí le *Cód Cleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit* 2016.

Ba é 2022 an 18<sup>ú</sup> bliain as a chéile a raibh an deimhniú Feabhais Trí Dhaoine ag Foras na Mara faoi Chaighdeán ETP 1000:2017 an Údarás um Chaighdeáin Náisiúnta na hÉireann (NSAI), agus bhí deimhniú Platanam i rith 2022. Is léiriú é seo ar an luach a chuireann an eagraíocht ar a foireann, ar an gcaoi a gcomhoibríonn foirne agus ar an tionchar dearfach a bhaintear amach trí dhíriú ar ár ndaoine agus ar ár gcomh-rath.

D'fhorbraíomar Beartais Oibre Cumaiscthe agus sheolamar Clár Píolótach tar éis tréimhse comhairliúcháin. Chuireamar fáilte freisin roimh fhoilsiú chéad Phlean Comhionannais, Éagsúlachta & Chuimsithe na hInstitiúide (2021-2023), ag cur síos ar ár dtiomantas do chomhionannas inscne agus ag foilsiú méadrachtaí tábhachtacha gaolmhara. Sheachaid ár nGrúpa um Chomhionannas, Éagsúlacht agus Cuimsiú, clár de cheardlanna faisnéise agus oiliúna don fhoireann i rith na bliana.

Chuaigh an clár Oideachais do Thaiscéalaithe ó neart go neart le linn 2022, le seoladh modúl agus dámhachtainí nua *We Are Ocean Champions*, rannpháirtíocht níos mó ná 20 bunscoil i 14 contae cois cósta i dtionscadail Aigéin Shláintiúla, agus seachadadh breis agus 400 modúil chun gar do 13,000 leanbh i rith na bliana.

Ba mhaith liom an deis seo a thapú chun mo bhuíochas ó chroí a ghabháil leis an bPríomhfheidhmeannach, Paul Connolly, agus le foireann Foras na Mara as a dtiomantas don sármhaitheas agus as an méid a chuir siad le héachtaí uile an Fhorais in 2022.

*John Killeen*

**An Dr John Killeen**  
Cathaoirleach, Foras na Mara



# TUARASCÁIL AN PHRÍOMHFHEIDHMEANNAIGH

Agus iad ag obair le chéile, déanann foireann Fhoras na Mara a dícheall ár bhfís den eagraíocht a bhaint amach mar cheannaire domhanda maidir le heolas aigéin, ag tabhairt cumhachta d'Éirinn agus dá muintir saibhreas ár n-aigéin a chosaint agus leas a bhaint as.

Ní raibh an spiorad comhoibritheach seo níos soiléire ná mar a bhí sa chloch mhíle mhór a baineadh amach i mbliana, nuair a seoladh an t-árthach nua taighde mara náisiúnta, an RV *Tom Crean*. Tuairiscíodh inár dTuarascáil Bhliantúil 2018 gur chuir an Foras fáilte roimh an bhfógra go raibh tús á chur leis an tionscadal chun árthach nua a thógáil, le cur in ionad an RV *Celtic Voyager*, agus go raibh sé le cur ar farraige den chéad uair in 2022.

Tógadh an soitheach nua, go deimhin, agus seachadadh é de réir sceidil, agus de réir buiséid. Ba mhór an éacht é seo go háirithe nuair a thugann duine faoi deara gur tógadh go hiomlán é le linn thimpeallacht Covid-19 atá ag athrú i gcónaí agus a bhí dúshlánach.

Shroich an RV *Tom Crean* uiscí na hÉireann i mí Iúil agus chuir sé tús leis an tseirbhís an mhí chéanna, agus ba é suirbhé mapála ghrinneall na farraige INFOMAR a chéad suirbhé. Ar 6 Deireadh Fómhair, bhí an-áthas orainn searmanas coimisiúnaithe don árthach a óstáil i gCuan an Daingin, agus ar an lucht freastail bhí an tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, Charlie McConalogue TD, agus Aileen Crean O'Brien, gariníon *Tom Crean*. Ba chloch mhíle shuntasach a bhí sa lá nuair a cuireadh an t-árthach úrscothach seo leis an gcabhlach soithí náisiúnta taighde mara.

Tá ról ríthábhachtach ag Foras na Mara maidir le comhairle agus seirbhísí eolaíochta ar ardchaighdeán a sholáthar don Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) agus do ranna rialtais, gníomhaireachtaí agus geallsealbhóirí eile. Tacaíonn ár seirbhísí le raon gníomhaíochtaí tráchtála agus ceanglais reachtúla tábhachtacha trasna iascaigh, dobharshaothraithe, sábháilteacht bia, iompar muirí, athrú aeráide aigéin, comhlíonadh comhshaoil agus go leor eile.

Is iad na bloic thógála den iliomad seirbhísí a sholáthraíonn an Institiúid ná sonraí agus tá forbairt leanúnach ar sheirbhísí digiteacha comhtháite ag leanúint ar aghaidh, ag tógáil ar úsáid agus athúsáid sonraí muirí agus ag cumasú seirbhísí mara eolaíoch breise m.sh. i bpleanáil spásúlachta mara a fhorbairt don Rialtas.

Chuir Seirbhísí Comhairleacha Éiceachórais Iascaigh (FEAS) go leor seirbhísí ar fáil i mbliana, lena n-áirítear an ról ríthábhachtach atá ag tacú leis an DAFM le sonraí eolaíoch láidre agus le comhairle a bhaineann le stoic éisc agus iascaigh. Bhí sé seo soiléir go háirithe sa Stocleabhar bliantúil, a foilsíodh i mí na Samhna, agus a d'úsáid an Rialtas do Chomhairle mhí na Nollag.

D'oibrigh Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann (IMDO) chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar dhúshlán don tionscal muirí agus iad a shárú, trí obair chomhairleach na Roinne Iompair, gníomhaíochtaí forbartha gnó agus na tacaíochtaí a sholáthraíonn sí do thaighde, oideachas agus oiliúint.

Leanann foireann na Seirbhísí Corparáideacha ag tacú le agus ag cumasú obair ár bhfoirne eolaíochta agus taighde, ag cinntiú na gcaighdeán is airde de rialachais, d'airgeadais éifeachtach, de soláthair agus bainistíochta slabhra soláthair, ag tacú le folláine ár nDaoine, ag soláthar cumarsáid shoiléir agus ag éascú rannpháirtíocht leis an bpobal.

Bhí ról tacaíochta ríthábhachtach ag Seirbhísí Muirthimpeallachta agus Sábháilteachta Bia (MEFSS) d'obair na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara agus Ranna eile, lena bhfócas ar thacaíocht ardchaighdeán atá bunaithe ar eolaíocht chun an comhshaoil muirí a chosaint, monatóireacht agus comhairle a thabhairt maidir le ceanglais reachtáil mara don Rialtas, ag tacú le Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí a fhorbairt agus sábháilteacht bia mara tomhaltóirí a chosaint.

Lean Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise Aigéin (OCIS) ag cur raon leathan seirbhísí ar fáil i rith 2022, ag oibriú ar fud an tslabhra luacha sonraí muirí iomlán lena n-áirítear mapáil ghrinneall na farraige, seirbhísí aigéaneolaíochta agus aeráide, seirbhísí digiteacha, seirbhísí bonneagair agus Oibríochtaí RV leis an RV *Celtic Explorer*, RV *Celtic Voyager* agus RV *Tom Crean* ag comhlánú 12 suirbhé a rinneadh ar RV *Celtic Explorer*, 13 suirbhé ar RV *Celtic Voyager* agus 17 arc RV *Tom Crean*.

Bhí ról lárnach ag Seirbhísí Beartais, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde (PIRS) i mbainistiú ról ilchiseal Fhoras na Mara maidir le Taighde & Nuálaíocht. In 2022, bhainistigh an Oifig um Maoiniú Taighde €7.6 milliún in infheistíochtaí taighde nua a dámhadh faoin gClár Taighde Mara: €4.7 milliún le haghaidh am loinge agus €2.9 milliún ar thionscadail taighde.

Ba éacht suntasach i mbliana é an deonachán a chuir an Institiúid le hóstáil Chomhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta ICES ag Staidiam AVIVA i mBaile Átha Cliath. Ba í an chéad chomhdháil phearsanta ICES le trí bliana, le 500 duine i láthair chomh maith le 150 duine i láthair ar líne. Ghlac foireann Fhoras na Mara páirt san imeacht rathúil, agus chuir siad leis, ar ar fhreastail eolaithe mara mór le rá ar fud an domhain, ag roinnt na heolaíochta ceannródaí is déanaí a thacaíonn le húsáid inbhuanaithe ár n-aigéan.

Léiríonn raon agus cáilíocht na ngníomhaíochtaí atá sa Tuarascáil Bhliantúil seo go soiléir an ról ríthábhachtach atá ag an bhForas maidir le comhairle eolaíoch a sholáthar don Rialtas agus do gníomhaireachtaí, agus maidir le maoiniú a chomhordú, taighde mara a chur chun cinn agus a chur i bhfeidhm in Éirinn agus go hidirnáisiúnta, le comhpháirtithe.

Léiríonn an Tuarascáil seo freisin na héachtaí suntasacha atá déanta ag an Institiúid le bliain anuas, agus an tionchar atá acu sin ar dhaoine, ar bheartas agus ar phláinéid.

Gabhaimid buíochas lenár gcomhpháirtithe agus geallsealbhóirí go léir as a gcomhoibriú i rith na bliana. Gabhaim buíochas ó chroí le foireann Fhoras na Mara go léir as a gcaighdeán ard leanúnach i seachadadh seirbhíse agus leis an mBord as a ndíograis agus a dtiomantas chun na caighdeán is airde rialachais chorparáidigh a choinneáil agus as a dtacaíocht dár gcuid oibre.



An Dr Paul Connolly  
Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin, Foras na Mara



# AN BHLIAIN INA ATHBHREITHNIÚ

Pictiúr de 2022 i bhForas na Mara



**€7.6  
MILLIÚN**

Méid na n-infheistíochtaí taighde nua a dámhadh faoi Chlár Taighde Mara na hInstitiúide, lena n-áirítear €4.7 milliún le haghaidh am loinge agus €2.9 milliún do ghníomhaíochtaí taighde agus nuálaíochta.

**RINNE  
FORAS NA  
MARA 4,164KM<sup>2</sup>**

Réimse ghrinneall na farraige arna léarscáiliú sa Mhuir Cheilteach ag Foras na Mara mar chuid de chlár INFOMAR, a rinneadh i gcomhpháirtíocht le Geological Survey Ireland.

**13,000**

Ghlac leanaí i 14 contae cois cósta páirt i gClár Oideachais na dTaiscéalaithe (a sheachaid níos mó ná 400 modúl in 2022).

**33.4%**

Coigilt fuinnimh déanta ag ceanncheathrú na hInstitiúide in Órán Mór, Gaillimh, ó tháinig sí isteach in Optimising Power @ Work in 2015.

**571**

Laethanta suirbhéireachta a rinne na soithí taighde *Celtic Explorer*, *Celtic Voyager* agus *Tom Crean le chéile* in 2022.

**12**

Longbhriseadh amach ón gcósta sa Mhuir Cheilteach mar chuid d'oibríochtaí suirbhéireachta INFOMAR.

**25**

An líon blianta a bhí an RV *Celtic Voyager* inseirbhíse ag Foras na Mara, ag tosú i mí Iúil 1997 agus ag dul ar scor i mí Iúil 2022.

**Rinneadh  
anailís ar  
3,715**

Rinneadh anailís ar shamplaí do shláinte éisc chun críocha faireachais agus diagnóise. Thacaigh an tástáil seo le hardshláinte na hÉireann in 2022.

**Tomhaiseadh  
542,000**

Tomhaiseadh iasc agus sliogéisc le linn chlár EUMAP 2022 agus bailíodh sonraí aoise ó bheagnach 51,000 duine ar fud na gclár samplála speiceas tráchtála go léir.

**€2.63  
MILLIÚN**

Luach na n-iarratas ar mhaoiniú Horizon Europe a bronnadh go rathúil ar an Institiúid in 2022 (seisear mar iarratasóir aonair agus dhá cheann eile mar thríú páirtí).

# RÁITIS NA STIÚRTHÓIRÍ

## Seirbhísí corparáideacha

Le linn 2022, chuir ár bhfoireann Seirbhísí Corparáideacha seirbhísí Rialachais, Acmhainní Daonna, Airgeadais, Áiseanna, Soláthar, Leabharlainne, Cosanta Sonraí agus Cumarsáide ar fáil don Institiúid. Cumasaíonn agus tacaíonn rannpháirtíocht na foirne lenár gcomhghleacaithe ina soláthar eolaíoch, taighde, polasáí agus seirbhísí eile. Leanann sé freisin de bheith mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag ár Struchtúir Rialachais agus cumasóirí straitéiseacha Ár nDaoine, Rannpháirtíocht agus Oideachas, agus Bonneagar.

### I measc bhuaicphointí 2022 tá:

- Leanamar lenár dtiomantas d'earcú, coinneáil agus forbairt tallainne, ag tacú le cultúr ardfeidhmíochta, á thiomáint ag ár nDaoine, a bhfuil a scileanna, a n-eispéireas agus a paisean don mhuir lánach don obair a dhéanaimid don Rialtas agus do pháirtithe leasmhara eile.
- Choinnigh an Institiúid deimhniú platanam ón Údarás um Chaighdeán Náisiúnta na hÉireann (NSAI) i gcoinne Feabhas trí Dhaoine (ETP) 1000:2017 (scéim náisiúnta um bainistíocht acmhainní daonna). Aithníonn an deimhniú platanam seo infheistíocht agus tiomantas na hInstitiúide inár bhfoirne agus próisis bhainistíochta daoine, agus léiríonn sé an méid a chuireann gach bainisteoir agus foireann leis.
- D'fhorbair agus d'éascaigh ár bhfoireann Acmhainní Daonna seoladh ár bPolasáithe Oibre Cumaisc agus Píolótach tar éis tréimhse forbartha beartais agus comhairliúcháin. Cuidíonn an beartas seo le timpeallacht oibre a mheallann, a thacaíonn agus a choinníonn lucht saothair lúfar ardfeidhmíochta.
- D'fhoilsíomar ár bPlean um Chomhionannas, Éagsúlacht agus Cuimsiú 2021-2023, a chuimsíonn ár dtiomantas do Chomhionannas Inscne agus foilsíú méadracht thábhachtach a bhaineann leo.
- Tá ár n-oibríochtaí go léir fós mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag rialachas corparáideach dea-chleachtais agus bainistíocht airgeadais. Leanaimid de na Caighdeáin Rialachais is airde a choinneáil chun cloí le *Cód Cleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit 2016*. Níor thuairiscigh ár gclár bliantúil iniúchtaí inmheánacha agus seachtracha aon torthaí ardriosca. Gabhaimid buíochas le comhaltaí an Choiste Iniúchta & Riosca agus leis an mBord as a maoirseacht agus a dtacaíocht sa réimse seo.

- Thacaigh go leor dár bhfoireann le comhghleacaithe le soláthar, tógáil agus seachadadh an áthaigh nua taighde mara náisiúnta, an RV *Tom Crean*. Is garspíoc shuntasach é seo i stair na hInstitiúide agus tá áthas orainn gur chuidigh sé le maoirseacht airgeadais, rialachais agus dlúthiúil ar an tógáil rathúil.
- Lean ár bhfoireann cumarsáide ag cur an tsochaí ar an eolas faoi luach acmhainn mara na hÉireann, tábhacht ár n-aigéin agus obair Fhoras na Mara. Tugadh suntas ar leith do na hiarrachtaí cumarsáide maidir le seachadadh agus coimisiúnú an RV *Tom Crean* agus óstáil Chomhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta ICES.
- Chuireamar ár gcéad Treochlár um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide le chéile in 2022. Imlíonann sé seo an chaoi a n-oibreoidh an Foras i dtreo na spriocanna nua maidir le laghdú ar úsáid fuinnimh (50%) agus laghdú ar Ghás Tithe Glas (51%), mar atá leagtha amach sa Phean Gníomhaíochta Aeráide 2021. Imlíonann an treochlár ár bpláiné tionscadail, lena n-áirítear aistriú go teicneolaíochtaí in-athnuaite agus bearta laghdaithe fuinnimh eile atá le cur i bhfeidhm idir 2023 agus 2030.



Gabhaim buíochas le mo chomhghleacaithe go léir sna Seirbhísí Corparáideacha as a dtiomantas agus a seachadadh saineolach le linn 2022 agus iad ag léiriú croíluchanna na hInstitiúide, mar atá tiomantas, ionracas, sármhaitheas, nuálaíocht, comhoibriú agus meas.

Is mór againn tacaíocht ár gcomhghleacaithe, ár gcomhpháirtithe agus ár ngeallsealbhóirí agus táimid ag tnúth le rathúlacht leanúnach in 2023.

**Patricia Orme**  
Stiúrthóir, Seirbhísí Corparáideacha

## Seirbhísí Beartais, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde (PIRS)

Is gníomhaí taighde agus maoinitheoir taighde é Foras na Mara agus, ina theannta sin, tá sé freagrach as taighde agus nuálaíocht mara náisiúnta (T&N) a chomhordú agus as tacú le taighdeoirí atá bunaithe in Éirinn rath a bhaint amach i gclár idirnáisiúnta.

Soláthraíonn Seirbhísí Beartais, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde (PIRS) raon feidhmeanna riaracháin, comhordaithe agus tacaíochta atá mar bhonn agus thaca ag an ról ilshraitheach seo atá ag an Institiúid maidir le T&N. Áirítear ar obair PIRS freisin raon leathan feidhmeanna tacaíochta beartais.

Áirítear orthu sin seirbhísí sonraí socheacnamaíochta agus fianaise a sholáthar chun tacú le beartas agus pleanáil mhuirí comhtháite, chomh maith le bheith ag obair i gcomhpháirtíocht le Fiontraíocht Éireann ar chur chun cinn 'Muirí Éireann' trí Líonra Thionscal Mhuirí Éireann (MIIN).

### I measc bhuaicphointí 2022 tá:

- Dámhadh comhchistiú taighde €11.7 milliún ar thaighdeoirí na hInstitiúide faoin gclár Fís 2020 a tháinig chun críche in 2021, rud a sháraigh an bunspríoc de €8 milliún a socraíodh ag tús an chláir.
- Riar ár gclár maoinithe taighde mara iomaíoch, arna bhainistiú ag an Oifig um Mhaoiniú Taighde, €7.6 milliún in infheistíochtaí taighde nua in 2022. Áiríodh leis sin €4.7 milliún le haghaidh am loinge ar na soithí taighde agus ar an bhfeithicil a oibrítear go cianda; agus €2.9 milliún ar thionscadail taighde. Bhronn an clár long-ama 27 dámhachtain, ag tacú le 265 lá taighde comhcheangailte ar muir ar an RV *Celtic Explorer*, RV *Celtic Voyager* agus RV *Tom Crean*.
- Tionscnaíodh ceithre chomhaltacht iardhochtúireachta le maoiniú ceadaithe iomlán de €1.6 milliún, sé Scoláireacht Cullen (infheistíocht iomlán de €550,000) agus dhá infheistíocht nua cómhaoinithe ag an AE atá nasctha leis an Blue Bio ERA-Net agus glaoc JPI Oceans ar thorann faoi uisce sa timpeallacht mhuirí in 2022.
- Seoladh Impact 2030, straitéis nua náisiúnta taighde agus nuálaíochta na hÉireann, le linn 2022. Áiríonn sé gníomh sonrath "chun Éire a shuíomh mar cheannaire idirnáisiúnta i dtaighde mara". Oibreoidh an Foras leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) chun tacú le dul chun cinn faoin mbeart sonrath Tionchar 2030 seo agus le cinn eile atá ábhartha.

- I mí an Mheithimh, seoladh an clár Ár nAigéin Roinnte go foirmiúil ag ócáid ar bord soitheach cabhlaigh na hÉireann, an *George Bernard Shaw*. Le maoiniú de €3.8 milliún curtha ar fáil ag an Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha, is clár nua spreagúil é seo atá á bhainistiú ag an Institiúid agus a chothaíonn comhar idir taighdeoirí Éireannacha agus taighdeoirí atá lonnaithe i Stáit Forbraíochta na nOileán Beag (SIDS) chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar dhúshlán rithábachtacha aeráide agus aigéin atá os comhair SIDS in áiteanna éagsúla ar fud an domhain.
- Ba Príomhghnóthachtáil in 2022 é Plean Comhionannais Inscne a fhorbairt agus a thabhairt chun críche don eagraíocht. Cinnteoidh an plean, mar eagraíocht taighde, go ndéanaimid peirspictíochtaí inscne a chomhtháthú thar ár gclár taighde ar fad agus go ndéanfaimid iarracht ghníomhach comhionannais inscne agus comhdheiseanna a bhaint amach do gach príomhimscrúdaitheoir, ceannairí eolaíochta, taighdeoirí agus mic léinn.
- D'éirigh leis an Institiúid sé iarratas ar mhaoiniú Horizon Europe agus dhá cheann eile mar thríú páirtí. Is ionann luach iomlán na dámhachtain in 2022 €2.63 milliún.
- Le tacaíocht ónár mBainisteoir Clár Idirnáisiúnta, bhain Éire leibhéal ard ratha amach i dtaighde mara iomaíoch náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta. Ag deireadh na bliana 2022, bronnadh €27.8 milliún san iomlán ar thaighdeoirí atá bunaithe in Éirinn le haghaidh rannpháirtíochta i dtionscadail taighde mara ar fud gach cuid de chlár Horizon Europe an AE.
- Formheasadh an Chomhpháirtíochta maidir leis an nGeilleagar Gorm Inbhuanaithe (SBEP) de chuid Fís Eorpach le haghaidh cistiúcháin agus cuireadh tús foirmiúil léi i mí Mheán Fómhair 2022. Is comhar é SBEP idir 60 comhpháirtí lena n-áirítear maoinitheoirí taighde náisiúnta ó 25 tír Eorpach agus an Coimisiún Eorpach le maoiniú de €450 milliún geallta thar chlár seacht mbliana (2022-2028).
- Lean PIRS de ról ceannaireachta a ghlacadh i bpríomhlíonraí eolaíochta mara idirnáisiúnta lena n-áirítear an Bord Muirí Eorpach agus JPI Oceans. In 2022, bhí Foras na Mara i gceannas ar ghníomhaíocht taighde idirnáisiúnta ar Charbón Gorm a bhunú trí Aigéin JPI. Tá suim shuntasach á tarraingt aige seo agus ba cheart é a aistriú ón gcéim scoipe go dtí an cur i bhfeidhm in 2023.
- D'eagraigh ár nOifig Mhaoiniúcháin dhá shiompóisiam den scoth a thug le chéile comhaltaí iardhochtúireachta arna maoiniú ag Foras na Mara agus scoláirí iarchéime Cullen agus Eoin Sweeney faoi seach chun a gcuid taighde a chur i láthair agus chun comhtháthú agus comhoibriú idirdhisciplíneach a chothú.

- Rinneadh tuilleadh dul chun cinn in 2022 ar straitéis nua T&N muirí a fhorbairt freisin. Tabharfar 'Ocean Knowledge 2030' ar an straitéis nua agus foilseofar í in 2023.
- Tar éis dhá eacnamaí tiomnaithe a earcú san fhoireann tacaíochta beartais ag deireadh 2021, d'oibrigh PIRS go dlúth le taighdeoirí Ollscoil na Gaillimhe chun Tuarascáil Geilleagar Aigéin na hÉireann a sheachadadh i mí na Nollag. Cheadaigh an chomhpháirtíocht straitéiseach atá ag an bhForas le saineolaithe san Aonad Socheacnamaíoch Taighde Mara (SEMRU) san Ollscoil don Institiúid eolas agus scileanna breise a fhorbairt de réir Straitéis Fhoras na Mara (Réimse Fócais Straitéiseach 4, Geilleagar Aigéin na hÉireann).
- Lean PIRS ar aghaidh ag soláthar ceannaireachta agus tacaíochta don earnáil náisiúnta bithghilleagar gorm, lena n-áirítear trí ionadaíocht ar fhórais mar an Grúpa Forfheidhmithe Bithghilleagair, feachtas agus líonrú a ardú trí oideachas agus rannpháirtíocht, ionchur a sholáthar don Phlean Gníomhaíochta Bithghilleagair, agus maoiniú tríd an BlueBio Cofund.

Bliain an-ghnóthach agus táirgiúil a bhí in 2022 do réimse seirbhíse PIRS. Toisc gurb í seo an bhliain deiridh de Phlean Straitéiseach Fhoras na Mara 2018-2022, tá a spriocanna taighde bainte amach agus sáráithe ag an bhForas agus tá ról ríthábhachtach aici i gcónaí maidir le taighde mara na hÉireann a sheachadadh, a chomhordú agus a chur chun cinn ag an leibhéal náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta araon.

Táim thar a bheith buíoch de mo chomhghleacaithe ar fad i réimse seirbhíse PIRS agus ar fud na heagraíochta a leanann ar aghaidh ag léiriú dúthacht agus nuálaíochta iontach maidir le príomhspríocanna straitéiseacha a sheachadadh d'Fhoras na Mara agus d'Éirinn maidir le taighde mara & nuálaíocht.

#### An Dr. Niall McDonough

Stiúrthóir - Seirbhísí Beartais, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde

## Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Mhuirí agus Sábháilteachta Bia (MEFSS)

Chuimsigh seachadadh seirbhísí eolaíoch a chun freastal ar riachtanais ár mórchlíant agus ár ngeallsealbhoirí an phríomhghné den chlár oibre um Chomhshaoil Muirí agus Sábháilteacht Bia (MEFSS) in 2022. Tá fócas na rannóige ar thacaíocht ardchaighdeán bunaithe ar eolaíocht a sholáthar chun an comhshaoil muirí a chosaint, monatóireacht agus comhairle a thabhairt ar cheanglais reachtaíochta mara don Rialtas, agus sábháilteacht bhia mara tomhaltóirí a chosaint a chinntiú.

In 2022, chuir an fhoireann clár iomlán seirbhísí i gcrích, ag obair in éineacht lenár gcomhghleacaithe san Institiúid. Is comhpháirteanna ríthábhachtacha iad na seirbhísí agus an chomhairle i seachadadh Réimse Fócais Straitéiseach 1 (Comhairle Eolaíoch agus Seirbhísí), ach cuireann ár gcuid oibre i MEFSS leis na Réimsí Fócais Straitéiseacha agus Cumasóirí eile freisin.

Comhlíonann MEFSS sraith ról eolaíoch i reachtaíocht agus oibleagáid náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta, chomh maith le seirbhísí comhairleacha a sholáthar chun tacú le forbairt inbhuanaithe agus bainistiú an chomhshaoil mhuirí.

#### Bhí na feidhmeanna seo i measc na bpríomhfeidhmeanna i MEFSS le linn 2022:

- Anailís saotharlainne a dhéanamh a thacaíonn le cur i bhfeidhm na gclár náisiúnta um Fhaireachán ar Bhláth Algach agus ar an gcomhshaoil, ar Shábháilteacht Bia Mara agus ar Bhláth Algach Díobháilach agus ar chlár mhonatóireachta ar shláinte ainmhithe.
- ag glacadh go díreach agus ag comhoibriú le gníomhaireachtaí eile chun samplaí a fháil chun tacú leis na hanailísí seo.
- Léiriú agus comhairle a thabhairt don rialtas agus dá ghníomhaireachtaí ar thorthaí na gclár monatóireachta sin agus bearta cuí a mholadh.
- Comhairle a thabhairt don Rialtas go ginearálta maidir le saincheisteanna a bhaineann leis an gcomhshaoil muirí agus sábháilteacht bia, agus comhairle chun tacú le cinntí ceadúnaithe urthrá agus do bharshaothraithe.
- Tuarascálacha Measúnaithe Cuí a ullmhú don Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) maidir le ceadúnú gníomhaíochtaí Dobharshaothraithe ar láithreáin Natura 2000
- Ag Tacú le hearnáil bia mara na hÉireann trí chomhairle dhíreach a thabhairt do ghníomhaireachtaí tionscail agus

forbartha, agus a chinntiú go mbaianeann onnmhairí bia mara na hÉireann leas as caighdeán sábháilteachta bia den scoth agus dintiúir cosanta comhshaoil.

- Taighde spriocdhírthe agus feidhmeach a dhéanamh chun tacú leis na gníomhaíochtaí thuas.
- Comhpháirt bia mara den Chlár Náisiúnta Rialaithe Iarmhar chuig an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM).
- Cigireachtaí agus monatóireacht ar ghluaiseachtaí stoc éisc agus sliogéisc mar a cheanglaítear faoi Dhlí an AE um Shláinte Ainmhithe.
- Gnéithe den chlár faireacháin um Chreat-Treoir Náisiúnta Uisce 2016-2021 maidir le hUisc Idirthréimhseacha agus Cósta a thabhairt chun críche.
- Seachadadh garspríocanna ríthábhachtacha na Creat-Treorach Straitéise Muirí agus monatóireacht ar Athrú Aeráide Mhuirí.
- Gníomhaíochtaí agus táirgí insoláthartha faoi choinbhinsiún OSPAR, measúnú ar thionchair substaintí guaiseacha, eotrófú, aigéadú aigéin agus gníomhaíochtaí daonna san Atlantach Thoir Thuaidh le rannchuidiú le Tuarascáil Stádas Cáilíochta OSPAR 2023.
- Tacaíocht don Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht (DHLGH) chun an Creat Pleanála Mara Náisiúnta a chur i bhfeidhm.
- Leanadh den phleanáil do ghníomhaíochtaí faoi Scéim nua EMFAF 2023-2027 um Eolas Muirí in 2023.
- Creidiúnú cáilíochta ar fud ár bhfeidhmeanna comhairleacha agus saotharlainne.

In 2022, lean MEFSS le ról tacaíochta láidir a bheith aige d'obair na Roinne i go leor réimsí, go háirithe maidir le sábháilteacht sliogéisc, áit a gcinntíonn monatóireacht leanúnach ar cháilíocht bhíotocsaíne agus mhicribhitheolaíochta ardchaighdeán sliogéisc na hÉireann atá ar fáil i margaí náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta.

I rith 2022, rinneadh anailís ar thart ar 5,150 sampla sliogéisc ó tháirgeadh do bharshaothraithe aicmithe agus limistéir dreidireachta amach ón gcósta le haghaidh anailíse bítocsaíní mara agus E. coli, agus freisin trí chlár mhonatóireachta taighde saotharlainne le haghaidh anailíse Noraivíris.

Rinneadh anailís ar 3,330 sampla uisce le haghaidh láithreach na speiceas féiteaplanctóin faoi bhláth algach a tháirgeann tocsainí cúiseach. Cinntíonn an méid anailíse seo na leibhéil is airde sábháilteachta bia, comhlíonadh na gceanglas reachtaíochta agus tacaíonn sé le tionscal do bharshaothraithe na hÉireann.

Soláthraíodh tacaíochtaí eile de chuid DAFM maidir le cigireachtaí faireachais sláinte ainmhithe uisceacha ar bhunaíochtaí faofa sliogéisc agus éisc, agus údarú ar bhreis is 2,000 gluaiseacht ainmhithe do bharshaothraithe chun críocho allmhairithe, onnmhairithe agus inmheánacha.

Rinneadh anailís ar 3,715 sampla do shláinte éisc chun críocho faireachais agus diagnóise. Thacaigh an tástáil seo le hardshláinte na hÉireann in 2022 agus níor taifeadadh aon ghalair atá liostaithe mar infhógartha i Rialachán an AE i rith na bliana. Bailíodh 132 sampla iasc saothraithe le tástáil le haghaidh raon leathan iarmhar ceimiceach faoin bPlean Náisiúnta Rialaithe Iarmhar 2022.

Bailíodh 1,258 sampla le linn 345 imeacht samplála ón gCreat-Treoir Uisce in uiscí Trasdultacha agus Cósta a raibh c. 6,800 tomhas ceimice uisce. Thacaigh thart ar 6,000 tomhas d'ábhar salaithe comhshaoil i mbiotáil le riachtanais éagsúla monatóireachta comhshaoil agus sábháilteachta bia.

Rinneadh an Suirbhé Ildisciplíneach Timpeallachta Geimhridh dá 12ú bliain as a chéile. Cuimsíonn an suirbhé sampláil do bharshaothraithe amach ón gcósta agus cósta timpeall chósta na hÉireann do raon paraiméadair cheimiceacha agus bhitheolaíochta.

I rith 2022, leanamar ar aghaidh ag cur comhairle eolaíoch ar fáil don Rialtas agus don tionscal ar cheadúnú mara le haghaidh gníomhaíochtaí amháil do bharshaothráir, urthrá agus ola agus gás amach ón gcósta. Ag cloí leis na Rialacháin um Éin & Gnáthóga, glacaimid páirt ghníomhach sa Mheasúnú Cuí ar thionchair gníomhaíochtaí do bharshaothraithe ar láithreáin Natura 2000 trí thuarascálacha tacaíochta a ullmhú agus trí iarratais a mheas.

Chuireamar ionchur ar fáil freisin maidir le scagadh na n-iarratas chun a chinneadh an bhfuil Ráiteas Tionchair Timpeallachta ag teastáil. In 2022, cuireadh méid suntasach tuairim eolaíoch oibiachtúil ar fáil ar shaincheisteanna comhshaoil ábhartha a bhaineann le hiarratais ar cheadúnais do bharshaothraithe, go háirithe ceadúnú bradán, mar chuid dár sainchúram comhairleach don DAFM.

Aithnítear cúnaimh na hInstitiúide chun tacú leis na próis phleanála mhuirí nua a chur i bhfeidhm mar shampla iontach d'obair foirne tras-Rialtais, agus tá infhaighteacht sonraí muirí ina phríomhchumasóir do chinnteoireacht pleanála muirí.

Ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas a chur in iúl d'fhoireann MEFSS a chuir leis an gcomhiarracht seo trí thiomantas agus ardchaighdeán leanúnach seachadta seirbhíse, agus chuig mo chomhghleacaithe ar fud na hInstitiúide agus ár bpáirtithe leasmhara go léir as a gcomhoibriú, a gcomhoibriú agus a inspioráid chun na caighdeán is airde a choinneáil.

#### An tUasal Joe Silke

Stiúrthóir - Seirbhísí Muirthimpeallachta agus Sábháilteachta Bia

## Seirbhísí Comhairleacha maidir le hÉiceachórais lascaigh (FEAS)

Soláthraíonn foireann Sheirbhísí Comhairleacha Éiceachórais lascaigh (FEAS) an chomhairle eolaíoch a thacaíonn le bainistiú inbhuanaithe ár beo-acmhainní mara. Tacaíonn an tseirbhís seo le hearnáil Bhia Mara na hÉireann, arbh fhiú breis agus €1.3 billiún in 2022 do gheilleagar na hÉireann.r.

Is í an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) an príomhchliant dár gcomhairle agus is é an Príomh-mheicníocht seachadta ná an Stocleabhar agus an Stoc Sliogéisc, a seachadadh chuig an Roinn Talmhaíochta agus Bia le linn 2022. Seoladh feidhmchlár idirghníomhach gréasán-bhunaithe an Stocleabhar i mí na Samhna in éineacht leis na leaganacha traidisiúnta clóite agus leictreonacha. Is comhpháirteanna ríthábhachtacha iad na seirbhísí comhairleacha seo ó Fhoras na Mara i seachadadh Réimse Fócais Straitéiseach 1 de Phlean Straitéiseach Fhoras na Mara.

In 2022, réitíodh na srianta arna bhforchur ag Covid-19 sa dara leath den bhliain agus cé gur leanadh de shrianta ar rochtain ar ghabhálacha éisc, maolaíodh iad seo den chuid is mó trí chomhoibriú dlúth leis na hearnálacha tionscail agus próiseála agus le seiftiúlacht an foirne FEAS. De réir mar a bhog rudaí go dtí an gnáthchruinnithe hibrideacha agus bealaí nua gnó a dhéanamh i rith na bliana, lean FEAS ar aghaidh ag tabhairt tacaíochta do DAFM ar bhealach gan bhriseadh, ag nuálaíocht go leanúnach ar bhealaí chun tacair sonraí casta a chomhtháthú agus a chur i láthair i seachadadh comhairle eolaíoch ar chinneadh. lucht déanta.

### I measc bhuaicphointí 2022 tá:

- Mhéadaigh na gníomhaíochtaí riachtanacha samplála le 542,000 iasc agus sliogéisc tomhaiste le linn 2022 agus freagraíodh os cionn 30 glao sonraí faoin gClár Ilbhliantúil um Bhailiú Sonraí (DCMAP).
- D'oibrigh an Foras go dlúth le Bord lascaigh Mhara (BIM) le linn 2022 chun tacú leis an DAFM i bhforbairt pheannanna an Chiste Eorpaigh Mhuirí, lascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe (EMFAF). Tháinig an obair seo chun críche i mí na Nollag, nuair a glacadh le Clár Oibriúcháin EMFAF 2022-2027 a mhaoineoidh go leor d'obair farraige, bhithéagsúlacht agus iascaigh na hInstitiúide go ceann cúig bliana.
- Is cuid an-tábhachtach den phróiseas comhairleach eolaíoch é dul i ngleic le geallsealbhóirí. Lean Comhpháirtíocht Taighde Eolaíochta lascaigh na hÉireann (IFSRP) ar aghaidh in 2022, agus d'oibrigh FEAS tríd an bhfóram seo chun ár n-éifeachtacht samplála farraige a fheabhsú.

- Lean FEAS le tionchar Fhoras na Mara a ghairáil ar an leibhéal idirnáisiúnta tríd an gComhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Shaothrú na Mara (ICES). Tá ról ceannaireachta feiceálach ag FEAS in ICES agus bhí tionchar suntasach aige ar an gcaoi a bhfuil an eagraíocht seo ag dul i ngleic le saincheisteanna tábhachtacha d'Éirinn amhail cáilíocht agus comhsheasmhacht na comhairle eolaíche.
- In 2022, bhí FEAS ina chathaoirleach ar 13 ghrúpa oibre éagsúla agus ar dhá cheann de na seacht ngrúpa stiúrtha ICES. I mí Iúil, ceapadh saineolaí FEAS ar an gCoiste Eolaíoch, Teicniúil agus Eacnamaíoch um Iascach (STECF) nua-athdhéanta. Ba é seo an chéad uair a raibh ionadaíocht ag Foras na Mara ar an gcoiste ó 2015 i leith.
- Tá taighde nuálaíoch ríthábhachtach chun seirbhísí comhairleacha eolaíochta na hInstitiúide a "phromhadh don todhchaí". Bhí bliain an-rathúil ag FEAS maidir le maoiniú taighde a fháil, agus d'éirigh leis i dtír mhórghlao de chuid Horizon Europe. Léiríonn na tionscadail taighde seo próifíl mhéadaithe agus gnéithe níos leithne obair Fhoras na Mara, ag clúdach réimsí mar éifeachtaí carnacha éiceachórais, Limistéir Chosanta Mhuirí, agus tuiscint charbóin san aigéan ag baint úsáide as samhltú éiceachórais.
- Leanadh le hinfheistíocht shuntasach i saoráid taighde an Phoirt Nua, agus tá saineolaithe as Baile Uí Fhiacháin ag gabháil do ghrúpaí maoirseachta teicniúla anois le haghaidh taighde agus measúnuithe diadromacha náisiúnta, póru faoi chuing na ndiúilicíní péarla atá i mbaol. Bhí foilseacháin cheannródaíochta ó thaighde fadtéarmach ar ghéineolaíocht Salmonid, agus breathnuithe comhshaoil dohbharcheantair.

Baineadh amach freastal ar riachtanais lucht déanta cinntí in 2022, trí phunann leathan de chláir chomhairleacha eolaíochta, trí obair foirne iontach laistigh de FEAS agus laistigh d'Fhoras na Mara i gcoitinne.

Chinntigh ár ndlúthchaidreamh oibre le comhghleacaithe in OCIS (Bonneagar; Oibríochtaí Árthaí Taighde; Sonraí), PIRS (Tacaíocht Maoinithe Taighde), MEFSS (MSFD; NATURA, Dobharshaothrú) agus Seirbhísí Corparáideacha (Daoine; Airgeadas; Soláthar) seirbhís eolaíoch ar ardchaighdeán dár bpríomhchliant (DAFM) agus custaiméir sásta.

### Dr Ciaran Kelly

Stiúrthóir - Seirbhísí Comhairleacha Éiceachórais lascaigh

## Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise na nAigéan (OCIS)

Agus dúshlán leanúnach á gcur i bhfeidhm ag an bpaindéim Covid-19 agus dúshlán eile cruthaithe trí mhéaduithe suntasacha ar chostais bhreosla agus fuinnimh, lean Seirbhísí um Aeráid agus Faisnéise Aigéin (OCIS) ag soláthar seirbhísí ardchaighdeán bunaithe ar eolaíocht do raon leathan cliant inmheánach, náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta agus páirtithe leasmhara, agus go háirithe an Rialtas.

Rinneadh dul chun cinn ar leith maidir le seachadadh an RV *Tom Crean* agus é ag seachadadh sceideal oibríochta iomlán do dhá shoitheach i rith na bliana, neartú agus comhdhlúthú gníomhaíochtaí bonneagair breathnadóireachta na mara agus fócas níos airde ar chomhtháthú sonraí agus ar sheachadadh seirbhísí digiteacha a bhfuil Creat Bainistíochta Cáilíochta creidiúnaithe go hidirnáisiúnta mar thaca aige.

Ghlac foireann OCIS páirt i raon leathan de chláir inmheánacha, náisiúnta, Eorpacha agus idirnáisiúnta agus bhí siad gníomhach ar fud líon suntasach tionscadal arna maoiniú ag an AE, ailínithe le tosaíochtaí straitéiseacha na hInstitiúide.

### Ar bhuaicphointí suntasacha in 2022 bhí:

- Críochnaíodh tógáil agus seachadadh an RV *Tom Crean*, in am agus de réir buiséid, i mí Iúil, agus cuireadh tús lena sheirbhís don Institiúid go déanach i mí Iúil.
- Tar éis 20 bliain an-ghnóthach de ghníomhaíocht suirbhéireachta, rinne an RV *Celtic Explorer* roinnt suirbhéanna innealtóireachta agus rinneadh a phríomh-mhótar tiomána a bhaint, a athchóiriú agus a athshuiteáil.
- Scor an RV *Celtic Voyager* agus críochnaíodh suirbhéanna rathúla chomh fada lena lá scoir, a thit i mí Iúil 2022, díreach 25 bliain tar éis a chéad suirbhé i mí Iúil 1997.
- Idir na trí ártach, críochnaíodh 571 lá suirbhé san iomlán agus 12 suirbhé san iomlán ar *Celtic Explorer*, 13 suirbhé ar *Celtic Voyager*, 17 ar *Tom Crean* agus ar an ROV *Holland I* dhá shuirbhé taighde.
- Chríochnaigh an *Celtic Explorer* suirbhé dúshlánach i Muir Labrador san Earrach agus suirbhé ROV san Ard-Artach i mí Lúnasa/Meán Fómhair ar son chlár MAREANO na hIorua.
- Mapáil Seirbhísí Mapála Casta (AMS) 4,164 km<sup>2</sup> de ghlinneall na Mara Ceiltí le linn 81 lá soitheach ar bord na dtír soitheach, mar chuid de chlár INFOMAR. Chuimsigh sé seo éadail 12,155 km (ciliméadar líne suirbhé) de shonraí ilbhéis, imscrúdú ar 12 longbhriseadh, agus éadail 53 sampla de ghlinneall na farraige.

- Lean AMS ag seachadadh raon deiseanna breisluacha a bhaineann le héilimh úsáideoirí, margáí tráchtála agus foinsí maoinithe seachtracha, ag tacú le cur i bhfeidhm straitéis Fhoras na Mara. Áiríodh leis sin ceannaireacht a dhéanamh ar phacáiste oibre Misean an Atlantaigh H2020 ar Mhapáil Benthic: éiceachóras, acmhainní agus brúnna, comhsheachadadh na modúil Máistreachta arna bhforbairt ag INFOMAR, comhordú AMS agus críochnú raon tionscadal ón gCiste Eorpach Muirí agus lascaigh (CEMI).
- Rinne AMS an suirbhé eolaíochta deiridh sular díchóimisiúnaíodh an RV *Celtic Voyager*, agus an suirbhé tionscnaimh ar bord an RV *Tom Crean a choimisiúnaigh le déanaí*.
- D'éirigh le córas breathnadóireachta aigéin EirOOS arna chómhaoiniú ag Fondúireacht Eolaíochta na hÉireann (SFI) misin eolaíochta a thabhairt chun críche ag an Goban Spor amach ó iardheisceart na hÉireann in 2022. Thacaigh an misean seo le hiarracht eolaíoch idirnáisiúnta chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar athruithe ar Shruth na Murascaille trí eagar múra Reatha an Atlantaigh Thuaidh.
- Tháinig an dá stáisiún breathadóireachta leibhéal na farraige domhanda (GLOSS) i bhfeidhm in 2022, stáisiún caighdeánach monatóireachta leibhéal na farraige i gCuan Bhinn Éadair, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath, agus i Halla an Aontais, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath, agus i Halla an Aontais, Co. Chorcaí, a ceannaíodh agus a suiteáladh trí dhámhachtain bhreathadóireachta aigéin iOS i 2022. Déanann siad sonraí a tharchur chuig ionaid sonraí leibhéal na farraige domhanda, ag cur le tuiscint níos fearr ar ardú leibhéal na farraige de bharr na haeráide.
- Leanadh ar aghaidh i mbliana le hocht mórthionscadal ar bhreathadóireacht agus réamhaisnéisí aigéin: CE2COAST, BioCeltic, EuroSea, FORCOAST, iFADO, CleanAtlantic, MyCoast agus COMPASS. Tháinig FORCOAST agus COMPASS chun críche in 2022 agus cuireadh tús le tionscadal nua Horizon Europe ar a dtugtar Euro GO-SHIP i mí na Nollag.
- Sháraigh Líonra Breathadóireachta Baoithe Sonraí Mara na hÉireann (IMDBON) a sprioc maidir le sonraí beagnach fíor-ama a sheachadadh chuig lárionad réamhaisnéise oibriúcháin Met Éireann >90% den bhliain.
- Lean an grúpa um Sheirbhísí Aigéaneolaíochta agus Aeráide (OCS) ag obair le páirtithe leasmhara aeráide, lena n-áirítear an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) agus ranna eile rialtais agus údaráis áitiúla, chun na seirbhísí aeráide a theastaíonn don réimse muirí a shainiú. Thacaigh OCS leis an DAFM agus leis an Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide (DECC) i dtuairiscíú Gníomhartha Aeráide do 2022 agus i bhfoirmlíú na gcomhpháirteanna mara den Phlean Gníomhaíochta ar son na hAeráide 2023.



- Lean OCS ag tacú le taighde na hÉireann ar athrú aeráide le suirbhé mór aigéaneolaíochta rathúil amach ó chósta an iarthair go luath sa samhradh.
- Rinneadh samhail nua aeráide don Mhuir Cheilteach a fhorbairt agus a thástáil faoi chlár EMFF.
- Tá an feidhmchlár gréasáin uasghrádaithe le haghaidh cuardaigh agus tarrthála, ADRIFT, in úsáid go rialta anois ag an RNLI. Fuarthas líon ard iarratas ar shonraí tomhaiste agus múnlaithé ón bpobal taighde, ón tionscal fuinnimh in-athnuaite agus ón Roinn Iompair, i measc nithe eile.
- Tugadh isteach cumais TF nua chun tacú le digitíú próisis sonraí, lena n-áirítear uirlisí néalbhunaithe chun sonraí ó bhraiteoirí aigéaneolaíochta a phróiseáil agus a anailísiú, le deais ar líne agus lucht féachana léarscáileanna ag soláthar rochtain phoiblí feabhsaithe ar shonraí a bhaineann leis an bhfarraige.
- Tá breis is 80 próiseas sonraí de chuid na hInstitiúide á mbainistiú anois ag Creat Bainistíochta Cáilíochta Bainistíochta Sonraí na hInstitiúide, agus tá breis agus 400 TB de shonraí stóraithe i mbonneagar stórála nua na hInstitiúide, agus 718 tacar sonraí ar fáil ar líne.
- Mar chuid de chlár AQUAMIS na Roinne chun an próiseas ceadúnaithe do bharrshaothraithe a dhigitíú, d'fhorbair an Foras breathnóir láithreán ceadúnaithe do bharrshaothraithe ar líne, atá ar fáil don phobal.
- Mar chuid de na seirbhísí a cuireadh ar fáil don Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht (DHLGH), forbraíodh níos mó ná 24 léarscáil nua agus léirshamhlú sonraí eile chun tacú le clár Chreat-Treoir na Straitéise Muirí.
- Tugadh cuairt ar sheirbhísí ar líne na hInstitiúide a bhaineann le sonraí níos mó ná 103,000 uair in 2022. Freastalaíodh ar 282 iarratas sonraí láimhe breise a rinne soláthar d'fhiosrúcháin níos saincheaptha le fócas ar aigéaneolaíocht agus sonraí ar cháilíocht uisce.

Léiríonn an raon leathan seirbhísí, a gcuirtear síos orthu sa tuarascáil seo, tiomantas, saineolas agus obair foirne den scoth na foirne in OCIS atá ag obair le Foras na Mara níos leithne, ár gcomhoibríthe agus ár gconraitheoirí, i gcomhthéacs dúshlánach Covid-19. Ba mhaith liom buíochas agus moladh a thabhairt don ghrúpa sínte OCIS as a gcuid iarrachtaí.

#### An tUasal Michael Gillooly

Stiúrthóir - Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise Aigéin

## Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann (IMDO)

Tá sainordú ag Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann (IMDO) tionscal muirí na hÉireann a fhorbairt agus comhairle bheartais a sholáthar don Aire agus don Roinn Iompair maidir le saincheisteanna muirí. Tá a ról thar a bheith tábhachtach le blianta beaga anuas mar gheall ar na dúshláin a bhaineann leis an Breatimeacht, le paindéim Covid-19, agus leis an gcogadh san Úcráin, gach ceann acu a raibh tionchar mór acu ar an tionscal muirí.

D'ainneoin éifeachtaí leanúnacha na n-imeachtaí seo, tháinig méideanna trádála ar ais go leibhéal réamhphaindeimeach in 2022. Cé gur tháinig aisghabháil ar mhéideanna trádála, tháinig athrú ar phatrúin trádála agus braith níos mó ar bhealaí díreacha go mór-roinn na hEorpa de bharr an Breatimeacht.

Bhí feidhmíocht an tionscail mhuirí le tabhairt faoi dhúshlán dá leithéid le moladh agus leagann sé seo béim ar athléimneacht agus aclaíocht dhúchasach an tionscail. Trínár gcuid oibre mar chomhairleoir don Aire agus don Roinn Iompair agus trínár ngníomhaíochtaí forbartha gnó agus na tacaíochtaí a chuirimid ar fáil do thaighde, oideachas agus oiliúint, chuir an IMDO go mór leis an tionscal in 2022. Leanaimid le ról fíor-riachtanach agus tá tionchar dearfach againn trí chaidrimh láidre a thógáil le príomhpháirtithe leasmhara, trí chomhairle bunaithe ar fhianaise a sholáthar do lucht déanta beartais, agus trí oibriú le comhpháirtithe tionscail chun leasanna an tionscail mhuirí a chur chun cinn.

I mbliana, cuireadh béim ar a thábhachtaí atá sé an tionscal um Fhuinneamh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta (ORE) a fhorbairt san Eoraip ag an gcogadh san Úcráin, rud a thug faoiseamh géar do spleáchas na hEorpa ar ola agus gás na Rúise. Cosúil le ballstáit eile, tá pleananna uailmhianacha ag Éirinn chun ár n-úsáid de bhreoslaí iontaise a laghdú agus bogadh níos gaire do neamhspleáchas fuinnimh. Is féidir na huailmhianta seo a bhaint amach trí leas a bhaint as acmhainní fuinnimh gaoithe na hÉireann.

Éilíonn an Plean Gníomhaíochta ar son na hAeráide ar Éirinn 7GW d'fhuinneamh gaoithe amach ón gcósta a ghiniúint faoi 2030 agus ceanglaítear ar chalafoirt na hÉireann ról lárnach a bheith acu lena chinntiú go mbaintear amach na spriocanna seo, trí bhonneagar calafoirt imleor a sholáthar. Ag obair go dlúth le comhghleacaithe na Roinne, bhí an IMDO gníomhach ag ullmhú calafoirt na hÉireann chun tabhairt faoin dúshlán seo.

Chuir comhairle bheartais IMDO eolas ar fáil do Ráiteas Beartais ar fhorbairt bhonneagar ORE i gCalafoirt na hÉireann, a foilsíodh go déanach in 2021. Leis an ráiteas beartais seo cruthaíodh pleananna forbartha i gceithre chalafoirt Éireannacha in 2022 agus in iarratais a bhí á n-ullmhú ar mhaoiniú faoin tSaoráid um Chónascadh na hEorpa (CEF).

Ina theannta sin, bunaíodh Grúpa Comhordaithe Calafort, faoi chathaoirleacht na Roinne Iompair agus ar a raibh ionadaithe ó thionscal na gcalafoirt. Comhordaíonn an Grúpa seo, a bhfuil an IMDO ina bhall de, freagairt chalafoirt na hÉireann ar na héilimh dhúshlánacha ar bhonneagar ORE agus cinntiú sé ailíniú beartais.

In 2022, bhí ról gníomhach ag an IMDO mar bhall den ghrúpa comhairleach do Phlean Forbartha Fuinnimh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta 2 (OREDP 2) agus d'oibrigh sé leis an Roinn Iompair sa Tascfhórsa Forbartha ORE. Mar achoimre, tháinig ORE chun cinn in 2022 mar chuspóir práinneach náisiúnta a bhfuil tábhacht straitéiseach ag baint leis, a bhfuil a rathúlacht nasctha go dlúth le forbairt rathúil bhonneagar ORE i gcalafoirt na hÉireann. D'oibrigh an IMDO leis an Roinn chun a chinntiú go mbeidh calafoirt réidh chun an ról seo a chomhlíonadh.

I mbliana, tháinig deireadh le téarma an IMDO mar Chomhordaitheoir Colún do Chalafoirt san Atlantach agus aistríodh an fhreagracht chuig a gcomhghleacaithe sa Spáinn. Téarma an-rathúil a bhí ann, bunaithe ar phlean oibre a chuir ábhair ríthábhachtacha chun cinn i dtionscal na gcalafoirt - Digiteachú, Nascacht, Dícharbónú, agus Calafóirt mar Mhoil Ghnó. Pléadh na hábhair seo ag sraith ceardlann a reáchtáladh le linn ár dtéarma mar Chomhordaitheoir Colún. Tá sé suntasach go bhfuil glactha ag an gComhordaitheoir Colún nua ón Spáinn leis na téarmaí sa treochlár do Cholún na gCalafoirt go dtí 2024. D'aithin ballstáit eile rath na hÉireann mar Chomhordaitheoir Colún do chalafoirt agus mar thoradh air sin tugadh cuireadh don IMDO fanacht mar chuid de Thascfhórsa Colún na gCalafoirt.

Bhí an taithí seo thar a bheith luachmhar agus chuir sé Éire i gceartlár líonra a bhfuil tionchar aige ar fhorbairt beartais mhuirí agus atá gníomhach i réimsí tábhachtacha taighde agus nuálaíochta. Is léiriú é rannpháirtíocht an IMDO sa Straitéis Atlantach ar chur chuige ginearálta, a glacadh le linn 2022, chun dea-chaidrimh a chothú ar leibhéal Eorpach agus chun clár oibre muirí na hÉireann a bhrú chun cinn.

Ba gné shuntasach eile de 2022 í forbairt leanúnach na seirbhísí loingseoireachta, nuair a osclaíodh bealaí nua agus leathnaíodh bealaí a bhí ann cheana féin.

D'ainneoin an mhéadaithe gan fasach ar an acmhainn loingseoireachta a tharla mar fhreagra ar Brexit in 2021, cuireadh toilleadh breise leis in 2022, arbh é an glantoradh a bhí air ná go mbeadh rogha níos mó ná riamh ar fáil d'allmhaireoirí agus d'onnmhaireoirí na hÉireann. Léiríonn an toradh seo iomaíochas agus oscailteacht earnáil loingseoireachta na hÉireann agus ullmhacht na gcalafoirt Éireannach chun freagairt go tapa agus go héifeachtach d'athruithe ar chúinsí an mhargaidh.

Déantar sainordú forbartha an IMDO a chomhlíonadh trí Éirinn a chur chun cinn mar thír ina bhfuil deiseanna ollmhóra ar fud gach earnála dá tionscal muirí, ag tabhairt guth láidir do na huailmhianta forbartha atá i mbeartais an Rialtais a bhaineann le leathnú poirt le haghaidh forbairt ORE agus an t-aistriú chuig breoslaí malartacha. In 2022, thacaigh IMDO le hiarrachtaí tábhachtacha chalafoirt na hÉireann maoiniú CEF a mhealladh le haghaidh tionscadal forbartha agus chuir sé tionscadal na Lánaí Trádála Idirnáisiúnta Mear agus Slán chun cinn as a dtiocfaidh digitíú próisis tábhachtacha sa tionscal muirí, as a dtiocfaidh méadú ar éifeachtúlacht agus iomaíochas.

Tríd is tríd, ba bhliain téarnaimh í 2022 don tionscal muirí in Éirinn. Ba bhliain í freisin inar tháinig earnáil tábhachtach nua chun cinn, is é sin ORE, a léiríonn deis iontach d'Éirinn an dá chuspóir a bhaint amach, is é sin neodracht carbóin agus neamhspleáchas fuinnimh.

Tabharfaidh calafoirt na hÉireann aghaidh ar an dúshlán agus tá siad tosaithe ag freagairt d'éileamh ORE, a bheith réidh, toilteanach agus in ann na seirbhísí a sholáthar a cheadúidh feirmeacha gaoithe a thógáil agus a chothabháil amach ónár gcósta. Is tionscadal é seo a rachaidh i bhfeidhm go mór ar fhorbairt na tuaithe agus cruthóidh sé poist i gcodanna den tír a mbíonn deacrachtaí acu cuideachtaí nua-thionscanta Infheistíocht Dhíreach Eachtrach a mhealladh. Bhí baint lárnach ag an IMDO leis na hiarrachtaí seo i rith na bliana.

Is iarracht foirne iad na torthaí a bhaineann an IMDO amach agus braitheann siad ar fheabhas ár ndaoine, ar thacaíocht na Roinne Iompair agus ar chomhoibriú páirtithe leasmhara an tionscail. Ba bhliain dhúshlánach í 2022 nuair a rinneadh dul chun cinn maidir le toirteanna i gcalafoirt na hÉireann a athbhunú agus leagadh fondúireachtaí chun tacú le hearnálacha atá ag teacht chun cinn a bhfuil tábhacht straitéiseach náisiúnta leo. Ba mhaith liom mo bhúiochas a ghabháil leo siúd ar fad a chuidigh le hobair IMDO in 2022 agus táim ag tnúth le tacaíocht leanúnach sna blianta amach romhainn.

#### An tUasal Liam Lacey

Stiúrthóir - Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann

# LIMISTÉIR FÓCAS STRAITÉISEACH AGUS CUMASÓIRÍ STRAITÉISEACHA

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# RÉIMSE FÓCAS STRAITÉISEACH 1

## Comhairle agus Seirbhísí Eolaíochta

Tá an chomhairle agus na seirbhísí a chuirtear ar fáil don Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) agus do ranna rialtais, do ghníomhaireachtaí agus do gheallsealbhóirí eile ríthábhachtach chun geilleagar aigéin inbhuanaithe a bhaint amach, chun ár n-éiceachórais mhuirí a chosaint agus a bhainistiú agus chun oibleagáidí an AE a chomhlíonadh. Tacaíonn na seirbhísí a sholáthraíonn Foras na Mara le raon gníomhaíochtaí tráchtála agus ceanglais reachtúla tábhachtacha trasna iascaigh, do bharshaothraithe, sábháilteacht bia, iompar mhuirí agus comhlíonadh comhshaoil. Is bunspríocanna inghnóthaithe dár máthair-roinn agus dár bpríomhchliant DAFM iad comhairle agus seirbhísí eolaíochta, ag tarraingt ar obair i réimsí eile oibre sa phlean straitéiseach.

Déanann Foras na Mara raon leathan de chlár bhailithe agus mhonatóireachta sonraí, lena n-áirítear suirbhéanna árthaí taighde, léarscáilíú ghrinneall na farraige agus anailísí saotharlainne a sholáthraíonn an bonn dár gcomhairle agus dár seirbhísí. Tá na sonraí seo ríthábhachtach freisin chun tuiscint mhéadaithe a fháil ar ár n-aigéin agus ár n-aeráid, agus cuireann siad bonn le haghaidh taighde feidhmeach agus nuálaíochta.

Tá bainistíocht na dtacar sonraí ilghnéitheacha seo agus an cumas iad a chur le chéile agus a úsáid ar bhealaí éagsúla ag éirí níos tábhachtaí maidir le soláthar agus forbairt comhairle chomhtháite. Tacaíonn sé freisin le cur i bhfeidhm príomhbheartais agus treoracha mara mar an Comhbheartas Iascaigh, an Chreat-Treoir um Straitéis Mhuirí, an Chreat-Treoir Uisce agus an Treoir um Pleanáil Spásúlachta Mhuirí. Cuireann samhaltú, anailís staitistiúil, anailís spásúlachta agus léirmhíniú na dtacar sonraí éagsúla seo ar ár gcumas seirbhísí a sholáthar dár gcliaint agus dár bpáirtithe leasmhara.

### Seirbhísí Muirthimpeallachta agus Sábháilteachta Bia (MEFSS)

Gintear comhairle agus seirbhísí eolaíochta a chuireann foireann MEFSS ar fáil ó chlár mhonatóireachta chuimsitheacha arna riar ag cúig 'aonad' chomhtháite laistigh den réimse seirbhíse a bhfuil ár gCóras Creidiúnaithe um Bainistiú Cáilíochta mar thaca acu:

- Sábháilteacht sliogéisc.
- Sláinte éisc.
- Ceimic comhshaoil mara.
- Comhairle Ceadúnú agus Beartais.
- Pleanáil Spásúil Mhuirí.

Tá monatóireacht agus soláthar comhairle arna seoladh ag foireann MEFSS bunaithe go mór ar cheanglais Threoir an AE, le hionstraimí reachtúla náisiúnta, a léiríonn na treoracha seo. Seo thíos achoimre ar sheirbhísí monatóireachta agus comhairleacha na n-aonad seo in 2022 maidir le Comhairle agus Seirbhísí Eolaíoch.

### Sábháilteacht Sliogéisc

Úsáideann an rannóg Sábháilteachta Sliogéisc raon agus raon éagsúil modheolaíochtaí bitheolaíochta, ceimiceacha agus móilíneacha chun a oibleagáidí monatóireachta reachtúla agus a seirbhísí tástála saotharlainne a chomhlíonadh chun a chinntiú go bhfuil sliogéisc a tháirgtear agus a bhaintear ó limistéir tháirgthe do bharshaothraithe aicmithe amach ón gcósta agus cladaigh a chuirtear ar an margadh mar bhia don duine sábháilte le hithe. Cosnaíonn sé seo an tomhaltóir agus tacaíonn sé le cáilíocht agus clú sliogéisc na hÉireann agus a thionscal.

Déantar ár gcuid oibre i ndlúthchomhar leis na hÚdarás Inniúla, an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara (SFPA) agus Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann (FSAI) le comhoibriú láidir leis an tionscal do bharshaothraithe sliogéisc. Tá táirgeadh éagsúil agus éagsúil de speicis sliogéisc dhébhlaoscacha ag Éirinn timpeall a cósta, ag cuimsiú os cionn 100 limistéar táirgthe rangaithe le haghaidh táirgeadh agus baint speiceas sliogéisc mhara, lena n-áirítear diúilicíní, oisrín an Aigéin Chiúin agus oisrín dúchasacha, breallaigh, ruacain, breallaigh rásúir agus muiríní.



### Rinneadh anailís ar 3,715

sampla do shláinte éisc chun críocha faireachais agus diagnóise.

Tá trí ghné de shainchúram na rannóige um Shábháilteacht Sliogéisc:

- Anailís a sholáthar ar shamplaí sliogéisc agus uisce le haghaidh rialú oifigiúil, i réimsí na mbiotocsaine, na bhfiteaplanctóin, agus na gclár monatóireachta náisiúnta micribhitheolaíochta, ar feadh na bliana, go minic ar bhonn seachtainiúil. Sna hanailísí seo go léir, tá sé ríthábhachtach tuairisc a thabhairt ar thorthaí tapa agus a chur in iúl do na hÚdarás Inniúla agus don tionscal sliogéisc.
- Raon leathan de chomhairle agus de shonraí eolaíochta a sholáthar agus a chur i láthair do pháirtithe leasmhara náisiúnta éagsúla; lena n-áirítear ranna rialtais, Údarás Inniúla, gníomhaireachtaí stáit agus an tionscal sliogéisc/ Dobharshaothráil IFA. Ar an ardán idirnáisiúnta, cuirtear ár gcomhairle agus ár sonraí i láthair do mháthair-shaotharlanna tagartha an Aontais Eorpaigh (EURL), don Údarás Eorpach um Shábháilteacht Bia (EFSA), agus do ghrúpaí oibre/saineolaithe an AE ar mhóilisc dhébhlaoscacha beo (LBManna), agus trí raon leathan grúpaí oibre agus eagraíochtaí eolaíochta idirnáisiúnta (An Chomhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéaláocht na Mara, An Coimisiún Aigéaneolaíochta Idir-Rialtasach, Eagraíocht Bhia agus Talmhaíochta na Náisiún Aontaithe) agus comhdhálacha.
- Taighde náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta a dhéanamh agus dul i mbun taighde atá deartha chun sonraí, faisnéis agus eolas ábhartha agus cuí a sheachadadh chun tacú lenár gclár monatóireachta reachtúla agus ár seirbhísí tástála saotharlainne agus iad a fheabhsú i réimse na sábháilteachta bia.

Tá an rannóg Sábháilteachta Sliogéisc comhdhéanta de thrí dhisciplín saotharlainne, **Micribhitheolaíocht Sliogéisc**, **Fiteaplanctón** agus **Biotocsainí**, ina bhfuil gach modh saotharlainne a úsáidtear sna disciplíní seo creidiúnaithe do chaighdeán ISO 17025. Déantar iad freisin i gcomhréir leis na ceanglais reachtacha atá leagtha síos i reachtaíocht ábhartha an AE (853/2004, 625/2017 agus 627/2019 go príomha) agus chun ceanglais na nÚdarás Inniúil a chomhlíonadh. Is sinne na Saotharlanna Tagartha Náisiúnta (NRL) d'Éirinn le haghaidh biotocsainí mara agus micribhitheolaíocht araon.

### Micribhitheolaíocht sliogéisc

Faoinár n-oibleagáidí mar an tSaotharlann Tagartha Náisiúnta (NRL) le haghaidh E. coli (sliogéisc amháin) bainimid an clár tástála E. coli chun tacú le rangú bliantúil na limistéar táirgthe sliogéisc dhébhlaoscach in Éirinn. Is éard atá i gceist leis seo ná athbhreithniú ar thorthaí tástála agus monatóireacht ar inniúlacht theicniúil na saotharlann ar conradh chun tástáil E. coli a sholáthar i moilisc dhébhlaoscacha beo (LBManna).

Baineann cuid shuntasach dár dtástáil saotharlainne le noraivíreas áit, mar an NRL do víris bia-iompartha (sliogéisc amháin), a chuirimid tástáil noraivíris ar fáil do na hÚdarás Inniúla in Éirinn: an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara (SFPA) agus Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann, FSAI) mar fhreagra ar ráigeanna débhlascacha a bhaineann le sliogéisc agus iarratais eile ar obair. Ina theannta sin, bunaíodh tionscadal nua tástála noraivíris idir an Institiúid agus Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar an riachtanas leanúnach do thástáil agus anailís noraivíris do Ghrúpa Pacálaithe Oisrín na hÉireann, ag soláthar dearbhú cáilíochta d'onnmhairí oisrín na hÉireann.

### Biotocsainí Mara

Is comhdhúile a fhaightear go nádúrtha iad bith-tocsainí mara a tháirgtear trí líon beag speiceas fiteaplanctónach tocsaineach, a ionghabháil trí mhóilisc dhébhlaoscacha a chothaítear go scagairí, áit ar féidir leis na tocsainí seo carnadh laistigh d'fhíocháin na sliogéisc. Cé nach ndéanann siad aon dochar díreach do na sliogéisc, má itear na sliogéisc mheisciúla seo, féadfaidh na tocsainí a ionghabháil iad a bheith ina gcúis le roinnt siondróm tinnis dhaonna a bhaineann leo nuair a bhíonn tiúchan tocsaineacha os cionn na leibhéil rialála. Cuirimid clár cuimsitheach monatóireachta biotocsainí ar fáil ag baint úsáide as ionstraimíocht agus modhanna ceimiceacha an-íogair, a chinntíonn go bhfuil gach táirge a chuirtear ar an margadh faoi bhun leibhéil rialála an AE.

In Éirinn, tá ceithre ghrúpa biotocsain mhara ann ar féidir leo tarlú, agus is eol go bhfuil siad ina gcúis leis na tinnis dhaonna (nimhiú seo a leanas):

- Nimhiú Aimméiseach Ó Shliogiasc (ASP).
- Nimhiú Asaispioraigéid Ó Shliogiasc (AZP).
- Nimhiú Buinní Ó Shliogiasc (AZP).
- Nimhiú Pairilisigh Ó Shliogiasc (PSP).



I rith 2022, rinneadh anailís ar 2,882 sampla sliogéisc don chlár náisiúnta monatóireachta trí mhodhanna ceimiceacha (LC-MS/MS & UPLC) chun na grúpaí tocsainí thuas agus a gcomhdhúile gaolmhara a bhrath agus a chainníochtú. D'eascair 12,727 anailís as an líon samplaí seo.

Go hachomair, tharta tíúchan biotocsainí ó na ceithre ghrúpa tocsainí os cionn leibhéil rialála i roinnt speiceas sliogéisc:

- Tocsainí Buinneach Sliogéisc - breathnaíodh os cionn leibhéil rialála i ndiúilicíní ón iardheisceart agus san iarthar i mí an Mheithimh agus i mí Iúil. Bhí an teagmhas tocsain sliogéisc buinneach seo ar cheann de na teagmhais is lú agus is giorra a breathnaíodh le blianta beaga anuas.
- Tocsainí Sliogéisc Azaspiracid - breathnaíodh os cionn leibhéil rialála i diúilicíní agus oisrí an Aigéin Chiúin le linn Iúil agus Lúnasa san iardheisceart, agus ansin ó Mheán Fómhair go Nollaig san iarthar agus san iarthuaisceart. Is é seo an imeacht tocsain Azaspiracid is mó a breathnaíodh le blianta beaga anuas.
- Tocsainí Sliogéisc Amnesacha - breathnaíodh os cionn na leibhéil rialála i speicis sliogéisc neamh-mheallain i rith mhí Aibreáin i samplaí de dhiúilicíní, oisrí, agus breallaigh tonnmharcaíochta feadh an chósta thiar, le sampla amháin de bhreallaigh tonnchríche i mí Iúil ón gcósta theas.
- Tocsainí Sliogéisc Pairiliseach - breathnaíodh ag tíúchan arda (thart ar 3 huairde os cionn an leibhéil rialála ceadaithe) i samplaí de dhiúilicíní ó limistéar táirgthe amháin san iardheisceart i rith mhí an Mheithimh agus Iúil.

#### Fíteaplanctón

Tá roinnt speiceas fíteaplanctóin tocsaineach agus is eol gurb iad na horgánaigh chúiseacha agus foinsé na mbiotocsainí thuasluaite. Mar sin, déanaimid clár monatóireachta náisiúnta cuimsitheach ar bhonn seachtainiúil trí mhodhanna micreascópachta, ar feadh na bliana ar fad, chun na speicis algachacha a tháirgeann tocsain/díobhálacha a shainiú agus a áireamh i samplaí uisce farraige.

Soláthraíonn an clár monatóireachta seo faisnéis luachmhar do na húdaráis Inniúla agus don tionscal maidir le láithreach na speiceas seo agus an dóchúlacht go dtarlóidh agus go carnadh na tocsainí a bhaineann leo i sliogéisc le linn tréimhsí tocsaineachta ag teacht isteach, sula sárófar leibhéil rialála féideartha agus go gcuirfead i bhfeidhm na tréimhsí dúnta. Chomh maith leis sin tugaimid eolas agus comhairle go rialta don Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (GCC) agus do chomhairlí contae áitiúla maidir le himeachtaí dídhathaithe uisce de bharr speicis Dhíobhálacha Algacha (HAB).

Le linn 2022, rinneadh anailís ar 3,129 sampla uisce farraige trí mhicreascópacht solais don chlár náisiúnta monatóireachta. Tacaíonn na torthaí fíteaplanctóin leis na himeachtaí tocsaineacha i sliogéisc a breathnaíodh agus mar a thuiriscítear thuas don bhliain.

Déanann an rannóg fíteaplanctóin anailís freisin ar shamplaí uisce a bhailítear don Chreat-Treoir Uisce (WFD) ó 18 láithreán ar bhonn míosúil, i rith na bliana le haghaidh anailíse fíteaplanctóin agus clóirifill araon. In 2022, cuireadh thart ar 200 sampla isteach agus rinneadh anailís orthu tríd an gclár monatóireachta WFD

Úsáidtear na sonraí ó na cláir mhonatóireachta náisiúnta thuas chun tuarascáil feacháin sheachtainiúil a sholáthar don tionscal ar thuar agus ar thuar na dóchúlachta go dtiocfaidh aon imeachtaí tocsaine isteach sa limistéar táirgthe, rud a thugann rabhadh roimh ré don tionscal faoi aon dúnadh féideartha. Úsáidtear na sonraí freisin chun faisnéis a sholáthar maidir le minicíocht chuí na tástála sliogéisc a chinneadh de réir mar is gá le linn tréimhsí ardriosca agus íseal-riosca.

#### Seirbhísí Comhairleacha um Shábháilteacht Sliogéisc

Lean MEFSS ar aghaidh ag cur comhairle thacúil ar fáil do na húdaráis Inniúla in Éirinn agus ar leibhéal Eorpach ar cheisteanna sábháilteachta bia micribhitheolaíochta a bhaineann le sliogéisc dhébhlaoscacha.

Tar éis athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar mhonatóireacht *E. coli* i limistéar táirgthe sliogéisc ag an tSaotharlann Tagartha Náisiúnta do *E. coli* (sliogéisc amháin) i MEFSS, cuireadh comhairle arís ar an Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara (SFPA) chun aicmiú cuí a shannadh do gach limistéar táirgthe sliogéisc do 2021. Ina theannta sin, tugaimid tacaíocht do na húdaráis Inniúla in Éirinn (SFPA agus FSAI) le comhairle maidir le saincheisteanna sláinte poiblí a bhaineann le héilliú LBManna le víris phataigineacha daonna.

Mar an NRL do bhiotocsainí mara agus micribhitheolaíocht sliogéisc, tá roinnt tuarascálacha a tháirgtear ar bhonn rialta, agus fóram iolrach ina gcuirtear ar sonraí agus comhairle eolaíoch i láthair. Fóram amháin is ea an Coiste um Shábháilteacht Sliogéisc Moileascach (MSSC) a tháinig le chéile ceithre huairde le linn 2022, áit a raibh Foras na Mara mar chuid lárnach ag tabhairt comhairle ó pheirspictíochtaí eolaíoch agus sábháilteachta bia ar ábhair mhicribhitheolaíochta, bhiotocsaine agus fíteaplanctóin agus saincheisteanna a bhaineann le baint sliogéisc agus tomhaltas daonna.

In 2022, d'fhoilsigh an fhoireann Micribhitheolaíochta Sliogéisc staidéar ar thionchar idirghabhálacha neamhchógaisíochta Covid-19 ar mhéid an éillithe noraivíris i limistéir táirgthe oisrí le linn gheimhreadh 2020 go 2021 (Keaveney et al., 2022; *Journal of Food Protection*; doi : [10.4315/JFP-22-031](https://doi.org/10.4315/JFP-22-031)). Léirigh an staidéar seo laghdú suntasach ar leibhéal noraivíris a braitheadh i sliogéisc agus an tábhacht a bhaineann le monatóireacht leanúnach anois go bhfuil deireadh curtha le gach beart sláinte poiblí do Covid-19. I mí Dheireadh Fómhair, cuireadh seimineár i láthair an MSSC ar na rioscaí a d'fhéadfadh a bheith ann d'ath-theacht chun cinn noraivíris don gheimhreadh 2022 go 2023.

Trínár gcláir mhonatóireachta biotocsain mara agus fíteaplanctóin, tuairiscítear ár dtorthaí go laethúil trínár mbunachar sonraí agus ár suíomh Gréasáin faoi Bhláthanna Algacha Díobhálacha (HABanna) ([webapps.marine.ie/habs](http://webapps.marine.ie/habs)), a chuireann torthaí i láthair freisin i bhformáid ghrafach a léiríonn na patrúin agus na treochtaí i dtiúchan tocsain a mhéadú nó a laghdú i líon na gceall speiceas fíteaplanctóin a tháirgeann sliogéisc agus tocsain le linn teagmhais tocsaineacha agus HAB. Cuirimid feachán seachtainiúil HAB le chéile freisin a dhéanann réamhaisnéisí gearrthéarmacha (3-5 lá) a thuar agus a sholáthar ar an dóchúlacht go dtarlóidh teagmhais tocsaineachta agus HAB i limistéir táirgthe.

#### Sláinte éisc

Tá Éire saor ó gach galar uisceach atá liostaithe mar infhógartha i rialachán an AE. Tá bearta glactha ag Éirinn freisin chun saoirse a chinntiú ó ghalair bhreise a sainiúidh a bhfuil tábhacht náisiúnta ag baint leo.

Is é an tAonad Sláinte Éisc (FHU) i bhForas na Mara an tÚdarás Inniúil chun rialacháin an AE agus rialuithe breise sláinte ainmhithe uisceacha a chur i bhfeidhm in Éirinn. Déanann an FHU óstáil freisin ar na Saotharlanna Tagartha Náisiúnta (NRLanna) do shláinte iasc eite, moileasc agus crústaigh a thacaíonn leis an misean chun ardstádas sláinte uisceach na hÉireann a chothabháil trí thástáil fhaireacháin agus dhiagnóiseach a sholáthar.

## Rinneadh anailís ar 3,129

sampla uisce farraige trí mhicreascópacht solais don chlár náisiúnta monatóireachta.

Níor aimsíodh aon ghalair infhógartha atá liostaithe faoi Rialachán (AE) 2016/429 ón gCoimisiún i dtáirgeadh dobharshaothraithe tráchtála in 2022. Sainiúidh ráig amháin den víreas koi herpes (KHV) i lochán príobháideach carpán Koi in 2022. Deimhníodh an galar le tástáil saotharlainne ag an FHU. Déantar KHV a rialú faoi bhearta náisiúnta agus dearbhaítear go bhfuil Éire saor ón ngalar. Cuireadh srian ar an ngalar agus cuireadh srian gluaiseachta ar na hainmhithe a bhí sa lochán.

#### Gníomhaíochtaí Saotharlainne

Thástáil an FHU 1,787 iasc chun críocha diagnóiseacha, taighde nó faireachais in 2022. Bradán an Atlantaigh a bhí iontu seo go príomha (57%) ach chuimsigh siad freisin speicis a úsáideadh mar iasc níos glaine ar fheirmeacha bradán (Lumpfish & fleasc) agus breac (9%), agus speicis eile comhdhéanta den chuid eile. Chomh maith leis an méid thuas, rinne an FHU scagadh freisin ar 1,010 swab geolbhaigh, a cuireadh isteach ó fheirmeacha bradán, le haghaidh Neoparamoeba perurans, gníomhaire cúiseach an Ghalar Amóbaigh Ghiolla (AGD) atá fós ina ghalair a bhfuil tionchar suntasach aige ar thionscal na mbradán ar fud an domhain.

Thástáil an FHU 910 moileasc freisin chun críocha diagnóiseacha, taighde nó faireachais in 2022. I rith 2022 braitheadh *V.aestuarianus* samplaí uile an Aigéin Chiúin-Oisir a bhain le teagmhais bhásmhaireachta i 12 chuan ar leith ar fud na hÉireann.

In 2022, chuir an FHU tacaíocht NRL ar fáil freisin don Roinn Talmhaíochta agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe i dTuaisceart Éireann faoi Mheabhrán Tuisceana (MoU). Éascaíonn an tacaíocht saotharlainne seo gníomhaíochtaí oibríochtaí i dTuaisceart Éireann faoi rialacháin Rialaithe Oifigiúil atá riachtanach i bPrótacal Thuaisceart Éireann tar éis an Breatimeacht.



### Gníomhaíochtaí an Údaráis Inniúil Sláinte Éisc

Is é Foras na Mara an tÚdarás Inniúil chun rialacháin um shláinte ainmhithe uisceacha a chur i bhfeidhm in Éirinn. Tugann na rialacháin aghaidh ar shláinte ainmhithe do bharshaothraithe agus leagtar síos rialacha sonracha chun galair áirithe ainmhithe uisceacha a chosc agus a rialú. Baineann na rialacháin le feirmeacha éisc eite, le feirmeacha sliogéisc, agus le hiascaigh a chur agus a ghlacadh, agus éillíonn siad go bhfaighidh na bunáochtaí do bharshaothraithe sin Faomhadh Sláinte Éisc (FHA) ón Údarás Inniúil roimh oibriú.

In 2022, deonaíodh 14FHA nua do Ghnólachtaí Táirgthe Dobharshaothraithe (APBanna) in Éirinn, rud a thug líon iomlán na bhForas Dobharshaothraithe Faofa ([fishhealth.ie/fhu/fish-health-authorisation/irish-aquaculture-production-businesses](http://fishhealth.ie/fhu/fish-health-authorisation/irish-aquaculture-production-businesses)) sa Stát ag deireadh 2022 go 423.

Mar an tÚdarás Inniúil, comhordaíonn an FHU gníomhaíochtaí Chigirí Tréidliachta na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) a thugann faoi chigireachtaí reachtúla faireachais sláinte. Críochnaíodh 222 iniúchadh san iomlán ar bhunáochtaí údaraithe éisc agus sliogéisc in 2022. Phróiseáil an FHU also díreach os cionn 2,000 iarratas ar ghluaiseachtaí ainmhithe uisceacha beo. Áiríodh leis seo allmhairí, onnmhairí agus gluaiseachtaí náisiúnta.

D'fhonn tacú le trádáil leis an RA tar éis Brexit, d'eisigh an CA breis is 100 deimhniú onnmhairiúcháin le haghaidh coinsíneachtaí ainmhithe beo. Bhí cigireacht ag Cigirí Tréidliachta de dhíth ar na coinsíneachtaí seo, a d'eagraigh an FHU.

I rith 2022, lean an FHU ar aghaidh ag cur tacaíocht theicniúil ar fáil do chomhghleacaithe DAFM a oibríonn na Poist Rialaithe Teorann chun allmhairí ainmhithe uisceacha a chomhlíonann stádas na hÉireann a éascú.

RV Celtic Voyager  
Grianghraf: David Branigan.

Tríd is tríd, bhí obair an FHU in 2022, i gcomhar leis an tionscal do bharshaothraithe agus príomhpháirtithe leasmhara eile, mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag an iarracht náisiúnta chun ardstádas sláinte ainmhithe uisceacha na hÉireann a choinneáil.

### Cemic na Mara

Soláthraíonn rannóg na Ceimice Muirí seirbhísí monatóireachta agus comhairleacha eolaíochta do raon leathan páirtithe leasmhara chun tacú le riachtanais reachtaíochta agus eite. Tá siad seo faoi thrí réimse leathana théamacha: a) sábháilteacht bia mara - ag cinntiú go gcomhlíonann leibhéil éillithe comhshaoil agus iarmhair tréidliachta agus substaintí eile i mbia mara an reachtaíocht agus go gclóíonn tionscal an do bharshaothraithe leis na cleachtais is fearr, b) truailliú - monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar cháilíocht uisce agus ar thruailliú ceimiceach agus ar a éifeachtaí ar an gcomhshaoil muirí, agus c) bitghheoicemic aigéin - ag breathnú agus ag tuiscint ar innmharthanacht aigéin riachtanacha agus athrú aigéin.

Tacaíonn tionscadail taighde feidhmeacha leis na gníomhaíochtaí seo.

In 2022:

- Cuireadh tús le timthriall monatóireachta na Creat-Treorach Uisce (WFD) 2022-2027 in uisce idirthrímhseacha agus cósta. In 2022, bailíodh 1,258 sampla le linn 345 teagmhas samplála a raibh c. 6,800 tomhas ceimic uisce do raon leathan paraiméadair. Tuairiscíodh torthaí thimthriall 2015-2021 le cur san áireamh i measúnú an EPA ar Cháilíocht Uisce in Éirinn 2015-2021.
- Tuairiscíodh torthaí samplála agus tástála an Phlean Náisiúnta um Rialú Iarmhar 2021 le haghaidh iasc saothraithe i gcomhréir le Rialachán Rialaithe Oifigiúil 2017/625 agus le hlarscríbhinní Threoir 96/23/CE ón gComhairle. Bailíodh 120 sampla agus tuairiscíodh 1,870

toradh tástála san iomlán agus níor aimsíodh aon torthaí neamhchomhlíonta. Le haghaidh 2022, fuarthas 132 sampla de réir an Phlean Náisiúnta um Rialú Iarmhar 2022 agus tuairisceofar na torthaí i mí an Mheithimh 2023 don DAFM agus ar aghaidh chuig an Údarás Eorpach um Shábháilteacht Bia (EFSA). Ina theannta sin, rinneadh tástáil ar 40 sampla éisc a bailíodh ag Poist Rialaithe Teorann le haghaidh iarmhar ceimiceach sonraithe mar chuid de Chosaint chomh maith le gnáthfhaireachas ar allmhairí bia de bhunadh ainmhióch ó thríú tír isteach san AE.

- Táirgeadh thart ar 6,000 tomhas anailíse aonair d'ábhar salaithe comhshaoil i mbiotáille in 2022, ag tacú le raon de chlár mhonatóireachta sábháilteachta bia mara agus comhshaoil. Eisíodh 43 tuarascáil tástála freisin chuig an Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara (SFP) le haghaidh caidmiam i bportán iomlán chun tacú le deimhniú onnmhairithe.
- Cuireadh modh LCMS chun 45 antaibheathach in éisc a chinneadh, a úsáidtear chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar iarmhair tréidliachta in iasc saothraithe, le raon feidhme modhanna creidiúnaithe Foras na Mara.
- Chuir Ceimic na Mara comhairle ar fáil don Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide (DECC) i ndáil le Ceadanna chun Ceimiceán a Úsáid agus a Doirteadh Ceimiceán Breise (3); don Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (GCC) agus do Chalafoirt maidir le gníomhaíochtaí dreidireachta agus Ceadúnú um Dhumpáil ar Farraige (17), agus chuig DAFM ar thuarascálacha monatóireachta do bharshaothraithe ceimic uisce.
- Bhí baint láidir ag saineolaithe le coistí coimisiúin OSPAR agus le sainghrúpaí agus le faireachán agus tuairisciú gaolmhar maidir le substaintí guaiseacha, eotrófú, aigéadú aigéin agus athrú aeráide, an tionscal amach ón gcósta agus gníomhaíochtaí daonna agus chuir siad go mór le measúnuithe réigiúnacha iolracha mar chuid de Thuarascáil Stádas Cáilíochta OSPAR 2023. Thacaigh aighneachtaí náisiúnta leis seo chuig ionad sonraí na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES).

### Comhairle Ceadúnú agus Beartais

#### An Chreat-Treoir Uisce (WFD)

I rith 2022, bailíodh 390 sampla saotharlainne ó 31 do bharlach agus rinneadh anailís orthu le haghaidh maicrea-inveirteabraigh beantach (sainaitheir speiceas agus flúirse), anailís ar mhéid na gcáithníní agus cailteanas ar adhainte (Ábhar Orgánach Iomlán). Astu seo, bailíodh 114 sampla ó ocht ndobharlach cósta le linn an tsuirbhé bhliantúil comhshaoil gheimhridh ar bord an RV Celtic Voyageri mí Eanáir 2022.

### Monatóireacht Beantach ar Éisc Eite

Rinne Grúpa Éiceolaíochta Benthos a athbhreithniú bliantúil ar thuarascálacha ó oibreoirí éisc eite ag éirí as suirbhéanna beantacha chun scrúdú a dhéanamh ar choinníollacha ghrinneall na farraige faoi bhun na gcliaibhán éisc de réir Phrótaicail Monatóireachta Beantacha na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara. Ullmhaíonn Grúpa Éiceolaíochta Benthos athbhreithniú gach bliain agus cuirtear faoi bhráid na Roinne é. San athbhreithniú a cuireadh faoi bhráid na Roinne in 2022, fuarthas 24 tuairisc ó 25 láithreán oibriúcháin (thuairiscigh 96% comhlíonadh).

As na 24 láithreán ar táirgeadh tuarascálacha ina leith, measadh go raibh coinníollacha comhshaoil inghlactha ag 12 (50%) (m.sh. bhí coinníollacha laistigh de na caihdeáin chomhshaoil a aithníodh i bPrótacal Monatóireachta Uimh. 1 d'Fheirmeacha Éisc Eite Amach ón gCósta - Monatóireacht Beantach, 2008), measadh go raibh coinníollacha comhshaoil do-ghlactha ag 11 láithreán agus chuir suíomh amháin an tuarascáil isteach gan dóthain eolais. Fuarthas naoi dtuarascáil ó shuíomh a bhí gníomhach le linn 2022 i mí na Nollag 2022 agus tá athbhreithniú á dhéanamh orthu faoi láthair.

### Comhairle um Cheadúnú Dobharshaothraithe

Leanann MEFSS le comhairle a sholáthar don DAFM chun eolas a thabhairt do chinntí ceadúnaithe do bharshaothraithe a bhféadfadh impleachtaí a bheith acu do Limistéir Chaomhantais Speisialta (LCSanna), Limistéir faoi Chosaint Speisialta (SPAanna) agus/nó imní comhshaoil eile. Bhí líon na n-iarratas ar cheadúnais do bharshaothraithe a bhí le breithniú le linn 2022 (n=39), i bhfad níos ísle ná na blianta roimhe sin mar gheall ar riaráiste na gceadúnas a cuireadh i gcrích go mór mór a ghlacadh mar gheall ar an iliomad Measúnú Natura 2000 a rinne an Foras na Mara ó 2011 i leith.

In 2022, áiríodh ar bhuaicphointí chomhairle MEFSS agus tacaíocht theicniúil sa réimse seo:

- Críochnaíodh tuarascálacha Measúnuithe Cuí (AAs) do sheacht láithreán mara Natura: Cuan Loch Rois Beag, Cuan Bheantraí, Loch Cairlinn, Leithinis Cheann Sláine (Bá Manainn), Cuan Dairbhre, Cuan Neidín agus Cuan Dhún Mánaís. Is athbhreithnithe iad na tuarascálacha measúnaithe seo go léir ar AAanna níos luaithe ach bhí siad ag teastáil de bhun iarratais bhreise (nua) do bharshaothraithe a bhí faighte ag DAFM.
- Soláthraíodh comhairle leantach don AFMD-DAFM maidir le haighneachtaí reachtúla agus poiblí maidir le hiarratais ar cheadúnais do bharshaothraithe i rith na bliana.
- Tá monatóireacht leanúnach á dhéanamh ar bhearta maolaithe maidir le cultúr oisrí agus idirghníomhartha éan i SPA Chuan Dhún Garbhán, SPA Chuan na Banow, Cuan Pholl na nOisrí (mar chuid de SPA Inbhear na Sionainne agus an Fhorghais) agus Cuan Chaisteán na Mainge.



Fáiltíonn Foras na Mara roimh Chomhdháil mhór ICES go hÉirinn. Grianghraf: Hugh Sweeney

- Ina theannta sin, críochnaíodh an cleachtadh samhaltaithe ar acmhainní éan i SPA Chuan Dhún Garbhán (m.sh. Múnláí Aonair Bhunaithe) agus táirgeadh dréacht-tuarascáil.
- Coimisiúnaíodh monatóireacht bhreise ar Dhaonra na nGéanna Brent Solais i SPA Chuan Thrá Bhréagach. Áiríonn sé seo suirbhéanna ar chomhaireamh éan agus staidéar teiliméadrachta.
- Rinneadh monatóireacht bheantach bhreise freisin i SAC Chósta Inis Eoghain Thuaidh chun eolas a chur ar fáil do chomhairle ceadúnaithe sa réimse seo.
- Coimisiúnaíodh soláthar seirbhíse conartha seachtraí le haghaidh cúnamh le soláthar comhairle um cheadúnú éisc eite.
- Prótacal Monatóireachta Beantach d'Iasc Eiteach Amach ón gCósta dréachtaithe agus curtha faoi bhráid DAFM lena cheadú.
- Ionchur curtha ar fáil chun cuidiú leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta agus Bia coinníollacha caighdeánaithe ceadúnais iasc eite a dhréachtú.
- Cuireadh comhairle reachtúil ar fáil ar 13 iarratas ar cheadúnas do bharshaothraithe slíogéisc. Cuireadh an chomhairle ar fad ar fáil don DAFM laistigh den fhráma ama 6 seachtaine a bunaíodh sa reachtaíocht.
- Bainistíocht leanúnach MB09 - croíbhuiséad benthos (€30,000).

- Bainistíocht leanúnach ar bhuiséid Natura EMFAF (Clár Bithéagsúlachta).
  - FL32 - €30,000 SPA AAanna;
  - FL33 - €20,000 SAC AAanna;
  - FL34 - €95,000 Forbairt Táscaire Ilmhéadrach SEABA (MMI);
  - FL36 - €110,000 Maolú agus monatóireacht ag láithreáin SPA;
  - FL37 - €120,00 AA ag tacú le hÉaneolaíocht.

#### Seirbhísí Comhairleacha Eile

- Soláthraíonn MEFSS ball do Choiste Comhairleach an GCC um Dhumpáil ar Muir agus tugann sé comhairle ar roinnt oibríochtaí dreidireachta cothabhála.
- Soláthraíonn MEFSS ball don Fhóram Náisiúnta um Measúnú Comhshaoil Straitéiseach.
- Soláthraíonn MEFSS ball don Fhóram Náisiúnta um Measúnú Cúf.
- Comhairle a sholáthar don Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta (DHLGH) agus DAFM ar 25 iarratas ar léasanna/ceadúnais imeall trá. I measc na n-iarratas bhí imscrúduithe suímh a bhain le forbairt fhéideartha amach anseo ar fheirmeacha gaoithe amach ón gcósta ar an gcósta thiar agus i Muir na hÉireann agus na Mara Ceilteach, dreidireacht chuanta, oibreacha cosanta cósta, áiseanna cóireála fuíolluisce i roinnt ceantar cois cósta agus baint feamainne de láimh.

#### Comhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES).

Ba é buaicphointe na bliana ná óstáil Chomhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta ICES ag Staidiam AVIVA i mBaile Átha Cliath. Chomh maith leis an rannpháirtíocht i ngrúpa pleanála inmheánach Fhoras na Mara, mar a d'óstáil an Comhalta den Choiste Eolaíochta as Éirinn, Francis O'Beirn, dhá chruinniú timpeall na comhdhála agus ba é an príomhphointe teagmhála idir SCICOM a dhéanann maoirseacht ar ábhar na comhdhála agus Foras na Mara.

Ba í an Chomhdháil an chéad chomhdháil phearsanta i dtír bliana, le 500 duine i láthair chomh maith le 150 ar líne.

Ina theannta sin, ghlac foireann na Rannóige Ceadúnaithe agus Comhairle Beartais páirt i roinnt sainghrúpaí agus coistí ICES a bhfuil acoimre orthu thíos:

- Coiste Eolaíochta (SCICOM) - 5 chruinniú.
- Grúpa Oibre Éiceolaíochta Benthos (GOÉB).
- Grúpa Oibre ar Fhorbairtí Beantós Mara agus Fuinnimh In-athnuaite (GOFBMFIA).
- Grúpa Oibre ar Mheasúnú Riosca ar Idirghníomhaíochtaí Comhshaoil an Dobharshaothraithe (GOMRICD).
- Grúpa Oibre ar Acmhainn Iompraíochta Éiceolaíochta sa Dobharshaothrá (GOAIÉD).

- Ceardlann ar Fhorbheathnú Dobharshaothraithe Mhuir na hIorua (CFDMI).
- Forbheathnú Dobharshaothráir an nGrúpa Dréachtaithe Comhairle (FDGDC).
- Comhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta (ASC) 2022 Foghrúpa - cruinnithe iomadúla (cathaoirleach FOB).
- Grúpa pleanála MI-ICES (do ASC 2022) - cruinnithe iomadúla.

#### Iarratais ar Shonraí

- Iarratas ar sonraí - 'Sonraí tarluithe le haghaidh oisrí dúchais *Ostrea edulis*; an diúilicín gorm *Mytilus edulis*; *Serpula vermicularis*'.
- Iarratas ar sonraí - 'sonraí monatóireachta Benthos WFD do Chuan Bhaile Átha Cliath agus Inbhear na Life Íochtarach. Tugtar tús áite do na sonraí monatóireachta is déanaí agus d'aon aicmiú stádaís ach peirspictíocht stairiúil bunaithe ar sonraí monatóireachta roimhe seo'.
- Iarratas ar sonraí - 'Sonraí WFD 2020 agus 2021'.
- Iarratas sonraí - 'Gach sonraí PSA 2021'.

- Iarratas ar shonraí - 'Sonraí Benthic le haghaidh na Bóinne, púir na Bóinne agus NWIS'.
- Iarratas ar shonraí - 'Sonraí Benthic do Ghailimh, Thra Lí agus Galway, Tralee agus Chuan Mó'.
- Iarratas ar shonraí - ML Heffernan - tuarascálacha beantacha le haghaidh Mannin, Bertrabouy agus Cuan an Chlocháin - 26 Deireadh Fómhair - seachadta 1 Samhain.
- Iarratas ar shonraí - sonraí WFD OÉ Gaillimh (UoG) do thionscadal SEABA - leanúnach.
- Iarratas ar shonraí - 'Sonraí inveirteabraigh Benthic do chósta thoir na hÉireann'.

#### Creat Bainistíochta Cáilíochta (QMF)

Críochnaíodh dhá mheastóireacht feidhmíochta in 2022:

- Benthos WFD.
- Benthos Natura AA.

#### Tionscadal um chomhtháthú sonraí beantach agus rochtain

Tar éis grúpa ad hoc Fhoras na Mara a bhunaigh Aonad Éiceolaíochta Benthos (BEU) in 2021, chun eolaithe a bhfuil spéis acu sna beintos agus iad siúd a bhailíonn sonraí beantacha a thabhairt le chéile, cuireadh tionscadal ar bun chun comhtháthú agus rochtain sonraí beantach a fheabhsú.

Bhí an grúpa comhdhéanta d'eolaithe Fhoras na Mara ó OCIS, FEAS agus MEFSS agus rinne ionadaíocht ar leasanna leathana ar nós iascaigh cladaigh agus amach ón gcósta, léarscáilíú ghrinneall na farraige, pleanáil spásúlachta mara, éiceolaíocht bheantach agus bainistíocht sonraí monatóireachta, agus samháltú.

Mhainigh an Ciste Eorpach Muirí agus Iascaigh (CEMI) an tionscadal agus bhí sé ar siúl ar feadh 2022. Ba iad BEU agus OCIS a thionscain agus a bhainistigh an tionscadal, le Louise Healy agus Frank Kane ag tiomáint na sonraí agus na heilimintí eolaíoch. Ba é cuspóir an tionscadail tacú le comhtháthú sonraí beantacha agus rochtain ar fud na hInstitiúide d'fhonn feabhas a chur ar sholáthar sonraí beantacha don Chreat-Treoir Uisce, EMODnet agus Lárionad Náisiúnta Sonraí Bithéagsúlachta na hÉireann.

Chríochnaigh an tionscadal ag deireadh mhí na Nollag, agus bhí roinnt tascanna beaga fós le críochnú. Áiríodh le torthaí an tionscadail:

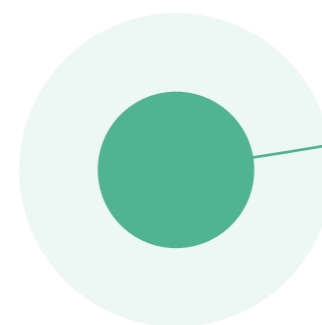
- Feabhas a chur ar aibíocht roinnt tacar sonraí beantach, a aistríodh ó chomhaid go bunachair sonraí.

- Inrochtaineacht agus fónais sonraí a mhéadú trí rochtain láraithe ar shonraí beantacha a fhorbairt.
- Fionnadh agus comhroinnt sonraí éifeachtach a chumasú tríd an deais bheantach nua.

Bogadh sonraí beantacha, sonraí WFD, agus roinnt sonraí iascaigh go bunachair sonraí SQL, agus sonraí eile le leanúint. Cruthaíodh painéal 'PowerBI' chun rochtain fhorhbreatnú ar na bunachair sonraí neamhspleácha seo a cheadú. Is féidir sonraí a aithint agus rochtain a fháil orthu tríd an deais. Soláthraíonn an painéal bealach freisin chun sonraí a chur ar fáil níos poiblí trí ardáin mar EMODNET nó ERDAP, le húsáid ag eagraíochtaí seachtracha. Tá sonraí beantacha á gcur ar fáil don Lárionad Náisiúnta Sonraí Bithéagsúlachta.

#### Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí/ Creat-Treoir um Straitéis Muirí

- Chuir Foireann Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse um Pleanáil Spáis Muirí (MSP)/Treoir na Creatlaí Straitéise Muirí (MSFD) comhairle agus seirbhísí ar fáil don Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta (DHLGH). Chinntigh muid go raibh na sonraí agus na seirbhísí digiteacha ar fáil chun tacú le cur i bhfeidhm an Chreata Náisiúnta um Pleanáil Muirí (NMPF).
- Foinníodh 120+ tacar sonraí a chlúdaíonn fairsinge na ngníomhaíochtaí muirí, rinneadh anailís orthu agus foilsíodh iad ar thairseach nua pleanála muirí ([marineplan.ie](http://marineplan.ie)). Cuireadh 94 tacar sonraí faoi bhráid EMODNet, tairseach sonraí spásúlachta mara na hEorpa.
- I mí na Nollag, d'fhoilsigh DHLGH nuashonrú ar *Ireland's Marine Strategy Part 3: Programme of Measures*. I rith na bliana, chuir an Institiúid sainchomhairle, bainistíocht sonraí agus seirbhísí anailíse ar fáil do DHLGH agus an tuarascáil á hullmhú. Tuairiscíodh na sonraí go léir don Choimisiún (REPORTNET).
- Chuir Foras na Mara seirbhísí digiteacha sonraí ar fáil chun tacú le seachadadh sonraí don Chomhaontú Seirbhíse (SLA). Bunaíodh córais bhainistíochta sonraí agus foilsíodh sraitheanna spáis ar Atlas Mara na hÉireann agus seachadadh chuig DHLGH chun iad a úsáid in uirlis dhigiteach gréasán-bhunaithe.
- Tháinig an Grúpa SLAMatrix le chéile go rialta chun seachadadh seirbhísí ar fud na bhfoirne go léir ag Foras na Mara a chomhordú.
- D'fhorbair an Institiúid agus DHLGH cur chuige monatóireachta don Chreat Náisiúnta um Pleanáil Muirí a shainíonn 78 táscaire comhshaoil, sóisialta, eacnamaíoch agus earnála agus teimpléid le haghaidh bailiú sonraí.



- Bhailigh an fhoireann Socheacnamaíoch sonraí eacnamaíoch agus rinne siad suirbhé chun an *Ocean Economy Report* a fhoilsiú i mí na Nollag.
- Tá saineolaithe Fhoras na Mara fós gafa go láidir in obair choimisiúin OSPAR maidir le substaintí guaiseacha agus eotrófu, aigéadú aigéin, tionscal amach ón gcósta agus gníomhaíochtaí daonna agus éagsúlacht bhitheolaíoch.
- Bhí Caitriona NicAonghusais ina comhchathaoirleach ar Ghrúpa Oibre ICES um Pleanáil Muirí agus Bainistíocht Chríos an Chósta (WGMPCZM) agus thionóil sí a cruinniú bliantúil i mí Aibreáin.
- Seachadadh leanúnach táirgí do DHLGH i rith 2022. Áiríodh orthu sin léarscáileanna scéil, measúnú GIS ar Bhearta Caomhnaithe Éifeachtacha Eile Ceantarbhunaithe (OECM) in uisce na hÉireann, léirshamhlú sonraí agus táirgí spásúlachta bunaithe ar éiceachórais, córas QC sonraí ceimice, Anailís Costais Tairbhe do POManna.
- Tá an fhoireann ag tacú leis na forbairtí gaoithe amach ón gcósta atá ag teacht chun cinn trí chuidiú le cur i bhfeidhm an ghrúpa idirchaidrimh nuabhunaithe Seafood-ORE (Fuinneamh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta) agus trí thacú le grúpa sonraí OREDPII.
- Leanadh le tionscadail BPA EMFF BG in 2022. Sonraí beantach, aeráid, feamainn. Críochnaíodh sraith seimineáir an CEMI ar 2 Márta agus d'fhreastail 74 rannpháirtí uirthi. Rinneadh próifíliú ar thrí tionscadal leanúnacha BPA (mapáil Speiceas Coimhthíocha Ionracha, Staidéar Socheacnamaíoch ar fheamainn agus samháltú Athrú Aeráide).

- I rith 2022, threoraigh an Institiúid forbairt Phlean Forbartha Bia Mara an Chiste Eorpach Muirí, Iascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe (EMFAF) a foilsíodh i mí na Nollag. Leithdháileadh buiséad €6.3 milliún ar an Scéim Faisnéise Muirí 2022-2027. Ceadáíodh clár oibre um Sheirbhísí Sonraí agus Digiteacha agus Aeráide i bprionsabal.
- Tugann an fhoireann comhairle ar an leibhéal náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta trí pháirt a ghlacadh i ngrúpaí saineolaithe teicniúla, grúpaí stiúrtha agus grúpa comhairleach geallsealbhóirí do Phleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí agus do Chreat-Treoir na Straitéise Muirí.

## Seirbhísí Comhairleacha maidir le hÉiceachórais Iascaigh (FEAS)

### Earnáil an Bhia Mara

Cuireann an earnáil bia mara go mór le Geilleagar Gorm na hÉireann agus chuir sí €1.3 billiún le geilleagar na hÉireann in 2022. (*BIM Business of Seafood 2022*). Bhí luach €196 milliún ar dhobharshaothrú na hÉireann. Is fiú €507 milliún luach thaisce an bhoinn acmhainní iascaigh (€336 milliún ó shoithí Éireannacha agus €171 milliún ó shoithí eachtracha) agus tá soláthar na comhairle eolaíochta a chinntíonn saothrú inbhuanaithe na n-acmhainní seo ina phríomhchuid de chlár oibre Fhoras na Mara.

Is meicníocht mhaoinithe an-tábhachtach é an Ciste Eorpach Muirí, Iascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe (EMFAF) le haghaidh seachadadh seirbhíse Fhoras na Mara. Tá clár ilbhliantúil an Aontais maidir le bailiú, bainistiú agus úsáid sonraí san earnáil iascaigh (EU-MAP) maoinithe faoi EMFAF agus is cuid lárnach é de na seirbhísí comhairle eolaíche agus tacaíochta teicniúla a sholáthraíonn Foras na Mara don Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) i ndáil leis an gComhbheartas Iascaigh. Tacaítear freisin le réimsí na Bithéagsúlachta Muirí agus an Eolais Muirí, mar a bhaineann siad le Dobharshaothrú agus Iascach, faoi Chlár Oibriúcháin EMFAF.

Nephrops ar ghrinneall na farraige.  
Grianghraf: Nick Pfeiffer.



Tá an Institiúid freagrach as EU-MAP na hÉireann agus chuir an Coiste Eolaíoch, Teicniúil agus Eacnamaíoch um Iascach (STECF) agus an Coimisiún Eorpach An Plean Oibre Náisiúnta nuashonraithe 2023 go 2027 isteach agus cheadaigh sé é. Áirítear leis an bplean oibre sampláil gabhála ar muir agus i gcalafoirt, cláir suirbhéireachta taighde a chomhordaítear go hidirnáisiúnta, sampláil cladaigh agus suirbhéanna lena n-áirítear clár féinshamplála d'oibreoirí san earnáil iascaireachta cladaigh. Áiríonn sé freisin meastóireacht shocheacnamaíoch ar na hearnálacha iascaireachta, próiseála éisc agus dobharshaothraithe.

Tomhaiseadh os cionn 542,000 iasc/sliogéisc le linn chlár EUMAP 2022. Bailíodh sonraí aoise ó bheagnach 51,000 duine ar fud gach clár samplála speiceas tráchtála agus suirbhéanna chun sonraí a sholáthar do na samhlacha aoisbhunaithe a úsáidtear i measúnuithe stoic.

In 2022, faoi EU-MAP, rinneadh 18 suirbhé taighde ar éagsúlacht speiceas a shaothraítear ar bhonn tráchtála chun na sonraí bunúsacha a thacaíonn le measúnú stoic a sholáthar. Caitheadh 1,852 lá eolaithe san iomlán ar muir dírithe ar raon leathan speiceas lena n-áirítear ronnach, faoitín gorm, scadán, iasc mara, megrim, Nephrops, ruacain, muiríní, oisrí, portán agus gliomach. Forbraíodh teicneolaíochtaí nua in Éirinn agus úsáideadh iad ar shuirbhéanna *Nephrops* atá ar thús cadhnaíochta maidir le conas a dhéantar na suirbhéanna seo ar fud an domhain.

Le linn 2022, agus é ag teacht chun cinn ó shrianta Covid-19 a raibh tionchar acu ar fheidhmiú an chlár bhliantúil um shampláil ar muir, thosaigh FEAS ag tabhairt beocht arís don chlár Samplála ar Muir, trí shamplóirí a bhí neamhghníomhach le linn srianta Covid-19 a athoiliúint agus trí shamplóirí nua a oiliúint don chlár.

Cuireadh an 'Féinshampláil Ar Muir', a d'fhorbair FEAS ar dtús i gcomhar leis an tionscal iascaireachta mar bheart maolaithe Covid, a thuilleadh chun cinn agus méadaíodh an rannpháirtíocht chun cuidiú le cur chuige dé-srutha a thionscnamh maidir le bailiú sonraí ar muir. Leis an gclár 'Féinshampláil Ar Farraige', bailíonn na hiascairí sonraí agus samplaí ó fh-thacar tarlaithe agus tugann siad ar tír iad le go bhféadfaidh foireann FEAS iad a bhailiú agus a anailísí.

Bailíonn an 'Sampláil Ar Farraige', de réir a nádúir, tacar sonraí níos substaintiúla ach comhlíonann gach sruth sonraí an ceann eile agus méadaíonn siad líon na breathnuithe ar muir le chéile. Bunaíodh creat féinshamplála freisin leis an earnáil iascaireachta cladaigh. Leithdháileann an creat seo méideanna sonraí oibre (tuairisciú sonraí agus sampláil) ar scipéirí sa chreat trí nósanna imeachta mionchomórtais.

Trí úsáid a bhaint as prótacail leasaithe iar-Chovid-19, bhíodhas in ann sonraí a bhailiú ar muir ar líon teoranta soithí agus ar shoithí a raibh níos lú ná 18 n-uaire an chloig ar muir acu. Mar a bheifí ag súil leis, bhí leisce i measc cuid den chabhlach samplóirí a iompar mar go raibh siad féin ag cur srian lena nochtadh féideartha do Covid. In 2022, chaith samplóirí Fhoras na Mara 271 lá san iomlán ar muir ag bailiú sonraí ar ghabhála tráchtála ar shoithí cladaigh, grinnill agus peilgeacha.

Rinne an cabhlach grinnill 26 turas 'Féinshamplála Ar Muir' sa bhreis agus thuairiscigh an earnáil cladaigh 202 turas féinshamplála san iomlán faoi chonradh le Foras na Mara. Is ionchuir ríthábhachtacha iad na tacair sonraí a bhailítear ar muir do na cláir náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta um measúnú stoc agus cuidíonn siad le comhairle a sholáthar atá lárnach do shaothrú inbhuanaithe na speiceas sin.

D'éirigh le Foras na Mara 30 glaoch oifigiúil sonraí EU-MAP a fhreagairt. Is príomhtháscaire feidhmíochta iad na glaonna sonraí seo do chlár DCMAP na hÉireann. Chomh maith le sonraí bunúsacha chun críocha measúnaithe stoic, dhírigh glaonna sonraí freisin ar fhoghabháil speiceas i mbaol agus ar Éiceachórais Mhuirí Leochaileacha (VMEanna), chun tacú le cinnteoireacht faoin gComhbheartas lascaigh.

Baineadh comhordú réigiúnach ar an EU-MAP amach trí Ghrúpa Comhordaithe Réigiúnach (RCG) an Atlantaigh Thuaidh, na Mara Thuaidh agus an Artaigh Thoir (RCG NANSEA) trí obair 15 fhoghrúpa idirsheisiúnacha.

### International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

Leanann Foras na Mara ar aghaidh ag soláthar ceannaireachta agus ag cur go mór le measúnú agus le hobair chomhairleach ICES. In 2022, chríochnaigh tríúr eolaí de chuid Fhoras na Mara a dtéarmaí trí bliana agus ina gcathaoirligh ar phríomhghrúpaí oibre (an Grúpa Oibre um Measúnú Scadán (HAWG), an Grúpa Oibre ar Stoic a Dháiltear go Forleathan (WGWIDE) agus an Grúpa Oibre ar Shuirbhéanna NEPhrops (WGNEPS)).

Tá cúigear saineolaithe eile ó Fhoras na Mara ina chathaoirleach ar ghrúpaí éagsúla i gcónaí - Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE), Working Group on Science to Support Conservation, Restoration and Management of Diadromous Species (WGDIAD), Working Group on Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Surveys (WGMEGS), Working Group on Acoustic Trawl Data Portal Governance (WGAcousticGov) agus Working Group on the Governance of Quality Management of Data and Advice (WGQuality).

Rinne eolaithe Fhoras na Mara cathaoirleacht ar thrí chruinniú tagarmharcála ICES in 2022. Ina theannta sin, rinne eolaithe Fhoras na Mara cathaoirleacht ar dhá cheann de sheacht ngrúpa stiúrtha ICES (Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Steering Group (IEASG) agus Fisheries Resources Steering Group (FRSG)).

### Achoimre ar Fhoras na Mara (rannpháirtíocht FEAS) i sainghrúpaí ICES in 2022

Cruinnithe Cineál ICES	Cruinnithe D'fhreastal	Cruinnithe Cathaoirleacht
Grúpaí Oibre Measúnaithe Stoc	12	3
Comhdháil Gréasáin ACOM	10	0
Grúpaí Dréachtaithe Comhairle ACOM	9	2
Grúpaí Oibre Tagarmharcála	8	3
Grúpaí Oibre Suirbhé	7	1
Grúpaí Oibre a bhaineann le sonraí	6	2
Grúpaí Oiliúna agus Comhordaithe	6	0
Ceardlanna ICES	6	12
Seirbhísí agus éifeachtaí éiceachórais Grúpaí Oibre	4	0
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>13</b>

I mí Iúil, ceapadh saineolaí ó Fhoras na Mara ar an gCoiste Eolaíoch, Teicniúil agus Eacnamaíoch um Iascach (STECF) nua-athdhéanta. Ba é seo an chéad uair a raibh ionadaíocht ag an Institiúid ar an gcoiste ó 2015 i leith.

Glacann saineolaithe Fhoras na Mara páirt go rialta agus déanann siad cathaoirleacht ar shainghrúpaí tábhachtacha CETEI a chuimsigh, in 2022, measúnú Fisheries Dependent Information (FDI) agus comhairle maidir le stoic neamh-chuóta (chun tacú le forbairt straitéisí ilbhliantúla i gcomhthéacs AE-RA), Bainistíocht Chomhardú/Acmhainne, Sciataí agus gathanna (Saineolaí Fhoras na Mara ina Chathaoirleach), Meastóireacht ar Phleananna Oibre maidir le bailiú sonraí agus tarchur sonraí saincheisteanna.

I rith 2022, rinne an Foras anailísí éagsúla agus thug sí tacaíocht eolaíoch don DAFM i ndáil le Comhairle mhí na Nollag, comhaontuithe iascaigh stáit chósta, iascach cladaigh agus raon leathan ábhar bainistíochta iascaigh eile.

In 2022, rinne FEAS seirbhísí ar 84 iarratas ón DAFM agus naoi n-iarratas ó chliaint agus ó gheallsealbhóirí eile. Ba é an t-am freagartha d'fhorhmhór na gceisteanna seo laistigh de thrí lá agus ba é an t-am oibre iomlán a bhain leis na hiarraitais seo ná timpeall 70 lá duine.

Lean Foras na Mara ar aghaidh ag obair go dlúth le hIascach Intíre Éireann (IFI) in 2022 ar an Sainghrúpa Teicniúil ar Bhradán (TEGOS) a sholáthraíonn comhairle ghabhála ar gach abhainn bradán in Éirinn ar bhonn bliantúil agus tá sé mar bhunús don chomhairle don Eagraíocht um Chaomhnú Bradán an Atlantaigh Thuaidh (NASCO) ón ICES.



Tomhaiseadh  
542,000

iasc agus sliogéisc le linn chlár  
EUMAP 2022.

Chuir an Institiúid tacaíocht eolaíoch ar fáil freisin do thoscaireacht an AE chuig NASCO le haghaidh cruinnithe bliantúla na Comhairle, an Choimisiúin agus Idirsheisiúin. Chuir FEAS tacaíocht samplála farraige ar fáil don IFI freisin chun sonraí ar muir a bhailiú ó chairteacha slatiascaireachta tráchtála.

Leanann Foras na Mara ar aghaidh ag cur saineolais ar fáil don Sainghrúpa Teicniúil um Eascann (TEGE) a chomhordaíonn an clár náisiúnta monatóireachta eascann agus a sholáthraíonn an iarscríbhinn stoic theicniúil do na tuarascálacha náisiúnta tríbhliantúla ar dhul chun cinn maidir le bainistiú eascann don AE faoi Rialachán an AE (2007).

Tacaíonn Foras na Mara le IFI agus le ICES ar bhonn bliantúil trí sholáthar sonraí agus comhairle, lena n-áirítear glaonna sonraí an AE agus ICES. Críochnaíodh staidéar píolótach Creat Bailiú Sonraí (DCF) leis an IFI chun próifíl a dhéanamh ar an earnáil iascaigh áineasa agus chun measúnú a dhéanamh ar leibhéal na ngabhálacha de réir speiceas in iascach áineasa.

Lean an Foras le maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar réachtáil oibríochtúil an Chláir Náisiúnta Monatóireachta Míolta Mara (NSLMP) in 2022 agus rinneadh cigireacht ar gach feirm ghníomhach bradán Atlantaigh mhuirí. Foilsítear an tuarascáil bhliantúil don chlár monatóireachta míolta mara gach bliain i bhFeasachán Iascaigh na hÉireann.

Soláthraíodh tacaíocht don Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta (DHLGH) i réimse na bithéagsúlachta mhuirí. Dhírigh an obair seo ar oibleagáidí na hÉireann faoi OSPAR, an Coinbhinsiún um Farraige Réigiúnacha don Atlantach Thoir Thuaidh, agus i dtreo Chreat-Treoir na Straitéise Mhuirí (MSFD).



Painéal oscailte ag Comhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta ICES.  
Grianghraf: Sinéad Coyne.





Paul Connolly agus Ciaran Kelly ó Foras na Mara ag cur leabhar stoic 2022 i láthair an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, Charlie McConalogue TD.  
Grianghraf: Andrew Downes.

Déantar an obair seo a pháirtmhaoiniú faoi Chomhaontú Seirbhíse idir DHLGH agus an Institiúid, agus earcaítear baill foirne nua in 2021 agus 2022. Ba ghnóthachtáil ar leith é in 2022 ná measúnuithe OSPAR a thabhairt chun críche don Tuarascáil ar Stádas Cáilíochta OSPAR 2023 atá le teacht.

### An Leabhar Stoic

Tá tacaíocht eolaíoch a sholáthar don Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) lárnach d'obair Foras na Mara. Seachadadh an Leabhar Stoic bliantúil, d'éisc ghrinnill agus peiligeacha, chuig an Roinn Talmhaíochta agus Bia i mí na Samhna agus cuireadh ar fáil é i bhformáid chruachóip, in-íoslódáilte pdf agus aip bunaithe ar an ngréasán ([shiny.marine.ie/stockbook](http://marine.ie/stockbook)).

Soláthraíonn an Leabhar Stoic an chomhairle eolaíoch is déanaí ar 75 stoc Éireannach a shaothraíonn cabhlach iascaireachta na hÉireann agus úsáidtear é in idirbheartaíochtaí leis an AE maidir le deiseanna iascaireachta ag Comhairle lascaigh mhí na Nollag. Táirgeadh an fhaisnéis choibhéiseach do stoic shliogéisc i mí an Mhárta 2022 san Athbhreithniú ar Stoic Sliogéisc agus lascaigh. Cuireadh an tAthbhreithniú faoi bhráid an Aire Bia, Talmhaíochta agus Mara agus DAFM ag cruinniú ar an láthair i mí na Samhna freisin.

Soláthraíonn an tAthbhreithniú seo, a chuirfear ar fáil ar líne freisin in 2023, comhairle bhliantúil ar stoic sliogéisc a bhfuil tábhacht náisiúnta ag baint leo. Úsáideadh na sonraí ón Stocleabhar freisin chun an measúnú inbhuanaitheachta bliantúil a fhorbairt a chuir an tAire Bia, Talmhaíochta agus Mara, Charlie McConalogue TD, faoi bhráid an Oireachtais i mí Dheireadh Fómhair.

### Scéim Bithéagsúlachta Muirí

Is comhpháirt thábhachtach í an Scéim Bithéagsúlachta Muirí de chlár oibríochtúla an Chiste Eorpaigh Mhuirí agus lascaigh (CEMI) agus an Chiste Eorpaigh Muirí, lascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe (EMFAF). In 2022, faomhadh tionscadal nua amháin (Breathnóirí Mamach Muirí ar Shuirbhéanna Teilifíse Faoi Uisce) faoin CEMI le reáchtáil taobh le naoi dtionscadal a bhí ann cheana, ar cuireadh seacht gcinn de na tionscadail sin i gcrích go rathúil in 2022 (13 cinn tugtha chun críche ag deireadh 2021).

I measc na dtionscadal reatha faoi scéim bithéagsúlachta an CEMI bhí: monatóireacht ar sheachghabhálacha, Taifeadán Leantach Planctóin in uiscí na hÉireann, Sintéis agus forbairt táirgí comhairleacha - SeaRover agus bailiú sonraí dríodair agus éiceachórais Ghrinneall na Farraige. Leanadh le hathchóiriú speiceas agus gnáthóg faoin tionscadal athchóirithe oisrí dúchasacha.

Leanfaidh trí thionscadal CEMI ar aghaidh go dtí go ndúnfar an scéim go déanach in 2023. Is iad na tionscadail deiridh de chuid an CEMI atá le tabhairt chun críche in 2023 ná córais mhonatóireachta soithí ar shoithí faoi 12 mhéadar, Mapáil sceireacha Cladaigh agus tionscadal For-rochtana agus tacaíochta teicniúla an CEMI.

Faoin gclár nua EMFAF (2021-2027), d'fhaomh an DAFM 12 thionscadal i bprionsabal. Astu seo is é an Tionscadal Gliomach um Thabhacht Straitéiseach a ceadaiódh i bprionsabal in 2021 agus cuirfear tús le dhá cheann a faomhadh in 2022 in 2023 (CPR, For-Rochtain). Clúdaíonn na tionscadail seo réimsí atá lárnach do sheachadadh seirbhíse Foras na Mara faoi NATURA agus an Treoir um Ghnáthóga agus athchóiriú stoc, mar an oisrí dúchasacha, iascach na nglíomach talún agus ag cosaint scátaí agus gathanna atá i mbaol.

Tionscadail AE Horizon-Europe ar cuireadh tús leo in 2022:

- MarinePlan - Riachtanais spásúlachta contrártha le haghaidh iascaireachta, Limistéir Chosanta Mhuirí (MPAanna) agus Fuinneamh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCóta (ORE) a réiteach, lena n-áirítear úsáid an chur chuige um Limistéir le Tábhacht Éiceolaíoch nó Bhitheolaíoch (EBSA) a fhorbairt.
- GES4SEAS - modhanna a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm chun brúnna carnacha agus tionchair ó ghníomhaíochtaí daonna a thuiscint.
- OceanICU - Tuiscint Charbóin a Fheabhsú san Aigéan. Cur chuige samhaltaithe éiceachórais a úsáid chun tionchair na hiascaireachta (tionchar bainte éisc agus ghrinneall na farraige) ar an mbuiséad foriomlán carbóin agus ar leithlisiú go grinneall na farraige a thuiscint.

I measc na dtionscadal EMFF ar cuireadh tús leo in 2021 nó 2022 bhí:

- Dríodar ghrinneall na farraige agus bailiú sonraí éiceachórais chun tacú leis an gCreat-Treoir um Straitéis Mhuirí (MSFD), mapáil Natura agus Gnáthóg.
- Modhanna a fhorbairt chun tréithriú agus measúnú caomhnaithe a dhéanamh ar Ghnáthóga sceireacha Cladaigh.
- UWTV Marine Mammal Observer - treoirthionscadal.
- Taifeadán Planctóin Leantach (CPR) in uiscí na hÉireann a d'athbhunaigh bealaí CPR. Ceadaiódh leanúint leis an tionscadal seo in 2023 faoi EMFAF.

Soláthroidh na tionscadail seo sonraí bonnlíne iascaigh agus gnáthóige nó soláthroidh siad feabhsú suntasach ar chomhairle bunaithe ar mhodhanna measúnaithe riosca is féidir a ionchorprú i gcinntí bainistíochta agus in uirlisí tacaíochta. Tá na modhanna seo lárnach do sholáthar comhairle maidir le measúnuithe Natura 2000 Airteagal 6, tuairisceoirí MSFD ar bhrúnna agus tionchair dúshaothraithe, truaillithe, athrú aeráide, sláine ghrinneall na farraige, OSPAR agus dearadh gréasáin na Limistéir Mhuirí faoi Chosaint (MPAanna) faoi Phleanáil Spásúlachta Mhuirí.

Faoin EMFAF nua, formheasadh 11 thionscadal nua i bprionsabal le linn 2022. Lean Tionscadal Tábhacht Straitéiseach ag baint le Gliomach na gCuradh ag forbairt roghanna bainistíochta don iascach gliomach amach anseo i gcomhar leis an tionscal agus iascaigh líonta tacair atá gaolmhar go dlúth amach ó chósta thiar theas na hÉireann.

### EMFF 2022 Tionscadail Bithéagsúlachta Muirí

Fáil sonraí a uathobriú le haghaidh soithí faoi 12 mhéadar ar fad - Céim 2
Measúnú ar chomhdhéanamh gabhála speiceas in iascach a chuireann i mbaol bithéagsúlachta - Céim 2
Measúnú cuí ar ghníomhaíochtaí do bharrshaothraithe in SPAanna - maolú/monatóireacht
Oisrí dúchasacha in Éirinn a athchóiriú
Tacaíocht don Scéim: Scaipeadh & For-Rochtain - Céim 2
Taifeadán Planctóin leanúnach in uiscí na hÉireann
Sintéis agus forbairt táirgí comhairleacha: Céim 3 SeaRover
Dríodar ghrinneall na farraige agus bailiú sonraí éiceachórais chun tacú le mapáil MSFD, Natura agus Gnáthóg.
Léarscáiliú sceireacha Cladaigh
UWTV Marine Mammal Observer - treoirthionscadal

### EMFAF Faofa i bPrionsabal 2022

Measúnú cuí ar ghníomhaíochtaí do bharrshaothraithe i Limistéir Chaomhantais Speisialta Natura 2000
Measúnú cuí ar ghníomhaíochtaí do bharrshaothraithe i Limistéir faoi Chosaint Speisialta Natura 2000
Taifeadán Planctóin leanúnach in uiscí na hÉireann
Bailiú sonraí éiceachórais ar shuirbhéanna iascaigh na hÉireann chun tacú le mapáil MSFD, Natura agus Gnáthóg
Saineolas chun tuairiscí AA a dhéanamh mar a bhaineann sé le do bharrshaothráil agus iascach
Cur i bhfeidhm bearta Natura don iascach
Bainistíocht ar an iascach gliomach chun speicis atá i mbaol criticiúil a chosaint.
Éifeachtúlacht na mbeart maolaithe maidir le gníomhaíochtaí bainistithe (dobharshaothráil) arna ndéanamh ar láithreáin Natura a thomhas
Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar aisghabháil speiceas domhainisce a shaothraítear
For-rochtain, Riarachán agus tacaíocht theicniúil
Oisrí dúchasacha in Éirinn a athchóiriú
SEABA: Cur Chuige Caighdeánaithe Éiceachórais i leith Measúnuithe Beantacha

Seo liosta na dtionscadal a faomhadh le linn 2022:

- Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar aisghabháil speiceas domhain a shaothraítear.
- Measúnú Cuí (AA) ar ghníomhaíochtaí doharshaothraithe i Limistéir faoi Chosaint Speisialta Natura 2000 agus i Limistéir Chaomhantais Speisialta.
- SEABA: Cur Chuige Caighdeánaithe Éiceachórais i leith Measúnuithe Beantacha.
- Éifeachtúlacht na mbeart maolaithe maidir le gníomhaíochtaí bainistithe (dobharshaothrú) arna ndéanamh ar láithreáin Natura a thomhas.
- Saineolas chun tuairiscí AA a dhéanamh mar a bhaineann sé le doharshaothrú agus iascach.
- Cur i bhfeidhm bearta Natura don iascach.
- Bailiú sonraí éiceachórais ar shuirbhéanna iascaigh na hÉireann chun tacú le Creat-Treoir na Straitéise Muirí (MSFD), mapáil Natura agus Gnáthóg.
- Oisrí dúchasacha a athchóiriú agus bainistíocht a fhorbairt in Éirinn.
- Taifeadán Planctóin leanúnach in uisce na hÉireann. Comhlíonfaidh sé seo le himeacht ama oibleagáidí na hÉireann faoi Thuairisceoirí MSFD 1 agus 4 (gnáthóga Peiligeacha agus Gréasáin Bia).
- For-rochtain, Riarachán agus tacaíocht theicniúil

Is gnéithe tábhachtacha iad for-rochtain agus cumarsáid le geallsealbhóirí de scéimeanna EU-MAP agus Bithéagsúlachta. Úsáidtear láithreán gréasáin tiomnaithe EMFF de chuid Fhoras na Mara mar ardán faisnéise le haghaidh torthaí tionscadail. Reachtáladh cruinnithe nuashonraithe rialta leis an Tionscal agus NGOanna agus leanadh le nuashonruithe dul chun cinn a thabhairt ag cruinnithe Choiste Monatóireachta an CEMI.

### Seimineár Gréasáin EMFF

In 2022, tháinig an Scéim Bithéagsúlachta Muirí agus an Scéim um Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí le chéile arís chun Clár Shraith Webinar an EMFF a reáchtáil, arna óstáil i mí an Mhárta. Chuimsigh an seisiún trí chaint ó gach scéim agus bhí os cionn 70 duine i láthair ó ranna Rialtais, gníomhaireachtaí, eagraíochtaí neamhrialtasacha agus an pobal ag gach seisiún le haghaidh cainteanna ábhartha. I measc na n-ábhar a clúdáidh faoin scéim bithéagsúlachta bhí: Idirghníomhaíochtaí le Fiadhúlra san Iascach Gliomach Spónach amach ó Chósta Iardheisceart na hÉireann agus Sinteis agus Forbairt Táirgí Comhairleacha ó SeaRover.

### Taispeántas Scipéir na hÉireann

I 2022, d'fhill sé ar imeachtaí poiblí freisin agus bhí FEAS Bithéagsúlachta Mara EMFF ina óstach ar dhá sheastán ar leith ag an Irish Skipper Expo i Luimneach ag deireadh mhí an Mhárta. Chuir an seastán iascaigh cladaigh póstaer agus ábhar eile ar an gclár iascaigh cladaigh i láthair agus chuaigh sé i ngleic le go leor tionscal iascaireachta agus páirtithe leasmhara eile, lena n-áirítear an earnáil um Fluinneamh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta (ORE) ag an imeacht.

Ar leithligh, cruthaíodh póstaer agus taispeánadh iad a chuimsigh téamaí bithéagsúlachta éagsúla Scéim Bithéagsúlachta Muirí EMFF; Idirghníomhaíocht iascaigh Natura/Idirghníomhaíocht Dobharshaothraithe Natura, Athchóiriú Speiceas agus Gnáthóg agus Tionchar iascach ar bithéagsúlacht / Tacaíocht do MSFD. Aibhsíodh an Tionscadal Scátaí agus Gathanna i bhfoirm scéalléarscáil idirghníomhach agus bhí buaicphointí físeáin ó shuirbhéanna SeaRover ar taispeáint freisin.

### Sraith Tuarascálacha CEMI ar OAR

Le linn 2022 foilsíodh roinnt tuarascálacha tionscadail i Sraith Tuarascálacha Fhoras na Mara 2014-2020 EMFF. Cuimsítear leis seo:

- Suirbhé Teilifíse Faoi Uisce Tuarascáil Breathnóra Mamach Mara RV *Tom Crean* 13 - 23 Lúnasa 2022.
- Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar aisghabháil speiceas domhain a shaothraítear.
- Tuarascálacha Deiridh Cumaiscthe Soláthar Néaróipe Veirteabraigh agus Seirbhísí Aisghabhála Samplacha.
- A review of the basis and effectiveness of the Biologically Sensitive Area, Nephrops and Microplastics ([oar.marine.ie/handle/10793/1781](https://oar.marine.ie/handle/10793/1781)).

Féach níos mó ar an tSraith Tuairiscí: [oar.marine.ie/handle/10793/1690](https://oar.marine.ie/handle/10793/1690).

### Príomhsheirbhísí Eolaíochta agus Comhairleacha eile le linn 2022:

- Tacaíocht eolaíoch don DAFM, comhairle agus tacaíocht a sholáthar do chruinniú Chomhairle Iascaireachta an AE agus ag cruinnithe de chuid na Stát Cósta, agus bileoga fíricí agus ionchuir a sholáthar do thuarascáil ghrúpa athbhreithnithe an CBI a foilsíodh i mí Iúil.
- Tacaíocht eolaíoch don Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide (DECC) maidir leis na hidirghníomhaíochtaí idir forbairt Fuinneamh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta (ORE), iascaigh agus éiceachórais mhuirí lena n-áirítear ionchuir chuig sonraí OREDP2 agus grúpa eolaíoch.
- Measúnuithe OSPAR a thabhairt chun críche chun tacú le Tuarascáil Stádas Cáilíochta OSPAR (2023) a úsáidfeadh freisin chun obair Airteagail 8, 9 agus 10 MSFD atá le teacht in 2024 a líonadh.
- Críoch a chur le Measúnuithe Alt 17 don Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht (DHLGH) don Chreat-Treoir um Straitéis Mhuirí le haghaidh iasc tráchtála, iasc neamhthráchtála, gréasán bia mara agus sláine ghrinneall na farraige.
- Tá córas bainistíochta doiciméad Paradigm3 anois ina chuid lárnach den Chreat Bainistíochta Cáilíochta um Bainistíocht Sonraí (DM-QMF) agus rialaítear leagan gach doiciméad creidiúnaithe ag baint úsáide as an gcóras seo agus úsáidtear é chun méadracht a rianú.
- Tacaíocht leanúnach do thionscadail eile lasmuigh den Chreat um Bhailiú Sonraí (DCF) amhail an Clár um Chlibeáil Taighde ar Thuinnín Gorm i gcomhar le hOllscoil Stanford (S.A.) agus an Coimisiún Idirnáisiúnta um Chaomhnú Tuinníní Atlantacha (ICCAT) chomh maith le tacaíocht leanúnach d'Iascach Slatiascaireachta Gabhála, Clibe agus Scaoilte an tuinnín ghoirm (arna chomhordú ag DAFM, DECC, Foras na Mara, Iascach Intíre Éireann (IFI) agus an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara (SFPA)) a sholáthraíonn sonraí gabhála d'Éirinn chuig ICCAT agus suirbhé an EMFF Reef.
- I rith 2022, bhí ról lárnach ag foireann FEAS i bhforbairt measúnuithe agus comhairle na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES) ar stoic éisc, iascaigh mheasctha agus seirbhísí agus éifeachtaí éiceachórais.

- Leanadh ar aghaidh le sonraí a bhailiú agus a chothabháil ar thacair sonraí éiceolaíochta fadtéarmacha (deich mbliana) a dhéanann cur síos ar stoic éisc dhronacha agus ar cháilíocht éiceolaíoch an doharcheantair ag Áis Taighde Fhoras na Mara, Baile Uí Fhiacháin. Comhlánaíodh gach iarratas ar shonraí, lena n-áirítear iad siúd a bhaineann le comhairle stoic náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta (ICES) do bhradán, eascann agus breac, agus iad siúd atá riachtanach do thacaíocht leanúnach do thionscadail chomhoibrithe a mhaoineáir go seachtrach.
- Leanadh agus tacaíocht don Chlár Náisiúnta um Chlibeáil Sreang Chódáilte Bradán agus Aisghabháil Clibeanna a tionscnaíodh i 1980 agus a sholáthair faisnéis riachtanach ar threochtaí fadtéarmacha marthanais mara i bpobail bradán an Atlantaigh san Atlantach Thoir Thuaidh.
- Mhéadaigh rannpháirtíocht sa chlár scoláireachta sparánachtaí tar éis ciorrú le blianta beaga anuas mar gheall ar shrianta Covid-19 le trí sparánacht déag críochnaithe, méadú ar naoi gcinn in 2021.



Longbhriseadh Inis Oírr.  
Grianghraf: Sinéad Coyne.

# I CÁS-STADÉIR

## Cás-Staidéar 1: Géineolaíocht a úsáidtear chun fadhb aitheantais stoic scadán fadtréimhseach a réiteach

I Rannán 6.a, 7.b-c (Iarthar na hAlban agus Iarthuaisceart na hÉireann) de chuid na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES) tá ar a laghad dhá stoc scadán ar leith; ceann a sceitheann in uisce na hÉireann ó 6.a Theas, 7.b-c agus ceann a sceitheann in uisce na hAlban sa 6.a Thuaidh.

Go dtí 2015, rinne ICES measúnú ar leithligh orthu seo mar dhá stoc, ag táirgeadh dhá shraith comhairle agus dhá GII gach bliain. Mar sin féin, is eol go meascann na stoic seo le chéile ar thailte cothaithe samhraidh ar Scairbh Mhálanna (m.sh. Iarthuaisceart Dhún na nGall agus Iarthar na hAlban). Chinn tagarmharc de chuid ICES in 2015 nach bhféadfaí an meascadh sin a chainníochtú sa suirbhé fuaimiúil ná sna measúnuithe stoic agus dá bhrí sin moladh go gcónascadh na measúnuithe mar aon ní amháin.

Ó 2015 i leith, tá comhairle ar ghabhálacha nialais ann don dá stoc. Tá an stoc scadán i 6.a Theas agus 7.bc thar a bheith tábhachtach do thionscal na hiascaireachta in Iarthuaisceart na hÉireann agus mar sin ba mhór an cheist é cailliúint an chuóta do shoití peiligeach.

Ó 2015 i leith, tá tacaíocht agus comhoibriú ag FEAS i roinnt tionscadal sainaitheanta stoic ghéiniteach d'fhonn idirdhealú a dhéanamh ar na stoic mheasctha scadán i limistéar ICES 6.a. Tháinig an obair seo chun críche i bhFeabhra 2022 nuair a cheadaigh tagarmharc ICES do na stoic measúnú ar leith ar scadán i 6.a Theas, 7.bc den chéad uair le seacht mbliana.

Lárnach don fhorbairt seo bhí an cumas chun meastacháin fhuaimiúla suirbhéireachta bithmhaise a roinnt a d'fhéadfaí a dhéanamh de bharr na n-anailísí géiniteacha núíosacha a rinne EDF Scientific (comhfhoinse ag FEAS agus comhpháirtithe Tionscail). Chruthaigh an anailís go raibh an teorainn threolaíoch roimhe seo a úsáideadh chun an dá stoc a scaradh míchuí agus go deimhin d'fhéadfaí scadán de bhunadh 6.a ó Dheas a fháil i bhfad níos faide ó thuaidh ná mar a ceapadh roimhe seo (chomh fada ó thuaidh leis na hInse Gall i rith an tsamhraidh).

Sa bhliain 2023, beidh an GII do 6.a Theas, 7.bc cothrom le 1,892 tonna. Tá sé seo bunaithe ar mheasúnú nua chatagóir

3 agus ar chomhairle ICES a eisíodh i mí an Mheithimh, atá thart ar 500 tonna níos mó ná an sean TAC monatóireachta. Chuir tionscal na hiascaireachta fáilte roimh an scéala mar gur féidir an stoc seo a mheasúnú, a bhainistiú agus a atógáil neamhspleách ar an stoc thuaidh 6.

Maoiníofar deighilt leanúnach stoic ag baint úsáide as an teicneolaíocht ghéiniteach seo faoin gCreat um Bailiú Sonraí (DCF) do 2023-2027. Is é seo an chéad stoc a áiríonn gnáthchlár samplála agus ba cheart go soláthródh sé teimpléad le haghaidh obair aitheantais ar stoic eile.

**Figúir 1. Uirlis samplála géiniteach speisialaithe a úsáidtear chun samplaí fíocháin a thógáil ó scadán ar shuirbhéanna agus i bport.**



## Cás-staidéar 2: An chéad suirbhé fuaimiúil tiomnaithe ar fhlúirse éisc mhéisipeiligeach in iarthar na hÉireann - Meán Fómhair 2022

Is iad orgánaigh mhéisipeiligeacha an acmhainn neamshaothraithe is mó atá fágtha in aigéin an domhain, le meastachán bithmhaise le déanaí ag 10 billiún tonna méadrach, 10 n-uaire níos mó ná na meastacháin roimhe seo.

Thug an meastachán seo go leor eolaithe agus cuideachtaí iascaireachta tráchtála machnamh ar an scóip atá ann do shaothrú tráchtála na hacmhainne seo. Cuireadh roinnt tionscadal maoinithe ag an AE ar bun ansin le fáil amach an mbeadh sé inbhuanaithe a leithéid d'iascach a fhorbairt. Sa chomhthéacs sin, breithníodh inbhuanaitheacht i dtéarmaí na hinbhuanaitheachta bithéolaíoch (sláinte stoic), éiceolaíochta (ról na n-iasc san éiceachóras) agus eacnamaíoch (inmharthanacht airgeadais na stoc seo a iascaireacht). Is í an eochair do gach gné den inbhuanaitheacht ná fios a bheith agat ar dtús cé mhéad bithmhais atá amuigh ansin san aigéan, agus patrún a dhéanadh spáis.

Is é an príomh-mhodh chun bithmhais éisc pheiligeach a mheas, agus go háirithe, an speiceas tráchtála is dóichí, an pearlside *Maurolicus muelleri* (féach Fíor 2) ag baint úsáide as fuaimíocht. Bhí taighde Fhoras na Mara dírithe mar sin ar fhorbairt a dhéanamh ar an bhféidearthacht chun an bithmhais a mheas ag baint úsáide as modheolaíocht suirbhéireachta fuaimiúil. Tá sé léirithe ag an Institiúid arís agus arís go bhfuil siad go maith ag baint úsáide as macalla ilmhinicíochta sa ról seo le haghaidh scadán, faoitín gorm, agus torcéisc, ach ní ar an taobh péarla.

**Figúir 2. Samplaí de phéarlaí (*Maurolicus muelleri*) a gabhadh le linn an tsuirbhé. Is iad na cinn is lú (c. 25mm) óg na bliana, agus is iad na héisc is mó (c. 50mm) rang na bliana roimhe sin.**



Le dhá bhliain anuas, rinne an Institiúid iarracht sonraí fuaimiúla agus bithéolaíoch a bhailiú ar na héisc seo le linn na suirbhéanna bliantúla ar an faoitín gorm ach chuir an gá atá le díriú ar an faoitín gorm bac orthu. Chiallaigh sé seo go raibh go leor sonraí suirbhéireachta fuaimiúla againn ach is beag sonraí bithéolaíochta a bhí againn le gur féidir linn anailís a dhéanamh ar na sonraí. Go háirithe, chun a fháil amach cad iad na macallaí a fheictear ar an bhfuaimíocht a d'fhéadfaí a leithdháileadh ar thaobh an phéarlaí seachas ar speicis eile atá i láthair, lena n-áirítear éisc eile, crústaigh, smugairle róin agus planctóin.

Ba é a bhí ag teastáil ná am tiomnaithe soithigh chun an spriocspeicis a aimsiú, agus chun sonraí fuaimiúla spriocdhírith a bhailiú, agus na samplaí bithéolaíochta chun an anailís a cheadú. Ar ámharaí an tsaoil, bhíomar in ann maoiniú a fháil ó Bhord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) chun suirbhé tiomnaithe 11 lá a cheadú ar an Árthach Taighde nua *Tom Crean*. Áiríodh sa suirbhé bailiú sonraí fuaimiúla, sampláil bithéolaíoch spriocdhírith, agus freisin sampláil eDNA chun staidéar a dhéanamh ar an mbitheagsúlacht, agus chun a aithint an raibh sleasa péarlaí sna ceantair ina raibh amhras orainn go raibh siad ann.

Rinneadh an suirbhé i Meán Fómhair 2022, faoi stiúir Ciaran O'Donnell agus Thibault Cariou ó Fhoras na Mara agus an obair eDNA faoi stiúir Maddalena Tibone ó Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (ATU). Socraíodh dearadh an tsuirbhé chun an anailís fhuaimiúil a d'fhorbair Alina Weiczorek ag Foras na Mara a bhaint amach ar shlí na

fírinne, agus chun staidéar a dhéanamh ar an éagsúlacht i ndáileadh na n-iasc sa spás agus in am ag baint úsáide as trasghearrthacha suirbhéireachta arís agus arís eile (8-30nm).

D'éirigh go han-mhaith leis an suirbhé - bhíodas in ann go leor comhbhailiúcháin mhóra de shlios péarlach a aithint, agus níos tábhachtaí fós, bhí siad seo den chuid is mó de na spriocspeicis. Thug seo deis dúinn an t-algartam anailíse a thiúradh chun an taobh péarlach a phiocadh amach fiú i láthair biota eile, rud nach raibh indéanta roimhe seo. Fuaireamar amach freisin go raibh na héisc comhiomlánaithe i bpaiste idir dhá agus sé nm, agus le comhsheasmhacht suntasach idir trasghearrthacha macasamhla.

Beidh an dá thoradh fíor-luachmhar chun lígean dúinn suirbhé flúirseach cuí a dheanadh sa todhchaí. D'éirigh go maith leis an obair eDNA freisin, agus bhíomar in ann anailís a dhéanamh ar an eDNA i samplaí uisce ar bord agus i mbeagnach fíor-ama agus na taobhanna péarlaí a aithint. Tugann sé seo an dara bealach dúinn chun láithreach péarlaí i gcomhbhailiúcháin mheasctha a dheimhniú.

Aithnímid go buíoch tacaíocht airgeadais BIM don suirbhé trí phróiseas EMFAF. Gabhaimid buíochas freisin leis an Dr Luca Mirimin ó ATU as a thacaíocht don obair eDNA.

## Cás-Staidéar 3: Láithreán Taighde Mara Linn na Leamhan

Lean Láithreán Taighde Mara Linn na Leamhan ar aghaidh le ról lárnach a bheith aige mar shuíomh píolótach do bharrshaothraithe iltróphic comhtháite (IMTA), ag tacú le dhá tionscadal taighde maoinithe ag Fís 2020, ASTRAL agus INEVAL.

Tá na tionscadail seo ag fiosrú slabhraí luacha nua don IMTA agus an poitéinseal leasúcháin bheantach a bhaineann le cúcamair farraige faoi seach. Tá comhoibriú dlúth leanúnach ar siúl freisin le BIM ag éascú trialacha chun tacú lena gClár Dúshlán Mara.

Bhí an obair taighde a rinneadh ar an láthair le feiceáil i gclár teilifíse a rinne an craoltóir idirnáisiúnta Deutsche Welle a rinne iniúchadh ar mhodhanna reatha d'fhorbairt do bharrshaothraithe inbhuanaithe. Tá an clár ar fáil ar a gcainéal YouTube ([youtube.com/watch?v=VrsY9AJjWRE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrsY9AJjWRE)) agus tá breis agus 144,000 amharc faighte aige.

Úsáideadh an suíomh freisin mar chúla do dhá shraith faisnéise teilifíse a bhreathnaigh ar an saol timpeall chósta na hÉireann. Cuireadh agallamh ar Macdara Ó Cuaig don tsraith 'An Cósta Thiar' ar TG4 chomh maith le hagallamh leis an gcainéal Gearmánach ARTE.

## Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise na nAigéan (OCIS)

Soláthraíonn an rannóg um Bonneagar Taighde Mara raon seirbhísí bonneagair agus comhairle don Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM), ranna agus gníomhaireachtaí eile rialtais, agus eagraíochtaí idirnáisiúnta, chun Réimse Fócais Straitéiseach 1 de chuid Fhoras na Mara a sheachadadh: Comhairle Eolaíoch agus Seirbhísí.

## Cuibhreannas um Bonneagar Taighde Eorpach (CBTEanna)

Trí rannpháirtíocht ghníomhach mar ionadaí Rialtas na hÉireann i bhFaireachlann Ildisciplíneach Ghrinneall na Farraige agus Uiscecholúin (EMSO), agus i gCuibhreannas um Bonneagar Taighde Eorpach an Eora-Argo (ERICanna), rannchuidíonn an fhoireann um Bonneagair Thaighde Mara le hiarrachtaí breathnadóireachta Eorpacha agus leis an monatóireacht leanúnach ar shláinte aigéin. Soláthraíonn an obair seo sonraí riachtanacha, a chabhraíonn le heolaithe tuiscint níos fearr a fháil ar dhálaí aigéin, ar idirghníomhaíochtaí idir an t-aigéan agus an t-atmaisféar, chomh maith le treochoí aeráide fadtéarmacha.

## Feistiú an Domhainfharraige

D'éirigh le córas breathnadóireachta aigéin EirOOS arna chómhaoiniú ag Fondúireacht Eolaíochta na hÉireann (SFI) misin eolaíoch a thabhairt chun críche ag an Goban Spor amach ó iardheisceart na hÉireann i Meán Fómhair 2022. Thacaigh an misean seo, ar cuireadh tús leis in 2020, le hiarracht eolaíoch idirnáisiúnta chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar athruithe ar Shruth na Murascaille trí eagar feistithe reatha an Atlantaigh Thuaidh.

Bhí an misean nasctha le hOllscoil na Gaillimhe agus le hOllscoil Mhá Nuad, na hionaid taighde Gearmánacha BSH (An Ghníomhaireacht Chónaidhme Muirí agus Hidreagrafach) agus Ollscoil Bremen. Rinne feistiú imeall seilf EirOOS monatóireacht ar Shruth Fána na hEorpa, agus rinne feistiú cósta EirOOS monatóireacht ar shruthanna cósta na hÉireann agus ar seilfréanna na hÉireann. Déanfar anailís le linn 2023 ar an tacar sonraí a fuarthas ó dhá bhliain de mmonatóireacht aigéaneolaíochta na mÚrálacha.

## The Irish Marine Data Buoy Observation Network (IMDBON)

Is é Foras na Mara a bhainistíonn agus a fheidhmíonn an IMDBON, thar ceann na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) agus tá sé comhdhéanta de chúig bhaoithe sonraí muir-aigéan i bhfad i gcéin. Tuairiscíonn an IMDBON tomhais aimsire in aghaidh na huair ar phríomhshonraí meitéareolaíochta mara gar-dhromchla: teocht an aeir, taise, brú an atmaisféir, luas agus treo na gaoithe, agus sonraí aigéaneolaíochta freisin lena n-áirítear teocht dhromchla na farraige, airde na dtonn, agus tréimhse na dtonn. In 2022, sháraigh an IMDBON a sprioc maidir le sonraí beagnach fíor-ama a sheachadadh chuig lárionad réamhaisnéise oibriúcháin Met Éireann >90% den bhliain.

## Líonra Tomhsaire Taoide Náisiúnta na hÉireann

Soláthraíonn Líonra Tomhsaire Taoide Náisiúnta na hÉireann (INTGN) atá comhdhéanta de 19 stáisiún leibhéal an uisce timpeall an chósta chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar leibhéal taoide timpeall na hÉireann. In 2022, tháinig dhá stáisiún ardchruinneas chuig caighdeán idirnáisiúnta GLOSS ag Calafort Bhinn Éadair, Co. Chorcaí, i bhfeidhm, Bhaile Átha Cliath, agus i Halla an Aontais, Co. ag déanamh tomhais chun an t-ardú fadtéarmach i leibhéal na farraige timpeall chósta na hÉireann de bharr na haeráide a mheasúnú.

## An Clár Náisiúnta um Fhuinneamh Aigéin

Faoi Chomhaontú Seirbhíse le hÚdarás Fuinnimh Inmharthana na hÉireann (SEAI), chuir an fhoireann um Bonneagair Thaighde Mara seirbhísí teicniúla éagsúla agus comhairle eolaíoch ar fáil a thacaíonn leis an gclár náisiúnta fuinnimh aigéin; an tsaoráid SmartBay i gCuan na Gaillimhe a bhainistiú agus seirbhísí eolaíochtbhunaithe agus oibriúcháin a sholáthar ag Láithreán Tástála Fhuinneamh Mara an Atlantaigh (AMETS) amach ó Bhéal an Mhuirthead, Co. Mhaigh Eo.

## Seirbhísí Aigéaneolaíochta agus Aeráide (OCS)

Leanann OCS ar aghaidh ag obair le páirtithe leasmhara aeráide, lena n-áirítear an DAFM agus ranna eile rialtais agus údaráis áitiúla, chun na seirbhísí aeráide a theastaíonn don réimse muirí a shainiú. D'oibrigh OCS leis na hOifigí Réigiúnacha um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide (CAROanna) in iarthuaisceart Éireann agus i mBaile Átha Cliath chun seirbhísí dá leithéid a shainiú.

## Rinne Foras na Mara 4,164km<sup>2</sup>

de ghrinneall na farraige a mhapáil sa Mhuir Cheilteach mar chuid de chlár INFOMAR, a rinneadh i gcomhpháirtíocht le Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann.

Bhí OCS gafa freisin leis na príomhghrúpaí stiúrtha agus teicniúla sa réimse aeráide níos leithne ag an leibhéal náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta. I rith 2022, thacaigh OCS leis an DAFM agus leis an Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide (DECC) i dtuairiscíú Gníomhartha Aeráide 2022 agus i bhfoirmliú na gcomhpháirteanna mara den Phlean Gníomhaíochta Aeráide 2023.

Bhí forbairt seirbhísí aigéaneolaíochta mar fhócas dár gcuid oibre i mbliana freisin. Lean OCS ar aghaidh ag tabhairt tacaíochta don Gharda Síochána agus d'Institiúid Ríoga Náisiúnta na mBád Tarrthála (RNLI) le himscrúduithe Cuardach agus Tarrthála agus daoine ar iarraidh trí fheidhmchlár gréasáin agus staidéir shamhaltaithe saincheaptha.

D'fhorbair OCS táirgí agus feidhmchláir aigéaneolaíochta nua do FEAS, is iad sin an Faireachlann Imeachtaí Foircní d'iardheisceart na hÉireann agus uirlis tacaíochta athchóirithe agus do bharshaothraithe oisrí dúchasacha do Chuan na Gaillimhe agus lean sé ag seachadadh táirgí don chóras rabhaidh Bláth Alga Díobhálach (HAB). Chuir an grúpa forbairt mhúnla bithgheoicimiceach nua chun cinn don Mhuir Cheilteach faoi chlár an Chiste Eorpach Muirí agus lascaigh (CEMI) agus tá tástáil mhúnla déanta.

Leanadh ar aghaidh le hocht mórthionscadal ar bhreathnóireacht agus réamhaisnéisiú aigéin in 2022: CE2COAST, BioCeltic, EuroSea, FORCOAST, iFADO, CleanAtlantic, MyCoast agus COMPASS. Tháinig FORCOAST agus COMPASS chun críche in 2022 agus cuireadh tús le tionscadal nua Horizon Europe ar a dtugtar Euro GO-SHIP i mí na Nollag. In ainneoin srianta leanúnacha a fhorchuirtear le Covid-19, fanann na tionscadail atá fágtha ar an mbóthar ceart le haghaidh seachadadh.

## Flóta Argo

In 2022, lean Foras na Mara, mar ionadaí Rialtas na hÉireann san Euro-Argo ERIC, ag tacú leis an gclár idirnáisiúnta Argo. Go dtí seo, tá cabhlach de 20 snámhán imlonnaithe ag an Institiúid. Tomhaiseann snámhán Argo roinnt eochair-athróga fisiciúla aigéin amhail salandacht, teocht agus sruthanna ag an dromchla agus faoin dromchla go doimhneacht 2,000 méadar.

Tarchuirtear na sonraí beagnach i bhfíor-ama chuig tairseacha gréasáin atá inrochtana go poiblí. Cuireann tacaíocht leanúnach líonra Argo go mór lenár dtuiscint ar shláinte aigéin agus lenár gcumas monatóireacht a dhéanamh air sa todhchaí, agus cuireann sé Éire i lár na n-iarachtaí domhanda chun tionchair ionchasacha an athraithe aeráide a thomhas.

## Ardseirbhísí Mapála (AMS)

Soláthraíonn Ardseirbhísí Mapála (AMS) tacaíocht agus comhairle i bpleanáil suirbhéanna hidreagrafacha, geoífsiceacha agus gnáthóige, oibríochtaí, agus léirmhíniú agus bainistíocht sonraí. Tacaíonn AMS freisin le for-rochtain agus oideachas gaolmhar, agus le taighde agus forbairt, laistigh den Institiúid, agus go seachtach arson do pháirtithe leasmhara tionscail, rialtais agus poiblí go náisiúnta agus go hidirnáisiúnta.

Soláthraíonn AMS seirbhísí léarscáilithe ghrinneall na farraige trí Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse idir Foras na Mara agus an Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide (DECC), chun clár INFOMAR a sheachadadh agus a chríochnú faoi dheireadh 2026, i gcomhpháirtíocht le Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann (GSI).

Buaicphointí 2022 do AMS:

- Mapáil an fhoireann 4,164 km<sup>2</sup> de ghrinneall na farraige Ceilteach le linn 81 lá soitheach ar bord an RV *Celtic Explorer*, RV *Celtic Voyager* agus RV *Tom Crean*, mar chuid de chlár INFOMAR. Chuimsigh sé seo éadail 12,155 km (cílíméadar líne suirbhé) de shonraí ilbhéise, imscrúdú ar 12 longbhriseadh, agus éadail 53 sampla de ghrinneall na farraige.
- Rinne foireann suirbhé AMS an suirbhé eolaíochta deiridh, roimh dhíchoimisiúnú an RV *Celtic Voyager*, agus an suirbhé tionscnaimh ar bord an RV *Tom Crean* a choimisiúnaigh le déanaí, tar éis dó a bheith ar an bhfoireann roimhe seo chun an RV *Celtic Explorer* a shlógadh agus a oibriú dá chéad sé mhí tar éis é a choimisiúnú agus teacht go hÉirinn i 2003.
- I rith 2022, lean AMS ar aghaidh ag seachadadh raon deiseanna breisluacha a bhaineann le héilimh úsáideoirí, margaí tráchtála agus foinisí maoinithe seachtacha, ag tacú go forleathan le cur i bhfeidhm straitéis Fhoras na Mara. Cuimsítear leis seo:
  - D'fhoilsigh an fhoireann AMS atá i gceannas ar phacáiste oibre Mísean an Atlantaigh H2020 ar Mhapáil Benthic: éiceachóras, acmhainní agus brúnna, *tuarascáil dar teideal Creat le haghaidh comhar Atlantach sa todhchaí maidir le hiarrachtaí mapála ghrinneall na farraige agus tosaíocht a thabhairt do spriocanna ghrinneall na farraige don IEA.*
  - Rannpháirtíocht agus seachadadh na modúl Máistreacht arna bhforbairt ag INFOMAR i gcomhar le Coláiste na hOllscoile, Baile Átha Cliath, Ollscoil Mhá Nuad agus Scoil SMART SeaSchool, lena n-áirítear léachtaí inranga agus ar líne, ceardlanna agus ranganna teagaisc, agus oiliúint ar muir ar bord an RV *Celtic Voyager* agus RV *Tom Crean*.

- Comhordú leanúnach AMS agus críochnú thionscadail EMFF ar fhorbairt catalóg dríodair, measúnú acmhainní feamainne, sintéis sonraí SeaRover & tiomsú sonraí GIS, agus tionscadal Dríodar Cósta chun dríodar muirí a bhailiú agus a anailísiú chun muinín i gcairteacha rangaithe ghrinneall na farraige a mhéadú.
- Thacaigh agus d'éascaigh clár INFOMAR, trí Fhoras na Mara agus Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann, an chéad "Comhdháil agus Taispeántas Hidreagrafaíochta Cianda" iar-Covid RA & Éire, a reáchtáladh i gCaisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath an 22-24 Feabhra. Ag tabhairt le chéile oibreoirí tráchtála Éireannacha agus idirnáisiúnta a thacaíonn le hidreagrafaíocht agus loingseoireacht ar fud an domhain, thaispeáin an imeacht teicneolaíochtaí nuálaíochta uathrialaitheacha mapála, lena n-áirítear seomra cianoibríochtaí, áit a ndearnadh monatóireacht agus rialú ar ghníomhaíochtaí suirbhéireachta beo gan fhoireann i rith na hócáide.
- Tá próiseáil sonraí agus táirgeadh léarscáileanna ar siúl go leanúnach, agus cuireann aschuir leis an gCreat-Treoir um Straitéis Mhuirí (MSFD), an Treoir um Ghnáthóga, agus tuairisciú OSPAR agus ICES, agus ionchur chuig ceanglais léarscáile um Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí (MSP).
- Leanadh le dhá mhórtionscadal a chuimsigh fócas léarscáilithe ghrinneall na farraige agus gnáthóg in 2022, lena n-áirítear Mission Atlantic agus EMODnet Ghnáthóga Ghrinneall na Farraige. D'fhoilsigh foireann Ardseirbhísí Mapála atá i gceannas ar phacáiste oibre Misean an Atlantaigh H2020 ar Mhapáil Benthic: éiceachóras, acmhainní agus brúnna, tuarascáil dar teideal Creat le haghaidh comhar Atlantach sa todhchaí maidir le hiarrachtaí mapála ghrinneall na farraige & beartú tosaíochta spriocanna ghrinneall na farraige don IEA. Soláthraíonn an tuarascáil seo maoriseacht agus treoir ar chur chuige straitéiseach maidir le léarscáilíú mórscála ar ghrinneall farraige agus ar ghnáthóg bheantacha an Aigéin Atlantaigh.

In 2022, chuir foireann suirbhéireachta AMS tacaíocht theicniúil agus comhairle ar fáil maidir le slógadh, suirbhéireacht ailínithe, coimisiúnú suirbhéanna agus tástáil glactha farraige ar an RV *Tom Crean* roimh agus tar éis imeacht as Vigo na Spáinne.

### Oibríochtaí Árthaí Taighde

Ar cheann de mhórspríocanna Foras na Mara ba ea tógáil agus seachadadh an RV *Tom Crean*, in am agus de réir an bhuiséid, i mí Iúil agus cuireadh tús lena sheirbhís don Foras níos moille sa mhí chéanna.

Tháinig an t-árthach nua i seirbhís in áit an RV *Celtic Voyager*, a chuaigh ar scor tar éis 25 bliain seirbhíse. Chuir an long suirbhéanna rathúla i gcrích go dtí an lá scoir. I rith 2022, rinneadh athchóiriú suntasach ar an RV *Celtic Explorer*, lena n-áirítear a phríomh-mhótair tiomána a bhaint agus a athchóiriú.

Idir na trí árthach, críochnaíodh 571 lá suirbhé san iomlán in 2022 agus críochnaíodh 12 suirbhé ar an RV *Celtic Explorer*, críochnaíodh 13 suirbhé ar RV *Celtic Voyager* agus 17 ar RV *Tom Crean*.

Idir na trí árthach, críochnaíodh 571 lá suirbhé san iomlán in 2022 agus críochnaíodh 12 suirbhé ar an RV *Celtic Explorer*, críochnaíodh 13 suirbhé ar RV *Celtic Voyager* agus 17 ar RV *Tom Crean*.

### Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann (IMDO)

#### Tacaíocht Comhairle Beartais agus Forbairt Calafóirt

Éilíonn sainordú an IMDO go gcuirfí tacaíocht beartais agus comhairle ar fáil don Aire agus don Roinn Iompair (DoT). Le linn 2022, chuir an IMDO comhairle ar fáil go minic agus go comhsheasmhach ar na hábhair a tháinig chun cinn, ó impleachtaí an chogaidh san Úcráin go cur chun feidhme an ráitis beartais maidir le Fuinneamh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta (ORE) maidir le hinfheistíocht calafóirt i mbonneagar. Áiríodh leis an raon taighde agus comhairle a soláthraíodh, ach ní raibh sé teoranta do:

1. Impleachtaí muirí an chogaidh san Úcráin.
2. Impleachtaí méaduithe ar phraghsanna breosla ar an ráta loingseoireachta.
3. Iarratais calafóirt ar mhaoiniú ón tSaoráid um Chónascadh na hEorpa (CEF) d'ORE.
4. Feidhmíocht trádála agus patrúin trádála i dtionscal muirí na hÉireann tar éis an Breatimeacht.

5. Athbhreithniú ar réimeas Cánach Tonnáiste na hÉireann.
6. Treochlár inbhuanaitheachta do chalafoirt na hÉireann.
7. Calafóirt na hÉireann agus lasta iarnróid.
8. Soláthar cumhachta ar an gcladach (fuar-iarannú).

Bhain an chomhairle a tugadh úsáid as taighde fianaise-bhunaithe agus bhí sí ag brath ar chomhairliúchán forleathan le páirtithe leasmhara an tionscail.

Ag obair go díreach le calafóirt agus RI, chuir an IMDO comhairle ar fáil maidir le conas feabhas a chur ar cháilíocht na n-iarratas ó chalafoirt ar mhaoiniú CEF do bhonneagar ORE. Ghlac an IMDO páirt in imeachtaí an AE i Huelva, Liospóin, agus sa Bhruiséil chun na buntáistí a bhaineann le tacaíocht a thabhairt do thionscadail ORE na hÉireann a chur chun cinn, ní hamháin i gcomhthéacs náisiúnta ach freisin i dtéarmaí an rannchuidiú suntasach is féidir le forbairt thionscal ORE na hÉireann a dhéanamh d'uailmhianta an AE maidir le hathrú aeráide.

Bhí agus tá baint mhór ag an IMDO le comhairle bheartais a sholáthar ar na saincheisteanna seo agus tá baint aige faoi láthair le roinnt tionscadal AE a thacaíonn le tionscal muirí na hÉireann, lena n-áirítear:

- Cuirfidh an treoirstaidéar ar Lánaí Trádála Idirnáisiúnta Mear agus Slán (IFSTL)** digitiú chun cinn sa tionscal muirí. Tá an tionscadal á stiúradh ag an IMDO agus áirítear ann Calafort Bhaile Átha Cliath agus Calafóirt na Normainne mar chomhpháirtithe tionscadail. Rinne na comhairleoirí a ceapadh chun an treoirstaidéar a dhéanamh dul chun cinn sármhaith in 2022 agus tabharfaidh siad an tionscadal chun críche i Márta 2023. Sainnithnítear i dtorthaí tosaigh na tairbhí a thabhófar do gheallsealbhoirí an tionscail muirí trí úsáid a bhaint as próisis dhigiteacha chun éifeachtúlacht agus iomaíochas a thiomáint trí chlaohlú digiteach. Tá na torthaí soiléir agus ní féidir na deiseanna a dhiúltú.
- The Ealing Project** is comhpháirt shuntasach é an tionscnamh seo san iarracht an tionscal muirí a dhíchárbónú agus feabhas a chur ar cháilíocht an aeir i gcóngarach na gcalafort.

- Líonra Luasghéaraithe Gorm Phoirt Chliste an Atlantaigh (AspBAN)** Ardán dinimiciúla seirbhísí luasghéaraithe chun go n-oibreoidh na calafóirt Atlantacha mar mhoil gheilleagair ghorm, ag déanamh éagsúlú ar a samhlacha gnó agus a bhfoinsí ioncaim.
- Líonra Éiceachórais Mhuirí an Atlantaigh (MarENet)** Críochnaíodh tionscadal Marenet go rathúil in 2022, agus baineadh amach cuspóirí uile an tionscadail. D'fheabhsaigh an tionscadal gairmiúlacht agus athléimneacht na hearnála mara, mhéadaigh sé breisoiúint agus athoiúint an lucht saothair agus chuir sé fiontraíocht chun cinn.
- Is tionscadal é Maritec-X** atá maoinithe ag an AE a bhfuil sé mar aidhm aige Institiúid Mhuirí agus Mhuirí na Cipire (CMMI) a bhunú, cosúil go ginearálta le Foras Mara na hÉireann. I rith 2022, thóg agus bhunaigh CMMI aonaid tábhachtacha ó thaobh straitéise de, a shaothrúidh cuspóirí taighde agus forbartha gnó. Chuir an IMDO fáilte roimh ár gcomhghleacaithe Cipireacha i 2022 agus d'fhiosraigh siad deiseanna breise le haghaidh comhoibrithe idir ár dtaighdeoirí agus speisialtóirí forbartha gnó.

Le chéile, cuireann na tionscadail AE seo le freagairt fhianaise-bhunaithe ar shaincheisteanna atá ag teacht chun cinn sa tionscal muirí in Éirinn agus cuireann siad deiseanna ar fáil le haghaidh comhoibrithe agus lánpháirtíochta thar theorainneacha an AE chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar fhadhbanna comhchoiteanna agus ar dheiseanna comhroinnta.

I gcomhréir lena shainordú reachtúil, lean IMDO de dhlúthfhairéachán agus de thuairisciú a dhéanamh ar fheidhmíocht eárnálacha na loingseoireachta agus na gcalafort trína feasacháin ráithiúla tráchtacha agus trí fhoilsiú Irish Maritime Transport Economist (IMTE) ar bhonn bliantúil. Tá tábhacht shoiléir ag baint le IMTE agus le foilseacháin ráithiúla ghaolmhara, mar dhoiciméid tagartha do lucht déanta beartais agus do chleachtóirí tionscail, agus is é an t-amshraith a cruthaíodh le beagnach 20 bliain bunús na hanailíse a dhéanann bonn eolais do chinntí beartais agus straitéiseacha.

I 2022, threoir obair de chuid IMDO ar anailís do ghluaiseachtaí praghsanna breosla na freagraí beartais ar pháirtithe leasmhara an tionscail a chuaigh luaineacht i bhpraghsanna breosla i bhfeidhm orthu. Bhí an tacaíocht taighde agus beartais seo fíorluachmhar don Roinn Iompair agus cleachtóirí an tionscail i 2022.

# RÉIMSE FÓCAS STRAITÉISEACH 2

## Réamhaisnéisigh Aigéan agus Athrú Aeráide

Tá dianrialú déanta ag uiscí sách teo an Sruth Murascaille Atlantach ar aeráid na hÉireann, ag cosaint sinn ó adhamsir, ach ag fágáil sinn nochta ag tionchair athrú aeráide. Áirítear ar na tionchair sin leibhéal na farraige atá ag ardú, déine stoirme a mhéadú, aigéadú na n-aigéan, athruithe atá faoi thionchar na haeráide in éiceachórais mhuirí agus na seirbhísí a chuireann siad ar fáil. Tá Éire in áit ar leith le bheith ar thús cadhnaíochta sna hiarrachtaí chun tuiscint níos fearr a fháil ar dhúshláin dhomhanda na n-aigéan agus chun seirbhísí riachtanacha náisiúnta a sholáthar chun tionchair réigiúnacha agus áitiúla a bhreathnú agus a thuar.

Tá éileamh suntasach le haghaidh eolas agus seirbhísí fíorfheabhsaithe a ligfidh dúinn breathnú ar athruithe na mara, tuar agus samhail a dhéanamh ar sainchásanna amach anseo, agus tacú le pleanáil oiriúnú.

Oibreann Foras na Mara le comhpháirtí náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta chun breathnú agus thuiscint conas atá ár n-aigéan ag athrú, agus chun socrú conas freagairt a thabhairt ar phatrúin athraithe reatha agus sa todhchaí atá tionchair acu ar geilleagar agus muintir na hÉireann. Tá comhairle láidir agus réamhaisnéis oibríochta ar réamh-mheastacháin d'athruithe ár n-aigéan agus ár n-aeráid riachtanach i gcomhair an Rialtas chun beartais éifeachtacha agus cinntí bainistíochta a dhéanamh chun dul i ngleic le réimse ceisteanna agus dúshláin. Ina measc tá athruithe dáileadh iascadh, slándáil bhia, geilleagar ísealcharbóin, ardú leibhéal na mara, tuile, agus, níos mó, eachtraí adhamsire.

### Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise na nAigéan (OCIS)

#### Bonneagair Taighde Muirí

Réimse Fócas Straitéiseach Forais na Mara 2: Réamhaisnéisigh Aigéan agus Athrú Aeráide, go háirithe, tá Tionscnamh Straitéiseach 2.1: 'Ag Feabhsú Breathnóireacht agus Monatóireacht na hAigéine agus na hAeráide' tacaithe ag an rannóg Bonneagair Thaighde Mara de chuid an OCIS na hardáin riachtanacha breathnóireachta aigéin a imscaradh, a oibriú agus a chothabháil:

- D'éirigh le córas breathnóireachta aigéin EirOOS arna chómhaoiniú ag Fondúireacht Eolaíochta na hÉireann (SFI) misin eolaíoch a thabhairt chun críche ag an Goban Spur amach ó iardheisceart na hÉireann le dtéarnaimh an feistiú EBS-1 i Deireadh Fómhar 2022. Bhí an misean sin, a thosaigh i 2020, ag tacú le hiarrachtaí eolaíochta atá ag fiosrú athruithe san Aigéan Atlantach Thuaidh, agus mar sin ag feabhsú an ghrúpa feistithe NOAC (North Atlantic Changes), faoi stiúir an Ghearmáin (BSH agus Ollscoil Bremen).
- Lean an misean eolaíochta Mara Doimhne Rockall ar aghaidh in Umar Rockall, 400 ciliméadar amach ó chósta thiar na hÉireann, le malartú an fheistithe i mí Aibreáin. I dteannta leis an mbulla sonraí M6, déanann an feistiú Mara Doimhne Rockall tomhais ar paraiméadair aigéaneolaíochta i rith an gcolún uisce ón ndromchla go dtí talún na mara go dtí doimhneacht 3,000 méadar. Soláthraí na gníomhaíochtaí breathnóireachta mara seo tacair shonraí Athróga Aeráide Riachtanacha (ECV) agus Athróga Riachtanacha Aigéin (EOV) tábhachtacha le haghaidh tuiscint níos domhine don lompúchán Cúrsaíochta Atlantach a fháil, eolas tábhachtach ar shruthanna aigéin ar imeall scairbh na Mór-roinne agus ar limistéir chósta na hÉireann agus ar airíonna uisce a mbíonn tionchar acu ar éiceachórais mhuirí na hÉireann.
- Tugann an Líonra Breathnóireachta Baoithe Sonraí Mara na hÉireann (IMDBON) tuairiscí aimsire in aghaidh na huairé comhdhéanta de phríomhshonraí meitéareolaíochta mara gar-dhromchla: teocht an aeir, taise, brú an atmaisféir, luas agus treo na gaoithe, agus sonraí aigéaneolaíochta freisin lena n-áirítear teocht dhromchla na farraige, airde na dtonn, agus tréimhse. Tá an achomair adhamsire suíomh M6 suíomh breathnóireachta fairtheoir Eorpach.

Baoi IMDBON.  
Grianghraf: Tomas Szumski

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- Tá an t-athrú ar leibhéal na farraige i gcoibhneas le leibhéal na talún ina phríomhathrú inathraithe aeráide (ECV) don oiriúnú don athrú aeráide agus d'athléimneacht chósta. Tháinig an dá stáisiún breathnóireachta leibhéal na farraige domhanda (GLOSS) i bhfeidhm in 2022, stáisiún caighdeánach monatóireachta leibhéal na farraige i gCuan Bhinn Éadair, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath, agus i Halla an Aontais, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath, agus i Halla an Aontais, Co. Corcaí, a ceannaíodh agus a suiteáladh tríd an dámhachtain cómhaoinithe ag an Fondúireacht Eolaíochta Éireann (SFI), dhámhachtain bhreathnóireachta aigéin iOS, a thosaigh ag obair i 2022, a dtugann sonraí go dtí ionaid sonraí leibhéal na farraige domhanda, ag cur le tuiscint níos fearr ar ardú leibhéal na farraige de bharr an aeráid.
- Tá sonraí an-cruinne teochta fadtéarmach bhailithe ag Baile Choitín, Contae. Chorcaí agus ag Cé an Phoirt Mhóir ag Cionn Mhálanna, Contae. Dhún na nGall, maith bhunaithe, agus lean siad ar aghaidh i rith 2022. Tógann na líonraí sonraí seo ar bhlianta breathnóireachta (ag Cionn Mhálanna), agus leanann siar ar aghaidh ag cuir sonraí aeracha le gcartlanna domhanda do theocht uisce na mara, táscaire bhunúsach athraithe aeráide.

#### Ag feabhsú gníomhaíochtaí breathnóireachta aigéin:

- Rinne an OCIS an sampláil long-bhunaithe fisiceacha agus cheimice bhliantúil in Umar Rockall i mí Aibreáin/Bealtaine. Bhí thart ar 57 stáisiún Seoltacht, Teocht, agus Doimhneacht (STD) áitiúla i ndoimhneachtaí suas go 3,300 méadar, agus bhí 1,856 samplaí uisce bailithe chun cinntiú na athróga riachtanacha aigéin ocsaigine, carbóin, cothaithe agus salandachta. Bhí sampláil CTD ráithiúil bhliantúil déanta i gCuan na Gaillimhe ag 30+ stáisiún.

- Leanann Foras na Mara ar aghaidh a bheith ina mball gníomhach don Ghrúpa Oibre na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES) ar Hidragrafaíocht Aigéanach (WGOH), ag cur leis Tuarascáil bhliantúil ICES ar Aeráid an Aigéin (IROC) agus an ICES 4<sup>ú</sup> Inathraitheacht Deich Bliantúil don Atlantach Thuaidh agus a Éiceachórais Muirí: 2010-2019.
- Chomh maith leis sin, tá an Foras ina ball de Choiste Eolaíochta Chlár Imscrúdaithe Hidragrafach Longbhunaithe an Aigéin Dhomhanda (GO-SHIP), a sholáthraíonn ceannaireacht agus maoirseacht eolaíoch d'fhorbairt agus do chur i bhfeidhm an tsuirbhé dhomhanda gach 10 mbliain ar rannóga hidragrafacha a oibríonn instiúidí taighde náisiúnta. Mar ullmhúchán le haghaidh an chéad turais GO-SHIP eile (líne A02) ó Naomh Eoin go hÉirinn, d'óstaigh Foras na Mara seimineár ar Phróifíl Srutha Fuaimiúil Doppler long-bhunaithe i mí Samhain 2022 le lucht leathan náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta. Leanann foireann Foras na Mara ar aghaidh ag tógáil páirt beomhar sna grúpaí oibre agus foirne tasca don EuroGOOS ([eurogoos.eu](http://eurogoos.eu)), an Coiste Obráid ar an gCóras Breathnóireachta Mara na hEorpa (COCBME) ([eoos-ocean.eu/approach/governance/operations-committee/](http://eoos-ocean.eu/approach/governance/operations-committee/)) agus gníomhaíochtaí mar cathaoirleach don ICES WGOH agus an Grúpa Oibre ar Tháirge Oibríochta Aigéaneolaíochta le haghaidh lascaireacht agus an Timpeallacht (WGOOFE) i 2022. Bhí dhá seisúin ag ICES ASC 2022 cruinnithe ag foireann OCS.



### Tionscadail arna Mhaoiniú ag an AE

Tá dul chun cinn déanta ar an tionscadal Gníomhaíochta Nuálaíochta 'EuroSea' dar luach €12.6 milliún atá á mhaoiniú ag an Aontas Eorpach (arna chomhordú ag Ionad GEOMAR um Thaighde Aigéin Kiel) arb é is aidhm dó breathnóireacht na n-aigéan a chomhtháthú agus a fheabhsú go suntasach, ar tionscadal é a chothófar san fhadtéarma. Tá Foras na Mara i gceannas ar an léirsitheoir Sláinte Aigéin le comhghleacaithe i Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), an Spáinn, agus tá baint aige le roinnt tascanna eile.

In 2022, thacaigh Foras na Mara le baoi sonraí a imscaradh amach ó iardheisceart na hÉireann, d'fhorbair sí ardán gréasáin baoithe sonraí EuroSea ([eurosea.marine.ie](http://eurosea.marine.ie)), leanúint de bheith ag obair le comhghleacaithe ar fud an domhain ar fhorbairt táirgí sonraí tonn teasa mara agus forbairt catalóg meiteashonraí tomhsaire taoide ([eutgn.marine.ie](http://eutgn.marine.ie)).

### Samhaltú

Tá cúigear ball ar an bhfoireann samhaltaithe faoi láthair, a thacaíonn le réamhaisnéis rialta aigéin agus tonnta a chur ar fáil saor in aisce, chomh maith le hindchraoltaí do réimse úsáideoirí deiridh. Áirítear ar na tacair sonraí sin sruthanna tríthoiseacha, teocht, salandacht agus airde dhromchla na farraige (lena n-áirítear borradh stoirme).

Leanadh le taighde agus forbairt samhlacha ar scála cósta in 2022 agus áirítear leis sin uasghrádú breise ar shamhail ardtáirgí chosta Chuan na Gaillimhe agus athbhreithniú mór ar shamhail Chuan Mó. D'éirigh le mac léinn PhD Cullen atá bunaithe in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad taighde a dhéanamh ar leibhéal farraige shéasúrach go céimneach agus ar thuar tonnta.

Lean an tionscadal atá á mhaoiniú ag SEAI-Mé-Foras na Mara agus a bronnadh ar an Ionad Éireannach um Ríomhaireacht Ard-End (ICHEC), a bhfuil sé mar aidhm aige samhlacha cúpláilte atmaisféir-aigéan-tonnta a fhorbairt i gcomhthéacs aeráide d'uisce na hÉireann, ag leanúint ar aghaidh leis na torthaí deiridh a bhí le cur i gcrích in 2023.

Leanadh ar aghaidh le gníomhaíocht tionscadail OCIS le hacmhainneacht samhaltaithe uimhriúil chun tacú le dul i ngleic leis an mbrúscar muirí (CleanAtlantic, Limistéar an Atlantaigh Interreg), an Treoir Réime um Straitéis Mhuirí (MSFD) cur i bhfeidhm (iFADO, Limistéar an Atlantaigh Interreg), cur le hathléimneacht chósta (MyCOAST, Limistéar an Atlantaigh Interreg) agus bainistiú Líonraí Limistéar Muirí faoi Chosaint (COMPASS, Interreg VA, a críochnaíodh in 2022).

Cuireadh tionscadal FORCOAST H2020 i gcrích agus i measc na n-aschur mór bhí forbairt seirbhísí chun tacú le hathbhunú oisrí dhúchasach agus dobharshaothrú oisrí i gCuan na Gaillimhe atá ar fáil trí fheidhmchlár gréasáin. Forbraíodh feidhmchlár gréasáin eile chun tacú le dobharshaothrú mar

chuid de thionscadal EuroSea H2020 agus baineann sé le breathnóireacht agus réamhaisnéis ar theagmhais foircneacha.

Tá dul chun cinn suntasach á dhéanamh maidir leis an acmhainneacht samhaltaithe aeráide a fhorbairt, ag rannchuidiú le cur chun feidhme an Limistéir Fócais Straitéisigh seo: Réamhaisnéis an Aigéin agus an Athraithe Aeráide. Chuige sin, reáchtálann an Foras a samhlacha oibríochta agus aeráide ag Ionad na hÉireann um Ríomhaireacht Ardleibhéil (ICHEC). Rinneadh samhail nua aeráide don Mhuir Cheilteach a fhorbairt agus a thástáil faoi chlár EMFF. Cuirfidh an tsamhail seo réamh-mheastacháin aeráide fhisiceacha agus bhithgheoiceimiceacha CMIP6 ar fáil.

Tá an feidhmchlár gréasáin uasghrádaithe le haghaidh cuardaigh agus tarrthála, ADRIFT, in úsáid go rialta anois ag an Institiúid Náisiúnta Ríoga na mBád Tarrthála (RNLI). Bhí cruinnithe ag foireann OCS freisin leis an nGarda Cósta agus leis an nGarda Síochána a bhain le cailliúint daoine ar iarraidh ar muir agus d'fhreagair siad líon mór iarratas ar thacaíocht. Fuarthas líon ard iarratas ar shonraí tomhaiste agus múnlaithé ón bpobal taighde, ón tionscal fuinnimh in-athnuaite agus ón Roinn Iompair, i measc daoine eile. Leanaimid orainn ag obair le comhghleacaithe in FEAS agus MEFSS chun faisnéis shaincheaptha a chur ar fáil chun tacú lena gcláir oibre

### Seirbhísí Aeráide a Sheachadadh

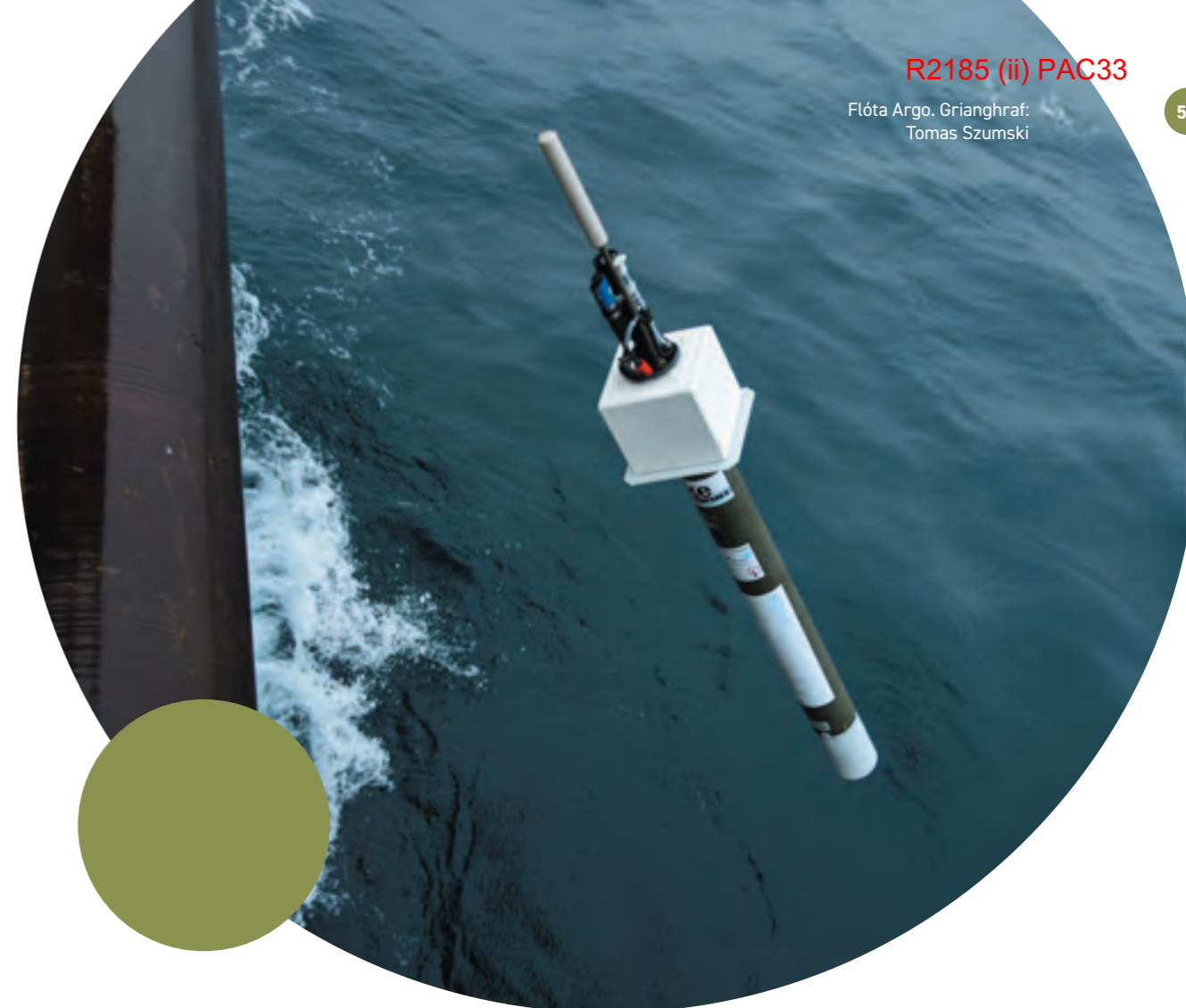
Leanann foireann OCIS de bheith ag obair le comhghleacaithe ar fud an Fhorais, an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM), ranna eile rialtais, gníomhaireachtaí agus údarais áitiúla chun seirbhísí nua aeráide a fhorbairt. Tacaíonn an fhoireann mhaitrise le cumas Foras na Mara na seirbhísí sin a sholáthar le haghaidh seirbhísí aeráide agus maoiniú don earnáil tríú leibhéal do mhic léinn iardhochtúireachta agus PhD i réimse na haeráide.

### Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Mhuirí agus Sábháilteachta Bia (MEFSS)

Is réimse é an t-athrú aeráide atá thar a bheith tábhachtach ar fud réimsí seirbhíse MEFSS, a chuireann ionchur suntasach ar fáil chun sonraí a bhailiú agus comhairle a sholáthar trí Fhoireann Maitrise Athrú Aeráide Foras na Mara, trí gníomhaireachtaí rialtais agus trí chomhlachtaí idirnáisiúnta.

### Treoir Réime um Pleanáil Spásúil Mhuirí/Straitéis Mhuirí

- Leanadh de thrí Thionscadal Aeráide de chuid an Chiste Eorpaigh Mhuirí agus Iascaigh (CEMI) in 2022. Tá na tionscadail ag feabhsú tuisceana ar athrú aeráide in uisce na hÉireann, trí chumas samhaltaithe éiceachórais a fhorbairt agus treochtaí i zóplanctóin agus dáileadh carbóin in uisce na hÉireann a mheas.



- Tá foireann an Chomhaontaithe Seirbhíse (SLA) agus OCIS ag obair leis an Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht DHLGH chun clár monatóireachta aeráide a fhorbairt ar féidir aghaidh a thabhairt air tríd an Treoir Réime um Straitéis Mhuirí (MSFD). Is gníomh é sin sa Phlean Náisiúnta um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide 2021.
- Tá Caitríona Nic Aonghus ina comhceannaire don tionscnamh idirnáisiúnta maidir leis an Athrú Aeráide sa Phleanáil Spásúil Mhuirí (MSP). Is comhthionól í de cheardlann ICES agus de sheisiún idirnáisiúnta comhdhála (ECCWO 2023) ar an ábhar seo.

### Cemic na Mara

- Rinneadh sampláil ar Shuirbhé Comhshaoil an Gheimhridh le haghaidh cáilíocht uisce agus athrú riachtanacha aigéin (EOVanna) in uisce cósta agus seilfeanna. Sheol an suirbhé ó dheas ó Bhaile Átha Cliath go Gaillimh i mí Eanáir ar bord an RV *Celtic Voyager*, ag bailiú 227 sampla uisce. Chomh maith leis sin, bailíodh 40 stáisiún agus bailíodh 266 shampla chun anailís a dhéanamh ar EOvanna bithgheoiceimiceacha (cothaithe, córas carbóin, ocsaigin agus salandacht) le linn Shuirbhé Aeráide Aigéin Rockall ar bord an RV *Celtic Explorer* i ndlúthchomhar le OCIS. Cuireann na suirbhéanna bliantúla sin le ceanglais tuairiscithe iolracha agus le táirgí aigéin.

- Faoi thionscadal COMPASS VA Interreg (le OCIS) lean an fhaireachlann ag Faireachlann Chósta Cheann Mhae d'fhaireachán a dhéanamh ar shraith fhairsing EOvanna fhisiceimiceacha agus bitheolaíoch, lena n-úsáidtear braiteoirí (sonraí fíor-ama) agus sampláil agus anailís rialta uisce. Críochnaigh an tionscadal COMPASS i 2022.
- Grúpa saineolaithe OSPAR um Aigéadú Aigéin arna chomh-mheabhrú lena ndéantar measúnú ar aigéadú an Aigéin Atlantach Thoir Thuaidh a sheachadadh do Thuarascáil Stádais Cáilíochta OSPAR 2023.
- Faoi uisce, an atmaisféir agus dromchla na farraige CO<sub>2</sub> bailíodh tomhais ar bord an RV *Celtic Explorer*. Ionchorpraíodh sonraí 2020 san Aigéan Dromchla domhanda CO<sub>2</sub> Atlas ón áit a n-úsáidtear é in aschuir shuntasacha ar fud an domhain, amhail Buiséad Carbóin Domhanda 2022 ([esdd.copernicus.org/articles/14/4811/2022](http://esdd.copernicus.org/articles/14/4811/2022)) áit a raibh an Ceimic Mhuirí ina húdar ranníochach. Leanann tomhais CO<sub>2</sub> ar aghaidh ar an RV *Celtic Explorer*, le obair ag leanúint ar aghaidh chun córas ar an RV *Tom Creana* coimisiúnaigh i 2023.
- Tá an fhoireann a rannchuidigh le Tuarascáil Stádais Aeráide Foras na Mara agus le tuarascálacha aeráide náisiúnta eile á bhforbairt.

# RÉIMSE FÓCAS STRAITÉISEACH 3 Taighde agus Nuálaíocht

Tá ról Fhoras na Mara maidir le taighde agus nuálaíocht mhuirí in Éirinn dinimiciúil agus ilghnéitheach, agus tá sé ailínithe le soláthar comhairle agus seirbhísí eolaíochta na heagraíochta. Is gníomhaireacht náisiúnta maoinithe é an Foras le haghaidh taighde mara, a reáchtáilann clár maoinithe iomaíoch faoi threoir straitéisí náisiúnta taighde agus nuálaíochta agus tosaíochtaí beartais rialtais.

Tá comhoibriú trasghníomhaireachta agus tionscnaimh chomhchistiúcháin, ina bhfuil comhlachtaí cistiúcháin náisiúnta agus Eorpacha rannpháirteach, tábhachtach chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar riachtanais réigiúnacha agus náisiúnta agus chun an leas is fearr is féidir a bhaint as na tairbhí a bhaineann le hinfheistíochtaí taighde.

Tá príomhfhreagracht eile de chuid Fhoras na Mara ag cur le beartas taighde náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta a leagan síos - ag cinntiú ailíniú le spriocanna straitéiseacha na hÉireann, go háirithe maidir le beartas muirí comhtháite agus straitéis taighde agus nuálaíochta na hÉireann, le straitéis náisiúnta nua atá le seoladh in 2023.

Tá ról ríthábhachtach ag an bhForas maidir le tacú le taighde mara ar an leibhéal náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta agus maidir leis an taighde sin a chomhordú agus a chur chun cinn. Cuireann sé cúnaimh spriocdhírthe ar fáil do thaighdeoirí mara in Éirinn chun cabhrú leo comhpháirtíochtaí a thógáil agus dul san iomaíocht go rathúil do mhórchabhair AE. Príomhspríoc de chuid an Fhorais is ea tacú le comhleanúnachas ar fud lucht maoinithe stáit éagsúla an taighde mhuirí.

Is taibheoir taighde é Foras na Mara freisin, a ghlacann páirt i gcomhpháirtíochtaí taighde náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta atá ailínithe go straitéiseach lena chomhairle agus lena sheirbhísí agus a chuireann luach leo. Tá sé ina pháirtí chomh maith le hinstitiúidí acadúla ag óstáil eolaithe a oibríonn in éineacht lenár bhfoireann eolaíochta agus teicniúla. Cuireann sé seo oiliúint riachtanach ar fáil, éascaíonn sé comhoibriú agus méadaíonn sé cumas taighde agus eolas an Fhorais.

Clúdaíonn taighde Fhoras na Mara raon leathan réimsí amhail bainistiú acmhainní muirí, measúnuithe éiceachórais, bithéagsúlacht, géineolaíocht éisc, athrú aeráide agus a thionchar ar ár n-aigéin agus ar ár ndobharcantair, eacnamaíocht mhuirí agus socheacnamaíocht mhuirí, sábháilteacht bia agus sláinte éisc, mapáil agus sonraí ar ghrinneall na farraige, agus teicneolaíochtaí spásúla. Chomh maith leis sin, gineann an Foras maoinintleachtúil a eascraíonn as an taighde a mhaoiníonn sí agus a dhéanann sí agus as cláir oibriúcháin a ghabhann sí de láimh, agus cuireann sí taighde a fhaigheann maoiniú poiblí i bhfeidhm in Éirinn.

## Seirbhísí Beartais, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde (PIRS)

Tá ról lárnach ag rannóg Sheirbhísí Beartais, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde (PIRS) Fhoras na Mara maidir le tacú le taighde agus nuálaíocht mara agus iad a chur chun cinn laistigh d'Fhoras na Mara agus ar bhonn náisiúnta araon. Bhí tábhacht ar leith ag baint le ról PIRS maidir le spriocanna uailmhianacha Limistéar Fócas Straitéiseach 3 de Phlean Straitéiseach reatha Fhoras na Mara (a tugadh i gcrích ag deireadh 2022) a bhaint amach.

Laiistigh den Limistéar Fócais Straitéiseach seo, bhí trí shraith gníomhartha ann - a dtugann an chéad cheann díobh aghaidh ar ról Fhoras na Mara i gcomhordú agus i dtacú le taighde mara in Éirinn, le béim ar bheartas taighde agus nuálaíochta náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta. Féachann an dá shnáithe eile le feidhmíocht an Fhorais a bharrfheabhsú mar thaibheoir taighde agus mar chisteoir taighde i gcoinne príomhtháscairí feidhmíochta atá faofa ag Bord Fhoras na Mara.

€7.6 MILLIÚN

Méid na n-infheistíochtaí taighde nua a bronnadh faoi Chlár Taighde Mara an Fhorais.

## Tionscnamh Straitéiseach 1: Taighde agus Nuálaíocht Mhuirí a chomhordú agus a chur chun cinn

### An Straitéis Náisiúnta um Thaighde agus Nuálaíocht Mhuirí

Ceann de na tosaíochtaí a bhí ag PIRS i mbliana ná straitéis náisiúnta nua eolais, taighde agus nuálaíochta mara a fhorbairt. Tá infheistíocht chomhordaithe agus spriocdhírthe i dtaighde agus nuálaíocht mhuirí in Éirinn riachtanach chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar phríomhdhúshláin náisiúnta agus dhomhanda chomh maith le ról suntasach a imirt i dtéarnamh agus i bhfás eacnamaíoch na hÉireann.

Choimisiúnaigh PIRS tuarascáil speisialta chun scrúdú a dhéanamh ar thosca a mbíonn tionchar acu ar threoshuíomh na straitéise nua agus chun treoir bheartaithe a leagan amach a d'fhéadfadh straitéis den sórt sin a ghlacadh. Cuireadh an tuarascáil i gcrích go luath in 2022. Tháinig Fóram na bhFoghlaimoirí Taighde Mara (MRFF), a bunaíodh in 2018 faoin straitéis náisiúnta taighde agus nuálaíochta muirí a bhí ann roimhe seo (2017-2021), le chéile i mí an Mheithimh chun plean tionscadail agus dréachtstruchtúr beartaithe a phlé agus a chomhaontú chun an straitéis nua a fhorbairt. Chomh maith leis sin, chuaigh Foras na Mara i dteagmháil go déthaobhach le comhaltaí an fhórais i rith na bliana ar fhorbairt na straitéise.

Le linn 2022, d'ullmhaigh PIRS réimse dréacht-ábhar don straitéis nua i gcomhar le sainchomhairleoir agus roinnt príomhpháirtithe leasmhara. In 2023, leanfaimid orainn ag obair leis an MRFF, leis an bpobal taighde muirí agus le páirtithe leasmhara eile chun dréachtstraitéis a fhorbairt le haghaidh comhairliúcháin, agus straitéis náisiúnta nua um eolas, taighde agus nuálaíocht mhuirí a thabhairt chun críche, a fhoilsiú agus a sheoladh, a mbeidh an teideal oibre uirthi, *Ocean Knowledge 2030*.

Leanadh le próiseas chun sonraí infheistíochta náisiúnta maidir le taighde muirí a bhailiú agus a anailísiú i rith na bliana le tacaíocht ó MRFF. Rinneadh téarmaí tagartha MRFF a nuashonrú in 2022 chun a aithint go leanfaidh an Fóram de bheith ag feidhmiú ar feadh tréimhse níos faide ná téarma na straitéise roimhe sin agus chun téarmaí cosanta sonraí a bhaineann le RGCS agus le comhroinnt faisnéise a chur san áireamh.

In 2022, leathnaíodh an Bunachar Náisiúnta Taighde Muirí chun réimsí nua faisnéise a chur san áireamh, lena n-áirítear achoimrí ar thionscadail agus comhordaitheoirí tionscadail. Rinneadh uasghrádú freisin ar ghnéithe feidhmiúlachta agus comhéadan úsáideora den bhunachar sonraí.

D'oibrigh foireann PIRS le comhghleacaithe i mBainistíocht Sonraí agus i bhForbairt Feidhmchlár chun an bunachar sonraí a nuashonrú agus a leathnú, lena n-áirítear anois faisnéis ar bheagnach 1,000 tionscadal taighde mara. Leanfar den bhunachar sonraí agus de na huirlisí léirshamlaithe a ghabhann leis a choinneáil in 2023, agus déanfar bealaí nua chun breisluach a chur leis a fhiosrú freisin.

### An Clár Bithghilleagair Ghoirm

In 2022, dhírigh an Clár Bithghilleagair Ghoirm go príomha ar Chomhchiste BlueBio, lena gcuirtear chun feidhme tacaíocht agus comhordú náisiúnta don earnáil agus lena dtacaítear le forbairt na Comhpháirtíochta Bithghilleagair Ghoirm Inbhuanaithe faoin gclár Fís Eorpach.

Seoladh an tríú glao breise agus an glao deiridh faoin BlueBio Cofund, glao spriocdhírthe chun 'Rochtain ar thionscadail agus tionchar eolais a mhéadú'. Chuaigh Foras na Mara, mar cheannaire WP6, i mbun gníomhaíochta freisin chun tionchar na dtionscadal maoinithe le Comhairle Taighde na hIorua agus Bia Fhlóndras a mhéadú, agus chuidigh sé le cúrsa oiliúna a fhorbairt a dhíríonn ar Theicneolaíochtaí Bithscaglainne an Bithghilleagair Ghoirm.

Chuir PIRS ionadaíocht ar fhórais bithghilleagair ar fáil le linn 2022, lena n-áirítear an Grúpa Cur Chun Feidhme Bithghilleagair (BIG) agus a ghrúpa comhairleach seachtrach, agus an tionscnamh cistiúcháin ó Ghrúpa Ionadaíoch an Stáit de chuid Chomhghnóthas an Bithghilleagair Chiorclaigh. Ar an leibhéal náisiúnta, chuaigh PIRS i dteagmháil leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) agus leis an Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide (DECC) thar ceann Fhoras na Mara maidir le Plean Gníomhaíochta Bithghilleagair na hÉireann a fhorbairt.



### Cláir Idirnáisiúnta

Chomh maith leis an gcomhoibriú idirnáisiúnta a dhéanann na réimsí seirbhísí eile i bhForas na Mara, tá PIRS ar thús cadhnaíochta i gcomhordú taighde idirnáisiúnta agus i dtacaíocht beartais. Is éard atá i gceist leis sin ionadaíocht a dhéanamh don Fhoras agus d'Éirinn ag roinnt fóram taighde idirnáisiúnta chun eolas agus tionchar a imirt ar an gclár taighde idirnáisiúnta agus chun a chinntiú go gcoinnítear taighdeoirí atá lonnaithe in Éirinn ar an eolas agus go mbíonn baint acu le tionscnaimh idirnáisiúnta agus le deiseanna taighde, forbartha agus nuálaíochta (RDI).

Déanann PIRS ionadaíocht ghníomhach don Fhoras agus d'Éirinn ar roinnt fóram tábhachtach Eorpach agus idirnáisiúnta le haghaidh taighde aigéin, lena n-áirítear Bord Muirí na hEorpa; EurOcean; an Coimisiún Idir-Rialtasach Aigéin (IOC); agus an Bord Bainistíochta (i ról an Chathaoirligh ó mhí na Samhna 2020) den Tionscnamh Comhphleanála maidir le Farraigí agus Aigéin Shláintiúla agus Tháirgiúla (JPI Oceans).

Thar ceann Fhoras na Mara agus na hÉireann, tá foireann PIRS i gceannas ar an bpróiseas chun comhghníomh nua taighde idirnáisiúnta a fhorbairt ar Ghormcharbón faoi JPI Oceans. D'fhorghabh Bord Bainistíochta na nAigéan JPI é sin mar ghníomh scóipe in 2022 agus chuir 15 thír Eorpacha spéis iontu páirt a ghlacadh ann. Tá moladh le haghaidh comhghníomh iomlán ag deireadh 2022 á húllmhú chun cuireadh san áireamh ag an mBord Bainistíochta na Mara JPI in Áibreán 2023.

I gcomhar leis an DAFM, Fiontraíocht Éireann (EI), agus an Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (EPA), tá Foras na Mara ina shaineolaí ar an gCoiste Cláir do Bhraiste 6 de Chlár Fís Eorpach an AE (Bia, Bithghéilleagar, Acmhainní Náidúrtha, Talmhaíocht agus Comhshaoil). Lean an Foras de bheith ina Pointe Teagmhála Náisiúnta do ghnéithe muirí de chistiú Fís Eorpach.

In 2022 tháinig na chéad torthaí ón gclár Fís Eorpach ar an bhfód agus d'éirigh thar barr le grúpaí taighde agus cuideachtaí Éireannacha, agus bronnadh maoiniú EUR 27.8 milliún ar an iomlán. Ó thaobh téama de, cumhdaíonn na tionscadail raon leathan réimsí, lena n-áirítear, mar shampla, Leathan Digiteach don Loingseoireacht, acmhainní amhábhbar criticiúla in imchuacha dríodair, truailliú muirí, feidhmiú éiceachórais, uiscebhealaí intíre, feidhmeanna feamainne agus dobarshaothrú feamainne, taispeántais fuinnimh tonnta agus feabhas a chur ar an tuiscint ar charbón gorm.

Leis na torthaí sin sa chéad dá bhliain den chreatchlár nua Fís Eorpach, cuirtear ardán láidir ar fáil do thaighdeoirí Éireannacha chun leanúint orthu ag feidhmiú go maith agus a bheith iomaíoch in iarratais ar mhaoiniú ón Aontas. Tá liosta iomlán de na dámhachtainí tionscadail do thaighdeoirí atá lonnaithe in Éirinn do 2022 le fáil in Aguisín 3.



An tUachtarán Micheál D. Ó hUiginn agus Paul Connolly ag seoladh na Cairte Misin i gCorcaigh.

Ar 25 Samhain, bhí an tUachtarán Micheál D. Ó hUiginn i measc an 160 aoi ag ócáid i gCorcaigh chun Misean an Aontais Eorpaigh a sheoladh chun uiscí aigéin agus intíre i réigiúin an Atlantaigh agus an Artaigh a chosaint agus a athbhunú faoi 2030. D'eagraigh an Coimisiún Eorpach agus Foras na Mara an ócáid i ndlúthchomhar le Coláiste Náisiúnta Muirí na hÉireann, a d'óstáil an ócáid, agus Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh.

Ag an ócáid, leagadh béim ar bhearta agus gníomhaíochtaí nithiúla san Atlantach agus san Artach chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na spriocanna uailmhianacha chun ár n-aigéan agus ár bhfarraigí a athbhunú. Agus an ócáid seo á hóstáil aici, tá sé i gceist ag Éirinn a bheith ar thús cadhnaíochta maidir le spriocanna an mhisin a chur chun cinn agus tá an Chairt Mhisin sínithe ag Foras na Mara, tiomantas go bhfuil rún aici tacú le cur i bhfeidhm an Mhisin.

Leanann an Foras de thacaíocht a thabhairt do Líonra na dTaighdeoirí Artacha in Éirinn (NARI) ([nari.ie](http://nari.ie)). Féachann taighde ar fud an Líonra le tacú le gnéithe de Straitéis Nordach na Roinne Gnóthaí Eachtracha. Thacaigh an Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha in Éirinn, in éineacht le Foras na Mara, le NARI imeacht painéil a reáchtáil le taighdeoirí Éireannacha ag comhdháil Thionól na gCiorcal Artach in Reykjavik i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2022. Bhí rannpháirtíocht ardleibhéil ag Éirinn freisin ag Comhdháil na dTeorainneacha Artacha in Tromsø i mí na Bealtaine i mbliana. Le roinnt blianta anuas, thug an Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Foras na Mara tacaíocht agus maoiniú do rannpháirtíocht na hÉireann i gclár na gCeannairí atá ag Teacht Chun Cinn, clár atá á reáchtáil ag Arctic Frontiers.

### Tionscnamh Straitéiseach 2: Cumas agus feidhmiú taighde Fhoras na Mara a mhéadú

#### Rath Maoinithe an AE

D'éirigh le Foras na Mara i sé iarratais ar mhaoiniú de chuid Fhís Eorpach i 2022, agus dhá cinn eile mar tríú páirtí - ina measc tá GES4SEAS (Dea-Stádas Comhshaoil a Bhaint Amach chun Seirbhísí Éiceachórais a chothabháil, trí thionchair chomhtháite brúnna carnacha a mheasúnú); MarinePlan (Eolaíocht thrasdísiciúil fheabhsaithe le haghaidh pleanáil agus caomhnú éifeachtach spásúlachta muirí bunaithe ar éiceachórais i Muir na hEorpa); FAIR-EASE (AIR Eolaíochtaí na Cruinne & Seirbhísí Comhshaoil); Ocean ICU (Ocean-ICU ag Feabhsú Tuiscint Carbóin); SBEP (Comhpháirtíocht um gheilleagar gorm atá neodrach ó thaobh na haeráide de, inbhuanaithe agus táirgiúil); agus BlueMissionAA (mol comhordaithe a thógáil chun tacú le cur chun feidhme an mhisin san imchuach atlantach agus san Artach).

Is ionann luach iomlán na ndámhachtainí in 2022 €2.63 milliún.

#### Tionscnamh Straitéiseach 3: Barrfheabhsú ár Chláir Maoinithe

Díríonn an Clár Taighde Mara ar mhaoiniú chun cumas taighde na hearnála mhuirí a ardú, agus chun an tionchar a uasmhéadú go náisiúnta trí chomhoibriú le maoinitheoirí taighde eile an stáit. I gcomhréir le Plean Straitéiseach 2018-2022 Fhoras na Mara, díreann an clár maoinithe iomaíoch ar an taighde piarmheasúnaithe is airde a sholáthraíonn eolas eolaíoch agus fianaise don rialtas agus do pháirtithe leasmhara ábhartha chun bonn eolais a chur faoi bheartas agus faoi bhainistíocht.

In 2022, rinne an Oifig Maoinithe Taighde bainistiú ar €7.6 milliún in infheistíochtaí taighde nua a bronnadh faoi Chlár Taighde Mara Fhoras na Mara: €4.7 milliún d'am loinge ar na soithí taighde agus ar an bhFeithicil Chianoibrithe; agus €2.9 milliún ar tionscadail taighde (soláthraítear sonraí iomlána in Aguisín 1 agus 2).

Mhaoinigh an infheistíocht long-am na soithí taighde agus an Feithicil Chianoibrithe le haghaidh taighde muirí ildisciplíneach agus oiliúint mac léinn in uiscí na hÉireann agus níos faide i gcéin. Faoin gclár in 2022, tacaíodh le 112 lá le haghaidh

taighde, cuireadh 110 lá ar fáil do thacaíocht beartais agus cuireadh 44 lá ar fáil chun oiliúint a chur ar bord na soithí taighde *Celtic Explorer*, *Celtic Voyager* agus *Tom Crean*.

Díríonn Foras na Mara go straitéiseach ar fhócas a chuid infheistíochtaí taighde chun cumas náisiúnta a fhorbairt i réimsí taighde atá nasctha le tosaíochtaí forbartha agus beartais náisiúnta. Tar éis Ghlaio na gComhaltachtaí Iardhochtúireachta in 2021, bhronn an Foras ceithre chomhaltacht in 2022 ar luach iomlán €1.6 milliún thar cheithre bliana ar Institiúidí Ardoideachais. I measc na ndámhachtainí bhí:

- Ollscoil na Gaillimhe - *Dlús a chur le táirgeadh feamainne do dhobharshaothrú feamainne atá nuálach agus láidir in Éirinn.*
- Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh - *Táirgeadh bithmhais dhébhlaoscach na hÉireann a chur chun cinn trí fhliúirse síolta agus stoic atá níos athléimní ó ghalair a chur chun cinn.*
- Ollscoil Luimnigh - *Monatóireacht éan atá bunaithe ar intleacht shaorga (IS) ag suiteálacha gaoithe amach ón gcósta ag baint úsáide as dróin aeir nach bhfuil foireann acu ar raon fada.*
- Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh - *Tonnta an athraithe: forbairt inbhuanaithe agus athrú iompraíochta a chur chun cinn trí litearthacht maidir leis an aigéan.*

Cuireadh sé scoláireacht ar fáil i gClár Scoláireachtaí Uí Chuilinn in 2022. Tar éis an phróisis mheastóireachta, bronnadh na scoláireachtaí ar cheithre Institiúid Ardoideachais - Ollscoil Luimnigh (2), Ollscoil na Gaillimhe (2), Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (1) agus Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Airdheiscirt (1), le hinfeistíocht iomlán de €550,000.

Cuirfidh an maoiniú seo oiliúint ar fáil do dhá mhac léinn Mháistreachta agus do cheathrar mac léinn PhD sna ceithre bliana amach romhainn agus beidh torthaí taighde eolaíochta mar thoradh air sin a bheidh tábhachtach chun anailís a dhéanamh ar threochtaí fadtéarmacha i gcáilíocht uisce cósta agus mara, monatóireacht chomhshaoil a fhorbairt ag baint úsáide as teicneolaíocht dróin agus IS faoi uisce, agus éiceachóras a fhorbairt d'éiceachórais mhuirí agus chósta na hÉireann.

Leanadh den rannpháirtíocht le cláir chomhchistithe in 2022, agus tugadh dhá infheistíocht nua dar luach €650,000 san iomlán chun críche mar seo a leanas:

- BlueBio 2<sup>ú</sup> Glaoch Breise 2021. Trí thionscadal maoinithe ag cúig chomhpháirtí Éireannacha faoin nglao seo ar Chomhchiste ERA-NET, an Bithghilleagar Gorm - Díghlasáil Acmhainneacht Bhithacmhainní Uisceacha, agus infheistíocht an Fhorais €450,000 (€150,000 in aghaidh na dámhachtana) thar thrí bliana mar seo a leanas:
  - Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh - *BIVALVI: Córais táirgthe dhébhlaoscacha Eorpacha a chur chun cinn.*
  - Teagasc - *ImPrESsIVE: Próiseáil fheabhsaithe chun Luacháil agus Taiscéaladh Taobhsrutha Bia Mara a Fheabhsú.*
  - Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh, Oileán Glas Teo agus Donegal Seaweed - *SeaSoil: Cruthú luacha agus seirbhísí éiceachórais thionscal Feamainne na hEorpa trí eilimintí a d'fhéadfaidh a bheith tocsaineach ó phóru go hithir a laghdú agus a láimhseáil.*
- Glao chomhpháirteach JPI ar Thorann Faoi Uisce sa Timpeallacht Mhuirí maoinithe ag tionscadal amháin PURE WIND: Tionchar fuaimne ar éiceachórais mhuirí ó ghiniúint fuinnimh gaoithe amach ón gcósta le hinfeistíocht iomlán de €200,000 do Choláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh agus Gavin & Doherty Geosolutions Ltd.

Tugann dámhachtainí cómhaoinithe deis chun comhoibriú taighde náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta a bhunú i réimsí a bhfuil tábhacht straitéiseach leo d'Éirinn agus don Eoraip. Leanfar de dheiseanna comhchistiúcháin a fhiosrú in 2023, le comhpháirtithe cistiúcháin náisiúnta/idirnáisiúnta eile, áit a n-ailíniú ar dtosaíochtaí taighde.

Cé nach bhfillfidh ar an éileamh a bhí ann roimh Covid-19, tháinig méadú suntasach in 2022 ar mhaoiniú faoin nglao ar Dhámhachtainí Cumarsáide um Líonrú agus um Thaighde Mhuirí, agus bronnadh 62 dheontas as freastal ar imeachtaí fíorúla (comhdhála, ceardlanna agus cúrsaí oiliúna), foilseacháin rochtana oscailte agus costais táirgthe meán chun torthaí taighde a phoiblíú. Bhí an deontas-chabhair iomlán a bronnadh ar chlár 2022 díreach faoi bhun €77,000.

### An Chomhpháirtíocht maidir leis an nGeilleagar Gorm Inbhuanaithe

Formheasadh an Chomhpháirtíocht maidir leis an nGeilleagar Gorm Inbhuanaithe (SBEP) de chuid Fís Eorpach le haghaidh cistiúcháin agus cuireadh tús foirmiúil léi i mí Mheán Fómhair 2022. Is comhar é SBEP idir 60 comhpháirtí lena n-áirítear maoinitheoirí taighde náisiúnta ó 25 thír Eorpacha agus an Coimisiún Eorpach le maoiniú EUR 450 milliún geallta thar chlár seacht mbliana (2022-2028).

Is iad na maoinitheoirí náisiúnta (70 %) agus breisiú 30 % ón gCoimisiún Eorpach a chuireann an maoiniú ar fáil. In 2022, ba é Foras na Mara an t-aon chomhpháirtí maoinithe ó Éirinn (féadfaidh maoinitheoirí eile dul isteach níos déanaí) le gealltanais de €4 milliún in airgead tirim agus €1 milliún i gcomhchineál déanta don chomhpháirtíocht iomlán. As sin, gealladh airgead tirim €1 milliún faoin gcéad chomhghlao trasnáisiúnta a seoladh i mí Feabhra 2023, agus tá sé ghlao beartaithe san iomlán.

Le SBEP, maoiníofar tionscadail thrasnáisiúnta a rannchuidíonn leis an tionchar ar an gcomhshaol a laghdú agus le hinbhuanaitheacht ghníomhaíochtaí an duine a mhéadú ar fud an iliomad earnálacha mhuirí, i gcomhréir leis an gComhaontú Glas don Eoraip agus gealltanais aeráide náisiúnta. Díreoidh an chéad ghlao ar chúig réimse idirghabhála a bhaineann le cúpla aigéan digiteach logánta, pleanáil spásúil mhuirí agus earnáil an bhia mara a dhéanamh inbhuanaithe.

### Ár nAigéan Comhroinnte

Is clár dar luach €3.8 milliún é Ár nAigéan Comhroinnte chun cur chuige comhpháirtíochta a fhorbairt idir taighdeoirí Éireannacha agus iad siúd i Stáit Oileánacha Bheaga i mBéal Forbartha (SIDS) trí chomhoibriú ar chomhthionscadail thrasnáisiúnta a thugann aghaidh ar dhúshlán shonracha eolaíochta aigéin agus aeráide do SIDS i Muir Chairib agus san Aigéan Atlantach, san Aigéan Indiach agus san Aigéan Ciúin.

Tá an clár maoinithe go hiomlán ag an Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha (DFA) i gcomhar le Foras na Mara mar chomhpháirtí maoinithe. Seoladh ár nAigéan Comhroinnte go foirmiúil i mí an Mheithimh 2022 le seoladh tiomnaithe ar bord ártach cabhlaigh na hÉireann, an George Bernard Shaw, i Liospóin ar ócáid Chomhdháil Aigéin na Náisiún Aontaithe. Eagraíodh an ócáid le tacaíocht ó Ambasáid na hÉireann i Liospóin agus ó Sheirbhís Chabhlaigh na hÉireann. Le glaonna tosaigh a seoladh in 2022, méadófar glaonna agus infheistíochtaí an chlár ó 2023, agus cuideofar leis sin trí Bhainisteoir Cláir agus Riarthóir tiomnaithe a cheapadh.

### An Comhshaol Muirí agus Seirbhísí Sábháilteachta Bia (MEFSS)

#### Sábháilteacht Sliogéisc

I réimse na sábháilteachta sliogéisc, áiríodh an méid seo a leanas i ngníomhaíochtaí taighde in 2022:

#### Tionscadail a Mhaoinear go Náisiúnta:

- Tionscadal maoinithe ag Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) a leanann ar aghaidh go dtí Meán Fómhair 2023, chun anailís a dhéanamh ar thionchar, ar bhainistiú agus ar leiththeadúlacht an noraivíris i roinnt limistéar táirgthe timpeall chósta na hÉireann.
- Mhaoinigh an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) tionscadal ceithre bliana, 'PSPSafe: Riosca Imeachtaí Nimhithe Sliogéisc Parailíteacha in Éirinn a Mhéadú' i gcomhpháirtíocht leis an gColáiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath (UCD) agus le hOllscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (ATU). Tá an tionscadal seo tar éis a chéad bhliain a chríochnú agus leanann sé ar aghaidh go dtí Samhain 2025.

#### Tionscadail arna Mhaoiniú go hIdirnáisiúnta:

- PRIMROSE - Is tionscadal de chuid an Aontais de chuid Limistéar an Atlantaigh Interreg é an tionchar a bheidh ag imeachtaí ar an Scála Réigiúnach ar earnáil an Dobharshaothraithe a thuar, áit a bhfuil Foras na Mara ar an bPríomhpháirtí. Cuireann an tionscadal seo leis na tacair sonraí, na teicnící agus na samhlacha atá againn cheana chun imeachtaí díobhálacha Algal Bloom (HAB) a thuar agus a tairseach sonraí a fhorbairt do thíortha limistéar an Atlantaigh chun sonraí agus faisnéis faoi pharaiméadair bhitheolaíochta agus aigéaneolaíochta éagsúla a bhaint amach.
- I mí na Samhna, bhronn Limistéar an Atlantaigh Interreg an tríú glao ar an tionscadal seo agus leanfaidh sé ar aghaidh go dtí mí Iúil 2023.

#### Taighde arna Mhaoiniú ag Foras na Mara:

- Scoláireacht Uí Chuilinn (PhD) i Micribhitheolaíocht Sliogéisc, i gcomhar le Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan (MTU) agus Teagasc ar fheidhmiú seicheamhú éagsúlacht géinitíopach noraivíris den chéad ghlúin eile i sliogéisc débhlascach agus fuíolluisce.
- Scoláireacht Uí Chuilinn (PhD) i bhFíteaplanctóin/Bithfhionnachtaí, i gcomhar le Foras Ryan, Ollscoil na Gaillimhe, ar na sainréithe bithghníomhacha agus tocsain a

Seoladh ár nAigéan Comhroinnte i Liospóin. Sa phictiúr tá Fiona Grant, Laura McDonagh agus Niall McDonough ó Fhoras na Mara le Lt Cmdr Jamie Cotter, LE George Bernard Shaw. Grianghraf: Miguel Valle de Figueiredo.

bhaineann le biotocsainí a shaothrú ar mhórskála de speicis fíteaplanctóin a tháirgeann tocsain aitheanta in uisce na hÉireann.

- Scoláireacht Uí Chuilinn (PhD) i bhFíteaplanctóin Móilíneach, i gcomhar le ATU, 'Mí-mheasanna móilíneacha a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm chun speicis fíteaplanctóin tocsaineach agus díobhálacha a bhrath go rialta in uisce agus dríodair chósta na hÉireann".

#### Suirbhé fíteaplanctóin ar Uisce Cósta na hÉireann (TC22005)

I mí Lúnasa, rinneadh suirbhé gearr cósta de chúig lá d'uisce Éireannacha ar bord an RV *Tom Crean*, ina raibh na cuspoir deartha chun sonraí agus eolas a seoladh go dtí an iarracht samhaltú Bhláthanna Algacha Díobhálacha (BAD), chun leanúint ar aghaidh ag mapáil an méid agus an dáileadh speiceas tocsaineach fíteaplanctóin in uisce na hÉireann, agus chun na tréithe físiúla agus fíteaplanctóin an sruth cósta a mhapáil, feadh trasrianta ag stáisiún san iarthar, san iardheisceart agus sna cóstaí theas.

#### Treoir Réime um Pleanáil Spásúil Mhuirí/Straitéis Mhuirí

- In 2022, chuir Institiúid na Cruinne tionscadal a mhaoinigh an Ciste Eorpach Muirí agus Iascaigh (CEMI) i gcrích in UCD chun imscrúdú a dhéanamh ar na tosca a rialaíonn leathadh na Speiceas Coimhthíoch Ionracha (IAS) in uisce na hÉireann. D'fhorbair siad samhlacha chun tuiscint a fháil ar scaipeadh IASanna amach anseo.
- Cuireadh dhá thionscadal feamainne ón gCiste Eorpach Muirí agus Iascaigh (CEMI) i gcrích in 2022: 1) Modheolaíochtaí caighdeánacha a fhorbairt chun measúnú a dhéanamh ar an acmhainn feamainne timpeall chósta na hÉireann; 2) Faisnéis shocheacnamaíoch bhonnlíne faoi ghníomhaíocht bainte feamainne agus úsáid táirgí i bpobail mhuirí tuaithe na hÉireann.
- I mí an Mhárta, cuireadh tús le tionscadal bithéagsúlachta nua beantach, a maoiníodh faoin Scéim um Fhás Gorm agus Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí CEMI. Tá sonraí benthacha á gcomhthiomsú i gcóras Láraithe.
- Rinne Elizabeth Tray (Foras na Mara) agus an Dr Ainhoa González (Coláiste na hOllscoile, Baile Átha Cliath) comh-mhaoirsiú, Comhalta Cullen chun creat measúnaithe ar éifeachtaí carnacha a fhorbairt do phróiseas pleanála mhuirí na hÉireann.

- I gcomhpháirtíocht le FEAS (an tOllamh David Reid) agus cuibhreannas idirnáisiúnta níos leithne, d'éirigh lenár dtogra tionscadail Fís Eorpach. Tugtar 'Eolaíocht thrasdiciplíneach fheabhsaithe le haghaidh pleanáil agus caomhnú spásúil muirí atá bunaithe ar éiceachórais i bhFarraigí na hEorpa' (MarinePlan) ar an tionscadal. Thosaigh an tionscadal i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2022.
- Chuir an fhoireann a gcuid oibre i láthair ag comhdhála idirnáisiúnta lena n-áirítear Comhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta ICES, ECSA 59 (Ag baint úsáide as an eolas eolaíoch is fearr chun inbhir agus farraigí cósta a bhainistiú go hinbhuanaithe), Comhdháil Pleanála Spásúlachta Muirí IOC UNESCO, agus Lá Muirí na hEorpa.

### Cemic na Mara

- Tá baint ag an rannóg Ceimice Muirí le roinnt tionscadal comhoibríoch a dhéanann imscrúdú ar thruaillíú mara. Baineann réimsí leathana topaice le tarlú agus riosca a bhaineann le héilleáin ar ábhar imní iad atá ag teacht chun cinn, cineálacha cur chuige núosacha lena ndéantar meastóireacht ar thruaillíú, agus ualaí salaithe in ainmhithe gar do mhuirshlabhra an bhiashlabhra muirí (amhail mamaigh mhuirí). I measc na dtionscadal bhí iSecure, MONITOOL, AQUAGAPS, REVAMP ITN agus staidéar CEMI ar éilleáin i ndeifl choiteann.
- I measc na dtionscadal taighde ceimiceach aigéaneolaíochta tá Gníomhaíocht Chomhphárteach OCEANS JPI maidir le hacmhainneachtaí carbóin na n-aigéan agus tionscadal EURO GO-SHIP.
- Bhí baill foirne ina gcomhúdair ar chúig pháipéar a foilsíodh sa phreas eolaíoch.

### Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann (IMDO)

Leanann IMDO d'fheabhas a chur ar cháilíocht a taighde gheilleagraigh trí oibriú go dlúth le Ranna, gníomhaireachtaí agus comhlachtaí tionscail ábhartha. Is éard atá i gceist leis an obair seo éisteacht le páirtithe leasmhara sa tionscal chun treoachtaí atá ag teacht chun cinn a aithint agus freagairt le comhairle agus faisnéis atá tráthúil, cruinn agus iontaofa.

Tá gá le taighde nua chun bonn eolais a chur faoin mbeartas maidir le hearnálacha tionscail atá ag teacht chun cinn amhail Fuinneamh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta (ORE), breosláí malartacha agus soláthar cumhachta ar tír. Tosaíonn carnadh na faisnéise ábhartha le comhairliúcháin le geallsealbhóirí tionscail chun an fearann a mhapáil. Bhí sé sin ar siúl le linn 2022. Ina theannta sin, chuir IMDO tús le taighde in 2022 ar na héifeachtaí a bheidh ag an aistriú chuig breosláí malartacha ar eárnálacha na loingseoireachta agus na gcalafort agus ar an gcaoi ar féidir calafoirt na hÉireann a chur ar bhealach i dtreo na hinbhuanaitheachta. Beidh an taighde tábhachtach seo mar bhonn eolais do bheartas sa réimse seo.

### Seirbhísí Comhairleacha maidir le hÉiceachórais Iascaigh (FEAS)

Thug FEAS faoi go leor tionscadal Taighde agus Nuálaíochta le linn 2022. I measc bhuaicphointí na ngníomhaíochtaí le linn na bliana tá:

- Chuir an Fhoireann Bainistíochta Iascaigh Éiceachórais (EBFM) tús le trí thionscadal nua a fuair maoiniú ón H-Europe:
  - MarinePlan - le foireann Pleanála Spásúlachta Muirí i MEFFS chun riachtanais spásúlachta atá ag teacht salach ar a chéile a thabhairt chun réitigh d'iascaireacht, do Limistéir Mhuirí faoi Chosaint agus d'Fhuinneamh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta (ORE), lena n-áirítear forbairt a dhéanamh ar úsáid chur chuige na Limistéar atá Suntasach Éiceolaíoch nó Bitheolaíoch (EBSA).
  - GES4SEAS - modhanna a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm chun tuiscint a fháil ar bhrúnna carnacha agus ar thionchair charnacha ó ghníomhaíochtaí an duine.
  - OceanICU - Tuiscint Charbóin a Fheabhsú san Aigéan. Cineálacha cur chuige samhaltaithe éiceachórais a úsáid chun tuiscint a fháil ar thionchair na hiascaireachta (baint éisc agus tionchair ghrinneall na farraige) ar an mbuiséad carbóin foriomlán agus ceapadh ar ghrinneall na farraige.
- D'fhoilsigh foireann Bainistíochta Iascaigh Éiceachórais FEAS ocht bpáipéar idirnáisiúnta athbhreithnithe piaraí.
- Bhí baint ag foireann Áis Taighde Bhaile Uí Fhiacháin FEAS le 13 pháipéar athbhreithnithe piaraí idirnáisiúnta a fhoilsíú.
- Lean an fhoireann mairíse taighde lena cuid oibre in 2022, ag comhlánú na foirme nua PAC, agus ag bogadh ar aghaidh chun Straitéis Taighde Fhoras na Mara a fhorbairt. Ar deireadh, d'ullmhaigh FEAS, cosúil leis na réimsí seirbhíse eile, rannchuidiú le Straitéis Taighde Fhoras na Mara. Áiríodh ceithre théama leis sin. Bhí taighde nasctha le comhairle maidir le meastóireacht agus bainistiú stoc, dobharshaothrú, meastóireacht ar éiceachórais mhuirí, agus córais éiceolaíochta sóisialta.
- Lean an comhoibriú leis an gCoimisiún Idirnáisiúnta um Chaomhnú Thuinníní an Atlantaigh (ICCAT), Ollscoil Stanford California, agus Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath, a thosaigh in 2016, ar aghaidh in 2022 agus 18 dtuinnín gorm eile clibeáilte le clibeanna satailíte Popoff agus triúr le clibeanna méadair luasghéaraithe, rud a d'fhág go raibh os cionn 100 clibeáil ghoirm ann ó cuireadh tús leis an gcomhoibriú. Léirigh sonraí a tharchuirtear ó na clibeanna seo nuair a scaoiltear iad ó na héisc (bliain amháin de ghnáth tar éis clibeála) roinnt bealaí imirce agus áiteanna sceite éagsúla sa Mheánmhuir, d'éisc a chlibeáiltear i gceantar Dhún na nGall agus an iardheisceart le go leor de na héisc chlibeáilte a d'fhill bliain níos déanaí ar an suíomh

inar clibeáladh agus inar scaoileadh saor iad ar dtús. Tá na sonraí sin mar bhonn eolais do shamhlacha measúnaithe stoic ICCAT agus do chomhairle gabhála. Ina theannta sin, bronnadh Comhaltacht Uí Chuillinn ar Choláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath chun staidéar a dhéanamh ar iompraíocht agus éiceolaíocht an tuinnín ghoirm.

- Lean Foras na Mara d'oiliúint scipéara, breathnóirí agus bailiú sonraí agus anailís a chur ar fáil chun tacú leis an iascach bailithe sonraí maidir le Gabháil agus Scaoileadh an Tuinnín Ghoirm, a oibrítear faoi choimirce na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) agus na Roinne Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide (DECC) le tacaíocht ó Fhoras na Mara, Iascach Intíre Éireann (IFI) agus an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara (SFFPA).
- I 2022, bhí breis is 130,000 bradáin óige clibithe i sé suíomhanna faoin gClár Náisiúnta um Chlibeáil Sreang Chódáilte Bradán agus Aisghabháil Clibeanna, a tionscnaíodh i 1980. Soláthraíonn sé seo breis agus 50 bliain d'eolas faoi mharthanais stoc bradán na hÉireann ar muir agus úsáideann an Chomhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES) é mar innéacs náisiúnta le haghaidh comhairle a chuireann siad ar fáil go bliantúil d'Eagraíocht um Chaomhnú Bradán an Atlantaigh Thuaidh (NASCO).
- Mhaoinigh Foras na Mara athbhreithniú deisce ar phointí tagartha ICES a cuireadh i láthair ag Ceardlann ICES maidir le Pointí Tagartha (WKREF1), a rinne Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Maigh Eo (Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh anois). Scrúdaigh an t-athbhreithniú fóiréinseach seo an chaoi ar socraíodh pointí tagartha le blianta beaga anuas ag cruinnithe éagsúla tagarmharcanna ICES agus rinneadh moltaí maidir leis an méid ba cheart a fheabhsú amach anseo.
- D'úsáid comhalta PhD Uí Chuillín a bhí lonnaithe in Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste, sonraí ó chlár samplála le haghaidh clibeáil ghéiniteach agus sonraí athghabhála le hiascairí gliomaigh. Tá trí chomhaltacht Uí Chuillín i mBuiríos Umhaill críochnaithe agus tá an ceathrú ceann ag dul chun cinn go maith, agus tá foilseacháin phiarmheasúnaithe á dtáirgeadh ag gach ceann acu.
- Cuireadh tús le dhá chomhaltacht Uí Chuillín in 2021 i mBaile Uí Fhiacháin, ceann ar Pháirc Náisiúnta an Neifinn Fhíáin (Colin Guilfoyle) agus ceann eile ar athruithe bitheolaíochta i bpríomhéisc a ndéantar saothrú tráchtála orthu i bhfanais an athraithe aeráide (Callum Sturrock). Tá siad araon ag dul chun cinn go sármhaith.
- Bliain rathúil eile ab ea 2022 i mbailiú sonraí Taighde Fadtearmaigh Timpeallachta Bhuiríos Umhaill sa dobharcheantar (meitéareolaíoch, hidreolaíoch, ceimiceach agus bitheolaíoch). Comhlánaíodh gach iarratas ar shonraí de réir mar ba ghá agus leanadh de na sonraí a úsáid i bhfoilseacháin taighde chomhoibriúchá agus athbhreithnithe piaraí.

- Tá an tionscadal InventWater ([inventwater.eu/](http://inventwater.eu/)) MCSA ITN ag feidhmiú go maith. Earcaíodh Adrian Rinaldo sa phost i gColáiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh/Foras na Mara agus oibreoidh sé ar shamhaltú salmainide ar thionchair aeráide amach anseo.
- Leanann an dá PhD IT Dhún Dealgan (DkIT), arna maoiniú faoi scáth an 'Chláir Tírdhreacha' agus ag obair ar thionscadail le foireann dobharcheantair Bhuiríos Umhaill (an phailéimeolaíocht agus an bhithéagsúlacht fionnuisce), ag dul chun cinn i gcónaí.
- In 2022, rinneadh tuilleadh forbartha ar bhunachar sonraí foinsé oscailte agus rinneadh córas cartlainne a fhorbairt chun an bailiúchán seo a chomhdhlúthú agus a dhigitiú faoin gclár 'Unlocking the Archive, Catchment Cluster'. Tá anailís leanúnach ar amshraitheanna maidir le haeráid atá ag athrú faoi lán seoil ag baint úsáide as sonraí ón gcartlann agus as an tsraith ama fhada de shonraí daonáirimh éisc agus sonraí códaithe clibeála sreinge.
- In 2019, chuaigh an tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra (SPNF), cuid de Rannán Oidhreachta na Roinne Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta, i dteagmháil le Foras na Mara chun féachaint an bhféadfaí na háiseanna ag stáisiún taighde Fhoras na Mara ag an bhFoirméis a úsáid chun tástáil a dhéanamh ar an bhféidearthacht diúilicíní péarla fionnuisce (FPManna) a phóru agus a thógáil i mbraighdeanas. Tá FPMS ar tí a ndíothaithe agus aithnítear sa Straitéis Náisiúnta Caomhnaithe do FPManna an tábhacht a bhaineann le tionscadail phórúcháin faoi chuing chun a áirithiú go mairfidh daonraí atá ag dul i léig sa ghearrthéarma agus sa mheántéarma. Tar éis an chéad chohórt de dhiúilicíní faoi chuing a bhunú sa ghortlann Foirméise in 2020 agus tar éis dúinn an chéad ghlúin d'éisc óga a phóraítear faoi chuing a tháirgeadh in 2021, deonaíodh ceadúnas tionscadail don Údarás Rialála Táirgí Sláinte (HPRA) chun leanúint den chlár ó 2022-2024. Táirgeadh an dara chohórt FPMs sa ghortlann in 2022.

- Tháinig deireadh rathúil le tionscadal BEYOND 2020 in 2022, tar éis síneadh formheasta chun na deacrachtaí a bhaineann le paindéim COVID-19 a sháru. Tá ceathrar den chúigear mac léinn PhD críochnaithe anois (Molly Williams, Joyce O'Grady, Florian Leseur agus Michele de Noia) agus déanfaidh Maria Caldero-Pascual a tráchtas a chosaint i mí Eanáir 2023. 14 páipéar piarmheasúnaithe a foilsíodh go dtí seo, cúig cinn acu a d'úsáid na sonraí éiceolaíocha fadtéarmacha ó Bhuiríos Umhaill. Bhí trí pháipéar comhoibritheacha il-údar breise ann freisin, lena n-áirítear comhúdair BEYOND 2020, ar foilsíodh ceann amháin acu in Nature Communications. Tar éis 2020, d'óstáil sé seisiún speisialta freisin ag an Symposium for European Freshwater Science i mí Iúil 2022. Tá dul chun cinn suntasach déanta maidir le forbairt braiteoir nua, measúnachtaí eDNA qPCR ar leith agus anailís micribhithóm.
- Tháinig sé bliana d'obair ghéiniteach um shainnaint stoc ar scadáin i limistéar ICES 6.a i gcrích in R1 2022 nuair a tháinig tagarmharc measúnaithe stoic ICES ar an gconclúid gur féidir na stoic 6a Theas agus 6a Thuaidh a mheasúnú ar leithligh arís den chéad uair ó 2015 i leith, anois gur féidir iad a dhífreáil go hiontaofa. Is é an toradh atá air sin an chéad chomhairle TAC neamhnialasacha do na stoic ó cuireadh le chéile iad.
- Tá clár daonáirimh éisc Bhuiríos Umhaill Bhaile Uí Fhiacháin (bradán, breac, eascann), lena n-áirítear an daonáireamh gaiste réamhtheachtach agus iartheachtach agus monatóireacht ar stoc éisc óga sna sruthanna agus sna lochanna, mar bhonn le cuid mhaith den mheasúnú ar stoc agus soláthar comhairle maidir le stoc agus gabháil le haghaidh bradán agus eascann. Féach Aguisín 8 le haghaidh sonraí le haghaidh 2022.
- Cuireadh tionscadal IMPAQT (Córais Chliste Bainistíochta le haghaidh Dobharshaothrú Iltrófach Comhtháite) i gcrích go rathúil faoi Fís 2020. Bhí 21 chomhpháirtí idirnáisiúnta páirteach sa tionscadal, arna chomhordú ag Foras na Mara, a raibh buiséad de bheagnach €6 mhilliún acu.

## Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise na nAigéan (OCIS)

### Bonneagair Taighde Muirí

Bhí baint ag an bhfoireann le roinnt tionscadal Fís Eorpach in 2022 lena n-áirítear:

- Euro-Argo RISE (E-ARISE) ag leathnú cumais ranníocaíocht ERIC Euro-Argo chuig eagar snámhach domhanda Argo ag soláthar breathnóireachta riachtanacha aigéin do i) paraiméadair bhithgheoicimiceacha, ii) i bhfarraige níos doimhne, iii) faoi oighear, agus iv) i réigiúin imeallacha farraige. Críochnaíodh an tionscadal go rathúil i mí na Nollag 2022.
- JERICO-S3 (Bonneagar Taighde Comhpháirteach Eorpach na bhFaireachlann Cósta: Eolaíocht, Seirbhís, Inbhuanaitheacht) go (i) seirbhísí a sholáthar chun sonraí comhshaoil ardcháilíochta a sholáthar, (ii) rochtain ar réitigh agus ar shaoráidí mar sheirbhísí do thaighdeoirí agus d'úsáideoirí, (iii) fréamhshamlacha táirgí a chruthú do chroiseirbhísí agus d'úsáideoirí muirí an Aontais, (iv) tacú le barr feabhais i dtaighde cósta muirí chun freagairt níos fearr do riachtanais shochaíocha agus bheartais.
- JERICO-DS (Bonneagar Taighde Comhpháirteach Eorpach um Fhaireachlanna Cósta - Staidéar Dearaidh) lena gceaptar Bonneagar Taighde Eorpach úrscothach atá oiriúnach dá fheidhm agus atá físiúil, lena soláthrófar saineolas réamhaisnéise agus sonraí ardcháilíochta ar fharraigí cósta agus seilfeanna na hEorpa, lena dtacófar le taighde den chéad scoth, nuálaíocht ardtionchair agus barr feabhais Eorpach ar fud an domhain.
- GROOM-II (Faoileoir i gcomhair Taighde, Breathnóireacht agus Bainistíocht na nAigéan - Nuálaíocht & Tionscadal) a dhearann Bonneagar Taighde Eorpach Glider (GERI) atá úrscothach, oiriúnach dá fheidhm agus a chuirfidh sonraí ardchaighdeán ar fáil maidir le farraigí cósta agus seilfeanna na hEorpa ó dhromchla síos go 1,000 méadar.

Bhí baint ag an bhfoireann freisin le roinnt tograí rathúla d'Fhís na hEorpa a bronnadh in 2022 lena n-áirítear:

- ANERIS (teicneolaíochtaí oibríochta braite beatha le haghaidh éiceachórais mhuirí) chun an chéad ghlúin eile d'ionstraimíocht, d'uirlisí agus de mhodhanna eolaíochta a fhorbairt chun an saol muirí a bhrath. Le dearadh na n-ionstraimí agus na modhanna nua, déanfar cineálacha éagsúla teicneolaíochtaí beatha muirí a chomhtháthú: géanómaíocht, íomháu bith-optics agus eolaíochtaí rannpháirtíochta.
- GEORGE (Teicneolaíochtaí breathnóireachta aigéin ilardáin den chéad ghlúin eile le haghaidh bonneagair thaighde) córas breathnóireachta ilardán bithgheoicimiceach úrscothach a fhorbairt agus a léiriú chun an córas carbóin aigéin a thréithriú trí thréithriú chórasach, uathrialaitheach, in situ chóras CO<sub>2</sub> uisce farraige, agus foscanna CO<sub>2</sub> ar ardáin bhreathnóireachta ghluaiستهacha agus fhosaithe.
- TRIDENT (Uirlis measúnaithe tionchair bunaithe ar theicneolaíocht le haghaidh taiscéalaíocht agus saothrú inbhuanaithe trédhearcach mianadóireachta domhainfharraige) a fhorbraíonn córas iontaofa, trédhearcach agus costéifeachtach chun gníomhaíochtaí taiscéalaíochta agus saothraithe sa domhainfharraige a thuar agus chun faireachán leanúnach a dhéanamh ar an tionchar ar an gcomhshaol. Cuirfidh an córas seo sonraí fíor-ama ar fáil chun cead a thabhairt d'údarais agus do na húdarais maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar chreataí dlíthiúla idirnáisiúnta agus náisiúnta.



Kestutis Sadauskas, Leas-Ard-Stiúrthóir, Ard-Stiúrthóireacht na nGnóthaí Muirí agus na Hlascaireachta, Fiona Grant, Foras na Mara, agus John Bell, Stiúrthóir ar Healthy Planet.

### Seirbhísí Aigéaneolaíochta agus Aeráide

Tháinig Foras na Mara sé pháipéar a ndearnadh athbhreithniú eolaíoch orthu maidir le samhaltú aigéin, breathnú ar na haigéin agus an aeráid, lena n-áirítear trí fhoilseachán ó mhac léinn PhD Cullen maidir le hidirghníomhaíochtaí tonnreatha in uisce na hÉireann agus páipéar comhoibritheach le Saotharlann Mhuirí Plymouth, an Ríocht Aontaithe, maidir le spreagthóirí aigéaneolaíochta do dháileadh spúinse domhainfharraige agus dhá pháipéar ó thionscadail CoCLiME agus PRIMROSE.

I 2022, lean an bhfoireann OCS ar aghaidh ag obair go dlúth le comhghleacaithe in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad ar chomh-mhaoirseacht mic léinn PhD Uí Chuillín a bhí i mbun taighde séasúrach go leibhéal na farraige agus na dtionta agus le comhghleacaithe in Ollscoil na Gaillimhe ar thionscadal PhD Cullen atá dírithe ar dhath na n-aigéan ag baint úsáide as satailítí cianbhraiteachta agus *san-aer* ar an RV *Taistealaí Ceilteach*. Lean comhoibriú le hOllscoil na Gaillimhe freisin le tionscadal atá maoinithe ag Foras na Mara maidir le comhshamhlú sonraí a chur chun cinn.

### Ardseirbhísí Mapála (AMS)

Tá foireann AMS fós i gceannas ar Phacáiste Oibre 4 maidir le Mapáil Ghnáthóga Benthic sa tionscadal AE H2020 Mission Atlantic. Thionóil an fhoireann ceardlanna agus cruinnithe le comhpháirtithe tionscadail agus grúpaí idirnáisiúnta maidir le brú an Atlantaigh a mhapáil, a mhapáil agus a shamhaltú ar Éiceachórais Leochaileacha san Atlantach, agus ar dhúshláin agus deiseanna i mapáil an Atlantaigh. Déanann AMS maoirseacht ar obair iardhochtúireachta (Nomanstif) Choláiste na hOllscoite, Corcaigh (UCC) atá á mhaoiniú ag Foras na Mara (UCC).

Tá conradh Habitat Ghrinneall na Farraige (EMODnet) de chuid an Líonra Eorpaigh um Breathnóireacht agus Sonraí Muirí (EMODnet) de chuid Fhoras na Mara ar siúl faoi láthair, agus tá an obair ag tosú ar thogra conartha leantach. Tá AMS i gceannas ar an bpacáiste cumarsáide agus oibre for-rochtana, agus tá léirmhíniú agus anailís leanúnach ar shonraí ag cur feabhas ar rannchuidiú na hÉireann leis an léarscáil de ghnáthóga ghrinneall na farraige ar scála leathan don Eoraip.

Chun tacú le fothú acmhainneachta tríú leibhéal agus le Dámhachtainí Ama Long arna maoiniú ag Foras na Mara, chuir AMS cúnamh mapála ar fáil do raon suirbhéanna ar bord an RV *Celtic Voyager* and RV *Celtic Explorer*, sa phleanáil suirbhéireachta, agus sa chianfháil.

### Seirbhísí Leabharlainne

Leanann Leabharlann Oceanus de bheith ag tacú lenár bhfoirne ina gcuid taighde, trí rochtain a sholáthar ar fhoilseacháin, oiliúint, tacaíocht a fhoilsiú, agus a dtionchar taighde a mhéadú trí Rochtain Oscailte agus trí chur chun cinn.

Comhoibríonn an Leabharlannaí le gach roinn, lena n-áirítear oibriú le heolaí agus le foirne forbartha feidhmchlár chun sonraí a léirshamhlú agus chun cur le beartais inmheánacha maidir le sonraí, cosaint sonraí agus slándáil, taighde agus foilsiú.

Ar an leibhéal náisiúnta, comhoibríonn an Leabharlann leis an bhFóram Náisiúnta Taighde Oscailte, ag cuidiú agus ag tacú leis an bPlean Gníomhaíochta Náisiúnta um Thaighde Oscailte 2022-2030. Fuair an Leabharlann, i gcomhar le hOllscoil na Gaillimhe agus cuibhreannais institiúidí, maoiniú chun freagra a thabhairt ar cheann de na sé ghlaos tosaíochta atá leagtha amach sa Phlean Gníomhaíochta Náisiúnta a dhíreoidh ar ailíniú náisiúnta stórtha institiúideacha sa dá bhliain amach romhainn.

Tá an Leabharlannaí gníomhach ar fud cumainn éagsúla agus d'fhreastail sé freisin ar roinnt comhdhála in 2022, go fóraitil agus go pearsanta. Tháinig Comhdháil na Leabharlainne Domhanda go Baile Átha Cliath i mí Iúil 2022 agus chuir os cionn 2,000 leabharlannaí an phríomhchathair ó gach cearn den domhan, Leabharlannaí Fhoras na Mara san áireamh, i láthair ag an gcomhdháil freisin.

Féach Aguisíní 4 & 5 chun eolas a fháil faoi Fhoilseacháin agus Páipéir Eolaíochta agus Foilseacháin Fhoras na Mara in 2022.



Leabharlannaí Fhoras na Mara Stephanie Ronan i Leabharlann Aigéin in Órán Mór.

# RÉIMSE FÓCAS STRAITÉISEACH 4 Geilleagar Aigéin na hÉireann

Cuireann Foras na Mara seirbhísí ar fáil i gcomhpháirtíocht le gníomhaireachtaí eile a thacaíonn le forbairt eacnamaíoch inbhuanaithe agus a chuireann chun cinn í agus a chuireann fostaíocht inbhuanaithe chun cinn. Baineann gné shuntasach eacnamaíoch leis an gcuid is mó de na gníomhaíochtaí a shonraítear i réimsí eile den Tuarascáil Bhliantúil seo.

Tacaíonn an Foras le geilleagair aigéin agus chósta na hÉireann trína taighde, saíneolas fearainn, bonneagar, seirbhísí comhairleacha agus rialála agus deiseanna forbartha muirí. Áirítear leis sin sainordú Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann (IMDO) de chuid Foras na Mara, lena gcuirtear tacaíocht thiomnaithe forbartha, cur chun cinn agus margáíochta ar fáil d'earnáil na seirbhísí loingseoireachta agus loingseoireachta. Áirítear le sainchúram IMDO freisin tacaíocht a thabhairt d'fhorbairt chalafoirt na hÉireann agus do ríachtanais oideachais agus oiliúna thionscal an mhuiriompair.

Trí chláir oideachais, rannpháirtíochta agus forrochtana níos leithne le páirtithe leasmhara, cuidíonn Foras na Mara le comhdhearcaidh eolasach a fhorbairt maidir le forbairt inbhuanaithe ar ngeilleagair aigéin (féach Cumasóir Straitéiseach 4: Rannpháirtíocht agus Oideachas le haghaidh tuilleadh faoi seo).

Tacaíonn na seirbhísí cumasúcháin seo le huailmhianta agus le gealltanais an Rialtais faoi Chlár an Rialtais. Éascaíonn agus maoiníonn an Foras taighde a sholáthraíonn eolas atá ábhartha ó thaobh beartais de agus atá ríachtanach don fhás agus don inbhuanaitheacht sa gheilleagar gorm. Tá sé rithabhachtach acmhainneacht shocheacnamaíoch agus cumas socheacnamaíoch a fhorbairt in PIRS agus é sin a nascadh le hacmhainneacht náisiúnta neartaithe chun é sin a bhaint amach.

Braitheann baint amach na n-uailmhianta eacnamaíoch seo ar chomhiarrachtaí gníomhaireachtaí forbartha na hÉireann. Leanfar leis an deis d'fhás suntasach breise inár ngeilleagar gorm, a bhfuil an tAcht um Pleanáil Limistéar Muirí mar bhonn taca leis agus a bheidh á threorú ag comhar trasrialtais agus comhar trasghníomhaireachta. Leanfaidh an Foras de thacaíocht a thabhairt do spriocanna náisiúnta d'fhorbairt earnála trína comhairle agus seirbhísí eolaíochta, trí shonraí agus trí fhianaise a sholáthar, agus trí aghaidh a thabhairt ar bhearnaí criticiúla eolais trí mhaoiniú agus trí thaighde a dhéanamh.

Is gné thábhachtach de sin é comhoibriú go náisiúnta agus go hidirnáisiúnta. Ag obair i gcomhpháirtíocht le Fiontraíocht Éireann, Bord Iascaigh Mhara, agus gníomhaireachtaí eile atá dírithe ar fhiontar, lean Foras na Mara ar aghaidh in 2022 chun tacú le tionscnaimh ar nós Líonra Tionscail Marine Ireland (MIIN).

## Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann (IMDO)

Leanann IMDO de na deiseanna atá ann i dtionscal muirí na hÉireann a chur chun cinn, go háirithe in earnálacha amhail loingseoireacht, seirbhísí calafoirt, Fuinneamh In-athnuaite Eischósta (ORE), oideachas agus tráchtáil mhuirí. Mar gheall ar spleáchas na hÉireann ar thrádáil idirnáisiúnta, is díol mór spéise d'fhorbairt na n-earnálacha tionscail muiriompar, ag tarraingt an IMDO isteach in earnálacha éagsúla de gheilleagar na hÉireann. Bhí tionchar mór ar ghníomhaíocht forbartha gnó IMDO in 2022 nuair a cuireadh deireadh le srianta taistil COVID-19 agus nuair a cuireadh tús arís le himeachtaí agus comhdhálacha náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta.

I rith na bliana, ghlac IMDO páirt in imeachtaí agus comhdhálacha éagsúla, ag baint amach lucht féachana náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta.



Nuair ab fhéidir, lorgaíodh rannpháirtíocht agus comhoibriú gníomhaireachtaí forbartha eile chun tionchar láithreach na hÉireann ag na himeachtaí seo a neartú. Mar thoradh ar an mbéim atá ag dul i méid ar ORE, ghlac IMDO páirt i roinnt imeachtaí i rith na bliana, rud a chuir deiseanna ar fáil chun an cás a chur chun cinn le haghaidh freagairt ilphoirt ar sholáthar acmhainneachta ORE.

Le linn 2022, chuir IMDO fáilte roimh mhísin trádála isteach do thíortha éagsúla agus léirigh sé na deiseanna ORE a leagtar amach sa Phlean um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide agus i gClár an Rialtais.

Mar fhreagairt ar athrú ar phatrúin trádála a tháinig chun cinn mar gheall ar chinneadh na Ríochta Aontaithe an tAontas Eorpach a fhágáil, chuir IMDO dlús lena ghníomhaíochtaí forbartha gnó in earnáil na loingseoireachta, rud a d'fhág go raibh seirbhísí ag tosú nó ag leathnú chun freastal ar athruithe ar phróifíl an éilimh. Agus é sin á dhéanamh aige, thacaigh IMDO le hiontrálaithe nua sa tionscal agus d'fháiltigh sé roimh na roghanna breise acmhainne agus bealaigh a chuir na sealbhóirí ar fáil. Tá torthaí na n-iarrachtaí sin le feiceáil sa mhéadú atá tagtha ar líon na gcuideachtaí loingseoireachta a thairgeann seirbhísí d'allmhaireoirí agus d'onnmhaireoirí Éireannacha.

Ghlac IMDO páirt in imeachtaí idirnáisiúnta agus náisiúnta le geallsealbhóirí tionscail agus lucht ceaptha beartas a bhaineann le deiseanna forbartha gnó. Leanfaidh na hiarrachtaí sin ar aghaidh go 2023 chun a áirithiú go mbeidh na hathruithe ar phatrúin trádála a tharla ar eolas ag páirtithe leasmhara an tionscail loingseoireachta agus go ndéanfar deiseanna chun acmhainneacht a leathnú agus iomaíocht a mhéadú a bharrfheabhsú.

Baineann cur chuige comhordaithe agus comhoibríoch IMDO maidir le forbairt gnó le gach roinn Rialtais agus gníomhaireachtaí forbartha ábhartha. Cinntíonn láithreach IMDO ar an ngrúpa stiúrtha do Líonra Tionscail Mara Éireann (MIIN) go gcuirtear deiseanna muirí in iúl d'Fhiontair Bheaga agus Mheánmhéide (FBManna) na hÉireann agus go gcuirtear anailís ábhartha tionscail ar fáil inár dtuairisciú ráithiúil agus bliantúil chun bonn eolais a chur faoi chinní infheistíochta.

Mar thoradh ar éifeachtaí comhcheangailte na n-iarrachtaí sin, bhain an tionscal muirí torthaí suntasacha amach in 2022 trí leas iomlán a bhaint as deiseanna margaidh agus trí bheith ag brath ar chomhairle agus ar thaighde a ghin IMDO.

In 2022 bhí comharthaí fáis agus téarnaimh i dtionscal muirí na hÉireann, d'ainneoin éifeachtaí sochta an chogaidh san Úcráin ar thrádáil. Is é ORE an t-ábhar is práinní ar chlár oibre IMDO anois mar gheall ar a shuntasacht i gClár an Rialtais, a lárnaí don Phlean Gníomhaíochta ar son na hAeráide agus an deis gan fasach a thugann sé do thionscal muirí na hÉireann sruth ioncaim nua a bhaint amach agus cur le forbairt réigiúnach.

Aithnítear leis na réamhaisnéisí eacnamaíochta do 2023 an éiginnteacht a eascraíonn as saincheisteanna geopholaitiúla atá ann faoi láthair. I bhfianaise na héiginnteachta sin, ullmhóidh IMDO comhairle láidir a chur ar lucht déanta beartas, agus tacaíocht láidir a thabhairt do na calafoirt agus don tionscal loingseoireachta sa bhliain atá le teacht.



## Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise na nAigéan (OCIS)

### Bonnegair Muirí

#### Suíomh Tástála agus Faireachlann

Cuireann an Fhaireachlann SmartBay, atá suite ar ghrinneall na farraige i gCuan na Gaillimhe amach ó chósta an Spidéil, nascacht sonraí snáthoptaice agus nascachta cumhachta ar fáil lenar féidir turgnaimh eolaíoch agus braiteoirí agus trealamh muirí nua a thástáil i bhforthimpeallacht mhuirí le monatóireacht fíor-ama ar fheidhmíocht. Is saoráid réigiúnach de chuid EMSO ERIC í an Fhaireachlann, an creat dlíthiúil a cruthaíodh le haghaidh bonnegair Fhaireachlann Ildisciplíneacha uile-Eorpacha na Faireachlainne.

Chun feabhas a chur ar an tseirbhís a thairgfear do thaighdeoirí agus d'fhorbróirí teicneolaíochta tráchtála amach anseo, rinneadh uasghrádú mór ar an bhFaireachlann SmartBay le linn 2022. Fuair foirne taighde idirnáisiúnta ó na Stáit Aontaithe agus ón bhFionlainn araon dhá thionscadal taighde in 2022 chun an Fhaireachlann a úsáid chun meastóireacht a dhéanamh ar éifeachtacht na dteicneolaíochtaí nuálacha monatóireachta muirí. Deimhníodh dhá thionscadal eile in 2022 agus tá siad ag fanacht leis an gcinneadh ar an iarratas ar léas ar léas tástála SmartBay chun teicneolaíochtaí núíosacha a imscaradh ag an suíomh tástála.

Tar éis athbhreithniú breithiúnach in 2020 ar iarratas an Fhorais ar léas nua imeall trá chun an láithreán tástála a uasghrádú, an t-iarratas a chur ar ais chuig an Aire Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta, agus tuilleadh comhairliúcháin phoiblí maidir le faisnéis chomhshaoil nuashonraithe, tá an Foras ag fanacht le cinneadh maidir leis an iarratas ar léas imeall trá go luath in 2023.

### Ardseirbhísí Mapála (AMS)

- Tacaíonn INFOMAR le Foras na Mara & Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann agus d'éascaigh siad an chéad Chomhdháil agus Taispeántas Cian-Hidreagrafaíochta de chuid na hÉireann a tionóladh i gCaisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath, 22-24 Feabhra. Nuair a tugadh le chéile oibreoirí tráchtála Éireannacha agus idirnáisiúnta a thacaíonn le hidreagrafaíocht agus loingseoireacht ar fud an domhain, léirigh an t-imeacht na teicneolaíochtaí mapála uathrialacha is nuálaí, lena n-áirítear seomra cianoibríochtaí, áit a ndearnadh faireachán agus rialú ar ghníomhaíochtaí suirbhé gan foireann sa láthair le linn an imeachta.

- Bhí an méadú a tháinig le déanaí in earnáil shuirbhéireachta tráchtála na hÉireann, a bhí mar bhonn don fhás i bhforbairt an Fhuinnimh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta, le feiceáil sa mhéadú ar an gcruinniú a bhí ag INFOMAR i mBaile Átha Cliath i mí na Nollag.

## Seirbhísí Beartais, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde (PIRS)

### Tacaíocht Beartais - Clár Sonraí Socheacnamaíochta Muirí

Leanann PIRS, ag obair i gcomhpháirt le hOllscoil na Gaillimhe (agus a hAonad um Thaighde Socheacnamaíoch), ag dul chun cinn i gcónaí maidir le tuairisciú, anailís agus monatóireacht ar gheilleagar aigéin na hÉireann a theastaíonn chun tacú le réimse seirbhísí socheacnamaíochta don Rialtas. Tá sé seo tar éis comhaontú comhpháirtíochta straitéisí cúig bliana a shníú le hOllscoil na Gaillimhe i mí na Nollag 2020. Thacaigh earcú beirt eacnamaithe leis an obair sin in PIRS go déanach in 2021.

Ar cheann de thorthaí na hoibre sin in 2022, foilsíodh an nuashonrú is déanaí ar *Thuarascáil Geilleagar Aigéin na hÉireann*. Léirítear sa tuarascáil go raibh láimhdeachas €4.98 billiún ag geilleagar aigéin na hÉireann in 2021, go raibh ranníocaíocht eacnamaíoch dhíreach aige, arna thomhas de réir Oll-bhreislúacha (GVA), €2.1 billiún agus bhí 32,100 coibhéis lánaimseartha fostaithe aige.

Tá láimhdeachas agus fostaíocht 2021 araon 8% faoi bhun fhigiúirí 2019 go príomha mar thoradh ar shuaitheadh COVID-19 ar gheilleagar an aigéin, ach tháinig méadú 3% ar oll-bhreislúach le linn 2019 agus tháinig méadú ar tháirgeadh gáis agus ar phraghsanna fuinnimh den chuid is mó. In 2023, díreofar an obair ar dheais a fhorbairt do gheilleagar aigéin na hÉireann.

D'oibrigh foireann an Chláir Shocheacnamaíoch Mhuirí trí Chomhaontú Seirbhíse na Roinne Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta (DHLGH)/na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) maidir le táscairí socheacnamaíochta a fhorbairt do chur chuige monatóireachta an Chreata Náisiúnta Pleanála Muirí (NMPF) agus maidir le hanailís costais is tairbhe a dhéanamh do chlár nua beart a cheanglaítear leis an Treoir Réime um Straitéis Mhuirí (MSFD).

In 2022, chuir Foras na Mara obair chun cinn le Grúpa Geilleagair Aigéin na hEagraíochta um Chomhar agus Forbairt Eacnamaíochta (ECFE) mar chuid den obair níos leithne laistigh de PIRS le ECFE. Chuimsigh an obair seo freisin roinnt comhpháirtithe náisiúnta (Bord Iascaigh Mhara, an Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh, Ollscoil na Gaillimhe) maidir le cuntas satailíte aigéin a fhorbairt d'Éirinn, go háirithe maidir le forbairt táblaí soláthair agus úsáide. Tá meastacháin thurgnamhacha tosaigh á gcur ar fáil ag an Eagraíocht um Chomhar agus Forbairt Eacnamaíochta (ECFE) do chuntas satailíte idirnáisiúnta le haghaidh gníomhaíochtaí eacnamaíochta aigéin le hÉirinn roghnaithe mar cheann dá tíortha píolótacha.

I gceardlann a reáchtáil an Eagraíocht um Chomhar agus Forbairt Eacnamaíochta (ECFE) i mí na Nollag tugadh fóram do thíortha chun dul chun cinn agus dúshláin a phlé agus gníomhaíocht eacnamaíoch aigéin á tomhas. Chuir soch-eacnamaithe PIRS, le rannpháirtíocht ó chomhpháirtithe náisiúnta lena n-áirítear Bord Iascaigh Mhara agus an Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh (CSO) an dul chun cinn i gcuntasaíocht aigéin in Éirinn i láthair.

In 2022, fuair PIRS Comhaltacht Uí Chuilinn faoi mhaoriseacht chomhpháirteach le Rannóg na gCuntas Éiceachórais (EAD) den Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh (CSO). Tar éis glao iomaíoch maoinithe, bronnadh an maoiniú ar Ollscoil na Gaillimhe. Táthar ag súil go dtosóidh Comhaltacht Uí Chuilinn in 2023 agus fiosróidh sé conas is féidir an Córas Cuntasaíochta don Chóras Cuntasaíochta don Éiceachóras Cuntasaíochta Eacnamaíche Comhshaoil (SEGS) a chur i bhfeidhm ar éiceachórais chósta agus mhuirí na hÉireann.

### Líonra Tionscail Mhuirí Éireann (MIIN)

Lean BlueWise Marine, ar conradh ag PIRS chun tacú le Líonra Tionscail Mhuirí na hÉireann (MIIN), ag obair leis an rannóg maidir le seirbhísí rúnaíochta a sholáthar don Líonra. Is é aidhm an Líonra feabhas a chur ar an tuiscint fhoriomlán ar acmhainní muirí na hÉireann, ar na seirbhísí agus ar na táirgí atá ar fáil agus ar na margaí a bhfuiltear ag freastal orthu. Tá an Líonra comhdhéanta de raon éagsúil cuideachtaí, eagraíochtaí stáit, grúpaí taighde agus institiúidí ardoideachais.

Ó dheireadh 2022, tá os cionn 214 eagraíocht sa Líonra atá cláraithe le hEolaire MIIN agus liostáil breis agus 585 chomhalta do liosta seoltaí MIIN. Tá an Líonra agus a ghníomhaíochtaí á dtreorú ag grúpa stiúrtha idirghníomhaireachta agus tionscail, faoi chathaoirleacht Fiontraíocht Éireann, le tacaíocht agus rannpháirtíocht ó Fhoras na Mara (PIRS agus IMDO) agus BlueWise Marine.

Tionóladh trí imeacht MIIN in 2022. Tionóladh 'miin i gCorcaigh' sa Choláiste Náisiúnta Muirí i Rinn an Scidigh i mí an Mhárta, le 51 duine i láthair. Ina dhiaidh sin, d'fhreastail 63 ball ar an dara hócáid réigiúnach i mí na Samhna, 'MIIN i Loch Garman'. Reáchtáladh ócáid fhíorúil, ar a raibh breis agus 80 ball 'Blue Skills and Training in Ireland's Marine & Maritime Industry', i mí Lúnasa.

Baintear úsáid as uirlisí an Líonra, amhail suíomh gréasáin Marine Ireland, eolaire, ríomhghír/nuaclitir agus ardáin meán sóisialta, chun MIIN a chur ar taispeáint go náisiúnta agus go hidirnáisiúnta, ag tairiscint pointe vantage ina gcuirtear cumais náisiúnta sna hearnálacha muirí agus mara (Imeall Gorm na hÉireann) ar taispeáint faoi chéannacht bhranda Marine Ireland.

Ar an suíomh gréasáin agus ar na meáin shóisialta, a bhí á reáchtáil ag an rúnaíocht, rinneadh gníomhaíocht shuntasach in 2022 maidir le nuacht mhuirí, foláirimh chistiúcháin, imeachtaí agus fógraí poist a roinntear ar raon ardán agus bealaí cumarsáide. Mar chuid de ghníomhaíochtaí cumarsáide 2022, ghlac comhaltaí MIIN páirt in 'MIIN Member Spotlight', áit ar thug cuideachtaí MIIN léargais ar a bhfís don chuideachta agus don tionscal muirí i gcoitinne. Mar chuid de ghníomhaíochtaí cumarsáide 2022, ghlac comhaltaí MIIN páirt in 'MIIN Member Spotlight', áit ar thug cuideachtaí MIIN léargais ar a bhfís don chuideachta agus don tionscal muirí i gcoitinne.

I mí na Nollag, rinne an rúnaíocht níos mó ná féilire 200 MIIN 2023 a dháileadh ar Chomhaltaí Eolaire, ar Chomhaltaí Grúpa Stiúrtha agus ar Bhuaiteoirí Iomaíochta. Bhí griangrafadóireacht ar an bhféilire seo ó Chomórtas Griangrafadóireachta MIIN 2022 a tharla ar an gcuntas @MarineIrlNet Twitter i mí Dheireadh Fómhair. Tá griangrafadóireacht sa féilire seo ón gComórtas Griangrafadóireacht MIIN 2022, a tharla ar an gcuntas Twitter @MarineIrlNet i mí Dheireadh Fómhair.







# CUMASÓIR STRAITÉISEACH 1

## Ár nDaoine

An Cumasóir Straitéiseach, Ár nDaoine, Tá trí thionscnamh straitéiseacha ann - a chinntiú aclaíocht, éagsúlacht agus solúbthacht, a chothú an Foras mar áit iontach a bheith ag obair agus, tógáil agus a choimeád ar chumas ár bhfoireann. Tá Ár nDaoine lárnach i ngach ceann de na réimsí seirbhíse agus na réimsí fócais straitéiseacha atá leagtha amach sa Tuarascáil Bhliantúil seo.

Ba bhliain í 2022 chun tosaíocht a thabhairt dár nDaoine agus dá bhforbairt agus dá bhfolláine, rud a léiríodh san athbhreithniú leis an bhfoireann ar ár bPlean Straitéiseach reatha (2018-2022) agus san fhorbairt ar ár bPlean nua 2023-2027.

Díríodh ar ár Luachanna Eagraíochta a chaitheamh chun ár gCultúr, 'Ár nDaoine a Spreagadh chun Barr Feabhais a Sheachadadh' a dhaingniú tuilleadh. Lean ár bhfórsa saothair beo-intinneach agus solúbtha ar aghaidh ag seachadadh na gclár agus na seirbhísí go léir le linn filleadh náisiúnta iar-phaindeimeach ar an ionad oibre agus chonaic siad seoladh ár mBeartas Oibre Cumaisc agus ár gClár Píolótach.

Leanamar orainn ag glacadh le bealaí nua oibre agus le teicneolaíocht nua chun oibriú go héifeachtach agus go héifeachtúil agus san am céanna, ag fanacht i dteagmháil agus ag comhoibriú le daoine eile. Tugadh tosaíocht do chumarsáid inmheánach trí úsáid a bhaint as ardáin ar líne chun gach duine a thabhairt le chéile mar aon le físeáin ar líne ónár mBord, ár bPríomhfheidhmeannach agus Stiúrthóirí Grúpaí Seirbhíse chun gach ball foirme a choinneáil ar an eolas faoi chlár, tionscadail, Pleananna Straitéiseacha agus tionscnaimh.

Ina theannta sin, chuir ár nuachtlitir inmheánach, 'Voices, Views and News', rochtain gach mí ar thacaíochtaí folláine chun cinn, tugadh isteach daoine nua san Institiúid, choinnigh an fhoireann ar an eolas faoi imeachtaí go himmheánach agus go seachtrach agus rinne ceiliúradh ar go leor rath a bhí ag Ár nDaoine.

### Acmhainní Daonna

Bhí fócas Acmhainní Daonna Fhoras na Mara in 2022 ailínithe lenár bPlean Straitéiseach 2018-2022 le tiomantas chun tacú le cultúr ardfeidhmíochta, arna thiomáint ag ár ndaoine, a bhfuil a gcuid scileanna, taithí agus paisean don mhuir lárnach don obair a dhéanaimid don Rialtas agus geallsealbhoirí eile.

Ghlacamar lenár luachanna Tiomantas, Ionracas, Barr Feabhais, Nuálaíocht, Comhoibriú agus Meas agus béim á leagan againn ar an tábhacht a bhaineann le Comhionannas, Éagsúlacht agus Cuimsiú (ED&I) in 2022. D'fhoilsíomar ár bPlean Gníomhaíochta 2021-2023 agus sheolamar clár gníomhaíochtaí chun feasacht ar ED&I a mhéadú agus chun guth a thabhairt do gach duine agus san am céanna inrochtaineacht ar oiliúint, taithí oibre, deiseanna earcaíochta, bonneagair agus tacaíochtaí saincheaptha a dheimhniú.

Leanaimid de bheith mar bhall de phobal cleachtas AsIAM, tiomanta d'inrochtaineacht níos fearr do dhaoine néara-éagsúla. Leanann an Institiúid ar aghaidh ag éascú roinnt clár a chuireann roghanna ar fáil don fhoireann maidir le freastal ar a riachtanais ghairme agus phearsanta mar shocruithe oibre solúbtha, tacaíochtaí saincheaptha, rochtain ar bheartais a thacaíonn le teaghlach lena n-áirítear saoire shaincheaptha do thuismitheoirí, saoire do thuismitheoirí, saoire staidéir agus cláir oideachais.



Sparánaithe Fhoras na Mara 2022

Rinne ár bhfoireann tiomanta, ár mbainisteoirí agus ár stiúrthóirí iarracht shuntasach chun seachadadh seirbhíse ardchaighdeán a dheimhniú i dtimpeallachtaí sábháilte oibre agus san am céanna, an t-aistriú ó fhreagairt phaindeimeach go dtí filleadh ar obair ar an láthair a stiúradh.

Lean ár gCreat Bainistíochta & Forbartha Feidhmíochta, a léiríonn ár dtiomantas leanúnach do chomhlíonadh agus d'fhorbairt ghairmiúil agus phearsanta, ag cothú cumarsáide agus aiseolais rialta, seachadadh straitéiseach spriocanna uailmhianacha intomhaiste, forbairt ghairmiúil leanúnach agus ceiliúradh ár ndaoine agus ár luachanna.

D'infheistigh Foras na Mara €275,482 i ngníomhaíochtaí a bhaineann le Foghlaim agus Forbairt chun cumas a thógáil, scileanna riachtanacha a fhorbairt, riosca a bhainistiú, rialachas agus comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn agus spriocanna straitéiseacha a gcomhlíonadh. I measc ár bhfócas oiliúna lasmuigh de chlár riachtanacha agus éigeantacha, bhí Ceannaireacht; Cumarsáid Éifeachtach; Comhionannas, Éagsúlacht & Cuimsiú; Oiliúint Chomhlíonta (Sábháilteacht, Soláthar, Rialachas, Mara); Bainistíocht Riosca; mar aon le Samhaltú Aigéin agus Cibearshláid.

Leanamar lenár n-achmhainneacht a thógáil agus ag cinntiú folláine ár ndaoine i ngach láthair. Rinneamar infheistíocht i bhforbairt an lucht saothair mara agus muirí amach anseo trínár gClár Sparánachta Samhraidh inar bhain 13 mac léinn leas as taithí oibre. Agus lean an Institiúid ag infheistiú i gComhaltachtaí Cullen agus Eoin Sweeney (45) d'fhoghlaim iarchéime agus rinne infheistíocht in ardáin oiliúna ar líne freisin. Dá bhrí sin, rinneadh infheistíocht de €879,482 san iomlán i bhFoghlaim & Forbairt (thart ar 5.49% de chostais phárolla do 2022).

San iomlán, tairgeadh 53 deis le linn 2022 agus fuarthas 195 iarratas, rud a d'fhág gur ceapadh 16 fhear agus 37 baineannach i róil idir ghearrthéarmach agus chonarthaí ar feadh tréimhse éiginnte. As na 53 ceapachán seo, leithdháileadh 32 ar iarrthóirí inmheánacha agus 21 ar iarrthóirí seachtracha.

Cruthaíodh na róil seo, a chuir deiseanna forbartha gairme agus gairmiúla ar fáil, trí thionscadail shealadacha taighde nua, trí fholúntais lárnacha a líonadh, trí ath-implonú sealadach agus trí shos gairme, clúdach saoire mháithreachais nó bhreiteachta. Ba é 2% an ráta tósaithe i measc na bhfostaithe lárnacha in 2022, lena n-áirítear éirí as oifig, scor agus tosú sos gairme.

Rinneadh iniúchadh ar an eagraíocht agus choinnigh sí a deimhniú ar leibhéal platanam ón Údarás um Chaighdeán Náisiúnta na hÉireann (NSAI) i gcoinne Barr Feabhais trí Dhaoine (ETP) 1000:2017. Is scéim náisiúnta bainistíochta acmhainní daonna í seo a chuireann cumarsáid agus rannpháirtíocht níos fearr, nuálaíocht agus éifeachtúlacht chun cinn agus aithníonn sé an tábhacht a bhaineann le luach a chur ar dhaoine agus infheistíocht a dhéanamh iontu. Tá an deimhniú seo ag Foras na Mara ó 2005 i leith.

Cé nárbh fhéidir daltaí na hIdirbhliana a óstáil go pearsanta le linn 2022, rinneamar nuashonrú agus scaipeadh ar lámhleabhar idirghníomhach a roinn faisnéis faoin obair a dhéanann Foras na Mara agus faoi ghairmeacha féideartha laistigh den Institiúid agus san earnáil mara agus muirí níos leithne ar 86 mac léinn freisin. Rinneamar próifíl ar ghairmeacha san eolaíocht muirí, sa teicneolaíocht agus i ndisciplíní gaolmhara, ag gabháil do mhic léinn i ngníomhaíochtaí a bhaineann le heolaíocht iascaigh, ceimic na mara, mapáil thóin na farraige, sábháilteacht bia, oibríochtaí áirtheigh taighde, loingseoireacht agus forbairt muirí, aigéaneolaíocht agus aeráid muirí, sonraí, forbairt feidhmchláir. Ina theannta sin, soláthraíonn an lámhleabhar leideanna agus faisnéis maidir le cúrsaí coláiste agus cumarsáid.

Tá Foras na Mara réamhghníomhach maidir le bearta cuí a chur i bhfeidhm chun sábháilteacht agus sláinte gach fostaí agus cuairteora chuig a áitribh a chosaint. Tháinig an Coiste Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta (S&S), a dhéanann ionadaíocht thar ceann na láithreacha agus na gclár go léir, le chéile ocht n-uaire in 2022 agus thionóil Grúpa Ionadaithe na nOibrithe 11 cruinniú. Críochnaíodh measúnuithe riosca bliantúla, athbhreithnithe bainistíochta riosca agus athbhreithnithe leanúnachais gnó ar fud na n-ionad go léir chun folláine, comhlíonadh agus seachadadh seirbhíse a dheimhniú. Rinneamar logáil ar thrí mhionteagmhas agus 12 neasteagmhais in 2022 go himmheánach.

I dteannta le cur i bhfeidhm ár nósanna imeachta agus caighdeán sábháilteachta go léir a dheimhniú, rinneadh athbhreithniú neamhspleách ar ár gcomhlíonadh sa réimse seo mar chuid d'iniúchtaí maidir le bainistíocht riosca agus pleanáil leanúnachais gnó agus athbhreithniú ar bheartais agus ar chleachtas Acmhainní Daonna freisin - le leibhéal arda dearbhaithe ó an dá iniúchadh.

# 18

An líon blianta a bhfuil an deimhniú mór le rá Barr Feabhais Trí Dhaoine (ETP) faighte ag Foras na Mara as a chéile



Sparánaithe Fhoras na Mara 2022 le foireann ón Institiúid

33.4%

Coigilt fuinnimh déanta ag ceanncheathrú na hInstitiúide in Órán Mór, Contae na Gaillimhe, ó chuaigh siad isteach in Optimising Power @ Work in 2015



# CUMASÓIR STRAITÉISEACH 2 Bonneagar

Feidhmíonn Foras na Mara bonneagair náisiúnta a sholáthraíonn ardáin riachtanacha dá sheirbhísí rialtais, taighde náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta agus forbairt teicneolaíochta luath. Áirítear leis na sócmhainní náisiúnta seo naoi n-áis de chuid Fhoras na Mara ar fud na tíre a fhreastalaíonn ar áiseanna foirne agus saotharlainne, lena n-áirítear ceanncheathrú an Fhorais in Órán Mór, Contae na Gaillimhe agus a áis taighde i mBaile Uí Fhiacháin, Contae Mhaigh Eo.

Áirítear le bonneagar eile: dhá ártach taighde ilchuspóireach (an RV *Celtic Explorer* agus an RV *Tom Crean* a tháinig i seirbhís in 2022 (in ionad an RV *Celtic Voyager*). Chomh maith leis sin, áirítear leis an mbonneagar Feithicil Chianoibrithe (ROV), bonneagar TF agus sonraí, trealamh aigéaneolaíochta soghluaiste agus seasta, mar aon le hardáin taighde agus tástála agus taispeána ar nós Réadlann Chuan na Gaillimhe.

Soláthraíonn an Foras seirbhísí agus trealamh teicniúil freisin d'oibreoirí bonneagair náisiúnta eile, lena n-áirítear tacú le láithreáin tástála fuinneamh aigéin, Líonra Breathnadóireachta Baoithe Sonraí Mara na hÉireann (IMDBON), chomh maith le cláir um chosaint cósta agus bainistíocht riosca tuilte.

## Bainistíocht Áiseanna

Is é ról lárnach na foirne Áiseanna ná foirgnimh agus feithicil na hInstitiúide a bhainistiú, chomh maith le seirbhís láidir custaiméara a sholáthar dár gcliaint inmheánacha agus sheachtracha araon. Cinntíonn an fhoireann go ndéantar an monarcha agus an trealamh oibriúcháin a sheirbhísiú agus a chothabháil go leibhéal ard de réir caighdeáin sláinte & sábháilteachta agus rialála.

In 2022, d'fheidhmíomar ár bhfoirgnimh de réir an Achta um Aeráide. In 2022, d'fheidhmíomar ár bhfoirgnimh de réir an tSainordaithe um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide agus Fheachtas Laghdaigh d'Úsáide an Rialtais agus feachtas Laghdaigh d'Úsáid an Rialtais. Tá an fhoireann freagrach as oibríochtaí laethúla Fáiltithe agus Stórais agus bainistíonn sí feidhmeanna oibríochtúla cothabhála, glantacháin, lónadóireachta, cothabhála tailte, chomh maith le bainistíocht fuinnimh agus inbhuanaitheacht.

## Tuairisciú ar Éifeachtúlacht Fuinnimh ó Chomhlachtaí san Earnáil Phoiblí (S.I. 542 de 2009)

Bhain Foras na Mara úsáid as na hábhair seo a leanas in 2022:

Cineál Fuinnimh	Aonad	2022
Allmhairí Leictreachais Glan (sonraí MPRN)	kWh	2,235,993
Ola gháis na mara	lítair	1,790,924
Gás Nádúrtha (sonraí GPRN)	kWh (grósa)	852
Gás Peitriiliam Leachtaithe (LPG) (ceannaithe de réir toirte)	lítair	236,036
Ceirísín	lítair	12,950
Díosal Bóthair (DERV)	lítair	9,900

Tríd is tríd, tá laghdú 19.4% ar fhuinneamh bainte amach ag an Institiúid ó 2009 (laghdú 33% arna thomhas ag 2021).

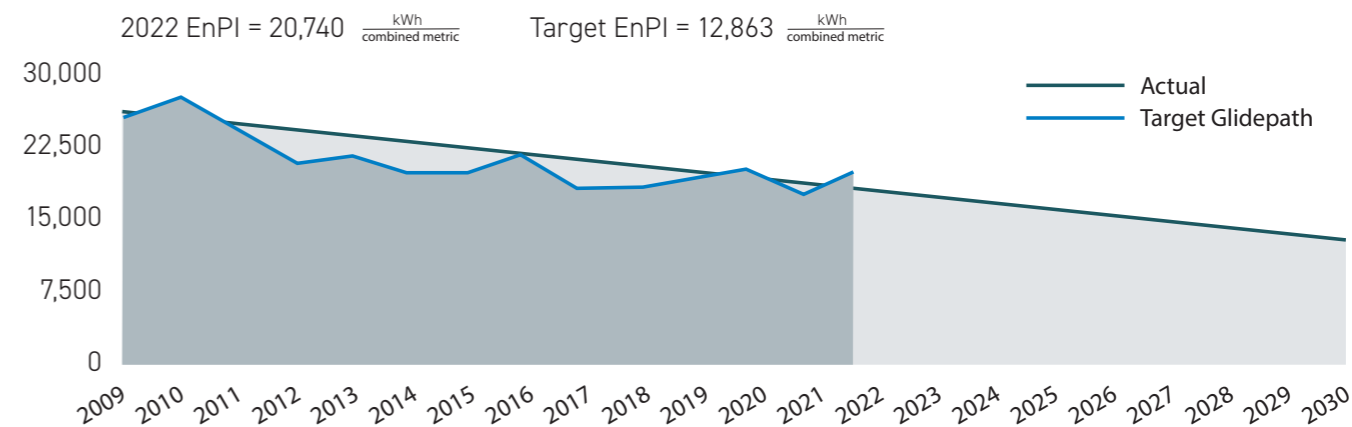
Tháinig laghdú ar an méadrach seo de réir mar a théann seachadadh an t-ártach taighde náisiúnta nua i bhfeidhm air, an RV *Tom Crean*, i mí Iúil 2022 air. Cé gur dearadh é le héifeachtúlacht fuinnimh i gcuimhne, tá sé níos mó ná an RV *Celtic Voyager* a tháinig ina ionad. Mar thoradh air sin, tá méadú tagtha ar úsáid Ola Gháis Mara (MGO) in 2022.

Tugaimid faoi deara gur cuid bunriachtanach de bhonneagar mara na hÉireann é an RV *Tom Crean* a chumasú breathnuithe criticiúla muirí a dhéanamh agus tacú le taighde i gcláir náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta a chuireann leis an gclár oibre inbhuanaitheachta náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta.

Tá miondealú ar an tomhaltas foriomlán ar an gcéad leathanach eile:

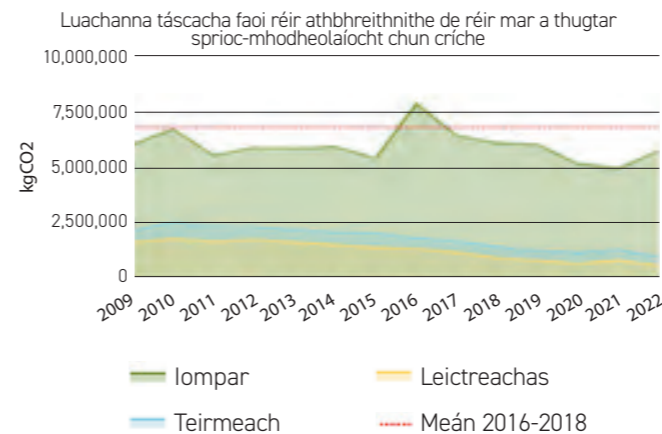
- Leictreachas: feabhas 5.1% ar 2021.
- Teirmeach (Ceirísín & LPG): feabhsú 13.8% ar 2021.
- Iompar (MGO agus díosal/peitreal flít): 31% díobháilach i gcomparáid le 2021.

## Táscairí Feidhmíochta Fuinnimh - 2022



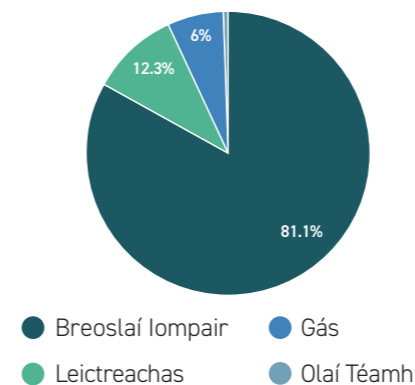
Cé go bhfuil ár n-astaíochtaí Gáis Tithe Glasa níos ísle ná bonnlíne 2016-2018, tháirgeamar 19% níos mó CO2 in 2022 mar a léirítear thíos. Tá nasc díreach aige seo le hIompar; méadú ar MGO don RV *Tom Crean*. Tá laghdú tagtha ar an CO2 Leictreachais agus Teirmeach ó 2021 i leith.

## Astaíochtaí CO2 a bhaineann le fuinneamh ó Bhunlíne Éifeachtúlachta Fuinnimh



19% níos mó ná 2021

## Astaíochtaí CO2 a bhaineann le fuinneamh - 2022



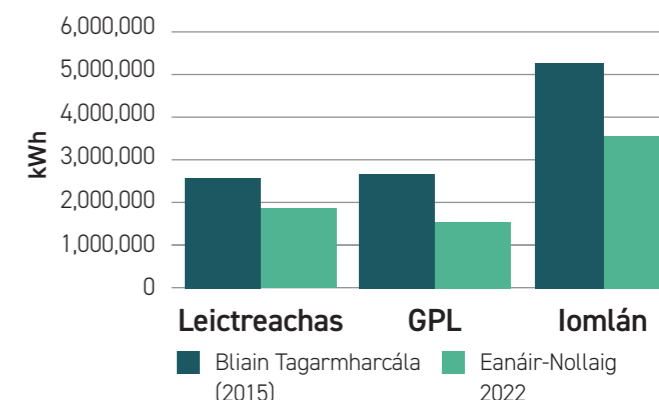
950,923 kg CO2 níos mó ná 2021

Shroich Ceanncheathrú Órán Mór an sprioc coigilte fuinnimh 33% ó tháinig sé isteach in Optimising Power @ Work in 2015. Tháinig laghdú 27% ar thomhaltas leictreachais idir 2015 agus 2022 agus tháinig laghdú 40% ar thomhaltas LPG (Gás Peitriiliam Leachtaithe) le linn na tréimhse seo. In 2022, tháinig méadú ar thomhaltas LPG de réir mar a d'fhill muid go hiomlán ar an oifig tar éis roinnt foirne a bheith ag obair go cianda le linn na paidéime Covid-19.

Leagtar amach thíos na hathruithe ón mbliain tagarmhairc 2015:

- Tá laghdú tagtha ar thomhaltas iomlán bliantúil an aonaid fuinnimh ó 5,259,595 kWh go 3,502,955 kWh.
- Tá tomhaltas leictreachais ar an láthair laghdaithe ó 2,599,985 kWh go 1,903,349 kWh.
- Tá tomhaltas LPG ar an láthair laghdaithe ó 2,659,610 kWh go 1,599,606 kWh.

## Úsáid Bliantúil Fuinnimh



Cur Síos	Leictreachas	GPL	Iomlán
Bliain Tagarmharcála (2015)	2,599,985	2,659,610	5,259,595
Eanáir-Nollaig 2022	1,903,349	1,599,606	3,502,955
<b>% Dífríocht</b>	<b>-26.8%</b>	<b>-39.9%</b>	<b>-33.4%</b>

In 2022, chruthaíomar ár gcéad Treochlár um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide, a leagann amach conas a oibreoidh an Institiúid i dtreo na spriocanna nua maidir le laghdú fuinnimh (50%) agus Gás Ceaptha Teasa (51%) mar atá leagtha síos faoin bPlean Gníomhaíochta Aeráide 2021. Leagann an treochlár béim ar phíblínte tionscadal, idir theicneolaíochtaí in-athnuaite agus laghdú fuinnimh atá le cur i bhfeidhm idir 2023-2030.

## Oibríochtaí Árthaí Taighde (RVOPanna)

Ba bhliain dhúshlánach í 2022 do na foirne Oibríochtaí Árthaí Taighde agus P&O ar chúiseanna éagsúla, lena n-áirítear COVID-19, a raibh éifeacht fós aige go háirithe go luath sa bhliain agus a raibh tionchar aige ó am go chéile ar shuirbhéanna i rith na bliana. Chuir an ghéarchéim fuinnimh a chruthaigh ionradh na Rúise ar an Úcráin isteach go mór ar phraghsanna breosla long. Mar thoradh air sin, bhí gá le bearta déine chun tionchar an mhéadaithe ar chostais oibríocháin na háiríochtaí a íoslághdú.

Theastaigh ón RV *Tom Crean* go mbeadh níos mó oifigeach deice, innealtóirí, criú agus pearsanra teicniúil ag teastáil, de réir mar a críochnaíodh an tógáil agus cuireadh tús le trialacha farraige in Vigo. Bhí criú uainíochta den chuid is mó ag teastáil chun lígean don RV *Celtic Voyager* a chlár suirbhé deiridh a chríochnú. Mar thoradh air seo, bhí bliain an-ghnóthach dóibh siúd ar an uisce agus i dtír. In ainneoin na ndúshlán, cuireadh clár suirbhé bliana iomlán i gcrích ar an RV *Celtic Explorer* agus rinne criúna agus eolaithe an *Celtic Voyager* and an *Tom Crean* iarracht suirbhé bliana beagnach gan stró idir an dá long.

I measc bhuaicphointí ó 2022, tá:

- Críochnaíodh tógáil agus seachadadh an RV *Tom Crean*, in am agus de réir buiséid, i mí Iúil agus cuireadh tús lena sheirbhís don Foras níos déanaí sa mhí.
- Críochnaíodh suirbhé 20 bliain agus athchóiriú suntasach ar an RV *Celtic Explorer* i mí Dheireadh Fómhair, lena n-áirítear a phríomh-mhótair tiomána a bhaint agus a athchóiriú.
- Scor an RV *Celtic Voyager* tar éis 25 bliain seirbhíse agus suirbhéanna rathúla a chur i gcrích go dtí an lá a d'éirigh sé as.
- Idir na trí ártach, críochnaíodh 571 lá suirbhé san iomlán agus 12 suirbhé san iomlán ar an RV *Celtic Explorer*, 13 suirbhé críochnaithe ar an RV *Celtic Voyager* agus 17 ar an RV *Tom Crean*.
- Chríochnaigh an RV *Celtic Explorer* suirbhé dúshlánach i Muir Labrador san Earrach agus suirbhé ROV san Ard-Artach i mí Lúnasa/Meán Fómhair ar son chlár MAREANO na hIorua.

## RV *Celtic Voyager*

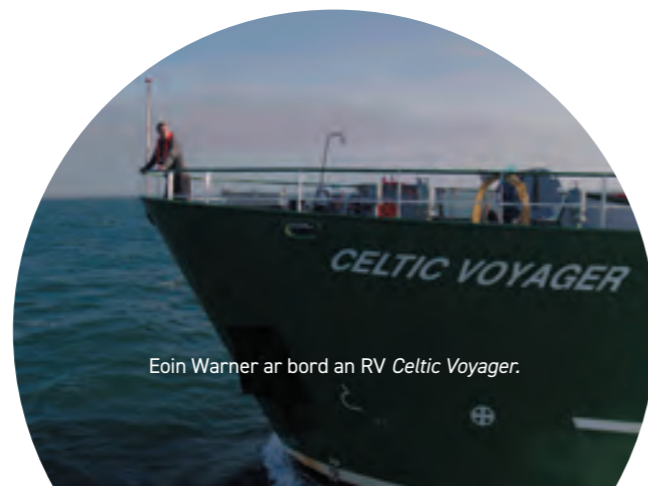
Ba bhliain shuntasach í 2022 do na páirtithe go léir a raibh baint acu leis an ártach taighde RV *Celtic Voyager*. Shroich sé cloch mhíle 25 bliain ag déanamh suirbhéanna eolaíoch agus gníomhaíochtaí oiliúna mac léinn (arna eagrú ag Foras na Mara agus i gcomhpháirtíocht le hollscoileanna na hÉireann).

Le linn na tréimhse sin, tá an t-ártach cairtfhostaithe d'institiúidí idirnáisiúnta freisin, mar shampla Ifremer a d'úsáid an soitheach ar feadh naoi mbliana as a chéile le haghaidh oibríochtaí ceamara teilifíse faoi thoinn. Ina theannta sin, ba í 2022 an bhliain dheireanach de ghníomhaíochtaí suirbhéireachta ar an *Celtic Voyager*. Críochnaíodh oibreacha ar thógáil an t-ártach athsholáthair, an RV *Tom Crean* i mí Iúil, rud a d'fhág gur cuireadh deireadh le hoibríochtaí suirbhéireachta ar an *Celtic Voyager* i samhradh 2022.

Cé go raibh teacht an t-ártach athsholáthair ar an bhfód, níor chuir sé isteach ar sceidealú suirbhéanna ar an *Celtic Voyager* don chéad sé mhí de 2022. Thosaigh an t-ártach an bhliain i lár mhí Eanáir le tréimhse chothabhála agus é taobh le cathair Chorcaí agus ansin cuireadh tús lena chéad suirbhé den bhliain, Suirbhé Timpeallachta Geimhridh bliantúil Foras na Mara (WES).

Bhí rian an tsuirbhé don WES thart ó dheas agus formhór mór na stáisiún scaipthe feadh an chósta theas. Mar thoradh air sin, d'éirigh go maith leis an *Celtic Voyager* a bheith i gCorcaigh ó thosach na bliana. D'fhéadfadh eolaithe tús a chur le hoibríochtaí samplála go luath tar éis dóibh an calafort a fhágáil, agus úsáid níos éifeachtaí a bhaint as an ártach agus úsáid breosla á íoslághdú.

Mar gheall ar bhearta Covid-19 a bhí i bhfeidhm (go príomha an teorannú ar líon na mbearta atá ar fáil), rinneadh an WES a roinnt ina dhá chuid de shuirbhéanna agus foireann beantóis Foras na Mara ag seoladh ar dtús, agus tháinig foireann cheimic an Fhorais isteach roinnt laethanta ina dhiaidh sin. Bhí sé ina bhuntáiste an tsuirbhé a sceidealú ar an slí seo le linn Covid-19 toisc gur lig sé don dá fhoireann eolaíochta a gcuid cuspóirí a bhaint amach ar bhealach sábháilte.



Eoin Warner ar bord an RV *Celtic Voyager*.



RV *Celtic Voyager*.  
Grianghraf: Andrew Downes, Xposure.

Baineadh na cuspóirí cúrsála go hiomlán amach don fhoireann beantóis le 117 greim dríodair curtha i bhfeidhm agus 109 greim rathúil. Níor baineadh amach cuspóirí cúrsála ar fad ar fad ar Léig 2 don fhoireann cheimic, go príomha mar gheall ar aga neamhfhónaimh aimsire. Baineadh amach gach Seoltacht, Teocht agus Doimhneacht (CTDanna) ar thraschriosanna an chósta thoir, ach chuir an aimsir isteach ar oibríochtaí feadh chósta an iardheiscirt. Fuarthas 66 CTD, 208 sampla atá faoi bhealach agus trí shampla dríodair san iomlán - thart ar 60% críochnaithe.

Go luath i mí Feabhra, chuaigh an tsuirbhé go Corcaigh le haghaidh na gcéad suirbhéanna ar oiliúint mac léinn in 2022. Thóg John Boyd, comhordaitheoir Scoil Fharráige SMART, mic léinn as Ollscoil na Gaillimhe agus Ollscoil Mhá Nuad ar feadh dhá lá an ceann. Rinneadh an tsuirbhé deiridh oiliúna mac léinn ar an *Celtic Voyager* i mí Aibreáin.

Rinneadh an chéad suirbhé ar an gClár Long-Ama de 2022 i mí an Mhárta ar an *Celtic Voyager*. Bhí 'There Be Giants' faoi stiúir an Phríomheolaí Dr. Patrick Collins ó Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste, i gcomhpháirtíocht le taighdeoirí ó Choláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath agus an Coláiste Ollscoile Baile Átha Cliath. Chuimsigh cuspóirí an chúrsála imscrúduithe ar dhaoirí an scolabaird atá go mór i mbaol (*Dipturus intermedius*) agus ar an siorc liath a bhfuil easpa staidéir déanta air a bhíonn sa domhainfharraige (*Hexanchus griseus*) de ghnáth. Tá an dá speiceas ar an gcósta ó Cheann Léime go Rinn na Spáinneach.

Ba é an aidhm a bhí le taighde an Dr Collins scrúdú a dhéanamh ar láithreach plandlanna cás-uibhe den speiceas scolabaird, ag baint úsáide as an gcóras ceamara faoi uisce. Tuairiscíodh gurb é Rinn na Spáinneach an t-aon suíomh taobh amuigh d'Albain ina mbíonn líon na gcásanna uibheacha seo sáinnithe go rialta. Tugann sé seo le fios go bhfuil gnáthóg fhéideartha chriticiúil ann do na speicis seo i gCo. An Chláir.

Maidir leis an siorc liath domhainfharraige, ba í an aidhm a bhí ann láithreacht na speiceas feadh an chósta thiar a chinneadh. Tá Éire tagtha chun cinn mar cheann den bheagán áiteanna ar domhan ina bhfaightear siorc liath go rialta i ngnáthóga cósta éadomhain (< 100m). Ar an drochuair, mar gheall ar aga neamhfhónaimh aimsire, níor baineadh amach na cuspóirí cúrsála don fhoireann 'There Be Giants'.

Chaith an fhoireann trí lá ar fad ag suirbhéireacht agus cailleadh seacht lá ar fad de bharr na haimsire. Bhí deis ag an Dr Collins na córais ceamara a thástáil agus baineadh amach na láithreacha sprice don sampláil eDNA le sonraí breise eDNA faighte i gcuair Chorcaí.

Bhí an tsuirbhé taighde deiridh maoinithe ar an *Celtic Voyager* sceidealta ar feadh ocht lá i mí an Mhárta agus ba é an Dr. Mark Coughlan le hionad na hÉireann um Thaighde sna Geo-eolaíochtaí Feidhmeacha (iCIRAG), Coláiste na hOllscoile, Baile Átha Cliath, a bhí i gceannas air. Is sa Mhuir Cheilteach Thuaidh a bhí an limistéar samplála pleanáilte 'Fáil sonraí le haghaidh monatóireachta sceite do ghabháil agus stóráil carbóin (InStor)'.

Ba é aidhm an tsuirbhé gheoifisicigh sonraí illéasra ardaifigh (agus sonraí geocheimiceacha) a bhailiú chun múnla geolaíochta bonnlíne comhtháite a chruthú de mhoirfeolaíochtaí thóin na farraige a bhaineann le húscáil sreabháin éighníomhach agus gníomhach, cosúil le lorg bolgaí agus tulacha. Cé go raibh an tsuirbhé le críochnú go luath, bhí an fhoireann iontach sásta leis na sonraí a bailíodh a sholáthróidh réamhthuiscint ar an gcineál foshraithe sa limistéar samplála, a bheidh úsáideach le haghaidh suirbhéanna sa réimse seo amach anseo.







# CUMASÓIR STRAITÉISEACH 3

## Sonraí agus TF



Léiríonn teicneolaíochtaí digiteacha agus comhtháthú sonraí dúshláin agus deiseanna araon a bhfuil tionchar mór acu ar nuálaíocht, ar iomaíochas agus ar thaighde eolaíoch. Tá baint an-tábhachtach ag baint leo seo d'Fhoras na Mara agus dá sheirbhísí, toisc go ngineann sé méid ollmhór sonraí trí bhailiú sonraí, trí chláir mhonatóireachta agus thaighde. Is iad na sonraí an bonn do phunann comhairle agus seirbhísí comhtháite na hInstitiúide atá ag teacht chun cinn agus an chaoi a dtacaíonn sé le beartas muirí comhtháite ag leibhéal náisiúnta, AE agus idirnáisiúnta.

Forbraíonn agus cuireann Foras na Mara rochtain oscailte ar thacair sonraí náisiúnta, comhtháthú sonraí, sonraí ar líne agus seirbhísí faisnéise chun cinn. Is é an toradh atá air seo ná athúsáid agus comhroinnt sonraí is fearr. Ina theannta sin, cuireann rochtain oscailte ar shonraí taighde agus nuálaíocht chun cinn agus spreagann sé táirgí agus seirbhísí tráchtála nua.

### Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise na nAigéan (OCIS)

#### Seirbhísí Faisnéise agus Forbairt (IS&D)

Forbraíonn agus bainistíonn an fhoireann Seirbhísí Faisnéise agus Forbartha na córais agus líonraí oibríochtúla teicneolaíochta faisnéise agus cumarsáide (TFC) atá mar bhonn agus thaca ag cuid mhór de gníomhaíochtaí oibríocháin agus taighde d'Fhoras na Mara.

Ina theannta sin, forbraíonn an fhoireann cumais theicniúla nua, lena n-áirítear seirbhísí bogearraí agus cleachtais bhainistíochta sonraí, chun tacú le seachadadh seirbhíse na hInstitiúide.

In 2022, chuir an fhoireann raon tacaíochtaí ar fáil do chláir oibríochtúla a sheachadann ceanglais náisiúnta, lena n-áirítear don Chreat um Bhailiú Sonraí, Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí agus an Creat Náisiúnta um Pleanáil Mhuirí, an Chreat-Treoir um Straitéis Mhuirí, an Chreat-Treoir Uisce, clár suirbhéireachta thóin na farraige INFOMAR, ceadúnú do bharrshaothraithe, sláinte éisc agus sábháilteacht bia agus seirbhísí in-athnuaite a bhaineann le fuinneamh aigéin.

Leantar le seirbhísí sonraí ar líne a fhorbairt agus sonraí na hInstitiúide á gcur ar fáil trí Sheirbhís Iarrtha Sonraí Fhoras na Mara, agus trí sheirbhísí éagsúla ar líne, cosúil le [data.marine.ie](http://data.marine.ie), [digitalocean.ie](http://digitalocean.ie) agus [atlas.marine.ie](http://atlas.marine.ie). Ina theannta sin, áirítear ar na seirbhísí seo Malartú Sonraí Spásúlachta na hÉireann ([isde.ie](http://isde.ie)) arna bhainistiú ag an Institiúid chun comhtháthú leanúnach a cheadú le tairseach sonraí Rialtas na hÉireann ([data.gov.ie](http://data.gov.ie)).

Le chéile, tugadh cuairt ar na seirbhísí ar líne seo níos mó ná 103,000 uair in 2022. Freastalaíodh ar 282 iarratas láimhe sonraí breise in 2022, a chomhlánaíonn an rochtain fhéinseirbhíse ar líne ar shonraí agus a cheadaíonn sonraí saincheaptha a sheachadadh le haghaidh riachtanais shonracha úsáideoirí.

Chun tacú le clár AQUAMIS na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) chun an próiseas ceadúnaithe urthrú do bharrshaothraithe a dhigitiú, d'fhorbair an Foras Amharcóir Suíomh Ceadúnaithe Uiscshaothraithe ar líne. ([dafm-maps-marine.ie/aquaculture-viewer/](http://dafm-maps-marine.ie/aquaculture-viewer/)). Sheol an tAire Charlie McConalogue TD an tseirbhís ar líne seo i mí an Mheithimh 2022 agus tá sí ar fáil go poiblí chun ligean don phobal a fheiceáil an bhfuil gníomhaíochtaí uiscshaothraithe ceadúnaithe in Éirinn. Leanann an Institiúid ar aghaidh ag obair leis an DAFM chun tuilleadh forbartha a dhéanamh ar chumais dhigiteacha chun tacú leis an bpróiseas ceadúnais agus le haghaidh tacaíochta cinntí.

Áiríodh leis an tacaíocht a tugadh don DHLGH (An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht) in 2022 breis agus 24 léarscáil nua agus léirshamlú sonraí eile a fhorbairt chun tacú le Tuarascáil Chlár Bearta na Creat-Treorach Straitéise Muirí (MSFD), le sonraí ó chláir Fhoras na Mara, ón nGníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (EPA), ón tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra (NPWS) agus ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara. Tá na tacair sonraí seo ar fáil ar líne trí Atlas Mara na hÉireann ([atlas.marine.ie](http://atlas.marine.ie)) le meiteashonraí tacaíochta arna bhfoilsíú tríd [data.marine.ie](http://data.marine.ie).

Leanann Creat Bainistíochta Cáilíochta Bainistíochta Sonraí (DM-QMF) creidiúnaithe ag Malartú Sonraí Aigéaneolaíochta Idirnáisiúnta (IODE) de bheith mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag roinnt seirbhísí sonraí Fhoras na Mara, agus tá sé leathnaithe anois chuig breis is 80 próiseas sonraí na hInstitiúide.

Soláthraíonn an creat dearbhú maidir leis na próisis sonraí atá mar bhonn agus thaca ag seirbhísí na hInstitiúide agus leanann sé ag cur feabhsuithe chun cinn sa chaoi a ndéantar sonraí a phróiseáil, a stóráil, a anailísiú agus a thuairisciú. Stóráiltear breis agus 400 TB sonraí i mbonneagar stórála nua na hInstitiúide agus tá 718 tacar sonraí ar fáil ar líne trí chatalóg sonraí na hInstitiúide.

Tugadh isteach cumais TF nua chun tacú le digitiú próisis sonraí, lena n-áirítear uirlisí néalbhunaithe chun sonraí ó bhraiteoirí aigéaneolaíochta a phróiseáil agus a anailísiú, le deais ar líne agus lucht féachana léarscáileanna ag soláthar rochtain phoiblí feabhsaithe ar shonraí a bhaineann leis an bhfarraige.

Ina theannta sin, forbraíodh nó nuashonraíodh roinnt deais agus uirlisí nua chun léirshamlú sonraí a fheabhsú, lena n-áirítear an tionscadal Bláthanna Algacha Díobhálacha PRIMROSE (HABS), Bunachar Sonraí Taighde PIRS agus sonraí a fhoilsíú le haghaidh Bonneagair Taighde Mara.

Tacaíonn na seirbhísí seo le rochtain ar shonraí agus eolas tábhachtach muirí na hÉireann, ag cur sonraí agus faisnéis ar fáil d'earnáil mhuirí níos leithne na hÉireann, don phobal acadúil agus don phobal, chun tacú le tuiscint níos fearr ar ár n-aigéan.

#### Oibríocháin

Soláthraíonn an fhoireann um Sheirbhísí Faisnéise agus Forbartha (IS&D) tacaíocht cláir oibríocháin ar fud réimsí seirbhísí Fhoras na Mara, lena n-áirítear sonraí iascaigh, sonraí aigéaneolaíochta, cláir INFOMAR agus Fuinneamh Aigéin Mhuirí, an clár um Pleanáil Spásúlachta Mhuirí, comh maith le gníomhaíochtaí bainistíochta comhshaoil muirí eile. Chomh maith le forbairt teicneolaíochta do na cláir shonracha, rinne an fhoireann seirbhísí ar bhreis is 2,900 iarratas ar thacaíocht a chláir taighde teicneolaíochta faisnéise agus cumarsáide (TFC) agus riachtanais bhainistíochta sonraí agus a chuir saineolas agus oiliúint theicniúil intí ar fáil in 2022.

Is fiú a thabhairt faoi deara an tacaíocht do dhearadh agus imscaradh an trealaimh TFC agus líonrú don RV *Tom Crean* i mbliana, an t-árthach taighde náisiúnta nua. Chuidigh an obair seo le críochnú agus imscaradh an-rathúil an t-árthach am agus taobh istigh den bhuiséad.

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103,000+

An líon uaireanta a bhfuair rochtain ar sheirbhísí sonraí in 2022.



Killian Coakley ón Aonad Sláinte Éisc.  
Grianghraf: Andrew Downes, Xposure.

### Ardseirbhísí Mapála (AMS)

Tacaíodh le hiarratais sonraí a bhaineann le mapáil thóin na farraige il-earnála ar fud iascaigh, uiscshaothraithe, fuinneamh in-athnuaite, an comhshaoil, innealtóireacht, taighde agus oideachas. Úsáideadh sonraí le haghaidh feidhmeanna iolracha, cosúil le samhltú aigéaneolaíochta, pleanáil bonneagair, imscrúduithe súimh, Measúnuithe Tionchair Timpeallachta (EIA), agus taighde ildisciplíneach.

Mapáil an fhoireann 4,164 km<sup>2</sup> de thóin na farraige Ceilteach le linn 81 lá árthaí ar bord an RV *Celtic Explorer*, an RV *Celtic Voyager* agus an RV *Tom Crean* in 2022, mar chuid de chlár INFOMAR. Chuimsigh sé seo éadail 12,155 km (ciliméadar líne suirbhé) de shonraí ilbhéis, imscrúdú ar 12 longbhriseadh, agus éadail 53 sampla de ghrinneall na farraige.

### Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Mhuirí agus Sábháilteachta Bia (MEFSS)

Lean MEFSS ar aghaidh ag forbairt uirlisí agus cineálacha cur chuige nua chun feabhas a chur ar éifeachtúlacht agus ar chaighdeán bailithe sonraí agus tuairiscithe tacair sonraí casta. Déantar na sonraí seo a thuairiscíú d'eagraíocht iolrach náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta agus d'ionaid sonraí.

### Sábháilteacht Sliogéisc

Is é an bunachar sonraí agus suíomh gréasáin Bláthanna Algacha Díobhála (HABanna) ([webapps.marine.ie/habs](http://webapps.marine.ie/habs)) an t-ardán léirshamhlaithe sonraí don phobal, atá ar thús cadhnaíochta na seirbhísí comhairleacha a sholáthraíonn an fhoireann Sábháilteachta Sliogéisc. Tá sé seo go háirithe i réimsí croabhscaipthe torthaí agus anailísíú sonraí ónár gcláir mhonatóireachta náisiúnta do bhíotocsainí mara agus fíteaplanctóin chuig na húdaráis Inniúla agus chuig an tionscal.

I rith 2022, rinne 1,764 úsáideoir rochtain ar shuíomh Gréasáin HAB. Mar thoradh air seo, bhí 42,541 amharc ar leathanaigh ó 11,735 seisiún le miondealú tíre de 88% úsáideoirí as Éirinn, 3% an ceann ón bhFrainc agus ón RA, agus na céatadán eile ón Spáinn, na Stáit Aontaithe agus an Ísiltír.

Déantar bunachar sonraí Teagmhais Dhíobhála Algacha (HAEDAT) de chuid na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES) de chuid na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES), a dhéantar a bhainistiú tríd an IODE, a nuashonrú ar bhonn rialta agus taifeadann sé teagmhais bhíotocsaine agus algacha araon is cúis le dúnadh i dtíortha cósta an Atlantaigh Thuaidh, agus ionchorpraíonn sé tacair sonraí na hÉireann ó na 1990idí.

Déantar é seo a nuashonrú ar bhonn bliantúil chun sonraí ar imeachtaí tocsainí in Éirinn a chur san áireamh, a chuirtear i láthair ina dhiaidh sin ag Grúpa Oibre bliantúil ICES-IOC ar Dhinimic Bhláth Algach Dhíobhála.

### Seirbhísí Comhairleacha maidir le hÉiceachórais Iascaigh (FEAS)

Le linn 2022, d'oibrigh foireann sonraí FEAS ar roinnt tionscadal Sonraí agus TF - seo cuid de na tionscadail agus gníomhaíochtaí suntasacha le linn na bliana:

- Tacaíonn FEAS go láidir le Creat Bainistíochta Cáilíochta Bainistíochta Sonraí Fhoras na Mara (DM-QMF). In 2022, tugadh ceithre thacar sonraí breise faoi stádas pacáiste feidhmithe, rud a thug 17 tacar sonraí san iomlán faoi chreidiúnú Malartú Sonraí agus Faisnéise Aigéaneolaíochta Idirnáisiúnta (IODE) laistigh de FEAS. Ina theannta sin, rinneadh athbhreithnithe bliantúla ar gach pacáiste oibríochta a críochnaíodh. Leanadh le dul chun cinn DM-QMF sa Phort Nua agus críochnaíodh pacáiste feidhmithe amháin i Ráithe 3 2022.
- I rith 2022, tacaíodh le breis agus 20 feidhmchlár FEAS agus a mbunachair shonraí faoi seach agus forbraíodh iad. Ar fud na n-iarratas go léir, críochnaíodh 71 glaoch tacaíochta i rith na bliana. Rinneadh roinnt feabhsuithe i rith na bliana:
  - Feabhsaíodh feidhmiúlacht cianshioncronaithe sonraí an fheidhmchláir ghabhála sonraí *Nephrops*.
  - Leanadh den fhorbairt agus den tástáil ar an bhfeidhmchlár um ghabháil sonraí cianda samplála calafoirt.
  - Eisíodh an comhéadan úsáideoira nua do bhunachar sonraí na foirne Shellfish agus rinneadh tuilleadh feabhsuithe air i rith na bliana.
  - Ina theannta sin, rinneadh an feidhmchlár Suirbhé Teilifíse Faoi Uisce a athfhorbairt chun comhoiriúnacht leis an RV *Tom Crean* a dheimhniú.
  - Cuireadh tús le forbairt tosaigh ar iarratas samplála gabhála peiligeach nua - leanfar leis seo le linn 2023.
  - Leanadh den obair ar bhunachair sonraí FEAS go léir a bhogadh chuig freastalaithe bunachar sonraí lárnach Fhoras na Mara.

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Tá tacair sonraí ar fáil ar líne trí chatalóg sonraí Fhoras na Mara

- Lean FEAS ar aghaidh ag cur le forbairt an Chórais Bhunachar Sonraí agus Mheastacháin Réigiúnach (RDBES) nua de chuid na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES). Ghlac eolaithe Fhoras na Mara páirt sa 'Core Group' (Chroighrúpa) agus i roinnt cruinnithe agus ceardlanna eile. Cuirfear tús leis an RDBES nua ag athsholáthar an bhunachar sonraí réigiúnach atá ann cheana agus feidhmiúlacht InterCatch ICES ó 2024 ar aghaidh agus beidh tionchar suntasach aige ar cháilíocht sonraí do mheasúnuithe ICES, chomh maith le tacú le Grúpaí Comhordaithe Réigiúnacha an Chreata um Bailiú Sonraí (DCF) ábhartha.
- Tá FEAS ina chathaoirleach ar Ghrúpa Oibre ICES ar Rialachas Bainistíochta Cáilíochta Sonraí agus Comhairle (WGQuality). Tacaíonn obair an ghrúpa seo le haidhm ICES creat dearbhaithe cáilíochta ceann go ceann a chruthú le haghaidh táirgeadh comhairle - ó bhainistíocht sonraí, comhtháthú sonraí, anailís sonraí, agus úsáid sonraí go dtí an próiseas chun na sonraí sin a aistriú go comhairle.
- Leanadh le tionscadal FishNCo an AE i rith na bliana seo, ag tabhairt aghaidh ar an ngá atá le Pleananna Oibre Réigiúnacha a fhorbairt don Atlantach Thuaidh, don Mhuir Thuaidh agus don Artach Thoir (RCG NANSEA), agus do réigiúin Bhailt (RCG Baltach) ([fisheries-rcg.eu/fishnco/](http://fisheries-rcg.eu/fishnco/)). Beidh na haschuir ionchasacha ábhartha go díreach chun comhar réigiúnach agus ar fud an AE maidir le bailiú sonraí iascaigh a neartú agus chun cáilíocht sonraí a fheabhsú. Tá FEAS i gceannas ar an réimse oibre téamach cáilíochta sonraí sa tionscadal seo.
- D'éirigh le FEAS gach glao sonraí a chomhlíonadh le linn 2022. Úsáidtear iad seo chun bonn fianaise a sholáthar do bhainistiú iascaigh ag eagraíochtaí lena n-áirítear ICES agus an Coimisiún Eorpach. I measc na bpríomhghlaonna sonraí a chomhlíon FEAS, tá glao ar shonraí ICES ar ghabháil i dtír, ar ábhar muirí aiscurtha, ar shamplaí bitheolaíochta, ar shonraí gabhála agus iarrachta agus ar ghlaos sonraí IDI an AE (Faisnéis faoi Cleithiúnach Iascaigh). Chun na glaonna sonraí seo a chomhlíonadh go rathúil tá gá le comhoibriú idir líon mór eolaithe maidir le gníomhaíochtaí bailithe sonraí a phleanáil agus anailís a dhéanamh ar na sonraí a thagann as.
- Aithníodh sonraí agus TF mar phríomhchumasóir straitéise Fhoras na Mara agus tacaíonn foireann Mhairís Sonraí agus TF leis an obair seo san Fhoras. Is iad aidhmeanna na foirne seo ná seirbhísí faisnéise digiteacha a fheabhsú ar bhonn comhtháite, sonraí agus cumais TF a chomhtháthú san eagraíocht níos leithne, agus ár gcur chuige sa réimse a fhorbairt.





Clár Is Seaimpíní Aigéin Muid.  
Grianghraf: Andrew Downes.



Foireann Oideachais na dTaiscéalaithe.  
Grianghraf: Aengus McMahon.



Gradaim Seaimpíní na dTaiscéalaithe.  
Grianghraf: Brendan Diver.

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# CUMASÓIR STRAITÉISEACH 4 Rannpháirtíocht agus Oideachas

Tá tionscnaimh straitéiseacha na hInstitiúide sa réimse rannpháirtíochta agus oideachais dírithe ar fheasacht agus rannpháirtíocht a mhéadú, eolaíocht agus eolas aigéin a chur in iúl agus spreagadh a thabhairt do ghlúin nua de ghairmithe aigéin a bheidh ina gceannairí agus ina seaimpíní don chomhshaol muirí.

Trí gníomhaíochtaí for-rochtana agus oideachais difriúla, oibríonn Foras na Mara i gcomhpháirtíocht le ranna rialtais, gníomhaireachtaí eile agus eagraíochtaí áitiúla chun saibhreas ár n-aigéin a chur chun cinn agus chun litearthacht madir leis an n-aigéin a mhéadú i measc ár saoránach.

## Oceans of Learning

Dhírigh sraith Oceans of Learning ó Fhoras na Mara ar thábhacht agus ar stair árthaigh taighde mara na hÉireann, agus, go háirithe, ar theacht an RV *Tom Crean* agus an taiscéalaí cáiliúil Éireannach ar ainmníodh é ina dhiaidh.

Thar trí seachtaine, thairg an tionscnamh beochan físe nua ag ceiliúradh soithí taighde mara na hÉireann san am atá thart, san am i láthair agus sa todhchaí, chomh maith le leabharlann acmhainní oideachais agus ábhar físe nua.

Chraol Foras na Mara comhrá beo lenár n-eolaithe mara ar Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter agus YouTube do Lá Domhanda na nAigéin ar 8 Meitheamh, a raibh breis agus 5,000 duine ag féachaint air. Ina theannta sin, thacaigh Oceans of Learning le roinnt imeachtaí pearsanta agus fíorúla a bhí ar siúl in Éirinn agus san Eoraip. Thacaigh 15 chomhpháirtí ó ranna rialtais, gníomhaireachtaí stáit agus eagraíochtaí eile ar fud na hÉireann le sraith Oceans of Learning 2022. Tá na hacmhainní go léir ar fáil ar shuíomh Gréasáin Fhoras na Mara ([marine.ie](https://marine.ie)).



An Helga, a bhí le feiceáil i bhFeachtas Aigéin na Foghlama an bhliain seo.

## Clár Oideachais Taiscéalaithe

In 2022, seoladh modúl agus dámhachtainí tionscadail scoile nua 'We Are Ocean Champions' de chuid an chlár Oideachais Taiscéalaithe. Glacann an modúl nua cur chuige uile-scoile ina n-oibríonn foirne for-rochtana Taiscéalaithe ar fud na hÉireann le múinteoirí, le leanaí agus leis an bpobal i gcoitinne, chun a dtionscadail aigéin shláintiúla féin a fhorbairt.

Díríonn an tionscadal agus na dámhachtainí ar choincheap na n-aigéin sláintiúil agus cúram comhshaoil mara. Chríochnaigh breis agus 20 bunscóil i 14 contae cois cósta ar fud na hÉireann tionscadail Aigéin Shláintiúla in 2022 agus bhronn an tAire Charlie McConalogue TD an duais náisiúnta iomlán ar Bhunscóil Scoil Cholmchille i nGleann Gad, Málainn, Contae Dún na nGall.

Chuir Clár Oideachais na dTaiscéalaithe níos mó ná 400 modúl ar fáil do bheagnach 13,000 leanbh, i 14 contae cois cósta. Cuireadh oiliúint múinteoirí agus múinteoirí faoi oiliúint ar fáil trí Ionaid Oideachais agus do mhúinteoirí faoi oiliúint i gColáiste Mhuire gan Smál agus in Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath (DCU).

## An tAtlantach Fiáin - Eolaíocht na Mara

Mheall an taispeántas feabhsaithe ag Músaem Cathrach na Gaillimhe, *The Wild Atlantic - Sea Science*, thart ar 100,000 cuairteoir in 2022. Áiríonn spás an ghailearaí taispeántais ar athrú aeráide, 'Sea Our Surveys', mapáil thóin na farraige agus longbhriseachta speicis domhainfharraige agus fionnachtana eolaíoch.

Cuireann Insamhlóir Feithicle Chianoibrithe (ROV) ar chumas cuairteoirí 'Dive Deep with the ROV *Holland 1* agus coiréil fuaruisc, longbhriseadh agus creis siorcanna neamhchoitianta in uiscí na hÉireann a thaiscéaladh. Soláthraíonn an taispeántas uasghrádaithe Cruinneog 3T léirshamlú ar athrú aeráide, mapáil thóin na farraige agus Clár Argo Float.

## Féile Eolaíochta agus Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe

I mbliana, mheall Féile Eolaíochta agus Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe an líon is airde riamh de 22,000 duine. Labhair cuairteoirí ar stáinín Fhoras na Mara le heolaithe an Fhorais

faoi thaighde tábhachtach iascaigh, mapáil thóin na farraige agus suirbhéanna aeráide a rinne an RV *Tom Crean* agus an RV *Celtic Explorer*. Fuair na páistí 'Leabhar Gníomhaíochta RV *Tom Crean*' agus chríochnaigh siad Tráth na gCeist agus comórtas Tastáil Do Chuid Eolais Faoin Aigéan, a fuair os cionn 200 iontráil.

Chomh maith leis sin, léirigh Clár Oideachais na dTaiscéalaithe gníomhaíochtaí ar 'The Good, The Bad & The Ugly: Deep- Sea Species.' Bhí taispeántais freisin ar an tionscadal taighde, EuroSea, agus chuir eolaithe Fhoras na Mara i láthair ag caint phoiblí faoin Nuálaíocht i gCreat tionscadal taighde an Aigéin Dhomhain Atlantaigh (iFADO).

## Teagmháil leis na meáin chumarsáide le teacht agus coimisiúnú an RV *Tom Crean*

Bhain an t-imeacht oifigiúil coimisiúnaithe don RV *Tom Crean* i gCuan an Daingin ar an 6 Deireadh Fómhair 2022, lucht féachana de 6.3 milliún amach. Bhí an RV *Tom Crean* le feiceáil ar Nuacht RTÉ One, Nuacht TG4, *The Irish Times* agus ar chlár maidine RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta.

Ina theannta sin, bhí coimisiúnú an tsoithigh taighde le feiceáil ar Nationwide RTÉ One i mí na Samhna, agus chuimsigh sé agallaimh le Príomhfheidhmeannach Fhoras na Mara, an Dr. Paul Connolly, an Dr. Ciaran Kelly agus an Dr. Caroline Cusack.

Mar gheall ar theacht an RV *Tom Crean* go huiscí na hÉireann i mí Iúil agus a choimisiúnú i mí Dheireadh Fómhair freisin, rinneadh clúdach sna meáin réigiúnacha i nGaillimh agus i gCiarraí, ar shuíomh nuachta ar líne agus sna meáin shainiúla trádála mhuirí.



Teacht an RV *Tom Crean* sa Daingean, Co Chiarraí.  
Grianghraf: Jason Clarke.

Chomh maith leis sin i mí Dheireadh Fómhair, ba mhór an onóir don Institiúid fáilte a chur roimh Uachtarán na hÉireann, Michael D. Higgins, agus Uachtarán na Portaingéile, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, ar chuairt ar an RV *Tom Crean* a bhí suite i gCé Sir John Rogerson i mBaile Átha Cliath. Áiríodh leis an gcuairt plé ar thógáil tuilleadh leis an gcomhoibriú láidir idir an dá thír maidir le taighde san Aigéan Atlantach.

## Rannpháirtíocht le Comhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta ICES

I mí Mheán Fómhair, chuir Foras na Mara fáilte roimh Chomhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara (ICES) go hÉirinn. D'fhreastail príomheolaithe mara ó ar fud na cruinne ar an gcomhdháil mhuirí mór le rá seo a reáchtáladh i mBaile Átha Cliath. Roinn siad an chuid is úire den teicneolaíocht is déanaí a thacaíonn le húsáid inbhuanaithe ár n-aigéan.

Don Chomhdháil, a bhí á hóstáil ó 19-22 Meán Fómhair, ba í Foras na Mara an eagraíocht ba mhó a raibh tionchar aige ar an gcomhrá ar #ICESASC22 agus d'fhoilsigh sé beagnach 300 tuáil bunaidh. Bhí treocht ag hashchlib na hócáide #ICESASC22 ar Twitter in Éirinn ar an gcéad dá lá den chomhdháil.

## Suíomh idirlín agus meáin shóisialta

In 2022, foilsíodh 75 scéal nuachta agus imeacht ar shuíomh Gréasáin Fhoras na Mara ([marine.ie](https://marine.ie)).



Grianghraf: Jason Clarke.

75

scéal nuachta agus imeacht ar shuíomh Gréasáin Fhoras na Mara (marine.ie) le linn 2022



An tAtlantach Fiáin - Dánlann Eolaíochta na Mara.

Ar Lá Domhanda na nAigéin, d'eascair feachtas tiomnaithe Twitter ón Institiúid le #WorldOceansDay ar Twitter in Éirinn, agus ba í an Institiúid an eagraíocht bharántúil is gníomhaí ar domhan ar an lá. Mar chuid den chomórtas Oceans of Learning #SeaToMe, chuir daoine ar fud na hÉireann isteach 356 iontráil a chomhroinn cad a chiallaíonn an fharraige dóibh ar bhonn sóisialta ag baint úsáide as an haischlib #SeaToMe.

I rith na bliana, rinne Foras na Mara ceiliúradh ar éagsúlacht a mhuintire le feachtais shóisialta éagsúla. Le linn Chomhdháil Bhliantúil Eolaíochta ICES, chuir fisagallaimh le heolaithe rannpháirteacha Fhoras na Mara a saineolas eolaíoch in iúl. Roimh theacht an RV *Tom Crean* agus an ócáid choimisiúnaithe, bhí roinnt agallamh físe le muintir Fhoras na Mara agus tuairisciú sóisialta beo ó Chuan an Daingin freisin.

## Seirbhísí Beartais, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde (PIRS)

### An Clár Bithghilleagair Ghoirm



Reáchtáladh trí imeacht mar chuid den tsraith seimineár gréasáin ar Bhitheacnamaíocht Ghorm chun feachtas a ardú agus comheagraíodh iad le Nua na Mara agus Údarás na Gaeltachta. Bhí Seachtain Bhitheacnamaíocht Éireann (sa Dheireadh Fómhair) gnóthach don bithghilleagair gorm le himeacht i nGaillimh (Éagsúlacht sa Bithghilleagair), comórtas ealaíne do pháistí (Leabharlann Westside), feachtas leabharlainne agus caint ag Comhdháil Chomhlachas Idirnáisiúnta Leabharlanna agus Lárionad Faisnéise na hEolaíochta Uisce agus Mara (páipéar in imeachtaí comhdhála).

Thug Bainisteoir an Chláir um an mBithghilleagair Gorm léacht do mhic léinn iarchéime in Ollscoil na Gaillimhe (MSC PEolaíocht Plandaí agus Argaibhitheach).

Ina theannta sin, rinne an clár urraíocht ar roinnt gníomhaíochtaí a bhí dírithe ar fheasacht a chothú ar an earnáil bithghilleagair gorm laistigh agus lasmuigh d'Éirinn. Reáchtáladh an chéad imeacht in Éirinn do 'Cum le haghaidh an Phláinéid' i mí Feabhra in Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (OTA). Bhí 29 ollscoil as 15 thír páirteach san imeacht seo, agus ghlac duine de na rannpháirtithe Éireannacha páirt i Luasaire Uiscshaothraithe HATCH.



Bhí Seaweed Around the Clock, imeacht 24 uair an chloig ar líne a thaispeánann earnáil na feamainne domhanda, ar siúl i mí an Mheithimh. D'eagraigh Foras na Mara, Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM), Irish Seaweed Consultancy agus Nua na Mara 'Uair Éireannach'. I mí Lúnasa, thug PIRS forbhreathnú ar an mBithghilleagair gorm mar chuid de Champa Eolais na Mara, campa samhraidh do dhéagóirí chun feachtas a ardú ar earnáil na mara agus chun aird a tharraingt ar ionchais ghairme.

Ar deireadh, tá ardán Twitter Blue Bioeconomy Ireland á chothabháil go gníomhach chun feachtas a ardú ar dheiseanna don earnáil agus tá sé ag méadú ó thaobh tionchair agus rochtana de.

### Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann (IMDO)

Is iad mairnéalaigh oilte, céimithe agus gairmithe oilte fuil bheatha an tionscail mhuirí in Éirinn agus in áiteanna eile. Aithníonn an IMDO an gá atá le suim a mhéadú sa tionscal mhuirí i measc lucht fágála scoile, céimithe agus an phobail i gcoitinne, agus gníomhaíonn sé ar roinnt bealaí éagsúla chun an cuspóir seo a bhaint amach.

I 2022, rinne an IMDO:

- Tacaíodh le hoiliúint mairnéalach gairmiúla trí Scéim Chúnaimh Oideachais Mharaithe na hÉireann (ISEAS) a chuireann leapacha oiliúna ar fáil do dhaltáí ó Choláiste

Cuireadh 356

iontráil isteach mar chuid de chomórtas Oceans of Learning #SeaToMe

Náisiúnta Mara na hÉireann (NMCI) chun am farráige éigeantach a dhéanamh, mar chuid dá oiliúint ghairmiúil. I 2022, iocadh níos mó ná €170,000 faoin scéim seo, rud a chuir ar chumas daltaí dul faoi oiliúint le cuideachtaí loingseoireachta mór le rá idirnáisiúnta agus fostaíocht a fháil sa tionscal mhuirí.

- Tacaíodh le hoideachas agus le hoiliúint ghairmiúil trí gníomhaíochtaí comhlachtaí gairmiúla a bhfuil tábhacht straitéiseach leo a mhaoiniú mar Institiúid na mBróicéirí Loinge Cairte agus Institiúid an Máistir Mairnéalach.
- Leag sé béim ar dheiseanna gairme sa tionscal mhuirí tríd an tairseach post ar a shuíomh Gréasáin.
- Forbraíodh tionscadail taighde, mar iad siúd atá ar siúl in Ollscoil na Gaillimhe agus in Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste, ar ghnéithe suimiúla agus ábhartha den taighde ar féidir leo eolas a chur ar fáil do bheartas agus cumas taighde a thógáil san earnáil mhuirí atá tábhachtach go straitéiseach.

## Seirbhísí Aeráide agus Faisnéise na nAigéan (OCIS)

### Oibríochtaí Árthaí Taighde

Tá achoimre ar gníomhaíochtaí na n-árthaí taighde doiciméadaithe in Áisitheoir Straitéiseach 2 - Bonneagar ach thíos tá na príomhghníomhaíochtaí rannpháirtíochta agus oideachais ar tugadh fúthu i rith na bliana:

- Rinneadh suirbhéanna agus oibríochtaí a bhain le hoideachas agus oiliúint ar shoithí taighde i gcomhar le hinstiúidí tríú leibhéal, lena n-áirítear Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste, Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath, An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath, Ollscoil na Gaillimhe, Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh, Ollscoil Mhá Nuad agus Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh, Oirdheisceart na Teicneolaíochta Ollscoil agus Ollscoil Luimnigh.
- Go luath i mí Feabhra, thaistil an RV *Celtic Voyager* go Corcaigh le haghaidh na gcéad suirbhéanna oiliúna mac léinn i 2022. Thóg John Boyd, comhordaitheoir Scoil Fharraige SMART, mic léinn as Ollscoil na Gaillimhe agus Ollscoil Mhá Nuad ar feadh dhá lá an ceann. Chaith an RV *Tom Crean* tamall i gCorcaigh agus i nGaillimh i mbliana, ag cur oiliúint thríú leibhéal ar fáil faoi choimirce an chlár SMART.

### Bonneagair Taighde Muirí

Tar éis próiseas tairisceana poiblí go déanach i 2021, forbraíodh turas fíorúil idirghníomhach ar líne ar Shaoráid SmartBay in 2022 lena n-áirítear grianghraif aice 360° agus físeáin faisnéise. Tá an turas á óstáil ar shuíomh Gréasáin SmartBay ([smartbay.ie/sites/default/files/VirtualTour/index.html](https://smartbay.ie/sites/default/files/VirtualTour/index.html)) agus tá an-chuid trácht air ó seoladh é i mBealtaine 2022.

Chomh maith le suíomh Gréasáin SmartBay ([smartbay.ie](https://smartbay.ie)), áirítear ar na bealaí cumarsáide ar líne tairseach ar líne Réadlann SmartBay ([smartbay.marine.ie](https://smartbay.marine.ie)) agus cainéil na meán sóisialta ar fud Facebook (@SmartBayie), LinkedIn (@SmartBay\_ie) agus Twitter (@SmartBay\_ie).

Leanann an suíomh gréasáin ar aghaidh mar phríomhfhoinsé fhaisnéise do Shaoráid SmartBay agus cabhraíonn na meán shóisialta linn ár gcuid oibre a roinnt agus feachtas a ardú agus rannpháirtíocht a mhéadú leis an bpobal áitiúil chomh maith le tionscal na mara.

Ar 5 agus 6 Márta 2022, thug an fhoireann tacaíocht do Sheachtain na nInnealtóirí STEPS ag Atlantaquaria na Gaillimhe i mBóthar na Trá. Bhí imeacht an deireadh seachtaine tiomnaithe do na flótaí Argo agus léirigh sé an tábhacht a bhaineann le hinnealtóireacht mhuirí.

Chun Lá Muirí na hEorpa a cheiliúradh, an 20 agus 21 Bealtaine 2022, d'óstáil an fhoireann imeacht dhá lá Rannpháirtíochta Pobail agus Lá Oscailte do Réadlann SmartBay sa Spidéal, Co. Na Gaillimhe. Bhí foireann Bonneagair Taighde Muirí ar an láthair chun oibriú inmheánach Réadlann SmartBay agus eagair braiteoirí a mhíniú agus cuireadh leis seo le seoladh Turas Fíorúil SmartBay. I measc na dtéamaí tacaíochta don imeacht bhí Pobail ar an gCósta, Rannpháirtíocht Pobail agus Gairmeacha san Innealtóireacht Mhuirí.

Ócáid le cuireadh amháin a bhí sa Lá a hAon Dé hAoine 20 Bealtaine agus bhí páirtithe leasmhara áitiúla, scoileanna agus na meán i láthair. Lá Oscailte do Theaghlach ab ea Lá a Dó Dé Sathairn 21 Bealtaine le gnéithe oideachasúla agus siamsaíocht in aisce.



# RIALACHAS CORPARÁIDEACH

## Cód Cleachtas

Feidhmíonn Foras na Mara de réir na gcleachtas is fearr maidir le prionsabail rialachais chorparáidigh de réir Chód Cleachtas 2016 um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit. Tá raon nósanna imeachta, polasaithe agus treoirlínte i bhfeidhm ag Foras na Mara chun comhlíonadh an Chóid a chinntiú agus is é beartas agus cleachtas an Fhorais tacú le forbairt agus neartú timpeallacht rialaithe éifeachtach, córas bainistíochta riosca agus feidhm Iniúchta Inmheánaigh.

## Plean Iniúcháireachta Inmheánaí

Déantar breithniú sa phlean rollach 3 bliana iniúchta inmheánaigh ar na rioscaí arna sainaithint i gClár Riosca Fhoras na Mara, i gceanglais an Chóid Cleachtas chun Comhlachtaí Stáit a Rialú, agus ar mholtaí an Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste agus an Choiste um Iniúcháireacht agus Riosca (CIR).

Déanann na hiniúcháirí inmheánacha seachfhoinisithe athbhreithniú ar an gCóras Rialaithe Inmheánaigh ar bhonn bliantúil. Áiríodh in iniúchtaí inmheánacha eile i 2022 Iniúchadh Bainistíochta Riosca, Iniúchadh ar Leanúnachas Gnó agus Pleanáil Bainistíochta Géarchéime, agus Iniúchadh Acmhainní Daonna.

Gníomhaíodh gach moladh Iniúchta Inmheánaigh a tháinig chun cinn agus tuairiscíodh don CIR iad. Baineadh de thátal as athbhreithniú an CIR ar éifeachtacht an Iniúchta Inmheánaigh le linn 2022 go raibh aschur sásúil i rith na bliana le dearbhú maith don Bhord ar na córais rialaithe agus bainistíochta riosca agus rialachais.

## Soláthar agus Bainistíocht Airgeadais

Tá próiseas soláthair phoiblí cuí ag Foras na Mara a chloíonn le rialacha an AE agus náisiúnta. Fógraíodh 39 tairiscint ar shuíomh Gréasáin Etenders ([etenders.gov.ie](http://etenders.gov.ie)) i 2022, chomh maith le soláthar trí Chomhaontuithe Réime ábhartha na hOifige um Sholáthar Rialtais. Tugadh roinnt cúrsaí éigeantacha oiliúna soláthair dár bhfoirne.

Is é beartas Fhoras na Mara a chinntiú go n-íoctar gach sonrasc go pras laistigh de théarmaí an Achta um Íoc Pras Cuntas, 1997, agus Rialacháin na gComhphobal Eorpach (Íocaíocht Dhéanach in Idirbhearta Tráchtála) 2012. Tá córais agus nósanna imeachta i bhfeidhm chun sonraisc a rianú agus a chinntiú go ndéantar íocaíochtaí ar bhealach tráthúil agus éifeachtach. Tá nósanna imeachta i bhfeidhm freisin chun a chinntiú go n-íoctar ús déanach, más gá.

## Nochtadh Cosanta

Ní raibh aon Nochtadh Cosanta i rith na bliana.

## Caighdeáin um Chomhlíonadh maidir le Ceisteanna ó Chomhaltaí den Oireachtas

Chomhlíon Foras na Mara go hábhartha lenár mbeartas maidir le freagairt go pras ar cheisteanna ó Chomhaltaí an Oireachtas.

## Éagsúlacht agus Ionchuisitheacht

Bhí an Éagsúlacht, Cuimsiú agus Comhionannas (ED&I) ina thosaíocht eagraíochtúil i 2022, léirithe inár gcultúr, inár ngníomhartha agus inár n-iompraíochtaí. Bhunaíomar Grúpa réamhghníomhach ED&I de sheaipíní inmheánacha i rith na bliana a d'fhoilsigh ár bPlean Gníomhaíochta 2021-2023, a rinne suirbhé ar ár ndaoine agus a sheol clár gníomhaíochtaí chun feasacht ar ED&I a mhéadú agus chun guth a thabhairt do gach duine agus inrochtaineacht ar oiliúint agus taithí oibre a chinntiú, deiseanna earcaíochta, infreastruchtúr agus tacaí saindeartha.

Leanaimid de bheith mar bhall de phobal cleachtas AsIAM, tiomanta d'inrochtaineacht níos fearr do dhaoine néara-éagsúla.

Bhí sé mar aidhm ag ár gclár ED&I inmheánach i 2022 a chinntiú go ndearnadh ár ngníomhaíochtaí, cumarsáid, idirghníomhaíochtaí, rannpháirtíocht, bainistíocht agus seachadadh ár gclár oibre le hinrochtaineacht, trédhearcacht agus réamhghníomhaíocht i gcumhne.

Ag deireadh 2022, b'ionann fostaithe Fhoras na Mara agus 49.4% fireannach agus 50.6% baineann. As na 53 ról a earcaíodh i 2022, tairgeadh 16 acu d'fhir agus 37 do mhná. Thuairiscigh muid don Údarás Náisiúnta Míchumais i Ráithe 1 de 2022 gur dhearbhaigh 6.75% dár bhfórsa saothair míchumas sa 12 mhí roimhe sin.

Cinntimid go gcaitear go cothrom lenár ndaoine go léir agus iad ag fáil na dtuarastal céanna, na dtéarmaí agus na gcoinníollacha céanna agus rochtain chomhionann ar fhorbairt phearsanta agus ghairme, deiseanna earcaíochta agus socruithe solúbtha oibre.

Sheolamar ár gClár Píolótach Oibre Cumaisc i Ráithe 4 de 2022 agus tairgimid raon beartas agus cleachtas a thacaíonn lenár ndaoine a n-acmhainneacht a bhaint amach agus cothromaíocht agus folláine a chothabháil. Fáiltimid roimh na buntáistí a bhaineann lenár ndaoine go léir a cheiliúradh agus le Comhionannas, Éagsúlacht agus Cuimsiú a chinntiú laistigh dár n-eagraíocht.

## Comhardú Inscne i mballraíocht an Bhoird

Amhail ar 31 Nollaig 2022, bhí triúr (33%) ban agus seisear (67%) de chomhaltaí fireanna ag an mBord.

Is ar feadh tréimhse thosaigh cúig bliana a dhéantar ceapacháin chuig an mBord agus tá an rogha ann an téarma fostaíochta a shíneadh ar feadh an dara téarma. Agus folúntais an Bhoird amach anseo á líonadh i 2023, tabharfaidh an tAire aird ar a inmhianaithe atá sé maidir le cothromaíocht inscne, éagsúlacht agus cuimsiú ar an mBord.

## RGCS

Comhordaíonn agus soláthraíonn an tOifigeach Cosanta Sonraí (OCS) oiliúint ar chosaint sonraí i bhForas na Mara, ag díriú ar chomhlíonadh an Rialachán Ginearálta maidir le Cosaint Sonraí (RGCS) agus na nAchtanna um Chosaint Sonraí 1988-2018. Is príomhphointe teagmhála é an OCS maidir le cúrsaí cosanta sonraí pearsanta agus oibríonn sé leis an bhfoireann próbháideachta sonraí chun polasaithe agus nósanna imeachta a bhaineann le cosaint sonraí a bhunú, a nuashonrú agus a leasú. Tá an fhoireann sin comhdhéanta de chomhordaitheoirí sonraí ó gach réimse seirbhíse, Oifigigh Riosca, an OCS, agus baill na foirne bainistíochta sonraí agus TF.

Níor tharla aon sárú i rith na bliana a d'fhág go raibh gá le tuairiscíú don Choimisinéir Cosanta Sonraí.

## Tuarascáil maidir le Bainistíocht Riosca

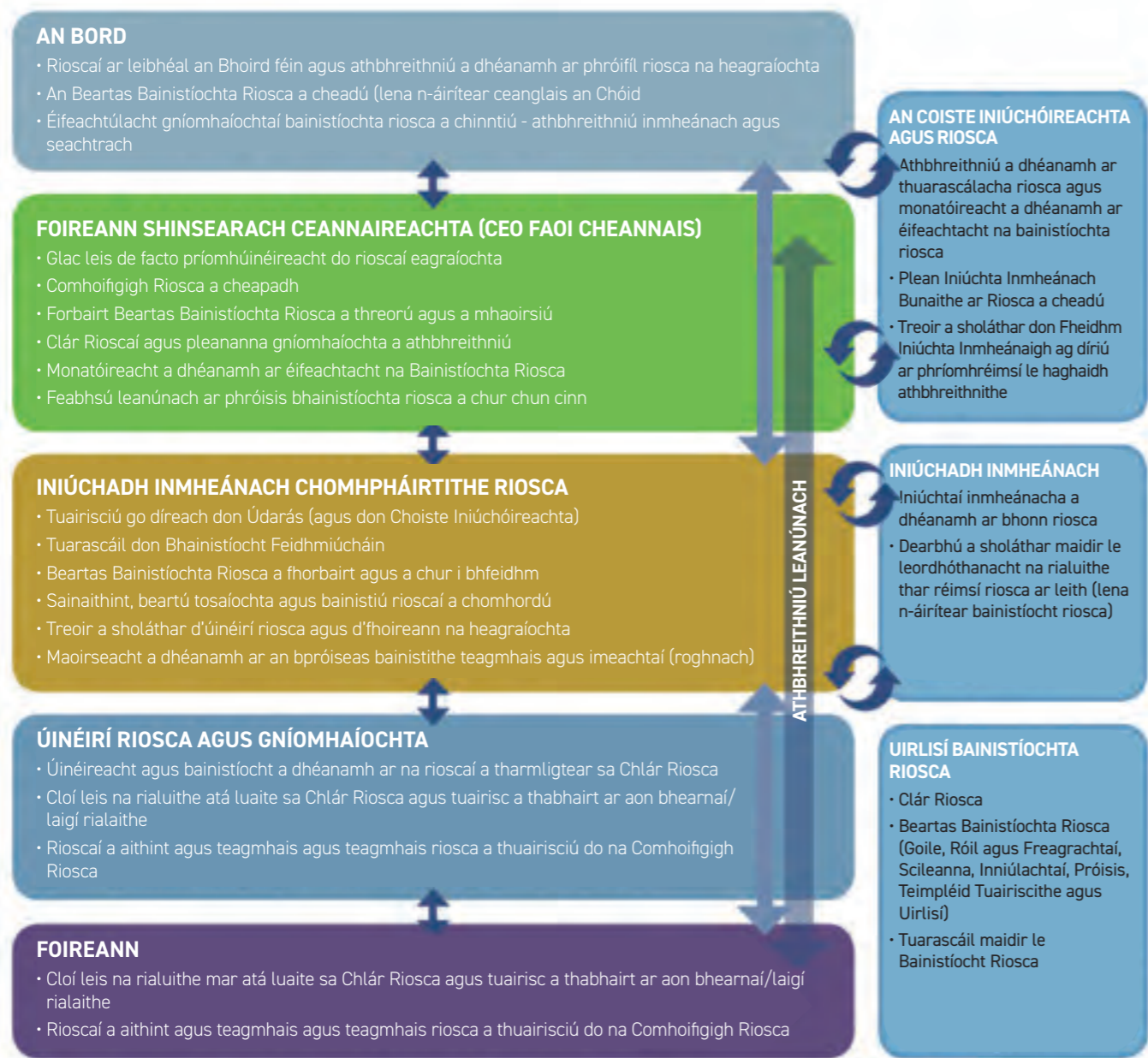
Tá creat láidir bainistíochta riosca bunaithe agus á chothabháil ag Bord Fhoras na Mara a thacaíonn le bainistiú leanúnach riosca de réir na straitéis corparáidí agus an fonn riosca atá bunaithe. Tugann an creat riosca aghaidh ar cheanglais uile an Chóid Chleachtas um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit (2016) agus is próiseas praiticiúil é chun rioscaí eagraíochtúla a bhainistiú go foirmiúil.

Go ginearálta, ba bhliain ghnóthach í 2022 ó thaobh Bainistíochta Riosca agus Pleanáil Leanúnachais Gnó (PLG). Chríochnaíomar athbhreithniú ar ár nGoile Riosca i Ráithe 1, rinneamar Athbhreithniú Leathanach Bán ar Bhainistíocht Riosca lena n-áirítear conas a dhéantar riosca a mheasúnú agus a mhaolú - chonaic sé seo Forbhreathnú nua ar Ghoile Riosca, Clár Riosca Athbhreithnithe agus cur chuige athnuaid maidir le measúnú agus bainistiú riosca ar fud na tíre. eagraíocht. Ina theannta sin, rinne iniúcháir inmheánach seachfhoinisithe iniúchadh ar Bhainistíocht Riosca agus ar Phleanáil Leanúnachais Gnó agus tugadh leibhéal arda dearbhaithe.

Leagann an Beartas Bainistíochta Riosca, a ndéanann an Bord athbhreithniú air go bliantúil, cuspóirí bainistíochta riosca na heagraíochta; fonn riosca na heagraíochta; agus an creat bainistíochta riosca a shonraíonn ról agus freagrachtaí na foirne agus chomhaltaí an Bhoird, agus an próiseas chun riosca a aithint, a chatagóiriú agus a ardú. Ag teacht le Beartais um Bainistíocht Riosca agus Leanúnachas Gnó, rinne an Bord agus a Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca, in éineacht leis na hOifigigh Fheidhmiúcháin agus Riosca, athbhreithniú ar na beartais agus na próisis chúil i 2022 agus d'aontaigh siad leo.

Bhí an Príomhoifigeach Riosca agus an Feidhmeannas réamhghníomhach maidir le monatóireacht, measúnú agus bainistiú riosca i 2022, ag athbhreithniú agus ag tuairiscíú ar Riosca agus PLG gach ráithe agus ag cinntiú go ndearnadh tástáil ar ár gcórais agus ár gcleachtas leanúnachais gnó agus go raibh siad athléimneach i gcónaí.

## Creat Bainistíochta Riosca Fhoras na Mara



## Clár Riosca

Tá Clár Rioscaí i bhfeidhm a shainníonn na príomhrioscaí atá roimh Fhoras na Mara agus a shonraíonn na rialuithe agus na gníomhartha is gá chun na rioscaí sin a mhaolú agus a sannann freagracht as feidhmiú rialuithe maolaithe d'úinéirí riosca ar leith.

Mar thoradh ar Athbheithniú Leathanach Bán 2022 ar riosca, rinneadh roinnt athruithe ar an gClár Riosca as ar tháinig comhdhlúthú roinnt rioscaí agus cuireadh rioscaí nua leis nó fócas breise ar Riosca Airgeadais, Slabhra Soláthair, Cibearshlándaíl agus Daoine.

Déanann na Comhoifigigh Riosca athbheithniú agus nuashonrú ar an gClár Riosca i gcomhairle le hÚinéirí Riosca agus leis an bhFoireann Cheannaireachta Shinsearach go ráithiúil, agus tuairiscítear é don Choiste Iniúchta agus Riosca agus don Bhoird.

Deimhníonn Foras na Mara go bhfuil measúnú déanta aige ar rioscaí na heagraíochta agus aithníodh na príomhrioscaí seo a leanas:

Riosca	Maoluithe
Muinín agus iontaoibh na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (RTBM), Ranna eile Rialtais agus Gníomhaireachtaí Stáit, cliant, príomhpháirtithe leasmhara, pobail áitiúla agus an phobail i gcoitinne a chothabháil	Cur i bhfeidhm Plean Straitéiseach Fhoras na Mara 2018 go 2022 - Eolas ar an Aigéan a Thógáil, Seirbhísí Aigéin a Sheachadadh. Cur i bhfeidhm agus tuairisciú ar Chomhaontú Seachadta Feidhmíochta Maoirseachta leis an RTBM. Comhaontuithe Leibhéal Seirbhíse le Gníomhaireachtaí Stáit; Cumarsáid agus Rannpháirtíocht Rialta le Páirtithe Leasmhara.
Tionchair thridhreacha agus imeachtaí idirnáisiúnta agus náisiúnta athraitheacha ar acmhainní lena n-áirítear Daoine, Airgeadais agus Oibríochtúil	Bainistíocht chúramach ar na rioscaí seo ag Comhoifigigh Riosca leis an bhFeidhmeannas agus an Bord mar chuid de bheartais agus cleachtais Bhainistíochta Riosca agus Leanúnachais Gnó gach mí. Pleananna rollta éifeachtacha trí go cúig bliana don Lucht Oibre, Airgeadais agus Oibríocháin i bhfeidhm agus déantar monatóireacht orthu go míosúil, ag cur san áireamh éilimh mhéadaithe agus brúnna a bhaineann le soláthar. Úsáid Creataí Leanúnachais Gnó, Pleananna Éifeachtúlachta chun dúshláin airgeadais a bhainistiú má thagann siad chun cinn, agus pleananna oiliúna foirne/crosoiliúna agus rochtain ar thacaíochtaí éigeandála. Idirphlé oscailte le ranna tuismitheora agus le ranna agus gníomhaireachtaí eile rialtais a bhfuil Comhaontuithe Seirbhíse agus Socruithe Maoinithe i bhfeidhm againn leo. Iniúchtaí neamhspleácha rialta ar ár gcreataí agus cleachtais oibríocháin agus bainistíochta riosca.
Rialuithe agus nósanna imeachta slándála sásúil i bhfeidhm chun cosaint a thabhairt in aghaidh cibirsaithe agus cailliúint feidhmiúlachta agus cosaint sonraí	Beartais, nósanna imeachta agus cleachtais sonraí agus slándála TFC a chur i bhfeidhm. Infheistíocht in oiliúint reatha don fhoireann agus uasdátú leanúnach ar chosaintí slándála. Pleananna athshlánaithe tubaiste TF a chur i bhfeidhm d'Fhoras na Mara mar chuid de Chreataí Leanúnachais Gnó foriomlána.
Riosca teipe nó cailliúint bonneagair shuntasach lena n-áirítear soithí, áiseanna agus trealamh a imscartar ar muir	Beartais, nósanna imeachta agus cleachtais chothabhála agus sábháilteachta a chur i bhfeidhm, ag cloí le cóid an Chóid Idirnáisiúnta um Bainistíocht Sábháilteachta do na soithí. Tá plean Sláinte, Sábháilteachta, Comshaoil agus Cáilíochta i bhfeidhm; mar aon le Pleananna Leanúnachais Gnó tástálaithe lena n-áirítear rochtain ar áiseanna agus soithí taighde malartacha. Tá creataí éifeachtacha freagartha géarchéime i bhfeidhm freisin. I gcás cailteanas iomlán, tá na hítimí ardluacha clúdaithe ag árachas. Tá oiliúint chúil ar chaigndeán tionscail i bhfeidhm do gach pearsanra atá ar an talamh agus ar muir, lena n-áirítear turasóireacht.

## Caidreamh

Clúdaíonn clár Fhoras na Mara raon leathan gníomhaíochtaí a éilíonn idirchaidreamh agus comhoibriú dlúth le go leor daoine aonair agus eagraíochtaí.

Ina measc seo tá an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe, an Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta, an Roinn Iompair, an Roinn Chomhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide, chomh maith le rialtais eile. ranna agus gníomhaireachtaí Stáit (cosúil le Bord Iascaigh Mhara, an Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil, Fondúireacht Eolaíochta Éireann, Údarás Fuinnimh Inmharthana na hÉireann agus go leor eile), frontair phríobháideacha agus an earnáil ardoideachais.

Aithníonn an Foras an tacaíocht agus an comhoibriú leanúnach ó gach duine lena mbaíneann.

## An tAcht um Eitic agus Oifigí Poiblí

Chomhlíon gach duine a bhfuil post ainmnithe aige laistigh d'Fhoras na Mara ceanglais an Choimisiúin um Oifigí Poiblí de réir Ailt 18 agus 20 den Acht um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí, 1995.

## Coiste um Iniúcháireacht agus Riosca

### Ról an Choiste um Iniúcháireacht agus Riosca (CIR)

Is é ról an CIR maoirseacht agus comhairle a chur ar an mBord agus ar an bPríomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin maidir le nithe a bhaineann le:

- Rioscaí airgeadais, oibriúcháin agus rialachais, lena n-áirítear bainistíocht riosca iomlán.
- Éifeachtúlacht na rialuithe inmheánacha agus na bainistíochta riosca.
- Éifeachtúlacht na feidhme iniúchta inmheánaigh.
- Cumarsáid leis an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste (AC&C).
- Nithe a d'ardaigh an tIniúcháir Inmheánach agus an AC&C.
- Acmhainneacht nósanna imeachta rialachais.
- Saincheisteanna maidir le luach ar airgead.

Déanann Oifig an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste iniúchadh ar Fhoras na Mara. Agus maoirseacht á déanamh aige ar an gcaidreamh leis an Iniúcháir Seachtrach, buaileann an CIR le hionadaithe Oifig an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste roimh thús an iniúchta agus arís tar éis don iniúchadh a bheith críochnaithe. Ní raibh aon ábhar imní ábhartha ag éirí as na cruinnithe sin.

Déanann an Coiste monatóireacht freisin ar shláine na ráiteas airgeadais a ullmhaíonn an Foras.

### Téarmaí Tagartha

Tá téarmaí tagartha an CIR faofa ag an mBord agus déantar athbhreithniú orthu ar bhonn bliantúil agus leasaítear iad de réir mar is cúf.

### Ballraíocht

I rith na bliana dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022, bhí an CIR comhdhéanta de cheathrar comhalta neamhfheidhmiúcháin den Bhord agus comhalta neamhspleách amháin den Bhord: Patricia Barker (Cathaoirleach), Dermot Clohessy, Donal Kelly, David Owens, agus Pauline Cronin (neamhchomhalta Boird).

### Cruinnithe

Reachtáladh seacht gcruinniú le linn 2022 agus bhí tinreamh chomhaltaí an CIR mar a leanas:

Dáta	Patricia Barker	Dermot Clohessy	Donal Kelly	David Owens	Pauline Cronin
24 Ean 22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21 Feabhra 22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25 Aib 22	✓	✓			✓
27 Meith 2022*	✓	✓			✓
26 MF 22	✓	✓			✓
27 DF 22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
05 Nollaig 22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

\*Cruinniú le hIniúcháirí Seachtracha

Is í Helen Boles Rúnaí an Choiste. Is í Patricia Orme, Stiúrthóir na Seirbhísí Corparáideacha, an Ceannaire Feidhmiúcháin.

### Coinbhleachtaí leasa

Ag gach ceann dá gcruinnithe, breithníonn an CIR go bhféadfadh coinbhleachtaí leasa a bheith ann maidir lena chlár oibre agus déileáiltear le coinbhleachtaí den sórt sin de réir bheartas an Bhoird.

## Clár Oibre 2022 agus Réimsí a sainithníodh le díriú orthu

I rith na bliana, bhuaíl an CIR freisin le baill den fhoireann bhainistíochta chun seisiúin fhaisnéise a fháil agus chun deis a fháil gach ceist agus moladh a phlé maidir leis na réimsí seo a leanas: Bainistíocht Riosca, Sláinte agus Sábháilteacht, Pleanáil Leanúnachais Gnó, RGCS, Soláthar, TFC agus Cibearshlándaíl, agus soláthar soithí nua.

Ina theannta sin, d'iarr an CIR tuarascálacha sonracha ón Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí Corparáideacha chun a chinntiú don Choiste maidir leis na réimsí seo a leanas: calaois, éilliú agus breabaireacht, caiteachas caipitiúil, comhlíonadh cánachais, agus Nochtadh Cosanta.

Bhuaíl Cathaoirleach an CIR le Cathaoirleach an Bhoird roinnt uaireanta i rith na bliana freisin chun saincheisteanna a bhaineann le hobair an CIR a phlé agus bealaí ina bhféadfadh an CIR cabhrú leis an mBord a chuid oibre a dhéanamh.

### Dhírigh an CIR freisin ar na réimsí sonracha seo a leanas i 2022:

- Athbhreithniú ar Rioscaí lena n-áirítear iad siúd a bhaineann le saincheisteanna Covid-19** amhail úsáid chuí an Coincheap Gnóthais Leantaigh, imeachtaí Iar-Chlár Comhardaithe, Rioscaí Soláthair, Rioscaí a bhaineann le cianobair, rioscaí RGCS, Rioscaí Calaoise, Cibearshlándaíl agus Rioscaí TF, Sláinte agus Rioscaí. Rinneadh monatóireacht fhoirmiúil agus neamhfhoirmiúil i gcónaí ar Rioscaí Sábháilteachta, Riosca do Sheachadadh Seirbhíse agus Riosca Leibhéal Neamhleor Daoine agus Scileanna trí chumarsáid rialta leis an bhfoireann bhainistíochta agus le Cathaoirleach an Bhoird i rith na bliana.
- Soláthar Soithí Nua** Rinne an CIR mhonatóireacht ghéar ar ghné chaiteachais an tionscadail chun an soitheach taighde nua a fháil suas go dtí seachadadh i mí Iúil 2022.
- Féinmheastóireacht** Gach bliain, déanann an CIR féinmheastóireacht ar a fheidhmiúchtaí féin.
- Nuashonruithe Beartais** Rinne an CIR moltaí ar na hábhair seo a leanas a mheas agus a thairiscint, lena n-áirítear beartais nua nó leasaithe a dréachtaíodh, a pléadh agus a faomhadh le linn 2022 lena n-áirítear breithniú ar an leibhéal caiteachais atá le faomhadh ag an mBord agus atá tarmilgthe chuig an mbainistíocht.
- Seirbhísí Iniúchta Inmheánaigh** Chríochnaigh an CIR meastóireacht ar Éifeachtúlacht Iniúchta Inmheánaigh ar an soláthraí seirbhíse iniúchta inmheánaigh seachfhoinsithe.

# AGUISÍN 1

## Clár Taighde Mara 2021-2027 Dámhachtainí an Chláir Am Longa 2022

Téama Taighde	Cineál Tionscadail	Tagairt Tionscadail	Teideal an Tionscadail	Deontai/ Príomhpháirtí	Cúnamh Deontais Iomlán
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	CV22005	Oiliúint Fuinneamh Aigéin MaREI SMART Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 9,000
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	CV22004	Oibríochtaí Ildisciplíneacha Eischósta san Eolaíocht Mhuirí SMART Ollscoil na Gaillimhe	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 18,000
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	CV22006	Córais Fhaisnéise Geografaí SMART agus Oiliúint chianbhraiteach: INFOMAR agus Ollscoil Mhá Nuad	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 18,000
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	CV22007	Oiliúint SEMRU SMART Ollscoil na Gaillimhe	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 9,000
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	CV22009	Bord Loinge Fochéime Oiliúint i modhanna taighde aigéaneolaíochta, beantach, meigea-fána agus iascaigh	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 54,000
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	CV22011	SMART Eolaíocht@Farraige	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 36,000
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	TC22009	Oiliúint MSc Ollscoil na Gaillimhe	Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh	€ 64,000
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	TC22011	Pleanáil Suirbhé Ildisciplíneach - Cleachtadh Foghlama Cuidithe Piaráí arna stiúradh ag iarchéimithe	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 80,000
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	TC22012	Oibríochtaí Ildisciplíneacha Eischósta san Eolaíocht Mhuirí SMART Ollscoil na Gaillimhe	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 96,000
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	TC22013	Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh MSc Oiliúint Bhitheolaíoch na Mara	Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh	€ 48,000 Nóta 1
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	TC22014	Oiliúint SMART GIS agus Cianbhrath: INFOMAR & An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 48,000 Nóta 1
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Clár Oiliúna Tiomnaithe	TC22015	Oibríochtaí Ildisciplíneacha Amach ón gCósta san Eolaíocht Mhuirí SMART Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 112,000 Nóta 1
Athrú Aeráide	Suirbhé Taighde Comhtháite	CE22009	An tAtlantach Thuaidh mar Aigéan Aeráide: Athruithe sa Táirgiúlacht agus an Caidéal Carbóin Bhitheolaíoch a Tholladh amach anseo	Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh	€ 682,000
Breathnú Aigéin & Mapáil Ghrinneall na Farraige	Suirbhé Taighde Comhtháite	CE22013	Sampláil Dríodar Cleitín, Druilleáil Charraige & Suirbhéireacht Choiréil (SPeED)	Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh	€ 566,000 Nóta 2
Bithéagsúlacht, Éiceachórais agus Bia-Ghréasáin	Suirbhé Taighde Comhtháite	CV22010	There be Giants	Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste	€ 90,000

Téama Taighde	Cineál Tionscadail	Tagairt Tionscadail	Teideal an Tionscadail	Deontai/ Príomhpháirtí	Cúnamh Deontais Iomlán
Breathnú Aigéin & Mapáil Ghrinneall na Farraige	Suirbhé Taighde Comhtháite	CV22017	Imscrúdú Suímh agus fáil sonraí Bunlíne le haghaidh monatóireachta sceite ag láithreán Gabhála agus Stórála Carbóin sa Mhuir Cheilteach thuaidh (InStor)	An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath	€ 72,000
Bith-acmhainní: Táirgeadh Dobharshaothraithe & Bithmhais	Suirbhé Taighde Comhtháite	TC22006	Conairí cósta agus nascacht le haghaidh speiceas díobhálaigh smugairle róin (CoCO.Jel) 2	Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh	€ 112,000
Athrú Aeráide	Suirbhé Taighde Comhtháite	TC22008	A4-Eir00S-NOAC athchóiriú agus imscaradh múrála	Ollscoil Mhá Nuad	€ 176,000
Innealtóireacht	Suirbhé Taighde Comhtháite	TC22016	Cur chuige comhtháite geoifisiceach a fhorbairt ag úsáid snáthoptaice chun sciúradh agus measúnú a dhéanamh	An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath	€ 208,000 Nóta 1
Ard-teicneolaíochtaí	Suirbhé Taighde Comhtháite	TC22017	Cigireacht Uathoibríoch le haghaidh Gaoithe Amach ón gCósta	Ollscoil Luimnigh	€ 200,000 Nóta 1
Bith-acmhainní: Acmhainní Fiáine	Suirbhé Tacaíochta Beartais	CE22004	Suirbhé lasc Sléibhe agus Scoilteán na hÉireann (Céim 1 Feabhra-22)	Foras na Mara	€ 195,000 Nóta 1
Bith-acmhainní: Acmhainní Fiáine	Suirbhé Tacaíochta Beartais	CE22005	Suirbhé Uibheacha Ronnach	Foras na Mara	€ 163,800 Nóta 3
Bith-acmhainní: Acmhainní Fiáine	Suirbhé Tacaíochta Beartais	CE22007	Suirbhé lasc Sléibhe agus Scoilteán na hÉireann (Céim 2 Aibreán-22)	Foras na Mara	€ 88,000 Nóta 3
Athrú Aeráide	Suirbhé Tacaíochta Beartais	CE22008	Rannóg Aeráide an Aigéin: Umar Rockall Theas	Foras na Mara	€ 362,000 Nóta 4
Bith-acmhainní: Acmhainní Fiáine	Suirbhé Tacaíochta Beartais	CE22010	Suirbhé WESPAS (Stoic Torciasc, Scadán agus Ronnach)	Foras na Mara	€ 184,800 Nóta 3
Bith-acmhainní: Acmhainní Fiáine	Suirbhé Tacaíochta Beartais	CE22012	Suirbhé ar Éisc Ghrinnill na hÉireann (Cadóg, Faoitín, Leathóg, Trosc, Colmóir agus Sól)	Foras na Mara	€ 413,600 Nóta 3
Truailliú agus Bruscar	Suirbhé Tacaíochta Beartais	CV22003	Suirbhé Timpeallachta Geimhridh ar Uiscí Chósta na hÉireann	Foras na Mara	€ 153,000
Bith-acmhainní: Táirgeadh Dobharshaothraithe & Bithmhais	Suirbhé Tacaíochta Beartais	TC22005	Aigéaneolaíocht Bhitheolaíoch ar Bhláthanna Algacha Díobhálaigh (BAD) in Uiscí na hÉireann	Foras na Mara	€ 96,000
Trialacha agus Tástáil ar RV <i>Tom Crean</i> (árthach nua) in Uiscí na hÉireann agus Ócáid Lainseála Árthaigh					€ 368,000 Nóta 5
<b>Iomlán (Gradaim an Chláir Long-Ama)</b>					<b>€ 4,722,200</b>

**Nótaí:**

- Áirítear costais pasáiste.
- Áirítear costais don fheithicil faoi uisce cianoibrithe (*An Ollainn I*).
- Is ionann é seo agus ranníocaíocht Foras na Mara de 40% (le 60% maoinithe faoin CEMI - an Ciste Eorpach Muirí agus Iascaigh).
- Áirítear costais faoileora.
- D'éirigh Celtic Voyager* as seirbhís i samhradh 2022, agus tháinig árthach nua *Tom Crean* ina áit.

# AGUISÍN 2

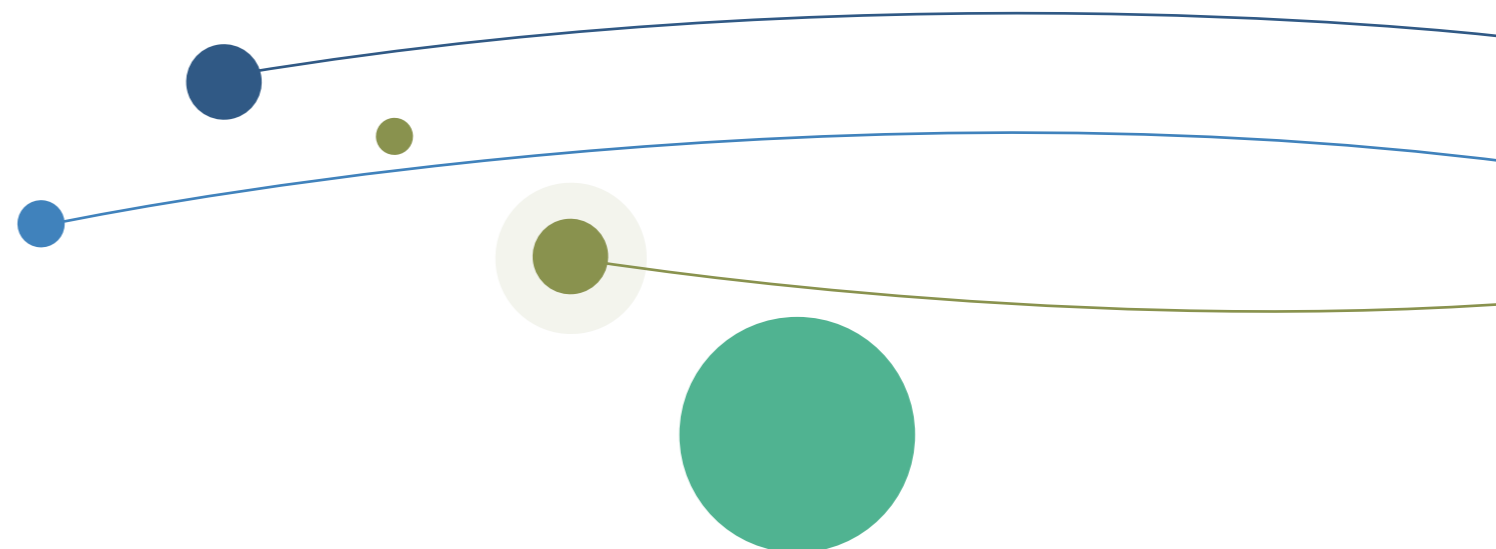
## An Clár Taighde Mara 2021-2027 Tionscadail Taighde 2022 arna gCistiú

Téama Taighde	Cineál Tionscadail	Tagairt Tionscadail	Teideal an Tionscadail	Deontai/Príomhpháirtí	Cúnamh Deontais Iomlán
Bith-acmhainní: Táirgeadh Dobharshaothraithe & Bithmhais	Comhaltacht lardhochtúireachta	PDOC/21/01/03	Táirgeadh feamainne luathaithe le haghaidh dobharshaothrú feamainne nuálach agus láidir in Éirinn (TFDLÉ)	Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh	€ 399,539
Bith-acmhainní: Táirgeadh Dobharshaothraithe & Bithmhais	Comhaltacht lardhochtúireachta	PDOC/21/01/04	Dobharshaothrú Inbhuanaithe: Táirgeadh bithmhaise débhlaoiscach na hÉireann a chur chun cinn trí fhlúirse síolta agus stoic níos athléimní ó thaobh galair a chur chun cinn (SusAqua)	Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh	€ 399,418
Fuinneamh In-athnuaite	Comhaltacht lardhochtúireachta	PDOC/21/03/02	Monatóireacht Éan bunaithe ar IS (ar shuiteálacha gaoithe amach ón gcósta) ag baint úsáide as Drón aeir gan foireann (ÉAN-IS) fadraoin	Ollscoil Luimnigh	€ 398,043
Litearthacht agus Oideachas Aigéin	Comhaltacht lardhochtúireachta	PDOC/21/04/02	Tonnta an athraithe: forbairt inbhuanaithe agus athrú iompraíochta a chur chun cinn trí litearthacht aigéin	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 397,986
Truailliú agus Bruscar	Scoláireacht Mháistreacht Cullen	CS/22/002	Anailís ar Threochtaí Fadtéarmacha i nGné Cháilíochta Inveirteabraigh bheantacha an WFD i nDobharlaigh Idirthréimhseacha agus Cósta ar fud na hÉireann	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh)	€ 55,000 Nóta A
Beartas & Rialachas Comhtháite: Socheacnamaíocht	Scoláireacht PhD Cullen	CS/22/003	Cuntasaíocht éiceachórais a fhorbairt d'éiceachórais mhuirí agus chósta na hÉireann	Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh	€ 110,000
Ard-teicneolaíochtaí	Scoláireacht PhD Cullen	CS/22/004	Monatóireacht Timpeallachta Muirí agus Cósta ag baint úsáide as drón aeir agus braiteoir íomháihte Hipirspeictreach	Ollscoil Luimnigh	€ 110,000 Nóta A
Bithéagsúlacht, Éiceachórais agus Bia-Ghréasáin	Scoláireacht Mháistreacht Cullen	CS/22/006	Anailís ar Threochtaí Fadtéarmacha i nGné Cháilíochta Inveirteabraigh bheantacha an WFD i nDobharlaigh Idirthréimhseacha agus Cósta ar fud na hÉireann	Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh	€ 55,000 Nóta A
Ard-teicneolaíochtaí	Scoláireacht PhD Cullen	CS/22/008	Algartaim IS nua faoi uisce a fhorbairt le haghaidh anailíse sonraí fíor-ama, pleanáil misean agus imscrúduithe	Ollscoil Luimnigh	€ 110,000
Teicneolaíochtaí Faisnéise & Spásúlachta, Anailísiocht agus Samhaltú	Scoláireacht PhD Cullen	CS/22/009	Monatóireacht Timpeallachta Muirí agus Cósta ag baint úsáide as drón aeir agus braiteoir íomháihte Hipirspeictreach	Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Oirdheiscirt (Ceatharlach)	€ 110,000 Nóta A
Bith-acmhainní: Táirgeadh Dobharshaothraithe & Bithmhais	Tionscadal Trasnáisiúnta	PBA/BIO/22/01	BIVALVI: Córais táirgthe dhébhlaoiscacha Eorpacha a chur chun cinn	Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh	€ 150,000 Nóta B

Téama Taighde	Cineál Tionscadail	Tagairt Tionscadail	Teideal an Tionscadail	Deontai/Príomhpháirtí	Cúnamh Deontais Iomlán
Bith-acmhainní: Táirgí Ardluacha	Tionscadal Trasnáisiúnta	PBA/BIO/22/02	Éachtach: Próiseáil fheabhsaithe chun Luacháil agus Taiscéaladh Taobhsrutha Bia Mara a Fheabhsú	Teagasc	€ 150,000 Nóta B
Bith-acmhainní: Táirgí Ardluacha	Tionscadal Trasnáisiúnta	PBA/BIO/22/03	Ithir Fharraige: Cruthú luacha agus seirbhísí éiceachórais thionscal Feamainne na hEorpa trí ghnéithe a d'fhéadfadh a bheith tocsaineach a laghdú agus a láimhseáil ó phórú go hithir	Ollscoil Theicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh (Gaillimh), Oileán Glas Teo agus Feamainn Dhún na nGall	€ 150,000 Nóta B
Truailliú agus Bruscar	Tionscadal Trasnáisiúnta	PBA/PL/22/01-A and B	GAOTH GHLAN: Tionchar fuaimne ar éiceachórais mhuirí ó ghiniúint fuinnimh gaoithe amach ón gcósta	Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh agus Gavin & Doherty Geosolutions Ltd.	€ 199,727 Nóta C
Éagsúil	Dámhachtainí Cumarsáide um Líonrú agus Taighde Mara	NET/22/01 go NET/22/94	Torthaí Taighde a Phoibliú trí Chomhdhála/Imeachtaí Mara, Foilseacháin Rochtana Oscailte agus Léiriúcháin Meán	Éagsúil (62 gradam bronnta i 2022)	€ 76,743
<b>Iomlán (Tionscadail Mhoinithe Taighde)</b>					<b>€ 2,871,456</b>

### Nótaí:

- Maoiníodh dhá scoláireacht Mháistreacht agus dhá PhD faoin ábhar céanna, ach téamaí taighde éagsúla.
- Léiríonn sé seo ranníocaíocht Foras na Mara leis na tionscadail trasnáisiúnta seo do na comhpháirtithe Éireannacha. Tionscadail arna mbronnadh faoin 2ú Glao Breise 2021 de Chomhchiste BlueBio ERA-NET (Uimhir Tionscadal H2020 817992).
- Léiríonn sé seo ranníocaíocht Foras na Mara leis an tionscadal trasnáisiúnta seo do na comhpháirtithe Éireannacha. Tionscadal arna dheonú faoi Chomhghlao Aigéin JPI 2021 ar *Thorann Faoi Uisce sa Timpeallacht Mhuirí*.



# I AGUISÍN 3

## Tionscadail Fís Eorpach

### Teideal an Tionscadail: DT4GS - Comhoibriú oscailte agus bonneagar Nasctha Digiteach oscailte le haghaidh Loingseoireachta Cliste Glas

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Konnecta Systems Ltd; IBM Ireland Teo.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Konnecta Systems Ltd = €579,375; IBM Ireland Ltd = €435,437.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101056799>

#### Cuspóir

DT4GS dírithe ar "Chreat Nasctha Digiteach Oscailte" a sheachadadh do chuideachtaí loingseoireachta agus do na gníomhaithe tionscail uisce-iompartha níos leithne chun leas a bhaint as deiseanna nua a chuirtear ar fáil trí úsáid a bhaint as Cúpla Digiteach (CDanna). Cuirfidh an tionscadal ar chumas páirtithe leasmhara loingseoireachta glacadh le speictream iomlán nuálaíochtaí CD chun tacú le loingseoireacht ghlais chliste in uasghrádú long atá ann cheana féin agus soithí nua.

Clúdóidh DT4GS saolré iomlán na loinge trí ghlacadh le cónaidhm feidhmchlár CD chomh maith le húsáid a bhaint as beartais FIDL agus forbairtí comhroinnta in áit do shonraí don eamail. Díreoidh iarratais DT4GS ar chuideachtaí loingseoireachta ach cuirfidh siad córas tacaíochta cinntí dícharbónaithe ar fáil freisin do longchlois, do mhonaróirí trealamh, d'údaráis agus d'oibreoirí calafoirt, do choimisiúin abhann, do chumainn aicmithe, do chuideachtaí fuinnimh agus do chuideachtaí bonneagair iompair/chonaire.

Is iad cuspóirí DT4GS:

1. Tacú le cuideachtaí loingseoireachta laghdú suas le 20% ar CO2 a bhaint amach le léaslíne 2026, trí CDanna in-saincheaptha fíor-ama a fhorbairt agus a imscaradh le haghaidh barrfheabhsú feidhmíochta oibríochta long agus cabhlaigh i gceithre Shaotharlann Mhaireachtála a bhaineann le cuideachtaí loingseoireachta, le cineálacha éagsúla soithí, agus lena mbunítear seirbhísí tionscail lán bhailíochtaí le haghaidh CDanna um Optamú Oibríochtaí Loingseoireachta Glaise a bhfuiltear ag súil go nglactar leo ag 1000+ long faoi 2030.
2. Modheolaíocht loingseoireachta chuimsitheach astaíochtaí nialasacha a bhunú agus tacú le Leapacha Tástála Fíorúla agus le Córais Tacaíochta Cinnidh a thugann aghaidh ar fhoirgnimh nua agus ar iarfheistiú a chuimsíonn:

- a. Áit do shonraí DT4GS (Loingseoireacht Ghlas) don eamail loingseoireachta níos leithne a rannchuidíonn le GAIA-X trí acmhainn croílár tionscail Eorpach a bhunú a luathaíonn an t-aistriú glas agus digiteach ar shlabhraí luacha loingseoireachta agus iompair ar uisce.
- b. Réitigh ionsamhlúcháin ar longa iarfheistithe, lena ndírítear ar laghdú 55% ar CO2 a laghdú faoi 2030.
- c. Dearadh tagartha "tógáil nua" glas de réir an chineáil soithigh.
- d. Seirbhísí Fíorúla Tástála chun costas tástála fisiceach réitigh GS a laghdú 20%.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: Game Changer - Game Changer Deep-Tech ag fáil réidh leis an mbacainn ar fhás táirgeadh bradán saothraithe le haghaidh próitéin ainmhíoch lorg carbóin íseal atá neamhdhíobhálach don aeráid agus don phláinéid

**Ionstraim:** Gníomh Comhordaithe agus Tacaíochta (GCT).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Konree Innovation Ltd.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Konree Innovation Ltd = €75,000.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101071540>

#### Teicneolaíocht nuálaíoch do chóireáil lotnaidí i dtáirgeadh bradán

Cuireann tionscal dotharshaothraithe na mbradán foinse an-scamhardach de phróitéin ainmhíoch le lorg carbóin íseal. Mar sin féin, tá míolta mara beag bídeach ar cheann de na lotnaidí is mó a mbíonn eagla orthu agus is mó a mbíonn inní orthu i dtionscal na mbradán.

Déanann na lotnaidí agus na cóireálacha damáiste suntasach díreach agus indíreach don tionscal mar gheall ar bhásanna éisc de bharr galtrú créachta de bharr míolta mara agus galair bhaictéaracha. Molann an tionscadal Game Changer, atá maoinithe ag an AE, réiteach domhain-teicniúil gan láimhseáil éisc. Bainfead úsáid as an teicneolaíocht Intleacht Shaorga (IS) agus foghlaim meaisín chun an bua a fháil as míolta mara. Breathnóidh sé ar thimpeallacht chrua na farraige agus seachnóidh sé dochar do na héisc ar fheirmeacha agus don chomhshaol.

#### Cuspóir

Ar fud an domhain is fiú thart ar SA\$14 billiún tionscal dotharshaothraithe na mbradán (figiúirí 2019). Is é an míol beag bídeach ar an bhfarraige an phríomhchonstaic ar fhás breise. Tá Konree Innovation ag forbairt teicneolaíocht dhomhain-athraithe agus suaiteach chun dul i ngleic leis seo, an lotnaid aonair is mó a bhfuil eagla uirthi agus is mó a bhíonn ag déanamh inní di i ndobharshaothrú na mbradán - an míol mara.

Rialaítear an míol mara i ngach áit ina ndéantar feirmeoireacht uirthi, nuair a shroicheann na leibhéil atá i láthair na tairsí rialála, cuireann sé tús le cóireáil. Is ionann an costas díreach don tionscal ar chóireálacha do mhíolta mara agus thart ar SA\$1 billiún (figiúirí 2019), agus meastar gurb é an costas indíreach c. SA\$3 billiún, go príomha mar gheall ar bhásanna éisc de bharr lagú an bhradán de bharr ionfhabhtuithe créachta de bharr míolta mara agus galair bhaictéaracha iontu chomh maith le láimhseáil neamh-optamaithe na n-iasc le linn cóireálacha. Is féidir suas le 20% den táirgeadh a chailleadh ar an mbealach seo.

Tá Konree Innovation ag forbairt réiteach domhain-teicniúil neamh-láimhsithe éisc a úsáidfidh foghlaim shaorga agus mheaisín araon chun straitéis bhitheolaíoch inmhíolaithe an míol mara a sháru. Is timpeallacht chrua dhian í an fharraige, caithfidh an teicneolaíocht feidhmiú go maith sa timpeallacht seo agus gan aon dochar a dhéanamh don iasc sa pheann, don pheann féin ná don chomhshaol.

Éilíonn na ceanglais sin go léir réiteach ardteicneolaíochta. Tá Konree Innovation dírithe go hidirnáisiúnta: tá 56% den táirgeadh domhanda ag an Iorua, ina dhiaidh seo an tSile ag 28%, Meiriceá Thuaidh ag 7%, Albain ag 6%, an Astráil agus an Nua-Shéalainn ag 2.4%, Éire ag 0.6%. Tá an Íoslainn agus na hOileáin Fharó ag feirmeoireacht freisin bradán Atlantach.

Táthar ag súil go n-éireoidh éileamh na dtomhaltóirí ar fhoinsí malartacha próitéine atá neamhdhíobhálach don aeráid agus don phláinéid i bhfad níos airde, agus cuireann bradán saothraithe foinse an-chothaitheach de phróitéin ainmhíoch le lorg carbóin íseal. Má dhéantar bealach éifeachtach chun líon na míolta mara a choinneáil faoi smacht agus a bhainistiú, sárófar an bac ar fhás agus cuirfidh sé ar chumas an tionscail táirgeoirí bradán dul san iomaíocht leis na táirgeoirí móra feola a bhfuil lorg carbóin i bhfad níos airde acu.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: PREP4BLUE - Croílár Taighde & Nuálaíochta a Ullmhú don Mhisean Aigéan, Farraigí & Uiscí

**Ionstraim:** Gníomh Comhordaithe agus Tacaíochta (GCT).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Erinn Innovation Ltd; Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh; Gaillimh Atlantaquaria Teo.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Erinn Innovation Ltd = €409,000; Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh = €267,687; Gaillimh Atlantaquaria Teo = €83,187.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101056957>

#### Beidh comhchruithú agus comhchur i bhfeidhm taighde do shláinte aigéin agus uisce

Taighde agus Nuálaíocht (T&N) mar chuid lárnach den Mhisean Aigéan, Farraigí agus Uiscí, a bhfuil sé mar aidhm aige sláinte aigéin agus uisce a athchóiriú faoi 2030. Déanfaidh an Misean tionscnaimh a nascadh trasna disciplíní, lucht déanta beartas, geallsealbhoirí agus saoránaigh a shlógadh, agus gearáil infheistíochtaí poiblí agus príobháideacha.

Forbróidh an tionscadal PREP4BLUE, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, uirlisí agus modhanna chun rialacha mionsonraithe T&N a chomhchruithú agus a chur chun feidhme, a cheanglaítear le cuspóirí an Mhisin. Ullmhóidh sé freisin an talamh chun gníomhaithe éagsúla a spreagadh agus a mhealladh le haghaidh na chéad chéime rathúil (2022-2025). Soláthróidh an tionscadal uirlisí, treoirínte, modheolaíochtaí agus moltaí a tástáladh trí bhithin píolótaí, a dhéanfaidh gníomhaíochtaí a idirnáscadh, a ghíaráil agus a bharrfheabhsú i measc na dtionscadal a chuireann leis an Misean.

#### Cuspóir

Tá sé mar aidhm ag Misean aigéin, farraigí agus uisce sláinte ár n-aigéin agus ár n-uiscí a athbhunú faoi 2030, rud a chuireann go mór leis an Margadh Glas Eorpach agus leis na Spriocanna Forbartha Inbhuanaithe. Beidh an taighde agus an nuálaíocht ina bpríomhchuid den Mhisean, a nascfaidh tionscnaimh trasna disciplíní, a shlógaídh lucht déanta beartas, geallsealbhoirí agus saoránaigh, agus a dhéanfaidh infheistíochtaí poiblí agus príobháideacha a ghíaráil.



Is é cuspóir uileghabhálach PREP4BLUE an chéad chéim rathúil (2022-2025) den Mhisean a éascú, trí na módúlachtaí T&N maidir le comhchruthú agus comhchur chun feidhme a fhorbairt a theastaíonn chun cuspóirí an Mhisin a bhaint amach agus an talamh a ullmhú chun saoránaigh agus geallsealbhóirí a spreagadh agus a bheith rannpháirteach.

Tá an tionscadal deartha chun sraith uirlisí, treoirlínte, modheolaíochtaí agus moltaí a thástáil trí phiólótaí a sheachadadh, a dhéanfaidh gníomhaíochtaí a idirnascaidh, a ghiaíil agus a bharrfheabhsú i measc na dtionscadal a mhaoineítear faoin Mísean. Cothóidh ár gcur chuige córasach comhtháthú agus nascacht idir eolas agus teicneolaíocht, maoiniú, rialáil, oideachas agus scileanna, struchtúir shóisialta agus comhchruthú le gníomhaithe T&N, saoránaigh agus geallsealbhóirí.

Tá cuibhreasann iildisciplíneach agus ilghníomhaithe PREP4BLUE gafa go gníomhach le straitéisí abhantrach agus gníomhaíochtaí gaolmhara T&N, le taithí láidir ar chomhfhorbairt samhlacha gnó agus moltaí do lucht déanta beartas, saineolas sna heolaíochtaí sóisialta a bhaineann le daonlathas rannpháirtíoch agus rannpháirtíocht saoránach agus rian den scoth. -taifead i modheolaíochtaí chun eolas a bhainistiú agus a aistriú, chomh maith le rannpháirtíocht na bpáirtithe leasmhara.

Déanfaidh PREP4BLUE gníomhaíochtaí straitéiseacha freisin chun ailíniú ár CSA a chinntiú le héabhlóid chomhpháirteanna an Mhisin, lena n-áirítear Croíghréasán na Mísean, rannpháirtithe eile leis an Mísean agus Mísin eile. Cuirfidh an tionscadal le hullmhacht agus rannpháirtíocht na bpáirtithe leasmhara ábhartha go léir chun iad a chumasú chun ról gníomhach a ghlacadh sa Mhisean.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: VECTOR - Veicteoirí chuig Acmhainní Amhábhar Criticiúla Inrochtana in Imchuacha Dríodair

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath; Grúpa a hAon Déag Mianadóireacht & Taiscéalaíocht Teo; Boliden Tara Mines Ltd.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath = €1,308,727.50; Grúpa a hAon Déag Mianadóireacht & Taiscéalaíocht Teo = €10,000; Boliden Tara Mines Ltd = €0.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101058483>

### Bealaí i dtreo taiscéalaíochta mianraí freagrach agus inbhuanaithe san AE

Chun spriocanna an Chomhaontaithe Ghlais a bhaint amach, beidh gá le húsáid níos freagraí ar an soláthar amhábhar ríthábhachtach agus méadú géar ar an soláthar sin. Tá an AE ag brath ar allmhairí faoi láthair agus mar sin tá sé i mbaol athruithe sa tírdhreach geopholaitiúla agus briseadh sa slabhra soláthair.

Ní mór dúshlán chasta shóisialta, chomhshaoil agus teicniúil a thuiscint chun iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an bpoitéinseal a bhaineann le foinsiú intíre miotail agus mianraí. Déanann an tionscadal VECTOR, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, iarracht na dúshlán seo a fhiosrú trí gheo-eolaíochtaí agus eolaíochtaí sóisialta a thabhairt le chéile. Tá sé mar aidhm ag VECTOR réitigh atá dírithe ar an duine a fhorbairt do sholáthar atá inghlactha go sóisialta, freagrach agus inbhuanaithe amhábhar ríthábhachtach san Eoraip agus ar an gcaoi sin rannchuidiú leis an Margadh Glas a bhaint amach.

#### Cuspóir

Allmhairíonn an AE 80 % dá amhábhar tionsclaíochta, rud a fhágann go bhfuil slabhraí soláthar na hEorpa an-leochaileach do chur isteach agus bagairt ar chumas an AE teicneolaíochtaí dian-amhábhar a mhonarú, amhail gluaisteáin leictreacha, tuirbíní gaoithe, agus cruu-earraí TFC, atá riachtanach don ghlas agus claochluithe digiteacha. Tá acmhainneacht mianraí suntasach ag an Eoraip ach tá forbairt teoranta ag an easpa modhanna inbhuanaithe, neamhdhíobhálach taiscéalaíochta agus ag cur i gcoinne tionscadail mianraí.

Le VECTOR, ginfimid eolas nua chun na bacainní teicniúla agus sóisialta seo a sháru, ag baint leasa as acmhainneacht amhábhar na hEorpa agus ag feabhsú athléimneacht shlabhraí soláthair amhábhar an AE. Chun saincheisteanna a sháru beidh gá le hathruithe móra ar na samhlacha gnó sa tionscal eastóscach agus le cur chuige a bheidh níos dírithe ar an duine a chomhtháthú.

Tá tionscadal VECTOR bunaithe ar an mbonn gur réamhriachtanas é d'aon ghníomhaíocht dhaonna inbhuanaithe na costais chomhshaoil agus sóisialta a íoslaghú agus na geallsealbhóirí go léir a áireamh sna próisis chinnteoireachta maidir leis seo.

Is é cuspóir foriomlán VECTOR ná eolas atá bunaithe ar fhianaise a sheachadadh a chomhtháthaíonn na bealaí eolaíochta agus sóisialta chuig taiscéalaíocht agus mianadóireacht mianraí rathúil.

Is é an chéad cholún dár gcur chuige ná foireann uirlisí ionchas geolaíochta atá bunaithe ar shreabhadh oibre iomlán nua ag baint úsáide as comhtháthú bunaithe ar mheaisín-fhoghlaim de thoisí geolaíochta, geocheimiceacha agus geoifisiceacha nach bhfuil chomh hionrach. Déanfar an sreabhadh oibre a bhailíochtú i dtírdhreach dríodair Eorpacha agus beidh sé inaistrithe ar fud an domhain.

Is é atá sa dara cholún ná nós imeachta um ghlacadh sóisialta a shainathníonn, den chéad uair, na luachanna a úsáideann pobal na hEorpa agus cinneadh á dhéanamh acu maidir le forbairt mianraí. Mar thoradh air seo beidh innéacs Glactha Sóisialta agus corpas nua eolais a léiríonn peirspictíochtaí éagsúla bunaithe ar luachanna.

Is éard atá sa tríú cholún ná foireann uirlisí comhtháite ina bhfuil ardán uathúil, dáilte, ilmhódach, féinfhoghlama agus idirghníomhach a bhreithneoidh acmhainneacht taiscéalaíochta geolaíochta agus fachtóirí socheacnamaíochta araon chun toradh cainníochtúil arna thiomáint ag sonraí a sholáthar agus measúnú comhtháite ar réigiúin atá níos oiriúnaí le haghaidh taiscéalaíochta agus, sa deireadh, le mianadóireacht. Beidh na torthaí ar fáil go héasca trí chomhéadan tarraingteach gréasán-bhunaithe a bheidh deartha chun tacú le cinnteoireacht atá bunaithe ar fhianaise agus an UNFC agus UNRMS.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: EmpowerUs - Cumhachtú Socheacnamaíoch pobail chósta mar úsáideoirí na farraige chun forbairt inbhuanaithe chósta a chinntiú

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Erinn Innovation Ltd; Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Shligigh; Údarás na Gaeltachta.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Erinn Innovation Ltd = €603,512.50; Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Shligigh €481,625; Údarás na Gaeltachta = €236,461.25.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101059957>

#### Aistriú glas trí phobail cois cósta

Tá pobail chósta tábhachtach maidir le haeráidí sláintiúla a choinneáil agus le haistriú go domhan níos inbhuanaithe, níos glaise agus níos cuimsithí. Ar an drochuair, i go leor cásanna, ní chuireann beartais, maoiniú agus réitigh nua na pobail seo san áireamh, ag déanamh athruithe neamhéifeachtúla nó ag déanamh dearmad orthu ar fad.

Forbróidh an tionscadal EmpowerUs, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, líonra de shé shaotharlann trasdula cósta ar fud réigiúin chósta an AE chun modheolaíochtaí nua éifeachtacha a chur chun cinn maidir le ceapadh beartais cuimsitheach. Feabhsóidh EmpowerUs nuálaíocht shóisialta agus féin-inbhuanaitheacht, rud a cheadóidh leas iomlán a bhaint as gach pobal agus ag brú ar son todhchaí níos glaise.

#### Cuspóir

Cuirfidh EmpowerUs ar chumas pobail cois cósta gníomhú ar son athraithe agus trasdul i dtreo forbairtí cósta atá inbhuanaithe, cuimsitheach agus athléimneach. Glacaimid leis go dtugann fíorchumhachtú le tuiscint gur cheart do T&N na pobail cois cósta a chatalú, a éascú agus a thacú le cumhacht a fháil trí éagsúlacht uirlisí, modhanna agus comhtháirgeadh agus cuimsiú na ngníomhaithe uile, ar an leibhéal áitiúil, réigiúnach, náisiúnta agus Eorpach.

Forbróidh EmpowerUs meicníocht um chlaohlú oiriúnaitheach trí líonra de shé Shaotharlann Cósta Idirthréimhseach (SCLanna) ar fud réigiúin chósta uile an AE. Ag aithint nach dtabharfaidh aon réiteach amháin aghaidh ar an iliomad dúshlán atá le sáru ag pobail chósta, beidh meicníocht chlaohlaithe EmpowerUs oiriúnaitheach agus bunaithe ar chur chuige trasdisciplíneach ilghníomhaí.

Déanfaidh an tionscadal comhchruthú, píolótú agus luacháil ar Chláir Chumhachta In oiriúint lena n-áirítear punann de nuálaíocht shóisialta agus Réitigh Dúlra-Bhunaithe. Trí fhorbairt acmhainne a éascú trí thuiscint fheabhsaithe ar dhúshlán, bacainní agus cumasóirí athraithe agus Litearthacht an Aigéin a mhéadú trí nascacht dúlra agus oidhreacht chultúrtha, tacóidh EmpowerUs le nuálaíocht shóisialta agus pobail fhéinchothaitheacha. Cinnteoidh an t-ardán digiteach dúbailte/GIS digiteach EmpowerCoast go mbeidh meicníocht EmpowerUs ar fáil do gach pobal cois cósta le glacadh agus le húsáid chun tacú le gníomhaíocht inbhuanaithe.

Tá cuibhreasann EmpowerUs cothromaithe, comhlántach agus trasdisciplíneach le príomhshaineolas ar shaincheisteanna socheacnamaíochta, teicniúla agus éiceolaíochta agus ar an mbeartas eolaíochta a theastaíonn chun aidhmeanna agus cuspóirí an tionscadail a bhaint amach. Soláthróidh EmpowerUs ardáin nuálacha chun cumhacht a thabhairt do shaoránaigh gníomhartha bunathraithe a ghlacadh i gcomhréir le beartais an AE chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar dhúshlán dhomhanda lena n-áirítear díghráidú bithéagsúlachta agus athrú aeráide ar scála áitiúil, ag tacú le forbairt chósta atá cóir, cuimsitheach agus inbhuanaithe.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: WATERUN - Modheolaíocht nua chun truailliú idirleata ó rith chun srutha uisce uirbeach a chosc agus a mhaolú

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €345,820.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060922>

#### Ardchaighdeán uisce a chinntiú

Meastar go bhfuil rith chun srutha uisce stoirme uirbeach mar phríomhfhoinsé truaillithe d'uiscí glactha. Is bac é ar chuspóirí cáilíochta uisce agus bithéagsúlacht uisceach a bhaint amach. Sa chomhthéacs sin, forbróidh tionscadal WATERUN, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, modheolaíocht nua chun rannchuidiú le cur chun feidhme na bpleananna bainistithe uisce chun srutha uirbigh i gcathracha.

Go sonrach, soláthróidh sé réitigh choisctheacha agus maolaithe agus dea-chleachtais bhainistíochta ag glacadh le peirspictíocht iomlánaíoch (ó aithint foinsé go straitéisí feabhsúcháin) do rialú truaillithe idirleata uisce i ndobharcheantair uirbeacha. Roghnaíodh trí chás-staidéar (cathair Santiago de Compostela, cathair Aarhus agus cathair Amman) de réir coinníollacha éagsúla aeráide, úsáid talún agus leibhéal cur chun feidhme na mbeart um thruailliú idirleata.

**Cuspóir**

Tá sé mar aidhm ag tionscadal WATERUN modheolaíocht nua a fhorbairt chun rannchuidiú le cur i bhfeidhm pleananna bainistithe uisce chun srutha uirbhí i gcathracha bunaithe ar choincheap an Dearaidh Uirbhí atá fogair ó thaobh Uisce. Soláthróidh an mhodheolaíocht seo réitigh coisctheacha agus maolaithe agus cleachtais bhainistíochta is fearr ag glacadh le peirspictíocht iomlánaíoch (ó aithint foinse go straitéisí feabhsúcháin) do rialú truaillithe idirleata uisce i ndobharcheantair uirbeacha.

Is í an sprioc an bhainistíocht rith chun srutha uisce uirbhí a athrú trí uirlisí sainitheanta, pleanála agus riosca-bhunaithe agus nósanna imeachta nua oibre (treoir) a fhorbairt, ag brath ar rannpháirtíocht luath na bpríomhghníomhaithe bainistíochta agus rialachais uisce uirbhí (próiseas comhchruthaithe) chun uchtú níos leithne agus níos tapúla a áirithiú.

Roghnaíodh trí chás-staidéar (cathair Santiago de Compostela, cathair Aarhus agus cathair Amman) chun sonraí a fháil agus chun modheolaíocht WATERUN atá beartaithe a mhionsaothrú, a chomhlíonadh agus a bhailíochtú. Roghnaíodh an cás-staidéar seo de réir coinníollacha éagsúla aeráide, úsáid talún agus leibhéal cur chun feidhme beart maidir le truaillí idirleata, chun na huirlisí a bhailíochtú i gcásanna éagsúla.

Beidh príomhpháirtithe leasmhara mar RTO, tionscal, údarás phoiblí, pleanálaithe uirbeacha agus saoránaigh rannpháirteach i bpróiseas comhchruthaithe leanúnach ó chur chuige ildisciplíneach lena n-áirítear go ndéanfar cinntí maidir le bainistiú rith chun srutha uisce uirbhí le tuiscint iomlán ar na gnéithe comhshaoil, sóisialta agus eacnamaíoch.

Chomh maith le réitigh a sholáthar do bhainistiú inbhuanaithe uisce uirbhí, ceadóidh modheolaíocht WATERUN eolas chun cinn a fháil ar thruaillí uisce idirleata i gcathracha i gcomhthéacs an athraithe aeráide, ag cur le dobhartaigh agus an comhshaoil a chosaint, agus ag cinntiú ardchaighdeán uisce do chách.

**Teideal an Tionscadail: SOS-ZEROPOL2030 - Foinse go Farraigí - Nialais-Thruaillí 2030**

**Ionstraim:** Gníomh Comhordaithe agus Tacaíochta (GCT).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €329,375.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060213>

**Cur chuige iomlánaíoch a ghlacadh chun truaillí**

Muirí a chomhrac Is ardtosaíocht san Eoraip é truaillí uisce a shrianadh. Is féidir leis na farraigí a choinneáil shláintiúil agus glan cuidiú le cosaint a thabhairt do na seirbhísí éagsúla éiceachórais a mbímid ag brath orthu ar nós rialáil aeráide agus soláthar bia. Féachann an tionscadal SOS-ZEROPOL2030, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, le cur go suntasach leis an iarracht sin.

Chuíge sin, forbróidh sé creat iomlánaíoch a dhíreoidh ar thruaillí nialasach i bhfarraigí na hEorpa faoi 2030. Soláthróidh an creat seo treoir phraiticiúil ón bhfoinse go dtí an fharraige agus tabharfaidh sé aghaidh ar easnaimh i mbainistiú truaillithe mara. Ina theannta sin, méadóidh sé tuiscint ar na constaicí atá ann cheana maidir le cosc, laghdú, maolú agus faireachán ar thruaillí mara i bhfarraigí na hEorpa.

**Cuspóir**

Is é an aidhm fhoriomlán atá le 'Foinse go Farraige - Nialais-Thruaillí 2030 (SOS-ZEROPOL2030)' ná creat iomlánaíoch maidir le nialas truaillithe a fhorbairt a fhéadfaidh an próiseas a threorú i dtreo aon truaillí a bhaint amach i bhfarraigí na hEorpa faoi 2030. Tarlaíonn éilliú mara (lena n-áirítear truaillí) mar thoradh díreach ar ghníomhaíochtaí daonna ar an dá cheann; talamh agus sa timpeallacht mhuirí; agus teastaíonn aird phráinneach mar go soláthraíonn farraigí sláintiúla agus glana iliomad seirbhísí éiceachórais (m.sh. bia, táirgeadh ocsaigine, rialáil aeráide), atá rithábachtach dár marthanacht agus dár bhfoláine.

I bhfianaise nádúr casta agus idirnasctha an truaillithe mhuirí, tá comhtháthú na gclár oibre atá dírithe ar inbhuanaitheacht agus prionsabail agus cleachtais an gheilleagair chiorclaigh rithábachtach chun gníomhaíochtaí éifeachtacha a fhorbairt ar féidir aghaidh a thabhairt ar a thionchair.

Beidh iarmhairtí ag cur chun feidhme na bpróiseas agus na mbeart chun truaillí muirí a laghdú ar eanáil eacnamaíoch iomadúla (m.sh. talmhaíocht, iascach, tionscal bia agus dí, bainistíocht dramhaíola, an tionscal pacáistithe, turasóireacht, fuinneamh amach ón gcósta) ar scálaí iolracha (áitiúil, náisiúnta, réigiúnach agus idirnáisiúnta), truaillí muirí a chumadh mar dhúshlán mór socheacnamaíoch domhanda a éilíonn comhoibriú gníomhach ó pháirtithe leasmhara éagsúla, thar raon limistéar geografach.

Sa chomhthéacs seo tá sé d'aidhm ag SOS-ZEROPOL2030 creat um thruaillí nialasach Farraige na hEorpa a dhearadh, a chomhtháirgeadh agus a chomhsheachadadh a sholáthraíonn treoir phraiticiúil ón bhfoinse go dtí an fharraige chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar easnaimh i mbainistíocht agus rialachas truaillithe mara.

Tá an cur chuige iomlánaíoch seo bunaithe ar dhea-chleachtas, cuireann sé béim ar iompar daonna, socheacnamaíocht agus rialachas; agus tá sé mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag eolas agus tuiscint ar na bacainní reatha ar chosc, ar laghdú, ar mhaolú agus ar mhonatóireacht éifeachtach agus éifeachtúil ar thruaillí mara i Muir na hEorpa.

**Teideal an Tionscadail: MARBEFES - Bithéagsúlacht na Mara agus Feidhmiú Éiceachórais as a dtiocfaidh Seirbhísí Éiceachórais**

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €1,046,607.50.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060937>

**Cuspóir**

Tá bunriachtanas ag an Aontas Eorpach agus ag a Bhallstáit (BS) le tuiscint a fháil ar an gcaoi a gcaithfear bithéagsúlacht agus feidhmiú éiceachórais a chothabháil chun a chinntiú go seachadann siad seirbhísí, earraí agus tairbhí éiceachórais, a gcaithfidh an tsochaí iad a úsáid go hinbhuanaithe. Mar chuid lárnach de seo, agus mar raison d'être leis an nglao seo, ní mór do na Ballstáit luach a chur ar na gnéithe nádúrtha agus an caipiteal sóisialta seo d'éiceachórais.

Is é aidhm fhoriomlán MARBEFES na naisc idir bithéagsúlacht agus feidhmiú na n-éiceachóras cósta agus muirí agus na seirbhísí éiceachórais agus earraí agus tairbhí sochaíoch a thagann as a chinneadh. Leis seo bainfear amach luacháil éiceolaíoch agus shocheacnamaíoch trí thacar d'uirlisí nuálacha bailíochtaí i mbosca uirlisí dáilte (TRL 6) chun beartas agus rialachas a fheabhsú chun tairbhí a bhaint amach don ghlúin reatha agus don ghlúin atá le teacht.

Rachaimid chun cinn i bhfad níos faide ná an tuiscint úrscóthach atá ann faoi láthair ar na cúiseanna agus na hiarmhairtí a bhaineann le cothabháil, cailliúint agus gnóthachan bithéagsúlachta agus luach éiceolaíoch agus eacnamaíoch agus na hiarmhairtí a bhaineann leis sin do bhainistiú agus do rialachas farraigí na hEorpa.

Agus 23 comhpháirtí ard-taithí páirteach iontu, tá aschur agus torthaí an tionscadail bunaithe ar shraith uirlisí luachála éiceolaíochta, eacnamaíochta agus soch-chultúrtha a fhorbairt agus a bhailíochtú ag baint úsáide as faisnéis agus sonraí atá ann cheana féin agus nua i 12 cás-staidéar Trasghearrtha an Chreasa. Clúdaíonn siad seo fairsinge bithéagsúlacht mhuirí na hEorpa, ón Artach go dtí limistéir leath-thrópaiceacha, thar ghnáthóga ceannasacha agus speicis íocónacha, agus ó limistéir éadomhain go limistéir dhomhain agus cuimsítear iontu raon comhthéacsanna socheacnamaíochta.

Mar sin, agus trí chomhchruthú geallsealbhóirí maidir le hábharthacht beartais, taispeánann MARBEFES na huirlisí chun acmhainní caipitil nádúrtha éagsúla a luacháil agus chun eolas a chur ar an bpleanáil ó leithdháiltí airgeadais chuig an mbainistíocht agus le sochair airgeadaíochta agus neamhairgeadaíochta. Leis seo, cuireann an tionscadal ár n-eolas chun cinn trí bhithéagsúlacht mhuirí agus a struchtúr éiceolaíoch agus a fheidhmiú a nascadh le luacháil éiceolaíoch agus eacnamaíoch.

**Teideal an Tionscadail: CIRCALGAE - Luacháil chiorclach ar shruthanna dramhaíola ALGAE tionsclaíche ina dtáirgí ardluacha chun bithscaglainne gorm inbhuanaithe a chothú san Eoraip amach anseo**

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Nuálaíochta (GN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Teagasc - An tÚdarás Forbartha Talmhaíochta agus Bia.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €329,646.50.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060607>

**Córas nua chun an leas is fearr a bhaint as algaí**

Is taisce san uisce é bithmhais algaí, agus ag gabháil CO<sub>2</sub> gintear méideanna ollmhóra bithmhaise. Níl an taisce seo á úsáid chomh fada agus is féidir, áfach. Tá sé mar aidhm ag an tionscadal CIRCALGAE, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, córas saothraithe ceannródaíoch a fhorbairt ina ndéanfar tuilleadh luachála ar na sruthanna dramhaíola tionsclaíochta algaí, i gcur chuige níos inbhuanaithe agus níos ciorclaí.

Trí thacar de theicneolaíochtaí simplí uisce-bhunaithe, díronn an tionscadal ar choincheap comhtháite bithscaglainne a thabhairt isteach agus ar chomhábhair nua maicreaalgaí agus micreaalgaí a sheachadadh chuig an earnáil bia, beatha agus cosmaidí. Ag tabhairt le chéile foireann príomhghníomhaithe trasearnála algaí, tá sé mar aidhm ag CIRCALGAE an bithghéilleagar gorm a athbheochan agus úsáid inbhuanaithe acmhainní uisceacha beo a mhéadú.

**Cuspóir**

Déantar tearcshaothrú ar bhithmhais algaí agus tá a úsáid éifeachtach ar cheann de na príomhdhúshláin i mbeartais mhuirí an AE faoi láthair agus amach anseo i dtreo na hinbhuanaitheachta. Treiseoidh CIRCALGAE an bithghéilleagar gorm trí choincheap comhtháite bithscaglainne a chur i bhfeidhm chun luach a chur ar shruthanna dramhaíola tionsclaíochta algaí a tháirgtear go hollmhór (os cionn 36 Mt de tháirgeadh domhanda bithmhaise algaí) agus a bhfuil tearcshaothrú déanta orthu (ar féidir suas le 95% den bhithmhais tosaigh a bheith iontu) ón na príomhfhoinsí reatha go dtí seo: an táirgeadh fíteascóideach ó thionscail mhacraalga agus próitéin/micreaalgaí lipide.

Déanfaidh teicneolaíochtaí simplí uisce-bhunaithe CIRCALGAE na sruthanna dramhaíola seo a chlaohlú ina gcomhábhair bhreistluacha le húsáid i mbianna veigeánacha uigeacha sonracha, comhábhair bia a chothaíonn sláinte, beatha ar mhórán próitéine, agus foirmilte cosmaideacha a ionchorpraíonn uigeachtaí nó comhábhair an-bhithghníomhacha lena n-úsáid go tráthrialta. Léireofar 3 scéim ghorma bithscaglainne suas go dtí na céadta kg ar fud tionscadal CIRCALGAE. Forbróidh comhpháirtithe sa tionscal bia, beatha agus cosmaidí 12 tháirge taispeántóra a dhéanfaidh bailíochtú ar acmhainneacht mhór na gcomhábhar nua algaí sna príomhearnálacha seo. Ina theannta sin, beidh 2 tháirge deiridh cáilithe le haghaidh margaidh lena n-áirítear a gcuid staidéir ar mheasúnuithe glactha tomhaltóirí.

Trí chomhchruthú agus comhfhoghlaim, nascaídh CIRCALGAE na gníomhaithe trasghearrtha algaí go léir, lena n-áirítear comhpháirtithe úsáideoirí deiridh tionsclaíocha, RTOanna, FBManna teicneolaíochta agus comhairleacha, chun gach éifeacht agus éileamh a chothaíonn sláinte, gnéithe rialála agus comhshaoil a bhailíochtú, i.e. tionchair eacnamaíocha agus sóisialta, ag dul i ngleic leis na geallsealbhoirí ábhartha uile san earnáil phríomha chun an líonra tionsclaíoch reatha a athmhúnlú le haghaidh bithghéilleagar gorm a bheidh faoi bhláth amach anseo.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: Marine SABERS - Cur Chuige Chórais Mhuirí le haghaidh Athléimneacht na Bithéagsúlachta agus Inbhuanaitheacht Éiceachórais

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Nuálaíochta (GN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €1,253,625.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101058956>

Cur chuige córais mhuirí do bhainistiú inbhuanaithe

Is uirlisí atá aitheanta ar fud an domhain iad córais shóisialta-éiceolaíochta (CSE) agus bainistíocht éiceachórais-bhunaithe (BEB) chun forbairt agus caomhnú mara cothromaithe a chumasú. Déanfaidh an tionscadal Marine SABERS, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, cur chuige simplí CSE a chomhdhearadh chun BEB a chumasú agus a uasghrádú go tapa ar fud na hEorpa agus thar lear.

Leis an tionscadal seo socrófar bainistíocht mhuirí na hEorpa ar chúrsa chun meath na bithéagsúlachta a aisiompú trí éiceachórais inbhuanaithe agus geilleagar gorm athléimneach a chomhtháthú. Tabharfaidh Marine SABERS cumhacht do bhainisteoirí cinntí inbhuanaithe a dhéanamh agus do shaoránaigh dul i ngleic le caomhnú bithéagsúlachta na mara. Léireoidh an tionscadal na hiarrachtaí praiticiúla bainistíochta san oileánra Tuscánaigh, san Atlantach Thoir Thuaidh agus in oileánraí na Macarainéise.

### Cuspóir

Tá caillteanas Bithéagsúlachta Muirí ag dul i laghad i gcónaí in ainneoin na n-iarrachtaí caomhnaithe reatha. Chun laghdú ar an mbithéagsúlacht a aisiompú, tá gá le bearta caomhnaithe éifeachtacha a rolladh amach go gasta ar féidir leo geilleagar gorm inbhuanaithe agus athléimneach a chumasú freisin. Is uirlisí atá aitheanta ar fud an domhain iad córais smaointeoireachta sóisialta-éiceolaíochta agus Bainistíocht Bunaithe ar Éiceachóras chun forbairt agus caomhnú mara cothromaithe a chumasú. Déanfaidh Marine SABERS comhdhearadh mar chur chuige um Chórais Shimplí Shóisialta Éiceolaíochta (an CSE Simplí) chun BEB a chumasú agus a uasghrádú go tapa ar fud na hEorpa agus thar lear.

Socróidh Marine SABERS bainistíocht mhuirí na hEorpa ar chúrsa chun meath na bithéagsúlachta a aisiompú, déanfaidh sé an bhithéagsúlacht a chaomhnú agus a chosaint trí éiceachórais inbhuanaithe agus geilleagar gorm athléimneach a chomhtháthú; bainisteoirí a chumasú chun

cinntí inbhuanaithe a dhéanamh; cumhacht a thabhairt do shaoránaigh dul i ngleic le caomhnú bithéagsúlachta na mara; forbairt inbhuanaithe a chur chun cinn agus in earnálacha cósta agus muirí.

Tá Marine SABERS comhdhéanta de chuibhreannas idirdhisciplíneach lena n-áirítear ceannairí domhanda i réimse an BEB agus an Chórais Shóisialta Éiceolaíochta scaipthe ar fud na hEorpa agus a dhíríonn ar léiriú iarrachtaí praiticiúla bainistíochta i dtír Limistéar Thaispeána (oileánra Tuscánach, an tArtach Atlantach Thoir Thuaidh agus an Mhacarainéis) sula bhfeabhsaítear iad ar fud na hEorpa agus níos faide i gcéin.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: GES4SEAS - Dea-Stádas Comhshaoil a Bhaint Amach chun Seirbhísí éiceachórais a chothabháil, trí tionchair chomhtháite brúnna carnacha a mheasúnú

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Foras na Mara.

**Luach don Chomhpháirtí Éireannach:** €469,205.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101059877>

**Feabhas a chur ar bhainistíocht éiceachórais mhuirí Eorpacha** agus idirnáisiúnta Cuireann gníomhaíochtaí daonna brú mór ar shláinte ár gcomhshaoil muirí, ar a bhithéagsúlacht agus ar fheidhmiú a éiceachórais. Tabharfaidh an tionscadal GES4SEAS, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, eolas agus treoir do rialachas mara d'fhonn na brúnna sin agus a dtionchair a íoslághdú chun soláthar leanúnach seirbhísí éiceachórais a chinntiú. Déanfaidh sé bosca uirlisí nuálacha solúbtha a fhorbairt, a thástáil, a thaispeáint agus a fheabhsú a bhaineann le bainistíocht oiriúnaitheach atá bunaithe ar éiceachórais.

Tacóidh sé seo le Dea-Stádas Comhshaoil i gcomhthéacs Chreat-Treoir na Straitéise Muirí agus tacóidh sé le beartais ag leibhéal náisiúnta, Eorpacha agus idirnáisiúnta. Déanfar réitigh GES4SEAS a thástáil agus a léiriú ag 11 shuíomh foghlama, lena n-áirítear ceann amháin i Muir Chairib.

### Cuspóir

Cuirfidh GES4SEAS rialachas muirí ar an eolas agus a threoróidh siad chun brúnna daonna agus a dtionchair ar bhithéagsúlacht mhuirí agus ar fheidhmiú éiceachórais a íoslághdú, agus ag an am céanna soláthar inbhuanaithe seirbhísí éiceachórais a chothabháil. Bainfeadh sé seo amach trí bhosca uirlisí nuálacha solúbtha a fhorbairt, a thástáiltear, a bhailíochtófar, a léireofar agus a uasghrádú, i gcomhthéacs na Bainistíochta oiriúnaithí ar an Éiceachóras (BEB).

Cuirfidh sé sin ar chumas na n-údarás inniúil measúnú agus réamh-mheas a dhéanamh ar an éifeacht a bhíonn ag brúnna iolracha (lena n-áirítear athrú aeráide) agus brú ó ghníomhaíochtaí daonna, ar an leibhéal náisiúnta, fo-réigiúnach, réigiúnach agus Eorpach. Cinnteoidh sé seo go mbainfidh siad Dea-Stádas Comhshaoil amach (MSFD), agus go dtacóidh siad le beartais éagsúla ar an leibhéal náisiúnta, Eorpach agus domhanda (m.sh. BHD, Straitéis Bithéagsúlachta, SFI).

Bainfeadh sé sin amach trí pháirtithe leasmhara agus na príomhúdarais inniúla a chomhtháthú i mBord Comhairleach Cleachtóirí, chun an bosca uirlisí agus an cur chuige BEB a chomhchruthú agus a bhailíochtú. Sa mhéid seo, dírimid ar fhiórreiteach fadhbanna agus ar chur chuige forbartha atriallach agus incriminteach a leanúint. Ligfidh sé seo do GES4SEAS Leibhéal Ullmhachta Teicneolaíochta agus Socháí 6 a bhaint amach, toisc go ndéanfar ár réitigh a thástáil agus a léiriú ag 11 Láithreán Foghlama (LFanna) a chlúdóidh réigiúin agus timpeallachtaí tábhachtacha.

Roghnaíodh na LFanna sin chun sainiúlachta geografacha a iniúchadh, sna ceithre fharráige réigiúnacha, maidir leis na tionchair a bhíonn ag brúnna carnacha (lena n-áirítear athrú aeráide) ar fheidhmiú na n-éiceachóras, agus a gcumas seirbhísí éiceachórais a sholáthar, chun bainistíocht níos fearr a áirithiú. Áirítear leis seo LFanna chun saincheisteanna trasteorann a iniúchadh agus TS ar scála uile-Eorpach, iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar inchomparáideacht agus comhchuibhiú trasna farraigí réigiúnacha, agus tuiscint a fháil ar fheidhmiú topaicí trasnacha (m.sh. speicis ionracha, HABanna agus bláthanna smugairle róin, agus creachadóirí barr). Ar deireadh, chun aschuir a idirnáisiúnú, tá LS sa Muir Chairib curtha san áireamh againn, maidir le creat SFlanna agus dianimeachtaí foircneacha.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: SeaMark - Feidhmchláir mhargaidh atá bunaithe ar fheamainn

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Nuálaíochta (GN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** OÉ Gaillimh.

**Luach don Chomhpháirtí Éireannach:** €368,640.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060379>

### Bithmhais a mhéadú, áit a dtosaíonn an saol

Tá réiteach nádúrtha ann chun athrú aeráide a mhaolú agus is feamainn é. Is acmhainn luachmhar í nach mbaintear mórán úsáide aisti, díreach ó na haigéin inar thosaigh an saol ar fad, agus tá acmhainn mhór ag baint le feamainn a shaothrú i margáí éagsúla. Tá tionscal na hEorpa ina thús, áfach, agus teastaíonn fás suntasach le bheith inmharthana ó thaobh tráchtála de.

Bainfidh an tionscadal SeaMark, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, úsáid as teicneolaíochtaí nua pórúcháin laistigh de ghéineolaíocht barr feamainne an AE chun táirgeacht bhithmhaise a mhéadú. Is é an sprioc chun saothrú farraige ciorclacha fheabhsú agus córais dobharshaothraithe ilchrófachacha chomhtháite talamhbhunaithe a uasghrádú, chomh maith le modhanna próiseála nua a fhorbairt cosúil le coipeadh agus bith-chlaochlú. Beidh córas bia níos athléimní mar thoradh air seo, rud a chuideoidh le Spriocanna Forbartha Inbhuanaithe na Náisiún Aontaithe a chomhlíonadh.

### Cuspóir

Is acmhainn luachmhar í an fheamainn nach n-úsáidtear go leor uirthi agus a bhfuil acmhainneacht mhór ann le haghaidh saothrú i margáí éagsúla. Is réiteach nádúrtha é saothrú feamainne chun athrú aeráide a mhaolú. Tá tionscal feamainne na hEorpa ina thús fós agus teastaíonn fás suntasach le bheith inmharthana ó thaobh tráchtála de. Bainfidh Seamark úsáid as teicneolaíochtaí pórúcháin roghnacha ceannródaíocha le déanaí laistigh de ghéineolaíocht barr feamainne an AE chun táirgeacht bhithmhaise a mhéadú.

Tá sé mar aidhm ag SeaMark saothrú feamainne ciorclach aigéin agus córais dobharshaothraithe ilchrófachacha comhtháite talamh-bhunaithe (IMTA) a uasghrádú agus modhanna próiseála nua a bhaineann le coipeadh agus bith-chlaochlú a fhorbairt ina dhá cheann déag de tháirgí nuálacha feamainn-bhunaithe. Déanfar anailís ar an slabhra luacha iomlán le haghaidh féidearthachta teicneolaíochta eacnamaíoch agus tionchar socheacnamaíoch.

Déanfaidh SeaMark seirbhísí éiceachórais a sholáthraíonn saothrú feamainne a shainiúint agus a chainníochtú freisin. Cuirfidh sé seo le plean forbartha straitéiseach chun táirgeadh feamainne a ardú céime, agus aghaidh a thabhairt ar acmhainn iompair shaothrú feamainne san Eoraip.

Mar gheall ar an ngá atá le córais bia níos athléimní a thógáil agus an spleáchas ar tháirgí iontaise-bhunaithe a laghdú, is gá an bithghéilleagar gorm a fás trí shaothrú feamainne agus nuálaíocht táirgí. Cabróidh SeaMark le Spriocanna Forbartha Inbhuanaithe na Náisiún Aontaithe (3, 8, 9, 12, 13 & 14) a chomhlíonadh tríd an tionscal seo a fhorbairt agus, ag an am céanna, tionchar dearfach a sholáthar ar dhaoine agus ar an bpláinéad.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: MarinePlan - Eolaíocht thrasdisciplíneach fheabhsaithe le haghaidh pleanáil agus caomhnú éifeachtach spásúlachta muirí bunaithe ar éiceachórais i Muir na hEorpa

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Foras na Mara.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €253,750.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101059407>

### Cuspóir

Ceann de na dúshláin is práinní sa lá atá inniu ann ná cailliúint na bithéagsúlachta agus feidhmiú an éiceachórais a chosaint, agus ligean dóibh siúd atá ag brath ar a gcuid seirbhísí, earraí agus tairbhí iad a shaothrú ag an am céanna. San Eoraip, is í Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí (PSM) an príomhphróiseas rialachais chun inbhuanaitheacht agus saothrú a chomhtháthú go hidéalach. Éilíonn sé seo uirlisí agus eolas chun próisis ainmnithe BPA agus limistéir mhuirí faoi chosaint (LMC) a ailíniú, atá in easnamh go háirithe maidir le comhordú trasteorann agus nascacht.

Bunaithe ar mhórchuid saineolais agus ar bhonn láidir teoiriciúil, déanfaidh MarinePlan Córas Tacaíochta Cinnidh (CTC) do phleanáil spásúlachta muirí bunaithe ar éiceachórais (SP-É) a fhorbairt i gcomhar le geallsealbhoirí mar aon le treoir dheachleachtas chun éifeachtacht spásúlachta a fheabhsú bearta caomhnaithe agus athchóirithe do bithéagsúlacht mhuirí i Muir na hEorpa.

Cuimseoidh uirlisí critéir oibriúcháin do limistéir mhuirí atá suntasach ó thaobh na héiceolaíochta nó na bitheolaíochta de (EBSA), lena gcuimseoidh limistéir chaomhnaithe agus athchóirithe ar scálaí éagsúla i limistéir chasta farraige a bhfuil go leor úsáidí acu, agus éifeachtaí an athraithe aeráide san áireamh. Déanfar an DSS a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm ag ocht suíomh pleanála Eorpacha, ó éiceachórais chósta go haigéan oscailte agus an domhainfharraige agus ó scálaí áitiúla go scálaí trasteorann.

Agus an DSS á chur i bhfeidhm agus á bhailíochtú, cuimseofar cásanna pleanála réalaiócha, príomhphointí gníomhaíochta chun Straitéis Bithéagsúlachta an AE a bhaint amach, agus moltaí beartais maidir le conas cur i bhfeidhm EB-BPA a fheabhsú i Muir na hEorpa. Cuirfidh MarinePlan na torthaí in iúl do chinnteoirí ar leibhéal chothrománacha (idir earnálacha) agus ingearacha (ó áitiúil go hEorpach) agus beifear in ann eolas a aistriú chuig réimsí i suíomhanna soch-éiceolaíochta éagsúla. Cinnteoidh an bonn feabhsaithe eolaíochta nádúrtha agus sóisialta ceapadh beartais éifeachtach chun tacú le comhleanúnachas níos fearr i gcur i bhfeidhm na mbeartas comhshaoil chomh maith le pleanáil chuicóirithe do thionscail mhuirí a chumasú.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: ReNEW - Uiscebhealaí Intíre AE Líonraithe Cliste, Glas, Lárnaithe ar an Athléimneacht

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Nuálaíochta (GN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Research Driven Solutions Ltd; Konnecta Systems Ltd.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Research Driven Solutions Ltd = €220,074.75; Konnecta Systems Teo = €294,000.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101069682>

### Iompar ar uiscebhealaí intíre a dhéanamh níos glaise agus níos inbhuanaithe

Tá na céadta cathracha agus réigiún tionsclaíochta san Eoraip nasctha trí uiscebhealaí, ag éascú iompar earraí agus ag líonadh na bearna idir táirgeoirí agus tomhaltóirí. Tá iompar ar Uiscebhealaí Intíre (IUI) tíosach ar fhuinneamh agus iontaoifa, le poitéinseal ollmhór le haghaidh tuilleadh saothraithe, ach tá spás ann fós chun é a bheith níos inbhuanaithe.

Tabharfaidh an tionscadal ReNEW, arna mhaoiniú ag an AE, príomhghníomhaithe ó 11 thír AE le chéile a oibreoidh go córasach i dtreo na sprice seo. Forbróidh an cuibhreannas creat tacaíochta cinntí athléimneachta agus inbhuanaitheachta a bheidh mar bhonn eolais ag bearta agus réitigh i dtreo roghanna IUI níos glaise, lena n-áirítear bonneagar oiriúnach.

Ina theannta sin, beifear in ann faisnéis a mhalartú le samhail dhigiteach chúpla idir córais ábhartha, agus cruthóidh gníomhaíochtaí for-rochtana agus uasscála an tionchar is mó ar IUI níos cliste agus níos glaise.

### Cuspóir

Déanann ReNEW ionadaíocht ar ghrúpa ildisciplíneach atá comhdhéanta de 24 rannpháirtí ó 11 thír san Aontas Eorpach atá in ann príomhról a imirt i dtacú le haistriú IUI go hearnáil chliste, ghlas, inbhuanaithe agus athléimneach ó thaobh na haeráide de.

Chun é seo a bhaint amach, tógfaidh an tionscadal ar thorthaí roimhe seo, bainfidh sé leas as deiseanna comhoibríthe le tionscadail agus tionscnaimh leanúnacha agus seachadfar:

1. Creat idirdisciplíneach tacaíochta cinntí Athléimneachta agus Inbhuanaitheachta IUI a ionchorpraíonn samhla nuálacha d'idirpleáchais líonraithe bhonneagair IUI a nascann le hanailís riosca agus sábháilteachta dóchúlachta agus cainníochtú athléimneachta (Innéacs Athléimneachta), lena dtacaítear le sainithint beart gearrthéarmach agus fadtéarmach a fheabhsaíonn úsáid a bhaint as athléimneacht. Bloic thógála SOA ó Thionscadail Tagartha
2. Réitigh nua spriocdhíríthe maidir le hathléimneacht bhonneagair agus inbhuanaitheachta ag tógáil ar fhorbairtí neamhspleáchais agus ag aibiú roghanna fuinnimh ghlais
3. IUI Glas Athléimneach Spás do shonraí agus Cúpla Digiteach cineálach a sholáthraíonn comhroinnt sonraí go príomha idir faireachán bhonneagair, RIS agus bainistíocht tráchta agus córais éigeandála agus réitigh aeráide
4. Ceithre Shaotharlann Mhaireachtála atá deartha chun eiseamláirí a sholáthar ón a) LLanna lena ndírítear ar bhonneagar comhtháite IW agus cúlchríche [peirsictíochtaí líonra an Gent-uirbigh, Chonair Dhúró, an Ísiltír - AE] agus LL lena ndírítear go sonrach ar athléimneacht uiscebhealaí intíre.
5. Gníomhaíochtaí For-rochtana agus Uas-scálaithe ReNew atá deartha chun bealaí tionchair a uasmhéadú.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: FAIR-EASE - FAIR Eolaíochtaí na Cruinne & Seirbhísí Comhshaoil

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Foras na Mara.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €139,397.50.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101058785>

### Cuspóir

Teastaíonn painéal mór agus líon mór sonraí ó shatailít, ó bhreathnuithe in-situ, ó shamhlacha, ó thurgnaimh ó na heolaíochtaí cruinne agus comhshaoil. Tá fearainn chórais an domhain idirnasctha agus fiú má dhealraíonn sé go bhfuil tábhacht phríomha ag baint le comhéadain idir fearainn i gcás roinnt staidéar a bhfuil tionchair shochoíochta móra acu, amhail an t-athrú aeráide, talmhaíocht agus bia, sábháilteacht an duine agus sláinte, tá an ailtireacht dhigiteach reatha bunaithe go bunúsach ar sonraí atá dáilte agus ag brath ar an bhfearann stórtha sonraí a chothaíonn fíordheacrachtaí maidir le húsáidí comhtháite na sonraí comhshaoil go léir.v

Chun dul níos faide ná an chuid is úrscothaí den teicneolaíocht seo, is é cuspóir foriomlán FAIR-EASE seirbhísí dáilte agus comhtháite a shaincheapadh agus a oibriú chun faireachán agus samhltú chóras an Domhain, an chomhshaoil agus na bithéagsúlachta trí fheabhas a chur ar TRL na gcomhpháirteanna éagsúla a chuirtear chun feidhme i gcomhoibriú dlúth le pobail úsáideoirí, le Scamall Oscailte Eolaíochta na hEorpa agus le hinfreastruchtúr taighde maidir lena ndearadh agus lena n-infhaighteacht inbhuanaithe.

Déanfaidh an tionscadal an méid seo a leanas: (1) Feabhas a chur ar sheirbhís aimsithe sonraí agus rochtana sonraí FAIR-EASE, ag brath ar sheirbhísí réamhoibríochta atá ann cheana, chun uirlis éasca agus FAIR a sholáthar d'úsáideoirí le haghaidh fionnachtain agus rochtain ar thacair sonraí ildisciplíneacha agus chomhiomlánaíthe comhshaoil. mar a bhainistítear agus a sholáthraíonn raon bhonneagair sonraí Eorpacha; (2) Saotharlann Anailíseach Cruinne FAIR-EASE a chur ar bun, le nascacht EOSC ag tacú, trí chomhéadain ghréasánbhunaithe, le huirlisí próiseála réamhshainithe agus le seirbhísí léirshamhlaithe sonraí ar éileamh chun ciananailís agus próiseáil sonraí ilchineálacha a éascú, rud a éascaíonn an comhar trasdisciplíneach, ag laghdú. an t-am chun torthaí a fháil agus táirgiúlacht a mhéadú; agus (3) Roinnt Cásanna Úsáide ildisciplíneacha (CUanna) a fhorbairt chun cur le ceanglais maidir le comhpháirteanna an chórais FAIR-EASE agus chun cumais na seirbhíse FAIR-EASE chun tacú le heolaíocht oscailte a bhailíochtú agus a léiriú.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: ASPIRE - Táirgeadh Feamainne Luathaithe le haghaidh Dobharshaothrú Feamainne Láidir agus Nuálach san Eoraip

**Ionstraim:** Comhaltachtaí Iardhochtúireachta - Comhaltachtaí Domhanda.

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** OÉ Gaillimh.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** OÉ Gaillimh = €215,534.40; Feamainn Mungo Murphy.

Comhlacht = Nil aon sonraí ar fáil ar CORDIS

**Dobharshaothrú feamainne a neartú san Eoraip** Is é saothrú feamainne an earnáil do bharshaothraithe is mó fáis san Eoraip. Is an speiceas sprice de thionscal feamainne na hEorpa é na halgaí dearga duileasc mar gheall ar a ardchion próitéine (idir 20% agus 35%), mianraí riachtanacha, agus blas

mealltach. Mar sin féin, úsáideann do bharshaothrú reatha fós cineálacha fráine duileasc a bailíodh go randamach.

Déanfaidh tionscadal ASPIRE Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) tréithchineálacha feamainne a fhásann go tapa a fhorbairt trí scagadh agus tréithriú a dhéanamh ar thréithe duileasc ard toraidh agus láidre. Úsáidfidh an tionscadal ard uirlisí seicheamhaithe agus bithfhaisnéisíochta (píblíne TASSEL) chun marcóirí bithcheimiceacha agus géiniteacha tréithchineálacha duileasc ard toraidh a shainithint. Bunóidh ASPIRE bunachar sonraí nuálach gréasán bunaithe (MySQL, VueJS) agus déanfaidh sé trialacha ar leibhéal na feirme chun táirgiúlacht na gcineálacha feamainne scothaicme roghnaithe a bhailíochtú.

### Cuspóir

Forbróidh tionscadal ASPIRE tréithchineálacha feamainne atá ag fás go tapa chun cumas na hEorpa a neartú i dtionscal do bharshaothraithe feamainne atá ag teacht chun cinn. Is é saothrú feamainne an earnáil do bharshaothraithe is mó fáis agus cuireann sé acmhainn ollmhór ar fáil d'fhás an mhargaidh san Eoraip. Tá an t-alga dearg duileasc ar cheann de na sprioc speiceas de thionscal feamainne Eorpach atá ag fás mar gheall ar a ardchion próitéine (20-35%), mianraí riachtanacha agus a bhlas tarraingteach.

Le déanaí, tá dul chun cinn suntasach déanta sna nósanna imeachta do bharshaothraithe do dhuileasc, ach tá na cineálacha cur chuige seo fós bunaithe go príomha ar úsáid cineálacha fráine duileasc a bailíodh go randamach. Dá bhrí sin, tá poitéinseal ollmhór ag roghnú brú spriocdhíríthe chun na hionchais do dhobharshaothrú duileasc san Eoraip a mhéadú.

Is é cuspóir an tionscadail ASPIRE ná tréithchineálacha duileasc ardtoraidh agus láidre a scagadh agus a thréithriú. Cuirfead é seo i bhfeidhm trí úsáid a bhaint as teicneolaíochtaí feinitíopaí tréachur ard ag baint úsáide as scagadh feidhmíochta (fás, tréithe moirfeolaíochta agus paraiméadair fhótaisintéiseach) agus anailís mheitibileachta (meitibileacht phríomhúil/thánaisteach ag baint úsáide as GC-MS, speictreafótaiméadar, NMR etc.).

Bainfead úsáid as na torthaí seo, i gcomhar le seicheamhú na chéad ghlúine eile (seicheamhú Illumina) agus uirlisí bithfhaisnéisíochta (píblíne TASSEL), úsáidfead iad chun marcóirí bithcheimiceacha agus géiniteacha de chineálacha Duilisc ard-táirgeachta a shainithint. Chun a chinntiú go mbíonn tionchar mór ag na torthaí agus go bhfaighidh siad a mbealach chuig an úsáideoir deiridh tráchtála, bunóidh an tionscadal bunachar sonraí gréasán bunaithe úrnua agus éasca le húsáid (MySQL, VueJS) a bheidh deartha go sonrach le húsáid ag na geallsealbhoirí do bharshaothraithe.

Déanfaidh an tionscadal ASPIRE trialacha ar leibhéal na feirme a bhailíochtú chun na buntáistí a bhaineann leis na cineálacha feamainne scothaicme roghnaithe a mhéadú i dtéarmaí táirgiúlachta agus cáilíocht fhoriomlán bithmhaise a bhailíochtú. Socróidh an tionscadal ildisciplíneach na boinn do chlár póraithe feamainne nua-aimseartha a bhfuil géarghá leis chun tuilleadh forbartha a dhéanamh ar an earnáil Eorpach do bharshaothraithe feamainne atá ag teacht chun cinn.

## Teideal an Tionscadail: GREENLand - NASCATH TIMPEALLAUGHT GAN BRUSCAR MICREAPLAISTEACH

**Ionstraim:** Gníomh Comhordaithe agus Tacaíochta (GCT).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** OÉ Gaillimh.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €237,851.25.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101079267>

### Glúiseann an troid i gcoinne bruscar micreaphlaisteach go dtí an scamall

Tá plaistigh bhídeacha i láthair i ngach éiceachóras, a chuireann isteach ar ár n-ithir agus ar ár n-uisce. Is féidir an cath i gcoinne bruscar micreaphlaisteach a chomhrac ar an talamh agus sa scamall. Cuirfidh an tionscadal GREENLand atá maoinithe ag an AE straitéis nuálach i bhfeidhm ag baint úsáide as córas digiteach scamall-bhunaithe.

Go sonrach, cuirfidh sé uirlisí digiteacha nua ar fáil do thaighdeoirí agus do chleachtóirí chun éifeachtúlacht a mhéadú ina n-iarrachtaí chun troid i gcoinne bruscar micreaphlaisteach. Cruthóidh GREENLand deiseanna chun líonrú a dhéanamh le hinstiúidí agus le geallsealbhóirí den scoth a bhfuil suim acu i dtorthaí taighde eolaíoch agus comhar a bhunú le hinstiúidí agus le tionscal.

### Cuspóir

Is straitéis nuálaíoch é GREENLand chun athrú go Córas digiteach Néal-Bhunaithe le hoideachas na foirne le haghaidh taighde ar bhruscar micreaphlaisteach in ithir, uisce, agus miocrorgánaigh, chomh maith le líonrú le hinstiúidí agus páirtithe leasmhara den scoth a bhfuil suim acu i dtorthaí taighde eolaíoch.

Is é croílár GREENLand ná an córas a athrú ina gcuirfear go mór leis an bpláinéad gan phlaisteach trí oibriú ar bhearta coiscitheacha, nuálaíochtaí, agus plean le haghaidh feabhsúcháin. Beidh foireann ghairmiúil oilte in ann a bheith níos éifeachtúla le cabhair ó uirlisí digiteacha nua, rud a fhágfaidh go mbunófar comhoibriú láidir le hinstiúidí agus leis an tionscal.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: BlueAdapt - Rioscaí sláinte bunaithe ar aeráid a laghdú i dtimpeallachtaí gorma: Oiriúnú d'iarbhairtí an athraithe aeráide ar phataiginí cósta

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** OÉ Gaillimh.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €889,712.50.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101057764>

### Cuspóir

Tugann BlueAdapt foireann idirdhisceplíneach de bhitheolaithe, eolaithe aeráide, eacnamaithe, eipidéimeolaithe agus saineolaithe sláinte phoiblí le chéile chun na rioscaí sláinte amach anseo a bhaineann le pataiginí cósta roghnaithe a imscrúdú agus a chainníochtú. Soláthróidh BlueAdapt uirlisí chun measúnú a dhéanamh ar thionchair freagraí beartais agus cuirfidh sé na torthaí in iúl do lucht éisteachta leathan, lena n-áirítear lucht déanta beartais agus an pobal araon.

Déanfar creat coincheapúil a fhorbairt timpeall ar mhúntaí reatha Sláinte Amháin agus Sláinte Phoiblí Éiceolaíochta, chun cuidiú le rannpháirtíocht níos leithne le nádúr casta na saincheiste. Cuirfidh scanadh spéire agus samhltú aeráide íslithe le turgnaimh shaotharlainne agus le forbairt ionsamhlúcháin maidir leis an gcaoi a bhféadfaidh athruithe in athróa aeráide, ag idirghníomhú le hathrú comhshaoil eile, tionchar a imirt ar staid na bpataiginí miocróbacha roghnaithe atá ina n-ábhar imní don tsláinte phoiblí in uisce cósta.

Léireoidh cás-staidéar conas is féidir coincheapa sláinte phoiblí agus éiceolaíochta amháin a úsáid chun gníomh a ghiniúint agus chun bacainní féideartha ar oiriúnú a aithint. Beidh measúnú tionchair sláinte agus anailís costas is tairbhe mar bhonn eolais do ghníomhaíocht chuí. Cabhróidh caithréimeanna Nuálaíochta Athchóirigh Gorm agus ceardlanna beartais le tionchar níos leithne a bhaint amach ón tionscadal lena n-áirítear táirgí agus seirbhísí nua go gnólacht agus nua don mhargadh.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: SEETIP Ocean - Tacaíocht don Mheitheal um Chur i bhFeidhm Phlean SET agus don Ardán Eorpach Teicneolaíochta agus Nuálaíochta d'Fhuinneamh an Aigéin

**Ionstraim:** Gníomh Comhordaithe agus Tacaíochta (GCT).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Údarás Fuinnimh Inmharthana na hÉireann (ÚFIE).

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** € 65,875.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101075412>

### Cuspóir

Is é misean aigéan SEETIP comhar agus comhar a fheabhsú i measc geallsealbhóirí laistigh agus lasmuigh d'earnáil fuinnimh aigéin na hEorpa. Tá an misean seo briste síos i sé chuspóir:

1. Sármhaitheas eolaíoch Eorpach i bhfuinneamh aigéin a uasmhéadú.
2. Inbhuanaitheacht agus an t-aistriú díreach a dhéanamh mar chuid lárnach d'fhorbairt fuinneamh aigéin.
3. Tuiscint níos doimhne a thógáil ar conas is féidir le fuinneamh aigéin a bheith oiriúnach go barrmhaith do na córais fhuinnimh, tionsclaíochta agus bonneagair níos leithne agus na córais phleanála, agus cuidiú leis an gcomhtháthú seo a bhaint amach.

4. Grúpa Oibre um Chur i bhFeidhm Fuinneamh Aigéin Phlean SET agus údarás phoiblí eile a chumhachtú trí mhonatóireacht, anailísíú agus tuairisciú a dhéanamh ar thráchtairacht bhliantúil ar dhul chun cinn na hearnála.

5. An gréasán fuinnimh aigéin a neartú agus a leathnú trí ghníomhaíochtaí for-rochtana láidre.

6. Leanúint ar aghaidh le hobair aigéin ETIP agus plean SET fuinneamh aigéin IWG tar éis don tionscadal críochnú.

Is féidir le fuinneamh aigéin sochaí agus saol eacnamaíoch na hEorpa a chumhachtú le leictreachas atá in-athnuaite, iontaofa agus ar aon dul le pobail agus timpeallachtaí áitiúla. Chun an acmhainneacht seo a bhaint amach, ní mór do pháirtithe leasmhara earnála comhoibriú, eolas a roinnt agus dúbailt iarrachtaí a sheachaint. Déanfaidh aigéan SEETIP é seo trí thacú le gníomhaíochtaí an Ardáin Eorpaigh um Theicneolaíocht agus Nuálaíocht d'Fhuinneamh aigéin (aigéan ETIP) agus Meitheal Feidhmithe Fhuinneamh Aigéin Phlean SET.

Bainfear cuspóirí an tionscadail amach trí ghníomhaíochtaí comhordaithe a thabharfaidh daoine aonair agus eagraíochtaí le chéile chun eolas a mhalartú, chun eolas nua a chruthú agus trí naisc níos doimhne a thógáil. Éascófar comhroinnt leathan eolais trí sheimineáir agus trí cheardlanna. Bunaithe ar na malartuithe sin, foilseoidh aigéan SEETIP staidéir inrochtana agus tuarascálacha a scaipfear go forleathan ar fud earnáil an fhuinnimh aigéin agus lasmuigh di.

Tacófar le hobair IWG Fuinneamh Aigéin Phlean SET le faisnéis nuashonraithe bhliantúil ar dhul chun cinn na hearnála agus tacaíocht bheartais agus maoinithe. Cuirfidh sonraí atá suas chun dáta agus cruinn eolas ar fáil do chinnteoireacht an IWG.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: SEACHEM - Glúin nua taighdeoirí a oiliúint i ndobharshaothrú feamainne amach ón gcósta chun ceimiceáin ardluacha a tháirgeadh

**Ionstraim:** Líonraí Dochtúireachta - Dochtúireachtaí Comhpháirteacha.

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** OÉ Gaillimh; Stáisiún Taighde Mara Bheanntaí Teo.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** OÉ Gaillimh = €572,976; Stáisiún Taighde Mara Bheanntaí Teo = €286,488.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101073471>

**Cuspóir** Soláthróidh SeaChem oiliúint T&F ardleibhéal do thaighdeoirí luathchéime i réimse na táirgeachta bithmhaise mara atá ag teacht chun cinn. Trí aghaidh a thabhairt ar shaincheisteanna móra maidir le saothrú feamainne amach ón gcósta agus a chur i bhfeidhm mar fhoinsé fuinnimh in-athnuaite, bainfidh SeaChem na constaicí atá ann faoi láthair chun é a ghlacadh go forleathan san AE.

Ag an am céanna, ráthaíonn líonra idirdhisceplíneach SeaChem (comhdhéanta d'eagraíochtaí acadúla, tionscail agus earnála) agus éagsúlacht na ndisciplíní eolaíoch atá comhtháite i scéim T&F SeaChem foirmiú ildisciplíneach de na 10 n-iarrthóir dochtúireachta ardoilte den chéad ghlúin eile. Go deimhin, tá príomhchuspóirí T&F SeaChem scaipthe thar innealtóireacht tógála (forbairt struchtúir cruach dhosmálta amach ón gcósta), bitheolaíocht (coinníollacha barrmhaith le haghaidh saothrú feamainne) agus innealtóireacht cheimiceach (eastóscadh dian ar chomhdhúile luachmhara).

Trí thopaic taighde den scoth a chomhcheangal le hiliomad imeachtaí oiliúna inaistrithe agus scileanna sóisialta, cinnteoidh SeaChem forbairt leathan eolaíoch agus pearsanta na n-iarrthóirí dochtúireachta. Tacaíonn an brú sochaíoch atá ag méadú i gcónaí maidir le hacmhainní in-athnuaite a fhorbairt, le hábharthacht ard shochaíoch agus eacnamaíoch an réimse seo, rud a chabhraíonn freisin le spleáchas an AE ar amhábhair allmhairithe (iontaise).

Is é an margadh domhanda atá ag dul i méid i dtáirgí in-athnuaite agus inbhuanaithe atá ag tiomáint na hearnála eacnamaíche seo agus tá géarghá le gairmithe sáraithe cheana féin, rud a chinntíonn an iliomad deiseanna fostaíochta do na hiarrthóirí dochtúireachta.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: MolStressH2O - Meicníochtaí móilíneacha agus iarmhairtí strus teirmeach ag sileadh trí thimpeallachtaí uisceacha athraitheacha

**Ionstraim:** Deontais ERC.

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €1,999,845.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101044202>

### Cuspóir

Tá strus teasa ina thiománaí ar mheall mór mhorthlaíocht reatha a bhaineann le téamh domhanda antrapaigineach. Mar sin féin, níor bhreithnigh cur chuige reatha chun staidéar a dhéanamh ar strus teasa trí phríomhghné nach bhfuil mórán eolais orthu. Is iad seo (i) an toradh cuiliteach, a d'fhéadfadh torthaí diúltacha a mhéadú trí strus teasa a iomadú i measc orgánaigh, (ii) strus teasa mar shó-ghineach éabhlóideach agus (iii) líonraí géanómaíoch mar scagairí le haghaidh roghnú réamhshóisialta, a d'fhéadfadh, le chéile, an próiseas a bhrostu oiriúnú éabhlóideach do thimpeallachtaí atá ag athrú go tapa.

Sa tionscadal seo, déanfar staidéar ar airíonna strus teasa ag luathchéimeanna leochaileacha an tsaoil de thrí eictiteirmeacha uisce ar leith (béaróg, iasc agus frog), chun tuiscint a fháil ar cé chomh huilíoch is atá na gnéithe seo den strus teasa i measc na ngnéithe sainiúla, neamhghaolmhara. Speiceas. Ar dtús fiosróidh an tionscadal seo an féidir strus teirmeach a iomadú trí chumarsáid cheimiceach (meitibilítí struis) chuig glacadóirí saonta de speicis éagsúla. Cuirfear torthaí ar fhorbairt i gcomparáid le léiriú difreálach géine.

Aithneoidimid ansin meitibilítí struis teas-spreagtha agus a mbealaí móilíneacha gníomhaíochta, trí sheicheamhú RNA, Meitibileach agus eagarthóireacht géine trí mheán CRISPR. Déanfaimid tástáil ansin cé acu an gcothaíonn nochtadh strus teirmeach agus meitibilítí struis rátaí sócháin níos airde, trí ghníomhaíocht trasposóin teas-spreagtha agus cumas deisiúcháin ADN laghdaithe. Déanfar seicheamhú gADN a chomhcheangal le mapáil ghéanóim optúla chun rátaí sóchán agus leaganacha struchtúracha nua a aithint.

Ar deireadh, aithneoidimid an ról atá ag srianadh líonra géanóm feidhme maidir le hathróga den sórt sin a scagadh. Déanfaimid seicheamhú ar ghéanóm tagartha, agus déanfaimid iniúchadh trí bhíthin ionsamhlúcháin IS-threoraithe cibé an éiríonn le líonraí a bhfuil srianta nóid toipeolaíoch acu ná líonraí gan srian. Le chéile, athróidh na cuspóirí seo ár dtuiscint ar na meicníochtaí, agus an méid a fhreagróidh orgánaigh do théamh antrapaigineach.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: WEDUSEA - Léiriú Fuinneamh Tonnta ar Scála Fóntas chun Eagar a Chumasú

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Nuálaíochta (GN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** New Wave Technologies Ltd; Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh; Gavin and Doherty Geosolutions Teo.; Exceedence Teo.; Wood Group Kenny Ireland Teo.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** New Wave Technologies Teo. = €2,892,037.50; Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh = €576,750; Gavin agus Doherty Geosolutions Teo = €158,725; Barraíocht Tta = €90,475; Grúpa Adhmaid Kenny Ireland Teo. = €122,850.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101075527>

#### Cuspóir

Léireoidh WEDUSEA, arna stiúradh ag Forbróir Fuinneamh Tonnta na hÉireann, fuinneamh aigéin, tiontaire fuinneamh tonnta ar snámh 1MW OE35 atá nasctha leis an eangach (ar a dtugtar an Baoi OE) ag an Láithreán Tástála Eorpach um Fhuinneamh Mara (LEFM) in Inse Orc, Albain. Tarlóidh an taispeántas teicniúil agus comhshaoil thar thréimhse dhá bhliain i gcoinníollacha tonnta Atlantacha agus beidh tionchar díreach ag na torthaí ar bheartas, ar chaighdeán theicniúla, ar dhearcadh an phobail agus ar mhúinín infheisteoirí.

Léireoidh an tionscadal go bhfuil an teicneolaíocht ar chosán laghdaithe costais ag teacht le spriocanna Plean SET an AE agus beidh sé ina chéim chun tosaigh ar scála níos mó arae tráchtála agus ar thionsclaíocht bhreise. Comhtháthófar leis an ngníomh fo-chomhpháirteanna mar mhúrálacha agus PTOanna - feabhas a chur ar éifeachtúlacht, iontaofacht, inscálaitheacht, inbhuanaitheacht agus ciorclaíocht na teicneolaíochta.

Táthar ag súil go laghdóidh comhghníomhartha an chlár oibre an LCOE don teicneolaíocht ó €361/MVu go €245/MVu, laghdú 32%. I gcás eagair 20MV laghdódh an LCOE ó €185/MVu go €127/MVu.

Tá trí chéim soiléire ag an tionscadal, Céim 1: an chéim dheartha tosaigh a théann isteach i dTeideal Dul/Ná Dul, Céim 2: léiriú ina bhfuiltear ag súil go nginfidh an gléas bonnlíne níos mó ná 1,650 MWh thar an imscaradh agus Céim 3: tráchtálú agus scaipeadh ina bhfeicfear caipitliú agus saothrú na dtorthaí. Bainfidh cuideachtaí fuinnimh aigéin agus cuideachtaí cuibhreannais eile leas gníomhach as na torthaí trí nuálaíochtaí, táirgí agus seirbhísí nua. Scaipfear na torthaí chun bunachair shonraí comhshaoil agus caighdeán leictreicniúla IEC a chothú.

Rachaidh an ghníomhaíocht seo le fuinneamh na dtonn níos faide ná an úrscothacht, ag tógáil ar thaithí na gcomhpháirtithe i dtionscadail roimhe seo de chuid an AE a chumasóidh sraith d'fheistí iontaofa chun an sprioc 1GV atá leagtha amach i Straitéis Fhuinnimh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta 2030 DG-ENER a bhaint amach. Cruthóidh rannpháirtíocht phleanáilte braistint an phobail níos mó, cumasófar agus cuirfidh sé eolas ar fáil do lucht déanta beartas agus bainfear an riosca d'infheistíochtaí ar scála níos mó chun spriocanna 2050 a bhaint amach.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: DANUBIUS IP - Tionscadal Céime Forfheidhmithe DANUBIUS

**Ionstraim:** Gníomh Comhordaithe agus Tacaíochta (GCT).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €81,250.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101079778>

#### Cuspóir

Is Gníomh Comhordaithe agus Tacaíochta 36-mí é DANUBIUS-IP chun tacú le forbairt leanúnach DANUBIUS-RI - bonneagar taighde comhshaoil a nascann aibhneacha agus farraigí - agus é ag dul ar aghaidh i dtreo a Chéim Oibriúcháin.

Molann an tionscadal seacht bpacáiste oibre, in dhá shruth oibre comhthreomhara, a dhéanfaidh le chéile:

- struchtúr rialachais nua a sheachadadh don RI agus é ag aistriú go DANUBIUS-ERIC.
- feabhas a chur ar chumas TFC an TÉ chun seachadadh fíorúil na bpríomhsheirbhísí a chumasú.
- an Clár Oibre Eolaíochta agus Nuálaíochta a chur i bhfeidhm le tacaíocht ó sheirbhísí eolaíochta lúfar agus dearbhaithe cáilíochta.

- luach an TÉ a léiriú trí shamplaí de na seirbhísí uathúla is féidir leis an RI a thairiscint d'úsáideoirí deiridh ar fud na hEorpa agus go hidirnáisiúnta.
- pobal DANUBIUS-RI a leathnú agus a sheasamh sa tírdhreach AE comhshaoil níos leithne agus idirnáisiúnta a fheabhsú.
- a chinntiú go gcuirtear poitéinseal DANUBIUS-RI chun tionchar suntasach sóisialta agus eacnamaíoch a bheith aige in iúl go forleathan.

Is é GeoEcoMar (An Rómáin) a chomhordaíonn DANUBIUS-IP agus tugann sé le chéile 25 comhpháirtí le taithí ó 14 tír ar fud na hEorpa i gcuibhreannas a bhfuil réimsí saineolais ildisciplíneacha comhlántacha acu ar fud na réimsí taighde fionnuisce agus mara. Féachann an tionscadal go sonrach le dul i ngleic le moltaí ó thuarascálacha an ESFRI le déanaí agus ón nGrúpa Saineolaithe Ardleibhéil (ar DANUBIUS-RI) agus rannchuidiú suntasach a dhéanamh leis na torthaí a bhfuiltear ag súil leo agus le tionchair níos leithne Chlár Fís na hEorpa.

Mar sin, breithníonn an tionscadal an tábhacht a bhaineann le hinbhuanaitheacht na ngealltanais airgeadais, an gá atá leis an múnla maoinithe a thástáil agus le hinfheictheacht an TÉ a fheabhsú. Léireoidh DANUBIUS-IP éifeachtúlacht cur chuige comhtháite agus idirdisciplíneach a chuimsíonn peirspictíocht 'contanam abhann-farraige' chun bearnaí reatha sa tírdhreach Taighde agus Nuálaíochta a líonadh chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar phríomhdhúshláin shochoaíochta sna timpeallachtaí seo a bhfuil tionchar ag brúnna antrapaigineacha agus athrú aeráide orthu.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: OCEAN - Feabhsú Feasachta ar an Nascleanúint atá Oibríteoir-lárnach

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Nuálaíochta (GN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Irish Ferries Teo; Grúpa Míolta Móra agus Deilfeanna na hÉireann.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Irish Ferries Teo = €110,616; Grúpa Míolta Móra agus Deilfeanna na hÉireann = €174,831.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101076983>

#### Cuspóir

Is é cur chuige an tionscadail OCEAN ná rannchuidiú le tionóiscí loingseoireachta a mhaolú trí thacú leis na loingseoirí jab níos fearr fós a dhéanamh ná mar a dhéanann siad faoi láthair. Ní bhaineann tacaíocht den sórt sin ach le feabhsú 'ar an láthair' ar fheasacht loingseoireachta - lena n-áirítear láithreach mamaigh mhara agus coimeádáin ar snámh - nó le feidhmíocht fheabhsaithe ainlithe imghabhála agus gníomhaíochtaí maolaithe eile.

Rachaidh an tionscadal níos doimhne agus níos leithne araon, chun leasuithe nó feabhsuithe a aithint agus a mholadh ar na fachtóirí is ábhartha a d'fhéadfadh cur le himeachtaí a bheith ina dtimpistí: oiliúint, fachtóirí teicniúla, daonna nó

eagraíochtúla, srianta oibriúcháin, próisis agus nósanna imeachta, brúnna tráchtála nó saincheisteanna struchtúracha. cosúil le heasnamh i rialacha agus rialacháin.

Ó thaobh an cur chun feidhme de, forbróidh tionscadal OCEAN modhanna nua dearaidh agus próisis oibríochtúla, chomh maith le teicneolaíochtaí atá ann cheana a chomhtháthú chun feidhmiúlachtaí nua agus feabhsaithe a sholáthar. Príomhphointe cóineasaithe is ea an measúnú foriomlán ar staid na loingseoireachta a rinne an t-oibreoir, agus tá sé mar aidhm ag an tionscadal cur i láthair comhtháite agus deartha chun críche a sholáthar ar bhagairtí gar-réimse agus ar bhacainní loingseoireachta.

Áireoidh aschur an tionscadail Gníomhaire Ainlithe Imghabhála, atá beartaithe le bheith ag obair i gcomhar le córais long atá ann cheana féin, measúnú leanúnach a dhéanamh ar shábháilteacht loingseoireachta maidir le talamh nó imbhuailteacht le longa eile, struchtúir sheasta nó bagairtí eile, agus léirshamhlú réamh-mheastacháin ainlithe. Molfaidh OCEAN bonneagar Eorpach um Ghuais Loingseoireachta a chruthú chun sonraí a bhaineann le mamaigh mhuirí agus coimeádáin ar snámh a bhailiú, a phróiseáil agus a dháileadh. Cuimsíonn nuálaíochtaí breise ionchur do chaighdeán idirnáisiúnta atá le teacht agus athbhreithnithe maidir le cumarsáid mhuirí agus modhanna praiticiúla chun uirlisí agus gairis mhuirí a dhearadh, a léireofar gach ceann díobh i gcásanna comhdhlúite.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: Water4All - Slándáil Uisce don Phláinéad

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhartha Cómhaoinithe an Chláir.

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** An Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (GCC).

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** = €418,953.75.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101060874>

#### Cuspóir

Tá uisce lárnach do ghníomhaíochtaí uile an duine, do gach comhpháirt de Chomhar Glas an AE agus do roinnt SFlanna de chuid na NA. Tá sé mar aidhm ag Comhpháirtíocht Water4All slándáil uisce a chumasú do chách san fhadtéarma trí chlaohlú córasach agus athruithe a threisiú ar fud an taighde ar fad - píblíne nuálaíochta uisce, ag cothú na meaitseála idir úinéirí fadhbanna agus soláthraithe réitigh.

Bailíonn sé níos mó ná 70 comhpháirtí, maoinitheoirí T&N, aireachtaí comhshaoil, údarás áitiúla, líonraí ar scála Eorpach, náisiúnta agus réigiúnach, eagraíochtaí a dhéanann taighde. Comhoibreoidh sé le tionscnaimh ábhartha eile T&N. Molann Water4All punann de ghníomhaíochtaí ilnáisiúnta, trasearnála,

ag díriú ar ghníomhaithe éagsúla, agus é ar intinn an t-aschur seo a leanas a ghiniúint:

- An comhoibriú T&N uisce a neartú ag leibhéil Eorpacha agus idirnáisiúnta, thar 31 tír ar a laghad, go háirithe trí Chomhghlaonna Trasnáisiúnta.
- Gníomhaíochtaí an phobail T&N Uisce a chomhordú agus a ghíaráil.
- Tacú le léiriú agus rochtain ar réitigh nuálacha agus iad a chur chun cinn.
- Eolas agus sonraí a bhaineann le huisce a tháirgeadh, a roinnt agus a chur in iúl ar bhealach níos fearr, ó scálaí áitiúla go scála domhanda.
- Feabhas a chur ar fhorbairt tallainne gairmithe T&N uisce.
- Forbairt acmhainne agus oiliúint ar feadh an tsaoil a chothú do lucht déanta beartas uisce, do gheallsealbhóirí agus don tsochaí shibhialta.
- Cur chuige a dhearadh agus a chur i bhfeidhm maidir le forbairt rannpháirtíochta na nuálaíochta.

Rithfidh Water4All a ghníomhaíochtaí thar sheacht dtéama dá chlár oibre straitéiseach: uisce don gheilleagar ciorclach; uisce le haghaidh éiceachórais agus bithéagsúlacht; bainistiú inbhuanaithe uisce; uisce agus sláinte; bonneagar uisce; comhar idirnáisiúnta; rialachas uisce.

Cuirfidh aschuir Water4All le:

- Eolas, uirlisí agus bunús frainse iontaofa a sheachadadh ar uisce le haghaidh beartais agus cinnteoireachta.
- Breithniú ar thionchair uisce a fheabhsú i ngach beartas ábhartha.
- Feabhas a chur ar úsáid allamuigh/mhargaidh réitigh nuálacha ar dhúshlám uisce.
- Feasacht agus rannpháirtíocht saoránach a mhéadú le haghaidh uisce cuimsitheach.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: SAFE - SmartAqua4FuturE

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** OÉ Gaillimh; Keywater Fisheries Teo.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** OÉ Gaillimh = €786,922; Keywater Fisheries Teo. = €362,687.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101084549>

### Cuspóir

Is é cuspóir an tionscadail SAFE an tionchar comhshaoil a laghdú agus inmhharthanacht an dobarshaothraithe FW a fheabhsú trí chur chuige geilleagair chiorclaigh a chur i bhfeidhm maidir le luacháil a dhéanamh ar dhramhail sholadach agus leachtach ó chórais dobarshaothraithe athfhillte (CDA) agus comhtháthú. Is é príomhchuspóir tionscadal SAFE an tionchar ar an gcomhshaoil a laghdú agus inmhharthanacht an dobarshaothraithe FW a fheabhsú trí chur chuige an gheilleagair chiorclaigh (GC) a chur i bhfeidhm maidir le luacháil dramhaíola soladach agus leachtach ó chórais dobarshaothraithe athfhillte (CDA) agus dobarshaothrú il-trófach comhtháite (DITC) córais.

Feabhsófar inmhharthanacht eacnamaíoch an dobarshaothraithe FW trí dhul chun cinn mór i gcórais bhainistíochta agus trí shruthanna dramhaíola ó chórais dobarshaothraithe FW (CDFW) a chomhtháthú isteach sa slabhra beatha dobarshaothraithe. Cumasóidh SAFE glacadh leis na réitigh seo trí thaispeántais ar scála áitiúil agus réigiúnach ar fud an AE agus déanfaidh sé doiciméadú ar na coinníollacha bainistíochta agus rialachais riachtanacha le haghaidh inaistritheacht rathúil.

Díreoidh saineolas iildisciplíneach an chuibhreannais thar raon leathan córas, speiceas agus tíreolaíoch ar fheabhsú speiceas a bhfuil imní ar leith acu ar an mbitheagsúlacht, amhail gliomach dúchasach na hEorpa. Feabhsóimid inbhuanaitheacht táirgeadh dobarshaothraithe FW agus déanfaimid imscrúdú ar fhéidearthacht an t-éagsúlú trí speicis faoi ghannionadaíocht (péirse) agus speicis luachmhara gliomach na n-iasc a bhfuil daonraí ag dul i laghad á saothrú againn. Ar deireadh, cuirfidimid eispéireas dhobharshaothrú FW an AE i gcomparáid le CDFW na Síne agus slabhraí luacha, an earnáil dobarshaothraithe is mó, is mó fáis agus is éagsúla ar domhan, ag baint úsáide as comhroinnt eolais chun inbhuanaitheacht an dobarshaothraithe sa tSín agus san AE a fheabhsú.

Tacóidh SAFE, trí ghníomhaíochtaí fairsinge scaipthe, cláir aistrithe eolais, ceardlanna oiliúna agus rannpháirtíocht chomhoibriúch le tionscal agus geallsealbhóirí, le forbairt scileanna gairmiúla agus inniúlachtaí an dobarshaothraithe FW laistigh den AE agus sna tíortha comhpháirtíochta araon.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: MARCO-BOLO - Breathnú Fadtéarmach ar Bithéagsúlacht Chósta na Mara

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha: Erinn Innovation Teo.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €467,500.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101082021>

### Cuspóir

Tá sé mar aidhm ag MARCO-BOLO (MBO) cumas breathnóireachta bithéagsúlachta cósta agus muirí na hEorpa a struchtúru agus a neartú, á nascadh le hiarrachtaí domhanda chun sláinte aigéin a thuiscint agus a athbhunú, agus ar an gcaoi sin a áirithiú go bhfreagraíonn aschur do riachtanais fhollasacha geallsealbhóirí ó bheartas, pleanáil agus tionscal. Chuige sin, bunóidh MBO agus rachaidh sé i dteagmháil le Comhphobal Cleachtais (CoC) chun riachtanais úsáideoirí deiridh a chinneadh agus é mar aidhm aige sreafaí sonraí muirí a bharrfheabhsú, glacadh eolais, agus feabhas a chur ar rialachas bunaithe ar bhreathnaithe bithéagsúlachta.

Trí leas a bhaint as sineirgí le tionscadail chomhthráthacha forbróidh agus léireoidh MBO teicneolaíocht uathrialach nua do mhapáil agus faireachán bithéagsúlachta, agus sruthanna sonraí ó chianbhraiteacht, eDNA, róbaic, breathnaithe optúla agus fuaimiúla. Bunaítear agus bailíochtaítear prótacail maidir le breathnaithe bithéagsúlachta eDNA-bhunaithe trasna feidhmeanna, tacsaithe agus éiceachórais.

Déanfar seicheamh na bpróiseas anailíse agus teicniúil do na cásanna úsáide éagsúla a ionchorprú in Athróga Riachtanacha Aigéin (ARAanna) agus Athróga Riachtanacha Bithéagsúlachta (ARBanna) agus áireofar iad i sreafaí oibre ath-inúsáidte ar líne, ag cur le rochtain shaor agus oscailte ar bhithéagsúlacht an AE agus domhanda. saoráidí faisnéise, agus chun tacú le mórthreoracha bithéagsúlachta an AE agus le tionscnaimh dhomhanda.

Déanfaidh comhpháirtíocht an tionscadail a ghníomhaíochtaí idirnáisiúnta (MBON, GOOS, OBIS) agus rannpháirtíocht i gCláir Dheich mBliaana Aigéin na NA (Saol na Mara 2030, OBON, ODIS, Cleachtais Aigéin don Deich mBliaana) a ghíaráil chun clár oibre MBO a ailíniú le CoC domhanda, ag cinntiú rannpháirtíocht na hEorpa. agus ceannaireacht i bhfaireachán bithéagsúlachta domhanda agus san eolaíocht dhomhanda. Dearfar torthaí MBO chun cur leis an gcumas agus leis an mbonneagar atá ann cheana, agus le bheith ábhartha do na creatáil atá ann cheana ionas gur féidir aschuir a chomhtháthú go héasca i gcórais bhreathnóireachta náisiúnta, réigiúnacha (AE agus imchuacha farraige cóngaracha), agus domhanda, gan aon mhoill lena n-áirítear an ath-inúsáidteacht de na hinfeistíochtaí atá á ndéanamh ag an Eoraip cheana féin i nginiúint sonraí.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: IGNITION - Nuálaíocht Ghlas a Fheabhsú don Réabhlóid Ghorm: uirlisí agus deiseanna nua le haghaidh feirmeoireachta ainmhithe níos inbhuanaithe

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha: Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €404,361.25.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101084651>

### Cuspóir

Is saincheisteanna ardtosaíochta taighde iad sláinte agus leas ainmhithe do dhobharshaothrú na hEorpa. Go háirithe, is tosaíochtaí taighde reatha iad leas ainmhithe a fheabhsú agus úsáid drugaí tréidliachta a laghdú ag teacht le tionchar comhshaoil an tionscail a íoslaghdú. Tá sé ríthábhachtach do tháirgeoirí, do thaighdeoirí agus do gheallsealbhóirí tionchar galair a chosc nó a laghdú.

Ina theannta sin, cuireann feasacht an phobail ar shláinte agus leas ainmhithe uisceacha aird mhéadaithe ar lucht déanta beartas, an phobail eolaíochta agus na dtomhaltóirí ar mhodhanna nua chun galair a chosc.

Tá sé mar aidhm ag an tionscadal IGNITION eolas nua maidir le leas ainmhithe a nochtadh i gcomhthéacs an athraithe aeráide agus uirlisí nua a mholadh chun éifeachtaí díobhála struis a mhaolú. Aistreoidh feabhsú ar leas ainmhithe ainmhithe saothraithe ar chaighdeán níos airde, rud a fheabhsóidh táirgiúlacht feirmeoireachta agus feidhmíocht inbhuanaitheachta. Trí IGNITION, táthar ag súil go gcuirfead eolas nua ar fáil trí theicnící géinitíopála agus feinitíopála móilíneacha chun straitéisí pórúcháin éisc agus slíogéisc amach anseo a fhorbairt.

Cuirfead uirlisí nuálacha nua maidir le himdhíonadh éisc ar fáil freisin, lena ndíreofar ar leas na n-iasc a fheabhsú agus ag díriú ar luathchéimeanna an tsaoil. Déanfar beathaí ainmhithe a fhoirmiú chun comhdhúile bithghníomhacha a bhaintear as halafítí a áireamh trí bhaint salainn cascáide nua suas an tsrutha.

Leagfar béim ar leith ar staidéar agus ar fhionnachtain bithchomharthaí sóirt nua neamh-ionracha sláinte agus leasa, rud a cheadóidh forbairt bithchomharthaí sóirt agus tuar galair trí chur chuige meaisínfhoghlama. Beidh na huirlisí a forbraíodh in IGNITION in ann coilíniú agus leathadh miocrorgánach pataigineach a sheachaint, lena n-áirítear miocrorgánaigh fhrithsheasmhach, i measc ainmhithe feirme agus an scaipeadh ina dhiaidh sin chuig daoine tríd an mbiashlabhra.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: BlueRemediomics - BlueRemediomics: Leas a bhaint as an micribhithóm muirí le haghaidh seirbhísí bithghineacha inbhuanaithe agus éiceachórais núíosacha

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha: Erinn Innovation Teo.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €368,000.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101082304>

### Cuspóir

Comhlíonann pobail mhicróbach muirí feidhmeanna ríthábhachtacha chun beatha a chothú ar an Domhan agus is ionann iad agus stór ollmhór bith-acmhainní gan saothrú a bhfuil an cumas acu geilleagar gorm na hEorpa a neartú.

Chun an poitéinseal folaithe seo a oscailt, chomh maith le bithfhionnachtain ó mhíocróib mhara a dhéanamh go freagrach, tá gá le forbairtí iomadúla.

Ní mór dúinn ardteicneolaíochtaí a chónascadh agus a chur i bhfeidhm chun comhdhéanamh, idirghníomhaíochtaí agus stór feidhme an mhíocróib mhara a shoiléiriú, agus ag an am céanna saothrú inbhuanaithe agus cothrom a chinntiú, sláinte aigéin a chothabháil, agus litearthacht aigéin a fheabhsú trí thuiscint níos fearr ar mhíocróib aigéin.

Chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na riachtanais seo, déanfaidh BlueRemediomics an méid seo a leanas: (1) ardán bithfhaisnéisíochta comhtháite a fhorbairt agus a sholáthar chun acmhainneacht micribhithóim mhara a iniúchadh; (2) cultúir nuálacha agus ardán scagtha ard-thréchuir a bhunú chun cuibhreachais de mhíocróib mhara a shaothrú go turgnamhach; (3) na hardáin a chur i bhfeidhm chun táirgí nádúrtha a dhíorthaítear ó mhíocróib mhara a shainathint agus a fhorbairt; (4) seirbhísí do bharshaothraithe agus éiceachórais a chothú a chuimsíonn an príonsabal “gan aon dochar suntasach” a dhéanamh; (5) rochtain chothrom ar acmhainní micribhithóim aigéin a uasmhéadú agus feasacht ar an micribhithóim muirí a mhéadú do raon éagsúil geallsealbhoirí; (6) Oilíúint, uirlisí agus acmhainní a sholáthar do pháirtithe leasmhara éagsúla.

Chun na cuspóirí seo a bhaint amach, déanann LeigheasannaGorma “Ardán Fionnachtana” ardleibhéil a idirascadh le “Iarratais”, atá deartha mar sin chun traschaint thimthriallach agus atriallach a éascú. Trí phríomhacmhainní sonraí iolracha atá ilroinnte faoi láthair a chónascadh, cuirfidh an tArdán Fionnachtana dlús le sainathint agus forbairt táirgí nua, laghdófar spleáchas ar acmhainní, ardóidh sé tairbhí tomhaltóirí agus tabharfaidh sé aghaidh ar phríomhcheisteanna sochaíocha.

Bunófar modhanna nua maidir le rochtain agus comhroinnt sochar a chothromóidh úsáid inbhuanaithe agus chothrom na n-acmhainní géiniteacha muirí le cosaint maoinne intleachtacha.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: Cure4Aqua - Dobharshaothrú an AE a leigheas trí nuálaíochtaí sláinte agus leasa a chomhchruthú

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Rodger Hamish; Erinn Innovation Teo.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Rodger Hamish = €214,680; Erinn Innovation Teo = €298,375.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101084204>

#### Cuspóir

Is foinsé thábhachtach próitéine é bia mara feirme do bhia agus do chothaithe a bhfuil lorg ísealcharbóin aige a bhfuil ról tábhachtach aige chun cabhrú le córas bia inbhuanaithe a thógáil. Dá bhrí sin, tá cur chuige straitéiseach agus fadtéarmach maidir le fás inbhuanaithe do bharshaothraithe athléimneach an AE níos ábhartha inniu ná riamh. Mar sin féin, tá rialú éifeachtúil

agus éifeachtúil ó thaobh costas de phataiginí fós i measc na bpríomhdhúshláin don earnáil, go háirithe ábhartha don Eoraip, áit a bhfuil éagsúlacht mhór speiceas agus córas táirgthe, rud a chuireann bac ar chur chun feidhme dea-chleachtais feirmeoireachta atá saincheaptha do gach speiceas uisceach.

Trí rannpháirtíocht ghníomhach le príomhpháirtithe leasmhara, tá sé mar aidhm ag Cure4Aqua athléimneacht dhobharshaothrú an AE faoi strus comhshaoil, bitheolaíoch agus socheacnamaíoch a fheabhsú, trí shláinte agus leas ainmhithe uisceacha a fheabhsú agus trí thacú le táirgeadh bia mara atá neamhdhíobhálach don chomhshaoil, cuimsitheach, sábháilte agus sláintiúil.

Déanfaidh Cure4Aqua amhlaidh trí 1) vacsaíní cost-éifeachtach a fhorbairt chun galair de bharr 5 phataigin a bhfuil tábhacht eacnamaíoch acu do dhobharshaothrú an AE a chosc; 2) Marcóirí a aithint a bhfuil cumas diagnóiseach acu le comhtháthú le cláir phórucháin roghnaíoch chun bainistiú struis agus galair a fheabhsú; 3) Réitigh nuálacha, bithbhunaithe agus inbhuanaithe a fhorbairt mar mhálairt ar antaibheathaigh chun pataiginí éisc a rialú ag céimeanna éagsúla den saol agus chun brú na frithsheasmhachta in aghaidh ábhair fhrithmhíocróbaigh domhanda a mhaolú; 4) Uirlisí agus teicneolaíocht nua a fhorbairt chun feabhas a chur ar fhaireachán sláinte agus leasa ag leibhéal na feirme éisc agus diagnóisic ar phataiginí éisc ag leibhéal na saotharlainne agus na feirme éisc; 5) Leas éisc a chur chun tosaigh i dtáirgeadh do bharshaothraithe, trí chaighdeáin arda leasa a fhorbairt a thugann aird ar chéimeanna éagsúla saoil, córais táirgthe, agus eolas ar riachtanais leasa, agus 6) Cumarsáid sheachtrach éifeachtach, scaipeadh agus saothrú gníomhaíochtaí tionscadail a áirithiú agus torthaí do gach spriocghrúpa ábhartha.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: OceanICU - Tuiscint ar Charbóin a Fheabhsú

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Taighde agus Nuálaíochta (GTN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Foras na Mara; OÉ Gaillimh.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Foras na Mara = €772,095; OÉ Gaillimh = €177,111.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101083922>

#### Cuspóir

Tá ról rithábhachtach ag an aigéan sa timthriall domhanda C, ag tógáil suas le thart ar 25% den CO<sub>2</sub> a astaíonn muid chuig an atmaisféar, agus mar sin ag moilliú ar an ráta athraithe aeráide. Beidh tionchar ag conair an doirteal seo amach anseo ar uainiú agus ar dhéine na modhnuithe ar phróisis dhaonna nach mór dúinn tabhairt fúthu chun CO<sub>2</sub> san atmaisféar a chobhsú ag 450ppm.

Tá ár gcumas an doirteal seo a thomhas agus a shamhaltú teoranta (arna fhianaise ag neamhréireachtaí suntasacha idir glacadh C tomhaiste agus múnlaithé) agus is é an réimse taighde teorann reatha ná sraith de phróisis bhitheolaíocha a bhaineann le hiompar ardleibhéil trófach laistigh den chaidéal

C bitheolaíoch mar a thugtar air. Tugann rannpháirtíocht na n-orgánach níos airde le fios go bhfuil an cumas ag gníomhaíochtaí daonna (iascaireacht, fuinneamh agus eastóscadh mianraí) dul i bhfeidhm ar doirteal C aigéan, ach níl an cumas againn brú díreach daonna agus stóráil aigéin C a nascadh go cainníochtúil.

Déanfaidh AigéanTCF na príomhphróisis seo a thomhas agus meastóireacht a dhéanamh ar a dtábhacht iomlán, ag aistriú na cinn atá tábhachtach go samhlacha a thugann eolas do phróiseas an IPCC agus ar an mbealach seo a rannchuideoidh le réiteach a fháil ar an neamhréir sonraí samhla breathnaithe i meastacháin doirteal Aigéan C.

Cuirfidh an teachtaireacht seo go díreach chuig an COP chun tacú leis an uailmhian atá ag an UNFCCC sinc C aigéan a áireamh sa stocáireamh domhanda. Úsáidfidh an t-eolas bunúsach a fhaighimid ar chórais bhitheolaíocha chun cumas idirghabhálacha daonna san aigéan a mheas chun an timthriall carbóin a athrú agus uirlisí bainistíochta a tháirgeadh a cheadaíonn aghaidh a thabhairt ar an teannas idir eastóscadh acmhainní agus stóráil C.

Beidh idirphlé fairsing i gceist leis an gcomhpháirt seo le húsáideoirí deiridh agus le geallsealbhoirí agus mar thoradh air beidh Uirlisí Tacaíochta Cinnidh a chuideoidh go mór lenár gcumas an Margadh Glas a sheachadadh trí ligean dúinn ceisteanna a chur maidir le conas iascach agus eastóscadh acmhainní a bhainistiú in aigéan athraithe. i gceann 50 bliain.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: SBEP - Comhpháirtíocht um gheilleagar gorm atá neodrach ó thaobh na haeráide de, inbhuanaithe agus táirgiúil

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhartha Cómhainithe an Chláir.

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Foras na Mara.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €642,642.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101086379>

#### Cuspóir

Tá sé mar aidhm ag Comhpháirtíocht an Gheilleagair Ghorm Inbhuanaithe (SBEP) aistriú cóir cuimsitheach chuig geilleagar gorm athghiniúnach, athléimneach agus inbhuanaithe a dhearadh, a stiúradh agus tacú leis, rud a chuirfidh leis an gclaochlú is gá i dtreo AE atá neodrach ó thaobh aeráide de, inbhuanaithe, táirgiúil agus iomaíoch faoi 2030.

Soláthróidh an SBEP réitigh chun comhéadain bheartais eolaíochta an AE agus idirnáisiúnta a neartú i bhfeirinn a bhaineann le cúrsaí mara agus muirí de chuid Margadh Glas an AE agus straitéisí na hEorpa Digití trí thosaíochtaí T&N náisiúnta, réigiúnacha agus AE a thabhairt le chéile a thabharfaidh an eolaíocht, an tionscal, an beartas agus an tsochaí le chéile. Cabhróidh sé freisin le téarnamh agus athléimneacht iar-phaindéimeach a luathú.

I gcomhréir le cur chuige nua an CE do gheilleagar gorm inbhuanaithe san AE, cuireann an SBEP bealaí tionchair i bhfeidhm chun: claochlú slabhraí luacha gheilleagar aigéin a

chatalú; eolas farraige agus réitigh T&N bunaithe ar thionchar a sheachadadh; comhoibriú chun freagairt do rialacháin, moltaí agus straitéisí beartais idirnáisiúnta, AE agus náisiúnta; rannchuidiú leis an aistriú sóisialta agus digiteach trí chreataí nuálaíochta rialachais a fhorbairt a rachaidh chun tairbhe na bpobal cósta, lena n-áirítear trí scileanna a neartú agus trí chumas breathnóireachta aigéin a fheabhsú a rannchuidíonn le EOOS agus GEOSS.

Rachaidh 59 comhpháirtí ó 25 tír (BS agus AC) in éineacht leis an CE isteach in iarracht gan fasach chun infheistíochtaí T&N a chomhthiomsú, ag ailíniú cláir ar scála uile-Eorpach. Is í an uailmhian 6 ghlaó cómhainithe a sheoladh thar fhráma ama seacht mbliana chun tacú le comhchlárú T&N ar réimsí tosaíochta téamacha idirghabhálacha a eascraíonn as SRIA comhdheartha.

Aithneoidh an SBEP freisin sásraí breise le haghaidh ailíniú agus lorgóidh sé tacaíocht eacnamaíoch bhreise do chlár T&N ag gearáil sruthanna maoinithe agus airgeadais eile. Ag an am céanna, tacóidh uailmhian struchtúrach fhadtéarmach le cruthú comhphobail cleachtais, lena gcothófar an comhchruthú, lena gcomhordófar gach tionscnamh ábhartha ar leibhéal na himchuach farraige/aig an t-Aigéan Atlantach agus le geilleagar gorm an AE a chur chun cinn tuilleadh ar an leibhéal domhanda.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: BlueMissionAA - mol comhordaithe a thógáil chun tacú le cur chun feidhme an mhisin san imchuach atlantach agus san artach

**Ionstraim:** Gníomh Comhordaithe agus Tacaíochta (GCT).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Foras na Mara; Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** Foras na Mara = €353,075; Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh = €256,250.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101093962>

#### Cuspóir

Beidh BlueMissionAA mar an mol comhordaithe a thacóidh le cur i bhfeidhm Mhisean an AE Ár nAigéin agus ár nUiscí a Athchóiriú faoi 2030 in imchuacha an Atlantaigh agus an Artaigh. Díreoidh sé ar éiceachórais mhuirí agus chósta a athchóiriú agus ar athléimneacht mhéadaithe aeráide. Beidh éifeacht struchtúrach ag BlueMissionAA chun pobal leathan geallsealbhoirí ábhartha agus saoránaigh an AE a chomhdhlúthú agus a shlógadh chun cuspóirí an Mhisin a bhaint amach ar leibhéal an imchuach.

Soláthróidh sé creat rialachais éifeachtach atá ailínithe le beartais, tionscnaimh agus gníomhaíochtaí ar an leibhéal náisiúnta, réigiúnach agus AE [WP1], tógfaidh sé creat faireacháin dea-chomhordaithe chun dul chun cinn an cur chun feidhme a mheasúnú ar bhonn leanúnach [WP2], soláthrófar raon leathan catalóg de sheirbhísí tacaíochta [WP3], éiceachóras tarraingteach nuálaíochta a chothú le haghaidh athchóiriú éiceolaíoch [WP4], agus an deis a thabhairt agus a chumhachtú



do shaoránaigh an AE a bheith rannpháirteach i gcaomhnú agus athchóiriú na n-aigéan agus uisce trí bhealaí rannpháirteacha [WP5].

Roghnófar sé chás-staidéar thar raon cur chuige ionadaíoch athchóirithe chun cur chuige athchóirithe a léiriú (m.sh. cosaint, athchóiriú gníomhach, fómhar inbhuanaithe) chun modheolaíochtaí cruthaithe agus cruthaithe ó thionscadail agus líonraí le déanaí agus atá ar siúl a léiriú.

Soláthroidh an cás-staidéar treoirlínte agus moltaí maidir leis na cineálacha cur chuige rialachais is fearr chun cosaint agus athchóiriú comhshaoil a sheachadadh i gcórais mhuirí, fionnuisce agus idirthréimhseacha uisce agus inscálaitheacht chun cuspóirí misin a bhaint amach. Forbróidh BlueMissionAA dhá thogra a bhaineann go sonrach le réigiúin i dtreo rialachais éifeachtach maidir le teach solais, ceann amháin don Atlantach agus ceann don Artach.

### Teideal an Tionscadail: I-SEAMORE - Éiceachóras faireachais comhtháite le haghaidh na n-údarás eorpach atá freagrach as oibríochtaí muirí arna ghiarail ag aer-tacaíocht iontaofa agus fheabhsaithe

**Ionstraim:** Gníomhaíocht Nuálaíochta (GN).

**Comhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** F6S Network Ireland Teo.

**Luach do Chomhpháirtithe Éireannacha:** €238,218.75.

**CORDIS:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101073911>

#### Cuspóir

Is Éiceachóras é I-SEAMORE atá comhdhéanta de ard-réiteach ardáin chun oibriú roinnt sócmhainní, seirbhísí agus córais nuálacha a óstáil agus a bhainistiú a bhfuil sé d'aidhm acu feacht staidé méadaithe agus cumais oibríochtúla a sholáthar d'Údarás Eorpacha le haghaidh oibríochtaí faireachais Mhuirí a théann i muinín tacaíochta ón aer agus Ó dhromchla an uisce. Déantar an croí seastán (sraitheanna bonneagair agus bogearraí) a choincheapadh le himscaradh agus oibriú ag Ionaid Oibríocháin Mhuirí (MOCanna) le comhéadain le córais eile lena n-áirítear Stáisiún Rialaithe Talún UxVs (GCSanna), chomh maith le córais sheachtracha.

Mar sin cuireann sé ardán iomlánaíoch ar fáil d'úsáideoirí deiridh atá in ann roinnt tascanna ilchuspóireacha a láimhseáil lena n-áirítear, e.g. faireachán ar limistéir leathana teorann muirí agus chósta, anailís ar bhagairtí ionchasacha, tacaíocht d'oibríochtaí cuardaigh agus tarrthála, gníomhaíochtaí mídhleathacha a bhrath, i measc nithe eile.

Beidh tascanna den sórt sin indéanta ós rud é go soláthraíonn ardán I-SEAMORE sraith iomlán feidhmiúlachtaí agus inniúlachtaí do cheannasaithe misin, ag díriú ar 4 príomhchólún: 1) fostaíocht agus tascú indíreach a dhéanamh ar ilchineálacha Sócmhainní Gan Foireann Fadtéarmacha (aeróg agus dromchla uisce), 2) saothrú foinsí ilchineálacha sonraí e.g. sonraí pálasta agus foinsí sonraí oscailte lena n-áirítear Seirbhísí Copernicus, 3) pictiúr oibriúcháin choiteann a sholáthar arna chumhachtú ag sraith nua agus cuimsitheach de sheirbhísí comhleá sonraí bunaithe ar Intleacht Shaorga (IS) agus Anailís Mhórshonraí, le haghaidh cinnteoireacht optamach agus cur i gcrích rathúil misean na misin inmianaithe, agus 4) idir-inoibritheacht laistigh den Éiceachóras agus a chomhéadan le príomhchórais sheachtracha atá ann cheana féin.

Ina theannta sin, ginfidh an tionscadal eolas breise freisin chun tacú le glacadh an réitigh ar leibhéal an AE, mar aon le comhar ilnáisiúnta, il-údarás, lena n-áirítear coincheapa oibríochta núíosacha, nósanna imeachta caighdeánacha oibríocháin le haghaidh comhoibríochtaí, agus modheolaíochtaí nua le haghaidh comhoibríochtaí agus réitigh shlándála muirí a chruthú agus a bhailíochtú ag úsáideoirí deiridh.

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# AGUISÍN 6

## Clár na Soithí Taighde 2022

Soitheach Taighde: <i>Celtic Explorer</i> Túsdata: 01/01/2022 Críochdháta: 31/12/2022 Líon Suirbhéanna: 12						
Cód Suirbhé	Ainm an tSuirbhé	Dáta tosaigh	Spríochdháta	Laethanta an tSuirbhé	Líon na nEolaithe	Laethanta na nEolaithe
CE22002	Informing and Mapping the Offshore Renewable Environment (I-MORE)	05/01/2022	13/01/2022	9	11	99
CE22003	BSH Suirbhé uimh.1_	18/01/2022	31/01/2022	14	11	*Cairt na Gearmáine
CE22004	Irish Anglerfish and Megrim Survey	05/02/2022	01/03/2022	25	18	450
CE22005	Suirbhé Uibheacha Ronnach Márta 2022	02/03/2022	22/03/2022	21	5	105
CE22006	Suirbhé fuaimiúil faoitín gorm	23/03/2022	12/04/2022	21	10	210
CE22007	Irish Anglerfish and Megrim Survey	13/04/2022	22/04/2022	10	11	110
CE22008	Rannóg Aeráide na nAigéan	24/04/2022	07/05/2022	14	12	168
CE22009	An tAtlantach Thuaidh mar Aigéan Aeráide: Athruithe sa Táirgiúlacht agus an Caidéal Carbóin Bitheolaíoch a Tholladh amach anseo	08/05/2022	12/06/2022	36	12	432
CE22010	WESPAS	14/06/2022	25/07/2022	42	12	504
CE22013	Sampláil Dríodar Cleitín, Druileáil Charraige & Suirbhéireacht Choiréil (SPeeD)	27/07/2022	13/08/2022	18	7	126
CE22014	Suirbhé MAREANO	20/08/2022	16/09/2022	28	14	*Cairt na hIorua
CE22012	IGFS 2022 Leg I_IV	01/11/2022	17/12/2022	47	12	564
				<b>285</b>		<b>2,768</b>
Soitheach Taighde: <i>Celtic Voyager</i> Túsdata: 01/01/2022 Críochdháta: 31/12/2022 Líon Suirbhéanna: 13						
Cód Suirbhé	Ainm an tSuirbhé	Dáta tosaigh	Spríochdháta	Laethanta an tSuirbhé	Líon na nEolaithe	Laethanta na nEolaithe
CV22003	Suirbhé Comhshaoil an Gheimhridh	17/01/2022	02/02/2022	17	6	102
CV22004	Oiliúint SMART	07/02/2022	08/02/2022	2	3	6
CV22006	GIS agus Brath Cianda: Clár Oiliúna INFOMAR & Clár Oiliúna Maigh Nuad & Modúl 2022	10/02/2022	11/02/2022	2	4	8
CV22009	GMIT Oiliúint Fochéime atá bunaithe ar Longa	24/02/2022	01/03/2022	6	2	12
CV22010	There be Giants	03/03/2022	12/03/2022	10	4	40
CV22011	Science@Sea Oiliúint d'Eolaíocht Mhuirí Ildisciplíneach 2022	14/03/2022	17/03/2022	4	2	8
CV22017	Sonraí a fháil chun faireachán a dhéanamh ar sceitheadh le haghaidh Gabháil agus Stóráil Carbóin sa Mhuir Cheilteach	19/03/2022	26/03/2022	8	3	24
CV22012	Infomar	29/03/2022	10/04/2022	13	3	39
CV22013	Langolf TV 2022	15/04/2022	28/04/2022	14	6	*Cairt na Frainice
CV22014	INFOMAR	01/05/2022	22/05/2022	22	5	110
CV22015	Torcán Árainn Porcupine Nephrops UWTV	23/05/2022	04/06/2022	13	6	78
CV22016	UWTV CELTIC Sea Leg 1	06/06/2022	17/06/2022	12	5	60
CV22018	Infomar	19/06/2022	12/07/2022	24	2	48
				<b>147</b>		<b>535</b>

# AGUISÍN 7

## Gníomhaíochtaí Taighde Eolaíochta Mara Eachtracha in Uiscí na hÉireann 2022

### Scéim Breathnóra Árthaí Eachtrach 2022

Mar gheall ar shrianta Covid-19, níor ghlac go leor soithí eachtracha le breathnóirí in 2022. Mar sin, níor chuir Foras na Mara ach beirt bhreathnóirí Éireannacha in 2022 ar shuirbhéanna ar árthaí eachtracha ar feadh 47 lá san iomlán ar muir.

Críochnaíodh 47 suirbhé ar árthaí eachtracha san iomlán in uiscí na hÉireann in 2022. As na suirbhéanna, rinne soithí ón RA/ Thuaisceart Éireann 33 agus b'árthaí Francacha (1), Danmhairgis (1), Beilgeach (1), Ioruais (3), Spáinnis (3), Ollainnis (3) agus Gearmáinis (2) an chuid eile. Tharla an líon níos airde suirbhéanna i gcomparáid le blianta roimhe seo mar gheall ar riaráiste suirbhéanna a cuireadh ar ceal mar gheall ar Covid-19 agus ar chríochnú an tSuirbhé Uibheacha Ronnach agus Ronnach, a dhéantar a chomhordú go hidirnáisiúnta, a chríochnaítear gach trí bliana.

Laethanta Eolaí Éirinn	Laethanta Eolaí Eachtracha
4,164	5,437

2022 Gníomhaíocht Soithí Coigríche in Uiscí Éireann					
Tír	Ainm an tSoithigh	Sonraí suirbhé	Laethanta Iarbhir (in Uiscí Éireann)	Eolaithe	Laethanta na nEolaithe Iarbhir
Beilg	RV Belgica	DynaMOD : staidéar samhaltaithe aigéaneolaíochta agus dríodar dinimiciúla ar shreabha comhrianta móna	13	20	260
An Danmhairg	Jakup Sverri	Suirbhé Idirnáisiúnta faoin bhFáint Gorm	6	4	24
An Fhrainc	EVHOE Thalassa	Suirbhéanna Francach Thráilaithe Gléimhe i mBá na Bioscáine agus sa Mhuir Cheilteach	35	25	875
Gearmáin	RV Maria S.Merian	Foirmiú ábhar orgánach, iompar agus claochlú ar agus amach ó sheilf iarthar na hÉireann	15	23	345
Gearmáin	Walther Herwig III	Suirbhé Uibheacha Ronnach agus Bolmán	25	12	300
Ísiltír	Tridens	Suirbhé Idirnáisiúnta faoin bhFátachán Gorm atá comhordaithe ag ICES	27	7	189
Ísiltír	Tridens	Meastachán bithmhaise ar stoc Ronnach agus Bolmán	15	5	75
Ísiltír	Tridens	Suirbhé Uibheacha Ronnach agus Bolmán Tréimhse 6	15	5	75
Iorua	Vikingbank	Feistí rialaithe gabhála a thástáil in iascaigh Faoitín Gorm	14	4	56
Iorua	MV Vendla	Measúnú fuaimiúil ar stoc sceathraí Faoitín Gorm	8	7	56
Iorua	Fiskebas	Clibeáil agus sampláil bhitheolaíoch ronnach	14	5	70

2022 Gníomhaíocht Soithí Coigríche in Uiscí Éireann					
Tír	Ainm an tSoithigh	Sonraí suirbhé	Laethanta Iarbhir (in Uiscí Éireann)	Eolaithe	Laethanta na nEolaithe Iarbhir
An Spáinn	Vizconde De Eza	Suirbhé Idirnáisiúnta ar Stoc Sceite Faoitín Gorm (SISSFG)	11	12	132
An Spáinn	Ramon Margalef	Suirbhé Uibheacha Ronnach	8	12	96
An Spáinn	Vizconda De Eza	Suirbhé tráil íochtair	24	15	360
RA	Scotia	Suirbhé tráil íochtair ag díriú ar speicis gaoididí óga	6	7	42
RA	FV ACHILLES	An Institiúid Agraibhia agus Eolaíochtaí Bitheacha Suirbhé ar Trosc agus Iasc Cruinn Mhuir Éireann 2022 - Comhpháirtíocht Eolaíochta Iascaigh	15	2	30
RA	CEFAS Endeavour	Sraith ama suirbhéanna tráláireachta bíoma Q1SWECOS	7	10	70
RA	Queen Of Ulster	Aisghabháil agus ath-implonú eagar fuaimiúil	3	2	6
RA	Altaire	Suirbhé Faoitín Gorm 0122H	20	5	100
RA	Scotia	Suirbhé tráil chun flúirse agus dáileadh na n-iasc slatiascach a mheas	6	8	48
RA	RRS JAMES COOK (JC231)	Aisghabháil agus imscaradh múrála i Whittard Canyon (LEE na hÉireann)	5	20	100
RA	Scotia	Suirbhé Uibheacha Ronnach	12	7	84
RA	Altaire	Suirbhé Uibheacha Ronnach	12	6	72
RA	Fionnachtain	DY152: Trialacha Coimisiúnaithe agus Eolaíochta NMF-MARS	9	20	180
RA	Fionnachtain	Staidéar ar Shuaiteacht agus Drochshamhail an Chiseal Bun Teorainn	20	20	400
RA	James Cook	Léarscáiliú gnáthóg i Cainneon Whittard agus Má an Torcupine Abyssal	15	31	465
RA	CEFAS Endeavour	Suirbhé tráil bíoma ar Mhuir Éireann agus ar Mhuir nlochta Bhriostó	17	7	119
RA	MV Scotia	1122S Suirbhé ar Chadóg Rocal	5	8	40
RA	Queen Of Ulster	Aisghabháil agus ath-implonú eagar fuaimiúil in iarthuaisceart na hÉireann (The SeaMonitor - Tionscadal AE INTERREG VA)	3	2	6

## 2022 Gníomhaíocht Soithí Coigríche in Uiscí Éireann

Tír	Ainm an tSoithigh	Sonraí suirbhé	Laethanta Iarbhir (in Uiscí Éireann)	Eolaithe	Laethanta na nEolaithe Iarbhir
RA	MV Scotia	Suirbhé ar Thránáil Ghrinnill R4 ar an gCosta Thiar 2022, 1722S	7	8	56
RA	Corystes	Feistiú aigéaneolaíochta a chothabháil agus sampláil a dhéanamh leis an Rosette CTD	5	6	30
RA	Corystes	Suirbhé muiríní	5	6	30
RA	Corystes	Feistiú aigéaneolaíochta a chothabháil agus sampláil a dhéanamh leis an Rosette CTD chun an tacar sonraí aigéaneolaíochta leanúnach a choinneáil in iarthar Mhuir Éireann	6	6	36
RA	Corystes	Iarrann AFBI cead chun a Shuirbhé bliantúil ar Éisc Ghrinnill ráithe 1 a dhéanamh laistigh de Mhuir Éireann agus de Mhuir nloch Sheoirse.	12	8	96
RA	Corystes	Aistear mara na nÉiceachóras	5	6	30
RA	Corystes	Aistear mara na nÉiceachóras	6	6	36
RA	Corystes	Suirbhé Líon MIKK Mhuir Éireann	9	8	72
RA	Corystes	Suirbhé Queenie	8	6	48
RA	Corystes	Aistear mara na nÉiceachóras	8	6	48
RA	Corystes	Aistear mara na nÉiceachóras	4	6	24
RA	Corystes	Aistear mara na nÉiceachóras	4	6	24
RA	Corystes	Ubh Ronnach	0	9	0
RA	Corystes	Suirbhé Thráilaithe Measúnaithe na hInstitiúide Agraibhia agus Eolaíochtaí Bitheacha ar Mhuir Éireann Nephrop.	5	8	40
RA	Corystes	Suirbhé Fuaim Peilgeach de chuid Mhuir Éireann	4	8	32
RA	Corystes	Suirbhé ar Éisc Ghrinnill laistigh de Mhuir Éireann agus de Mhuir nloch Sheoirse	8	8	64
RA	Prionsa Madog	Próisis oighreacha a mbíonn tionchar acu ar dhinimic ghrinneall na farraige mar phríomhbhreithniú do thionscail fuinnimh in-athnuaite.	11	6	66
RA	Corystes	Aistear mara na nÉiceachóras	5	6	30
		<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>497</b>		<b>5,437</b>



# AGUISÍN 8

## Forbhreathnú Sealadach ar Áireamh Éisc do 2022

Tá clár daonáirimh iasc Bhuiríos Umhail (bradán, breac, eascann), lena n-áirítear an t-áireamh in aghaidh an tsrutha agus le sruth agus monatóireacht ar stoc na n-óg sna sruthanna agus sna lochanna ag baint úsáide as leictriascaireacht agus saighne trá, mar bhunús do chuid mhór den mheasúnú stoic agus den soláthar de chomhairle stoic agus gabhála do bhradán agus eascann.

Áirítear le taighde earcú stoic agus nasc a dhéanamh idir SR agus flúirse na n-óg, uainiú an rith, anailís ar tháirgeadh éisc, torachas agus iompar éisc. Tá béim faoi leith á leagan anois freisin ar mheastóireacht ar mharthanacht agus ar fhás na mara, go háirithe maidir le hathruithe ar an gcomhshaoil, agus ar fhorbairt teicnící suirbhéireachta eascann chun tacú le Rialachán an AE maidir le hAisghabháil Stoc Eascann. Áirítear sonraí ó na gaistí i nglanna sonraí bliantúla na Comhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Thaiscéalaocht na Mara (ICES) do bhradán, breac geal agus eascann.

Lean an clár daonáirimh éisc sna príomhghaistí sa Bhaile Uí Fhiacháin ag feidhmiú i 2022 agus coinníodh gach sraith sonraí faoi choinníollacha srianta Covid-19. Bhí coinníollacha uisce le linn na tréimhse imirce le sruth bradán agus breac go maith go ginearálta do ghluaiseacht éisc sa chéad leath den bhliain cé go raibh tionchar ag triomach fada trí mhí Iúil go dtí deireadh Mheán Fómhair ar uainiú filleadh bradán agus breac fásta agus ar an tréimhse luath de. an imirce eascann airgid le sruth.

Cuireadh tús le rith gealóg na mbradán le linn mhí an Mhárta, le dhá bhua is mó imirce, ceann ag deireadh mhí Aibreáin agus an dara ceann ag tús mhí na Bealtaine. Bhí líon na mbradán fásta fiáin agus rainse araon ag filleadh i 2022 íseal. Ba leor leibhéil uisce an chuid ba mhó de mhí an Mheithimh chun imirce in aghaidh an tsrutha a chumasú ach thit na leibhéil i rith mhí Iúil agus níor taifeadh mórán iasc sna gaistí in aghaidh an tsrutha.

Bhí leibhéil arda uisce mar thoradh ar bháisteach throm ag deireadh mhí Iúil. In ainneoin an mhéadaithe ar leibhéal an uisce, áfach, bhí líon na n-iasc ag dul ar imirce in aghaidh an tsrutha níos ísle ná mar a bhíodas ag súil leis. Is beag iasc a bhíonn le feiceáil sa chuid eile den bhliain. Mar a tharla sna blianta roimhe seo, chonacthas roinnt bradán feirm agus fiáin ag coimeád i linn Rása an Mhuilinn.

Tá feabhas mór tagtha ar éifeachtúlacht, sláinte éisc, cáilíocht sonraí agus bainistíocht na gaistí le sruth go háirithe sna leibhéil uisce arda agus an t-urlár cruach dosmálta nua a suiteáladh i 2021 nuair a cuireadh greillí cothrománacha alúmanaim nua isteach sna gaistí anuas le sruth Bradán agus Rás an Mhuilinn i 2020. sa Ghaiste In aghaidh an tsrutha ag Léim na mBradán tá feabhas breise tagtha ar an áis gaisteoireachta éisc agus ar leas na n-iasc.

### Sonraí daonáirimh in aghaidh srutha do Chóras Buiríos Umhail, 2022 (Sonraí sealadacha do 2022).

Speiceas	Léim Bradán In aghaidh srutha 2022	Sruth an Mhuilinn In aghaidh srutha 2022	Iomlán In aghaidh srutha 2022	Iomlán In aghaidh srutha 2021	Iomlán In aghaidh srutha 2020	Iomlán In aghaidh srutha 2019
Bláthán Fiáin	235	78	313	422	590	443
Bradán an Earraigh Fhiáin	6	2	8	7	9	14
Bláthán Tógtha	208	152	360	787	1,431	1,133
Breac Mara Fiáin	5	2	7	62	36	18
Breac Donn Fiáin	40	20	60	67	57	75

### Sonraí daonáirimh iarthachtacha do Chóras Buiríos Umhail, 2022 (Sonraí do 2022 sealadach)

Speiceas	Léim Bradán Le sruth 2022	Sruth an Mhuilinn Le sruth 2022	Iomlán Le sruth 2022	Iomlán Le sruth 2021	Iomlán Le sruth 2020	Iomlán Le sruth 2019
Brainlín Bradán Fiáin	5,642	1,451	5,642	5,354	5,996	5,863
Brainlín Bhreac Mara Fiáin	222	21	243	231	92	243
Eascann Airgid	2,797	934	3,731	3,026	2,122	2,227

# GLUAIS GIORRÚCHÁN

AE	An tAontas Eorpach	FP7	An Seachtú Clár Réime
AFMD	Rannóg Bainistíochta Dobharshaothraithe agus Urthrú AMS Ardseirbhísí Mapála	FBManna	Gnóthais bheaga agus mheánmhéide FPMS Diúilicíní Péarta Fionnuisce
ASP	Nimhiú Aimeiseach ó Shliogéisc	FSAI	Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann
BIG	Grúpa Forfheidhmithe Bithgheilleagair	FSS	Seirbhísí Eolaíochta na nIascach
BIM	Bord Iascaigh Mhara (the Irish Sea Fisheries Board)	GIS	Córais Faisnéise Geografaí
BSA	Limistéar atá Íogair ó thaobh Bitheolaíochta	GMIT	Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Mhaigh Eo
BSc	Baitsiléir Eolaíochta	GO-SHIP	Chláir Imscrúdaithe Hidreagrafach Domhanda Aigéinbhunaithe GSI Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta na hÉireann
CEFAS	Ionad Comhshaoil, Iascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe Eolaíochta (RA) CIR Coiste Iniúcháireachta Riosca	HABanna	Blásanna Algacha Dochracha IAOanna Institiúidí um Ard-Oideachas
CMIT / ICES	An Chomhairle Idirnáisiúnta um Shaothrú na Mara CNF / NDP Clár Náisiúnta Forbartha	IBM	International Business Machines Corporation
CPR	Taifeadán Planctóin Leanúnach	ICCAT	Coimisiún Idirnáisiúnta um Thuinníní Atlantacha a Chaomhnú ICHEC Ionad na hÉireann um Ríomhaireacht Ardleibhéil
CTD	Seoltacht, Teocht, Doimhneacht	UFT / UDA	Údarás Forbartha Tionscail IIE / IFI Iascaigh Intíre Éireann
DCMAP	Clár Ibhliantúil um Bailiú Sonraí	IFREMER	Institut français de recherche pour l'exploration de la mer (Institiúid Taighde na Fraince um Thaiscéalaíocht na Mara)
DCU	Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath	IFSRP	Comhpháirtíocht Taighde Eolaíochta Iascaigh na hÉireann IHO Eagraíocht Hidreagrafach Idirnáisiúnta
DECC	Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide agus Comhshaoil DFA Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha	IMDBON	Líonra Breathnóireachta Baoithe Sonraí Mara na hÉireann IMDO Oifig Forbartha Muirí na hÉireann
DFHERIS	Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais, Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta DHLGH Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht	INAB	Bord Creidiúnaithe Náisiúnta na hÉireann
DoT	Roinn Iompair Turasóireachta agus Spóirt	INFOMAR	Mapáil Chomhtháite d'Fhorbairt Inmharthanach Acmhainn Muirí na hÉireann INTERREG An Clár um Chomhar Críochach Eorpach
DSP	Nimhiú Buinní ó Shliogiasc	INTGN	Líonra Náisiúnta Tomhsaire Taoide na hÉireann
ECVanna	Athróga Sár-riachtanacha i leith na hAeráide FI / EI Fiontraíocht Éireann	IOC	An Coimisiún Aigéaneolaíochta Idir-Rialtasach
EMFAF	An Ciste Eorpach Muirí agus Dobharshaothrú EMFF An Ciste Eorpach Muirí agus Iascaigh EO Vanna Athróga Sár-riachtanacha i leith an Aigéin	IODE	Malartú Idirnáisiúnta Sonraí Aigéaneolaíochta
EPA	An Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil	MI / IP	Maoin Intleachtúil
EurOcean	An tIonad Eorpach le haghaidh Faisnéise maidir le hEolaíocht agus Teicneolaíocht Muirí FAO Eagraíocht Bhia agus Talmhaíochta na Náisiún Aontaithe	IROC	Tuarascáil CMIT/ICES maidir le hAeráid Aigéin LEE / EEZ Limistéar Eorpach Eacnamaíoch
FIRM	Beart Taighde Thionscal an Bhia	LBM	Moilisc Dhébhlaoscacha Bheo
FEAS	Seirbhísí Chomhairleacha um Éiceachórais Iascaigh FHA Údarú Sláinte Éisc	LPG	Gás Peitríliam Leachtaithe
FHU	Aonad Sláinte Éisc	MaREI	Ionad Fuinneamh Muirí agus In-athnuaite na hÉireann MCG Grúpa Comhordaithe Muirí

MEFSS	Seirbhísí Muirthimpeallachta agus Sábháilteachta Bia MIIN Líonra Tionscail Mhuirí Éireann	ROV	Feithicil Chianoibrithe
MPA	Limistéar Mhuirí faoi Chosaint	RV	Soitheach Taighde
MRFF	Fóram na Maoinitheoirí Taighde Mara	RVOps	Oibríochtaí ártach taighde SACanna Limistéir Chaomhantais Speisialta SAM Stáit Aontaithe Mheiriceá
MSc	Máistreacht san Eolaíocht	SBIR	Scéim Nuálaíochta agus Taighde na bhFiontar Beag SEAI Údarás Fuinnimh Inmharthana na hÉireann SEMRU Aonad Taighde Mara Socheacnamaíoch
MSFD	Treoir Réime um Straitéis Mhuirí	SFI	Fondúireacht Eolaíochta Éireann
MSP	Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí	SFPA	An tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara
MSPD	Treoir um Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí	TCD	Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath TFC / ICT Teicneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide TTX An ghrúpa tocsainí Teitreadótcasain
MSSC	Coiste Sábháilteachta Sliogéisc Moileascacha MSY Uastáirgeacht Inbhuanaithe	UCC	Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh
NASCO	Eagraíocht um Chaomhnú Bradán san Atlantach Thuaidh NCPSP Clár Faireachais Náisiúnta Phlá na gCráifisceanna	UCD	Coláiste na Ollscoil, Baile Átha Cliath
NMCI	Coláiste Náisiúnta Muirí na hÉireann, Corcaigh	UU	Ollscoil Uladh
NMPF	An Creat Náisiúnta An Rannán Pleanála	VIVALDI	Clár chun galair i ndébhlaoscacha saothraithe a chosc agus a mhaolú WFD Creat-Treoir Uisce
NOAA	Roinn Náisiúnta Riaracháin na nAigéan agus an Atmaisféir NPWS An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra		
NRL	Leabharlann Náisiúnta Tagartha		
OÉG	Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh		
OAR	Stór Rochtana Oscailte		
OCIS	Aigéan Seirbhísí agus Faisnéise Aigéin		
OECD	An Eagraíocht um Chomhar agus Fhorbairt Eacnamaíochta ORE Fuinneamh In-athnuaite Eischósta		
OSPAR	Comhdháil Oslo agus Pháras (1992)		
OTBÁC	Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta Baile Átha Cliath		
OTI	Comhlán Táirge Intíre		
PhD	Dochtúireacht san Fhealsúnacht		
PIRS	Seirbhísí Polasaí, Nuálaíochta agus Taighde		
POF	Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin		
PSP	Nimh Phairiliseach ó Shliogiasc		
QUB	Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste		
RA	An Ríocht Aontaithe		
R&D	Taighde agus Forbairt		
R&I	Taighde agus Nuálaíocht		
RSGC	Rialachán um Shonraí Ginearálta a Chosaint		
RTBM	Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Cúrsaí Mara		

# FORAS NA MARA RÁITIS AIRGEADAIS

Don bhliain dar chríoch 31 Nollaig 2022

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## Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste

### An tArd-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste

#### Tuarascáil le cur faoi bhráid Thithe an Oireachtais

#### Foras na Mara

#### Tuairim ar na ráitis airgeadais

Tá iniúchadh déanta agam ar ráitis airgeadais Fhoras na Mara don bhliain dar chríoch an 31 Nollaig 2022 faoi fhorálacha alt 12 den Acht um Fhoras na Mara, 1991. Cuimsítear sna ráitis airgeadais

- an ráiteas ioncaim agus caiteachais agus cúlchiste ioncaim coinnithe
- an ráiteas ar ioncam cuimsitheach
- an ráiteas ar an staid airgeadais
- an ráiteas maidir le sreabhaidh airgeadais, agus
- na nótaí gaolmhara, lena n-áirítear achoimre ar bheartais shuntasacha chuntasaíochta

Is é mo thuairim go dtugann na ráitis airgeadais seo léargas fíor agus cóir ar shócmhainní, dliteanais agus staid airgeadais Fhoras na Mara ar an 31 Nollaig 2022 agus ar a ioncam agus a chaiteachas don bhliain 2017 de réir Chaighdeán Tuairiscithe Airgeadais (FRS) 102 – *Caighdeán Tuairiscithe Airgeadais is infheidhme sa Ríocht Aontaithe agus i bPoblacht na hÉireann*.

#### Bonn na tuairime

Rinne mé iniúchadh ar na ráitis airgeadais de réir na gCaighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hIniúcháireacht arna bhfógairt ag an Eagraíocht Idirnáisiúnta Uasfhoras Iniúcháireachta. Tugtar tuairisc ar mo fhreagrachtaí faoi na caighdeáin sin san aguisín don tuarascáil seo. Táim neamhspleách ar Fhoras na Mara tá mo fhreagrachtaí eiticíúla eile comhlíonta agam i gcomhréir leis na caighdeáin.

Creidimse gur leor agus gur cuí an fhianaise iniúchta atá faighte agam chun bonn a chur le mo thuairim.

#### Tuairisc ar fhaisnéis seachas na ráitis airgeadais, agus ar ábhair eile

I dteannta na ráiteas airgeadais, tá faisnéis áirithe eile curtha i láthair ag Foras na Mara. Cuimsítear leis sin an ráiteas rialachais agus tuarascáil na gcomhaltaí Boird agus an ráiteas um rialú inmheánach. Tá cur síos déanta san aguisín a ghabhann leis an tuarascáil seo ar mo chuid freagrachtaí tuairisciú a dhéanamh i leith faisnéise den chineál sin, agus ar ábhair eile a ndéanaim tuairisciú orthu mar eisceacht.

Níl aon rud le tuairisciú agam chuige sin.

Andrew Harkness

Le haghaidh agus thar ceann an  
Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste

30 Meitheamh 2023

#### Aguisín don tuarascáil

#### Freagrachtaí Chomhaltaí an Bhoird

Mar a leagtar amach sa ráiteas rialachais agus tuarascáil na gcomhaltaí Boird' tá comhaltaí an Bhoird freagrach as:

- ráitis airgeadais bliantúil a ullmhú san fhoirm atá fhorordaithe in alt 12 den Acht um Fhoras na Mara 1991
- a chinntiú go dtugtar léargas fírinneach cóir sna ráitis airgeadais i gcomhréir le FRS 102
- rialtacht na n-idirbheart a chinntiú
- breithiúnas a dhéanamh maidir le húsáid bhonn cuntasaíochta an ghnóthais leantaigh a bheith iomchuí, agus
- an méid rialaithe Inmheánaigh agus a mheasann siad iomchuí a úsáid chun ráitis airgeadais atá saor ó mhíshonrú ábhartha a ullmhú, bíodh sé sin de bharr calaoise nó earráide.

#### Freagrachtaí an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste

Tá sé de cheangal orm faoi alt 12 den Acht um Fhoras na Mara, 1991 iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar ráitis airgeadais Fhoras na Mara tuairisc a thabhairt orthu do Thithe an Oireachtais.

Is é an cuspóir atá agam agus an t-iniúchadh á dhéanamh agam ná dearbhú réasúnach a thabhairt i leith cibé an bhfuil nó nach bhfuil an cuntas ina iomláine saor ó mhíshonrú ábhartha de dheasca calaoisí nó earráide. Is ardeibhéal dearbhaithe é dearbhú réasúnach, ach ní ráthaíocht é go mbraithfidh iniúchadh a reáchtáiltear de réir na gCaighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hIniúcháireacht, go mbraithfidh sé míshonrú ábhartha nuair is ann dó. Féadfaidh sé go dtagann míráitis aníos de dheasca calaoise nó earráide agus meastar go bhfuil siad ábhartha, más rud é, ina n-aonair nó ina gcomh-iomláine, go bhféadfaí a bheith ag súil leis go réasúnach go n-imreodh siad tionchar ar chinntí eacnamaíocha arna ndéanamh ag úsáideoirí ar bhonn an chuntais seo.

Mar chuid d'iniúchadh i gcomhréir leis na Caighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hIniúcháireacht, úsáidim breithiúnas gairmiúil agus coinnim sceipteachas gairmiúil i rith an iniúchta. Ar an dóigh sin,

- aithním agus déanaim measúnú ar na rioscaí a bhaineann le míshonrú ábhartha i leith an chuntais, cibé acu de dheasca calaoise nó earráide; a dearadh agus cur i gcrích nósanna imeachta iniúcháireachta atá freagrach ar na rioscaí sin; agus fianaise iniúcháireachta a fháil atá leordhóthanach agus oiriúnach chun bonn a chur le mo thuairim. Tá riosca níos airde i gceist gan míshonrú ábhartha a bhrath nuair is de dheasca calaoise atá sé seachas de dheasca earráide, ar an ábhar go bhféadfaidh sé go bhfuil claonpháirteachas, brionnú, neamhghníomh intinneach, mífhaisnéis, nó sárú rialaithe inmheánaigh i gceist leis.
- Faighim tuiscint ar an rialú inmheánach atá cuí don iniúchadh d'fhonn nósanna imeachta iniúcháireachta a dhearadh atá oiriúnach sna cúinsí, ach ní d'fhonn tuairim a chur in iúl maidir le héifeachtúlacht na rialuithe inmheánacha.
- Déanaim meastóireacht ar oiriúnacht na bpolasaithe cuntasaíochta a úsáidtear agus ar réasúntacht na meastachán cuntasaíochta agus na nochtuithe bainteacha.

- Críochnaím ar oiriúnacht úsáid an bhonn cuntasaíochta gnóthais leantaigh agus, bunaithe ar fhianaise an iniúchta a fuarthas, an bhfuil neamhchinnteacht ábhartha ann maidir le himeachtaí nó coinníollacha a d'fhéadfadh a bheith ina gcúis le hamhras mór ar chumas Fhoras na Mara leanúint ar aghaidh mar ghnóthas leantach. Má thagaim ar an tátal gur ann do neamhchinnteacht ábhartha, tá sé de cheangal orm aird a thabhairt i mo thuarascáil ar na nochtuithe gaolmhara sna ráitis airgeadais nó, mura leor na nochtuithe, mo thuairim a mhodhnú. Tá mo thátail bunaithe ar an bhfianaise iniúcháireachta a fuair mé suas go dáta na tuarascála. Féadfaidh sé, áfach, go gcuirfidh imeachtaí nó coinníollacha amach anseo deireadh le Foras na Mara ina cháil mar ghnóthas leantach.
- Déanaim meastóireacht ar chur i láthair, struchtúr agus ábhar an chuntais, na nochtuithe san áireamh, agus cibé acu an léirítear i gceart sa chuntas na hidirbhearta agus imeachtaí bunúsacha.

Déanaim teagmháil leo siúd a bhfuil freagracht rialachais orthu maidir le, i measc nithe eile, an scóip phleanáilte agus tráthúlacht an iniúchta agus na dtorthaí suntasacha iniúchta, lena n-áirítear aon easnaimh sa rialú inmheánach a shainaitnínm le linn m'iniúchta.

Tuairiscím freisin trí eisceacht más fíor, i mo thuairimse, aon cheann de na ráitis seo a leanas:

- mura bhfaighim an fhaisnéis agus na mínithe go léir a theastaigh uaim chun m'iniúchadh a dhéanamh, nó
- mura leor na taifid chuntasaíochta chun iniúchadh réidh agus ceart a dhéanamh orthu, nó
- nach dtagann na ráitis airgeadais leis na taifid chuntasaíochta.

#### Faisnéis eile seachas na ráitis airgeadais

Ní chlúdaíonn mo thuairim ar an gcuntas an fhaisnéis eile a chuirtear i láthair leis an gcuntas, agus ní thugaim aon chineál conclúide dearbhaithe ina leith.

I dtaca le m'iniúchadh ar an gcuntas, iarrtar orm faoi na Caighdeáin Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hIniúcháireacht an fhaisnéis eile a chuirtear i láthair a léamh, agus é sin á dhéanamh agam, machnamh a dhéanamh an bhfuil an fhaisnéis eile ar neamhréir le na ráitis airgeadais nó le heolas eile a fhaightear le linn an iniúchta, nó ar bhealach eile an bhfuil an chuma air go bhfuil míráiteas ábhartha tugtha ina leith. Más rud é, bunaithe ar an obair atá curtha i gcrích agam, go bhfuilim den tuairim go raibh míshonrú ábhartha tugtha i leith na faisnéise seo, iarrtar orm an fhírín sin a thuairisciú.

#### Tuairisciú ar ábhair eile

Déanaim m'iniúchadh trí thagairt a dhéanamh do bhreithnithe speisialta a ghabhann le comhlachtaí Stáit maidir lena mbainistíocht agus lena n-oibríocht. Tugaim tuairisc má fhaighim go bhfuil nithe ábhartha ann a bhaineann leis an tslí a ndéanadh gnó poiblí.

Féachaim chun fianaise a fháil le linn an iniúchta maidir le rialtacht na n-idirbheart airgeadais. Tugaim tuairisc má tá aon chás ábhartha nár feidhmíodh suimeanna airgid chun na gcríoch a bhí beartaithe ar aird, nó sa chás nach mbíonn na hidirbhearta ag cloí leis na húdaráis a dhéanann rialú orthu.

## RÁITEAS RIALACHAIS AGUS TUARASCÁIL CHOMHALTAÍ AN BHOIRD

### Rialachas

Bunaíodh Bord Fhoras na Mara faoin Acht um Fhoras na Mara, 1991. Tá feidhmeanna an Bhoird leagtha amach in Alt 3 den Acht seo. Tá an Bord freagrach don Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara agus tá sé freagrach as dea-rialachas a chinntiú, agus comhlíonann sé an ról seo trí chuspóirí agus spriocanna straitéiseacha a leagan síos, agus trí chinntí straitéiseacha a dhéanamh ar gach príomhcheist ghnó. Is iad an Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin (POF) agus an fhoireann bhainistíochta shinsearach atá freagrach as bainistíocht laethúil, rialú agus stiúradh Fhoras na Mara. Ní mór don POF agus don fhoireann bhainistíochta shinsearach an treo straitéiseach leathan atá leagtha síos ag an mBord a leanúint, agus a chinntiú go bhfuil tuiscint shoiléir ag gach comhalta den Bhord ar na príomhghníomhaíochtaí agus cinntí a bhaineann leis an eintiteas, agus ar aon rioscaí suntasacha a d'fhéadfadh teacht chun cinn. Feidhmíonn an POF mar idirchaidreamh díreach idir an Bord agus bainistíocht Fhoras na Mara. De réir Acht Fhoras na Mara, comhlíonann an Bord a dhualgais mar atá leagtha amach thíos.

### Freagrachtaí an Bhoird

Tá obair agus freagrachtaí an Bhoird leagtha amach i *mBuan-Orduithe an Bhoird*, i *Sceideal na gCúrsaí le Cinneadh an Bhoird agus i Róil an Bhoird*, an *Chathaoirligh*, an *Phríomhfeidhmeannaigh agus Rúnaí an Bhoird*, ina bhfuil freisin na hábhair atá forchoimeáda go sonrach le haghaidh cinneadh an Bhoird. I measc na míreanna seasta a bhreithnigh an Bord le linn na tréimhse bhí:

- Dearbhú leasanna
- Tuarascálacha ó choistí
- Ráitis airgeadais agus míreanna caiteachais os cionn €150,000
- Cur i bhfeidhm straitéise agus
- Nithe in áirithe.

Soláthraíonn Bord Fhoras na Mara ceannaireacht agus treoir straitéiseach don eagraíocht, ag sainiú cuspóir an Fhorais agus ag forbairt na mbeartas a theastaíonn chun a spriocanna a bhaint amach. Socraíonn an Bord táscairí feidhmíochta agus déanann sé dul chun cinn a thomhas ina gcoinne sin, ag déanamh dlúthmhonatóireacht ar bhuiséid agus ar fheidhmíocht airgeadais. Treoraíonn an Bord an eagraíocht maidir le hiompar eiticiúil agus ar bhealach a thagann le croíluachanna agus cultúr na heagraíochta.

Ceanglaítear le hAlt 12 d'Acht Fhoras na Mara, 1991 ar Bhord Fhoras na Mara, i cibé foirm a cheadóidh an tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara le toiliú an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe, gach ceart agus gnáthchuntais ar airgead a fhaigheann sé agus a chaithfidh sé.

Agus na ráitis airgeadais seo á n-ullmhú, ceanglaítear ar Bhord Fhoras na Mara:

- beartais chuntasaíochta oiriúnacha a roghnú agus iad a chur i bhfeidhm go comhsheasmhach,
- breithiúnais agus meastacháin a dhéanamh atá réasúnach agus stuama,
- na ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú ar bhonn gnóthais leantaigh ach amháin má tá sé míchuí a thiomhdiú go leanfaidh sé de bheith ag feidhmiú, agus
- a lua ar leanadh caighdeáin chuntasaíochta infheidhmithe, faoi réir aon imeacht ábhartha a nochtar agus a mhínítear sna ráitis airgeadais.

Tá an Bhoird freagrach as taifid chuntasaíochta leordhóthanacha a choinneáil a nochtann, le cruinneas réasúnta ag aon tráth, a staid airgeadais agus a chuireann ar a chumas a chinntiú go gcomhlíonann na ráitis airgeadais le hAlt 12 den Acht um Fhoras na Mara, 1991. Is é an Bord atá freagrach as cothabháil agus sláine na faisnéise corparáidí agus airgeadais ar shuíomh Gréasáin Fhoras na Mara.

Tá an Bord freagrach as an bplean bliantúil agus an buiséad a cheadú. Tá an Bord freagrach freisin as a shócmhainní a chosaint agus mar sin as céimeanna réasúnta a ghlacadh chun calaois agus neamhrialtachtaí eile a chosc agus a bhrath.

Measann an Bord go dtugann ráitis airgeadais Fhoras na Mara léargas fíor agus cothrom ar fheidhmíocht airgeadais agus ar staid airgeadais Fhoras na Mara don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022 agus amhail ag 31 Nollaig 2022, faoi seach.

### Struchtúr an Bhoird

Tá an Bord comhdhéanta de Chathaoirleach agus ochtar gnáthchomhalta, agus is é an tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara a cheapann gach duine díobh. Ceapadh comhaltaí an Bhoird ar feadh tréimhse chúig bliana agus tháinig siad le chéile dhá uair déag i 2022. Sonraítear sa tábla thíos an tréimhse cheapacháin do chomhaltaí reatha agus dóibh siúd a bhí in oifig le linn na tréimhse:

Comhalta Boird	Ról	Téarma oifige
John Killeen	Cathaoirleach	Cuireadh tús leis an dara téarma ar 8 Eanáir 2019
David Owens	Gnáthchomhalta	Cuireadh tús leis an dara téarma ar 6 Feabhra 2018. Ar scor ó Bhord ag deireadh téarma an 5 Feabhra 2023
Berna Grist	Gnáthchomhalta	Cuireadh tús leis an dara téarma ar 6 Feabhra 2018. Athcheaptha chuig an mBord an 6 Feabhra 2023
Patricia Barker	Gnáthchomhalta	Cuireadh tús leis an dara téarma ar 19 Feabhra 2018. Scortha ón mBord ag deireadh téarma an 18 Feabhra 2023
Donal Kelly	Gnáthchomhalta	Cuireadh tús leis an dara téarma ar 15 Aibreán 2018
Dermot Clohessy	Gnáthchomhalta	Cuireadh tús leis an dara téarma ar 4 Meitheamh 2021
Charlotte O'Kelly	Gnáthchomhalta	Cuireadh tús leis an gcéad téarma ar 4 Meitheamh 2021
Aodh O Domhnaill	Gnáthchomhalta	Cuireadh tús leis an gcéad téarma ar 4 Meitheamh 2021
Tom Tynan	Gnáthchomhalta	Cuireadh tús leis an gcéad téarma ar 11 Samhain 2021

### Comhardú Inscne i mballraíocht an Bhoird

Amhail ag 31 Nollaig 2022, bhí 3 (33%) ban agus 6 (66%) de chomhaltaí fireanna ag an mBord. Ní shásaíonn sé seo sprioc an Rialtais ionadaíocht 40% ar a laghad de gach inscne i mballraíocht na mBord Stáit. Agus folúntais Bhoird á líonadh le linn 2023, tabharfaidh an tAire aird ar a inmhianaithe atá sé do chothromaíocht inscne, éagsúlacht agus cuimsiú ar an mBord. Go ginearálta is ar feadh tréimhse thosaigh 5 bliana a bhíonn ceapacháin chuig an mBord agus rogha an dara téarma.

## An Coiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca

### Réamhrá

Is coiste de chuid Bhord Foras na Mara é an Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca (CIR) agus, le linn na bliana dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022, bhí na comhaltaí seo a leanas ar an gcomhaltas:

Prof. Patricia Barker (Cathaoirleach)

Mr. Dermot Clohessy

Mr. Donal Kelly

Mr. David Owens

Ms. Pauline Cronin (ball seachtrach)

Tá an CIR neamhspleách ar bhainistíocht airgeadais Foras na Mara.

### Ról CIR

Is é ról an CIR maoirseacht agus comhairle a chur ar an mBord agus ar an bPríomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin maidir le nithe a bhaineann le:

- Rioscaí airgeadais, oibriúcháin agus rialachais, lena n-áirítear bainistíocht riosca iomlán;
- Éifeachtúlacht na rialuithe inmheánacha agus na bainistíochta riosca;
- Éifeachtúlacht na feidhme iniúchta inmheánaigh;
- Cumarsáid leis an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste;
- Nithe a d'ardaigh an tIniúcháir Inmheánach agus an tArd-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste;
- Leorgacht nósanna imeachta rialachais;
- Saincheisteanna luach ar airgead;
- Ábhair eile dá n-iarrann an Bord ar CIR déiteáil leo.

Cheadaigh an Bord clár oibre an CIR i mí Eanáir. Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar an gclár sin i mí na Nollag chun a chinntiú gur pléadh le gach ábhar i rith na bliana. Tháinig an CIR le chéile seacht n-uaire in 2022. Bhí dhá chruinniú ag an CIR leis an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste. Tugann an CIR tuairisc ó bhéal don Bhord go díreach tar éis gach cruinnithe; cuireann sé a mhiontuairiscí i láthair an Bhoird tar éis faofa agus tuairiscíonn sé go foirmiúil don Bhord go bliantúil. Cuireadh ceisteanna eile leis an gclár oibre chun déiteáil le cúrsaí breise a tháinig chun cinn i rith na bliana. I measc na nithe breise sin bhí:

- Rioscaí a eascraíonn as ionradh na hÚcráine agus na harduithe praghaís comhchémneach agus na dúshláin sa slabhra soláthair,
- Saincheisteanna cuntasáochta teicniúla de réir mar a tháinig siad chun cinn;
- Pleanáil comharbais;
- Monatóireacht ar thuairiscíú ESG;
- Rioscaí a bhaineann le hobair chumaisc;
- An tAcht um Nochtadh Cosanta 2022;
- Tuairiscíú ar Bhearnaí Inscne.

### Measúnú ar Fheidhmíocht

Críochnaíodh athbhreithniú seachtrach ar CIR le linn 2020/21. Cuireadh i bhfeidhm go hiomlán na moltaí a d'eascair as an athbhreithniú sin. Rinneadh athbhreithniú agus nuashonrú ar an ionstraim a úsáideadh don athbhreithniú féinmheastóireachta a rinneadh ag deireadh 2022.

## Sceideal Tinrimh, Táillí agus Costais

Tá sceideal freastail ar chruinnithe an Bhoird agus an Choiste don bhliain 2022 leagtha amach thíos. Áirítear sa tábla freisin na táillí agus na speansais a fuair gach comhalta:

Ainm	Tinreamh an Bhoird	An Coiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca	Táillí 2022 €	Costais 2022 €
John Killeen	12		11,970	-
Patricia Barker	12	7	7,695	2,247
David Owens	7	4	7,695	351
Berna Grist	12		7,695	785
Donal Kelly	10	4	7,695	-
Dermot Clohessy	12	7	7,695	2,404
Aodh O Domhnaill	11		7,695	3,439
Charlotte O'Kelly	11	1*	7,695	2,726
Tom Tynan **	12	2*	-	-
Pauline Cronin ***	n/b	7	-	-
<b>Iomlán - Táillí/Costais €</b>	<b>n/b</b>	<b>n/b</b>	<b>65,835</b>	<b>11,952</b>
<b>Líon Iomlán na gCruinnithe</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>		

\* Freastalaíodh mar Bhreathnóir.

\*\* Tharscaoil an tUasal Tom Tynan a tháille bhliantúil.

\*\*\* Ní bhfuair Pauline Cronin Uasal (comhalta neamhspleách den CIR) táillí faoi phrionsabal Tuarastail Aon Duine Amháin (OPOS) in 2022.

## Nochtadh a Éilítear faoin gCód Cleachtas um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit (2016)

Tá an Bord freagrach as a chinntiú gur chomhlíon Foras na Mara ceanglais an Chóid Chleachtas um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit ("an Cód"), mar a d'fhoilsigh an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe i mí Lúnasa 2016 (arna leasú i. 2020). Ceanglaítear na nithe seo a leanas a nochtadh faoin gCód:

### Costais Chomhairliúcháin

Áirítear le costais chomhairleoireachta costas comhairle seachtrach ad hoc agus ní áirítear feidhmeanna gnó seachfhoinsithe.

	2022 €	2021€
Dlíthiúil	36,024	36,124
Airgeadais agus Rialachas	63,514	68,000
Cumarsáid/Rannpháirtíocht/Margaíocht	16,667	33,935
Acmhainní Daonna agus Pinsean	10,025	11,316
Pleanáil Gnó	23,616	18,327
Meastóirí	47,803	67,090
TF	50,075	18,492
Forbairt Loingis agus Comhairliúchán Taighde gaolmhar	150,545	42,742
Eile	73,169	85,104
	<b>471,438</b>	<b>381,130</b>

**Costais Dlí agus Socraíochtaí**

Ní raibh aon chostais dlí ná socraíochtaí ag Foras na Mara maidir le déileáil le tríú páirtithe. Ní áirítear leis seo caiteachas a tabhaíodh maidir le comhairle dlí ghinearálta a fuair Foras na Mara, rud a nochtar i gcostais Chomhairliúcháin thuas.

**Caiteachas Taistil agus Cothabhála**

Déantar caiteachas taistil agus cothabhála a chatagóiriú mar seo a leanas:

	2022 €	2021 €
<i>Intíre:</i>		
Bord	13,511	-
Fostaithe	523,309	312,553
<i>Idirnáisiúnta</i>		
Bord	147	730
Fostaithe	279,142	29,155
	<b>816,109</b>	<b>342,438</b>

Áirítear leis an méid €13,511 (2021: €11,952 a íocadh go díreach le Comhaltaí Boird chun iad a aisíoc as taisteal baile agus cothaithe a tabhaíodh le linn 2022. Bhain an t-iarmhéid de €1,559 (2021: €1,559) le caiteachas taistil agus cothabhála a d'íoc Foras na Mara go díreach i ndáil le taisteal gnó Chomhaltaí an Bhoird.

Bhain an méid de €147 (2021 €730) le caiteachas taistil agus cothabhála idirnáisiúnta a d'íoc Foras na Mara i leith taistil ghnó Chomhaltaí an Bhoird.

**Caiteachas Fáilteachais**

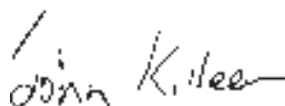
Áiríonn an Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais an caiteachas fáilteachais seo a leanas:

	2022 €	2021 €
Foireann	10,263	
Cliant	49,313	7,162
	<b>59,576</b>	<b>7,162</b>

**Ráiteas Comhlíonta**

Tá glactha ag an mBord leis an gCód Cleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit (2016) agus tá nósanna imeachta curtha i bhfeidhm aige chun comhlíonadh an Chóid a chinntiú. Bhí an Cód Cleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit á gcomhlíonadh go hiomlán ag Foras na Mara amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022.

Ar son an Bhoird



Dr John Killeen  
Cathaoirleach

Dáta: 28 Meitheamh 2023

## FORAS NA MARA

### RÁITEAS MAIDIR LE RIALÚ INMHEÁNACH

**1. Raon Freagrachta**

Ar son Fhoras na Mara, admhaím freagracht an Bhoird as a chinntiú go ndéantar córas éifeachtach rialaithe inmheánaigh a chothabháil agus a fheidmiú. Cuireann an fhreagracht seo ceanglais an Chóid Chleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit 2016 san áireamh.

**2. Cuspóir an Chórais Rialaithe Inmheánaigh**

Tá an córas rialaithe inmheánaigh deartha chun riosca a bhainistiú go leibhéal is féidir a ghlacadh seachas deireadh a chur leis. Ní féidir leis an gcóras, dá bhrí sin, ach ráthaíocht réasúnta seachas ráthaíocht iomlán a thabhairt go ndéantar sócmhainní a chosaint, idirbhearta a údarú agus a thaifeadadh i gceart agus go ndéantar earráidí ábhartha nó neamhrialtachtaí a chosc nó a bhrath go tráthúil.

Tá an córas rialaithe inmheánaigh, a thagann le treoir arna eisiúint ag an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe, i bhfeidhm i bhForas na Mara don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022 agus suas go dtí dáta faofa na ráiteas airgeadais.

**3. Príomhnósanna Imeachta Rialaithe**

Tá timpeallacht rialaithe láidir agus láidir bunaithe ag Bord Fhoras na Mara i bhForas na Mara trí:

- Cruinnithe Boird rialta a thionól nuair a chuimsíonn an clár oibre saincheistanna straitéiseacha mar rialachas corparáideach, bainistíocht airgeadais agus straitéis chorparáideach;
- Cur i bhfeidhm Straitéis Fhoras na Mara;
- Freagrachtaí bainistíochta sainithe go soiléir, údarás agus cuntasacht, tarmligean feidhmeanna cuí agus athbhreithniú agus formheas ar bheartais uile Fhoras na Mara;
- Buiséid bhliantúla, réamhaisnéis ar shreabhadh airgid agus caiteachas an chláir chaipitiúil a cheadú agus athbhreithniú foirmiúil a dhéanamh orthu ag gach cruinniú Boird;
- Obair an Choiste Iníúcháireachta agus Riosca, a tháinig le chéile seacht n-uaire i 2022;
- Clár iniúchtaí inmheánacha a thabhairt chun críche. Reáchtáladh cruinnithe rialta idir an Coiste Iníúcháireachta agus Riosca agus na hIníúcháirí Inmheánacha chun a gclár oibre, torthaí a n-iniúchtaí, a moltaí a phlé agus tionóladh cruinniú príobháideach gan bhaill den fheidhmeannas;
- Oibriú córas bainistíochta riosca le hathbhreithniú bliantúil ar an mbeartas riosca agus athbhreithniú rialta ar an gclár riosca agus tuairisc ó na comhoifigigh riosca;
- Córais láidre sláinte agus sábháilteachta, le tuarascálacha míosúla don Bhoird;
- Monatóireacht ar chomhlíonadh reachtaíochta lena n-áirítear Saoráil Faisnéise agus Rochtain ar Fhaisnéis Chomhshaoil;
- Beartas um Nochtadh Cosanta a chur i bhfeidhm, trína spreagann an Institiúid aon duine a bhfuil amhras aige/aici de mheon macánta faoi chalaíoch, faoi neamhrialtacht airgeadais nó faoi iompraíocht mhíchuí eile; é seo a thuairisciú de réir na nósanna imeachta atá leagtha amach sa pholasáí. Ní dhearnadh aon nochtadh cosanta i 2022;
- Breithniú ar aon mholtaí ón Iníúcháir Seachtrach;
- Na córais rialaithe inmheánaigh mar atá sonraithe i gCreat Rialaithe Oibriúcháin Fhoras na Mara a leagann amach na príomhrialaithe atá i bhfeidhm laistigh den Fhoras, in éineacht le húinéir gach rialaithe. Chun cáilíocht na tuarascála a fheabhsú tuilleadh, tá Ráiteas Dearbhaithe curtha isteach ag úinéirí rialaithe áirithe maidir le gach sraith rialuithe i leith 2022.

**Ráiteas maidir le Rialú Inmheánach**

Rinne an Coiste Iníúcháireachta agus Riosca athbhreithniú ar an Ráiteas ar Rialú Inmheánach an 27 Feabhra 2023 agus d'fhaomh an Bord Stiúrthóirí é an 28 Feabhra 2023.

### Córais Bhainistíochta Airgeadais agus Bhuiséid

Tá córas buiséadaithe bliantúil cuimsitheach ann le hioncam bliantúil, próiseas leithdháilte buiséid, réamhaisnéis ar shreabhadh airgid agus buiséadú clár caipitil athbhreithnithe agus faoia ag an mBord ag tús gach bliana, le hathbhreithniú foirmiúil ag gach cruinniú Boird ina dhiaidh sin. Tá beartais agus nósanna imeachta i bhfeidhm maidir le cúrsaí buiséadacha agus airgeadais, agus tagann gach Conradh le linn na tréimhse ar luach os cionn €150,000 faoi bhráid an Bhoird lena bhreithniú agus lena cheadú. Déanann an Feidhmeannas athbhreithnithe rialta ar thuarascálacha bainistíochta airgeadais agus tá Plean Soláthair Corparáideach i bhfeidhm.

### Nósanna imeachta chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar éifeachtacht an Chórais Rialaithe Inmheánaigh

Cuireadh Plean Iniúchta Inmheánaigh 2022 i bhfeidhm go hiomlán agus cuireadh tús leis na hiniúchtaí seo a leanas nó cuireadh i gcrích iad le linn na bliana féilire:

- Athbhreithniú Ardleibhéil ar Rialuithe Inmheánacha don bhliain 2021 (tosaithe i 2021, críochnaithe i 2022);
- Iniúchadh Cultúir (tosaithe i 2021, críochnaithe i 2022);
- Iniúchadh ar Chreat Bainistíochta Riosca;
- Leanúnachas Gnó agus Iniúchadh ar Phleanáil Bainistíochta Géarchéime;
- Iniúchadh ar Acmhainní Daonna agus ar Bhainistíocht Daoine;
- Athbhreithniú Ardleibhéil ar Rialuithe Inmheánacha do 2022 (tosaithe in 2022, críochnaithe in 2023).

Faomhann an Coiste Iniúchta & Riosca pleananna forfheidhmithe chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar mholtaí iniúchta inmheánaigh. Déantar athbhreithniú bliantúil ar dhul chun cinn ar chur i bhfeidhm na gníomhartha comhaontaithe agus tuairiscítear don Choiste Iniúchta & Riosca.

Léiríodh sa Phlean Iniúchta Inmheánaigh do 2022 na rioscaí a aithníodh i gClár Rioscaí Fhoras na Mara, sa litir bhainistíochta ó Oifig an Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste agus forbairtí ginearálta maidir le Rialachas Corparáideach. D'fhaomh an Coiste Iniúchta & Riosca an Plean Iniúchta Inmheánaigh do 2022-2024 i mí Eanáir 2022 agus d'fhaomh Bord Fhoras na Mara i bhFeabhra 2022. Is plean rollach é seo a nuashonraítear go bliantúil le haghaidh measúnuithe riosca reatha, torthaí iniúchtaí agus chun tionchar aon athrú ar an timpeallacht ina bhfeidhmíonn an Foras agus forbairtí rialachais chorparáidigh ginearálta a mheas.

### Cumas chun Riosca a Láimhseáil

Tá Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca (CIR) ag Foras na Mara ar a bhfuil ceathrar comhalta Boird, duine acu ina Chathaoirleach, agus comhalta neamh-Bhoird amháin, le raon leathan taithí lena n-áirítear saineolas airgeadais agus iniúchta.

Tá feidhm iniúchta inmheánaigh bunaithe ag Foras na Mara freisin, a sheachfhoinsítear do ghnólacht tráchtála. Tá dóthain acmhainní aige agus stiúran sé clár oibre arna chomhaontú leis an CIR agus arna fhaomhadh ag an mBord.

Déanann an CIR maoirseacht ar chur i bhfeidhm an bheartais bhainistíochta riosca, a leagann amach fonn riosca Fhoras na Mara, na próisis bhainistíochta riosca atá i bhfeidhm agus sonraíonn sé ról agus freagrachtaí na foirne maidir le riosca. Eisíodh an polasaí don fhoireann go léir chun a chinntiú go bhfuil an bhainistíocht ar an airdeall maidir le rioscaí atá ag teacht chun cinn agus ionas go mbeidh gach ball foirne ar an eolas faoina bhfreagracht as riosca a mhaolú agus chun rialú a oibriú laistigh dá réimse oibre féin.

I 2022, áiríodh i bplean oibre an CIR athbhreithniú sonracha ar na rioscaí a tháinig chun cinn mar thoradh ar Chogadh na hÚcráine agus freagairt COVID 19, saincheisteanna amháil úsáid chuí an Coincheap Gnóthais Leantaigh, tógáil an tsoithigh nua, imeachtaí Iar-Chlár Comhardaithe, Rioscaí Soláthair, Rioscaí a bhaineann le cianoibriú agus gluaiseacht sócmhainní, rioscaí GDPR, Nochtuithe Dlí, Rioscaí Calaoise, Rioscaí Cibearshlándála agus TF, agus rioscaí maoirsithe agus monatóireachta bainistíochta. Rinneadh monatóireacht rialta orthu seo go foirmiúil agus go neamhfhoirmiúil trí chumarsáid rialta idir an CIR, an fhoireann cheannaireachta Shinsearach agus Cathaoirleach an Bhoird i rith na bliana.

Breithníodh impleachtaí airgeadais rioscaí gnó tríd an bpróiseas measúnaithe riosca gnó foirmiúil agus in ullmhú Pleananna Iniúchta Inmheánaigh Fhoras na Mara. Tá sraith chuimsitheach Nósanna Imeachta Airgeadais curtha i bhfeidhm chun gnéithe suntasacha airgeadais de ghnó Fhoras na Mara a rialú lena n-áirítear teorainneacha údaraithe le haghaidh ceannach/caiteachais. Tá na Nósanna Imeachta seo faoi réir athbhreithniú rialta.

### Creat Riosca agus Rialaithe

Tá córas bainistíochta riosca curtha i bhfeidhm ag Foras na Mara a shainaithníonn agus a thuairiscíonn príomhrioscaí agus na bearta bainistíochta atá á nglacadh chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na rioscaí sin agus, a mhéid is féidir, chun na rioscaí sin a mhaolú.

Comhlíonann Beartas Bainistíochta Riosca agus Beartas Leanúnachais Gnó Fhoras na Mara an Cód Cleachtas um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit 2016. Tá beirt Oifigeach Riosca ceaptha ag Foras na Mara. Tá clár rioscaí i bhfeidhm a shainaithníonn na príomhrioscaí atá roimh Fhoras na Mara agus tá siad seo aitheanta, measúnaithe agus rangaithe de réir a dtábhacht. Déanann an Feidhmeannas an clár a nuashonrú ar bhonn ráithiúil agus cuirtear faoi bhráid an CIR é. Úsáidtear toradh na measúnuithe seo chun acmhainní a phleanáil agus a leithdháileadh chun a chinntiú go ndéantar rioscaí a mhaolú agus a bhainistiú go leibhéal inghlactha.

Sonraíonn an clár rioscaí na rialuithe agus na gníomhartha is gá chun rioscaí a mhaolú agus sanntar freagracht as feidhmiú na rialuithe ar fhoireann shonrach. Deimhním an méid seo a leanas maidir leis an timpeallacht rialaithe:

- Tá nósanna imeachta maidir le gach príomhphróiseas gnó doiciméadaithe agus déantar athbhreithniú rialta orthu;
- Sannadh freagrachtaí airgeadais ar leibhéal na bainistíochta agus tá cuntasacht chomhfhreagrach ann;
- Tá córas buiséadach cuí ann le buiséad bliantúil a choinníonn an bhainistíocht shinsearach faoi athbhreithniú;
- Tá córais ann atá dírithe ar shlándáil na gcóras teicneolaíochta faisnéise agus cumarsáide a chinntiú;
- Tá córais i bhfeidhm chun na sócmhainní a chosaint; agus
- Cinntíonn nósanna imeachta rialaithe ar mhaoiniú deontais do ghníomhaireachtaí seachtracha rialú leordhóthanach ar fhaomhadh deontas agus monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú ar deonaithe chun an riosca nach gcuirfí maoiniú deontais i bhfeidhm ach amháin chun na críche a bhí beartaithe a mhaolú.

### Monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú leanúnach

Tá nósanna imeachta foirmiúla bunaithe chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar phróisis rialaithe agus cuirtear easnaimh rialaithe in iúl dóibh siúd atá freagrach as gníomh ceartaitheach a dhéanamh agus don bhainistíocht agus don Bhord, nuair is cuí, ar bhealach tráthúil. Deimhním go bhfuil na córais mhonatóireachta leanúnacha seo a leanas i bhfeidhm:

- Saináithníodh príomhrioscaí agus rialuithe gaolmhara agus cuireadh próisis i bhfeidhm chun faireachán a dhéanamh ar oibriú na bpríomhrialuithe sin agus chun aon easnaimh a aithníodh a thuairisciú;
- Tá socrúithe tuairiscithe bunaithe ag gach leibhéal inar sannadh freagracht as bainistíocht airgeadais; agus
- Déantar athbhreithnithe rialta ag bainistíocht shinsearach ar fheidhmíocht thréimhsiúil agus bhliantúil agus ar thuarascálacha airgeadais a léiríonn feidhmíocht i gcoinne buiséid/réamhaisnéisí.

### Soláthar

Deimhním go bhfuil nósanna imeachta i bhfeidhm ag Foras na Mara chun a chinntiú go gcomhlíontar na rialacha agus na treoirlínte reatha soláthair. Seachas na saincheisteanna a luaitear san alt um Rialú Inmheánach thíos, comhlíonann an Institiúid na nósanna imeachta seo le linn 2022.

### Athbhreithniú ar Éifeachtúlacht

Deimhním go bhfuil nósanna imeachta i bhfeidhm ag Foras na Mara chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar éifeachtacht a nósanna imeachta bainistíochta agus rialaithe riosca. Críochnaíodh athbhreithniú neamhspleách seachtrach ar an mBord agus ar an gCoiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca i 2020. Rinneadh féinmheastóireacht i 2021 agus 2022. Tá monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú Fhoras na Mara ar éifeachtacht an chórais rialaithe inmheánaigh bunaithe ar obair na n-iniúcháirí inmheánacha agus seachtracha, an Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca a dhéanann maoirseacht ar a gcuid oibre, agus an bhainistíocht shinsearach laistigh d'Fhoras na Mara atá freagrach as forbairt agus cothabháil an chreata rialaithe inmheánaigh.

## Athbhreithniú Bliantúil ar Éifeachtacht ar Rialú Inmheánach

Deimhním go ndearna an Bord athbhreithniú bliantúil ar éifeachtacht na rialuithe inmheánacha do 2022 agus gur cheadaigh an Bord é an 28 Feabhra 2023. Agus an t-athbhreithniú seo á dhéanamh aige, bhreithnigh an Bord na nithe seo a leanas:

- Polasaithe, córais agus nósanna imeachta bainistíochta riosca;
- Na hiniúchtaí inmheánacha a rinneadh;
- An creat rialaithe oibriúcháin agus na ráitis dearbhairthe gaolmhara;
- Torthaí an iniúchta sheachtraigh ag an Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste;
- Obair an Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca;
- Gnéithe eile den Struchtúr Rialachais agus den chóras rialuithe.

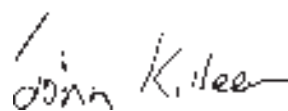
## Saincheisteanna Rialaithe Inmheánaigh

Ní raibh aon chailleanais ábhartha, calaoisí ná sárúithe rialaithe ann in 2022.

Go stairiúil, rinneadh breithniú ar sholáthairtí saotharlainne ó thaobh an tsoláthair dár mbonn cás ar chás, agus eisíodh trí luachan nó tairiscint ag brath ar luach réamh-mheasta an ordaithe shainiúil a bhí i gceist. I gcásanna áirithe, d'fhéadfadh gur sháraigh ceannachán carnach ilchineálacha inchaite le himeacht ama ó cheannaitheoirí éagsúla ó sholáthraithe áirithe €25,000 agus b'fhéidir nach raibh an t-iomlán ina ábhar tairisceana. Tá dul chun cinn suntasach déanta i rith 2022 maidir leis an ábhar seo, agus an Foras ag dul isteach i roinnt creataí gaolmhara de chuid na hOifige um Sholáthar Rialtais (OSR) agus ag méadú an tuairiscithe agus na hanailíse atá ar fáil dóibh siúd a bhfuil maoirseacht acu ar an réimse seo. D'ainneoin an dul chun cinn atá déanta, is féidir go fóill i rith 2022, i gcásanna áirithe, gur sháraigh ceannachán carnacha ilchineálacha inchaite le himeacht ama ó sholáthraithe áirithe €25,000 agus ní raibh an t-iomlán mar ábhar tairisceana.

Níor sainaitníodh aon laigí eile sa rialú inmheánach i 2022 a éilíonn nochtadh sa Ráiteas ar Rialú Inmheánach.

Ar son an Bhoird



Dr John Killeen  
Cathaoirleach

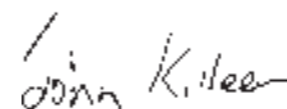
Dáta: 28 Meitheamh 2023

## FORAS NA MARA RÁITEAS IONCAIM AGUS CAITEACHAIS AGUS CÚLCHISTÍ IONCAIM COINNITHE DON BHLIAIN DAR CHRÍOCH 31 NOLLAIG 2022

	Nóta	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Ioncam</i>			
Deontais Oireachtais	2	44,285	43,236
Deontais eile ón Stát	3	7,896	7,359
Ioncam AE agus Eile	4	7,710	5,871
Glanmhaoiniú larchurtha Le haghaidh Sochair Scoir	19	5,746	4,999
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>65,637</b>	<b>61,465</b>
<i>Caiteachas</i>			
Luach Saothair agus Costais Phinsin	5	16,041	14,908
Costais maidir le Sochair Scoir	19	5,654	4,835
Costais Oibriúcháin Árthaigh	6	10,913	8,533
Costais Taistil	7	816	342
Deontais agus Soláthraithe Seirbhíse Seachtracha	8	12,259	11,867
Costais Áiseanna	9	2,873	2,146
TF, Teileafón & Cumarsáid		2,230	2,580
Costais Saotharlainne & Réimse		1,055	1,169
Costais Eile Riaracháin agus Trealamh ar cíós	10	3,057	2,530
Dímheas	15	5,542	4,918
<b>Caiteachas Iomlán</b>		<b>60,440</b>	<b>53,828</b>
Aistriú chuig Cuntas Caipitil	14	(5,194)	(7,631)
Barrachas don bhliain		3	6
<hr/>			
larmhéid tugtha ar aghaidh ar 1 Eanáir		2,035	2,029
<b>larmhéid tugtha ar aghaidh ar 31 Nollaig</b>		<b>2,038</b>	<b>2,035</b>

Tá an Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid agus Nótaí 1 – 24 mar chuid de na ráitis airgeadais seo.

Ar son an Bhoird



Dr John Killeen  
Cathaoirleach

Dáta: 28 Meitheamh 2023

Ar son an Bhoird



Dermot Clohessy  
Comhalta Boird

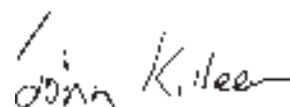
Dáta: 28 Meitheamh 2023

## FORAS NA MARA RÁITEAS IONCAIM CHUIMSITHIGH DON BHLIAIN DAR CHRÍOCH 31 NOLLAIG 2022

	Nóta	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Barrachas don bhliain		3	6
Gnóthachain Taithí (Caillteanais)	19	(4,065)	1,515
Athruithe ar thiomhdí achtúireacha	19	46,138	(5,311)
Coigeartú ar mhaoiniú scéime sochair shainithe		(42,073)	3,796
<b>Ioncam Cuimsitheach Iomlán don bhliain</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>

Tá an Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid agus Nótaí 1 – 24 mar chuid de na ráitis airgeadais seo.

Ar son an Bhoird



Dr John Killeen  
Cathaoirleach

Dáta: 28 Meitheamh 2023

Ar son an Bhoird



Dermot Clohessy  
Comhalta Boird

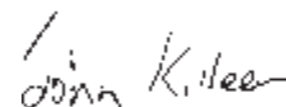
Dáta: 28 Meitheamh 2023

## FORAS NA MARA RÁITEAS AR AN STAID AIRGEADAIS AMHAIL AG 31 NOLLAIG 2022

	Nóta	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Maoin, Gléasra agus Trealamh</b>	15		40,990		35,803
<i>Sócmhainní Reatha</i>					
Infháltais	17	1,582		1,311	
Airgead Tirim agus coibhéisí d'airgead tirim		8,319		8,064	
		9,901		9,375	
<i>Dlíteanais Reatha (méideanna atá dlite laistigh de bhliain amháin)</i>					
Nithe Iníoctha	18	(7,863)		(7,340)	
<b>Glansócmhainní Reatha</b>			<b>2,038</b>		<b>2,035</b>
<b>Sócmhainní Iomlána Lúide Dlíteanais Reatha roimh Oibleagáidí Scoir</b>			<b>43,028</b>		<b>37,838</b>
Oibleagáidí Sochair Scoir larchurtha	19	(61,278)		(97,605)	
Maoiniú Sochar Scoir larchurtha	19	61,278		97,605	
<b>Glansócmhainní Iomlána</b>			<b>43,028</b>		<b>37,838</b>
<i>Ag ionadú:</i>					
Cuntas Caipitil	14	35,962		30,667	
Cúlchiste Athluachála	16	5,028		5,136	
Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe		2,038		2,035	
			<b>43,028</b>		<b>37,838</b>

Tá an Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid agus Nótaí 1 – 24 mar chuid de na ráitis airgeadais seo.

Ar son an Bhoird



Dr John Killeen  
Cathaoirleach

Dáta: 28 Meitheamh 2023

Ar son an Bhoird



Dermot Clohessy  
Comhalta Boird

Dáta: 28 Meitheamh 2023

## FORAS NA MARA RÁITEAS AR SHREABHADH AIRGID DON BHLIAIN DAR CHRÍOCH 31 NOLLAIG 2022

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Glansreafaí Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibriúcháin</i>		
Barrachas don bhliain airgeadais	3	6
<b>Coigeartuithe le haghaidh:</b>		
Dímheas ar Mhaoín, Gléasra agus Trealamh Inláimhsithe	5,542	4,918
Aistriú chuig Cuntas Caipitil	5,194	7,631
Méadú / (Laghdú) ar Nithe Iníochta	523	(975)
(Méadú) /Laghdú ar Nithe Infhaighte	(271)	6,984
Barrachas ar Dhiúscairt Sócmhainn Seasta	(10)	(7)
<b>Glansreafaí airgid ó ghníomhaíochtaí oibriúcháin</b>	<b>10,981</b>	<b>18,557</b>
<i>Sreafaí airgid ó ghníomhaíochtaí infheistíochta</i>		
Íocaíochtaí ar Mhaoín, Gléasra agus Trealamh Inláimhsithe	(10,736)	(12,549)
Fáltais ó dhiúscairt sócmhainní seasta	10	7
<b>Glansreafaí airgid ó ghníomhaíochtaí infheistíochta</b>	<b>(10,726)</b>	<b>(12,542)</b>
<b>Glanmhéadú ar airgead tirim agus ar choibhéisí airgid</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>6,015</b>
Airgead tirim agus coibhéisí airgid ag tús na bliana airgeadais	8,064	2,049
<b>Airgead tirim agus coibhéisí airgid ag deireadh na bliana airgeadais</b>	<b>8,319</b>	<b>8,064</b>

## FORAS NA MARA RÁITEAS AR SHREABHADH AIRGID DON BHLIAIN DAR CHRÍOCH 31 NOLLAIG 2022

### 1. Beartais Chuntasaíochta

Tá bunús na cuntasaíochta agus na mbeartas suntasach cuntasaíochta ar ghlac Foras na Mara leo leagtha amach thíos. Cuireadh iad go léir i bhfeidhm go comhsheasmhach i rith na bliana. Tá anailís déanta ag an Institiúid ar a caiteachas bunaithe ar nádúr an chostais seachas ar bhonn cláir.

#### a) Eolas Ginearálta

Bunaíodh Foras na Mara an 30 Deireadh Fómhair 1992 faoi fhorálacha Acht Fhoras na Mara, 1991. Tá ceanncheathrú na hInstitiúide suite i Rinn Mhíl, Órán Mór, Co. na Gaillimhe, H91 R673.

Is iad príomhchuspóirí Fhoras na Mara mar atá leagtha amach in Alt 4 den Acht "tabhairt faoi, comhordú, cur chun cinn agus cuidiú le taighde agus forbairt mhara agus seirbhísí den sórt sin a bhaineann le taighde agus forbairt mhuirí a sholáthar, a bheidh i dtuairim an Fhorais ag cur forbairt eacnamaíoch chun cinn agus ag cruthú fostaíochta agus ag cosaint an chomhshaoil mhuirí".

Aonán Tairbhe Poiblí (ATP) is ea Foras na Mara.

#### b) Ráiteas Comhlíonta

Tá ráitis airgeadais Fhoras na Mara don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022 ullmhaithe de réir FRS 102, an caighdeán tuairiscithe airgeadais is infheidhme sa RA agus in Éirinn arna eisiúint ag an gComhairle um Thuairisciú Airgeadais (CTA).

#### c) Airgeadra

Tá na ráitis airgeadais curtha i láthair in Euro (€) arb é airgeadra feidhmiúil na hInstitiúide é freisin. I gcásanna ina bhfuil méideanna slánaithe go dtí an míle Euro is gaire, léirítear é seo leis an tsiombail €'000.

#### d) Bunús an Ullmhúcháin

Ullmhaítear na ráitis airgeadais faoi mhodh fabhráithe na cuntasaíochta agus faoi choinbhinsiún an chostais stairiúil, ach amháin go sonraítear talamh agus maoin ag luacháil lúide dímheas carntha, san fhoirm atá ceadaithe ag an Aire Bia, Talmhaíochta agus Mara le comhthoilíú an Choiste um Fhorfheidhmiú Corparáideach. An tAire Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe, de réir Alt 12 (1) d'Acht Fhoras na Mara, 1991.

Ullmhaítear na ráitis airgeadais trí úsáid a bhaint as bonn cuntasaíochta an ghnóthais leantaigh. Níl aon imeachtaí idir an dáta tuairiscithe agus dáta faofa na ráiteas airgeadais seo lena n-eisiúint a éilíonn coigeartú ar na ráitis airgeadais. Bhreithnigh an Bord tionchar COVID19 agus tionchar Chogadh na hÚcráine ar phraghas an fhuinnimh agus ar earraí eile go háirithe, ar mhaoiniú na hInstitiúide amach anseo agus ar a phleanáil straitéiseach agus oibriúcháin agus táthar tar éis teacht ar an gconclúid nach bhfuil aon éiginnteachtaí ábhartha ann a d'fhéadfadh amhras suntasach a chur faoi chumas na hInstitiúide leanúint de bheith ag glacadh le bonn cuntasaíochta an ghnóthais leantaigh ar feadh tréimhse dhá mhí dhéag ar a laghad ón dáta a n-údaráítear na ráitis airgeadais a eisiúint.

Cuireadh na beartais chuntasaíochta seo a leanas i bhfeidhm go comhsheasmhach chun déileáil le míreanna a mheastar a bheith ábhartha maidir le ráitis airgeadais Fhoras na Mara.

#### e) Ioncam

Aithnítear Ioncam ón Oireachtas ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara de réir mar a fhaightear é. Faightear é sa bhliain lena mbaineann sé.

Aithnítear ioncam maoinithe ón gCiste Eorpach Muirí, Iascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe (CEMI/CEMID) sa bhliain ina dtabhaítear caiteachas gaolmhar.

Aithnítear Deontais Stáit eile ar bhonn fabhráithe.

Aithnítear ioncam a fhaightear i ndáil le tionscadail taighde conartha AE agus eile ar bhonn fabhráithe trína n-aithnítear an t-ioncam sa tréimhse chuntasaíochta ina ngearrtar an caiteachas gaolmhar. Déileáiltear le hioncam a fhaightear roimh ré mar ioncam iarchurtha agus áirítear é laistigh de Nithe Iníochta sa Ráiteas ar an Staid Airgeadais. Déileáiltear le caiteachas a thabhaítear nuair nach bhfuil an t-ioncam gaolmhar faighte mar ioncam fabhráithe agus léirítear é mar Infhaighte sa Ráiteas ar an Staid Airgeadais.

#### f) Maoin, Gléasra agus Trealamh agus Dímheas

Luaitear Gléasra agus Trealamh ag costas lúide dímheas carntha.

Sonraítear talamh agus maoin ag luacháil lúide dímheas carntha. Rinne luachálaithe neamhspleácha cáilithe gairmiúla talamh agus réadmhaoín a athluacháil i 2018. Déanfaidh luachálaithe neamhspleách atá cáilithe go gairmiúil talamh agus maoin a athluacháil gach cúig bliana.

Cuirtear dímheas ar fáil ar bhonn dronlíneach ag rátaí a mheastar a laghdóidh na sócmhainní go dtí a luach inréadaithe faoi dheireadh a saolré ionchais. Is iad seo a leanas na rátaí in úsáid:

Maoin (gan talamh san áireamh) .....	2%
Feabhsúcháin Léasachta .....	4%
Daingneáin agus Feistis/Trealamh .....	25%
Ríomhairí .....	33%
Árthach Taighde .....	4%
Mótarfheithiclí .....	20%

Déantar luachanna (tugtha) anonn na Maoine, an Ghléasra agus an Trealaimh a athbhreithniú le haghaidh bearnaithe nuair a thugann imeachtaí nó athruithe ar chúinsí le fios go bhféadfadh sé nach mbeadh an luach tugtha anonn in-aisghabhála. Má tá fianaise oibiachtúil ann go bhfuil bearnú ar luach na sócmhainne, aithnítear cailteanas bearnaithe sa Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe sa bhliain.



Suas go dtí an 31 Nollaig 2020, rinneadh sócmhainní nó grúpaí sócmhainní a chosain €1,000 ar a laghad a chaipitliú ar chlár na sócmhainní seasta. Ón 1 Eanáir 2021, mhéadaigh Foras na Mara an tairseach chun sócmhainní nó grúpaí sócmhainní a chaipitliú ó €1,000 go €10,000. Déanann sé seo breithniú ar nádúr agus ábharthacht sócmhainní na hInstitiúide agus tá sé ag teacht freisin le himlir an Rialtais 21/2020.

#### g) Sócmhainní Doláimhsithe

Cuimsíonn sócmhainní doláimhsithe cearta iascaireachta atá i seilbh Fhoras na Mara chuig Loch Fíoch, Loch na Foirnéise agus Inbhir i mBaile Uí Fhiacháin, Contae Mhaigh Eo. Iompraítear na sócmhainní doláimhsithe seo sa Ráiteas ar an Staid Airgeadais ag a gcostas éinias toisc nach féidir a luach cóir a chinneadh go hiontaoфа trí thagairt do mhargadh gníomhach.

#### h) Sócmhainní ar Léas

Aithnítear caiteachas cíosa faoi léasanna oibriúcháin sa Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe thar shaolré an léasa. Aithnítear caiteachas ar bhonn dronlíneach thar thréimhse an léasa, ach amháin sa chás go bhfuil méaduithé cíosa nasctha leis an ráta boilscithe a bhfuiltear ag súil leis, agus sa chás sin aithnítear na harduithe seo nuair a thabhaítear iad. Aithnítear aon dreasachtaí léasa a fhaightear thar shaolré an léasa.

#### i) Cuntas Caipitil

Aithníonn an Foras maoiniú a fhaightear chun críocha caipitil faoin Múnla Fabhráithe atá sonraithe i FRS 102. Aithnítear an méid a fhaightear san ioncam ar bhonn córasach thar shaolré úsáideach ionchasach na sócmhainne.

#### j) Airgeadra Eachtrannach

Aistrítear idirbhearta atá ainmnithe in airgeadra eachtrach go dtí an t-airgeadra feidhme ag baint úsáide as na spotrátaí malairte ar dháta na n-idirbheart. Ag deireadh gach bliana airgeadais, aistrítear míreanna airgeadaíochta airgeadra eachtraigh go Euro ag baint úsáide as an ráta deiridh. Aistrítear míreanna neamhairgeadaíochta arna dtomhas ag costas stairiúil ag baint úsáide as an ráta malairte ar dháta an idirbhirt agus tomhaistear míreanna neamhairgeadaíochta arna dtomhas ag luach cóir ag baint úsáide as an ráta malairte nuair a socraíodh luach cóir.

#### k) Clár um Thaighde Mara

Déanann Foras na Mara gealltanais maidir le conarthaí a bhronntar ar thionscadail an Chláir Taighde Mara. Gearrtar caiteachas sna ráitis airgeadais de réir mar a thabhaítear é. Déantar íocaíocht tosaigh ar shíniú an chonartha tionscadail, féadfar íocaíocht eatramhach a dhéanamh faoi réir feidhmíocht shásúil faoin gconradh agus déantar íocaíochtaí breise nuair a fhaightear agus nuair a fhóraítear éilimh maidir le hobair a cuireadh i gcrích. Maoinítear costais a thabhaíonn an Foras ag riar thionscadail an Chláir Taighde Mara trí vóta caipitil Fhoras na Mara agus gearrtar iad ar na ráitis airgeadais de réir mar a thabhaítear iad.

#### l) Sochair Fostaithe - Sochair ghearrthéarmacha

Aithnítear sochair ghearrthéarmacha ar nós pá saoire mar speansas sa bhliain ina ndéanann an fostaí seirbhís, agus áirítear sochair a fhabhraítear ag deireadh na bliana sna figiúirí suimeanna iníochta sa Ráiteas ar an Staid Airgeadais.

#### m) Sochair Scoir

Feidhmíonn Foras na Mara a scéim pinsin sochair shainithe féin, arna maoiniú go bliantúil ar bhonn íoc-mar-a-úsáidtear ó airgead a sholáthraíonn an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara. Íoctar ranníocaíochtaí a asbhaintear ó thuarastail na mball leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

Glacann Foras na Mara páirt freisin i Scéim Pinsin na Seirbhíse Poiblí Aonair (“Scéim Aonair”), ar scéim sochair shainithe í do sheirbhísigh phoiblí inphinsin arna gceapadh an 1 Eanáir 2013 nó dá éis. Íoctar ranníocaíochtaí chomhaltaí na Scéime Aonair leis an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe (RCPA).

Léiríonn costais phinsin na sochair phinsin atá tuillte ag fostaithe, agus léirítear iad glan ó ranníocaíochtaí pinsin na foirne a chuirtear ar ais chuig an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara. Aithnítear méid a chomhfhreagraíonn don mhuirear pinsin mar ioncam sa mhéid is go bhfuil sé inghnóthaithe, agus fritháirithe ag deontais a fhaightear sa bhliain chun íocaíochtaí pinsin a urscaoileadh.

Léirítear gnóthachan nó cailíteanais achtúireacha a eascraíonn as dlíteanais scéime sa Ráiteas ar Ioncam Cuimsitheach, agus aithnítear coigeartú comhfhreagrach sa mhéid atá in-aisghabhála ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

Léiríonn na ráitis airgeadais, ag luach cóir, na sócmhainní agus na dlíteanais a eascraíonn as oibleagáidí pinsin Fhoras na Mara agus aon mhaoiniú gaolmhar, agus aithníonn siad na costais a bhaineann le sochair phinsin a sholáthar sna tréimhsí cuntasaíochta ina dtuilleann fostaithe iad. Déantar dlíteanais na scéime sochair scoir a thomhas ar bhonn achtúireach ag baint úsáide as modh an aonaid chreidmheasa réamh-mheasta. Déantar iad a mheaitseáil le sócmhainn Mhaoinithe Sochar Scoir larchurtha de réir mar a ráthaíonn an Stát na dlíteanais phinsin.

#### n) Infháiltais

Aithnítear nithe infhaighte ag luach cóir, lúide soláthar d’fhiacha amhrasacha. Is foráil shonrach í an fhoráil le haghaidh fiacha amhrasacha, agus socraítear é nuair a bhíonn fianaise oibiachtúil ann nach mbeidh Foras na Mara in ann na suimeanna go léir atá dlite dó a bhailiú. Aithnítear gach gluaiseacht sa soláthar d’fhiacha amhrasacha sa Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe.

#### o) Teagmhais

Ní aithnítear dlíteanais theagmhasacha, a eascraíonn mar thoradh ar imeachtaí san am a chuaigh thart, nuair (i) nuair nach dócha go mbeidh eis-sreabhadh acmhainní ann nó nach féidir an méid a thomhas go hiontaoфа ag an dáta tuairiscithe nó (ii) nuair a bheidh an saol ann. a dheimhniú trí tharlú nó neamhtharlú imeachtaí éiginnte amach anseo nach bhfuil go hiomlán faoi smacht na hInstitiúide. Nochtar dlíteanais theagmhasacha sna ráitis airgeadais ach amháin má tá an dóchúlacht go mbeidh eis-sreabhadh acmhainní neamhchosúil.

Ní aithnítear sócmhainní teagmhasacha. Nochtar sócmhainní teagmhasacha sna ráitis airgeadais nuair is dócha go mbeidh insreabhadh tairbhí eacnamaíochta ann.

#### p) Páirtithe Gaolmhara

Nochtar idirbhearta páirtithe gaolmhara sna nótaí a ghabhann leis na ráitis airgeadais de réir FRS 102. Féach nóta 21 le haghaidh nochtadh na n-idirbheart páirtithe gaolmhara le linn 2022.

#### q) Meastacháin agus Breithiúnais Chriticiúil Cuntasaíochta

Éilíonn ullmhú na ráiteas airgeadais ar an mbainistíocht breithiúnais, meastacháin agus boinn tuisceana a dhéanann difear do na méideanna a thuiriscítear do sócmhainní agus dlíteanais amhail an dáta tuairiscithe agus na méideanna a thuiriscítear le haghaidh ioncaim agus speansais i rith na bliana. Mar sin féin, ciallaíonn nádúr an mheastacháin go bhféadfadh na torthaí iarbhír a bheith difriúil ó na meastacháin sin. Bhí an tionchar is suntasaí ag na breithiúnais seo a leanas ar mhéideanna aitheanta sna ráitis airgeadais.

#### *Laige ar Mhaoin, ar Ghléasra agus ar Threalamh*

Déantar athbhreithniú ar shócmhainní atá faoi réir amúchta le haghaidh bearnaithe nuair a thugann imeachtaí nó athruithe ar chúinsí le fios go bhféadfadh sé nach mbeadh an tsuim ghlanluacha in-aisghabhála. Aithnítear cailíteanas lagaithe don mhéid a sháraíonn suim ghlanluacha na sócmhainne a méid in-aisghabhála. Is é an méid in-aisghabhála cibé acu is airde de luach cóir sócmhainne lúide costas díola agus luach úsáide. Chun críche measúnú a dhéanamh ar laige, déantar sócmhainní a ghrúpáil ag na leibhéil is ísle a bhfuil sreafaí airgid inaitheanta ar leithligh (aonaid ghiniúna airgid). Déantar athbhreithniú ar shócmhainní neamhairgeadais a d’fhulaing laige le haghaidh aisiompú féideartha an bhearnaithe ag gach dáta tuairiscithe.

#### *Dímheas agus Luachanna Iarmharacha*

Tá athbhreithniú déanta ag an mBord ar shaolréanna sócmhainní agus ar luachanna iarmharacha gaolmhara na n-aicmí sócmhainní seasta go léir agus go háirithe, ar shaolré úsáideach eacnamaíoch agus ar luachanna iarmharacha daingneáin agus feisteas agus chinn sé go bhfuil saolré sócmhainní agus luachanna iarmharacha oiriúnach.

#### *Oibleagáid Sochair Scoir*

Déantar na boinn tuisceana is bun leis na luachálacha achtúireacha dá gcinntear na méideanna a aithnítear sna ráitis airgeadais (lena n-áirítear rátaí lascaine, rátaí ardaithé ar leibhéil chúitimh amach anseo, rátaí básmhaireachta agus rátaí treochta costas cúram sláinte) ar bhonn bliantúil bunaithe ar dhálaí eacnamaíochta reatha agus ar aon chás ábhartha. athruithe ar théarmaí agus coinníollacha na bpleananna pinsin agus iar-scoir.

Is féidir tionchar a bheith ag na boinn tuisceana seo ar:

- an ráta lascaine, athruithe ar an ráta toraidh ar bhannaí corparáideacha ardcháilíochta;
- leibhéil chúitimh sa todhchaí, coinníollacha an mhargaidh saothair amach anseo;
- rátaí treochta costais cúram sláinte agus ráta boilscithe costais leighis.

## 2. Deontais Oireachtais ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Cuspóirí Reatha</i>				
Foras na Mara - Vóta 30, Fotheideal D.4/D.3	25,177		24,329	
Lúide ranníocaíochtaí aoisliúntais inaisíochta	(642)		(593)	
		<b>24,535</b>		<b>23,736</b>
<i>Cuspóirí Caipitil</i>				
An Clár Taighde Mara Vóta 30, Fotheideal D.4 (Nóta 12)	19,750		19,500	
		<b>19,750</b>		<b>19,500</b>
		<b>44,285</b>		<b>43,236</b>

Trí chomhaontú leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, déantar ranníocaíochtaí pinsin fostaithe a aisíoc go díreach leis an Roinn agus léirítear iad mar laghdú ar leibhéal deontais. Seoltar ranníocaíochtaí pinsin scéime aonair chuig an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe.

## 3. Deontais eile ón Stát

	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Infomar (Suirbhé Náisiúnta ar Ghrinneall na Farraige) – An Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide Vóta 29, Fotheideal C.5</i>				
Airgead Tirim Faighte agus taifeadta mar ioncam	2,000		2,051	
Suimeanna iarchurtha/fabhraithe mar ioncam	4		-	
Méid taifeadta mar ioncam		2,004		2,051
<i>An Chreat-Treoir Uisce maoinithe ag an Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht faoi Bhuiséad Cáilíochta Uisce Vóta 34, Fotheideal B.3</i>				
Airgead Tirim Faighte agus taifeadta mar ioncam	1,122		1,031	
Suimeanna iarchurtha/fabhraithe mar ioncam	27		(8)	
Méid taifeadta mar ioncam		1,149		1,023
<i>An Chreat-Treoir um Straitéis Mhuirí agus Ospar maoinithe ag an Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht faoi Bhuiséad Timpeallachta Muirí Vóta 34, Fotheideal B.8</i>				
Airgead Tirim Faighte agus taifeadta mar ioncam	656		273	
Suimeanna iarchurtha/fabhraithe mar ioncam	6		-	
Méid taifeadta mar ioncam		662		273
<i>Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí maoinithe ag an Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht faoin mBuiséad um Pleanáil Spásúlachta Muirí Vóta 34, Fotheideal D.14</i>				
Airgead Tirim Faighte agus taifeadta mar ioncam	501		447	
Suimeanna iarchurtha/fabhraithe mar ioncam	5		-	
Méid taifeadta mar ioncam		506		447
<i>Clár Fuinneamh Tonnta maoinithe ag Vóta 29 an SEAI, Fotheideal B.5</i>				
Airgead Tirim Faighte agus taifeadta mar ioncam	1,360		1,018	
Suimeanna iarchurtha/fabhraithe mar ioncam	15		16	
Méid taifeadta mar ioncam		1,375		1,034
<i>Tionscadail CEMI maoinithe ag an Roinn Talmhaíochta Bia agus Mara Vóta 30, Fotheideal D.3</i>				
Airgead Tirim Faighte agus taifeadta mar ioncam	2,174		2,609	
Suimeanna iarchurtha/fabhraithe mar ioncam	1		(78)	
Méid taifeadta mar ioncam		2,175		2,531
<i>Ár gClár Aigéin Roinnte maoinithe ag an Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha Vóta 27, Fotheideal A.3</i>				
Airgead Tirim Faighte agus taifeadta mar ioncam	500		-	
Suimeanna iarchurtha/fabhraithe mar ioncam	(475)		-	
Méid taifeadta mar ioncam		25		-
<b>IOMLÁN</b>		<b>7,896</b>		<b>7,359</b>

## 4. Ioncam AE agus Eile

	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Taighde ar Chonradh AE</b>		<b>3,891</b>		<b>2,968</b>
<i>Ioncam eile</i>				
Árthach Taighde Cairtfhostaithe	1,917		912	
Ioncam Iolartha agus Ioncam Conartha Eile	1,902		1,991	
		3,819		2,903
<b>IOMLÁN</b>		<b>7,710</b>		<b>5,871</b>

## 5. Luach Saothair agus Costais Phinsin

Sochair Fostaithe Comhiomlán	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Sochair Ghearrthéarmacha foirne	14,008	13,090
*Ranníocaíocht Phinsin	483	433
Íocaíochtaí Foirceanta	11	14
Táillí Boird	66	56
Gluaiseacht i bhFabhrú Pá Saoire	64	(5)
Ranníocaíocht Fostóirí i leith Leasa Shóisialaigh	1,409	1,320
	<b>16,041</b>	<b>14,908</b>

Áirítear le costais tuarastail iomlána fabhrú de €0.465m (2021: €0.401m) maidir le teidíochtaí saoire bliantúla carntha foirne. Rinneadh asbhaintí bainteach le pinsin de €0.437m (2021 €0.416m) ó thuarastail agus cuireadh ar ais chuig an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara iad. Rinneadh asbhaintí singil de €0.205m (2021: €0.177m) ó thuarastail agus cuireadh ar ais chuig an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe iad.

\*Tá an ranníocaíocht pinsin a nochtar go leithleach thuas chun an costas iarchurtha don Stáchtiste de theidíochtaí pinsin amach anseo d'fhostaithe ar thaighde conartha agus poist eile a mhaoinítear go seachtrach a chlúdach. Aisíocadh an méid seo leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara agus leis an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe.

Sochair Ghearrthéarmacha foirne	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Bunphá	13,530	12,640
Ragobair	-	-
Liúntais	478	450
	<b>14,008</b>	<b>13,090</b>

Sochair Fhoirceanta	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Íocaíochtaí iomarcaíochta	11	14
	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>

Rinneadh na híocaíochtaí iomarcaíochta reachtúla 2022 le triúr ball foirne, ar scor dá gconarthaí fostaíochta nó dá gconarthaí fostaíochta eile.

Is é seo a leanas meánlíon na bhfostaithe de réir suímh ag deireadh na bliana:

Fostaithe	2022 No.	2021 No.
Rinn Mhíl Gaillimh	203	195
Baile Uí Fhiacháin	16	18
Baile Átha Cliath	9	9
Calafoirt	11	13
Bunaithe san AE	2	2
	<b>241</b>	<b>237</b>

Na coibhéisí lánaimseartha ag deireadh gach bliana

	232.83	228.04
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Tuarastal agus Costais an Phríomhoifigigh Feidhmiúcháin (POF)	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Bunphá	162	192
	<b>162</b>	<b>192</b>

Áirítear le bunphá €150,827 (2021: €112,099) i dtuarastal i leith an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh agus €11,274 (2021: €80,304) i dtuarastal i leith POF eatramhach a theastaíonn chun tréimhse shaoire reachtúil a chlúdach. Ba é €10,008 (2021: €1,963) iomlán an speansas a thabhaigh Foras na Mara chun críocha gnó i 2022 maidir leis an bPríomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin nó leis an bPríomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin Eatramhach. Áirítear leis seo speansais taistil thar lear de €2,409 (2021: €1,237).

Príomhbhainistíocht agus Pearsanra	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Tuarastal	886	840
	<b>886</b>	<b>840</b>

I measc na bpríomhphearsanra Bainistíochta i bhForas na Mara tá comhaltaí an Bhoird agus baill Fhoireann Cheannaireachta Shinsearach Fhoras na Mara, lena n-áirítear an Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin (POF). Tá luach iomlán na sochar fostaithe don príomhphearsanra leagtha amach thuas. Ní dhearnadh aon íocaíochtaí i leith íocaíochtaí foirceanta nó árachas sláinte i 2022. Ní fholáin sé seo luach na sochar scoir a tuilleadh sa tréimhse. Is baill de Scéim Aoisiúntais Foirne Fhoras na Mara 1998 nó Scéim Pinsin na Seirbhíse Poiblí Aonair iad an Fhoireann Cheannaireachta Shinsearach lena n-áirítear an POF agus ní théann a dteidíochtaí chuige sin thar théarmaí na scéime pinsin eiseamláireach seirbhíse poiblí. Ba é €33,545 (2021: €15,727) an speansas iomlána a aisíocadh le príomhbhainistíocht feidhmiúcháin maidir le caiteachas a bhain le gnó.

#### Miondealú Sochair Ghearrthéarmacha Fostaithe

Déantar sochair gearrthéarmacha fostaithe (pá agus tuarastail) de bhreis ar €60,000 a chatagóiriú sna bandaí seo a leanas:

	2022 Uimh	2021 Uimh
€60,000 - €69,999	33	28
€70,000 - €79,999	35	33
€80,000 - €89,999	16	14
€90,000 - €99,999	12	6
€100,000 - €109,999	3	2
€110,000 - €119,999	2	2
€120,000 - €129,999	1	2
€130,000 - €139,999	1	-
€140,000 - €149,999	-	-
€150,000 - €159,999	1	-

Nóta: Chun críocha an nochta seo, áirítear le sochair fhostaithe gearrthéarmacha maidir le seirbhísí a soláthraíodh le linn na tréimhse tuairiscithe tuarastal, liúntais ragoibre agus íocaíochtaí eile a dhéantar thar ceann an fhostaí, ach ní áirítear ÁSPC an fhostóra agus pá saoire fabhráithe.

## 6. Costais Oibriúcháin Árthaigh

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Párolla agus Costais Ghaolmhara	5,702	5,087
Breosla	2,178	939
Árachas	363	277
Biatachas	267	169
Táille Bainistíochta	279	263
Táillí Calafóirt agus Sábháilteacht	103	75
Léasanna agus Stóráil Cíos	126	154
Costais Innealtóireachta agus Chothabhála	1,079	905
Costais Oibriúcháin agus Riaracháin	816	664
	<b>10,913</b>	<b>8,533</b>

Ní áirítear leis na costais oibriúcháin soithí costas trealamh agus athfheistithe soithí, atá caipitlithe i nóta 15, toisc go gcomhlíonann siad na critéir maidir le haitheantas mar réadmhaoín, gléasra agus trealamh. Is le Foras na Mara na soithí agus tá oibríochtaí na soithí ar fochonradh do chuideachta bhainistíochta soithí tríú páirtí.

## 7. Costais Taistil

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Taisteal agus Cothabháil		
Inmheánach	536	312
Eachtrach	280	30
	<b>816</b>	<b>342</b>

Baineann cuid den speansas seo le tionscadail mhaoinithe, áit a ndéanfar an costas a thabhaítear a aisíoc le Foras na Mara.

## 8. Deontais agus Soláthraithe Seirbhíse Seachtracha

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Deontais Chlár Taighde Mara agus costais tacaíochta (Nóta 12)	3,791	4,821
Oiliúint & Oideachas do Mharaithe	140	121
Conraitheoirí, Soláthraithe Seirbhíse Seachtracha, Táillí Gairmiúla agus Maoiniú Taighde Eile*	8,031	6,618
Anailís Shamplach	297	307
	<b>12,259</b>	<b>11,867</b>

\*Áirítear leis seo íocaíochtaí tionscadail le comhpháirtithe arb é Foras na Mara an príomh-chomhpháirtí i dtionscadail atá maoinithe ag an AE, íocaíochtaí a bhaineann le tionscadail arna maoiniú ag an CEMI/EMFAF agus íocaíochtaí le soláthraithe conartha eile le haghaidh samplaí, suirbhéanna eolaíoch, tacaíocht oibríochtaí, conraitheoirí suirbhé seachtracha agus nithe eile a theastaíonn chun go bhféadfaidh Foras na Mara a shainordú reachtúil a chomhlíonadh.

## 9. Costais Áiseanna

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Cothabháil	1,416	1,287
Solas & Teas	769	450
Athsholáthairtí	394	172
Eile	294	237
	<b>2,873</b>	<b>2,146</b>

## 10. Costais Eile Riaracháin agus Trealamh ar cíós

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Cíós, Rátaí & Costais Maoine Eile	243	215
Síntiúis Irise, Ballraíochtaí agus Costais Leabharlainne	230	308
Oiliúint	238	171
Stáiseanóireacht & Earraí Inchaite	151	131
Foilseacháin, Ábhair do Chur Chun Cinn agus Dearadh	296	284
Árachas	167	136
Táille iniúcháireachta	29	27
Fruiliú ar Threalamh & Soithí	442	253
Trealamh Ilchineálach	456	456
Costais Riaracháin Eile	803	549
	<b>3,055</b>	<b>2,530</b>

Tá feidhm ag forálacha Rialacháin na gComhphobal Eorpach (Íocaíocht Dhéanach in Idirbhearta Tráchtála), 2012 (S.I. Uimh. 580 de 2012) maidir le Foras na Mara. Ba é an t-ús agus an cúiteamh a íocadh le linn 2022 ná €171 (2021: €396).

## 11. Cánachas

Tá Foras na Mara díolmhaithe go sonrach ó chánachas faoi fhorálacha Alt 32 agus Sceideal 2 den Acht Airgeadais 1994. Dá réir sin, níl aon mhúirear cánach san áireamh sna ráitis airgeadais.

## 12. Íocaíochtaí Clár Taighde Mara – Caipiteal arna Mhaoiniú ag an Státchiste

Is nóta meabhráin é seo, a bhfuil sé mar fheidhm aige cur i bhfeidhm an mhaoinithe caipitil de €19.75m a fuarthas i 2022 (2021: €19.5m) a thaispeáint, mar a caitheadh é ar thacú leis an *Straitéis Náisiúnta um Thaighde agus Nuálaíocht Mara 2017-2021*. Déantar an caiteachas a chatagóiriú ar fud na ráiteas airgeadais mar a shonraítear thíos.

Foilsíodh an *Straitéis Náisiúnta um Thaighde agus Nuálaíocht Mara 2017-2021* i mí an Mheithimh 2017, agus shainithníodh 15 théama taighde faoi na trí sprioc atá ag *Feidhm a Bhaint as Saibhreas Ár nAigéin*. Leag an straitéis seo amach na tosaíochtaí taighde i 2021 agus 2022, ar feitheamh foilsiú straitéise nua náisiúnta um Thaighde agus Nuálaíocht Mara i 2023.

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Ioncam Oireachtas (Nóta 2)	19,750	19,500
Ioncam Eile nó Ioncam Cómhainithe	464	294
<b>Ioncam Iomlán</b>	<b>20,214</b>	<b>19,794</b>
<i>Caiteachas ar thionscadail an Chláir Taighde Mara</i>		
Dámhachtain um Rochtain ar Long-Ama	4,722	3,200
Deontais do Chlár Taighde Mara (Nóta 8)	3,791	4,821
Tacaíocht Beartais Taighde Mara, Oideachas agus For-rochtain agus Íocaíochtaí Riaracháin	1,106	624
Caipiteal, TF, Ártach, Athchóiriú Soitheach agus Trealamh Aigéaneolaíochta	2,615	2,144
Íocaíocht deiridh Soithí Nua a fháil	7,983	9,000
<b>Caiteachas Iomlán</b>	<b>20,217</b>	<b>19,789</b>

### Dámhachtain Rochtana ar Long-Ama

Cuirtear rochtain ar shoithí taighde na hInstitiúide ar fáil do Thaighdeoirí, lena n-áirítear Institiúidí Ardoideachais chun críocha taighde agus oideachais, tar éis glao iomaíoch bliantúil "Dámhachtain Long-Ama". Is é an €4,722,000 luach na dámhachtana "comhchineáil" seo do na hiarratasóirí rathúla, nach ngearrtar táille úsáide airgeadaíochta orthu. Is é an €4,722,000 costas oibriúcháin measta na soithí, agus iad in úsáid ag iarratasóirí dá leithéid. Tá an tsuim seo mar chuid de chostais iomlána oibriúcháin áirítear sa chuntas ioncaim agus caiteachais.

### Deontais an Chláir Taighde Mara

Áirítear leis seo íocaíochtaí atá nasctha leis an *Straitéis Náisiúnta um Thaighde agus Nuálaíocht Mara 2017-2021* le haghaidh dámhachtainí i réimsí tábhachtacha straitéiseacha de thaighde mara. Tá tionscadail taighde a dhámhtar faoi réir conarthaí a shonraíonn go ndéanfar íocaíocht tosaigh ar shíniú an chonartha; féadfar íocaíocht(aí) eatramhacha a dhéanamh faoi réir feidhmíochta sásúla agus íocaíocht deiridh a dhéanamh ar éileamh a fháil agus a fhíorú. Tá na híocaíochtaí seo san áireamh i "Deontais agus Soláthraithe Seirbhíse Seachtracha" sa chuntas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais.

### Tacaíocht Beartais um Thaighde Mara /Oideachas agus For-rochtain/ agus Íocaíochtaí Riaracháin

Áirítear leis seo costais riaracháin, iniúchára agus luachála an Chláir Taighde Mara, tacaíocht bheartais d'eagraíochtaí taighde Idirnáisiúnta agus costas na gclár oideachais agus for-rochtana. Áirítear na híocaíochtaí seo i bhfotheidil éagsúla sa chuntas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais.

### Caipiteal, TF, Ártach, Athchóiriú Soitheach agus Trealamh Aigéaneolaíochta

Áirítear leis seo ceannach trealamh caipitil, costais athfheistithe agus costais TF. Déantar na costais seo, a mhéid a chomhlíonann siad an sainmhíniú ar shócmhainn faoi FRS 102, a chaipitliú sa ráiteas ar an staid airgeadais.

### Soitheach Nua "RV Tom Crean" a fháil

In 2019, rinne Foras na Mara gealltanais chonartha de €25m maidir le soitheach taighde nua a thógáil. Seachadadh ártach taighde Tom Crean agus cuireadh i seirbhís é le linn 2022 ar chostas iomlán de €24.983m.

Gearrta caiteachas sna ráitis airgeadais de réir mar a thabhaítear é de réir bheartas cuntasíochta an Chláir Taighde Mara. Ar 31 Nollaig 2022 bhí íocaíochtaí de €513,576 (2021: €357,003) gan íoc agus áirítear iad laistigh de nithe iníochta.

### 13. An Clár Taighde Mara Tiomantais Chaipitil don Todhchaí

Ritheann an Clár Taighde Mara i dtimthriallta maoinithe seacht mbliana, agus an timthriall reatha ó 2021 go 2027. Ag tús 2022 bhí 85 tionscadal fós ar siúl, bronnadh 42 dámhachtain nua i 2022, agus críochnaíodh 37 dámhachtain i 2022, rud a d'fhág go raibh 90 tionscadal ar siúl amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022.

Déantar anailís mar seo a leanas ar ghealltanais chonarhacha amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022, nár cuireadh de mhúirear ar na ráitis airgeadais go fóill:

	Iomlán €'000
<b>Gealltanais amhail ag 1 Eanáir 2022</b>	<b>22,191</b>
Dídhlísihe 2022	(62)
Ceangaltais Nua 2022 - Deontais don Chlár Taighde Mara	2,857
Íoctha i 2022	(11,879)
<b>Ceangaltais amhail ag 31 Nollaig 2022</b>	<b>13,107</b>

### 14. Cuntas Caipitil

	2022 €'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2021 €'000
Iarmhéid ag an 1 Eanáir		30,667		22,712
<i>Aistriú (chuig)/ón Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais</i>				
Ioncam (glan) leithdháilte do mhaoiniú Caipitil	10,736		12,549	
Táille dhímheasa don bhliain	(5,542)	5,194	(4,918)	7,631
Múirear ar an gCúlchiste Athluachála		108		324
Tionchar diúscairthe maoinne, gléasra agus trealamh		(7)		
<b>Iarmhéid ag 31 Nollaig</b>		<b>35,962</b>		<b>30,667</b>

Is ionann iarmhéid comhiomlán an Chuntais Chaipitil (€35.962m) agus an Cúlchiste Athluachála (€5.028m) agus Glanluach Leabhar Réadmhaoinne, Gléasra agus Trealamh de €40.990m amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022.

### 15. Maoin, Gléasra agus Trealamh

	Talamh & Maoin agus Feabhsúcháin Léasachta €'000	Árthach Taighde €'000	Sócmhainní atá á dtógáil €'000	Trealamh Soithigh €'000	Trealamh/Daingneáin & Feistis €'000	Ríomhairí €'000	Mótarfheithiclí €'000	Iomlán €'000
<i>Costas nó Luacháil</i>								
Iarmhéid ag an 1 Eanáir 2022	9,916	31,803	17,092	7,918	28,354	7,804	451	103,338
Suimiúcháin	-	1,056	8,134	123	759	664	-	10,736
Diúscairtí	-	(265)	-	(268)	(250)	(153)	-	(936)
Aistriú sócmhainní	-	24,983	(25,075)	-	92	-	-	-
<b>Iarmhéid amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022</b>	<b>9,916</b>	<b>57,577</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>7,773</b>	<b>28,955</b>	<b>8,315</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>113,138</b>
<i>Dímheas</i>								
Iarmhéid ag an 1 Eanáir 2022	2,047	25,718	-	7,096	25,121	7,130	423	67,535
Múirear don bhliain airgeadais	200	2,581	-	483	1,631	634	13	5,542
Diúscairt	-	(265)	-	(266)	(245)	(153)	-	(929)
<b>Iarmhéid amhail ag 31 Nollaig 2022</b>	<b>2,247</b>	<b>28,034</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,313</b>	<b>26,507</b>	<b>7,611</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>72,148</b>
<i>Glanluach Leabhar</i>								
Ag 31 Nollaig 2022	7,669	29,543	151	460	2,448	704	15	40,990
Ag 31 Nollaig 2021	7,869	6,085	17,092	822	3,233	674	28	35,803

Tá ceanncheathrú Fhoras na Mara ag Rinn an Bhile, Órán Mór, Co. na Gaillimhe. Tá an foirgneamh seo, atá faoi úinéireacht OOP, curtha ar fáil saor ó chíos. Is leis an Institiúid talamh agus foirgnimh sa Phort Nua, Co. Mhaigh Eo agus sa Pháirc Mhór, Gaillimh. Rinne luachálaithe cáilithe gairmiúla neamhspleácha an talamh ar fad agus na foirgnimh ar le Foras na Mara iad a athluacháil le linn 2018. Coinnítear na háitribh éagsúla eile a úsáideann an Institiúid i mBaile Átha Cliath agus ag na láithreacha calafoirt timpeall na hÉireann faoi léasanna oibriúcháin nó faoi chomhaontuithe cíosa mar atá leagtha amach i Nóta 20.

Níor aithníodh dímheas amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022 i ndáil le €0.151m de sócmhainní atá á dtógáil. Na míreanna seo a chomhlíonann an sainmhíniú ar sócmhainn ach nach raibh in úsáid ar 31 Nollaig 2022, níor chuir siad tús lena saolréanna úsáideacha chun críocha dímheasa in 2022.

I rith 2022, críochnaíodh árthach taighde agus trealamh nua na hInstitiúide a bhí á dtógáil ar 31 Nollaig 2021 agus cuireadh in úsáid iad. Aistríodh na míreanna seo ó sócmhainní atá á dtógáil go dtí catagóirí sócmhainní ábhartha agus bhí siad faoi réir dímheasa le linn na bliana dar críoch 31ú Nollaig 2022.

De réir bheartas na hInstitiúide, cuirfeadh tús le dímheas, agus gearrfar bliain iomlán dímheasa sa bhliain a dtagann an tsócmhainn in úsáid.

## 16. Cúlchiste Athluachála

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Iarmhéid ag an 1 Eanáir	5,136	5,460
Gluaiseacht sa bhliain	(108)	(324)
<b>Iarmhéid ag 31 Nollaig</b>	<b>5,028</b>	<b>5,136</b>

Athraíodh an bonn le luacháil talún agus réadmhaoine i 2018 ó chostas go hathluacháil, agus b'ionann an méid de €5.460m agus an méadú dá réir ar luach, a cuireadh san áireamh sa chúlchiste athluachála i 2018. Is é an méid de €5.028m amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022 an t-iarmhéid ar an gcontas cúlchiste athluachála tar éis dímhéas a ghearradh ar na sócmhainní athluachála a chur san áireamh.

## 17. Infháiltais

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Infhaighte Trádála	274	77
Ioncam Conartha	779	863
Réamhíocaíochtaí	529	371
	<b>1,582</b>	<b>1,311</b>

Tá gach infhaighte dlite laistigh de bhliain amháin. Taispeántar nithe infhaighte trádála glan ó bhearnú i leith fiacha amhrasacha.

## 18. Nithe Iníochta

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<i>Suímeanna a bheidh dlite laistigh de bhliain amháin</i>		
Nithe Iníochta Trádála	1,466	2,892
Ioncam Iarchurtha	4,900	3,225
Fabhrú an Chláir Taighde Mara (Nóta 12)	513	357
Fabhruithe	38	48
Párolla agus Fabhruithe Ioncaim	482	417
Fabhrú Pá Saoire (Nóta 5)	464	401
	<b>7,863</b>	<b>7,340</b>

San áireamh sna nithe iníochta thuas tá na méideanna seo a leanas atá dlite do na Coimisinéirí Ioncaim:

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Cáin Shiarchoinneálach ar Sheirbhís Ghairmiúil	161	203
ÍMAT/ÁSPC/MSU	452	414
CBL	107	96
Cáin Chonartha Iomchuí	6	1
	<b>726</b>	<b>714</b>

## 19. Scéim Aoisliúntais agus Scéim na Sochar Scoir Ranníocach do Chéilí agus Leanaí

## a) Tuairisc Ghinearálta na Scéime

Is gníomhaireacht reachtúil Stáit é Foras na Mara, a bunaíodh faoi alt 3(1) den Acht um Fhoras na Mara, 1991 (Uimh. 2 de 1991). Forálann alt 9(1) den Acht go ndéanfaidh an Foras scéimeanna chun sochair aoisliúntais a dheonú do chomhaltaí foirne agus ina leith, faoi réir cheadú an Aire. Tá dhá scéim cheadaithe den sórt sin - Scéim Aoisliúntais Fhoireann Fhoras na Mara 1998 agus Scéim Pinsin Ranníocach do Chéilí agus Leanaí Fhoras na Mara 1998 á n-oibriú ag an bhForas. Soláthraíonn an iarscém sochair scoir (cnapshuim agus pinsean) do bhaill fhoirne agus sochair aisce bháis maidir le bás le linn seirbhíse. Soláthraíonn an scéim ní ba dheireanaí sochair phinsin do chéilí marthanacha agus do leanaí cleithiúnacha na mball nach maireann. Is í an ghnáthaois scoir ná 65ú breithlá an chomhalta. Is scéimeanna aoisliúntais sochair shainithe iad an dá scéim. Íoctar ranníocaíochtaí Aoisliúntais Foirne leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

Is í an Scéim Pinsin Seirbhíse Poiblí Aonair (Scéim Aonair) an scéim pinsin shochair shainithe do sheirbhísigh poiblí inphinsin arna gceapadh den chéad uair ar 1 Eanáir 2013 nó ina dhiaidh de réir an Achte um Pinsin na Seirbhíse Poiblí (Scéim Aonair agus Forálacha Eile) 2012. Soláthraíonn an scéim do phinsean agus cnapshuim scoir bunaithe ar mheánluach saothair inphinsin gairme, agus pinsin chéilí agus leanaí. Is é 66 bliain an aois íosta pinsin (ag ardú de réir athruithe ar aois an phinsin Stáit). Áirítear leis saoráid luathscoir laghdaithe go hachtúireach ó 55 bliain d'aois ar aghaidh. Ardaítear pinsin atá á n-íoc ag teacht leis an treoir-innéacs praghsanna do thomhaltóirí.

Chun críocha tuairiscithe de réir FRS 102, tá an Institiúid tar éis comhairle a fháil ó aachtúire cáilithe a d'ullmhaigh luacháil iomlán chun dliteanas na scéimeanna aoisliúntais amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022 a mheas.

Is iad seo a leanas na príomhthoimhdí aachtúireacha atá bunaithe ar chomhairle aachtúireach ghairmiúil, in aghaidh na bliana:

	2022	2021	2020
Méadú ar ráta boilsicthe	2.60%	1.50%	1.50%
Méadú ar ráta tuarastail	3.60%	2.50%	2.50%
Méadú ar ráta pinsin	3.10%	2.00%	2.00%
Ráta lascaine dliteanas scéime	4.25%	1.25%	0.80%

Toisc go bhfuil méaduithe pinsin faoi scéimeanna Fhoras na Mara bunaithe ar arduithe tuarastail seachas ar arduithe praghsais, ní gá toimhde boilsicthe praghsais chun críocha na luachála seo. Mar sin féin, ós rud é go n-éilíonn FRS 102 tagairt do ráta toimhdithe boilsicthe, bheadh an ráta thuas oiriúnach chun na críche seo.

Is é seo a leanas an meán-ionchas saoil atá fágtha sa todhchaí de réir na dtáblaí básmhaireachta a úsáidtear chun dliteanas phinsin a chinneadh:

	2022	2021
Fear 65 bliain d'aois	22.6	21.8
Mná 65 bliain d'aois	24.3	24.2

Ar bhonn na mbonn tuisceana seo agus eile agus an modh aonaid réamh-mheasta a fhorordaítear i FRS 102 á chur i bhfeidhm, is iad seo a leanas an tsócmhainn mhaoinithe iarchurtha agus an dliteanas sochair scoir:

	2022	2021
Dlitéanas sochair scoir fabhraithe iomlán	€61.28m	€97.60m

## b) Anailís ar na Costais Iomlána Phinsin a cuireadh de mhúirear ar Chaiteachas

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Costas Seirbhíse Reatha	5,079	4,721
Ús ar dhliteanais scéime pinsin	1,217	708
Ranníocaíochtaí Fostaithe	(642)	(594)
	<b>5,654</b>	<b>4,835</b>

## c) Anailís ar an méid atá aitheanta sa Ráiteas Cuimsitheach Ioncam

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Gnóthachain/(Cailiteanais) Taithí	(4,065)	1,515
Athruithe ar bhoinn tuisceana achtúireacha atá mar bhonn le luach reatha na scéime	46,138	(5,311)
<b>Gnóthachan/(cailiteanas) achtúireach aitheanta sa Ráiteas ar Ioncam Cuimsitheach</b>	<b>42,073</b>	<b>(3,796)</b>

## d) Glanmhaoiniú Iarchurtha do Phinsin Aitheanta sa bhliain

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Costas Seirbhíse agus Úis Reatha	6,296	5,429
Íoctar níos lú sochair sa bhliain	(550)	(430)
	<b>5,746</b>	<b>4,999</b>

Aithníonn Foras na Mara méideanna atá dlite ón Stát mar shócmhainn a fhreagraíonn don dliteanas iarchurtha neamh-mhaoinithe do phinsin ar bhonn na mbonn tuisceana a bhfuil cur síos déanta orthu thuas agus roinnt imeachtaí san am a chuaigh thart. Áirítear ar na himeachtaí seo an bonn reachtúil do bhunú na scéime aoisliúntais agus an polasaí agus an cleachtas maidir le pinsin seirbhíse poiblí a mhaoiniú, lena n-áirítear ranníocaíochtaí ó fhostaithe agus an próiseas meastachán bliantúil. Cosúil le scéimeanna aoisliúntais na seirbhíse poiblí i gcoitinne, ní choinnítear aon chiste ar leith, ná ní shealbhaítear sócmhainní, chun íocaíocht pinsin agus aiscí a mhaoiniú.

Ag teacht leis an nós agus leis an gcleachtas mar atá glactha ag an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara go dtí seo, níl aon fhianaise ag Foras na Mara nach leanfaidh an beartas maoinithe seo ag freastal ar na suimeanna sin de réir an chleachtais reatha. B'ionann an tsócmhainn mhaoinithe iarchurtha do phinsin amháil ag 31 Nollaig 2022 agus €61.28 milliún (2021: €97.6 milliún). Tá cainníochtú an dliteanais bunaithe ar na boinn tuisceana airgeadais atá leagtha amach sa nóta seo.

## e) Anailís ar ghluaiseacht sa ghlan-dlitéanas pinsin i rith na bliana

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2020 €'000	2019 €'000	2018 €'000
Dlitéanas ag tús na bliana	97,605	88,810	74,341	63,129	59,599
Costas Seirbhíse Reatha	5,079	4,721	4,066	3,550	3,493
Ús ar Dhliteanais Scéime	1,217	708	889	1,194	1,188
Achtúireach (Gnóthachan)/Cailiteanas aitheanta sa Ráiteas ar Ioncam Cuimsitheach	(42,073)	3,796	9,946	7,145	(766)
Sochair a íocadh sa bhliain	(550)	(430)	(432)	(677)	(385)
<b>Dlitéanas ag tús na bliana</b>	<b>61,278</b>	<b>97,605</b>	<b>88,810</b>	<b>74,341</b>	<b>63,129</b>

## f) Stair d'Oibleagáidí Sochair Shainithe

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2020 €'000	2019 €'000	2018 €'000
Oibleagáidí sochair easnaimh	61,278	97,605	88,810	74,341	63,129
Gnóthachain/(Cailiteanais) Taithí ar Dhliteanais Scéime	(4,065)	1,515	(1,124)	273	(1)
<b>An Céatadán de Dhliteanais Scéime</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
Gnóthachain/(Cailiteanais) Tuisceana ar Dhliteanais Scéime	46,138	(5,311)	(8,822)	(7,418)	(767)
<b>An Céatadán de Dhliteanais Scéime</b>	<b>75.3%</b>	<b>5.44%</b>	<b>9.93%</b>	<b>9.97%</b>	<b>1.21%</b>

Is é an gnóthachan achtúireach carnach a aithnítear sa Ráiteas ar Ioncam Cuimsitheach ná €13,091,000.

## 20. Ceangaltais Léasa Oibriúcháin

Tá áitribh ar léas agus ar cíos ag Foras na Mara sna háiteanna seo a leanas:

- **Léas 1:** Cuireadh tús le 3 Plás na Páirce, Baile Átha Cliath 2, i Meitheamh 2019 ar feadh tréimhse 25 bliain agus tá sé le críochnú ar 31 Deireadh Fómhair 2044.
- **Léas 2:** Cuireadh tús le Páirc Oifige na Páirce Móire, Gaillimh, i 1999 ar feadh tréimhse 25 bliain le hathbheithnithe cíosa cúig bliana.
- **Léas 3:** Cuireadh tús le Red Sail Warehouse, Cuan na Gaillimhe, i 2013 ar feadh tréimhse 11 bhliain le hathbheithniú cíosa i 2018.
- **Léas 4:** Cuireadh tús le Talamh Tionsclaíoch, Cuan na Gaillimhe, i 2014 ar feadh tréimhse 5 bliana agus an rogha ann síneadh go Lúnasa 2024. Rinneadh an rogha seo a fheidhmiú.
- **Léas 5:** Cuireadh tús le Talamh Tionsclaíoch, Páirc Theicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe, i 1988 ar feadh tréimhse 999 bliain, le hathbheithnithe cíosa cúig bliana.
- **Léas 6:** Léas urthrú sa Spidéal, arna dheonú ar feadh 35 bliain le héifeacht ón 15 Nollaig 2017.
- **Léas 7:** Spás Saotharlainne i mBeanntaí arna dheonú ar feadh 3 bliana le héifeacht ón 1 Nollaig 2019. Chuaigh an léas seo in éag an 1 Nollaig 2022, ach fanann áitiú agus muirir i gcomhréir leis an gcomhaontú a chuaigh in éag.
- **Léas 8:** Spás Saotharlainne i mBaile Chaisteáin Bhéarra deonaithe ar feadh 10 mbliana le héifeacht ón 1 Nollaig 2013.
- **Léas 9:** Spás Saotharlainne sa Chaisteán Nua ar feadh 5 bliana le héifeacht ón 1 Meitheamh 2020.
- **Comhaontuithe Cíosa:** Tá roinnt comhaontuithe cíosa gearrthéarmacha ag an Institiúid freisin maidir le céanna, saotharlanna agus seideanna.

Is iad seo a leanas iomlán na n-íocaíochtaí léasa íosta sa todhchaí faoi léasanna oibriúcháin neamh-incháilithe, baineann siad ar fad le Talamh & Foirgnimh:

Maidir le léasanna	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Iníoctha laistigh de bhliain amháin	288	296
Iníoctha idir 2 agus 5 bliana	537	704
Iníoctha ina dhiaidh sin	2,046	2,173
	<b>2,871</b>	<b>3,173</b>

B'ionann íocaíochtaí léasa oibriúcháin a aithníodh mar speansas i 2022 agus €296,935 (2021: €295,997).



## 21. Idirbhearta Páirtithe Gaolmhara

Ar an 4 Meitheamh 2021, ceapadh Ms Charlotte O'Kelly ar Bhord Foras na Mara. Is páirtí rialaithe agus comhalta Boird de Techworks Marine Limited í Ms O'Kelly, soláthraí d'Fhoras na Mara. B'ionann ceannacháin (gan CBL) ó Techworks Marine Limited agus €41,513 i 2022 agus €133,456 i 2021 sa tréimhse tar éis cheapachán Iníon Uí Cheallaigh ar an mBord. Rinneadh na hidirbhearta go léir ar neamhthuilleamaí de réir ghnáthnósanna imeachta soláthair an Fhorais, i gcomhréir le rialacháin soláthair poiblí.

## 22. Clár leasanna

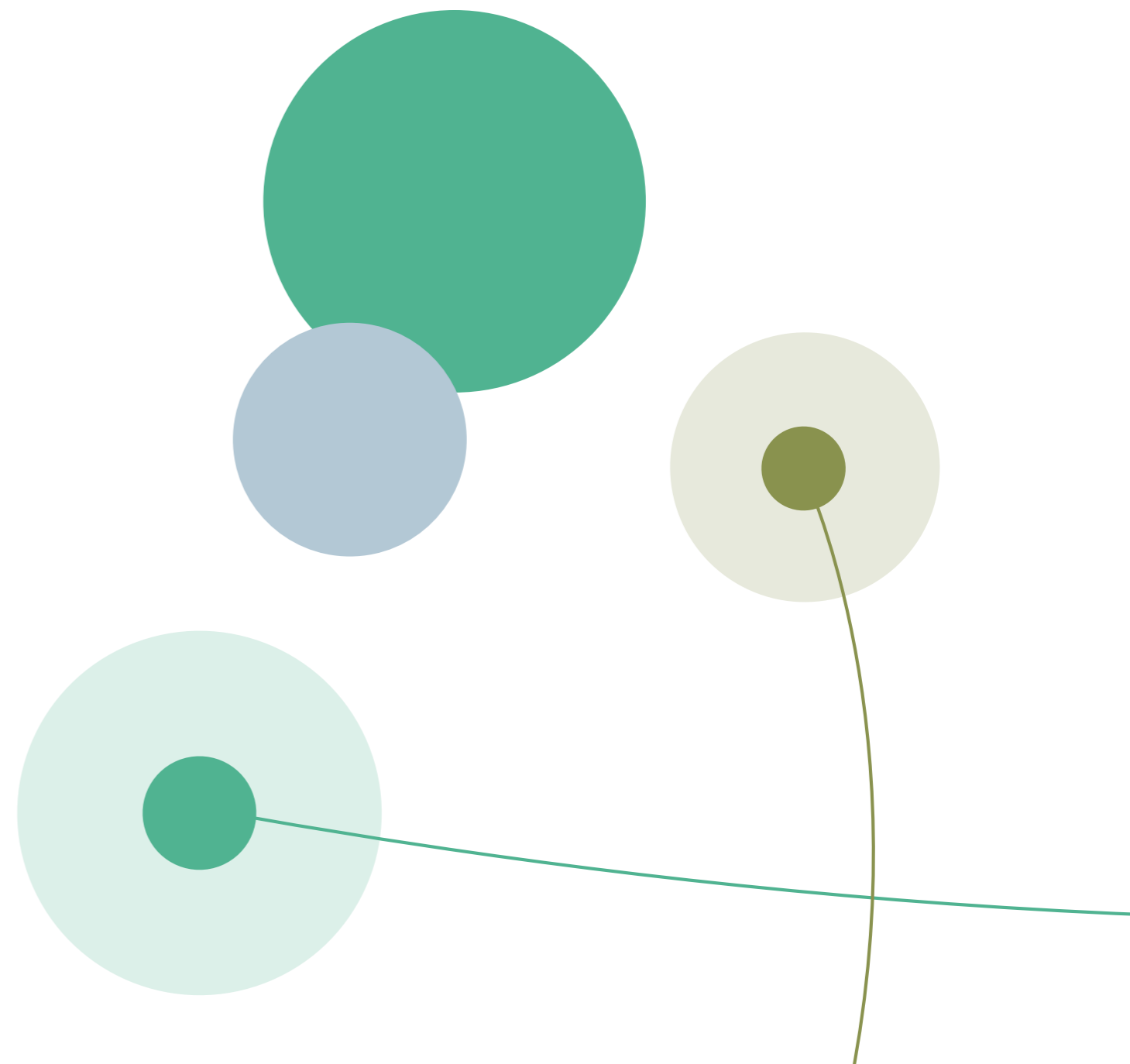
Tá nósanna imeachta glactha ag an bhForas de réir na dtreoirlínte atá eisithe ag an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe maidir le nochtadh leasanna ag an mBord agus chloígh an Foras leis na nósanna imeachta seo. Seachas na hidirbhearta le Techworks Marine Limited a nochtar i nóta 21, ní raibh aon idirbhearta i rith na bliana maidir le gníomhaíochtaí an Fhorais a raibh leas tairbhiúil ag comhaltaí an Bhoird iontu.

## 23. Imeachtaí tar éis dheireadh na bliana airgeadais

Níl an Bord ar an eolas faoi aon imeachtaí a tharla tar éis an 31 Nollaig 2022 a théann i bhfeidhm ar na ráitis airgeadais seo. Aithníonn an Bord gur imeacht suntasach é tionchar Chogadh na hÚcráine ar phraghas an fhuinnimh agus nithe eile go háirithe a bhfuil an Bord ag tabhairt go dáiríre faoi agus ag déanamh monatóireachta air i gcomhar leis an mbainistíocht, ar bhonn leanúnach.

## 24. Faomhadh an Bhoird

D'fhaomh an Bord na ráitis airgeadais an 28 Meitheamh 2023.



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TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL

2022





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## Faoin ÚCIM

### Bunaíodh an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara (ÚCIM) faoi fhorálacha an Achta um Iascaigh Mhara agus Dhlínse Mhuirí 2006 ("an tAcht") agus feidhmíonn sé faoi choimirce na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

Tá príomhfheidhmeanna an ÚCIM leagtha amach in Alt 43 den Acht Iascaigh Mhara agus Dlínse Muirí 2006 mar a leanas:

- Forfheidhmiú éifeachtach agus éifeachtúil an dlí iascaigh mhara agus an dlí um shábháilteacht bia a áirithiú.
- Comhlíonadh le agus cosc a chur ar sháruithe ar an dlí iascaigh mhara agus ar an dlí um shábháilteacht bia a chur chun cinn.
- Sáruithe ar dhlí iascaigh mhara agus ar dhlí sábháilteachta bia a bhrath.
- Faisnéis a sholáthar do na hearnálacha iascaigh mhara agus bia mara ar dhlí iascaigh mhara agus ar dhlí sábháilteachta bia agus ar ábhair ábhartha laistigh de shainchúram an Údaráis, tríd an gCoiste Comhairliúcháin nó trí mhodh ar bith eile is cuí leis.
- Comhairle a thabhairt don Aire maidir le beartas ar fhorfheidhmiú éifeachtach an dlí iascaigh mhara agus an dlí um shábháilteacht bia.
- Cúnamh agus eolas a sholáthar don Aire maidir le sainchúram an Údaráis.
- Sonraí a bhailiú agus a thuairisciú maidir le hiascaigh mhara agus sábháilteacht bia mar a éilíonn an tAire agus faoi dhlí an Chomhphobail
- aonadaíocht a dhéanamh nó cabhrú le haonadaíocht an Stáit ag fóraim náisiúnta, pobail agus idirnáisiúnta de réir mar a iarrann an tAire; agus
- Dul i mbun aon ghníomhaíochtaí eile a bhaineann le feidhmeanna an Údaráis de réir mar a cheadóidh an tAire.

# Oifigí ÚCIM



# 2022 SRACFHÉACHAINT



**45,031** ghabháil de **267,517** tonna

Próiseáil **3,670** teastas sláinte  
47 Gnó Onnmhairithe Éireannacha




Fíorú **2,831** deimhniú gabhála a bhaineann le **11,747** tona táirgí a allmhairiú ó gach tríú tír




Deimhníodh **78,171** tona agus **26** speiceas le haghaidh onnmhairiú ó 47 Gnólacht Bia go 48 tír lasmuigh den AE



**10,800** tona d'onnmhairiú bia mara na hÉireann deimhnithe

**1,903** iniúchadh soithí iascaireachta déanta




**75,457** tona táirgí ó soithí iascaireachta neamh-AE go hÉirinn



**1,571** Sampla Sliogéisc tógtha


**51** Ceadúnais Imeall Trá Athbhreithnithe



**1,958** rialú oifigiúil sábháilteachta bia déanta

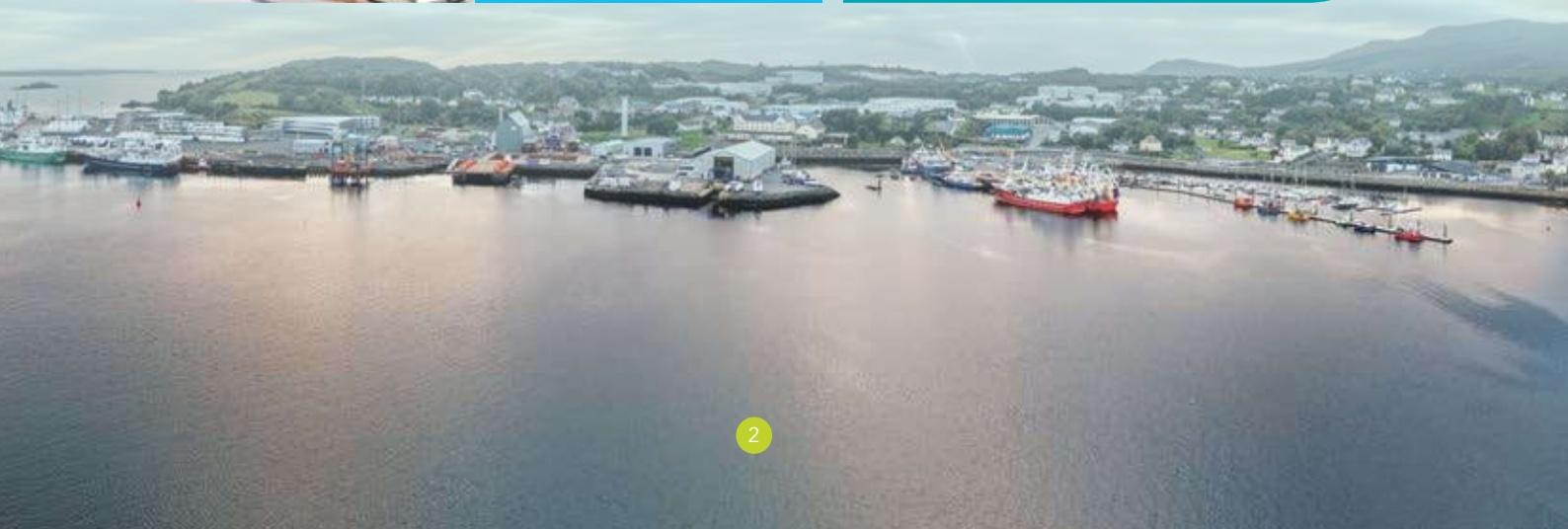
Imscrúdaíodh **74** Eachtra/ Gearán Sábháilteachta Bia

**1,249** Sampla Rialaithe Oifigiúil tógtha



Osclaíodh **87** cáschomhad in 2022

Braitheadh **161** sárú in 2022 thar na 87 cáschomhad



# Ráiteas Straitéise ÚCIM

Leagann Ráiteas Straitéise ÚCIM 2021-2023 amach fócas na hoibre thar cúig sprioc straitéiseacha agus 23 chuspóir straitéiseacha.

## Ár Spriocanna



### SPRIOC 1

#### Rialachán Éifeachtach

Seirbhís phoiblí ardchaighdeáin a sheachadadh agus a rialáil ar bhealach cothrom, oibiachtúil agus comhréireach.



### SPRIOC 2

#### Cumarsáid agus rannpháirtíocht

Comhpháirtíochtaí a neartú agus caidrimh le geallsealbhóirí a athshainiú.



### SPRIOC 3

#### Seachadadh Tiomáinte Sonraí

Úsáid sonraí a chur chun cinn agus a chumasú chun seachadadh seirbhíse a fheabhsú, chun eolas a chur ar fáil do chinnteoireacht, chun tacú le cuntasacht agus chun rannpháirtíocht le geallsealbhóirí a shimplíú.



### SPRIOC 4

#### Sármhaitheas Eagrúcháin

Cumas straitéiseach agus oibriúcháin a chothú agus a fhorbairt chun sármhaitheas eagraíochtúil a sheachadadh.



### SPRIOC 5

#### Forbairt agus Tacaíocht Foirne

Foireann ÚCIM a fhorbairt agus tacú leo.

## Ár bhFís

Le bheith i do rialtóir iontaofa a chuireann chun cinn agus a fhíoraíonn comhlíonadh a thacaíonn le hinbhuanaitheacht in earnáil iascaigh mhara agus bia mara na hÉireann ar bhealach cothrom, comhréireach agus trédhearcach agus nuair is gá a fhorghníomhaíonn an dlí iascaigh mhara agus sábháilteachta bia mara go héifeachtach.

## Ár Misean

Tá ÚCIM tiomanta do chomhlíonadh agus do rialáil éifeachtach agus chothrom a chur chun cinn ar na hearnálacha iascaireachta mara agus bia mara a thagann faoi shainordú an Údaráis chun tacú le bia mara atá sábháilte agus inbhuanaithe. Ciallaíonn sé seo go ndéantar rialáil chothrom ar gach soitheach iascaireachta a oibríonn laistigh de theorainn 200 míle na hÉireann agus ar shoithí iascaireachta na hÉireann cibé áit a bhfeidhmíonn siad, agus ar gach bia mara a tháirgtear in Éirinn.

## Ár Luachanna

- Cuireann ÚCIM cultúr cuntasachta, gairmiúlachta, obair foirne agus trédhearcachta chun cinn.
- Tá éiteas neamhspleáchais, ionracais agus neamhchlaontachta ag ÚCIM.
- Tá sé mar aidhm ag ÚCIM sármhaitheas a bhaint amach tríd an bhfaisnéis is fearr atá ar fáil a úsáid chun cinntí a dhéanamh agus chun tacú le foghlaim leanúnach, nuálaíocht agus comhoibriú laistigh den eagraíocht.
- Tá ÚCIM tiomanta don éagsúlacht, don chuimsiú, agus do chaitheamh cothrom, ómósach agus comhionann le gach duine.

# Ráiteas An Chathaoirligh

**Is é ÚCIM údarás inniúil na hÉireann a bhfuil sé de chúram air inbhuanaitheacht iascaigh mhara inár gCrios Eacnamaíoch Eisiach a chosaint agus sábháilteacht bia mara a chinntiú do thomhaltóirí chomh maith le tacú le trádáil bia mara - is é an ról atá againn ná an earnáil bia mara a rialáil chun tacú le bia mara atá sábháilte agus inbhuanaithe.**

Ciallaíonn sé seo go ndéantar gach soitheach iascaireachta ó gach náisiúntacht a oibríonn laistigh de theorainn 200 míle na hÉireann a rialáil, an beagnach 2,000 soitheach iascaireachta atá cláraithe in Éirinn cibé áit a n-oibríonn siad, na táirgeoirí bia mara go léir atá ag feidhmiú sa Stát agus deimhniú gach bia mara Éireannach a onnmhairítear thar lear chuig Tríú Tíortha. Tá rialáil mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag muinín as sábháilteacht táirgí bia mara na hÉireann, rud a thugann athdhearbhú rithabhachtach do mhiondíoltóirí, gnólachtaí fáilteachais agus tomhaltóirí sa bhaile agus thar lear. Tá sé rithabhachtach go gcoinneofaí clú méadaitheach na hÉireann as bia mara den scoth a tháirgeadh. Ina theannta sin, is féidir le bainistiú inbhuanaithe iascaigh cuidiú le sláinte éiceachórais mhuirí a chothabháil, rud a thacaíonn le slíte beatha go leor pobal cósta atá ag brath ar iascach. Tríd is tríd, tá sé rithabhachtach iascaigh a chothú chun a chinntiú gur féidir linn leanúint ar aghaidh ag baint taitnimh as iasc mar fhoirse bia sláintiúil, ag tacú le slíte beatha iascairí, agus ag cosaint sláinte agus folláine ar n-aigéan agus ár bpobal cósta.

**Tá áthas orm ár dTuarascáil Bhliantúil don bhliain 2022 a thíolacadh ina sonraítear an clár oibre fairsing a rinne ÚCIM i gcaitheamh na bliana chun ár dtiomantas dár sainchúram reactúil a chomhlíonadh.**

Ba bhliain í 2022 inar tharla athruithe suntasacha laistigh den ÚCIM nuair a ceapadh Údarás nua agus baill nua den bhainistíocht shinsearach ar fud na heagraíochta. Le ceannaireacht athnuaithe agus cur i bhfeidhm substaintiúil an Athbheithnithe ar Chumas Eagrúcháin 2020, léirigh ÚCIM a chumas mar rialtóir agus tionscnóir éifeachtach, cothrom ar chomhlíonadh an dlí iascaigh mhara agus sábháilteachta bia mara i rith 2022.

Ceann de ghníomhaíochtaí rithabhachtacha ÚCIM agus ár nOifigigh um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara (OCIManna) atá ag feidhmiú ar fud na tíre agus ar muir trínár gcomhpháirtíocht leis an nGníomhaireacht Eorpach um Rialú ar Iascach (EFCA) agus inbhuanaitheacht iascaigh mhara a chosaint agus in aghaidh gníomhaíochtaí iascaireachta mídhleathacha a chosaint agus a chosaint ar ghníomhaíochtaí iascaireachta mídhleathacha le Seirbhís Chabhlaigh na hÉireann. Le linn 2022, thug ár OCIManna faoi 1,903 iniúchadh soithí iascaireachta, rud a léirigh méadú 41% ar ghníomhaíocht iniúchta ó 2021. Le linn 2022 osclaíodh 87 cáschomhad san iomlán mar thoradh ar 161 sárú amhrasta iascaigh mhara. Léiríonn an figiúr de 161 iomlán na sáruithe ar shábháilteacht bia agus iascach mara araon. Cuireadh pointí le haghaidh sáruithe tromchúiseacha i bhfeidhm i sé chás as seacht gcás a cuireadh ar aghaidh agus cuireadh pointí i gcás amháin i bhfeidhm ar Mháistir soitheach iascaireachta den chéad uair faoi reachtaíocht nua. Cuireann cigireacht agus forheidhmiú méadaithe uirlis éifeachtach ar fáil chun cosaint a thabhairt ar ghníomhaíocht iascaireachta mídhleathach.

Tá sé rithabhachtach sábháilteacht bia mara a chosaint, ní hamháin don chlú atá ar thairiscintí bia mara na hÉireann sa bhaile agus thar lear ach ar deireadh thiar do shláinte agus folláine tomhaltóirí táirgí bia mara na hÉireann. Chuige sin, rinne na OCIManna 1,958 rialú oifigiúil sábháilteachta bia ar fud 2,323 áitreabh bia faoi shainchúram an Údaráis. D'fhreagair ÚCIM do 74 teagmhas bia ina raibh imní an maidir le sábháilteacht nó cáilíocht an bhia ar ghá iad a scrúdú ar mhaithe le sláinte an phobail. Chuirimsigh bearta forheidhmithe sábháilteachta bia mara in 2022 ó bhearta comhairleacha neamhfhoirmiúla go dtí seirbheáil Fógraí Comhlíonta, chomh maith le tús a chur le hionchúisimh choiriúla mar gheall ar neamhchomhlíonta tromchúiseacha. In 2022, cuireadh tús le dhá ionchúiseamh choiriúla ar leith i gcoinne oibreoirí gnó bia mar gheall ar shárúithe ar na rialacháin maidir le sábháilteacht bia lena n-áirítear sláinteachas, rialuithe teochta, rialú lotnaidí agus ceanglais inrianaitheachta. Eisíodh 16 Fhógra Comhlíonta in 2022.

Cuireann Éire mar náisiún onnmhairithe bia béim shuntasach ar ár seasamh mar sholáthraí bia ardchaighdeán atá sábháilte, inrianaithe agus a tháirgtear go hinbhuanaithe. Is cuid luachmhar den tairiscint seo bia mara.





Tá an ÚCIM mar rialtóir feasach ar ár ról maidir le sláine ár mbia mara a chinntiú agus go straitéiseach maidir leis an gcaoi a bhfuil clú na hÉireann mar onnmhaireoir bia roghnaithe ag brath ar gach nasc sa slabhra.

Mar údarás inniúil na hÉireann do chomhlíonadh trádála bia mara, tugann ÚCIM faoi raon gníomhaíochtaí atá ríthábhachtach chun geilleagar bia mara na hÉireann a chumasú. Bhí luach €530 milliún 1 ar onnmhairí bia mara na hÉireann in 20221, rud a léiríonn fás ar luach €17 milliún 1 ar onnmhairí ón mbliain roimhe sin.

Oibríonn Aonad Comhlíonta Trádála ÚCIM, arna thacú ag ár OCIManna ar fud na tíre, go dian dícheallach chun tacú lenár dtáirgeoirí bia mara easpórtáil go hidirnáisiúnta agus feidhmiú ár slabhraí soláthair táirgíochta bia mara a chumasú. Mar thoradh ar an Bhreathimeacht agus teacht chun cinn na Ríochta Aontaithe mar Thríú Tír tá éileamh méadaithe ar an ÚCIM. Is ábhar misnigh dom an chaoi ar éirigh leis an eagraíocht dul i ngleic leis an dúshlán seo agus a chabhraigh le gluaiseacht táirgí bia mara a choinneáil gan cur isteach suntasach.

Ba bhliain dhúshlánach í 2022 d'earnáil bia mara na hÉireann leis na hiarmhairtí leanúnacha ón Bhreathimeacht, an toradh ó ionradh na Rúise ar an Úcráin, tionchar leanúnach COVID-19 ar mhargaí easpórtála, an ghéarchéim fuinnimh agus an ghéarchéim chostais mhaireachtála ag cruthú timpeallacht trádála dhúshlánach. Léiríodh é seo sa laghdú ar onnmhairí tríú tíortha ó Éirinn go 78,171 tona agus 26 speiceas ó 47 Gnólacht Bia go 48 tír lasmuigh den AE in 2022 ó 121,395 tona in 2021.

*Ba príomhchuspóir do 2022 é faomhadh a fháil do Phlean Rialaithe lascaigh Mhara buan a sholáthraíonn díolúine ó mheá ar chur i dtír do 95% de dhíluchtuithe peiligeach agus cuid de dhíluchtuithe éisc ghrinnill.*

Chuireamar fáilte roimh dheimhniú ó Choimisiún an AE go raibh an dréacht-Phlean Rialaithe lascaigh Mhara a cuireadh isteach i Meán Fómhair 2022 ceadaithe le teacht i bhfeidhm an 1 Eanáir 2023. D'oibrigh foireann ÚCIM go dian i rith na bliana ar an bPlean Rialaithe athbhreithnithe a thugann cinnteacht a bhfuil géarghá léi do gach duine a bhfuil baint acu leis an tionscal san fhadtéarma. Chuige sin, bhíomar i dteagmháil go forleathan le haonadaithe tionscail agus go díreach le hoibreoírí chun ábhar mionteagaisc a sholáthar trí chruinnithe duine le duine, trí chruinnithe faisnéise ar líne agus i scríbhinn lena chinntiú go ndearnadh breithmheas iomlán orthu siúd ar mian leo leas a bhaint as an maolú a sholáthraíonn an Plean Rialaithe de na téarmaí agus coinníollacha atá i bhfeidhm.

Tacaíonn an tSeirbhís Chabhlaigh agus an tAerchór le ÚCIM inár gcigireachtaí iascaigh mhara, agus is mór againn a gcúnamh luachmhar. Gabhaim buíochas freisin le comhaltáí Choiste Iníuchta agus Riosca ÚCIM agus an Choiste Comhairliúcháin um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara as a dtacaíocht leanúnach agus a dtreoir luachmhar.

Tá an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara ag cloí leis na gnéithe ábhartha den Chód Caiteachais Phoiblí.

Thar ceann an Údaráis, gabhaim buíochas freisin leis an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, mar aon leis na feidhmeannaigh agus an fhoireann laistigh dá Roinn as a dtacaíocht leanúnach don ÚCIM ina chuid iarrachtaí agus gníomhaíochtaí i mbliana. Ar deireadh, ba mhaith liom aitheantas a thabhairt do thiomantas fhoireann uile ÚCIM a leanann dá dtiomantas d'obair ardchaighdeána a tháirgeadh agus a chinntiú go gcuirtear an Ráiteas Straitéise i gcrích.

**Paschal Hayes**

CATHAOIRLEACH FEIDHMIÚCHÁIN

<sup>1</sup>Figúirí tógtha ó "Export Performance and Prospects Report 2022 - 2023" Bord Bia <https://www.bordbia.ie/globalassets/bordbia.ie/industry/2022---2023-export-performance--prospects-final.pdf>

# SPRIOIC 1



## Rialachán Éifeachtach

Seirbhís phoiblí ardchaighdeáin a sheachadadh agus a rialáil ar bhealach cothrom, oibiachtúil agus comhréireach.

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# Ag cur chun cinn Comhlíonta

**Is é sprioc an ÚCIM ná seirbhís phoiblí ar ardchaighdeán a sholáthar agus é á rialú ar bhealach cothrom, oibiachtúil agus comhréireach.**

Baintear é seo amach trí chigireachtaí rialta, trí chomhairle agus treoir a sholáthar don tionscal agus trí ghníomh forfheidhmithe a dhéanamh nuair is gá chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar neamhchomhlíonadh. Ar deireadh thiar, tiocfaidh tionscal níos comhlíontach agus níos inbhuanaithe as seo. Is é an toradh straitéiseach ar iarrachtaí ÚCIM comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn trí rannpháirtíocht agus cumarsáid tionscail ná a bheith ina rialtóir réamhghníomhach, agus ag an am céanna ag méadú tuiscint agus cumas an tionscail chun na ceanglais ábhartha a chomhlíonadh.

Tá príomhtháscairí feidhmíochta bunaithe ag Ráiteas Straitéise ÚCIM 2021-2023 chun comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn i measc geallsealbhóirí an tionscail. Áirítear orthu sin athsheoladh na líne rúnda chun neamhchomhlíonta a thuairisciú, fógraí faisnéise iascaigh a eisiúint chun an tionscal a choinneáil ar an eolas faoi athruithe rialála, cumarsáid rialta trí eisiúintí meán, cruinnithe le haonadaithe tionscail chun aon ábhair inní a phlé agus chun aghaidh a thabhairt orthu agus trí obair chigireachta laethúil ÚCIM. Tá na bearta seo deartha chun cultúr comhlíonta a chothú agus a chinntiú go bhfuil ÚCIM ag comhlíonadh a fheachtaí rialála go héifeachtach.

## Líne Rúnda

Chuir ÚCIM feachtas Líne Rúnda i bhfeidhm go luath in 2022 ar fud foilseacháin meán réigiúnacha agus trádála d'fhonn Líne Rúnda an ÚCIM a chur chun cinn chun comhlíonadh a fheabhsú trí spreagadh a thabhairt dóibh siúd atá ag obair laistigh den tionscal iascaigh mhara chomh maith leis an bpobal gníomhaíocht amhrasach nó neamhdhleathach a thuairisciú don ÚCIM faoi rún.

Chuimsigh an feachtas uimhir theileafóin (1800 76 76 76) agus seoladh seoladh ríomhphoist (confidential@ÚCIM.ie) chun go bhféadfadh daoine teagmhais a bhaineann le rialú iascaigh agus sábháilteacht bia a thuairisciú. Fuair Líne Rúnda ÚCIM 73 teagmhála san iomlán, a chuimsigh 48 glao agus 25 ríomhphost. As na 73 teagmhálaí in 2022, bhain tuarascáil amháin le sábháilteacht bia, bhain 71 le rialú iascaigh agus bhain tuarascáil amháin le 'eile'. Is ionann é sin agus méadú 53% ar theagmhálacha ón mbliain roimhe sin, agus fuarthas 38 tuairisc in 2021. Ba iad na catagóirí tuairiscithe amhrasta is coitianta in 2022 ná iascaireacht mhídhleathach in uiscí na hÉireann, iascaireacht neamhcheadúnaithe, iascaireacht róbheag agus díolachán agus úsáid trealaimh iascaireachta mídhleathach.

## Fógraí Faisnéise Iascaigh

Is uirlis thábhachtach iad Fógraí Faisnéise Iascaigh (FINanna) ÚCIM chun an tionscal a choinneáil ar an eolas faoi athruithe rialála agus chun treoir a sholáthar maidir le conas na ceanglais ábhartha a chomhlíonadh. Forbraítear na nótaí comhairleacha seo chun cabhrú leis an tionscal reachtaíocht iascaigh agus bia a thuiscint agus a chomhlíonadh. Is é cuspóir na FINanna an fhaisnéis a sholáthar i bhfoirm soláimhsithe agus, á dhéanamh sin, tá sé teoranta d'eilimintí bunriachtanacha na faisnéise. In 2022, foilsíodh aon FIN déag san iomlán, a chlúdaigh raon leathan ábhar lena n-áirítear an Plean Rialaithe Eatramhach agus an Buanphlean Rialaithe, an Plean Samplála nuashonraithe, toirmisc agus srianta ar thuinnín gorm i gCrios Eacnamaíoch Eisiach na hÉireann, agus Oibleagáidí Tógála.

Creideann ÚCIM, tríd an eolas cuimsitheach agus tráthúil seo a sholáthar don tionscal, go méadóidh sé tuiscint ar na ceanglais dhlíthiúla agus go gcuideoidh sé le cultúr comhlíonta a chothú. Spreagtar geallsealbhóirí tionscail na FINanna a léamh i gcomhar leis an reachtaíocht rialaithe chun fanacht ar an eolas agus na ceanglais chomhlíonta a thuiscint.



*Déanann ÚCIM gníomhaíochtaí rannpháirtíochta rialta le páirtithe leasmhara an tionscail chun comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn i measc geallsealbhóirí an tionscail.*

## Gníomhaíochtaí Rannpháirtíochta le Tionscal

Déanann ÚCIM gníomhaíochtaí rannpháirtíochta rialta le páirtithe leasmhara an tionscail chun comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn i measc geallsealbhóirí an tionscail. I measc na ngníomhaíochtaí seo tá cruinnithe, seisiúin faisnéise agus seisiúin oiliúna ar ábhair éagsúla mar an oibleagáid gabhálacha a thabhairt i dtír, an Córas Leictreonach Taifeadta & Tuairiscithe (ERS), Plean Rialaithe agus comhlíonadh rialacháin amhail nótaí díolacháin, lipéadú, agus Pleananna Samplála nua. Úsáidtear an fhaisnéis seo mar bhonnline chun dul chun cinn a thomhas agus chun réimsí a aithint inar féidir feabhsúcháin a dhéanamh chun comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn i measc geallsealbhóirí an tionscail.

## Rialuithe Oifigiúla: Obair Chigireachta Oibríochtúil Laethúil ÚCIM

Tá an obair iniúchta oibríochtúil laethúil a dhéanann Oifig um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara (OCIManna) rithabhachtach chun comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn i measc geallsealbhóirí an tionscail. Áirítear leis seo iniúchtaí rialta a dhéanamh chun comhlíonadh na rialachán a chinntiú, comhairle agus treoir a sholáthar don tionscal, agus gníomh forfheidhmithe a ghlacadh nuair is gá chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar neamhchomhlíonadh. Tá na bearta seo deartha lena chinntiú go bhfuil an tionscal ar an eolas faoina oibleagáidí agus go bhfuil an ÚCIM ag déanamh monatóireachta éifeachtach ar chomhlíonadh ar bhonn leanúnach, rud a fhágann go bhfuil sé ina phríomhchuid d'iarrachtaí ÚCIM comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn i measc geallsealbhóirí an tionscail.

## Plean Buan Rialaithe lascaigh Mhara a fhorbairt

I Meán Fómhair 2021, chuir ÚCIM Plean Rialaithe lascaigh Mhara na hÉireann faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin Eorpaigh, maolú a cheadaíonn iasc a mheá tar éis iompair. Glacadh an plean seo ar bhonn eatramhach ó thús na bliana 2022 agus bhí sé le dul in éag ar dtús i mí Aibreáin 2022 ach leathnaigh Coimisiún an AE é níos déanaí go deireadh 2022.

Dhírigh ÚCIM ar an bPlean Rialaithe Eatramhach a chur i bhfeidhm in 2022 trí chomhlíonadh a chur chun cinn trí mhionteagasc, Fógraí Faisnéise lascaigh, agus trí cheadanna meáite a cheadú d'áitribh tionscail a chomhlíon riachtanais an Phlean Rialaithe Eatramhaigh. Dhírigh OCIM ar an bpróiseas formheasta do cheadanna meáite a cheadaíonn áitribh a mheá tar éis iompair agus rialuithe oifigiúla a sheachadadh lena chinntiú go gcomhlíontar an Plean Rialaithe Eatramhach. Rinne ÚCIM raon rialuithe oifigiúla, iniúchtaí agus nuair ba ghá, forfheidhmiú chun comhlíonadh an Phlean Rialaithe Eatramhaigh a chinntiú. Chuir ÚCIM agus OCIManna comhairle agus cruinnithe ar fáil don tionscal chun cabhrú leo an Plean Rialaithe a thuiscint agus a chomhlíonadh.

Bhí an Plean Rialaithe nua ina phríomhfhócas d'iarrachtaí ÚCIM in 2022, nuair a chuaigh ÚCIM i mbun caibidlíochta le Coimisiún an AE chun teacht ar chomhaontú ar Phlean Rialaithe nua. Cuireadh Plean Rialaithe athbhreithnithe faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin Eorpaigh i mí Mheán Fómhair agus glacadh é ó Eanáir 2023.

Sa ráithe deiridh de 2022, dhírigh ÚCIM ar chomhlíonadh an Phlean Rialaithe Buan nua a chur chun cinn. Baineadh é seo amach trí raon gníomhaíochtaí rannpháirtíochta ar nós cruinnithe, cruinnithe faisnéise, litreacha, fógraí faisnéise, agus iniúchtaí faofa. Ba é an sprioc a chinntiú go raibh an tuiscint agus an t-eolas ag páirtithe leasmhara an tionscail chun cloí leis an bplean. Trí na hiarrachtaí seo, bhí sé mar aidhm ag ÚCIM a chinntiú go raibh an Plean Buan-Rialaithe nua á chur i bhfeidhm go héifeachtach agus go héifeachtúil.

# Rialú Iascaigh Mhara

Bhí an chuntasacht ríthábhachtach in 2022 agus bunaíodh príomhtháscairí feidhmíochta leasaithe le haghaidh tasc oibriúcháin ar fud gach réimse faoi shainchúram ÚCIM.



*Maidir le rialú iascaigh, le linn 2022 rinneadh iomlán de 1,903 iniúchadh ar shoithí iascaireachta.*

Cuireadh pointí le haghaidh sárúithe tromchúiseacha i bhfeidhm i sé cinn de na seacht gcás a cuireadh ar aghaidh le haghaidh measúnaithe agus cuireadh pointí i gcás amháin i bhfeidhm ar shealbhóir an cheadúnais agus ar Mháistir an tsoithigh. Léiríonn an figiúr 161 iomlán na sárúithe ar shábháilteacht bia agus iascach mara araon.

Lean ÚCIM ar aghaidh ag glacadh agus ag cuíchóiriú a chóras uathoibríoch cros-seiceála, VALID. Thug sé seo maoirseacht níos fearr don fhoireann oibriúcháin ar neamhchomhlíonadh fíor-ama ar bord soithí iascaireachta. I rith 2022, léiríodh ráta comhlíonta 78% ar fud an chórais uathoibríoch, méadú 3% ar an ráta comhlíonta ar an mbliain roimhe sin.

Tar éis srianta COVID-19 na mblianta roimhe seo, rinne ÚCIM patróil cois cladaigh agus le linn 2022 tugadh faoi 48 patról san iomlán. Chomh maith le patróil cladaigh, ghlac ÚCIM páirt i dt trí cinn déag de chomh-imscaradh ar bord soithí patróil amach ón gcósta arna gcairt agus arna gcomhordú ag an nGníomhaireacht Eorpach um Rialú ar Iascach (EFCA). Chuir na himscaradh seo umais oibriúcháin bhreise ar fáil chun comhlíonadh na reachtaíochta iascaigh mhara a chur chun cinn in uiscí na hÉireann ar shoithí faoi bhratach an AE agus neamh-AE. Ina theannta sin, ba í Éire an chéad Bhallstát freisin a bhain leas as aerárthaí cairte EFCA a sholáthair cumas aerfhaireachais mhuirí sa ráithe deiridh de 2022.

# Sábháilteacht Bia Mara

## Is í ÚCIM an Ghníomhaireacht Oifigiúil atá freagrach as forfheidmiú an dlí bia san earnáil bia mara suas go dtí an pointe miondíola.

San áireamh i sainchúram ÚCIM tá measúnú ar rialuithe sábháilteachta bia ar fud na n-earnálacha muirí agus do bharshaothraithe. Tá sé mar sprioc ag Ráiteas Straitéise ÚCIM 2021-2023 seirbhís phoiblí ar ardchaighdeán a sholáthar agus rialáil a dhéanamh ar bhealach cothrom, oibiachtúil agus comhréireach. Áirítear leis sin cineálacha cur chuige riosca-bhunaithe a chur chun feidhme maidir le rialú agus tús áite a thabhairt don chigireacht ar oibreoirí ardriosca agus ar ghníomhaíochtaí ardriosca. Áirítear le straitéis ÚCIM príomhtháscairí feidhmíochta agus tascanna sonracha chun seirbhís phoiblí ar ardchaighdeán agus rialáil chóir a bhaint amach i sábháilteacht bia mara, amhail líon na gcigireachtaí/rialuithe riosca-bhunaithe a dhéantar i gcoinne spriocanna a fhoilsiú agus leanúint ar aghaidh ag forbairt clár iniúchta riosca-bhunaithe ag baint úsáide as cur chuige comhlíonta riosca-bhunaithe. Tá na bearta seo beartaithe lena chinntiú go rialaíonn ÚCIM ar bhealach cothrom, oibiachtúil agus comhréireach, agus go bhfuil sé ag comhlíonadh a fhreagrachtaí rialála go héifeachtach.

### Gnólachtaí Bia

In 2022, chuir ÚCIM dlíthe sábháilteachta bia i bhfeidhm i 2,323 gnólacht bia. Áiríodh orthu sin 338 bunachas talamhbhunaithe, 195 bunáocht ghnó bia faofa agus 143 oibreoir gnó bia cláraithe. Astu sin, b'árthaí iascaireachta iad 86%, 58 ina n-árthaí iascaireachta reoite/monarcha ceadaithe agus 1,930 ina n-árthaí iascaireachta táirgthe príomhúla cláraithe. Ba iad gléasraí próiseála agus táirgí úra iascaigh príomhghnóthaí agus gníomhaíochtaí na nOibreoirí Gnó Bia (FBOanna) ceadaithe seo, agus ba é reo an phríomhghníomhaíocht do shoithí iascaireachta ceadaithe.

### Cigireachtaí Sábháilteachta Bia bunaithe ar riosca

Chuir paindéim COVID-19 bac ar chur i bhfeidhm iomlán rialuithe oifigiúla sábháilteachta bia amhail iniúchtaí fisiceacha agus sampláil ag tús 2022, ach de réir mar a tháinig feabhas ar an scéal, d'athchom ÚCIM ar chur i bhfeidhm iomlán na rialuithe oifigiúla. Ar an iomlán, rinne ÚCIM 1,958 rialú oifigiúil sábháilteachta bia in 2022. As na rialuithe oifigiúla seo, déantar 37% a chatagóirí mar chigireachtaí ar bhunáochtaí ceadaithe, ba iniúchtaí iad 7% ar FBOanna cláraithe agus is éard a bhí i gceist le 56% seiceálacha rialaithe oifigiúla, amhail sampláil rialaithe oifigiúil, seiceálacha sláinteachais áirthaigh agus iad siúd a theastaíonn chun deimhniú a sholáthar do choinsíneacht bia á onnmhairiú chuig tríú tír.

### Ionaid agus Árthaí Talamh-bhunaithe Ceadaithe

Cuireann ÚCIM cur chuige riosca-bhunaithe i bhfeidhm maidir le rialuithe oifigiúla sábháilteachta bia mara, ag tabhairt tosaíochta d'acmhainní d'oibreoirí agus do ghníomhaíochtaí ardriosca. In 2022, rinne OCIManna 446 iniúchadh ar bhunáochtaí agus soithí iascaireachta a bhfuil gá lena gceadú bunaithe ar an riosca a bhaineann leis an mbunáocht agus ar na próisis ar tugadh fúthu laistigh den bhunáocht. Is ionann é sin agus 92% den sprioc bhliantúil agus tháinig méadú 9% air ó 2021. Áirítear ar na cineálacha bunáochtaí a ndearnadh cigireacht orthu gléasraí próiseála, ionaid seolta agus soithí reoiteoirí. Sheachaid ÚCIM 95% den sprioc bhliantúil d'ionaid ardriosca réidh le hithe, méadú ó 87% in 2021. Áirítear le gníomhaíochtaí oibreoirí gnó bia ardriosca réidh le hithe (RTE) ionú, cócaireacht agus caitheamh tobac.

### Sampláil Rialaithe Oifigiúil

Is príomhrialuithe oifigiúla sábháilteachta bia iad sampláil agus anailís ina dhiaidh sin a dhéanann OCIM agus saotharlanna oifigiúla. In 2022, mhéadaigh ÚCIM a samplaí rialaithe oifigiúla a bailíodh 12% i gcomparáid leis an mbliain roimhe sin, agus tógadh 1,249 sampla san iomlán. Samplaí bia a bhí i 78% díobh seo, samplaí uisce agus oighir a bhí i 18% díobh, agus ba swabanna comhshaoil iad 4%. Rinne saotharlanna oifigiúla anailís ar na samplaí maidir le comhlíonadh critéar micribhitheolaíochta, iarmhair nó éillithe agus caighdeáin eile atá leagtha síos ag reachtaíocht an AE agus ag Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann (FSAI).



# Sábháilteacht Bia Mara (ar lean)

## Teagmhais Bhia agus Gearáin

Is éard is teagmhas bia ann ná aon teagmhas ina bhfuil, bunaithe ar an bhfaisnéis atá ar fáil, imní ann maidir le sábháilteacht nó cáilíocht an bhia a dteastaíonn obair leantach ó na hÚdaráis Inniúla ar mhaithe le sláinte an phobail. I rith 2022, tharla 74 teagmhas bia san iomlán. As an líon seo teagmhas bia, bhain 21 leis an gCóras Mear-rabhaidh do Bhia agus d'Ainmhithe (RASFF). D'eisigh an FSAI foláirimh bia maidir le trí cinn de na teagmhais bia seo.

I rith 2022, tuairiscíodh 23 teagmhas (37%) de bhreiteacht líomhnaithe tar éis ithe moilisc dhébhlaoscacha beo, go háirithe oisrí. Tharla sé theagmhas (10% den iomlán) mar gheall ar bhrath *Listeria monocytogenes* i dtáirgí iascaigh agus bhí cúig teagmhas (8% den iomlán) mar gheall ar amhras faoi Noraivíreas i sliogéisc gan aon tuairiscí tinnis.

Dhéileáil ÚCIM le 12 ghearán san iomlán le linn 2022. Is féidir gearán a fháil ó FBO, ó thomhaltóir, ó Ghníomhaireacht Oifigiúil eile nó ó ghearánach gan ainm. I measc na gcineálacha gearán bhí gearán custaiméara mar gheall ar an iliomad cnámha móra a bheith i ndara bradán, réad eachtrach (píosa miotail) a fuarthas i dtáirge bradán deataithe agus gearán maidir le húsáid táirge bithicídé neamhúdaraithe ag FBO.

Déantar athleanúint agus imscrúdú ar gach teagmhas bia agus gearán a fhaigheann ÚCIM. Fíoraíonn an ÚCIM gníomhartha ceartaiteacha a chuireann an FBO i bhfeidhm chun atarlú a chosc le linn rialuithe oifigiúla agus nuair is gá, déantar gníomh forfheidhmithe.

## Rialuithe Oifigiúla i gcomhar le Gníomhaireachtaí Oifigiúla eile

Déanann an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) rialuithe oifigiúla seachtháirgí ainmhithe (ABP) a fhorpheas nó a chláru, agus a chur i bhfeidhm ag gléasraí seachtháirgí ainmhithe. Lean ÚCIM ar aghaidh lena ról maidir le rialuithe oifigiúla leanúnacha ar ghléasraí seachtháirgí ainmhithe mara chun comhlíonadh an rialacháin maidir le seachtháirgí ainmhithe a fhíorú. Chuaigh ÚCIM i dteagmháil leis an DAFM maidir le gnéithe ábhartha de na cigireachtaí seo de réir mar ba ghá lena n-áirítear neamhchomhlíonta. In 2022, d'éirigh le ÚCIM ról díreach a bheith aige i gcomhordú an phlean bhliantúil chun táirgí iascaigh agus bia mara eile a shampláil ag Poist Rialaithe Teorann (BCP). Tá ról comhairleach ag ÚCIM anois agus beidh sé ar fáil chun tacaíocht theicniúil a sholáthar d'fhoireann BCP DAFM ar allmhairí bia mara. Lean ÚCIM ar aghaidh lena rialuithe oifigiúla leanúnacha ar iarmhair ag bunaíochtaí próiseála ceadaithe lena n-áirítear rialuithe a bhaineann le dobharshaothrú éisc eite chomh maith le samplaí neamhchomhlíontacha faoin bPlean Náisiúnta um Rialú Iarmhar le cúnamh ó Fhoras na Mara agus tréidliachta DAFM, más gá. Níor tuairiscíodh aon torthaí neamhchomhlíonta sna samplaí de ghnáth-shamplaí den chlár monatóireachta náisiúnta 'spríoc' d'éisc eite saothraithe in 2022.

## Táillí Rialaithe Oifigiúla um Shábháilteacht Bia Mara

Bhí bunaíochtaí agus soithí ceadaithe ina ndéanann ÚCIM rialuithe oifigiúla sábháilteachta bia faoi réir táillí de réir Rialachán AE 2017/625 ón 1 Deireadh Fómhair 2021. Cuireadh táillí i bhfeidhm ar tháirgeadh agus ar chur ar an margadh den chéad uair táirgí iascaigh agus táirgí dobharshaothraithe. Ríomhtar táillí bunaithe ar mhéid an táirge a tháirgtear agus nuair a chuirtear an marc ubhchruthach i bhfeidhm ar dtús go ráithiúil. Gearrtar FBOanna faofa agus sonrasc iad go ráithiúil i riaráiste. Tá oibleagáid ar oibreoirí foirm féindearbhaithe a chomhlánú agus í a chur faoi bhráid an ÚCIM gach ráithe. Breathnaíodh treocht laghdaithe sa ráta comhlíonta le cur isteach na bhfoirmeacha féindearbhaithe. Tá cumarsáid rialta eisithe ag ÚCIM chuig FBOanna chun comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn agus féadfar gníomh forfheidhmithe a ghlacadh ina dhiaidh sin.

## Monatóireacht Sliogéisc agus Suirbhéanna Sláintíochta

Tá ÚCIM tiomanta do shábháilteacht agus cáilíocht na táirgeachta sliogéisc a chohabháil trí chláir leanúnacha mhonatóireachta sliogéisc agus suirbhéanna sláintíochta a dhéanamh chun limistéir táirgthe a rangú. Cuireann an tÚdarás cosc freisin ar shliogéisc a bhaint as limistéir ina bhfuil leibhéal ardaithe biotocsainí mara agus fíteaplanctóin chun sábháilteacht an táirge a chinntiú. Is beart sábháilteachta rithabhachtach é monatóireacht sliogéisc do thomhaltóirí agus cuidíonn sé leis an tionscal sliogéisc a chosaint trí ráigeanna a chosc agus a chinntiú go mbíonn bia mara fós sábháilte le hithe.

D'éirigh le ÚCIM 93% dá sprioc maidir le líon na samplaí *E. coli* a bailíodh sa Chlár Monatóireachta Micribhitheolaíochta Aicmithe Náisiúnta do Limistéir Táirgthe Moileasc Débhlaoscacha in Éirinn a bhaint amach, agus bailíodh 1,571 sampla san iomlán. Chuimsigh monatóireacht ar tháirgeadh sliogéisc le linn 2022 freisin gur chuir foireann ÚCIM isteach tuairim is 300 sampla fíoraite biotocsaine agus 450 sampla uisce fíteaplanctóin. Glacann ÚCIM samplaí breise sliogéisc gach Samhain freisin chun cabhrú le Foras na Mara monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar uiscí sliogéisc chun anailís a dhéanamh ar rian-mhiotail agus orgánaileigine.

Rinne ÚCIM athbhreithniú bliantúil ar aicmiúcháin sliogéisc in Éirinn bunaithe ar an tacar sonraí trí bliana roimhe sin (01 Eanáir 2019 - 01 Eanáir 2022) de 4,788 toradh *E. coli* ó 135 láithreán samplála i 60 limistéir táirgthe. Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar dhréacht-athbhreithniú 2022/23 agus tugadh chun críche é ag an gcruinniú bliantúil Forfheidhmithe.

Mar thoradh ar an athbhreithniú, uasghrádaíodh naoi limistéir táirgthe, aistríodh ceann amháin in aicmiú Séasúrach A, íosghrádaíodh 12, dí-aicmíodh ceann amháin do dhiúilicíní, dearbhaíodh dhá cheann díobh



a bheith díomhaoin, agus fuair dhá cheann aicmiú breise. Foilsítear an Liosta Bliantúil de Limistéir Táirgthe Mhoilisc Dhébhlaoscacha Beo Rangaithe in Éirinn ag [ÚCIM.ie/What-We-Do/Molluscan-Shellfish/Classified-Areas](https://ucim.ie/What-We-Do/Molluscan-Shellfish/Classified-Areas).

Tá foilsíú an liosta rangaithe bliantúil ina bhuaic ar an gcomhpháirtíocht leanúnach idir ÚCIM agus Foras na Mara maidir le monatóireacht mhicribhitheolaíoch ar limistéir táirgthe sliogéisc in Éirinn.

Tá clár monatóireachta sliogéisc na hÉireann tábhachtach do thomhaltóirí agus do tháirgeoirí tráchtála araon. Tá sé ar cheann de phríomhchúraimí ÚCIM a chinntiú gur féidir le tomhaltóirí Éireannacha agus idirnáisiúnta a bheith cinnte de cháilíocht agus sábháilteacht iasc agus bia mara a bhaintear anseo. Is tionscal tábhachtach é táirgeadh sliogéisc i go leor pobail cois cósta ar fud na hÉireann agus tá sé ríthábhachtach go gcoimeádtar na caighdeáin is airde sábháilteachta bia i gcónaí. Oibríonn ÚCIM i gcomhar leis an tionscal agus le gníomhaireachtaí stáit eile chun a chinntiú go bhfuil na limistéir tháirgthe ar an gcaighdeán is airde agus is féidir agus go gcomhlíonann siad dianchritéir mheasúnaithe chun a chinntiú nach gcuirtear sábháilteacht agus cáilíocht na sliogéisc a chuirtear ar an margadh i mbaol ar bhealach ar bith. Is gné thábhachtach í an obair seo maidir le cáil dhomhanda na hÉireann maidir le bia mara ardchaighdeán agus sábháilte a chaomhnú agus a fheabhsú tuilleadh.

*In 2022, lean ÚCIM lena chlár suirbhéireachta sláintíochta i gcomhpháirtíocht lena soláthraí reatha agus chríochnaigh sé suirbhéanna cuimsitheacha ar Chuan Shruth Átha Con agus Dhún Garbhán, ag nuashonrú na bpleananna samplála agus na bpointí monatóireachta aonadaíocha.*

Rinne ÚCIM suirbhéanna fairsinge cois cladaigh agus staidéir mhicribhitheolaíochta ar uisce i roinnt limistéar táirgthe, lena n-áirítear Cuan Dhún na nGall, Cuan Inbhear, Acaill Thuaidh, Cuan na Banow, agus Cuan Chill Ala, chomh maith le staidéar fairsing micribhitheolaíochta sliogéisc i Roaringwater Bay.



**Sa phictiúr thuas (L-R):** Paschal Hayes, Cathaoirleach Feidhmiúcháin, an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara (ÚCIM) le Tara Chamberlain, Anailísí Saotharlainne Fiteaplanctóin, Foras na Mara ag Cuan Roaringwater, lárthar Chorcaí, chun foilsíú ÚCIM a mharcáil ar an Liosta Limistéir Táirgthe Sliogéisc Aicmithe (Moilisc Dhébhlaoscach) 2022/23 in Éirinn, a dhéanann measúnú ar 135 aicmiú i 60 limistéar táirgthe ar fud na hÉireann i gcoinne diancheanglais sábháilteachta lena chinntiú go bhfuil gach sliogéisc a tháirgtear ar bhonn tráchtála sábháilte le caitheamh ag an duine. Grianghraf Andy Gibson.

Shínigh ÚCIM conradh le soláthraí seirbhíse tríú páirtí chun deich suirbhé sláintíochta eile a dhéanamh ar limistéir táirgthe sliogéisc reatha thar an dá bhliain atá romhainn. Tá torthaí na suirbhéanna comhlánaithe sin ar fad ar shuíomh Gréasáin ÚCIM.

## Forfheidhmiú Sábháilteachta Bia Mara

I measc na mbearta Forfheidhmithe um Shábháilteacht Bhia Mara in 2022 bhí bearta comhairleacha neamhfhoirmiúla go seirbhéail Fógraí Comhlíonta go dtí tús a chur le hionchúisimh choiriúla i leith neamhchomhlíonta tromchúiseacha. In 2022, cuireadh tús le dhá ionchúiseamh coiriúla ar leith sa Chúirt Dúiche i gcoinne FBOanna mar gheall ar shárúithe ar na rialacháin maidir le sábháilteacht bia lena n-áirítear sláinteachas, rialuithe teochta, rialú lotnaidí agus ceanglais inrianaitheachta. Eisíodh 16 Fhógra Comhlíonta in 2022. Tháinig cuid mhór de na gníomhartha forfheidhmithe a rinneadh in 2022 as torthaí cigireachta a bhain le gníomhaíochtaí soithí reoite agus áitribh ar a n-ullmhaítear bia don tomhaltóir deiridh. Bhí an leibhéal comhlíonta le ceanglais na mbearta forfheidhmithe, go háirithe ceanglais na bhFógraí Comhlíonta, sásúil i bhformhór na gcásanna. Rinneadh iarratas ar Ordú Feabhsúcháin i gcás amháin ina raibh an próiseas comhlíonta neamhshásúil fadálach. Eisíodh Ordú Toirmisc i gcás eile ina raibh riosca tromchúiseach fós ann maidir le táirgí sonraithe inaitheanta ag an gcéim próiseála réamh-mhiondíola.

# Trádáil Idirnáisiúnta



## Sreafaí trádála éisc agus táirgí iascaigh

Chuimsigh onnmhairí bia mara na hÉireann chuig cinn scríbe idirnáisiúnta lasmuigh den AE próiseáil 3,670 teastas sláinte do 78,171 tonna de tháirgí in 2022. B'ionann é sin agus laghdúithe faoi seach thar shonraí 2021 de 17% agus 33% ar líon na ndeimhnithe sláinte onnmhairithe a eisíodh agus an tonnáiste onnmhairithe a deimhníodh, rud a léiríonn athailíniú ar ais i dtreo leibhéil trádála 2020 tar éis méadú céatadáin comhchosúil in 2021 thar 2020. Ba iad an Nigéir, an Éigipt, an tSín, an Chongó agus an tSeapáin na príomh-mhargáí easpórtála a dheimhníodh de réir toirte, agus chlúdaigh siad go príomha onnmhairí iasc peiligeach reoite ardtoirte.

Leanadh ar aghaidh ag déanamh rialuithe oifigiúla chun iascaireacht Neamhdhleathach, Neamhthuiriscithe agus Neamhrialaithe (IUU) a chosc. Áiríodh leis sin fíorú 2,831 deimhniú gabhála a bhain le hallmhairí 11,747 tona táirgí ó gach Tríú Tíortha, an RA san áireamh. B'ionann é sin agus laghdúithe faoi seach thar shonraí 2021 de 6% agus 23% ar an méid deimhnithe allmhairiúcháin agus tonnáiste allmhairithe arna bhfíorú, rud a léiríonn méideanna trádála laghdaithe allmhairí ag filleadh níos gaire do leibhéil 2020. Ba iad an RA, an Íoslainn, Eacuadór, an tSín agus Vítneam na príomhthíortha ónar tháinig coinsíneachtaí allmhairithe. B'ionann allmhairí ón RA agus 58% agus 28% i méideanna foriomlána na ndeimhnithe a eisíodh agus an tonnáiste a allmhairíodh ó gach Tríú Tíortha.

Eisíodh 688 teastas gabhála le haghaidh onnmhairí 10,800 tonna de tháirgí bia mara na hÉireann chuig Tríú Tíortha, an RA san áireamh. Ba iad na príomhspeicis a easpórtáladh de réir toirte ná Ronnach an Atlantaigh, an Saileog, an Cadóg agus an Scadán Atlantach. B'ionann é sin agus laghdúithe faoi seach thar shonraí 2021 de 21% agus 55% ar mhéid na ndeimhnithe ar ghabhálacha onnmhairiúcháin agus ar an ngabháil tonnáiste onnmhairiúcháin ghaolmhar a deimhníodh. B'ionann onnmhairí chuig an RA agus 74% de líon iomlán na dteastas a eisíodh.

*Iompórtáladh 75,457 tona táirgí mar thoradh ar 700 díluchtú díreach de tháirgí iascaigh ag soithí iascaireachta neamh-AE isteach in Éirinn.*

B'ionann é sin agus méadúithe faoi seach ar shonraí 2021 de 8% agus 16%. B'ionann gabhálacha soithí atá cláraithe sa RA agus 93% den líon iomlán díluchtuithe ag soithí iascaireachta neamh-AE go hÉirinn. Thug soithí Éireannacha i dtír 284 uair isteach i gcalafoirt Tríú Tíre, arbh ionann iad agus onnmhairí 12,085 tonna de tháirgí, agus rinneadh 93% de na díluchtuithe i gcalafoirt na RA.

## Lean ÚCIM ag forbairt agus ag neartú naisc taidhleoireachta agus theicniúla le teagmhálacha Trádáil Idirnáisiúnta bia mara i rith 2022.

Chomh maith le gnáth-idirchaidreamh le geallsealbhóirí ilghníomhaireachta agus tionscail, chuidigh ÚCIM go gníomhach leis an tionscal ullmhú agus déileáil leis an tionchar rialála agus slabhra soláthair ar chuideachtaí bia mara na hÉireann agus iad ag trádáil leis an RA agus soithí iascaireachta in uisce na RA de réir mar a thosaigh an tírdhreach rialála leis an RA ag réiteach tar éis di imeacht ón AE agus aistriú go dtí bheith ina Tríú Tír. Bainistíocht ghníomhach ag ÚCIM ar rioscaí gaolmhara nua a eascraíonn as stádas na Ríochta Aontaithe mar pháirtí conarthach aonair do Choimisiún Iascaireachta an Atlantaigh Thoir Thuaidh (NEAFC) agus mar Thríú Tír maidir le hiascaireacht Neamhdhleathach, Neamhthuairiscithe agus Neamhrialaithe (IUU), bhí gá fós leis.

Bhí na ceanglais rialaithe agus forfheidhmithe seo soiléir agus trádáil coinsínithe agus díluchtuithe díreacha soithí idir Éirinn agus an RA a bhainistiú. Lean ÚCIM ar aghaidh ag coinneáil a réimis deimhniúcháin agus rialaithe mar fhreagra ar na dúshlán leanúnacha a thug COVID-19 agus a thionchar ar mhaoirseacht rialála a choinneáil agus ar na patrúin trádála, rioscaí agus deiseanna athraithe do chuideachtaí bia mara na hÉireann. Lean ÚCIM ar aghaidh ag déanamh idirchaidrimh le gníomhaireachtaí rialaithe thar lear agus le hoifigigh na Roinne Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála ar raon leathan saincheisteanna rochtana ar an margadh bia mara agus tacaíocht theicniúil. Ar na margaí easpórtála ar a ndearnadh obair rochtana agus tacaíochta go gníomhach i rith na bliana bhí an Chóiré Theas, an tSeapáin, an tSín, Aontas na nÉimíróchtaí Arabacha, Vítneam, SAM, Ceanada, agus Stáit na Murascaille.



### Príomhchoinní i rith 2022

- Faireachas rialála tar éis imeacht na RA ón AE agus an caidreamh trádála amach anseo. Áiríodh leis seo comhoibriú náisiúnta agus AE agus comhoibriú trasghníomhaireachta le heagraíochtaí comhpháirtíochta rialála agus gníomhaireachtaí chun scrúdú a dhéanamh agus ullmhú le haghaidh impleachtaí sábháilteachta bia agus rialaithe iascaigh.
- Tógáil acmhainne inmheánach laistigh den eagraíocht lena n-áirítear soiléiriú ar cheanglais theicniúla, pleanáil theagmhasach, cumarsáid, agus idirchaidreamh le príomhpháirtithe leasmhara eile maidir le hullmhacht rialála iascaigh d'imeacht na RA ó réimeas rialúcháin an AE agus ón gcómhargadh.
- Seimineáir faisnéise trádála a dhearadh agus a sheachadadh do thionscal atá ag trádáil leis an RA chomh maith le rannpháirtíocht rialála aonair agus comhráite ullmhúcháin a threorú le grúpaí éagsúla páirtithe leasmhara seachtracha.
- Rannpháirtíocht leanúnach eagraíochtúil le réimsí ábhartha bia mara d'obair Choimisiún Codex Alimentarius.
- Córais deimhniúcháin agus maoirseachta eagraíochtúla a thabhairt cothrom le dáta mar fhreagra ar thabhairt isteach rialachán bunaitheach athbhreithnithe um rialuithe oifigiúla AE um shábháilteacht bia.

D'fhorbair ÚCIM a chuid oibre maidir le rialáil trádála bia mara, soláthar tacaíochta teicniúla rochtana margaidh, comhlíonadh rialuithe oifigiúla i ndisciplíní lena n-áirítear clárú agus deimhniú cuideachtaí agus táirgí, sábháilteacht bia mara agus caomhnú iascach mara. Lean feidhmiú agus forghníomhú an ÚCIM ar rialáil rialuithe oifigiúla an AE agus ar reachtaíocht um chaomhnú iascaigh ag feidhmiú mar bhonnlíne rialála ar a bhfuil córas láidir deimhnithe bia mara na hÉireann tógtha. Leanadh le hiniúchadh agus deimhniú sláinte ar choinsíneachtaí onnmhairithe le linn bliana eile de dhúshlán shonracha a bhaineann le Covid-19 d'fhonn leanúint ar aghaidh ag soláthar dearbhú sláinte poiblí agus custaiméara maidir le caighdeán cháilíochta agus sábháilteachta bia mara a bhfuiltear ag súil leo i margaí bia idirnáisiúnta agus a bhfuil rialacháin an AE mar bhonn leo.

# Ciste Eorpach Muirí Iascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe

Feidhmíonn an Ciste Eorpach Muirí Iascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe (EMFAF) ó 2021 go 2027 agus tacaíonn sé le comhbheartas iascaigh an AE, le beartas muirí an AE agus le clár oibre an AE um rialachas idirnáisiúnta aigéin. Soláthraíonn sé tacaíochtaí chun tionscadail nuálacha a fhorbairt a chinntíonn go n-úsáidtear acmhainní uisceacha agus muirí go hinbhuanaithe. Seo a leanas tionscadail ÚCIM a mhaoinítear tríd an EMFAF:

## ieCatch V3

Tá na bogearraí logleabhair leictreonacha (ieCatch) in úsáid ar fud loingeas soithí iascaireachta na hÉireann. Déantar na sonraí go léir ó ieCatch a tharchur go slán agus a stóráil sa bhunachar sonraí iascaigh náisiúnta ar a dtugtar Córas Faisnéise Iascaireachta Comhtháite (IFIS). Tacaíonn an córas IFIS le bainistiú thionscal na hiascaireachta in Éirinn. Ceanglaítear le Rialachán 1224/2009 ón gComhairle an AE go gcoimeádfaidh Éire bunachar sonraí de ghníomhaíochtaí iascaireachta agus go bhfuil córas rialaithe i bhfeidhm aici chun comhlíonadh rialacha an Chomhbheartais Iascaigh (CBI) a áirithiú. Tá an córas seo lonnaithe agus tacaíte ag an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM).

*Eisíodh ieCatch v3 in 2022 agus chuir an ÚCIM oiliúint i bhfeidhm ar fud an loingis iascaireachta.*

Tá an ieCatch V3 nua atógtha go hiomlán i gcomhréir le Caighdeán Idirnáisiúnta na NA ar a dtugtar Teanga Iascaigh um Malartú Uilíoch (FLUX). Áiríonn na bogearraí uasghrádaithe seo na feabhsuithe seo a leanas:

- Comhéadan níos iomasach
- Tuilleadh bailíochtaithe ar an scáileán
- Modúil nuashonraithe na hIorua, Svalbard, agus Choimisiún Iascaigh an Atlantaigh Thoir Thuaidh (NEAFC).
- “Cúntóir Tuirlingthe” nua a chuidíonn leis an Máistir gabhálacha a chionroinnt ar il-limistéir ghabhála / cineálacha éagsúla trealaimh
- Athruithe rialála - deireadh a chur leis an Iascaireacht (EOF), an Aicme Méid Éisc (FSC) a áireamh.





## Cineál Iniúchta Feithicle Iompair

Chuir eisiúint nua d'uirlis iniúchta rialaithe iascaigh an ÚCIM, ielnspect, i mí Mheán Fómhair 2022 ar chumas an ÚCIM na sonraí éigeantacha go léir le haghaidh Iniúchtaí Feithiclí Iompair (TVIs) a ghabháil go leictreonach de réir rialacháin an AE. Tacaíonn Feidhmíú TVIs le hÉirinn agus le ÚCIM sonraí cigireachta agus faireachais a mhalartú de réir:

- Rialachán (CE) Uimh. 404/2011 ón gCoimisiún – Rialachán cur chun feidhme, larscríbhinn XXVII, Modúl 5.
- Malartú sonraí an AE Doiciméad Forfheidhmithe Tuairisc FLUX Cigireachta & Faireachais v1.2).

Chuimsigh an tionscadal measúnú ar riachtanais sonraí maidir le faisnéis chigireachta iompair, forbairt scéalta úsáideoirí, ielnspect forbairt córais agus tástáil roimh scaoileadh.

## Cianfhaireachán Leictreonach: Gléasanna Tástála Cosc Fuaime

Aithníodh, rinne an tionscadal seo tástáil agus chuir sé i bhfeidhm gléasanna glacadóra fuaimiúla oiriúnacha agus modheolaíochtaí cigireachta chun úsáid oibríochtuil Gléasanna Tástála Fuaimiúil Coiscthe (ADTDanna) a fhíorú i gcomhréir leis na sonraíochtaí teicniúla reachtúla le linn iniúchtaí calafoirt agus farraige le haghaidh soithí os cionn 12m.

Úsáidtear ADTDanna chun Feistí Fuaimiúla Cosc (ADDanna) (ar a dtugtar pingers) a úsáidtear in iascaigh líonta geolbhaigh a thástáil. Ceanglaítear ADDanna de na líonta geolbhaigh agus scaoileann siad minicíocht atá inchloiste do chéiticigh (deilf, muca mara, srl) chun iad a dhíspreagadh ó bheith ag druidim le trealamh iascaireachta.

Cuireadh an tionscadal ADTD i bhfeidhm thar thrí chéim:

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Céim 1</b> | Chlúdaigh Céim 1 tástáil rialaithe tosaigh ar fheistí.                     |
| <b>Céim 2</b> | Chuimsigh an tástáil tástáil ar fheiste braite Hidreafóin agus Minicíocht. |
| <b>Céim 3</b> | Chumhdaigh sé soláthar agus dáileadh réiteach feiste aitheanta.            |

Eisíodh ADDTanna chuig Seirbhís Chabhlaigh na hÉireann agus chuig OCIManna i Meán Fómhair 2022.

Cuireann na feistí sin ar chumas ÚCIM faireachán agus rialú a dhéanamh ar chomhlíonadh Chuid A d'larscríbhinn XIII a ghabhann le Rialachán (AE) 2019/1241 agus Rialachán Cur Chun Feidhme (AE) 2020/96 ón gCoimisiún.

# SPRIOC 2



## Cumarsáid agus rannpháirtíocht

Comhpháirtíochtaí a neartú agus  
caidrimh le geallsealbhóirí a  
athshainiú.

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# Cumarsáid



## Rannpháirtíocht na bpáirtithe leasmhara

Ceapadh agus cuireadh roinnt tionscnamh cumarsáide i bhfeidhm in 2022. Mar chuid de chur i bhfeidhm na moltaí ón Athbhreithniú ar Chumas Eagrúcháin, i mí Eanáir 2022 choimisiúnaigh ÚCIM RedC, príomhghníomhaireacht taighde margaidh neamhspleách chun suirbhé a dhéanamh ar an tionscal iascaireachta mara agus bia mara d'fhonn éifeachtacht ár gcumarsáid leis an earnáil a thomhas.



## I measc na bpríomhthorthaí bhí:

### Ról an ÚCIM

- Bhí leibhéal ard tuisceana ar ról an ÚCIM.
- Bhí leibhéal réasúnta measa ar obair ÚCIM agus bhí na freagróirí buíoch as an ngá lena bpáirt féin a dhéanamh freisin.
- Léiríodh roinnt saincheistanna maidir le cur i bhfeidhm 'neamh-chomhsheasmhach' na rialachán ag calafoirt áirithe.
- Moladh na modhanna a úsáideadh chun sárúithe a chosc; áfach, bhí leisce ar thaobh na bhfreagróirí ról an 'séidire' a ghlacadh.

### Idirghníomhú leis an ÚCIM

- Nuair a tháinig sé chun measúnú a dhéanamh ar a leibhéal idirghníomhaíochta leis an ÚCIM ba iad na táirgeoirí bia mara ba dhearfaí, a bhí an-bhuíoch as iniúchtaí sábháilteachta. Bhí na hiascairí níos lú a ndearnadh suirbhé orthu neodrach nó dearfach den chuid is mó.
- Níor léiríodh aon saincheistanna maidir le próiseáil páipéarachais.



### Cumarsáid Ghinearálta

- Ní raibh freagróirí ach feasach ar chumarsáid maidir le rialáil agus sábháilteacht agus bhí siad ag súil leo.
- Fuarthas aiseolas dearfach maidir le ham, ton, cruinneas agus soiléireacht na cumarsáide a thagann ón eagraíocht.
- Moladh oifigigh calafoirt, agus bhíothas buíoch as teagmháil duine le duine
- Léiríodh dearcadh dearfach freisin maidir le tacaíocht ó oifigí calafoirt áitiúla a fhreagraíonn go pras do fhiosrúcháin a dhéantar go pearsanta, trí ríomhphost nó ar an teileafón.

### Ról an ÚCIM sa Todhchaí

- Chuir freagróirí in iúl nach raibh siad ag súil le comhairle agus tacaíocht, ach go gcuirfí fáilte mhór roimhe maidir le cuidiú leo siúd sa tionscal na hathruithe riachtanacha a aithníodh i seiceálacha agus iniúchtaí a chomhlíonadh.
- Bhí na freagróirí ag súil go bhfanfaidh forfheidhmiú rialacháin láidir.
- Breathnaíodh go dearfach ar an mbealach ar cuireadh treoir rangaithe in iúl don tionscal, agus mar sin freisin bhí fógraí/nuashonruithe chomh maith le cumarsáid a bhaineann leis an Bhreathimeacht.

- Ag féachaint don todhchaí, ba mhaith le freagróirí go ndéanfadh ÚCIM dul i gcomhairle níos leithne leis an tionscal agus go háirithe maidir lena inbhuanaitheacht fhadtéarmach.

Baineadh leas as na torthaí le tuilleadh eolais a chur ar straitéis na heagraíochta maidir le rialáil an tionscail iascaigh mhara agus bia mara. Léiríonn na torthaí leibhéal ard tuisceana ar ról an ÚCIM mar an comhlacht rialaitheach a bhfuil sé de chúram air comhlíonadh na reachtaíochta iascaigh mhara a chur chun cinn agus sábháilteacht bia mara a chinntiú. Ina theannta sin, tá leibhéal láidir meon dearfach in iúl ar fud thorthaí agus aitheantas obair na heagraíochta. Is teist é seo ar iarrachtaí na foirne ar fad sainchúram ÚCIM a chomhlíonadh ar bhealach éifeachtach agus éifeachtúil.

*Tríd is tríd, chuir na torthaí fianaise ar fáil de bhunsraith dhaingean ónar féidir tógáil air agus cabhróidh siad a thuilleadh leis an ÚCIM agus muid ag leanúint ar aghaidh ag dul i dteagmháil lenár gcomhpháirtithe tionscail ar bhealach dearfach agus comhoibríoch.*



**Sa phictiúr thuas (L-R):** Cristina Morgado, Leas-Cheann Aonaid Uiscí an AE agus an Atlantaigh Thuaidh, EFCA; Paschal Hayes, Cathaoirleach Feidhmiúcháin, ÚCIM; Susan Steele, Stiúrthóir Feidhmiúcháin, EFCA agus Michael Finn, Ball Údaráis, ÚCIM, ar bord an Lundy Sentinel i gCuan Chorcaí ag ócáid ar an 20 Samhain, chun Lá Domhanda Iascaigh a chomórath agus comh-imscaradh in uiscí na hÉireann idir an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara (ÚCIM) agus an Ghníomhaireacht Eorpach um Rialú ar Iascach (EFCA) chun comhlíonadh reachtaíochta iascaigh mhara náisiúnta agus AE a chur chun cinn. Sa phictiúr tá Susan Steele ag bronnadh bonn EFCA ar Paschal Hayes agus Michael Finn chun an comhoibriú leanúnach idir an dá eagraíocht a chomórath. Grianghraf: Damian Coleman.



## Cumarsáid (ar lean)



**Sa phictiúr thuas (L-R):** Catherine McManus, MOWI Ireland; Kareen Andersson, ÚCIM; Norah Parke, Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation; Rudi Amrein, ÚCIM ag seoladh Chód Iompair nuashonraithe an ÚCIM do Shoithí Iascaireachta. Grianghraf: Clive Wasson.

### Tionscnaimh agus Feachtais Chumarsáide

I gcomhthéacs tionscnaimh cumarsáide le príomhlucht féachana, cuireadh na gníomhartha seo a leanas i bhfeidhm in 2022 freisin:

- Clár cumarsáide chun Líne Rúnda ÚCIM a chur chun cinn chun tacú leo siúd laistigh den tionscal iascaireachta agus den phobal gníomhaíocht amhrasach nó mhídhleathach a thuairisciú don ÚCIM faoi rún. I mí Feabhra 2022, sheolamar clár cumarsáide chun aird a tharraingt ar an Líne Rúnda agus go sonrach go raibh athrú tagtha ar uimhir na líne agus gur chuimsigh na roghanna chun teagmháil a dhéanamh freisin seoladh ríomhphoist agus rogha teagmhála a chur leis trí shuíomh Gréasáin ÚCIM.
- Cuireadh clár cumarsáide ilchainéil, arna thacú ag an gCiste Eorpach Muirí agus Iascaigh (EMFAF) i bhfeidhm go céimneach. Ag tosú i mí Feabhra 2022, bhain sé úsáid as na meáin shóisialta, caidreamh leis na meáin réigiúnacha agus trádála, fógraíocht i bhfoilseacháin trádála agus réigiúnacha agus bealaí faoi úinéireacht ÚCIM chun feachtas a ardú ar an Líne Rúnda. Bhí an feachtas ar siúl ar feadh tréimhse 12 sheachtain i bhfoilseacháin chlóite réigiúnacha agus i bhfoilseacháin trádála. Cé go raibh sé dírithe go sonrach orthu siúd laistigh den phobal iascaireachta, shroich an feachtas 1.16 milliún duine ar oileán na hÉireann (trí fhógraíocht chlóite). Ina theannta sin, shroich leathanach oifigiúil Facebook ÚCIM ina raibh fógraíocht spriocdhírthe ar líne os cionn 700,000 duine. Thar thréimhse an fheachtais ar fad, shroich sé 1.86 milliún duine.
- Choimisiúnaigh ÚCIM Amárach chun suirbhé a dhéanamh ar dhearcaí tomhaltóirí (iad siúd a itheann iasc go rialta) i leith iascaireacht mhídhleathach agus acmhainní muirí na hÉireann a choinneáil, agus ag an am céanna daoine a spreagadh, go háirithe iad siúd sa tionscal agus pobail chósta le tuairisc a thabhairt ar aon ghníomhaíocht amhrasach nó neamhdhleathach. Rinneadh an suirbhé i mí na Nollag 2021. Léiríonn léargas ó na torthaí tacaíocht láidir poiblí do chomhlíonadh rialála. Eisíodh na príomhthorthaí i bpreaseisiúint i mí Feabhra 2022. I mí Mheán Fómhair 2022 eisíodh an dara preaseisiúint chun meabhrú do bhialanna, do bhialanna le tabhairt leat, do dhíoltóirí éisc agus do mhiondíoltóirí a chinntiú go bhfuil na héisc agus na sliogéisc ar a bhfreastalaíonn siad gafa go dleathach agus go hinbhuanaithe. Cé go bhfuil cáilíocht mar phríomhthosaíocht ag tomhaltóirí na hÉireann (96%) agus iasc nó sliogéisc á gceannach acu, tháinig an t-eolas chun solais go bhfuil sé gafa go dleathach (85%) agus ar bhealach inbhuanaithe (87%) mar mhór-imní freisin, ar chomhcheim le praghas (87%). Tá siad seo i measc na dtorthaí ón suirbhé. Creideann formhór mór na ndaoine a ndearnadh suirbhé orthu (92%) gur cheart níos mó a dhéanamh chun inbhuanaitheacht acmhainní mara na hÉireann a chosaint. Tá an-tacaíocht ann do thuairisciú iascaireachta mídhleathach do na húdaráis (90%) agus dúirt formhór na dtomhaltóirí (77%) nach gceannóidís iasc dá mbeadh a fhios acu go raibh sé gafa go mídhleathach. Bhí tábhacht na hinrianaitheachta le sonrú go mór sna torthaí freisin, go háirithe i measc tomhaltóirí níos óige, agus dúirt beagnach leath (48%) díobh siúd faoi 35 bliain d'aois go spreagadh muinín níos mó in inrianaitheacht táirge iad chun níos mó iasc a ithe ar bhonn rialta. . Léirigh an taighde go bhfuil imní an-ard i measc tomhaltóirí faoi chúrsaí comhshaoil – go háirithe maidir le gnéithe a bhaineann leis an gcomhshaoil muirí. Tá formhór na dtomhaltóirí rialta éisc (82%), go háirithe iad siúd atá ina gcónaí i gceantair chósta, sásta a nósanna ceannaigh a athrú chun a dtionchar ar acmhainní mara a laghdú agus dúirt triúr as gach ceathrar (78%) nach dteastaíonn uathu ach iasc a ghabhtar a cheannach ar bhealach nach ídíonn stoic.
- Is príomhuirlis chumarsáide eile iad bileoga a úsáideann ÚCIM chun faisnéis a scaipeadh amhail an Cód Iompair d'Árthaí Iascaireachta a táirgeadh agus a seoladh i mí an Mhárta 2022.
- Is ardán tábhachtach iad imeachtaí trádála chun cumarsáid a dhéanamh leis an tionscal agus d'fhreastail ÚCIM ar an Skipper Expo i Luimneach i Márta 2022. Is é príomhsheol iascaigh na hÉireann é le go leor cuairteoirí agus taispeántóirí as Éirinn agus thar lear. D'fhreastail Oifigigh Chosanta Iascaigh Mhara chomh maith le pearsanra sinsearach ón ÚCIM ar an imeacht.

- Bhí Lá Domhanda lascaigh ar siúl ar an 21 Samhain 2022 – chun Lá Domhanda lascaigh agus Comhphlean Imscartha a chomóradh i gcomhar leis an nGníomhaireacht Eorpach um Rialú ar Iascach (EFCA) chun comhlíonadh reachtaíocht iascaigh mhara náisiúnta agus AE laistigh de Chrios Eacnamaíoch Eisiach na hÉireann (EEZ) a chur chun cinn. ), d’óstáil ÚCIM imeacht ar an 20 Samhain 2022 ar bord long patróil Lundy Sentinel EFCA i gCuan Chorcaí. Léirigh an imeacht an comhoibriú idir ÚCIM, údarás inniúil rialála na hÉireann do tháirgeadh iascaigh mhara agus bia mara, agus EFCA, atá freagrach as comhordú oibríochtaí gníomhaíochtaí rialaithe agus iniúchta iascaigh ag ballstáit an Aontais Eorpaigh.
- I mí Mheán Fómhair 2022, chuaigh iriseoir leis an Irish Independent in éineacht leis na hOifigigh um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara ar phatról iascaireachta cladaigh i gceantar Chionn tSáile. Chuir sé seo ar chumas an iriseora obair fhoireann ÚCIM a fheiceáil go pearsanta lena chinntiú go bhfuil stoic iascaireachta inbhuanaithe agus éiceachórais mhara bheoga againn do na glúine atá le teacht. Bhí an píosa mar aon le grianghraif le feiceáil san Irish Independent.
- Dhírigh deiseanna nuachta ar fhórais sciantasacha cúirte, deiseanna féilire mar shampla, Lá Domhanda na nIascach agus tionscnaimh réamhghníomhacha ar leith a leagann béim ar na buntáistí a bhaineann le hobair ÚCIM.
- Is uirlis thábhachtach cumarsáide é suíomh Gréasáin ÚCIM freisin chun faisnéis a scaipeadh ar iascairí lena n-áirítear nuashonruithe agus fógairt agus foilsiú príomhdhoiciméid. Mar shampla, an Plean Rialaithe, Fógraí Faisnéise Iascaigh srl.
- Chuir an suíomh Gréasáin ardán tábhachtach ar fáil chun na fógraí agus na nuashonruithe is déanaí a óstáil lena n-áirítear na forbairtí is déanaí i gcomhthéacs an chomhlíonta agus forbairtí tábhachtacha eile i gcomhthéacs rialachán iascaireachta, forghníomhaithe agus réimsí a bhfuil spéis ag iascairí iontu.
- Leag postáil rialta ar ár gcainéal LinkedIn béim freisin ar shainchúram leathan ÚCIM. Mar shampla, postáladh sraith post ar obair na nOifigeach Cosanta Iascaigh Mhara le linn sheachtain na hEolaíochta i mí na Samhna 2022.
- Dhírigh preaseisiúintí ar athruithe suntasacha rialála, tionscnaimh chomhlíonta, patróil shéasúracha; úsáid a bhaint as sonraí ÚCIM chun an scéal rialála a insint, comhoibriú le heagraíochtaí ar thionscnaimh, úsáid a bhaint as foilsiú an Aicmithe Micribhitheolaíochta Bliantúil um Limistéar Sliogéisc chun béim a chur ar ról ÚCIM maidir le sábháilteacht bia mara a chinntiú etc.

*Bhí caidreamh leis na meáin mar chuid lárnach de na gníomhaíochtaí cumarsáide go léir le fócas láidir ar rannpháirtíocht le foilseacháin chlóite trádála agus ar líne chun nuashonruithe agus forbairtí is déanaí a roinnt leis an tionscal.*



# Rannpháirtíocht Náisiúnta agus Eorpach

Leanann ÚCIM ag dul i dteagmháil agus ag tógáil caidrimh le príomhpháirtithe leasmhara go náisiúnta agus san Eoraip araon.

## Rannpháirtíocht Náisiúnta

Oibríonn ÚCIM go dlúth le raon comhpháirtithe chun a mandáid a sheachadadh.

### An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Is í an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) máthair-Roinn an ÚCIM le freagracht as ceapadh beartais, maoirseacht ar rialachas corparáideach agus leithdháileadh acmhainní.

Bíonn an ÚCIM i dteagmháil le roinnt rannán laistigh den Roinn maidir le cur i bhfeidhm rialachán faoi shainchúram an ÚCIM.

### Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann

Is é Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann (ÚSBÉ) an t-údarás inniúil lárnach in Éirinn maidir le sábháilteacht bia ar fud an bhiashlabhra ó tháirgeadh príomhúil go tomhaltas. Sonraítear feidhmeanna ÚCIM maidir le sábháilteacht bia i gcomhaontú conartha seirbhíse leis an ÚSBÉ. Tá aonadaíocht ag ÚCIM ar roinnt grúpaí oibre FSAI.

### An Roinn Cosanta

Tá Comhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse ag ÚCIM leis an Roinn Cosanta chun seirbhísí cosanta iascaigh a sholáthar ag an tSeirbhís Chabhlaigh agus ag an Aerchór. Táirgeann ÚCIM Plean Rialaithe Iascaigh bliantúil, a leagann amach na riachtanais tagarmharcála le haghaidh iniúchtaí farraige ag an tSeirbhís Chabhlaigh agus faireachas an Aerchóir. Úsáideann an plan bliantúil straitéisí bainistíochta riosca comhaontaithe a tháirgeann tagarmharcanna iniúchta bonnlíne do gach soitheach a oibríonn inár CEE. Déantar na leibhéil iniúchta seo a fhorbairt go leanúnach ag baint úsáide as straitéisí lena n-áirítear faisnéis faisnéise, próifíliú cabhlaigh agus cros-seiceáil riaracháin. Oibríonn ÚCIM go dlúth leis an tSeirbhís Chabhlaigh lena chinntiú go gcoimeádtar leibhéal iniúchta dá leithéid chun a chinntiú go bhfuil leibhéal cothrom agus cuí rialaithe ar gach gníomhaíocht iascaigh inár réimsí freagrachta.

### Foras na Mara

Is é Foras na Mara (MI) gníomhaireacht náisiúnta na hÉireann um thaighde mara, forbairt teicneolaíochta agus nuálaíocht. Maidir le sábháilteacht bia, is comhpháirtí rialaithe é an MI a sholáthraíonn seirbhísí anailíse fairsinge agus comhairle eolaíoch. I rialú iascaigh, comhoibríonn an MI agus an ÚCIM i réimse an tsreafa sonraí chun an bonn eolais is fearr a thabhairt do thaighde eolaíoch.

### An Garda Síochána

Oibríonn ÚCIM i ndlúth-chomhoibriú leis an nGarda Síochána maidir le hiniúchtaí feithiclí cois bóthair agus imscrúduithe a bhaineann leis an iascach. Tugann Oifigigh Chosanta Iascaigh Mhara faoi ghníomhaíochtaí sonracha forfheidhmithe i gcomhpháirt le baill den Gharda Síochána go háirithe maidir le soithí iascaireachta a choinneáil.

### Bord Iascaigh Mhara

Tá ról lárnach ag Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) maidir le tionscal bia mara na hÉireann a fhorbairt trí shaineolas teicniúil, tacaíocht ghnó, maoiniú, oiliúint agus cleachtas comhshaoil freagrach a chur chun cinn. Comhoibríonn ÚCIM agus BIM ar go leor gnéithe éagsúla a mbíonn tionchar acu ar thionscal na hiascaireachta lena n-áirítear bainistiú iascaigh cladaigh, oiliúint tionscail, dobharshaothrú, teicneolaíocht trealamh iascaireachta agus staitisticí iascaigh.

### Iascach Intíre Éireann

Tá sé de chúram ar Iascach Intíre Éireann (IFI) cosaint agus caomhnú acmhainní iascaigh in uiscí intíre agus slatiascaireacht farraige a chinntiú. Comhoibríonn an IFI agus an ÚCIM d'fhonn éifeachtúlacht fhoriomlán na seirbhísí iniúchta stáit agus go háirithe i réimse na n-oibríochtaí rialaithe iascaigh cois cladaigh.



## Ranpháirtíocht Eorpach

Oibríonn ÚCIM go dlúth freisin le roinnt comhpháirtithe idirnáisiúnta lena n-áirítear institiúidí Eorpacha agus a ngníomhaireachtaí agus tá aonadaíocht aige ar roinnt coistí agus grúpaí oibre.

### An Ard-Stiúirtheacht um Ghnóthaí Muirí agus lascaigh – Coimisiún an AE

Is iad seo a leanas cuspóirí na hArd-Stiúirtheachta um Ghnóthaí Muirí agus lascaigh (DG MARE):

- an comhshaol muirí a chosaint agus iomaíochas na hEorpa a chothabháil ag an am céanna.
- an Comhbheartas lascaigh nua a chur i bhfeidhm.
- acmhainneacht fharraigí na hEorpa a úsáid chun poist inbhuanaithe a chruthú a chaomhnaíonn acmhainní nádúrtha.
- rialacha a bhunú chun aigéin an domhain a bhainistiú agus a rialú in éineacht le comhpháirtithe domhanda.

Glacann ÚCIM páirt i gcruinnithe teicniúla arna n-eagrú ag DG MARE sna réimsí a bhaineann le Rialú agus Forfheidhmiú.

### Ard-Stiúirtheacht Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta Bia - Coimisiún an AE

Tá an Ard-Stiúirtheacht Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta Bia (DG SANTE) freagrach as beartas an AE maidir le sábháilteacht agus sláinte bia agus as faireachán a dhéanamh ar chur chun feidhme na ndlíthe gaolmhara.

### An Sainghrúpa Eorpach um Rialú lascach

Chun a áirithiú go mbaineann an Comhbheartas lascaigh leas as an gcomhairle eolaíoch, theicniúil agus eacnamaíoch is fearr, bhunaigh an Coimisiún Meitheal Saineolaithe ar Rialú lascach.

Is é ról an Ghrúpa Saineolaithe ná:

1. Athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar ghnéithe teicniúla an fhaireacháin agus na cigireachta i réimse an iascaigh
2. Cabhrú leis an gCoimisiún tograí reachtacha agus tionscnaimh bheartais a ullmhú.
3. Comhordú leis na Ballstáit chun malartú tuairimí a éascú.

Tá na cruinnithe le saineolaithe rialaithe de chuid na mBallstát dírithe ar rialú agus forghníomhú rialacha an Chomhbheartais lascaigh. Tá sé mar aidhm ag an sainghrúpa freisin chun comhar a fhorbairt leis na Ballstáit agus eatarthu, chun moltaí a fhorbairt agus chun a gcur chun feidhme agus a gcur i bhfeidhm éifeachtach a áirithiú.

Clúdaíonn na cruinnithe freisin saincheisteanna rialaithe faoi chomhaontú na hEagraíochta Réigiúnacha um Bainistíocht lascaigh agus tríú tíortha.

### An Gníomhaireacht Eorpach um Rialú ar lascach

Is gníomhaireacht de chuid an Aontais Eorpaigh í an Gníomhaireacht Eorpach um Rialú ar lascach (EFCA). Is é misean na gníomhaireachta na caighdeáin chomhchoiteanna is airde a chur chun cinn maidir le rialú, cigireacht agus faireachas faoin CBI. Is é an príomhról atá aige ná comhordú agus comhar a eagrú idir gníomhaíochtaí rialaithe agus cigireachta náisiúnta ionas go n-urramófar rialacha an CBI agus go gcuirfear i bhfeidhm iad go héifeachtach.

Is é luach breise obair na gníomhaireachta ná a rannchuidiú le cothrom na féinne do thionscal na hiascaireachta ar fud na hEorpa ionas go gcomhlíonfaidh gach duine oibleagáidí Eorpacha agus go gcaitear go cothrom le gach duine san earnáil, cibé áit a bhfuil siad ag feidhmiú. Ar an dara dul síos, rannchuidíonn sé le hiascach inbhuanaithe trí fheabhas a chur ar chomhlíonadh na mbeart caomhnaithe agus bainistíochta atá ann cheana ar mhaithe leis na glúine seo agus le teacht.



# Rannpháirtíocht Náisiúnta agus Eorpach (ar lean)

## Bord Riaracháin EFCA

Déanann ÚCIM aonadaíocht ar Éirinn ar Bhord Riaracháin an EFCA. Tá an Bord Riaracháin comhdhéanta d'aonadaí amháin ó gach Ballstát agus seisear aonadaithe ón gCoimisiún Eorpach. Áirítear ar ról an Bhoird Riaracháin:

- Clár oibre ilbhliantúil na Gníomhaireachta a ghlacadh lena mbunaítear a cuspóirí foriomlána, a sainordú, a cúraimí, a táscairí feidhmíochta agus na tosaíochtaí do gach gníomhaíocht de chuid na Gníomhaireachta thar thréimhse cúig bliana. Áirítear ar ról an Bhoird Riaracháin:
- An Stiúrtóir Feidhmiúcháin a cheapadh.
- Glacadh le tuarascáil ghinearálta na Gníomhaireachta don bhliain roimhe sin.
- Glacadh le Buiséad Deiridh na Gníomhaireachta.

Tháinig an Bord Riaracháin le chéile dhá uair in 2022.

## Grúpaí Stiúrtha Réigiúnacha EFCA

In 2022, d'fhreastail ÚCIM ar Ghrúpaí Stiúrtha Réigiúnacha arna n-óstáil ag an EFCA. Ceadaíonn Rialachán an AE um Rialú ar Iascach (1224 de 2009) don Choimisiún Eorpach, i gcomhar leis na Ballstáit, clár shonracha rialaithe agus iniúchta (SCIP) a ghlacadh le haghaidh iascach sonrach nó imchuacha farraige. Cuirtear na SCIP seo i bhfeidhm trí Chomhphleananna Imlonnaithe (JDP).

Tá baint ag Éirinn le trí SCIP, eadhon Uiscí an Iarthair, an Mhuir Thuaidh agus NEAFC. Chun na SCIP seo a chomhordú, táirgeann EFCA JDP do gach SCIP. Socraítear leis na JDPanna go ndéanann an EFCA comhordú ar úsáid modhanna náisiúnta comhthiomsaithe i gcomhar leis na Ballstáit agus go minic le láithreach comhordaitheoirí náisiúnta in áitribh an EFCA. Tá Grúpa Stiúrtha Réigiúnach (RSG) ar a bhfuil aonadaithe ón gCoimisiún, ó na Ballstáit agus ón EFCA i gceannas ar chur chun feidhme cuí an phlean a chinntiú. Tagann an RSG le chéile de ghnáth dhá nó trí huair i rith na bliana ag oifigí EFCA i Vigo ach in 2022 tionóladh cruinniú amháin beagnach, agus tionóladh cruinniú amháin go pearsanta in Vigo.

## Coimisiún Iascaigh an Atlantaigh Thoir Thuaidh

Is é Coimisiún Iascaigh an Atlantaigh Thoir Thuaidh (NEAFC) an Eagraíocht Réigiúnach um Bainistíocht Iascaigh (ERBI) don Atlantach Thoir Thuaidh. Síneann an limistéar atá clúdaithe ag Coinbhinsiún NEAFC ó cheann theas na Graonlainne, soir go Muir Barents, agus ó dheas go dtí an Phortaingéil.

Tá moltaí arna nglacadh ag NEAFC ina gceangal dlí. Glacann ÚCIM páirt i gcruinnithe teicniúla Glacann ÚCIM páirt i gcruinnithe teicniúla Buan-Choiste NEAFC um Fhaireachán agus um Chomhlíonadh (PECMAC) mar chuid de thoscaireacht an AE ag cruinnithe NEAFC. (PECMAC) mar chuid de thoscaireacht an AE ag cruinnithe NEAFC.

## Buan-Choiste NEAFC um Fhaireachán agus um Chomhlíonadh (PECMAC)

Tá an Coiste seo comhdhéanta d'aonadaithe ó na Páirtithe Conarthacha go léir de NEAFC. Tá sé freagrach as comhairle a chur ar an gCoimisiún NEAFC maidir le saincheisteanna a bhaineann le rialuithe iascaireachta agus le forfheidhmiú na Scéime NEAFC. Tagann PECMAC le chéile de ghnáth 2/3 huair sa bhliain in oifig NEAFC i Londain. In 2022 tionóladh na cruinnithe seo beagnach.

## Cruinniú Meitheal Mhoilisc Dhébhlaoscach Beo an AE

Freastalaíonn ÚCIM ar Éirinn agus déanann sé aonadaíocht thar ceann na hÉireann ar Chruinniú Meitheal Oibre an AE ar Mhoilisc Dhébhlaoscach faoi chathaoirleacht an Choimisiúin.

Ag an bhfóram seo pléitear athruithe ar an reachtaíocht i réimse na gceanglas sláinteachais bia Moilisc Débhlaoscach Beo agus rialuithe oifigiúla leis na Ballstáit. Aibhsítear freisin ag na cruinnithe aon saincheisteanna a shainaithníonn Ballstát nó Ballstáit maidir le forghníomhú na reachtaíochta ábhartha agus pléitear iad. Cuirtear tograí faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin freisin. Bhí ról suntasach ag ÚCIM maidir le haighneachtaí a ullmhú i gcomhairle leis na páirtithe leasmhara ábhartha agus cur i láthair a dhéanamh ag na cruinnithe seo. Tá caidreamh maith oibre tógtha ag ÚCIM le húdarais Inniúla i mBallstáit eile ag na cruinnithe seo.

I rith 2022 tionóladh cruinniú amháin beagnach ar fhreastail ÚCIM air. I measc na saincheisteanna a pléadh bhí, 'Oibreoirí idirmheánacha' sa slabhra soláthair sliogéisc agus a gcuid riachtanas, tograí bainistithe Noraivíris, athbhreithniú ar an Rialachán Rialaithe Oifigiúil, rialuithe oifigiúla ar mhuiríní agus Trádáil Mhoilisc Dhébhlaoscacha Beo chuig na S.A.



## *Cuidíonn ÚCIM freisin le cainteanna ar thograí agus ar reachtaíocht a chuirtear i láthair ag na cruinnithe seo a leanas ar a bhfreastalaíonn aonadaí ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM).*

### Sainghrúpa an AE ar Shláinteachas Bia agus Rialú Bia de Bhunús Ainmhithe

Pléitear ceanglais Sláinteachas Bia agus rialuithe oifigiúla ar gach táirge de Bhunús Ainmhithe lena n-áirítear Moilisc Dhébhlaoscacha Beo agus Táirgí lascaigh ag na cruinnithe seo. Cuirtear athruithe reachtacha atá beartaithe ar fud an bhiashlabhra ar fad i láthair ag na cruinnithe sin agus cuireann na Ballstáit tuairimí chun cinn. Aibhsítear agus pléitear aon saincheisteanna a shainaithníonn Ballstát ag an bhfóram seo.

I rith 2022, bhí trí chruinniú ann, gach ceann acu beagnach. Chuir ÚCIM faisnéis ar fáil chun tacú leis an lucht freastail ar an gcruinniú. Ar na saincheisteanna a pléadh bhí calaois agus rialú tuinnín, oibreoirí idirghabhála sa slabhra soláthair sliogéisc, sárffhuaraithe táirgí iascaigh agus leasuithe ar Rialachán 853/2004 maidir le sláinteachas bianna de bhunadh ainmhíoch.

### An Buanchoiste um Plandaí, Ainmhithe, Bia agus Beatha Rannóg: Sábháilteacht Bhitheolaíoch an Bhiashlabhra

Tá an Buanchoiste um Plandaí, Ainmhithe, Bia agus Beatha (PAFF) comhdhéanta d'aonadaithe ó thíortha uile an AE agus tá aonadaí ón gCoimisiún Eorpach i gceannas air. Tíolacann an Coimisiún dréachtrialacháin ag na cruinnithe seo le haghaidh vótála agus malartú tuairimí.

Mar chuid den phróiseas comhairliúcháin agus i gcomhar leis an DAFM, tugann ÚCIM tuairimí saineolaithe ar na moltaí agus na saincheisteanna éagsúla a pléadh ag na cruinnithe seo.



# Cosaint Iascaigh Mhara Coiste Comhairliúcháin

## Tá feidhmeanna an Choiste Chomhairligh leagtha síos san Acht Iascaigh Mhara agus Dlíne Muirí 2006 mar a leanas:

- an tÚdarás a chur ar an eolas maidir le hábhair imní agus tuairimí na n-earnálacha iascaigh mhara agus bia mara maidir le feidhmeanna an Údaráis;
- chun earnálacha iascaigh mhara agus bia mara a choinneáil ar an eolas go ginearálta faoin dlí iascaigh mhara agus an dlí sábháilteachta bia is infheidhme, chomh maith leis na caighdeáin, na treoirlínte, na cleachtais agus na nósanna imeachta a oibríonn an tÚdarás i ndáil le forghníomhú an dlí sin;
- comhairle a thabhairt don Údarás maidir leis an ualach ar na hearnálacha iascaigh mhara agus bia mara i gcoitinne a bhaineann le comhlíonadh an dlí sin a choinneáil chomh fada agus is féidir i gcomhréir leis na cuspóirí sár-riachtanacha agus le forghníomhú éifeachtach an dlí sin;
- comhairle a thabhairt don Údarás faoina thuairimí maidir le cothroime agus comhsheasmhacht oibríochtaí an Údaráis;
- chun a chinntiú go gcuirfidh an tÚdarás seirbhís ar ardchaighdeán ar fáil.

D'éascaigh ÚCIM trí chruinniú de phríomhchoiste Comhairleach ÚCIM le linn 2022. Ar an gcéad dul síos, cuireadh eolas ar fáil go luath i mí an Mhárta; socruithe meáite éisc peiligeach, nuashonrú iniúchta AE atá le teacht, nuashonrú ar rialachán cur chun feidhme an AE don Phlean eatramhach Rialaithe Náisiúnta, Plean Lipéadaithe, Nós Imeachta Gearán ÚCIM, Straitéis agus nuashonrú ar Chur i bhFeidhm Athbhreithnithe. Tionóladh an dara cruinniú i lár mhí an Mhárta chun an Dréachtphlean Rialaithe a phlé. Phléigh an tríú cruinniú i mí Iúil nuashonrú ar; cruinniú Foghrúpa ERS-ieCatch a reáchtáladh i mí an Mheithimh, Athbhreithniú ar Chumas na hEagraíochta, 'Athdhearbhú/Ath-shainmhíniú' Caidreamh ÚCIM le Coiste Comhairliúcháin an SFP' agus Nuashonruithe Earnála an Choiste Chomhairliúcháin.

## Baill an Choiste

Ba iad comhaltaí an Choiste Chomhairligh in 2022:

<b>Catherine McManus (Cathaoirleach)</b>	Fómhar na Mara
<b>Norah Parke (Leas-Chathaoirleach)</b>	Eagraíocht Iascairí na gCealla Beaga
<b>Eamon Dixon</b>	Cumann Iascairí Chladaigh Iorrais
<b>John Harrington</b>	Kush Seafarms Ltd
<b>David Kirwan</b>	Irish South & East Fish Producers Organisation
<b>Ann-Marie Mulloy-Gautier</b>	Connemara Seafoods Ltd
<b>Sean O'Donoghue</b>	Eagraíocht Iascairí na gCealla Beaga
<b>John Power</b>	Ionadaí Iascairí Cladaigh - Comharchumann Gliomaigh Loch Garman
<b>Ebbie Sheehan</b>	Eagraíocht Iascairí na hÉireann
<b>Anthony Sheehy</b>	Eagraíocht Táirgeoirí Éisc Theas agus Thiar na hÉireann
<b>Brendan Byrne</b>	Cumann Próiseálaithe & Onnmhaireoirí Éisc na hÉireann
<b>John Ward*</b>	Eagraíocht Táirgeoirí Éisc na hÉireann
<b>Dr Ciaran Kelly**</b>	Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí Comhairleacha Éiceachórais Iascaigh, Foras na Mara

\*D'éirigh as an gCoiste in 2022

\*\*Arna cheapadh ag an Aire ar an gCoiste in 2022





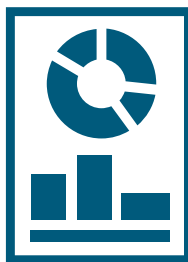
# SPRIOC 3



## Seachadadh Tiomáinte Sonraí

Úsáid sonraí a chur chun cinn agus a chumasú chun feabhas a chur ar sholáthar seirbhíse, chun bonn eolais a chur faoi chinnteoireacht, chun tacú le cuntasacht agus chun rannpháirtíocht le geallsealbhóirí a shimpliú.

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# Bainistíocht Sonraí

**Tá an ÚCIM tiomanta dá chumas anailísíochta sonraí TF a fhorbairt chun cabhrú le tacú le príomhghníomhaíochtaí agus lena chinntiú go mbíonn an chinnteoireacht bunaithe ar staitisticí láidre agus go bhfuil sí díorthaithe ó na sonraí atá ar fáil. Tá Aonad Bainistíochta Sonraí tiomnaithe ag ÚCIM chun cur i bhfeidhm na sprice seo a chinntiú.**

## Foilsigh Staitisticí

Foilsítear staitisticí bliantúla agus ráithiúla ar shuíomh Gréasáin ÚCIM, tuairiscítear in aghaidh spriocanna oibríocháin agus freagraítear gach fiosrúchán ar shonraí iascaigh nuair is féidir go teicniúil. Foilsítear tuarascálacha ráithiúla ar ghabháil i dtír agus cigireachtaí ar líne.

Cuirtear nuashonruithe seachtainiúla ar fáil maidir le forbairtí breise ar an leathanach nuashonraithe cuóta [ÚCIM.ie/Statistics/Quotas](https://ucim.ie/Statistics/Quotas) a thaispeánann réimis mhíosúla (arna eisiúint ag DAFM) do gach stocchód grinnill nuair is cuí. Soláthraíonn an leathanach seo “aonad ilfhreastail” d’iascairí agus do bhaill an phobail chun rochtain a fháil ar raon sonraí úsáideacha ar ghníomhaíocht iascaireachta do stoic chuóta. Mar a tharla sna blianta roimhe seo, d’fhreagair an t-aonad don spéis a léiríodh i nglacadh an tuinnín Albacore trí nuashonruithe laethúla a eisiúint ar an stoc seo ar an leathanach gréasáin, rud a chinntigh go raibh rochtain ag gach iascaire ar na sonraí glactha céanna ag an am céanna.

## Scéimeanna Coigeartaithe Sealadacha um Cheangail Cabhlaigh an Breatimeacht agus Samhail Gnó Iascach Cladaigh an Breatimeacht

Thacaigh an tAonad Sonraí le scéimeanna ‘Ceangal Cabhlach Sealadach an Bhreatimeachta’ agus ‘Coigeartú Samhail Gnó Iascaigh Chladaigh an Bhreatimeachta’ a riarann BIM trí athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar chuntas teiste na n-iarratasóirí. Phróiseáil an t-aonad 236 iarratas don scéim Ceangail agus críochnaíodh 245 seiceáil lena n-áirítear iarratais athsheiceála ó BIM. Phróiseáil an t-aonad 923 iarratas ar an scéim cladaigh ar a ndearnadh 1,149 seiceáil. Ina theannta sin, láimhseáil an t-aonad 160 fiosrúchán scríofa a bhaineann le scéim BIM, go príomha ó úinéirí soithí, agus chuir sé comhairle ar fáil nuair ba chúil. I gcásanna inar tháinig neamhchomhlíonta móra chun solais le linn na scéime, cuireadh iad seo ar aghaidh chuig oifigí calafoirt le haghaidh obair leantach oibríochta. Thug an t-aonad tacaíocht freisin do scéim Aistrithe na gComharchumann.

## Rannpháirtíocht na bpáirtithe leasmhara

Oibríonn an taonad Bainistíochta Sonraí i ndlúthchomhar leis an DAFM agus tá sé freagrach as dearbhú cáilíochta sonraí a chinntiú maidir le cothromaíocht cuótaí agus freagra a thabhairt ar aon fhiosrúcháin ghaolmhara ó úinéirí ársaigh. Bhí 111 fiosrúchán/iarratas sa réimse seo. Rinne an t-aonad monatóireacht ar an ngníomhaíocht timpeall Rockall ar bhonn leanúnach agus thuairiscigh sé na torthaí don DAFM gach seachtain. San iomlán chuir an t-aonad 216 tuairisc ar ghníomhaíocht iascaireachta le chéile don Roinn Talmhaíochta agus Bia in 2022. Tacaíonn an tAonad le cruinnithe bainistíochta cuóta na Roinne agus freastalaítear ar 12 chruinniú mhíosúla. Cuireann na sonraí maidir le glacadh mar aon le figiúirí réamh-mheasta glactha eolas ar fáil do mholtaí bainistíochta cuóta arna gcomhaontú ag an tionscal iascaireachta agus arna gceadú ag an Aire.

## Sonraí Oscailte

Mar fhreagra ar Threoir (AE) 2019/1024 maidir le Sonraí Oscailte agus athúsáid faisnéise na hearnála poiblí, a trasúidh i ndlí na hÉireann i mí Iúil 2021, d’fhoilsigh an tAonad Bainistíochta Sonraí ráiteas tiomantais do Shonraí Oscailte [ÚCIM.ie/Statistics/Open-Data](https://ucim.ie/Statistics/Open-Data) agus seoladh isteach bosca tiomnaithe le haghaidh fiosrúcháin Sonraí Oscailte. Fuair bosca isteach an Aonaid Bainistíochta Sonraí 112 fiosrúchán ón bpobal i gcoitinne (nach mbaineann le scéimeanna BIM) agus fuair agus d’fhreagair siad 929 fiosrúchán ó gach foins le chéile. Tá an tAonad Bainistíochta Sonraí tiomanta do na caighdeáin staidrimh is airde agus leanann sé ag obair leis an bPríomh-Oifig Staidrimh maidir le deimhniú Chód Cleachtas Chóras Staidrimh na hÉireann (ISSCOP) a bhaint amach. Tá cáilíocht sonraí mar chuid dá shainchúram freisin agus chuige sin ghlac an tAonad ceannas ar fhorbairt an chórais cros-seiceála VALID in 2022 agus tá acmhainní tuairiscithe breise ar bun.

# Teicneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide

**Lean Teicneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide le ról lárnach a bheith aici i seachadadh Sprioc Straitéiseach 3 ag ÚCIM. Tá baint ag an aonad TFC le seachadadh, tacaíocht agus oiliúint a lán de na córais a ligeann don ÚCIM na sonraí a bhailiú a theastaíonn chun an sprioc seo a bhaint amach.**

## Forbairt ieCatch agus ielnspect V3

I rith 2022, sheachaid an tAonad TFC leaganacha nua den dá ieCatch a úsáideann soithí iascaireachta chun sonraí gníomhaíochta iascaireachta a thaifeadadh agus ielnspect a úsáideann cigirí ÚCIM, ní hamháin ach freisin cigirí a oibríonn ar ár son sa tSeirbhís Chabhlaigh agus san Aerchór chun sonraí a bhaineann le hiniúchtaí a bhailiú.

Bhí dhá ghné ag baint le rolladh amach ieCatch V3 uasghrádaithe; nuashonrú an fheidhmchlár ar an logleabhar leictreonach agus Clár Oideachais chun cabhrú le húsáideoirí eolas a chur ar na hathruithe agus ar an gcomhéadan nua. Roghnaíodh dhá shuíomh déag ar fud na tíre mar iarracht oiliúint a dhéanamh chomh inrochtana agus is féidir don tionscal. Reáchtáladh daichead seisiún inar cuireadh oiliúint ar 299 úsáideoir agus nuashonraíodh 191 logleabhar leictreonach le linn an tseisiúin chun aon mhíchaoithiúlacht nó moill do na húsáideoirí a laghdú. Comhlíonann an leagan nua seo FLUX, ag cinntiú go gcomhlíonann na sonraí caighdeán na NA chun faisnéis a bhaineann le hiascaigh a mhalartú idir tíortha. Tá níos mó bailíochtaithe ar an scáileán agus réamhlíonadh ag baint leis an leagan seo nuair is cuí, agus ba cheart go mbeadh taithe úsáideoira níos fearr mar thoradh air. Is gné nua eile é an Cúntóir Tuirlingthe a leithdháileann go huathoibríoch an ghabháil a thugtar i dtír ar fud na limistéar a ndéantar iascaireacht orthu ar bhonn pro-rata, ag tabhairt figiúr tuirlingthe níos cruinne in aghaidh an speicis in aghaidh an limistéir. In 2023, déanfar logleabhair leictreonacha a rolladh amach chuig gach soitheach iascaireachta cláraithe sa chatagóir 12-15m a bhfuil díolúine acu faoi láthair.

Cuireadh leagan nuashonraithe de ielnspect ar fáil do bhreis is 110 úsáideoir ar fud na tíre. Áiríodh leis an leagan seo feidhmiúlacht bhreise chun tacú le cigireachtaí Feithicle Iompair. I measc na n-úsáideoirí a uasghrádaíodh bhí ár gcomhpháirtithe rialaithe sa tSeirbhís Chabhlaigh a fuair 22 Toughbook (líne de ríomhairí glúine garbh) chun úsáid a bhaint as ielnspect, a chothaíonn agus a thacaíonn ÚCIM.

## Aond TFC

Lean Aonad TFC ÚCIM ag tabhairt tacaíochta don fhoireann agus iad ag oiriúnú do bheartas oibre hibrideach an ÚCIM agus ag cuidiú le cuid de na dúshláin theicniúla a bhí ann. Críochnaíodh aistriú ÚCIM go córas bainistíochta doiciméad Oifig Phríomhoifigeach Faisnéise an Rialtais (OGCIO), eDocs, in 2022 agus tá an eagraíocht ag leanúint ar aghaidh le hullmhúcháin chun aistriú chuig Seirbhís Deisce Bhainistithe an OGCIO in 2023. Tá an tseirbhís Deisce Bhainistithe mar chuid de chlár Build to Share an Rialtais a sheachadann raon caighdeánach seirbhísí, uirlisí comhoibríthe, ardán agus feidhmchlár ar fud na seirbhíse poiblí. Soláthraíodh agus cuireadh i bhfeidhm bogearraí néalbhunaithe nua le haghaidh speansais Taistil & Cothabhála i mí Feabhra 2022 agus cuireann sé timpeallacht shlán, éifeachtach agus láidir ar fáil chun speansais taistil agus chothaithe a phróiseáil. Chuir an tAonad TFC fóin phóca nua ar fáil don fhoireann chomh maith le printéirí nua i ngach oifig.

*Cuireadh tacaíocht ar fáil do Ghrúpaí Oibre Sonraí agus ERS san AE, EFCA agus NEAFC, agus ghlac cuid dár n-aonad páirt i bPatróil RIB agus Patróil Eischósta le EFCA. Is sampla eile dár n-obair leanúnach le gníomhaireachtaí idirnáisiúnta um rialú rialaithe í ár gcuid oibre ar mhalartú sonraí Logleabhair agus Nótaí Díolacháin UNCEFACT leis an bhFrainc ar cheart go ndéanfaí é a tháirgeadh go hiomlán in 2023.*



# SPRIOIC 4



## Sármhaitheas Eagrúcháin

Cumas straitéiseach agus oibriúcháin a chothú agus a fhorbairt chun sármhaitheas eagraíochtúil a sheachadadh.

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# Tuarascáil Rialachais Chorparáidigh

## Cód Cleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit

I rith na bliana, lean ÚCIM ag díriú ar rialachas corparáideach éifeachtach agus chinntigh sé gur chomhlíon sé ceanglais Chód Cleachtais 2016 um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit (“an Cód”). Chuir ÚCIM a Thuarascáil Bhliantúil agus a Ráitis Airgeadais 2021 isteach i gcomhlíonadh an Chóid agus críochnaíodh seicliosta comhlíonta ÚCIM leis an gCód agus níor tháinig aon saincheisteanna chun cinn.

## Meamram Tuisceana idir ÚCIM agus DAFM

Síníodh Meabhrán Tuisceana (MOU) idir ÚCIM agus DAFM maidir le soláthar sonraí agus seirbhísí i mí Aibreáin 2018. Sonraíonn an MOU na hamlínte seachadta, leibhéal an mhionsonraithe agus cáilíocht na sonraí a theastaíonn, agus féachann sé lena chinntiú nach lorgaítear iarratais dá leithéid ach amháin nuair is gá, ag féachaint do na hacmhainní atá riachtanach chun iarratais ad hoc a sheirbheáil. Le linn 2022, fuarthas agus próiseáladh 190 fiosrúchán i gcomparáid le 300 in 2021. Bhain formhór na gceisteanna le sonraí.

## Údarás

Ceapadh an tUasal Paschal Hayes ina Chathaoirleach Feidhmiúcháin ar ÚCIM ar 14 Éanáir 2022. Is é Cathaoirleach Feidhmiúcháin ÚCIM a stiúrfaidh agus a stiúrfaidh an eagraíocht thar na blianta atá le teacht agus beidh sé freagrach as forfheidhmiú éifeachtach agus éifeachtúil an dlí iascaigh mhara agus sábháilteachta bia a chinntiú; comhlíonadh a chur chun cinn agus sáruithe a bhrath agus a dhíspreagadh.

Ceapadh Michael Finn ar Údarás ÚCIM i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2022 le freagracht as Oibríochtaí.

Ceapadh Jonathan Hoare ar Údarás ÚCIM i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2022 le freagracht as Gnóthaí Corparáideacha, Comhlíonadh Trádála & Iniúchadh Inmheánach, Tacaíocht agus Cumarsáid Bia & Iascaigh.

Reáchtáladh ceithre chruinniú de chuid an Údaráis in 2022.





## Comhardú Inscne i mballraíocht an Bhoird

Níl Bord ag ÚCIM ach tá sé comhdhéanta d'Údarás feidhmiúcháin de thriúr comhaltaí. Ceapadh an triúr comhalta i 2022. Amháil an 31 Nollaig 2022, ba fhir iad na trí chomhalta den Údarás. Mar sin ní shásaíonn an tÚdarás sprioc an Rialtais aonadaíocht 40% ar a laghad de gach inscne i mballraíocht na mBord Stáit. Ar an 31 Nollaig 2022, bhí Bord Bainistíochta ÚCIM comhdhéanta de thriúr fireannach agus comhalta baineann amháin.

## Iarratas Rochtana Faisnéise

### Saoráil Faisnéise

Tá ÚCIM faoi réir an Achta um Shaoráil Faisnéise (SF) 2014 agus tá treoir ann don phobal maidir le conas rochtain a fháil ar thaifid faoin Acht um Shaoráil Faisnéise 2014 atá ar fáil ar ár suíomh Gréasáin. In 2022, fuair ÚCIM 14 iarratas SF.

### Rochtain ar Fhaisnéis faoin gComhshaol

Tugann Rialacháin na gComhphobal Eorpach um Rochtain ar Fhaisnéis faoin gComhshaol (AIE) 2007 go 2018 cearta dlíthiúla dóibh siúd atá ag iarraidh rochtain a fháil ar fhaisnéis faoin gcomhshaol ó údarais phoiblí ar nós ÚCIM. Cuireann na rialacháin ceangal freisin ar ÚCIM mar údarás poiblí a bheith réamhghníomhach maidir le faisnéis faoin gcomhshaol a scaipeadh ar an bpobal. Ní bhfuair ÚCIM aon iarratas ar fhaisnéis faoi AIE in 2022.

### An Rialachán Ginearálta maidir le Cosaint Sonraí (RGCS)

Tá faisnéis curtha ar fáil ag ÚCIM ar a shuíomh Gréasáin maidir le conas is féidir le hábhair sonraí rochtain a fháil ar a gcuid faisnéise pearsanta atá i seilbh ÚCIM. In 2022, fuair ÚCIM 1 Iarratas Rochtana Ábhar.

## Nochtadh Cosanta

Tá Treoir dhoiciméid mhionsonraithe forbartha ag ÚCIM d'fhoireann ÚCIM agus d'oibrithe ó lasmuigh den ÚCIM ar mian leo nochtadh cosanta a dhéanamh do Chomhalta den Údarás faoi Ionstraim Reachtuil 339 de 2014. Foilsítear treoir d'oibrithe seachtracha ar shuíomh Gréasáin ÚCIM. Ní bhfuair ÚCIM aon Nochtadh Cosanta in 2022.

## Cairt Chustaiméirí

D'fhoilsigh ÚCIM Cairt Chustaiméirí a shonraíonn ár dtiomantas seirbhís ardchaighdeáin a sholáthar dár gcustaiméirí agus a shainíonn ár gcaighdeáin seirbhíse i dteanga shoiléir shimplí. Cuireann sé eolas ar fáil freisin ar conas is féidir le hionchur custaiméara cur le feabhsú na seirbhísí a chuirtear ar fáil agus ar shaincheisteanna ar nós nósanna imeachta gearán agus Saoráil Faisnéise.

## Gearáin Alt 49

Tá oifigeach gearán ceaptha ag ÚCIM ó lasmuigh den Údarás chun gearáin a dhéantar faoi Alt 49 den Acht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlíne Muirí 2006 a bhreithniú agus a thuairisciú go neamhspleách. Is féidir gearán a chur faoi bhráid an Oifigigh Ghearán agus tá sonraí maidir le conas gearán a dhéanamh foilsithe ar shuíomh Gréasáin ÚCIM. Ní fhéadfaidh gearáin faoin nós imeachta seo a bheith bainteach ach le forghníomhú an dlí iascaigh mhara nó sábháilteacht bia agus ní mór iad a dhéanamh leis an Oifigeach Gearán ag aon chéim laistigh de 28 lá ón imeacht. Féadfaidh a Eagraíocht Táirgeoirí nó eagraíocht aonadaíoch aitheanta bhreise gearáin a dhéanamh thar ceann duine aonair. Sonraítear san Acht nach mbreathnófar ar ghearáin má:

- má bhaineann sé le haon ní is ábhar d'imeachtaí os comhair cúirte nó binse eile;
- má tá sé ina ábhar gearáin chuig an Ombudsman nó achomharc chuig an gCoimisinéir Faisnéise, nó;
- mura ndéantar é chuig Oifigeach Gearán laistigh de 28 lá tar éis d'ábhar an ghearáin teacht chun cinn.

*Ní bhfuair an tOifigeach Gearán aon ghearán in 2022.*



# Tuarascáil Rialachais Chorparáidigh(ar lean)



## Faisnéis a Sholáthar do Chomhaltaí den Oireachtas

In 2022, fuair ÚCIM iarratas amháin ar sholáthar faisnéise go díreach ó Chomhaltaí an Oireachtais. Atreoraíodh 31 Ceist Pharlaiminte ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara chuig an ÚCIM, agus d'fhreagair ÚCIM go díreach chuig Comhalta den Oireachtas.

*Atreoraíodh 31 Ceist Pharlaiminte ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara chuig an ÚCIM, agus d'fhreagair ÚCIM go díreach chuig Comhalta den Oireachtas.*

## Dualgas na hEarnála Poiblí

Cuireann an tAcht um Choimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta an Duine agus Comhionannas 2014 dualgas dearfach ar chomhlachtaí na hearnála poiblí aird a thabhairt ar an ngá atá le deireadh a chur le hidirdhealú, comhionannas a chur chun cinn agus cearta an duine a chosaint inár gcuid oibre laethúil. Tugtar “Dualgas na hEarnála Poiblí” air seo.

Tá ÚCIM tiomanta do chroíluchanna na seirbhíse poiblí is iad sin comhionannas, meas agus cothroime. Tá Beartas um Éagsúlacht, Comhionannas agus Cuimsiú ag ÚCIM lena chinntiú go bhfuil an eagraíocht tiomanta d'fhorbairt agus do chur chun feidhme beart feabhsaithe chun fostú daoine faoi mhíchumas a chur chun cinn agus tacú leo agus ár dtiomantas d'oibriú le chéile chun timpeallacht oibre a chothabháil a léiríonn spiorad na comhdheiseanna, saor ó iompar toirmisceithe nó míchuí agus timpeallacht ina ndéileálfar go cothrom le foireann ÚCIM agus ina dtabharfar meas dá n-indibhidiúlacht agus dá n-éagsúlacht.

## Sainordú Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide

Sa Phlean Gníomhaíochta ar son na hAeráide 2021 (CAP21) tá sé beartaithe go mbeidh an earnáil phoiblí chun tosaigh ar ghníomhú aeráide trí eiseamláir chun an sprioc a bhaint amach maidir le hastuithe gáis cheaptha teasa na hÉireann a laghdú 51% faoi 2030 agus a bheith neodrach ó thaobh aeráide de tráth nach déanaí ná 2050.

Chun tacú le comhlachtaí san earnáil phoiblí atá chun tosaigh le dea-shampla, tá feidhm ag Sainordú um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide de chuid na hEarnála Poiblí maidir le comhlachtaí poiblí atá clúdaithe ag spriocanna dícharbóiníthe CBT21. Mar a éilítear faoin sainordú seo in 2022, cheap ÚCIM Curaidh Aeráide agus Inbhuanaitheachta, Jonathan Hoare, agus Ceannaire Inbhuanaitheachta, Yvonne Grant. Leanann A ag obair ar thabhairt chun críche agus ar chur i bhfeidhm a Phlean Oibre um Ghníomhaíocht Aeráide.

## Tuarascáil ar Úsáid Fuinnimh 2022

Léirigh tomhaltas fuinnimh ÚCIM in 2022 méadú 8% i gcomparáid le 2021. Ba é ba chúis leis an méadú seo go príomha ná deireadh a chur le srianta taistil mar thoradh ar an bpaindéim agus freastal ar an oifig arís.

B'ionann feithiclí agus an chuid is mó den tomhaltas fuinnimh laistigh den ÚCIM ag 54%. B'ionann an leictreachas agus 23% den úsáid iomlán fuinnimh agus b'ionann an téamh agus 19%.

Tháinig méadú faoi dhó ar thomhaltas taistil ghnó san iomlán ag feithiclí áirgiúlachta ÚCIM agus ag feithiclí príobháideacha araon a úsáidtear le haghaidh taistil ghnó mar gheall ar éifeachtaí ardú na srianta taistil agus méadú ar thaisteal ar fud na tíre chun freastal ar chruinnithe gnó agus ar oiliúint. Agus Údarás nua i bhfeidhm, tháinig méadú ar thaisteal chun freastal ar chruinnithe tionscail, oifig inmheánach an phoirt, cruinnithe leis an gCoiste Comhairliúcháin srl.

Tharla sceideal patróil Bád Inséidte Dochta (RIB) le linn 2022, tar éis easpa patróil RIB le linn 2021 de bharr na paindéime. Is féidir an ghníomhaíocht RIB méadaithe a fheiceáil i méadú ar úsáid peitрил.

## Thaispeáin aerthaisteal méadú iomlán de níos mó ná cúig huaire i dtéarmaí tonna CO<sub>2</sub> ar an mbliain roimhe sin.

Bhí sé seo mar thoradh díreach ar ardú na srianta ar thaisteal thar lear a cuireadh i bhfeidhm le linn na paindéime agus ceanglas gnó freastal ar chruinnithe sa Bhruiséil agus i Vigo go háirithe.

Is ionann tomhaltas leictreachais agus 23%<sup>2</sup> measta den úsáid iomlán fuinnimh, arb ionann é agus laghdú 2% bliain ar bhliain ó 2021. Chabhraigh athruithe ar rialuithe soilsithe sa Cheannoifig le héifeachtúlacht fuinnimh a bhaint amach. Fuarthas áitreabh nua sa Chaisleán Nua, Contae Dhún na nGall, rud a mhéadaigh ár méadrach gníomhaíochta (achar urláir m<sup>2</sup>). Cuireann an t-áitreabh nua cóiríocht ar fáil do dheichniúr fostaithe ar an meán i bhfoirm Oifig Phoirt. Tá an oifig feistithe ar ardchaighdeán éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh. Mhéadaigh líon iomlán na ndaoine san ÚCIM idir deireadh 2021 agus deireadh 2022 beagán go 167.

Tháinig laghdú 35% ar théamh in 2021. Tá fadhbanna leis an aonad AHU a fhreastalaíonn ar limistéir ghinearálta i gCloich na Coillte réitithe. Chuir feasacht níos fearr agus bainistíocht ghníomhach ar an gcóras teasa i gCloich na Coillte leis an laghdú seo.

## Gníomhartha a Glactar Le Bheith Níos Tíosaí ar Fhuinneamh

Tá an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara ina chuid de líonra an SEAI d'eagraíochtaí meánmhéide agus de ghréasán na hearnála poiblí. Tuairiscíodh feidhmíocht fuinnimh na heagraíochta don bhliain go díreach don SEAI chun dul chun cinn i dtreo ár spriocanna maidir le héifeachtúlacht fuinnimh agus astaíochtaí gás ceaptha teasa a rianú.

Tá ÚCIM mar chuid de Chlár Comhpháirtíochta Earnála Poiblí an SEAI.

Rinneadh Iniúchtaí Fuinnimh i 7 láthair ÚCIM agus forbraíodh Straitéis Fuinnimh ÚCIM 2020 - 2030 leis an aidhm an sprioc de laghdú 50% ar fhuinneamh a bhaint amach faoi 2030 mar a ordaítear i bplean gníomhaíochta aeráide an rialtais.

<sup>2</sup>Meastar úsáid leictreachais Bhaile Chaisleáin Bhéarra do 2022 mar gheall ar ábhar a chuireann isteach ar MPRN.



# Iniúchadh agus Riosca Tuairisc an Choiste

**Soláthraíonn an tuarascáil seo ó Choiste Iniúchta agus Riosca ÚCIM achoimre ar a príomhghníomhaíochtaí agus aschuir don Bhliain Airgeadais dar críoch 31ú Nollaig 2022.**

## Ballraíocht an Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca

An tUasal Peter G Cowap – Cathaoirleach

An tUasal Sean England – Leas-Chathaoirleach

An tUasal Pat Farrell

An tUasal Rav Vithaldas

An tUasal Shane McCarthy

D'éirigh Brendan O' Shea as an gCoiste Iniúcháireachta & Riosca ar 7ú Feabhra 2022. Ceapadh Shane McCarthy ar an gCoiste Iniúchta & Riosca ina dhiaidh sin ar 9 ú Bealtaine 2022.

Is mian leis an gCoiste aitheantas a thabhairt don tacaíocht Rúnaíochta a chuir an tÚdarás ar fáil i rith 2022.

## Róil agus Freagrachtaí an Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca

Soláthraíonn an Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca cúnamh agus tacaíocht don ÚCIM chun freagrachtaí maoirseachta agus foinsí dearbhaithe an Údaráis a chomhlíonadh, ag cur san áireamh ceanglais an Chóid Chleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit 2016, a bhaineann inter alia le:

Sláine an Chórais Airgeadais lena n-áirítear an Próiseas Tuairiscithe Airgeadais;

- An Próiseas Bainistíochta Riosca;
- An Córas um Rialú Inmheánach;
- An caidreamh leis an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste (ARC&C);
- Próisis agus rialuithe inmheánacha ÚCIM chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar chomhlíonadh chur i bhfeidhm na Rialuithe Oifigiúla sna réimsí lascaigh Mhara, Sábháilteacht Bia Mara, Sláinte agus Sábháilteacht agus dlíthe agus rialacháin ábhartha eile;

- Cód Iompraíochta an Údaráis um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara agus, de réir mar is cuí, iompar an Údaráis maidir le Cláir Frith-Chalaoise agus Nochtadh Cosanta agus próisis imscrúdaithe gaolmhara;
- Feidhmiú fheidhmeanna Iniúchta Inmheánach Teicniúil agus Corparáideach an Údaráis, soláthar seirbhísí seachfhoinsithe mar is cuí.
- Tá an Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca freagrach as comhairle a thabhairt don Údarás maidir le cibé an bhfuil córas rialaithe inmheánaigh cuí i bhfeidhm ach nach bhfuil sé freagrach as réimeas den sórt sin a cheapadh nó a chur i bhfeidhm.

## Cruinnithe an Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca

Éilíonn Téarmaí Tagartha an Choiste Iniúchta agus Riosca ar an gCoiste teacht le chéile ceithre huair ar a laghad gach bliain Airgeadais. Tháinig an Coiste le chéile sé huair in 2022. Ina theannta sin, rinne an Coiste athbhreithniú breise ar a théarmaí tagartha, a dhírigh go sonrach ar fheidhmíocht an Ghrinnscrúdú Neamhspleách agus rinne sé meastóireacht féinmheasúnaithe ar a fheidhmíocht féin trí rannpháirtíocht déthaobhach Comhalta an Choiste leis an gCathaoirleach.

Chuaigh an Coiste i dteagmháil leis na príomhpháirtithe leasmhara ar fad i rith na Bliana Airgeadais trí thacaíocht ó Chathaoirleach nuacheaptha an Údaráis (Paschal Hayes), lena n-áirítear an Stiúrthóir (agus an Stiúrthóir Eatramhach) Airgeadais; an Stiúrthóir Trádála agus Iniúcháireachta; an Príomhoifigeach Eolaíoch agus Ceannaire an Bhreimeachta; an Ceann Gnóthaí Corparáideacha; an Treoraí Athraithe; Ceann Acmhainní Daonna; Stiúrthóir Oibríochtaí Calafoirt; Príomhoifigeach Riosca; Ceannaire Dlí & Forfheidhmithe agus Stiúrthóir TFC.

## I measc na hoibre suntasacha agus na réimsí ar dhírigh an Coiste Iniúchóireachta agus Riosca orthu le linn 2022 bhí:

1. Athléimneacht oibriúcháin an Údaráis a athbhreithniú agus é ag aistriú go timpeallacht oibriúcháin iarphaindéim.
2. Athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar an tionchar forfheidhmithe iar-Bhreatimeacht ar Chomhlíonadh Trádála Dlí, Teicniúil, Oibriúcháin agus Rialála an Údaráis.
3. Nuashonruithe tréimhsiúla a mheas ar dhul chun cinn maidir le roinnt saincheistanna Oibriúcháin, Dílíúla, Comhlíonta agus Forfheidhmithe.
4. Athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar dhul chun cinn ar ghnéithe ríthábhachtacha de Chumas Eagrúcháin an Údaráis agus den Chlár Claochlaithe a bhaineann leis agus na hiarmhairtí a d'fhéadfadh a bheith acu maidir le Rialachas, Bainistíocht Riosca, Timpeallacht Rialaithe Inmheánaigh agus Comhlíonta.
5. Athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar dhul chun cinn leanúnach agus ar stádas chur i bhfeidhm Phlean Eatramhach Rialaithe an Údaráis arna fhaomhadh ag Coimisiún an AE agus stádas fhorbairt Phlean Rialaithe nua.
6. Athbhreithniú agus rannchuidiú le cur le chéile Straitéisí Sonraí an Údaráis agus forbairt na Straitéise TFC.
7. Dhírigh nuashonruithe ar an bPlean Iniúchta Inmheánaigh do 2022, lena n-áirítear Iniúchtaí Inmheánacha agus obair Dhearbhaithe ar an Athbhreithniú ar Rialuithe Inmheánacha agus ar Cháilíocht Sonraí ar Shábháilteacht Bia Mara.
8. Athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar chur i bhfeidhm Phlean Iniúchta Inmheánaigh Teicniúil an Údaráis, lena n-áirítear iniúchtaí roghnaithe (m.sh., áiríthe Reoiteora/Monarcha) agus stádas leasúcháin ar thorthaí iniúchtaí roimhe seo.
9. Athbhreithniú ar an Ráiteas Bliantúil ar Rialú Inmheánach don bhliain 2021 agus ar an Tuarascáil agus ar an Ráiteas Airgeadais gaolmhar agus ar ghníomhaíochtaí móra eile a bhaineann leis an Aonad Airgeadais.
10. Athbhreithniú ar an gClár an Údaráis do Ráitis Dhearbhaithe Bainistíochta Sinsearaí trí láithreoireachtaí roghnaithe.
11. Dul i dteagmháil leis an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste, ar chríochnú Iniúchadh 2022 agus athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar a gcur chuige um Pleanáil Iniúchta don Bhliain Airgeadais 2023 ar aon.

### Bainistiú riosca

Mar chuid lárnach de shainordú an Choiste Iniúchóireachta agus Riosca, déanann an Coiste athbhreithniú ar éifeachtacht an phróisis Bainistíochta Riosca ar bhonn leanúnach.

Áirítear leis an obair seo athbhreithniú leanúnach ar Bheartas Riosca agus ar Ghoile Riosca ÚCIM, mar aon le feabhsúcháin a chur chun cinn i mbainistíocht agus i neadú oibríochtaí Chlár Riosca an Údaráis, i gcomhar leis an bPríomhoifigeach Riosca.

Tá an Coiste sásta go léiríonn speictream na rioscaí atá aitheanta faoi láthair i gClár Rioscaí an ÚCIM pictiúr cruinn de phríomhrioscaí an Údaráis.

*Mar chuid lárnach de shainordú an Choiste Iniúchóireachta agus Riosca, déanann an Coiste athbhreithniú ar éifeachtacht an phróisis Bainistíochta Riosca ar bhonn leanúnach.*



# Tuarascáil an Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca(ar lean)

## Tosaíochtaí do 2023

Áireofar na comhpháirteanna seo a leanas i gClár Oibre an Choiste do 2023:

1. Maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar tháirgí inghnóthaithe Phlean Iniúchta Inmheánaigh ÚCIM agus an Chláir Iniúchta Teicniúil don bhliain 2023 agus measúnú a dhéanamh ar thorthaí agus aschuir agus torthaí an chleachtaidh Ghrinnscrúdaithe Neamhspleách atá sceidealaithe do Eanáir 2023 san áireamh.
2. Athbhreithniú leanúnach ar Chlár Riosca ÚCIM, i gcomhar le Príomhoifigeach Riosca nuacheaptha, lena n-áirítear Plean Rialaithe athbhreithnithe agus rioscaí iar-Bhreatimeacht, an Clár Athraithe Eagrúcháin agus rioscaí a bhaineann le hAcmhainní Daonna, cumas TFC agus Bainistíochta Sonraí, arna mhéadú ag aithint tumadh domhain téamach breise mar chuid de Chlár Oibre an Choiste.
3. Dul i dteagmháil leis an Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste chun sásamh iniúchta a sheachadadh.
4. Athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar thorthaí atá ag teacht chun cinn maidir le faomhadh an Choimisiúin Eorpaigh do bhuanphlean rialaithe d'fhonn an tionchar a d'fhéadfadh a bheith acu ar athléimneacht oibriúcháin an Údaráis agus ar chomhlíonadh Chórais Rialaithe Oifigiúil an AE a thuiscint agus a mheasúnú.
5. Athbhreithniú ar an Ráiteas Bliantúil ar Rialú Inmheánach don Údarás agus ar an Tuarascáil agus na Ráitis Airgeadais ghaolmhara don bhliain 2022.
6. Leanúint ar aghaidh ag soláthar maoirseachta ar bhainistíocht an Údaráis agus feabhsú ar thorthaí iniúchta atá fós gan réiteach agus ar ghníomhartha ceartaitheacha.

## Conclúid

Is mian le Comhaltaí an Choiste Iniúchta agus Riosca aitheantas a thabhairt do rannpháirtíocht agus cúnamh dearfach agus cuiditheach fhoireann ÚCIM i rith na bliana.

Fáiltíonn an Coiste go mór roimh na ceapacháin shuntasacha a rinne an bheirt Chomhaltaí Údaráis nua sa ráithe dheireanach de 2022, a bheidh mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag iarrachtaí an Choiste in 2023.

Cabhraíonn na cruinnithe faisnéise earnáil-shonracha a éascaíonn an tÚdarás go mór le hiarrachtaí an Choiste agus is gné dhílis de chláir oibre chruinnithe an Choiste iad agus a chuireann ar chumas an Choiste a chuid oibre a chur ar an eolas agus a bhailíochtú i gceart. Tá sé seo thar a bheith luachmhar i bhfianaise na ndúshlán rithábhachtach atá roimh an Údarás go seachtach (m.sh., Plean Rialaithe athbhreithnithe, tionchair iar-Bhreatimeacht agus bainistíú tríd an bpaindéim) agus go himmheánach (m.sh. feidhmiú tríd an Straitéis Chorporáideach nua agus cur i bhfeidhm táirgí insóláthartha an Chláir Athraithe).

Mar chonclúid, tá an Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca, a n-ullmhaítear an tuarascáil seo thar a cheann, sásta go ginearálta go bhfuil córais imleor rialaithe inmheánaigh, bainistíochta riosca agus foinsí dearbhaithe ann.

### An tUasal Peadar G. Cowap

Cathaoirleach - Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca ÚCIM



# SPRIOC 5





# Forbairt agus Tacaíocht Foirne

## Foireann ÚCIM a fhorbairt agus tacú leo

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# Struchtúr agus cultúr na hEagraíochta

Tá an tAonad Acmhainní Daonna freagrach as gach gné den fheidhm acmhainní daonna, sláinte agus sábháilteachta agus seirbhísí saoráidí a sholáthar don eagraíocht.



Chuir an fhoireann AD agus S&S go leor i gcrích in 2022. Rinne an fhoireann bainistiú cúramach agus éifeachtach ar fhilleadh ar an oifig de réir a chéile tar éis na paindéime. Ar deireadh thiar, ba é an toradh a bhí air seo ná cur i bhfeidhm Bheartas Oibre Cumaisc an ÚCIM a chuireann Straitéis Oibre Cianoibrithe an Rialtais i bhfeidhm.

Ar an iomlán, d'fhan líon na bhfostaithe ag 167, go príomha mar gheall ar láimhdeachas fostaithe, lena n-áirítear roinnt daoine a chuaigh ar scor le linn 2022. Líontar 27 post, lena n-áirítear Bainisteoir Feidhmiúcháin TFC, Bainisteoir Feidhmiúcháin Gnóthaí Corparáideacha, agus líon an tSeirbhís um Cheapacháin Phoiblí dhá phost de chuid an Údaráis.

## Foireann ÚCIM a fhorbairt agus a thacú

Is é sprioc 5 de Ráiteas Straitéise ÚCIM 2021 go 2023 ná "Foireann ÚCIM a Fhorbairt agus Tacú leo". Ba é príomhfhócas na foirne AD le linn 2022 ná Córas Bainistíochta Foghlama agus Córas Bainistíochta Feidhmíochta ar líne a sholáthar agus a rolladh amach.

Méadóidh cur i bhfeidhm Córas Bainistíochta Feidhmíochta ar líne rannpháirtíocht sa phróiseas bainistíochta agus forbartha feidhmíochta. Neartóidh sé seo in éineacht le rolladh amach an Bheartais Bainistíochta agus Forbartha Feidhmíochta nua in 2022 ar bpróiseas CBFF a thuilleadh trí áis a sholáthar chun spriocanna aonair a ailíniú le pleananna gnó agus le spriocanna eagraíochtúla.



*Tacóidh cur i bhfeidhm Córas Bainistíochta Foghlama le seachadadh na hoiliúna, lárófar ábhar foghlama agus taifid oiliúna agus déanfar ábhar foghlama níos inrochtana agus níos tarraingtí. Feabhsófar oiliúint chomhlíonta agus méadófar comhroinnt eolais laistigh den eagraíocht.*

Is é tabhairt isteach na gcóras nua seo san fhoireann AD an chéad chéim chun próisis AD a bhogadh ar líne, mar chuid d'athrú digiteach na heagraíochta níos leithne.

Chríochnaigh an fhoireann AD Anailís ar Riachtanais Foghlama in 2022 agus déanfar athbhreithniú uirthi ar bhonn bliantúil. Forbraíodh dréacht-Straitéis Foghlama agus Forbartha don eagraíocht a rolladh amach i R1 2023.

## An Chúirt Oibreachais

D'fhreastail ÚCIM ar an gCúirt Oibreachais i mí an Mhárta, tar éis trí lá de ghníomhaíocht thionsclaíoch sa chéad ráithe den bhliain. Chuir toradh na héisteachta seo sa Chúirt Oibreachais soiléireacht ar fáil maidir le hábhair Chaidrimh Thionscail a bhí faoi dhíospóid le fada. Ó Mhárta 2022 i leith, reáchtáladh cruinnithe rialta leis an gceardchumann ionadaíoch chun cúrsaí a réiteach go tráthúil, ag cinntiú timpeallacht oibre dhearfach ina bhfuil ról agus freagrachtaí bhainistíochta ÚCIM agus na gceardchumann ionadaíoch soiléir.

## Soláthar foirne de réir Grád Nollaig 2022

Grád	Noll 22
A. Cuid	1
PO	3
AP	8
Innealtóir grád II	2
Cuntasóir Grád II	0
SPO (HEO + 10%)	10
OCIM	80
AOF	22
OF	18
CO	23
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>167</b>



# Tuarascáil Sláinte Agus Sábháilteachta

Tá sábháilteacht, sláinte agus leas na bhfostaithe go léir ina chuspóir rithábhachtach ag ÚCIM i gcónaí.

Baintear é seo amach trí chleachtais oibre atá sábháilte agus atá de réir reachtaíochta agus treoirlínte sláinte poiblí.

Tá an clár Sábháilteachta, Sláinte agus Leasa san ÚCIM fós réamhghníomhach. Tá sé deartha chun ionchas gach duine a bheith ag obair i dtimpeallacht shábháilte a sheachadadh ina ndéantar tascanna agus aschuir a mheas go córasach agus go leanúnach chun aon ghuaiseacha féideartha a liostú agus a aithint. Tá sé deartha ansin chun cleachtais oibre agus nósanna imeachta a cheapadh, a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm a oibríonn chun an ionchas seo a bhaint amach. Is próiseas timthriallach é seo. Tá ár dtimpeallacht oibre agus ár n-aschuir oibre faoi réir athraithe agus dá bhrí sin tá sé riachtanach go bhfanfadh ár gclár dinimiciúil, go bhfuil sé faoi úinéireacht an phearsanra go léir, go bhfuil sé gonta agus go bhféachann sé le cinnteacht a sholáthar. I rith 2022, rinne ár gCoiste Sábháilteachta, ár mBainisteoirí Calafóirt agus ár nIonadaithe Oibríthe Ceannais, ár Maoir Dóiteáin agus ár bhFreagróirí Garchabhrach agus Ceannairí COVID-19 go léir a ndícheall na haidhmeanna seo a bhaint amach.

## Oiliúint Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta, 2022

I rith 2022, sheachaid ÚCIM raon cúrsaí/imeachtaí oiliúna a bhain le Sláinte agus Sábháilteacht do phearsanra trí fhreastal ar mheascán de (1) In-Tí, (2) Ar Líne, (3) Príobháideach agus (4) Cúrsaí Poiblí, mar atá leagtha amach thall.

#	Cur Síos	Líon na Freastalaithe
1	Nósanna Imeachta Bordála Sábháilte Ar Líne	6
2	Cúrsaí Oiliúna Ionduchtúcháin S&S	11
3	Cúrsaí Oiliúna Oibre Aonair Ar Líne	167
4	Cúrsaí Oiliúna Láimhsiú Sábháilte (tinreamh fisiciúil)	66
5	1 X Cúrsa Oiliúna Feasachta Seaicéad Tarrthála (Oiliúint Phraiticiúil)	9
6	1 x Cúrsa Oiliúna aonadaí Oibríthe Ceannais COVID-19	1
7	2 x Cúrsa Oiliúna PHECC* FAR** (Nuachana).	15
8	1 x Cúrsa Oiliúna Maor Dóiteáin	12
9	1 x Cúrsa Oiliúna d'Ionadaithe Sábháilteachta (4 bhall foirne nua ag teastáil in 2022)	4
10	Oiliúint DSE & Measúnú Riosca um Thoirchis	4
11	IOSH Ceannaireacht Sábháilteachta don Údarás agus don Bhainistíocht Shinsearach	11
12	Cúrsaí Oiliúna Athnuachana d'Ionadaithe Sábháilteachta	6
13	Oiliúint Measúnaithe Riosca	9
14	Oiliúint Pas Sábháilte	1
15	Obair ar Chúrsa Airde	45

\* CCÉRO (An Chomhairle um Chúram Práinne Réamh-Ospidéil Is gníomhaireacht neamhspleách reachtúil é CCÉRO le freagracht as caighdeáin, oideachas agus oiliúint i réimse na héigeandála réamh-ospidéil).

\*\* FAR (Freagra Garchabhrach).

# Eagraíochtaí Athbhreithniú ar Chumas Eagrúcháin

**Rinne an tAthbhreithniú ar Chumas Eagrúcháin a foilsíodh i mí Aibreáin 2020 46 moladh a fheabhsóidh éifeachtacht agus éifeachtúlacht ÚCIM nuair a chuirfead i bhfeidhm iad.**

Tá an tuarascáil mar chuid den Chlár don Rialtas. Cinnteoidh a fhorfheidhmiú go mbeidh an aclaíocht agus an cumas ag ÚCIM a shainordú reachtúil a sheachadadh i dtimpeallacht oibriúcháin atá ag athrú de shíor.

Rinneadh dul chun cinn suntasach le linn 2022 maidir le cur i bhfeidhm na moltaí san Athbhreithniú. As na 46 moladh tá 35 curtha i gcrích agus tá an 11 eile ar siúl agus roinnt acu sin beagnach 100% tugtha chun críche.

## I measc na bpríomh-mholtaí straitéiseacha a críochnaíodh le linn 2022 tá:

Creat pleanála gnó nua a thabhairt isteach.

Cuirtear pleananna gnó le chéile bunaithe ar chuspóirí straitéiseacha agus riachtanais reachtúla. Tugann pleananna gnó eolas do shocrú spriocanna le fostaithe aonair. Soláthraíonn an creat seo nasc láidir idir spriocanna straitéiseacha agus gníomhaíocht oibriúcháin agus ligeann sé do bhaill foirne ar fud na heagraíochta an ról atá ag a gcuid oibre i seachadadh straitéis ÚCIM a thuiscint.

Cur chuige bainistíochta punainne a thabhairt isteach agus Oifig Bainistíochta Tionscadal ar fud na heagraíochta.

Ag tógáil ar bhunú rathúil na hOifige Bainistíochta Tionscadal, tá cur chuige bainistíochta punainne curtha i bhfeidhm maidir le tosaíocht agus cur i bhfeidhm tionscadal agus clár ar fud na heagraíochta. Tiomáinfidh an cur chuige seo comhtháthú ar fud na heagraíochta lena chinntiú go gcomhlánóidh tionscadail a chéile agus go ndéanfaidh siad straitéis an ÚCIM a sheachadadh go héifeachtach.



## Straitéis TF a fhorbairt

Forbraíodh in 2022 straitéis TF agus na céimeanna a theastaíonn chun í a sheachadadh. Cuirfidh seachadadh na straitéise ar chumas an ÚCIM sonraí agus teicneolaíocht a ghíaráil chun a shainordú lárnach a sheachadadh maidir le trádáil bia mara a chosaint, sábháilteacht bia mara a chosaint, agus inbhuanaitheacht bia mara a chosaint ar bhealach níos sruthlínithe agus níos aclaí.

*Táthar ag súil go dtabharfar an obair ar chur i bhfeidhm na moltaí ón Athbhreithniú ar Chumas Eagrúcháin chun críche in 2023.*

Nuair a chríochnófar an méid oibre seo tabharfar chun críche mórchlár athraithe ar fud an ÚCIM a cuireadh tús leis chun an eagraíocht a athshocrú go bunúsach agus chun a chinntiú go bhfuil sí in ann a sainordú a sheachadadh i dtimpeallacht chasta agus dhúshlánach.



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# Eolas Ginearálta



## Baill an Údaráis:

An tUasal Paschal Hayes  
 An tUasal Michael Finn  
 An tUasal Jonathan Hoare

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## Príomhoifig:

National Seafood Bóthar Pháirc an Ionaíid Cloichín Cloich  
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## Iniúchóirí:

Comptroller and Auditor General  
 3A Sráid an Mhéara Uachtarach  
 Baile Átha Cliath 1

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# Tuarascáil an Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste

## Tuarascáil le cur faoi bhráid Thithe an Oireachtais

### An tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara

#### Tuairim ar na ráitis airgeadais

Tá iniúchadh déanta agam ar ráitis airgeadais an Údaráis um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022 mar a cheanglaítear faoi fhorálacha alt 65 den Acht Iascaigh Mhara agus Dlínsé Muirí 2006. Cuimsíonn na ráitis airgeadais

- an ráiteas ioncaim agus caiteachais agus cúlchistí ioncaim coinnithe,
- an ráiteas ioncaim chuimsithe
- an ráiteas ar an staid airgeadais
- an ráiteas ar shreabhadh airgid, agus
- na nótaí gaolmhara, lena n-áirítear achoimre ar bheartais shuntasacha chuntasaíochta.

Is é mo thuairim go dtugann na ráitis airgeadais léargas fíor agus cothrom ar shócmhainní, ar dhliteanais agus ar staid airgeadais an Údaráis um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022 agus ar a ioncam agus ar a chaiteachas do 2022 i gcomhréir le Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 – *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland*.

#### Bunús na tuairime

Rinne mé m'iniúchadh ar na ráitis airgeadais de réir na gCaighdeán Idirnáisiúnta Iniúchóireachta (ISAnna) arna bhfógairt ag Eagraíocht Idirnáisiúnta na bhForas Iniúchóireachta Uachtarach. Déantar cur síos ar mo chuid freagrachtaí faoi na caighdeáin sin san aguisín leis an tuarascáil seo. Táim neamhspleách ar an Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara agus tá mo chuid freagrachtaí eiticíúla eile comhlíonta agam de réir na gcaighdeán.

Creidim gur leor agus gur cuí an fhianaise iniúchta atá faighte agam chun bonn a chur le mo thuairim.

### Tuarascáil ar fhaisnéis seachas na ráitis airgeadais, agus ar ábhair eile

Tá faisnéis áirithe eile curtha i láthair ag an Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara mar aon leis na ráitis airgeadais. Cuimsíonn sé seo an tuarascáil bhliantúil, an ráiteas rialachais agus tuarascáil chomhaltaí an Údaráis, agus an ráiteas ar rialú inmheánach. Tá cur síos san aguisín a ghabhann leis an tuarascáil seo ar mo fhreagrachtaí tuairisc a thabhairt maidir le faisnéis den sórt sin, agus ar ábhair áirithe eile ar a dtuairiscím trí eisceacht.

#### Iniúchadh Choimisiún an AE ar rialú iascaigh mhara

Is é an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara an t-údarás inniúil chun iascaigh mhara na hÉireann a rialú.

Mínítear sa ráiteas ar rialú inmheánach gur aithníodh i bhfiosrúchán riaracháin de chuid Choimisiún an AE in 2019 easnaimh shuntasacha maidir le dlúchtuithe iasc peiligeach a mheá agus a thuairisciú agus easpa rialuithe nó forghníomhaithe maidir le gabhálacha tuinnín ghoirm. I mí Aibreáin 2021, chúlghair an Coimisiún maolú a bhí ann cheana lena gceadaítear gabhálacha iascaireachta ag saoráidí próiseála na hÉireann a mheá.

Deirtear sa ráiteas ar rialú inmheánach gur comhaontaíodh plean rialaithe eatramhach leis an gCoimisiún do 2022. Cuireadh bearta i bhfeidhm chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na saincheistanna a d'ardaigh an Coimisiún, agus chuir an tÚdarás plean rialaithe nua, buan isteach i Meán Fómhair 2022. D'fhormheas an Coimisiún an plean go foirmiúil i mí na Nollag 2022 agus tháinig sé i bhfeidhm an 1 Eanáir 2023, agus tá sé rithábhachtach chun a chinntiú go gcloíonn Éire lena hoibleagáidí faoi Chomhbheartas Iascaigh an AE.

#### Seamus McCarthy

ARD-REACHTAIRE CUNTAS AGUS CISTE

30 Meitheamh 2023



# Tuarascáil an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste

## Aguisín leis an tuarascáil

### Freagrachtaí chomhaltaí an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara

Leagann an ráiteas rialachais agus tuarascáil chomhaltaí an Údaráis amach freagrachtaí chomhaltaí an Údaráis

- maidir le ráitis airgeadais bhliantúla a ullmhú san fhoirm a fhorordaítear faoi alt 65 den Acht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlínsa Muirí 2006
- ag cinntiú go dtugann na ráitis airgeadais léargas fíor agus cothrom de réir FRS102
- rialtacht na n-idirbheart a chinntiú
- measúnú a dhéanamh le feiceáil má tá úsáid bhonn chuntasaíochta an ghnóthais leantaigh oiriúnach, agus
- rialú inmheánach den sórt sin a chur i bhfeidhm de réir mar a chinneann siad atá riachtanach le gur féidir ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú atá saor ó mhíríteas ábhartha, cibé acu de bharr calaoise nó earráide.

### Freagrachtaí an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste

Ceanglaítear orm faoi alt 65 den Acht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlínsa Muirí 2006 ráitis airgeadais an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara a iniúchadh agus tuairisc a thabhairt orthu do Thithe an Oireachtais.

Is é an cuspóir atá agam agus an t-iniúchadh á dhéanamh agam ná dearbhú réasúnta a fháil maidir le cibé an bhfuil na ráitis airgeadais ina iomláine saor ó mhíríteas ábhartha mar gheall ar chalaos nó earráid. Is leibhéal ard dearbhairthe é dearbhú réasúnta, ach ní rátháíocht é go mbraithfidh iniúchadh a dhéantar de réir na ISAanna míráiteas ábhartha i gcónaí nuair atá sé ann. Is féidir le míráiteas eascairt as calaois nó earráid agus meastar gur ábhar iad más rud é, ina n-aonar nó sa chomhiomlán, go bhféadfaí a bheith ag súil le réasún go mbeadh tionchar acu ar chinntí eacnamaíochta úsáideoirí a ghlactar ar bhonn na ráiteas airgeadais seo.

Mar chuid d'iniúchadh de réir na ISAanna, feidhmím breithiúnas gairmiúil agus coinním amhras gairmiúil ar fud an iniúchta. Agus é sin á dhéanamh,

- Aithním agus déanaim measúnú ar na rioscaí a bhaineann le míráiteas ábhartha na ráiteas airgeadais cibé acu mar gheall ar chalaos nó earráid; nósanna imeachta iniúchta a dheadradh agus a chomhlíonadh atá freagrúil do na rioscaí sin; agus fianaise iniúchta a fháil atá leordhóthanach agus cuí chun bunús a sholáthar do mo thuairim. Tá an baol ann nach mbraitear míráiteas ábhartha a eascraíonn as calaois níos airde ná ceann a eascraíonn as earráid, toisc go bhféadfadh claonpháirteachas, brionnú, easnaimh d'aon ghnó, mífhaisnéisí, nó sárú rialaithe inmheánaigh a bheith i gceist le calaois.
- Faighim tuiscint ar rialú inmheánach a bhaineann leis an iniúchadh d'fhonn nósanna imeachta iniúchta a dheadradh atá oiriúnach sna cúinsí, ach ní chun tuairim a nochtadh maidir le héifeachtacht na rialuithe inmheánacha.
- Déanaim meastóireacht ar oiriúnacht na mbeartas cuntasaíochta a úsáidtear agus réasúntacht na meastachán cuntasaíochta agus nochtadh gaolmhar.

- Déanaim conclúid maidir le hoiriúnacht úsáid bhonn gnóthais leantaigh na cuntasaíochta agus, bunaithe ar an bhfianaise iniúchta a fuarthas, maidir le cibé an bhfuil éiginnteacht ábhartha ann maidir le himeachtaí nó coinníollacha a d'fhéadfadh amhras suntasach a chur ar chumas an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara leanúint ar aghaidh mar ghnóthas leantach. Má chinnim go bhfuil éiginnteacht ábhartha ann, ceanglaítear orm aird a tharraingt i mo thuarascáil ar na nochtuithe gaolmhara sna ráitis airgeadais nó, mura leor na nochtuithe sin, mo thuairim a mhodhnú. Tá mo chonclúidí bunaithe ar an bhfianaise iniúchta a fuarthas suas go dtí dáta mo thuarascála. Mar sin féin, d'fhéadfadh imeachtaí nó coinníollacha amach anseo a bheith ina gcúis leis an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara scor de bheith ina ghnóthas leantach.
- Déanaim meastóireacht ar chur i láthair, struchtúr agus ábhar foriomlán na ráiteas airgeadais, lena n-áirítear na nochtuithe, agus cibé an ionann na ráitis airgeadais agus na hidirbhearta agus na himeachtaí bunúsacha ar bhealach a bhaineann cur i láthair cothrom amach.
- Déanaim cumarsáid leo siúd a bhfuil sé de chúram orthu rialachas maidir le, i measc nithe eile, scóip phleanáilte agus uainiú an iniúchta agus torthaí suntasacha iniúchta, lena n-áirítear aon easnaimh shuntasacha i rialú inmheánach a aithním le linn m'iniúchta.

Tuairiscím trí eisceacht más rud é, i mo thuairim,

- Ní bhfuair mé an t-eolas agus na mínithe ar fad a theastaigh uaim le haghaidh m'iniúchta, nó
- Níor leor na taifid chuntasaíochta chun cead a thabhairt na ráitis airgeadais a iniúchadh go héasca agus go cuí, nó
- Níl na ráitis airgeadais ar aon intinn leis na taifid chuntasaíochta.

### Faisnéis seachas na ráitis airgeadais

Ní chlédaíonn mo thuairim ar na ráitis airgeadais an fhaisnéis eile a chuirtear i láthair leis na ráitis sin, agus ní chuirim aon chineál conclúide dearbhairthe in iúl air.

Maidir le m'iniúchadh ar na ráitis airgeadais, ceanglaítear orm faoi na ISAanna an fhaisnéis eile a chuirtear i láthair a léamh agus, lena linn sin, smaoinigh an bhfuil an fhaisnéis eile ag teacht go hábhartha leis na ráitis airgeadais nó le heolas a fuarthas le linn an iniúchta, nó más cosúil go bhfuil mí-iompar ábhartha á déanamh uirthi ar shlí eile. Más rud é, bunaithe ar an obair atá déanta agam, is é an tátal a bhainim as go bhfuil míráiteas ábhartha ar an eolas eile seo, ceanglaítear orm an fhír sin a thuairisciú.

### Tuairisciú ar nithe eile

Déantar m'iniúchadh trí thagairt do na cúinsí speisialta a ghabhann le comhlachtaí Stáit maidir lena mbainistíocht agus lena n-oibriú. Tuairiscím má aithním ábhair a bhaineann leis an mbealach a ndearnadh gnó poiblí.

Féachaim le fianaise a fháil faoi rialtacht na n-idirbhearta airgeadais le linn iniúchta. Tuairiscím má aithním aon chás ábhartha nuair nár cuireadh airgead poiblí i bhfeidhm chun na gcríoch a bhí beartaithe nó nuair nár chloigh idirbhearta leis na húdarais a rialaíonn iad.

# Ráiteas Rialachais agus Tuarascáil Chomhaltaí an Údaráis

## Rialachas

Bunaíodh an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara faoin Acht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlíne Muirí 2006. Tá feidhmeanna an Údaráis leagtha amach in alt 43 den Acht seo. Tá an tÚdarás freagrach as dea-rialachas na heagraíochta a chinntiú. Tá an Cathaoirleach, atá ina chomhalta den Údarás agus beirt chomhaltaí eile den Údarás, freagrach as bainistiú, rialú agus stiúradh laethúil an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara. Is baill den Fhoireann Ard bhainistíochta iad comhaltaí an Údaráis freisin. Caithfidh an Fhoireann Bhainistíochta Shinsearach an treo straitéiseach leathan atá leagtha síos ag an Údarás a leanúint agus ní mór tuiscint shoiléir a bheith aici ar na príomhghníomhaíochtaí agus ar na príomhchinntí a bhaineann leis an eintiteas, agus ar aon rioscaí suntasacha a d'fhéadfadh teacht chun cinn. Faoi fhorálacha Alt 68 den Acht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlíne Muirí 2006, tá an Cathaoirleach cuntasach don Choiste um Chuntais Phoiblí agus don Chomhchoiste um Thalmhaíocht, Bia agus Mara.

## Freagrachtaí an Údaráis

Déantar foráil d'obair agus d'fhreagrachtaí an Údaráis sna nithe seo a leanas:

- an tAcht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlíne Muirí 2006,
- reachtaíocht ábhartha eile lena n-áirítear; An Dlí Sláinte & Sábháilteachta, an Dlí Fostaíochta, an Dlí um Chosaint Sonraí, an Dlí um Shaoráil Faisnéise, an Dlí lascaigh Mhara agus an Dlí um Shábháilteacht Bia,
- na Nósanna Imeachta Airgeadais Poiblí arna bhfoilsíú ag an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe.
- an Cód Cleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit 2016,
- an Comhaontú Seachadta Maoirseachta agus Feidhmíochta leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara 2021-2023,
- an Conradh Seirbhíse le hÚdarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann, agus
- an Comhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse leis an Roinn Cosanta.

Tá nithe atá forchoimeáda go sonrach do chinneadh an Údaráis leagtha amach sna Beartais agus Nósanna Imeachta um Rialachas Corparáideach.

Ceanglaíonn Alt 65 den Acht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlíne Muirí 2006 ar an Údarás a choimeád, i cibé foirm a cheadóidh an tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara le toiliú an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe, gach cuntas ceart agus gnáth ar airgead a fuair sé agus a chaith sé.

Agus na ráitis airgeadais seo á n-ullmhú, ceanglaítear ar an Údarás:

- beartais chuntasaíochta oiriúnacha a roghnú agus iad a chur i bhfeidhm go comhsheasmhach,
- breithiúnais agus meastacháin a dhéanamh atá réasúnach agus stuama,
- na ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú ar bhonn gnóthais leantaigh ach amháin má tá sé míchuí a thiomhdiú go leanfaidh sé de bheith ag feidhmiú, agus
- a lua ar leanadh caighdeáin chuntasaíochta infheidhmithe, faoi réir aon imeacht ábhartha a nochtar agus a mhíntear sna ráitis airgeadais.

Tá an tÚdarás freagrach as taifid chuntasaíochta imleor a choinneáil a nochtann, le cruinneas réasúnta ag aon tráth, a staid airgeadais agus a chuireann ar a chumas a chinntiú go gcomhlíonann na ráitis airgeadais Alt 65 den Acht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlíne Muirí 2006. Is é an tÚdarás atá freagrach as cothabháil agus sláine na faisnéise corparáidí agus airgeadais ar shuíomh Gréasáin an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara.

Tá an tÚdarás freagrach as an bplean bliantúil agus an buiséad a cheadú. Rinneadh meastóireacht ar fheidhmíocht an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara faoi threoir an phlean bhliantúil agus an bhuiséid an 31 Eanáir 2023.

Tá an tÚdarás freagrach freisin as a shócmhainní a chosaint agus mar sin as céimeanna réasúnta a ghlacadh chun calaíoch agus neamhrialtachtaí eile a chosc agus a bhrath.

Measann an tÚdarás go dtugann ráitis airgeadais an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara léargas fíor agus cothrom ar fheidhmíocht airgeadais agus ar staid airgeadais an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022.

## Struchtúr an Údaráis

Níl Bord ag an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara ach tá sé comhdhéanta de Údarás Feidhmiúcháin trí chomhalta faoi láthair. Tá an Cathaoirleach ar dhuine de chomhaltaí an Údaráis. Sonraítear comhaltaí an Údaráis sa tábla thíos.

Comhalta Údaráis	Róil	Dáta Ceaptha ó/chuig
An tUasal Paschal Hayes	Údarás Cathaoirleach	14 Eanáir 2022 go 13 Eanáir 2019
An tUasal Michael Finn	Údarás Ball	03 Deireadh Fómhair 2022 go 02 Deireadh Fómhair 2029
An tUasal Jonathan Hoare	Údarás Ball	03 Deireadh Fómhair 2022 go 02 Deireadh Fómhair 2029
An tUasal Timothy Donovan	Údarás Ball	28 Meitheamh 2021 go 11 Feabhra 2022

Ceapadh Cathaoirleach an Údaráis an tUasal Paschal Hayes an 14 Eanáir 2022. Ceapadh comhaltaí an Údaráis an tUasal Michael Finn agus an tUasal Jonathan Hoare ar 03 Deireadh Fómhair 2022. D'éirigh comhalta an Údaráis, an tUasal Timothy Donovan, as a phost an 11 Feabhra 2022.

## Sceideal Tinrimh

Tá sceideal freastail ar Chruinnithe Údaráis leagtha amach thíos. Tionóladh Cruinnithe an Údaráis an 15 Márta 2022, 31 Bealtaine 2022, 17 Deireadh Fómhair 2022 agus 19 Nollaig 2022.

### Cruinnithe Údaráis

Líon na gCruinnithe	4
Paschal Hayes	4
Michael Finn	2
Jonathan Hoare	2

## An Coiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca

Tá Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca bunaithe ag an Údarás ar a bhfuil cúigear comhaltaí neamhspleácha neamhfheidhmiúcháin. Is é ról an Choiste Iniúchta agus Riosca (ARC) ná tacú leis an Údarás maidir lena fhreagrachtaí a bhaineann le riosca, rialú, agus rialachas agus dearbhú gaolmhar. Tá an ARC neamhspleách ar bhainistíocht airgeadais na heagraíochta. Cinntíonn an Coiste go háirithe go ndéantar monatóireacht ghníomhach neamhspleách ar na córais rialaithe inmheánaigh lena n-áirítear gníomhaíochtaí iniúchta. Tuairiscíonn an ARC don Údarás go foirmiúil i scríbhinn gach bliain.

I rith 2022, ba iad comhaltaí an Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca: Peter Cowap, Cathaoirleach, Seán Angland, Pat Farrell, Brendan O'Shea, Rav Vithaldas agus Shane McCarthy. Bhí sé chruinniú den ARC ann in 2022.

D'éirigh Brendan O'Shea as an ARC ar 07 Feabhra 2022. Ceapadh Shane McCarthy chuig an ARC ina dhiaidh sin ar 09 Bealtaine 2022. Cuireadh síneadh le téarma ceapacháin Pat Farrell chuig an ARC ar 04 Meán Fómhair 2022 ar feadh cúig bliana eile. D'éirigh Seán Angland as an ARC ar 10 Feabhra 2023.

## Sceideal Tinrimh, Táillí agus Costais

Tá sceideal freastail ar chruinnithe an Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Riosca don bhliain 2022 leagtha amach thíos lena n-áirítear na táillí agus na speansais a fhaigheann gach ball den ARC:

Coiste Iniúchta & Riosca	Táillí 2022 €	Costais 2022 €
Líon na gCruinnithe	6	
Peter Cowap, Cathaoirleach	6	2,414
Seán Angland	5	-
Pat Farrell	5	1,414
Brendan O'Shea	1	283
Rav Vithaldas	6	1,697
Shane McCarthy	4	1,131
	<b>6,939</b>	<b>1,173</b>

# Ráiteas Rialachais agus Tuarascáil Chomhaltaí an Údaráis (ar lean)

## Athbhreithniú ar Chumas Eagrúcháin an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara

Foráilann beartas an Rialtais mar atá léirithe ina straitéis “Plean Athnuachana na Státseirbhíse” do chur i bhfeidhm clár athbhreithnithe eagraíochtúla, agus é mar chuspóir aige:

‘Cultúr de mheasúnuithe rialta agus oibiachtúla a leabú ar chumas agus ar chumas gach Roinne a cuspóirí a bhaint amach agus an gníomh riachtanach a ghlacadh chun aon bhearnaí a dhúnadh’. In 2019, choimisiúnaigh an tÚdarás Athbhreithniú ar Chumas Eagrúcháin an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara. Is é príomhchuspóir an athbhreithnithe ná cur le forbairt leanúnach agus amach anseo an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara ionas go n-aithnítear é mar ghníomhaireacht sármhaitheasa agus eiseamláir do ghníomhaireachtaí eile.

Chuir soláthraithe seirbhíse seachtracha Athbhreithniú ar Chumas Eagrúcháin i gcrích agus eisíodh tuarascáil an 3 Aibreán 2020. Tá bord comhairleach neamhspleách ceaptha ag an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara chun tacú leis an Údarás agus chun maoirsiú a dhéanamh ar chur i bhfeidhm mholtaí an Athbhreithnithe. Rinne an tAthbhreithniú 46 moladh a thabharfaidh aghaidh, nuair a chuirtear i bhfeidhm iad, ar shaincheistanna a aithníodh chun éifeachtúlacht na heagraíochta a fheabhsú. As na 46 moladh, tá 43 críochnaithe agus tá cur i bhfeidhm na 3 mholadh eile ar siúl. Tá tuarascáil iomlán an Athbhreithnithe ar fáil ar shuíomh Gréasáin an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara.

## Nochtadh a Éilítear faoin gCód Cleachtas um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit (2016)

Tá an tÚdarás freagrach as a chinntiú gur chomhlíon an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara ceanglais rialachais chorparáidigh, lena n-áirítear iad siúd atá sa Chód Cleachtas um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit (“an Cód”), arna fhoilsiú ag an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe i mí Lúnasa 2016. Ceanglaítear na nithe seo a leanas a nochtadh faoin gCód:

## Miondealú Sochair Ghearrthéarmacha Fostaithe

Déantar sochair gearrthéarmacha fostaithe os cionn €60,000 a chatagóiriú sna bandaí seo a leanas:

Raon Ó	Go	2022	Líon fostaithe 2021
€60,000	- €69,999	13	9
€70,000	- €79,999	10	14
€80,000	- €89,999	38	36
€90,000	- €99,999	7	7
€100,000	- €109,999	5	2
€110,000	- €119,999	-	1
€140,000	- €149,999	1	-

Nóta: Chun críocha an nochtadh seo, áirítear le sochair fostaithe gearrthéarmacha maidir le seirbhísí a soláthraíodh le linn na tréimhse tuairiscithe tuarastal, liúntais, ragobair agus íocaíochtaí eile a dhéantar leis an bhfostaí, ach ní áirítear ÁSPC an fhostóra.

## Costais Chomhairliúcháin

Áirítear le costais chomhairleoireachta an costas a bhaineann le comhairle sheachtrach don bhainistíocht agus ní áirítear leo feidhmeanna seachfhoinsithe ‘gnó mar is gnách’.

	2022 €	2021 €
Comhairle airgeadais/ chuntasaíochta	35,713	-
Acmhainní daonna	25,514	16,504
Comhairle dlí	214,329	465,622
Caidreamh Poiblí	90,985	65,028
Tionscadail feabhsúcháin gnó	22,140	-
Cur i bhfeidhm straitéise <sup>1</sup>	81,426	-
Tacaíocht bainistíochta tionscadail CEMI/AF <sup>2</sup>	932,705	954,110
<b>Costais chomhairleachta iomlána</b>	<b>1,402,812</b>	<b>1,501,264</b>
Costais chomhairleoireachta gearrtha ar an Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe	1,402,812	1,501,264
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>1,402,812</b>	<b>1,501,264</b>

<sup>1</sup>In 2022, áirítear i gcostais chomhairleoireachta um chur chun feidhme na straitéise costas an tsoláthraí seirbhíse seachtrach atá fostaithe chun athbhreithniú straitéise Teicneolaíochta Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide (TFC) a dhéanamh ar an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara.

<sup>2</sup>Tá an figiúr comparáideach do 2021 athshonraithe faoi €2,384,866 chun deireadh a chur le caiteachas forbartha IMT a íocadh leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara a mírangaíodh mar chostais chomhairleachta.

## Costais Dí agus Socraíochtaí

Tugann an tábla thíos miondealú ar na méideanna a aithnítear mar chaiteachas sa tréimhse tuairiscithe maidir le costais dí, socraíochtaí agus imeachtaí idir-réitigh agus eadrána. Ní áirítear leis seo caiteachas maidir le comhairle dí ghinearálta a fhaigheann an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara a nochtar i gcostais Chomhairleoireachta thuas.

	2022 €	2021 €
Táillí dí - imeachtaí dí	336,281	344,664
Socrú	63,986	466
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>400,267</b>	<b>345,130</b>

San áireamh sna costais dí seo tá suim €Nialas (2021: €Nialas) i ndáil le hábhair leanúnacha a bhaineann leis an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara.

## Caiteachas Taisilí agus Cothabhála

Déantar caiteachas taisilí agus cothabhála a chatagóiriú mar seo a leanas:

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Inmheánach</b>		
Údarás <sup>3</sup>	13,388	1,635
Fostaí <sup>4</sup>	710,318	479,100
Coiste Iníúchta & Riosca	1,173	–
Coiste Comhairliúcháin	3,375	–
<b>Idinmáisiúnta</b>		
Údarás <sup>3</sup>	1,692	566
Fostaíthe <sup>4</sup>	25,039	5,537
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>754,985</b>	<b>486,838</b>

## Caiteachas Fáilteachais

Áiríonn an Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coimnithe an caiteachas fáilteachais seo a leanas:

	2022 €	2021 €
Fáilteachais foirme	–	–
Fáilteachais na bpáirtithe leasmhara seachtracha	–	–
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>

## Ráiteas Comhlíonta

Ghlac an tÚdarás leis an gCód Cleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit (2016) agus tá nósanna imeachta curtha i bhfeidhm aige chun a chinntiú go gcomhlíontar a threagrachtaí rialachais chorparáidigh lena n-áirítear iad siúd atá leagtha síos sa Chód, mar a bhaineann siad leis an Údarás. Nuair a shonraíonn reachtaíocht ábhartha eile lena n-áirítear an tAcht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlinse Muirí 2006 oibleagáidí rialachais chorparáidigh, téann siad seo in aonad fhorálacha an Chóid.

Thar ceann an Údaráis



**Paschal Hayes**

CATHAOIRLEACH FEIDHMIÚCHÁIN  
26 Meitheamh 2023

<sup>3</sup>Áirítear leis sin taisteal agus cothú €15,137 (2021: €1,820) a íocadh go díreach le comhataí an Údaráis maidir le 2022. Baineann iarmhéid de €459 (2021: €381) le caiteachas a díoc an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara thar ceann chomhataí an Údaráis. Le linn 2022, d'aisíoc gníomhaireachtaí an AE €5.16 (2021: €Nialas) de mhéid iomlán na gcostas taisilí agus cothabhála do chomhataí an Údaráis leis an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara.

<sup>4</sup>Le linn 2022, d'aisíoc gníomhaireachtaí an AE €6,908 (2021: €4,976) de mhéid iomlán na gcostas taisilí agus cothabhála d'fhostaíthe leis an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara.

# Ráiteas maidir le Rialú Inmheánach

## Raon Freagrachta

Thar ceann an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara admháim freagracht an Údaráis as a chinntiú go ndéantar córas éifeachtach rialaithe inmheánaigh a chothabháil agus a fheidhmiú. Cuireann an fhreagracht seo san áireamh ceanglais an Chóid Chleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit (2016).

## Cuspóir an Chórais Rialaithe Inmheánaigh

Tá an córas rialaithe inmheánaigh deartha chun riosca a bhainistiú go leibhéal is féidir a ghlacadh seachas deireadh a chur leis. Ní féidir leis an gcóras, dá bhrí sin, ach ráthaíocht réasúnta seachas ráthaíocht iomlán a thabhairt go ndéantar sócmhainní a chosaint, idirbhearta a údarú agus a thairfeadh i gceart agus go ndéantar earráidí nó neamhrialtachtaí ábhartha a chosc nó go ndéanfaí iad a bhrath go tráthúil.

Tá an córas rialaithe inmheánaigh, a thagann le treoir arna eisiúint ag an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe, i bhfeidhm san Údarás don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022 agus suas go dtí dáta faofa na ráiteas airgeadais ach amháin i gcás na saincheisteanna rialaithe inmheánaigh atá leagtha amach thíos.

## Cumas chun Riosca a Láimhseáil

Tá Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca (ARC) bunaithe ag an Údarás ar a bhfuil cúigear comhaltaí neamhspleácha neamhfeidhmiúcháin a bhfuil saineolas airgeadais, iniúchóireachta, rialachais agus teicniúil acu, duine acu ina Chathaoirleach. Tháinig an ARC le chéile sé (6) huairé in 2022.

Rinne an tÚdarás a fheidhm iniúchta inmheánaigh a sheachfhóinsíú chuig gnólacht seirbhísí gairmiúla. Feidhmíonn iniúchadh inmheánach de réir chairt iniúchta inmheánaigh an Údaráis agus an Chóid Chleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit (2016). Comhaontaítear clár oibre an iniúchta inmheánaigh roimh ré leis an ARC. Déantar athbhreithniú bliantúil ar an gclár agus athbhreithnítear é de réir mar is gá. Cuireann an clár oibre iniúchta inmheánaigh reatha san áireamh na réimsí riosca féideartha a shaináithin an eagraíocht ag féachaint dá cuspóirí straitéiseacha agus dá creat bainistíochta riosca. Déanann an tÚdarás agus an ARC gach tuarascáil iniúchta inmheánaigh a mheas. Léiríonn na tuarascálacha seo easnaimh nó laigí, más ann dóibh, sa chóras rialaithe inmheánaigh agus na bearta ceartaitheacha a mholtar a dhéanamh nuair is gá.

Tá polasaí bainistíochta riosca forbartha ag an Údarás a leagann amach a mhian riosca, na próisis bhainistíochta riosca atá i bhfeidhm agus a shonraíonn ról agus freagrachtaí na foirne maidir le riosca. Eisíodh an polasaí seo chuig gach ball foirne a bhfuiltear ag súil go n-oibreoidh siad laistigh de bheartais bhainistíochta riosca an Údaráis, chun an lucht bainistíochta a chur ar an airdeall maidir le rioscaí atá ag teacht chun cinn agus laigí rialaithe agus freagracht a ghlacadh as rioscaí agus rialuithe laistigh dá réimse oibre féin.

## Creat Riosca agus Rialaithe

Tá córas bainistíochta riosca curtha i bhfeidhm ag an Údarás a shaináithníonn agus a thuiriscíonn príomhrioscaí agus na bearta bainistíochta atá á ndéanamh chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na rioscaí sin agus, a mhéid is féidir, chun na rioscaí sin a mhaolú.

Comhlíonann Beartas Bainistíochta Riosca an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara an Cód Cleachtais um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit 2016. Tá Príomhoifigeach Riosca ceaptha ag an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara. Tá clár riosca aonadbhunaithe forbartha ag gach aonad gnó a shaináithníonn na príomhrioscaí atá roimh an Údarás agus atá faoi réir athbhreithniú leanúnach.

Déantar rioscaí a shaináithint, a mheasúnú agus a thomhas de réir a dtábhacht. Déanfar aon rioscaí a mheastar a bheith ina rioscaí bunúsacha nó a bhfuil scór áirithe acu a áireamh mar chuid den chlár iomlán rioscaí lena mbreithniú agus lena bplé ag an Údarás. Déanann an tÚdarás an clár a athbhreithniú agus a nuashonrú ar bhonn ráithiúil agus cuirtear faoi bhráid an ARC ina dhiaidh sin é. Úsáidtear toradh na measúnuithe sin chun acmhainní a phleanáil agus a leithdháileadh lena chinntiú go mbainistítear rioscaí de réir leibhéal inghlactha.

Sonraítear sa chlár rioscaí na rialuithe agus na gníomhaíochtaí is gá chun rioscaí a mhaolú agus freagracht as feidhmiú na rialuithe a shanntar d'aonaid/bhainisteoirí gnó ar leith. Tá bearta glactha ag an Údarás chun a chinntiú go bhfuil timpeallacht rialaithe chuí ina bhfuil na gnéithe seo a leanas i bhfeidhm:

- tá nósanna imeachta maidir le gach príomhphróiseas gnó doiciméadaithe,
- freagrachtaí agus cumhachtaí bainistíochta atá sainmhínithe go soiléir,
- tá córas buiséadaithe cuimsitheach ann le buiséad bliantúil a athbhreithníonn, a cheadaíonn agus a choimeádann comhaltaí an Údaráis faoi athbhreithniú,
- athbhreithnithe rialta ag an Údarás ar thuarascálacha airgeadais tréimhsiúla agus bliantúla a léiríonn feidhmíocht airgeadais i gcoinne réamhaisnéisí,
- sannadh freagrachtaí airgeadais agus oibríochtúla ar leibhéal na bainistíochta agus tá cuntasacht chomhfhreagrach acu,
- tá córais ann atá dírithe ar shlándáil na gcóras teicneolaíochta faisnéise agus cumarsáide a áirithiú,
- tá córais i bhfeidhm chun na sócmhainní a chosaint, agus
- athbhreithnithe iniúchta inmheánaigh rialta ar rialuithe agus nósanna imeachta airgeadais, oibríochtúil agus comhlíonta.

## Monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú leanúnach

Tá nósanna imeachta foirmiúla bunaithe chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar phróisis rialaithe agus cuirtear easnaimh rialaithe in iúl dóibh siúd atá freagrach as gníomh ceartaitheach a dhéanamh agus do bhainistíocht agus do chomhaltaí an Údaráis, nuair is cuí, go tráthúil. Deimhním go bhfuil na córais mhonatóireachta leanúnacha seo a leanas i bhfeidhm:

- sainaithníodh príomhrioscaí agus rialuithe agus cuireadh próisis i bhfeidhm chun faireachán a dhéanamh ar oibriú na bpríomhrialuithe sin agus chun aon easnaimh a aithníodh a thuairisciú,
- tá socrúithe tuairiscithe bunaithe ag gach leibhéal inar sannadh freagracht as bainistíocht airgeadais, agus
- déanann comhaltaí an Údaráis athbhreithnithe rialta agus an lucht bainistíochta sinsearaí ar thuarascálacha tréimhsiúla agus bliantúla feidhmíochta agus airgeadais a léiríonn feidhmíocht i gcoinne buiséid/réamhaisnéisí.

## Soláthar

Deimhním go bhfuil nósanna imeachta i bhfeidhm ag an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara chun a chinntiú go gcomhlíontar na rialacha agus na treoirlínte reatha soláthair mar atá leagtha amach ag an Oifig um Sholáthar Rialtais.

## Tionchar COVID-19

Leanann freagairt an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara ar thionchar COVID-19 ag forbairt i bhfianaise imthosca agus rioscaí athraitheacha.

Mar chuid den phrótacal idirthréimhseach a d'fhógair an Rialtas, tá an tÚdarás tar éis na dea-chleachtais a chothabháil, a tógadh le dhá bhliain anuas agus chuir sé tús le cur chuige céimnithe i leith filleadh ar a láithreacha oibre fisiceacha i bhFeabhra 2022. Tá na bearta rialaithe inmheánaigh seo a leanas i bhfeidhm chun a áirithiú go gcoimeádtar rialuithe inmheánacha éifeachtacha le linn na hidirthréimhse:

- Cur i bhfeidhm Phlean Freagartha COVID-19 an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara,
- Bunú Beartas Oibre Cumaisc de réir an Chreata Beartais Oibre Cumaisc d'Eagraíochtaí Státseirbhíse, agus
- Athbhreithniú ar Nósanna Imeachta Caighdeánacha Oibriúcháin an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara chun a chinntiú go leantar ar aghaidh le freagrachtaí reachtúla an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara a chomhlíonadh agus a chinntiú go leanann an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara treoir an Rialtais ar dhea-chleachtas COVID-19.

Rinneadh freagairt an Údaráis ar thionchar COVID-19 a mheas mar chuid den athbhreithniú ar éifeachtacht an chórais rialaithe inmheánaigh do 2022.

## AN BREATIMEACHT

Mar gheall ar a ról rialála tá an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara ar cheann de na príomhghníomhaireachtaí Muirí tar éis an Bhreathimeachta tar éis imeacht na RA ón AE. Tá acmhainní suntasacha curtha i bhfeidhm chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar dhíluchtuithe ó shoithí iascaireachta na Ríochta Aontaithe, lena n-áirítear seirbhísí a sholáthar in 2022 chuig calafoirt nua-ainmnithe tuirlingthe tríú tíortha. Áirítear leis seo bunú oifig phoirt nua sa Chaisleán Nua, Co. Dhún na nGall. Leanann an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara ag feidhmiú na mbeart tacaíochta trádála atá curtha i bhfeidhm aige chun allmhairiú táirgí bia mara ón mBreatain Mhór a éascú. Tá pleanáil ar bun chun tacú leis an tionscal chun ceanglas a thabhairt isteach do Dheimhniú Sláinte Onnmhairithe táirgí iascaigh chuig an mBreatain Mhór go dtí go ndeimhneofar ceanglais na RA ina leith seo i rith 2023.

Ceanglaítear ar an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara leanúint de ghníomhartha deimhniúcháin, rialaithe agus forghníomhaithe breise a sholáthar sna réimsí seo a leanas mar thoradh ar an Bhreathimeacht: Coinsíneachtaí Allmhairithe, Gabhálacha Díreacha Allmhairithe, Coinsíneachtaí Easpórtála agus Gabhálacha Díreacha Onnmhairithe. D'ainmnigh an tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara calafoirt Éireannacha breise le haghaidh iasc a thabhairt i dtír ag soithí iascaireachta tríú tír atá cláraithe le linn 2022 d'fhonn éascú a dhéanamh ar shoithí atá cláraithe i dTuaisceart Éireann teacht i dtír go hÉirinn. Tá Rinn Uí Choigligh agus Bun an Phobail curtha le liosta na gcalafort ainmnithe.

## Athbhreithniú ar Éifeachtúlacht

Tá athbhreithniú an Údaráis ar éifeachtacht an chórais rialaithe inmheánaigh bunaithe ar na nithe seo a leanas:

- na bainisteoirí sinsearacha laistigh den Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara atá freagrach as nósanna imeachta agus cleachtais an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara a sheasann leis an gcreat rialaithe agus dearbhaithe inmheánach,
- obair an Iníúcháin Inmheánaigh,
- an Coiste Iníúcháireachta agus Riosca a dhéanann maoirseacht ar obair an iníúcháin inmheánaigh,
- obair na nIníúcháirí Seachtracha, lena n-áirítear an tArd-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste agus an Coimisiún Eorpach,
- maoirseacht ar ghníomhaíocht bhainistíochta tríd an gcóras bainistíochta riosca agus feidhmeanna comhlíonta lena n-áirítear sláinte & sábháilteacht agus soláthar, agus
- freagairt an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara ar thionchar COVID-19.

Tá athbhreithniú déanta ar an Ráiteas ar Rialú Inmheánach ag an gCoiste Iníúchta agus Riosca agus ag comhaltaí an Údaráis lena chinntiú go léiríonn sé go cruinn an córas rialaithe atá i bhfeidhm le linn na tréimhse tuairiscithe.

Deimhním go ndearna comhaltaí an Údaráis athbhreithniú bliantúil ar éifeachtacht na rialuithe inmheánacha do 2022, i mí Eanáir 2023.

# Ráiteas maidir le Rialú Inmheánach (ar lean)

## Saincheisteanna Rialaithe Inmheánaigh - Sonraí ar Laigí in 2022

### 1. Fiosrúchán Riaracháin Choimisiún an AE

Tá cúram tugtha don Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara, ina cháil mar an t-údarás inniúil um rialú iascaigh mhara, freagairt na hÉireann ar an bhFiosrúchán Riaracháin a chomhordú agus le hidirchaidreamh ábhartha leis an gCoimisiún.

#### Cúlra

I mí Iúil 2019, chuir Coimisiún an AE tús le Fiosrúchán Riaracháin chun scrúdú mion a dhéanamh ar na córais rialaithe iascaigh atá i bhfeidhm in Éirinn. Ag leanúint ón bhfiosrúchán tosaigh i mí Aibreáin 2021, chúlghair an Coimisiún Plean Rialaithe na hÉireann mar thoradh ar an rud ar thug sé síos air mar 'imní suntasacha agus leanúnacha maidir le gabháil mhíchruinn a mheá'.

Ón obair ullmhúcháin agus chomhairliúcháin fhairsing, cuireadh Plean Rialaithe athbhreithnithe faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin i mí na Nollag 2021. Ina dhiaidh sin, d'aontaigh an Coimisiún le plean rialaithe eatramhach do thréimhse tosaigh ó Eanáir go hAibreán 2022 a faomhadh ina dhiaidh sin trí fhadú go Nollaig 2022.

#### Plean Rialaithe Nua

Mar thoradh ar an raon leathan beart atá curtha i bhfeidhm ag Éirinn chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na saincheisteanna a ardaíodh le linn Fiosrúchán Riaracháin 2019, i Meán Fómhair 2022, chuir ÚCIM plean rialaithe nua, buan faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin. D'fhormheas an Coimisiún an plean rialaithe seo go foirmiúil i mí na Nollag 2022 agus tháinig sé i bhfeidhm an 01 Eanáir 2023.

Tá an plean rialaithe atá i bhfeidhm ón 01 Eanáir 2023 ríthábhachtach chun a chinntiú go gcloíonn Éire lena hoibleagáidí faoi Chomhbheartas Iascaigh an AE agus tá sé ina chomhpháirt lárnach d'Éirinn a fhaigheann maolú a cheadaíonn 'meá i ndiaidh iompair' do 95% dá táirgí iascaigh.

### 2. Athbhreithniú ar Chumas Eagrúcháin

Eisíodh tuarascáil Athbhreithnithe ar Chumas Eagrúcháin ar ÚCIM an 03 Aibreán 2020. Rinne an tAthbhreithniú 46 moladh a thabharfaidh aghaidh, nuair a chuirfear i bhfeidhm iad, ar shaincheisteanna a aithníodh chun éifeachtúlacht an ÚCIM a fheabhsú. Déanann Bord Comhairleach neamhspleách maoirsiú ar chur i bhfeidhm na moltaí. As na 46 moladh, tá 43 críochnaithe agus tá cur i bhfeidhm na 3 mholadh eile ar siúl.

Baineann roinnt de mholtaí an Athbhreithnithe le heasnamh i gcumas bainistíochta sonraí agus anailísíochta sonraí, cumas TF agus cumas caidrimh thionsclaíoch an ÚCIM.

In 2022, ullmhaíodh straitéis TF. Sainithníodh sa straitéis roinnt moltaí lena n-áirítear aistriú an bhonneagair TF go dtí an OGCIO, forbairt bonneagair TF chun tacú le córais sonraí aontaithe agus an t-aistriú go samhail oibriúcháin nua TF.

Tá an infheistíocht atá ag teastáil suntasach agus is clár ilbhliantúil a bheidh ann. Déanfar na céimeanna is gá agus an t-amhlíne do na céimeanna sin a shainiú sa treo-chlár TF. Tá an treo-chlár seo á fhorbairt faoi láthair agus meastar go dtabharfar chun críche é faoi R3 2023. Críochnaíodh straitéis sonraí, a ailíníonn leis an straitéis TF, in 2023 freisin. Cuirfear tús le cur i bhfeidhm na straitéise sonraí i R3 2023.

Is príomh-mholadh ón Athbhreithniú é prótacal comhaontaithe maidir leis an gcaoi a dtéann an bhainistíocht agus an fhoireann i ngleic. I mí na Bealtaine 2023, tugadh chun críche prótacal maidir le caidreamh tionsclaíoch idir an tAontas agus ÚCIM.

### 3. Bainistíocht Feidhmiúcháin

Le linn 2022, tháinig athruithe suntasacha ar Bhainistíocht Feidhmiúcháin an Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara, mar gheall ar roinnt éirí as agus éirí as. Ceapadh Cathaoirleach nua ar an Údarás an 14 Eanáir 2022 agus beirt chomhaltaí nua den Údarás ina dhiaidh an 03 Deireadh Fómhair 2022. Ar 31 Nollaig 2022, tá cúig fholúntas eile sa struchtúr Bainistíochta Feidhmiúcháin.

Tá baol méadaithe ann go gcaillfear eolas corparáideach agus teicniúil mar gheall ar na hathruithe seo. D'fhreagair an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara don riosca seo trína chinntiú:

- go gcuirtear treoir agus oiliúint chuí ar fáil do bhaill foirne a bhfuil freagrachtaí breise orthu,
- go ndéanann Bainisteoirí Sinsearach Feidhmiúcháin maoirseacht chuí ar na réimsí sin,
- go bhfuil nósanna imeachta agus róil atá soiléir, doiciméadaithe i bhfeidhm, agus
- go gcoimeádtar leithscaradh cuí dualgas.

### 4. Sócmhainní Seasta

D'aithin iniúchadh inmheánach agus iniúchadh seachtrach ar an Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste roinnt laigí sa rialú ar shócmhainní seasta agus rinneadh roinnt moltaí. Tá baol ann nach ndéantar clibeáil ar na sócmhainní go léir ar Chlár na Sócmhainní Seasta, go bhfuil an liostú Clib Sócmhainní neamhiomlán agus nach n-aithnítear sócmhainní atá imithe i léig.

In 2023, seolfaidh ÚCIM réiteach fisiceach fardail ar a shócmhainní agus nuair is gá coigeartóidh sé luachanna sócmhainní seasta dá réir.

Níor sainaithníodh aon laigí eile sa rialú inmheánach maidir le 2022 ar gá iad a nochtadh sna ráitis airgeadais.

Thar ceann an Údarás



**Paschal Hayes**

CATHAOIRLEACH FEIDHMIÚCHÁIN

26 Meitheamh 2023




# Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

	Nóta	2022 €	2021 €
<b>IONCAM</b>			
Deontais Oireachtais	2	17,063,000	14,606,000
Ioncam Tionscadal EMFF/AF	3/12	3,788,299	3,422,694
Glanmhaoiniú larchurtha le haghaidh Pinsean	15 c	3,825,000	3,337,000
Níos Lú: Ranníocaíochtaí pinsin inaisíochta leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara agus leis an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí, Seachadta agus Athchóirithe PFN	15 a	(584,000)	(539,000)
Ioncam Táillí	4	105,415	25,126
Brabús ar Dhiúscairt Sócmhainní Seasta		4,000	-
		24,201,714	20,851,820
<b>CAITEACHAS</b>			
Sochair Fostaithe	5	11,608,019	10,366,925
Costais an tSochair Scoir	15 a	4,106,000	3,296,000
Cóiríocht agus Bunú	6	550,992	425,281
Seirbhísí Tacaíochta	7	1,006,374	621,961
Riarachán Ginearálta	8	1,021,798	715,976
Taillí proifisiúnta	9	4,907,686	4,975,707
Táillí iniúchta		34,700	26,200
Dímheas	10	491,658	537,830
		23,727,227	20,965,880
Barrachas/(easnamh) don bhliain		474,487	(114,060)
Aistriú chuig/(ó) Chuntas Caipitil	14	(107,098)	231,190
<b>Brabús Oibriúcháin don bhliain</b>		<b>367,389</b>	<b>117,130</b>
larmhéid tugtha ar aghaidh ar 1 Eanáir		281,805	164,675
<b>larmhéid tugtha ar aghaidh ar 31 Nollaig</b>		<b>649,194</b>	<b>281,805</b>

Baineann gach ioncam agus caiteachas don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022 agus don bhliain roimhe sin le hoibríochtaí leantacha.

Tá an Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid agus Nótaí 1 go 21 mar chuid de na ráitis airgeadais seo.



**Paschal Hayes**

CATHAOIRLEACH FEIDHMIÚCHÁIN

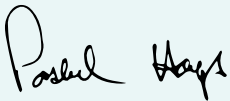
26 Meitheamh 2023

# Ráiteas Ioncaim Chuimsithigh

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

	Nóta	2022 €	2021 €
Brabús Oibríocháin don bhliain		367,389	117,130
Gnóthachain/(caillteanais) taithí ar scéim sochair scoir		214,000	(1,043,000)
Athruithe ar thiomhdí faoi bhun luach reatha na ndliteanas scéime sochair scoir		23,118,000	(4,179,000)
Gnóchain achtúireacha ar dhliteanais sochair scoir	15	23,332,000	(5,222,000)
Coigeartú ar mhaoiniú sochair scoir iarchurtha	15	(23,332,000)	5,222,000
<b>Ioncam cuimsitheach iomlán don bhliain</b>		<b>367,389</b>	<b>117,130</b>

Tá an Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid agus Nótaí 1 go 21 mar chuid de na ráitis airgeadais seo.



**Paschal Hayes**

CATHAOIRLEACH FEIDHMIÚCHÁIN

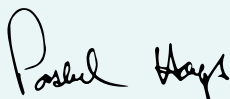
26 Meitheamh 2023

# Ráiteas ar an Staid Airgeadais

## Amhail ag 31 Nollaig 2022

	Nóta	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Sócmhainní Seasta</b>			
Maoin, Gléasra agus Trealamh	10	1,141,221	1,034,123
<b>Sócmhainní Reatha</b>			
Airgead Tirim agus Coibhéisí Airgid		2,547,139	1,843,209
Infháltais	11	223,365	150,628
		2,770,504	1,993,837
<b>Lúide Dlíteanais Reatha</b>			
Iníochtach	12	1,698,422	1,279,182
Cistí Forghéilleadh	13	422,888	432,850
		2,121,310	1,712,032
<b>Glansócmhainní Reatha</b>		649,194	281,805
<b>Sócmhainní Iomlán lúide Dlíteanais Reatha roimh Shochair Scoir</b>		1,790,415	1,315,928
Sócmhainní Iomlán lúide Dlíteanais Reatha roimhe seo	15 b	(51,981,000)	(71,488,000)
Sócmhainn Mhaoinithe Sochar Scoir Iarchurtha	15 e	51,981,000	71,488,000
<b>Glansócmhainní</b>		<b>1,790,415</b>	<b>1,315,928</b>
<b>Arna mhaoiniú ag:</b>			
Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe		649,194	281,805
Cuntas Caipítíl	14	1,141,221	1,034,123
		<b>1,790,415</b>	<b>1,315,928</b>

Tá an Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid agus Nótaí 1 go 21 mar chuid de na ráitis airgeadais seo.



**Paschal Hayes**

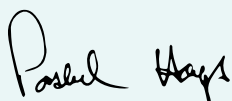
CATHAOIRLEACH FEIDHMIÚCHÁIN

26 Meitheamh 2023

# Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

	Nóta	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Glan-sreafaí Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibriúcháin</b>			
Brabús Oibriúcháin don bhliain		367,389	117,130
Aistriú chuig/(ó) Chuntas Caipitil	14	107,098	(231,190)
Dímheas	10	491,658	537,830
Méadú ar Infhaighte	11	(72,737)	(10,080)
Méadú ar Iníochta	12	419,240	176,296
(Laghú)/Méadú ar Chistí Forghéilleadh	13	(9,962)	12,000
Glan-insreabhadh Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibriúcháin		1,302,686	601,986
<b>Sreafaí Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Infheistíochta</b>			
Íocaíochtaí chun Sócmhainní Seasta a Fháil	10	(598,756)	(306,640)
Glan-eis-sreabhadh Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Infheistíochta		(598,756)	(306,640)
Méadú ar Airgead Tirim agus Coibhéisí Airgid		703,930	295,346
Airgead Tirim agus Coibhéisí Airgid ag tús na Bliana		1,843,209	1,547,863
<b>Airgead Tirim agus Coibhéisí Airgid ag deireadh na Bliana</b>		<b>2,547,139</b>	<b>1,843,209</b>



**Paschal Hayes**

CATHAOIRLEACH FEIDHMIÚCHÁIN

26 Meitheamh 2023

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## 1. Beartais Chuntasaíochta

Tá bunús na cuntasaíochta agus na mbeartas suntasach cuntasaíochta arna nglacadh ag an Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara leagtha amach thíos. Cuireadh iad go léir i bhfeidhm go comhsheasmhach i rith na bliana agus don bhliain roimhe sin.

### a) Eolas Ginearálta

Bunaíodh an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara ar an 1 Eanáir 2007, faoin Acht Iascaigh Mhara agus Dlínsé Muirí 2006. Tá an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara tiomanta do rialáil éifeachtach agus chothrom a dhéanamh ar na hearnálacha iascaireachta mara agus bia mara a thagann faoina shainordú. Ciallaíonn sé seo gach soitheach iascaireachta a oibríonn laistigh de theorainn 200 míle na hÉireann, soithí iascaireachta na hÉireann cibé áit a bhfeidhmíonn siad, agus gach bia mara a tháirgtear in Éirinn cibé áit a ndéantar é a mhargú.

### b) Ráiteas Comhlíonta

Ullmhaíodh ráitis airgeadais an Údaráis um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022 de réir FRS 102, an caighdeán tuairiscithe airgeadais is infheidhme sa RA agus in Éirinn arna eisiúint ag an gComhairle um Thuairisciú Airgeadais (FRC).

### c) Bunús an Ullmhúcháin

Ullmhaítear na ráitis airgeadais ar bhonn gnóthais leantaigh, faoi choinbhinsiún an chostais stairiúil agus comhlíonann siad caighdeáin tuairiscithe airgeadais an FRC, ach amháin mar a léirítear thíos.

Tá na ráitis airgeadais san fhoirm atá ceadaithe ag an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara le comthoilíú an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe.

Ullmhaítear na ráitis airgeadais in Euro arb é airgeadra feidhmiúil an Údaráis é.

### d) Deontais Oireachtais

Déantar ioncam a eascraíonn as Deontais Oireachtais a chuntas ar bhonn fáltas airgid.

### e) Ioncam Táillí

Déantar ioncam táillí ó phróiseálaithe éisc a chuntas ar bhonn fáltas airgid. Gintear an t-ioncam táillí seo ó tháillí socraithe maidir le formheas bunaíochtaí iascaigh agus fógraí pionóis sheasta.

Aithnítear ioncam táillí a bhaineann le cur i bhfeidhm éigeantach táillí ar rialuithe oifigiúla dá bhforáiltear faoi Rialachán AE 2017/625 ar bhonn fabhráithe. Déantar ioncam táillí sonraisc atá dlite ag oibreoirí gnó bia ag deireadh na bliana airgeadais a thaifeadadh mar Fhéichiúnaithe Trádála agus léirithe mar Infhaighte ar an Ráiteas ar an Staid Airgeadais.

### f) Ioncam Tionscadail ón gCiste Eorpach Muirí agus Iascaigh/Dobharshaothraithe (CEMI/AF).

Aithnítear ioncam a fhaightear i ndáil le tionscadail EMFF/AF an AE ar bhonn fabhráithe trína n-aithnítear an t-ioncam sa tréimhse chuntasaíochta ina ngeartar an caiteachas gaolmhar. Déileáiltear le hioncam a fhaightear roimh ré mar ioncam iarchurtha agus áirítear é laistigh de Iníochtach ar an Ráiteas ar an Staid Airgeadais. Caitear le caiteachas a thabhaítear nuair nach bhfuil an t-ioncam gaolmhar faighte mar ioncam fabhráithe agus taispeántar é mar Infhaighte ar an Ráiteas ar an Staid Airgeadais.

### g) Maoin, Gléasra agus Trealamh

Luaitear réadmhaoin, gléasra agus trealamh ag a gcostas stairiúil lúide dímheas carntha. Cuirtear dímheas de mhuirear ar an Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe ar bhonn dronlíneach, ag na rátaí atá leagtha amach thíos, chun na sócmhainní, arna gcoigeartú don luach iarmharach, a dhíscríobh thar a saolta úsáideacha ionchais mar seo a leanas:-

Feithiclí	20% in aghaidh na bliana
TF, trealamh oifige agus bogearraí	33.33% in aghaidh na bliana
Troscán, daingneáin agus feistis	20% in aghaidh na bliana
Léasacht	10% in aghaidh na bliana
Soithí agus deighilteoir uisce	20% in aghaidh na bliana
Tionscadail speisialta TF	33.33% in aghaidh na bliana

Déantar luach iarmharach agus saolréanna úsáideacha sócmhainní seasta a mheas go bliantúil le haghaidh táscairí a d'fhéadfadh a bheith athraithe. I gcás ina bhfuil táscairí den sórt sin i láthair, déanfar athbhreithniú ar an luach iarmharach, ar an modh dímheasa agus ar shaolréanna úsáideacha, agus leasófar iad sin más gá. Tugtar cuntas ionchasach ar athruithe ar rátaí dímheasa a eascraíonn as an athbhreithniú seo thar shaolréanna úsáideacha na sócmhainní.

### h) Airgead Tirim agus Coibhéisí Airgid

Is éard atá in airgead tirim airgead ar láimh agus taisc éilimh.

### i) Airgeadra Eachtrannach

Aistrítear idirbhearta atá ainmnithe in airgeadraí eachtracha go euro agus déantar iad a thaifeadadh ag an ráta malairte atá i bhfeidhm ar dhátaí na n-idirbheart.

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## j) Sochair Fostaithe

### Sochair Ghearrthéarmacha

Aithnítear sochair ghearrthéarmacha ar nós pá saoire mar speansas sa bhliain, agus áirítear sochair a fhabhraítear ag deireadh na bliana san fhigiúr Iníochta ar an Ráiteas ar an Staid Airgeadais.

### Sochair Scoir

Forálann an tAcht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlínse Muirí, 2006 go ndéanfaidh an tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, le toiliú an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe, scéimeanna aoisliúntais i leith na gcomhaltaí agus go gcuirfidh siad i gcrích iad maidir le baill foirne an Údaráis chomh maith le comhaltaí an Údaráis. Déantar ranníocaíochtaí pinsin maidir le baill foirne agus comhaltaí Údaráis a asbhaint agus a íoc leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara. Aithníonn na ráitis airgeadais na costais agus na dliteanais phinsin maidir le baill foirne agus comhaltaí an Údaráis.

Feidhmíonn an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara freisin an Scéim Seirbhísí Poiblí Aonair (Scéim Aonair) ar scéim sochair shainithe í do sheirbhísigh poiblí inphinsin arna gceapadh an 1 Eanáir 2013 nó dá éis. Íoctar ranníocaíochtaí chomhaltaí na Scéime Aonair leis an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe.

Déantar dliteanais na scéime pinsin a thomhas ar bhonn achtúireach ag baint úsáide as modh an aonaid réamh-mheasta. Léiríonn costais phinsin na sochair phinsin atá tuillte ag fostaithe sa tréimhse agus léirítear iad glan ó ranníocaíochtaí pinsin na foirne atá inaisíochta leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara de réir na socruithe maoinithe. Aithnítear méid ar comhréir leis an muirear pinsin mar ioncam sa mhéid is go bhfuil sé in-aisghabhála ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara agus fritháirithe ag deontais a fhaightear sa bhliain chun íocaíochtaí pinsin a urscaoileadh. Aithnítear gnóthachain nó cailteanais achtúireacha a eascraíonn as athruithe ar bhoinn tuisceana achtúireacha agus ó bharrachais agus easnaimh ó thaithí sa Ráiteas ar Ioncam Cuimsitheach don bhliain ina dtarlaíonn siad agus aithnítear coigeartú comhfhreagrach sa mhéid atá inghnóthaithe ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

Léiríonn dliteanais phinsin luach reatha na n-íocaíochtaí pinsin amach anseo atá tuillte ag an bhfoireann go dtí seo. Léiríonn maoiniú pinsin iarchurtha an tsócmhainn chomhfhreagrach atá le haisghabháil i dtréimhsí amach anseo ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

## k) Cuntas Forghéilleadh

Tar éis soitheach a choinneáil faoi mhuirir iascaigh, féadfaidh Cúirt a ordú go soláthróidh úinéirí soithí banna chun dliteanais ionchasacha agus coigistiú gabhála agus trealaimh a chlúdach. Coinníonn an tÚdarás bannaí Cúirte den sórt sin iníochta leis an Údarás go dtí go n-ordóidh an Chúirt an banna a aisíoc le húnéir an tsoithigh nó an banna a chur faoi bhráid na Cúirte.

## l) Cuntas Caipitil

Léiríonn an Cuntas Caipitil luach neamhamúchta an ioncain a úsáideann an tÚdarás chun sócmhainní seasta a fháil.

## m) Teagmhais

Ní aithnítear dliteanais theagmhasacha a eascraíonn as imeachtaí san am a chuaigh thart, mura rud é (i) nach dócha go mbeidh eis-sreabhadh acmhainní ann nó nach féidir an méid a thomhas go hiontaofa ar an dáta tuairiscithe nó (ii) nuair a dheimhneofar gurb ann trí theagmhais éiginnte sa todhchaí nach bhfuil go hiomlán faoi rialú an Údaráis tarlú nó nach dtarlóidh siad. Nochtar dliteanais theagmhasacha sna ráitis airgeadais ach amháin má tá an dóchúlacht eis-sreabhadh iargúlta.

Ní aithnítear sócmhainní teagmhasacha. Nochtar sócmhainní teagmhasacha sna ráitis airgeadais nuair is dócha go mbeidh insreabhadh tairbhí eacnamaíochta ann.

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## n) Breithiúnais agus Meastacháin Chriticiúla Cuntasaíochta

Éilíonn ullmhú na ráiteas airgeadais seo ar an mbainistíocht breithiúnais, meastacháin agus boinn tuisceana a dhéanann difear do na méideanna a tuairiscíodh do shócmhainní agus dliteanais ag deireadh na bliana agus speansais i rith na bliana.

Déantar breithiúnais agus meastacháin a mheas go leanúnach agus bunaítear iad ar eispéiris stairiúla agus fachtóirí eile, lena n-áirítear ionchais maidir le himeachtaí sa todhchaí a chreidtear a bheith réasúnach faoi na himthosca. Déanann an tÚdarás meastacháin agus boinn tuisceana maidir leis an todhchaí. De réir sainmhíthe, is annamh a bheidh na meastacháin chuntasaíochta a bheidh mar thoradh air sin comhionann le torthaí iarbhír. Pléitear thíos na meastacháin agus na boinn tuisceana a bhfuil tionchar suntasach acu ar mhéideanna carraeireachta na sócmhainní agus na ndliteanas laistigh de na ráitis airgeadais:

### Gnóthas leantach

Níl aon éiginnteacht ábhartha ann maidir le cumas an Údaráis a dhliteanais a chomhlíonadh de réir mar a bhíonn siad dlite, agus leanúint ar aghaidh mar ghnóthas leantach. Ar an mbonn seo, measann an tÚdarás go bhfuil sé cuí ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú ar bhonn gnóthais leantachaigh. Dá réir sin, ní áiríonn na ráitis airgeadais seo aon choigeartuithe ar na méideanna carraeireachta agus ar rangú na sócmhainní agus na ndliteanas a d'fhéadfadh teacht chun cinn mura raibh an tÚdarás in ann leanúint ar aghaidh mar ghnóthas leantach.

### Dímheas agus Luachanna Iarmharacha

Tá athbhreithniú déanta ag comhaltaí an Údaráis ar shaolréanna sócmhainní agus ar luachanna iarmharacha gaolmhara na n-aicmí sócmhainní seasta go léir, agus go háirithe, ar shaolré úsáideach eacnamaíoch agus ar luachanna iarmharacha daingneáin agus feisteas agus chinn siad go bhfuil saolré sócmhainní agus luachanna iarmharacha oiriúnach.

### Laige ar Mhaoin, ar Ghléasra agus ar Threalamh

Déantar athbhreithniú ar shócmhainní atá faoi réir amúchta le haghaidh bearnaithe nuair a thugann imeachtaí nó athruithe ar chúinsí le fios go bhféadfadh sé nach mbeadh an tsuim ghlanluacha in-aisghabhála. Aithnítear cailiteanas bearnaithe don mhéid a sháraíonn suim ghlanluacha na sócmhainne a méid in-aisghabhála. Is é an méid in-aisghabhála cibé acu is airde de luach cóir sócmhainní lúide costas díola agus luach úsáide. Chun críche measúnú a dhéanamh ar laige, déantar sócmhainní a ghrúpáil ag na leibhéil is ísle a bhfuil sreafaí airgid inaitheanta ar leithligh (aonaid ghiniúna airgid). Déantar athbhreithniú ar shócmhainní neamhairgeadais a d'fhulaing laige le haghaidh aisiompú féideartha an bhearnaithe ag gach dáta tuairiscithe.

## Oibleagáid Sochair Scoir

Déantar na toimhdí is bun leis na luachálacha achtúireacha dá gcinntear na méideanna a aithnítear sna ráitis airgeadais (lena n-áirítear rátaí lascaine, rátaí ardaithe ar leibhéal cúitimh amach anseo, rátaí mortlaíochta agus rátaí treochta costas cúram sláinte) ar bhonn bliantúil bunaithe ar dhálaí eacnamaíochta reatha, agus maidir le haon athruithe ábhartha ar théarmaí agus coinníollacha na bpleananna pinsin agus iar-scoir.

Is féidir tionchar a bheith ar na boinn tuisceana seo ag:

- (i) an ráta lascaine, athruithe ar an ráta toraidh ar bhannaí corparáideacha ardcháilíochta;
- (ii) leibhéal cúitimh sa todhchaí, coinníollacha an mhargaidh saothair amach anseo; agus
- (iii) rátaí treochta costas cúram sláinte, an ráta boiscithe costais leighis sna réigiúin ábhartha.

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

## Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

### 2. Deontais Oireachtais

Cuireadh maoiniú ar fáil faoi fhotheideal D.6 de Vóta 30 An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara i rith na bliana. Úsáidtear na cistí le haghaidh pá, riaracháin ghinearálta agus costais chaipitil.

	2022 €	2021 €
Deontais Oireachtais faighte	<b>17,063,000</b>	<b>14,606,000</b>

### 3. Ioncam Tionscadal EMFF/AF

Tá an Ciste Eorpach Muirí agus Iascaigh/Dobharshaothraithe (CEMI/AF) ar cheann de na cúig Chiste Struchtúrtha agus Infheistíochta Eorpacha a chomhlánaíonn a chéile chun tuilleadh post agus fás a sholáthar san AE. Cuireadh maoiniú ar fáil faoi Chlár Oibriúcháin na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara le tacaíocht ón EMFF/AF i rith na bliana. B'ionann fáiltas tionscadail EMFF/AF in 2022 agus €3,869,802 (2021: €3,436,181):

chaiteachas tionscadail 2021 CEMI/AF	2022 €	Miondealú ar €
Tosaíocht an Aontais 3 – Cur chun feidhme an CBI a chothú (Nóta 12)	<b>3,788,299</b>	<b>3,422,694</b>

### 4. Ioncam Táillí

Tugadh isteach ioncam táillí a bhaineann le cur i bhfeidhm éigeantach táillí ar rialuithe oifigiúla dá bhforáiltear faoi Rialachán AE 2017/625 i R4 2021 agus críochnaíodh an chéad tréimhse bhilleála i R1 2022, an ceathrú cuid i riaráistí. Tá an t-ioncam iomlán ó tháillí a aithnítear ó thabhairt isteach na dtáillí seo leagtha amach thíos.

	2022 €	2021 €
Rialachán 625 ioncam ó tháillí	103,615	19,825
Ioncam eile	1,800	5,301
	<b>105,415</b>	<b>25,126</b>

### 5. Luach Saothair

#### (a) Sochair Chomhiomlána Fostaithe agus costais ghaolmhara

Ba é an líon foirne a bhí fostaithe ag an Údarás amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022 ná 167 (2021: 165). Ba é 167 meánlíon fostaithe an Údaráis i rith na bliana. Ba iad seo a leanas sochair chomhiomlán na bhfostaithe agus costais ghaolmhara:

	2022 €	2021 €
Buntáistí ghearrthéarmacha foirne	10,276,480	9,302,559
Sochair cnapshuime	279,137	138,591
Ranníocaíocht fostóra le leas sóisialach	1,083,536	968,993
Costais leasa shóisialaigh aisghafa	(31,134)	(43,218)
	<b>11,608,019</b>	<b>10,366,925</b>

Asbhaineadh ranníocaíochtaí aoisliúntais breise de €375,383 (2021: €352,039) ón bhfoireann agus íocadh €375,383 (2021: €352,039) leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara in 2022.



# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## 5. Luach Saothair (ar lean)

### (b) Buntáistí ghearrthéarmacha foirne

	2022 €	2021 €
Bunphá	8,756,260	7,946,754
Liúntais	1,435,438	1,283,576
Ragobair	84,782	72,229
	<b>10,276,480</b>	<b>9,302,559</b>

### (c) Príomhphearsanra Bainistíochta

Cuimsíonn príomhphearsanra bainistíochta san Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara triúr ball den Údarás lena n-áirítear Cathaoirleach an Údaráis agus Bainisteoirí Feidhmiúcháin Sinsearacha. Tá luach iomlán na sochar fostaithe don phríomhphearsanra bainistíochta leagtha amach thíos:

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Tuarastal</b>	<b>403,165</b>	<b>426,355</b>

Ní fholáin sé seo luach na sochar scoir a tuilleadh sa tréimhse.

### (d) Luach Saothair an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

Comhlíonann Cathaoirleach lánaimseartha an Údaráis ról an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh de réir na reachtaíochta ábhartha a bhunaíonn an tÚdarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara.

	2022 €	2021 €
Bunphá	<b>140,577</b>	<b>76,133</b>

Ceapadh an Cathaoirleach an 14 Eanáir 2022 ag grád Rúnaí Cúnta. D'éirigh an t-iarChathaoirleach as an 31 Lúnasa 2021 ag grád an Phríomhoifigigh.

Tá an Cathaoirleach ina bhall de Scéim Aoisliúntais an Údaráis um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara do chomhaltaí an Údaráis agus ní théann na teidlíochtaí chuige sin thar théarmaí scéim pinsean na seirbhíse poiblí eiseamláireach. Níl luach na sochar scoir a tuilleadh sa tréimhse áirithe thuas.

## 6. Cóiríocht agus Bunú

	2022 €	2021 €
Cíos	173,870	170,636
Soilsiú agus téamh	119,743	88,930
Cothabháil - áitribh	194,679	144,476
Feistis oifige	50,301	12,275
Costais oifige	12,399	8,964
	<b>550,992</b>	<b>425,281</b>

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## 7. Seirbhísí Tacaíochta

	2022 €	2021 €
Crua-earraí agus bogearraí TF	300,401	76,882
Earraí inchaite agus seirbhísí TF	189,936	174,328
Forbairt, oiliúint agus tacaíocht foirne	304,178	166,547
Cothabháil - feithiclí	11,875	6,857
Anailís rialaithe oifigiúil	83,712	109,501
Trealamh sábháilteachta agus rialaithe	116,272	87,846
	<b>1,006,374</b>	<b>621,961</b>

## 8. Riarachán Ginearálta

	2022 €	2021 €
Stáiseanóireacht agus soláthairtí oifige	107,626	58,476
Teileafón	92,416	104,260
Árachas	5,889	9,420
Seomra ar cíos	39,736	8,798
Taisteal agus cothú	765,769	529,107
Síntiúis	5,652	1,394
Costais oibriúcháin eile	4,710	4,521
	<b>1,021,798</b>	<b>715,976</b>

## 9. Taillí proifisiúnta

	2022 €	2021 €
Dlí agus gairmiúla	4,495,783	4,564,556
Cuntasaíocht	87,302	86,683
Earcú	157,011	186,207
Caidreamh poiblí agus margaíocht	167,590	138,261
	<b>4,907,686</b>	<b>4,975,707</b>

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## 10. Maoin, Gléasra agus Trealamh

	Feithiclí €	TF, Troscán Trealamh & Bogearraí €	oifige, daingneáin & Feisteas €	Léasacht Feabhsúcháin €	Soithí uisce Tionscadail €	TF & speisialta deighilteoir €	Iomlán €
<b>Costas</b>							
Iarmhéid ag 01/01/22	242,517	2,587,666	532,889	1,225,489	2,444,555	433,729	7,466,845
Éadálacha	-	117,215	19,489	441,068	-	20,984	598,756
Diúscairtí	-	(20,772)	-	-	-	(13,284)	(34,056)
Iarmhéid amhail an 31/12/22	242,517	2,684,109	552,378	1,666,557	2,444,555	441,429	8,031,545
<b>Dímheas</b>							
Iarmhéid ag 01/01/22	190,536	2,243,888	407,320	860,315	2,312,489	418,174	6,432,722
Muirear sa bhliain	17,650	200,349	36,074	101,363	129,814	6,408	491,658
Diúscairtí	-	(20,772)	-	-	-	(13,284)	(34,056)
Iarmhéid amhail an 31/12/22	208,186	2,423,465	443,394	961,678	2,442,303	411,298	6,890,324
Glanluach leabhair mar atá ag 31/12/22	34,331	260,644	108,984	704,879	2,252	30,131	1,141,221
Glanluach leabhair mar atá ag 01/01/22	51,981	343,778	125,569	365,174	132,066	15,555	1,034,123

## 11. Infháltais

	2022 €	2021 €
Féichiúnaithe trádála	7,221	-
Féichiúnaithe eile agus ioncam fabhraithe	42,647	36,127
Réamhíocaíochtaí	173,497	114,501
	<b>223,365</b>	<b>150,628</b>

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## 12. Iníochtach

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Suímeanna atá dlite laistigh de bhliain amháin:</b>		
Nithe iníoctha trádála	89,459	41,283
Fabhruithe	1,017,976	859,591
Ioncam iarchurtha CEMI/AF	81,503	-
PAYE/PRSI/USC/LPT	340,613	322,946
CBL/CCT	65,848	11,274
Cáin shiarchoinneálach ar sheirbhísí gairmiúla	100,201	40,882
Fabhruithe párolla eile	2,822	3,206
	<b>1,698,422</b>	<b>1,279,182</b>

Tá cáin agus árachas sóisialta faoi réir théarmaí na reachtaíochta ábhartha.

## 13. Cistí Forghéilleadh

	2022 €	2021 €
Cistí forghéillte arna sealbhú an 1 Eanáir (comhlán na dtáillí bainc)	432,850	420,850
Cuir leis Admhálacha	9,198	12,000
Níos lú Íocaíochtaí	(19,160)	-
<b>Cistí forghéillte ar 31 Nollaig</b>	<b>422,888</b>	<b>432,850</b>

## 14. Cuntas Caipitil

	2022 €	2021 €
Iarmhéid ag an 1 Eanáir	1,034,123	1,265,313
Aistriú ón Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe		
- Ioncam a úsáidtear chun sócmhainní seasta a cheannach	598,756	306,640
- Ioncam amúchta sa bhliain ag teacht le dímheas na sócmhainne	(491,658)	(537,830)
	107,098	(231,190)
<b>Iarmhéid amhail 31 Nollaig</b>	<b>1,141,221</b>	<b>1,034,123</b>

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## 15. Costais an tSochair Scoir

### (a) Anailís ar chostais iomlána an tsochair scoir a gearradh ar chaiteachas

	2022 €	2021 €
Costas seirbhíse reatha	3,597,000	3,192,000
Ús ar dhliteanais scéime sochair scoir	1,093,000	643,000
Ranníocaíochtaí fostaithe inaisíochta leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara agus leis an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe.	(584,000)	(539,000)
	<b>4,106,000</b>	<b>3,296,000</b>

### (b) Gluaiseacht i nglandliteanas sochair scoir le linn na bliana airgeadais

	2022 €	2021 €
Glandliteanas sochair scoir amhail an 1 Eanáir	71,488,000	62,929,000
Costas seirbhíse reatha	3,597,000	3,192,000
Ús ar dhliteanais scéime sochair scoir	1,093,000	643,000
Sochair íochta sa bhliain	(865,000)	(498,000)
Achtúireach (gnóthachan)/caillteanas	(23,332,000)	5,222,000
<b>Glandliteanas sochair scoir amhail an 31 Nollaig</b>	<b>51,981,000</b>	<b>71,488,000</b>

### (c) Maoiniú iarchurtha le haghaidh sochar scoir

Aithníonn an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara na méideanna seo mar shócmhainn a fhreagraíonn don dliteanas iarchurtha neamh-mhaoinithe do phinsin ar bhonn na mbonn tuisceana a gcuirtear síos orthu thíos agus roinnt imeachtaí san am a chuaigh thart. I measc na n-imeachtaí seo tá an bonn reachtúil le haghaidh scéim eiseamláireach aoisliúntais sochair shainithe na hearnála poiblí, agus an beartas agus an cleachtas maidir le pinsin seirbhíse poiblí a mhaoiniú lena n-áirítear ranníocaíochtaí fostaithe agus an próiseas meastachán bliantúil.

Níl aon fhianaise ag an Údarás nach leanfaidh an polasaí maoinithe seo ar aghaidh ag freastal ar a leithéid de dhliteanais sochair scoir de réir an chleachtais reatha.

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## 15. Costais Sochair Scoir (ar lean)

### (c) Maoiniú iarchurtha le haghaidh sochar scoir (ar lean)

Seo a leanas an glanmaoiniú iarchurtha do phinsin a aithnítear sa Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe:-

	2022 €	2021 €
Maoiniú inghnóthaithe maidir le costais sochair scoir na bliana reatha	4,690,000	3,835,000
Deontas stáit curtha i bhfeidhm chun sochair scoir a íoc	(865,000)	(498,000)
	<b>3,825,000</b>	<b>3,337,000</b>

### (d) Tá ranníocaíochtaí sochair scoir a asbhaineann an tÚdarás ó thuarastail na foirne inaisíoctha leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara agus leis an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe.

### (e) Stair na n-oibleagáidí sochair shainithe

	2022 €	2021 €	2020 €	2019 €	2018 €
Oibleagáidí sochair shainithe	51,981,000	71,488,000	62,929,000	54,410,000	42,920,000
Taithí (gnóthachain)/caillteanais ar dhliteanais scéime	(214,000)	1,043,000	505,000	515,000	(353,000)
Céatadán de luach láithreach dliteanais scéime	(0.4%)	1.4%	0.8%	0.9%	(0.8%)

### (f) Tuairisc ghinearálta ar an Scéim

Bunaíodh an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara faoin Acht lascaigh Mhara agus Dlíne Muirí 2006. Forálann ailt 59 agus 60 den Acht go ndéanfaidh an tÚdarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara scéimeanna chun sochair aoisliúntais a dheonú do chomhaltaí an Údaráis agus do chomhaltaí foirne agus ina leith, faoi réir cheadú an Aire. Tá dhá scéim cheadaithe den sórt sin - Scéim Aoisliúntais an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara (Fostaithe) 2016 agus Scéim Aoisliúntais an Údaráis um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara 2016 á n-oibriú ag an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara. Soláthraíonn an iarscéim sochair scoir (cnapshuim agus pinsean) do bhaill foirne, sochair aisce bháis maidir le bás le linn seirbhíse agus soláthraíonn sí sochair phinsin do chéilí marthanacha agus leanaí cleithiúnacha na mball nach maireann. Soláthraíonn an dara scéim na sochair seo do chomhaltaí an Údaráis Feidhmiúcháin.

Is scéimeanna aoisliúntais sochair shainithe iad an dá scéim agus glacann siad na rialacha atá leagtha amach sa Sceideal a ghabhann leis na Rialacháin um Chomhaltaí Scéim Pinsin Seirbhíse Poiblí Reatha 2014 m.sh. rialacháin reatha "samhail" scéim na hearnála poiblí. Déantar pinsin do na fostaithe sin a íocann ÁSPC Aicme A a chomhtháthú leis an bPinsean Stáit. Is í an ghnáthaois scoir ná 65ú breithlá ball, agus tá baill roimh 2004 i dteideal dul ar scor gan laghdú achtúireach ó 60 bliain d'aois ar aghaidh. Íoctar ranníocaíochtaí aoisliúntais foirne leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

Is gnách go méadaítear sochair scoir atá á n-íoc (agus iarchur) de réir boilsciú ginearálta tuarastail na hearnála poiblí.

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## 15. Costais Sochair Scoir (ar lean)

### (f) Cur síos ginearálta ar an Scéim (ar lean)

Is í an Scéim Pinsin Seirbhíse Poiblí Aonair (Scéim Aonair) an scéim phinsin shochair shainithe do sheirbhísigh phoiblí inphinsin arna gceapadh den chéad uair ar 1 Eanáir 2013 nó ina dhiaidh de réir an Achta um Pinsin na Seirbhíse Poiblí (Scéim Aonair agus Forálacha Eile) 2012. Soláthraíonn an scéim do phinsean agus cnapshuim scoir bunaithe ar mheánluach saothair inphinsin gairme, agus pinsin chéilí agus leanaí. Is é 66 bliain an aois íosta pinsin (ag ardú de réir athruithe ar aois an phinsin Stáit). Áirítear leis saoráid luathscoir laghdaithe go hachtúireach ó 55 bliain d'aois ar aghaidh. Ardaítear pinsin atá á n-íoc ag teacht leis an treoir-innéacs praghsanna do thomhaltóirí. Íoctar ranníocaíochtaí aoisliúntais foirne leis an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí Sheachadadh PFN agus Athchóirithe.

Chun críocha tuairiscithe de réir FRS102, tá comhairle tugtha don Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara ó achtúire neamhspleách cáilithe a d'ullmhaigh luacháil iomlán chun dliteanais na scéime amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022 a mheasúnú.

Ba iad na príomhbhoinn tuisceana achtúireacha a úsáideadh:

Modh Luachála	2022	2021
Ráta lascaine	3.50%	1.50%
Méaduithe tuarastail	4.10%	3.70%
Méaduithe pinsin-Scéim aoisliúntais	3.60%	3.20%
Méaduithe pinsin - Scéim aonair	2.60%	2.20%
Ráta boillscthe	2.60%	2.20%

Is é seo a leanas an meán-ionchas saoil atá fágtha de réir na dtáblaí básmhaireachta a úsáidtear chun dliteanais phinsin a chinneadh:

	2022	2021
Fear 65 bliain d'aois	22.1	21.9
Mná 65 bliain d'aois	24.4	24.3
Fear 45 bliain d'aois	24.3	24.2
Mná 45 bliain d'aois	26.4	26.3

## 16. Costais Chomhaltaí an Údaráis

Ba iad seo a leanas speansais chomhaltaí an Údaráis a aisíocadh:

	2022	2021
	€	€
An tUasal Paschal Hayes	9,639	-
An tUasal Michael Finn	3,914	-
An tUasal Jonathan Hoare	713	-
An tUasal Timothy Donovan	871	1,870
	<b>15,137</b>	<b>1,870</b>

Ceapadh Cathaoirleach an Údaráis an tUasal Paschal Hayes ar an 14 Eanáir 2022 agus ceapadh comhaltaí an Údaráis an tUasal Michael Finn agus an tUasal Jonathan Hoare ar an 03 Deireadh Fómhair 2022.

D'éirigh comhalta an Údaráis, an tUasal Timothy Donovan, as a phost an 11 Feabhra 2022.

# Nótaí leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2022

## 17. Costais Maoinne

	Suíomh	Stádas	Cíos Bliantúil	Éaga Léasa
Ceanncheathrú	Cloich na Coillte, Co. Chorcaí	Is le OOP <sup>5</sup> é	N/B	N/B
Oifig Phoirt Bhaile Chaisleáin Bhéarra	Co. Chorcaí	Léas in idirbheartaíocht <sup>6</sup>	19,500	2042
Oifig Phoirt Bhinn Éadair	Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath	Léas in idirbheartaíocht <sup>6</sup>	26,000	2042
Oifig Cheann Chlochair	Co. Lú	Ar léas	4,834	2023
Oifig phoirt Dhún Mór Thoir	Co. Phort Lairge	Ar léas	14,000	2042
Oifig poirt Dhaingean Uí Chúis	Co. Chiarrai	Léas in idirbheartaíocht <sup>6</sup>	7,500	2042
Stóráil an Daingin	Co. Chiarrai	Léas in idirbheartaíocht <sup>6</sup>	5,200	2022
Oifig phoirt Ros a Mhil	Co. Na Gaillimhe	Ar léas	17,050	2023
Oifig Phoirt na gCealla Beaga	Co. Dhún na nGall	Léas in idirbheartaíocht <sup>6</sup>	43,000	2042
Stóráil na gCealla Beaga	Co. Dhún na nGall	Ceadúnas san idirbheartaíocht <sup>6</sup>	7,000	2028
Oifig phoirt an Chaisleáin Nua	Co. Dhún na nGall	Ar léas	29,400	2042
			<b>173,484</b>	

<sup>5</sup> Foirgnimh Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí a áitíonn an tÚdarás is ea na háitribh atá lonnaithe i gCloich na Coillte. Níl aon chíos iníoctha ar na foirgnimh seo.

<sup>6</sup> Bunaítear dátaí éaga do léasanna agus ceadúnais atá á gcaibidlíocht ar dhátaí a comhaontaíodh le linn idirbheartaíochta réamhléasa nó dréacht-chomhaontuithe léasa/ceadúnais de réir mar is cuí.

## Ceangaltais Léasa

Is iad seo a leanas na hÍocaíochtaí íosta léasa iomlána sa todhchaí maidir leis na léasanna seo:

	Mar atá ag 31 Nollaig 2022 €	Mar atá ag 31 Nollaig 2021 €
Faoi 1 bhliain	164,021	157,750
Idir 2 - 5 bliana	585,600	522,463
thar 5 bliana	2,096,250	1,828,250
	<b>2,845,871</b>	<b>2,508,463</b>

Ba iad na hÍocaíochtaí léasa a aithníodh mar speansas in 2022 ná €156,002 (2021: €170,636).

## 18. Leas Chomhaltaí an Údaráis / Idirbhearta Páirtithe Gaolmhara

Cloíonn an tÚdarás nósanna imeachta de réir na dtreoirilínte arna n-eisiúint ag an gCoimisiún um Chaighdeán in Oifigí Poiblí den Acht um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí 1995 maidir le nochtadh leasanna ag Comhaltaí an Údaráis. Níor dearbhaíodh aon idirbhearta sa bhliain maidir le gníomhaíochtaí an Údaráis ina raibh aon leas ábhartha ag Comhaltaí an Údaráis.

## 19. Dlíteanais Theagmhasacha

Bhí baint ag an Údarás um Chosaint lascaigh Mhara le roinnt imeachtaí dlí a bhain lena ról reachtúil ag deireadh na bliana. Ní féidir cainníochtú cruinn a dhéanamh ar shocrú na gcostas ná ar uainiú na socraíochta sin ag an dáta tuairiscithe.

## 20. Imeachtaí tar éis dheireadh na Bliana Airgeadais

Níl an tÚdarás ar an eolas faoi aon imeachtaí a tharla tar éis an 31 Nollaig 2022 a théann i bhfeidhm ar na ráitis airgeadais seo.

## 21. Faomhadh na Ráitis Airgeadais

D'fhaomh an tÚdarás na Ráitis Airgeadais an 21 Meitheamh 2023.







AN t-ÚDARÁS UM  
CHOSAINT  
IASCAIGH MHARA

SEA-FISHERIES  
PROTECTION  
AUTHORITY

An t-Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara,  
Lárionad Bia Mara Náisiúnta,  
Príomhoifig, An Cloichín,  
Cloich na Coillte, Co. Chorcaí,  
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Head Office,  
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AN t-ÚDARÁS UM  
CHOSAINT  
IASCAIGH MHARA

SEA-FISHERIES  
PROTECTION  
AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT  
**2022**



BIA MARA SÁBHÁILTE INBHUNAITHE  
SAFE SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD



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## About the SFPA

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) was established under the provisions of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 ("the Act") and operates under the aegis of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

The principal functions of the SFPA are set out in Section 43 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 include the following:

- To secure efficient and effective enforcement of sea-fisheries law and food safety law.
- To promote compliance with and deter contraventions of sea-fisheries law and food safety law.
- To detect contraventions of sea-fisheries law and food safety law.
- To provide information to the sea-fisheries and seafood sectors on sea-fisheries law and food safety law and relevant matters within the remit of the Authority, through the Consultative Committee or by any other means it considers appropriate.
- To advise the Minister in relation to policy on effective implementation of sea-fisheries law and food safety law.
- To provide assistance and information to the Minister in relation to the remit of the Authority.
- To collect and report data in relation to sea-fisheries and food safety as required by the Minister and under Community law.
- To represent or assist in the representation of the State at national, community and international fora as requested by the Minister; and
- To engage in any other activities relating to the functions of the Authority as may be approved by the Minister.

# SFPA Offices



# 2022 AT A GLANCE



**45,031** landings  
of **267,517** tonnes

Processing of **3,670** health certificates  
for 47 Irish Export Businesses




Verification of **2,831** catch certificates  
relating to the import of **11,747**  
tonnes of produce from all third countries



**78,171** tonnes  
and **26** species  
were certified for export  
from 47 Food Businesses to 48  
countries outside the EU



**1,903**  
fishing vessel  
inspections  
carried out

**10,800**  
tonnes of  
Irish seafood  
export certified



**1,903**  
fishing vessel  
inspections  
carried out




**75,457**  
tonnes of produce  
imported from non-  
EU fishing vessels  
into Ireland



**1,571**  
Shellfish  
Samples taken


**51**  
Foreshore  
Licences  
Reviewed



**1,958** food safety  
official controls carried out

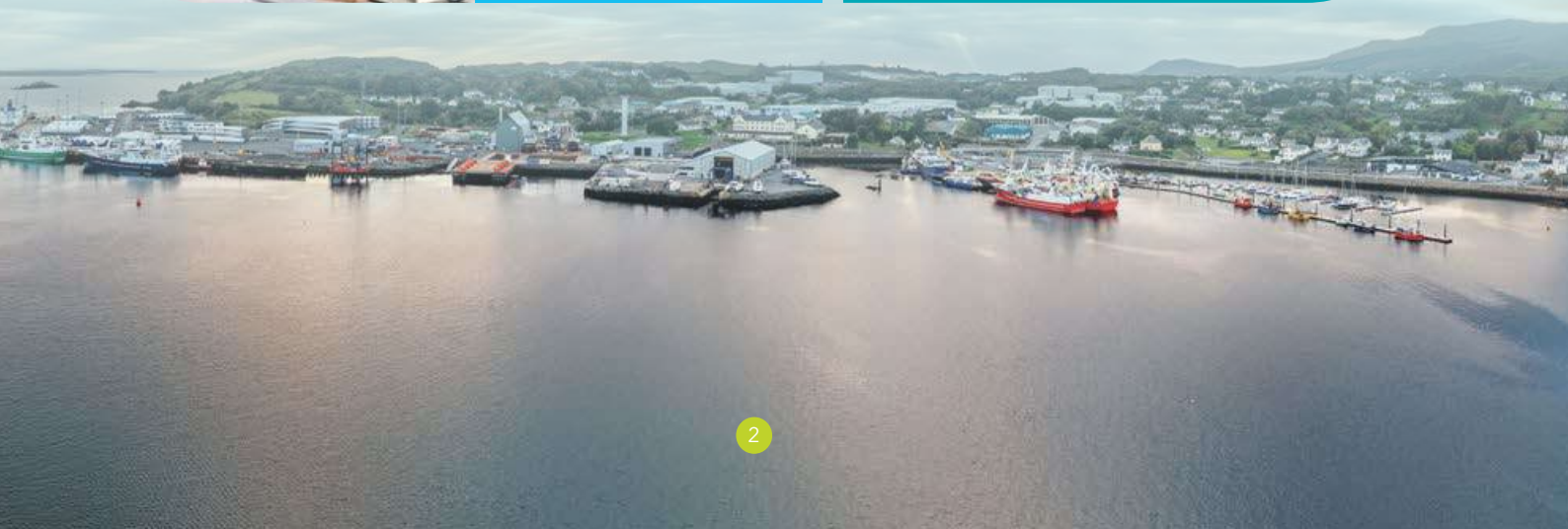
**74** Food Safety Incidents/  
Complaints investigated

**1,249** Official Control  
Samples taken



**87** Casefiles opened in 2022

**161** Infringements detected  
in 2022 across the 87 casefiles



# SFPA Statement of Strategy

The SFPA's Statement of Strategy 2021-2023 sets out the focus of work over five strategic goals and 23 strategic objectives.

## Our Goals



### GOAL 1 Effective Regulation

Deliver a quality public service and regulate in a fair, objective, and proportionate manner.



### GOAL 2 Communication and Engaging

Strengthen partnerships and re-define relationships with stakeholders.



### GOAL 3 Data Driven Delivery

Promote and enable the use of data to enhance service delivery, inform decision making, support accountability and simplify engagement with stakeholders.



### GOAL 4 Organisational Excellence

Sustain and develop strategic and operational capacity and capability to deliver organisational excellence.



### GOAL 5 Staff Development and Support

To develop and support SFPA's staff.

## Our Vision

To be a trusted regulator that promotes and verifies compliance supporting sustainability in Ireland's sea-fisheries and seafood sector in a fair, proportionate, and transparent way and where necessary enforcing sea-fisheries and seafood safety law effectively.

## Our Mission

The SFPA is committed to the promotion of compliance and the effective and fair regulation of the sea fishing and seafood sectors that fall within the Authority's mandate in order to support safe and sustainable seafood. This means the fair regulation of all fishing vessels operating within Ireland's 200-mile limit and Irish fishing vessels wherever they operate, and all seafood produced in Ireland.

## Our Values

- The SFPA promotes a culture of accountability, professionalism, teamwork, and transparency.
- The SFPA have an ethos of independence, integrity, and impartiality.
- The SFPA strive for excellence by using the best available information to make decisions and supporting continuous learning, innovation, and collaboration within the organisation.
- The SFPA are committed to diversity, inclusion, and the fair, respectful, and equal treatment of all.



# Chairperson's Statement

**The SFPA is Ireland's competent authority tasked with protecting the sustainability of sea-fisheries in our Exclusive Economic Zone and ensuring seafood safety for consumers as well as underpinning seafood trade - our role is to regulate the seafood sector to support safe and sustainable seafood.**

This means the regulation of all fishing vessels from all nationalities operating within Ireland's 200-mile limit, the near 2,000 Irish registered fishing vessels wherever they may operate, all the seafood producers operating in the State and the certification of all Irish seafood exported abroad to Third Countries. Regulation also underpins confidence in the safety of Irish seafood products, providing vital reassurance to retailers, hospitality businesses and consumers at home and abroad. Retaining Ireland's growing reputation for producing superior seafood is essential. Additionally, sustainable management of fisheries can help to maintain the health of marine ecosystems, which in turn supports the livelihoods of many coastal communities that depend on fisheries. Overall, sustaining fisheries is critical to ensuring that we can continue to enjoy fish as a healthy food source, support the livelihoods of Fishers, and protect the health and well-being of our oceans and coastal communities.

*I am pleased to submit our Annual Report for 2022 which details the extensive work programme the SFPA undertook across the year in fulfilment of our commitment to our statutory remit.*

2022 was a year of significant change within the SFPA with the appointment of a new Authority and new senior management members across the organisation. With renewed leadership and the substantial implementation of the 2020 Organisational Capability Review, the SFPA demonstrated its capacity as an effective, fair regulator and promoter of compliance with sea-fisheries and seafood safety law throughout 2022.

Protecting sea-fisheries sustainability and safeguarding against illegal fishing activity is one of the critical activities of the SFPA and our Sea-Fisheries Protection Officers (SFPOs) operating throughout the country and at sea through our partnership with the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) and with the Irish Naval Service. During 2022, our SFPOs undertook 1,903 fishing vessel inspections which marked a 41% increase in inspection activity from 2021. Throughout 2022 a total of 87 casefiles were opened as a result of 161 suspected sea-fisheries infringements. The figure of 161 represents the total of both food safety and sea-fisheries infringements. Points for serious infringements were applied in six out of seven cases put forward and one case had points applied to the Master of a fishing vessel for the first time under new legislation. Increased inspection and enforcement provide an effective tool to protect against illegal fishing activity.

Protecting seafood safety is critical not only to the reputation of Ireland's seafood offering both home and abroad but ultimately the health and wellbeing of consumers of Irish seafood products. To this end, the SFPOs carried out 1,958 food safety official controls across 2,323 food premises under the Authority's remit. The SFPA responded to 74 food incidents where there were concerns regarding the safety or quality of food which required examination in the interests of public health. Seafood safety enforcement measures in 2022 ranged from informal advisory measures to the service of Compliance Notices, as well as to the commencement of criminal prosecutions for serious non-compliances. In 2022, two separate criminal prosecutions were commenced against food business operators for breaches of the regulations on food safety including on hygiene, temperature controls, pest control and traceability requirements. 16 Compliance Notices were issued in 2022.

Ireland as a food exporting nation places significant emphasis on our position as a supplier of safe, traceable and sustainably produced high-quality food. Seafood is a valuable part of this offering.





The SFPA as a regulator is conscious of our role in ensuring the integrity of our seafood and strategically in terms of how Ireland's reputation as a food exporter of choice is dependent on all links in the chain.

As Ireland's competent authority for seafood trade compliance, the SFPA undertakes a range of activities critical to enabling Ireland's seafood economy. Irish seafood exports in 2022 was valued at €530 million<sup>1</sup>, representing a €17 million<sup>1</sup> value growth in exports since the previous year.

The SFPA's Trade Compliance Unit, supported by our SFPOs across the country, work tirelessly to support our seafood producers to enable export internationally and the functioning of our seafood production supply chains. Brexit and the emergence of the UK as a Third Country has led to increased demands on the SFPA. I am encouraged at how the organisation has risen to this challenge and helped to maintain the movement of seafood products without significant disruption.

2022 was a challenging year for Ireland's seafood sector with the continuing repercussions from Brexit, the fallout from the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the continued impact of COVID-19 in export markets, the energy crisis and the cost-of-living crisis creating a challenging trading environment. This was reflected in the decrease in third country exports from Ireland to 78,171 tonnes and 26 species from 47 Food Businesses to 48 countries outside the EU in 2022 from 121,395 tonnes in 2021.

*A key objective for 2022 was to secure approval for a permanent Sea-Fisheries Control Plan which provides an exemption from weighing on landing for 95% of pelagic landings and a proportion of demersal fish landings.*

We welcomed confirmation from the EU Commission that the draft Sea-Fisheries Control Plan submitted in September 2022 had been approved to come into effect on 1st January 2023. SFPA staff worked intensively throughout the year on the revised Control Plan which provides much needed certainty to all involved in the industry over the longer term. To this end, we engaged extensively with industry representatives and directly with operators to provide detailed briefing material through face-to-face meetings, online briefings and in writing to ensure that those who wished to avail of the derogation the Control Plan provides were fully apprised of the terms and conditions that apply.

The SFPA is supported in our sea-fisheries inspections by the Naval Service and the Air Corps, and we greatly appreciate their valuable assistance. I also thank the members of the SFPA's Audit and Risk Committee and the Sea-Fisheries Protection Consultative Committee for their continued support and valuable guidance.

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority is adhering to the relevant aspects of the Public Spending Code.

On behalf of the Authority, I also thank the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, together with the executives and staff within his Department for their continued support of the SFPA in its endeavours and actions this year. Lastly, I wish to acknowledge the dedication of all staff of the SFPA who continue in their commitment to produce high quality work and ensure the delivery of the Statement of Strategy.

**Paschal Hayes**

EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON

<sup>1</sup>Figures taken from Bord Bia's "Export Performance and Prospects Report 2022 - 2023"  
<https://www.bordbia.ie/globalassets/bordbia.ie/industry/2022---2023-export-performance--prospects-final.pdf>

# GOAL 1



## Effective Regulation

Deliver a quality public service and regulate in a fair, objective, and proportionate manner.

---



# Promoting Compliance

**The goal of the SFPA is to deliver a high-quality public service while regulating in a fair, objective, and proportionate manner.**

This is achieved through regular inspections, providing advice and guidance to industry and undertaking enforcement action when necessary to address non-compliance. Ultimately, this will lead to a more compliant and sustainable industry. The strategic outcome of the SFPA's efforts to promote compliance through industry engagement and communication is to be a proactive regulator, while increasing industry's understanding and capacity to comply with the relevant requirements.

The SFPA Strategy Statement 2021-2023 has established key performance indicators to promote compliance among industry stakeholders. These include the relaunch of the confidential line for reporting non-compliances, the issuance of fishery information notices to keep industry informed of regulatory changes, regular communications through media releases, meetings with industry representatives to discuss and address any concerns and through SFPA's day to day inspection work. These measures are designed to foster a culture of compliance and ensure the SFPA is effectively meeting its regulatory responsibilities.

## Confidential Line

The SFPA implemented a Confidential Line campaign in early 2022 across regional and trade media publications with the purpose of promoting the SFPA Confidential Line to improve compliance by encouraging those working within the sea-fisheries industry as well as the public to report suspicious or illegal activity to the SFPA in confidence.

The campaign consisted of a telephone number (1800 76 76 76) and launched an email address ([confidential@sfpa.ie](mailto:confidential@sfpa.ie)) for people to report fisheries control and food safety related incidents. The SFPA Confidential Line received a total of 73 contacts, consisting of 48 calls and 25 emails. Of the 73 contacts in 2022, one report related to food safety, 71 related to fisheries control and one report related to 'other'. This represents an increase in 53% in contacts from the previous year, with 38 reports received in 2021. The most common suspected report categories in 2022 were illegal fishing in Irish waters, unlicensed fishing, undersize fishing and selling and use of illegal fishing gear.

## Fishery Information Notices

The SFPA's Fishery Information Notices (FINs) are an important tool for keeping industry informed of regulatory changes and providing guidance on how to comply with relevant requirements. These advisory notes are developed to assist industry in understanding and complying with fisheries and food legislation. The purpose of FINs is to provide the information in a manageable form and in doing so it is limited to the essential elements of information. In 2022, a total of eleven FINs were published, covering a wide range of topics including the Interim Control Plan and the Permanent Control Plan, updated Sampling Plan, prohibitions and restrictions on Bluefin Tuna in the Irish Exclusive Economic Zone, and Landing Obligations.

The SFPA believes that by providing this comprehensive and timely information to industry, it will increase understanding of the legal requirements and help foster a culture of compliance. Industry stakeholders are encouraged to read the FINs in conjunction with the governing legislation to stay informed and understand the compliance requirements.



*The SFPA conducts regular engagement activities with industry stakeholders to promote compliance among industry stakeholders.*

## Engagement Activities with Industry

The SFPA conducts regular engagement activities with industry stakeholders to promote compliance among industry stakeholders. These activities include meetings, briefings and training sessions on various topics such as the landing obligation, Electronic Recording & Reporting System (ERS), Control Plan and compliance with regulations such as Sales Notes, labelling, and new Sampling Plans. This information is used as a baseline to measure progress and identify areas where improvements can be made in order to promote compliance among industry stakeholders.

## Official Controls: The SFPA's Daily Operational Inspection Work

Daily operational inspection work performed by Sea-Fisheries Protection Officers (SFPOs) is crucial to promote compliance among industry stakeholders. This includes conducting regular inspections to ensure compliance with regulations, providing advice and guidance to industry, and taking enforcement action when necessary to address non-compliance. These measures are designed to ensure that industry is aware of its obligations and that the SFPA is effectively monitoring compliance on an ongoing basis, making it a key part of the SFPA's efforts to promote compliance among industry stakeholders.

## Development of a Permanent Sea-Fisheries Control Plan

In September 2021, the SFPA submitted an Irish Sea-Fisheries Control Plan, a derogation which allows fish to be weighed after transport, to the European Commission. This plan was adopted on an interim basis from the beginning of 2022 and was initially set to expire in April 2022 but was later extended by the EU Commission to the end of 2022.

The SFPA focused on implementing the Interim Control Plan in 2022 by promoting compliance through briefings, Fishery Information Notices, and approving weigh permits for industry premises that met the requirements of the Interim Control Plan. SFPOs were focused on the approval process for weigh permits allowing premises to weigh after transport and delivering official controls to ensure compliance with the Interim Control Plan. The SFPA carried out a range of official controls, inspections and when required, enforcement to ensure compliance with the Interim Control Plan. The SFPA and SFPOs provided advice and meetings to industry to help them understand and comply with the Control Plan.

The new Control Plan was a key focus of the SFPA's efforts in 2022, where the SFPA engaged in negotiations with the EU Commission to reach an agreement on a new Control Plan. A revised Control Plan was submitted to the European Commission in September and adopted from January 2023.

In the final quarter of 2022, the SFPA was focused on promoting compliance with the new Permanent Control Plan. This was achieved through a range of engagement activities such as meetings, briefings, letters, information notices, and approval inspections. The goal was to ensure that industry stakeholders had the understanding and knowledge to comply with the plan. Through these efforts, the SFPA aimed to ensure that the new Permanent Control Plan was being effectively and efficiently implemented.

# Sea-Fisheries Control

Accountability was key in 2022 and revised key performance indicators were established for operational tasking across all areas under the SFPA remit.



*In relation to fisheries control, during 2022 there was a total of 1,903 inspections of fishing vessels undertaken.*

Points for serious infringements were applied in six of the seven cases put forward for assessment and one case had points applied to the licence holder and the Master of the vessel. During 2022, a total of 87 cases files were opened as a result of 161 suspected fishing infringements. The figure of 161 represents the total of both food safety and sea-fisheries infringements.

The SFPA continued to adopt and streamline its automatic cross-checking system, VALID. This afforded operational staff greater oversight of real-time non-compliances onboard fishing vessels. During 2022, there was a 78% compliance rate demonstrated across the automatic system, an increase in compliance rate of 3% on the previous year.

Following the COVID-19 restrictions of the previous years, the SFPA undertook inshore patrols and during 2022 a total of 48 patrols were undertaken. In addition to inshore patrols, the SFPA participated in thirteen joint deployments onboard offshore patrol vessels chartered and co-ordinated by the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA). These deployments provided additional operational capabilities to promote compliance with sea-fisheries legislation in Irish waters of EU and non-EU flagged vessels. In addition, Ireland also was the first Member State to avail of EFCA chartered aircraft which provided maritime aerial surveillance capability in the final quarter of 2022.

# Seafood Safety

**The SFPA is the Official Agency charged with responsibility for the enforcement of food law in the seafood sector up to the point of retail.**

Included in the SFPA's remit is the assessment of food safety controls across the marine and aquaculture sectors. A goal of the SFPA's Strategy Statement 2021-2023 is to deliver high-quality public service and regulate in a fair, objective, and proportionate manner. This includes implementing risk-based approaches to control and prioritising the inspection of high-risk operators and higher risk activities. The SFPA's strategy includes key performance indicators and specific tasks to achieve quality public service and fair regulation in seafood safety, such as publishing the number of risk-based inspections/controls undertaken against targets and continuing to develop risk-based inspection programme using a risk-based compliance approach. These measures are intended to ensure that the SFPA regulates in a fair, objective, and proportionate manner, and is effectively meeting its regulatory responsibilities.

## Food Businesses

In 2022, the SFPA enforced food safety laws in 2,323 food businesses. These included 338 land-based establishments, 195 approved food business establishments and 143 registered food business operators. Of these, 86% were fishing vessels, with 58 being approved freezer/factory fishing vessels and 1,930 being registered primary production fishing vessels. Processing plants and fresh fishery products were the main businesses and activities of these approved Food Business Operators (FBOs), and freezing was the main activity for approved fishing vessels.

## Risk-based Food Safety Inspections

The COVID-19 pandemic hindered full implementation of food safety official controls such as physical inspections and sampling in the beginning of 2022, however as the situation improved, the SFPA resumed full implementation of official controls. Overall, a total of 1,958 food safety official controls were carried out by the SFPA in 2022. Of these official controls, 37% are categorised as inspections of approved establishments, 7% were inspections of registered FBOs and 56% consisted of official control checks, such as official control sampling, vessel hygiene checks and those required to provide certification for a consignment of food being exported to a third country.

## Approved Land-Based Establishments and Vessels

The SFPA applies a risk-based approach to seafood safety official controls, prioritising resources to higher-risk operators and activities. In 2022, a total of 446 inspections of establishments and fishing vessels that require approval were undertaken by SFPOs based on risk associated with the establishment and processes undertaken within the establishment. This equates to 92% of the annual target and increased by 9% from 2021. The types of establishments inspected include processing plants, dispatch centres and freezer vessels. The SFPA delivered on 95% of the annual target for high risk ready to eat establishments, an increase from 87% in 2021. High risk ready-to-eat (RTE) food business operator activities include purification, cooking, and smoking.

## Official Control Sampling

Sampling and subsequent analysis are key food safety official controls performed by SFPOs and official laboratories. In 2022, the SFPA increased its official control samples collected by 12% compared to the previous year, with a total of 1,249 samples taken. 78% of these were food samples, 18% were water and ice samples, and 4% were environmental swabs. The samples were analysed by official laboratories for compliance with microbiological, residues or contaminant criteria and other standards set by EU legislation and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI).



# Seafood Safety (continued)

## Food Incidents & Complaints

A food incident is any event where, based on the information available, there are concerns regarding the safety or quality of food requiring follow-up by the competent authorities in the interest of public health. During 2022, there were a total of 74 food incidents. Of this number of food incidents, 21 were associated with the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF). The FSAI issued food alerts for three of these food incidents.

During 2022, 23 incidents (37%) were reports of alleged illness following the consumption of live bivalve molluscs, in particular oysters. Six incidents (10% of total) were due to the detection of *Listeria monocytogenes* in fishery products and five incidents (8% of total) were due to suspected Norovirus in shellfish with no reports of illness.

The SFPA dealt with a total of 12 complaints during 2022. A complaint may be received from an FBO, a consumer, another official agency or from an anonymous complainant. The types of complaints ranged from a customer complaint due to the presence of multiple large bones in a salmon darne, a foreign object (piece of metal) found in a smoked salmon product and a complaint regarding the use of an unauthorised biocidal product by an FBO.

All food incidents and complaints received by the SFPA are followed up and investigated. Corrective actions put in place by the FBO to prevent re-occurrence are verified by the SFPA during official controls and where required, enforcement action is taken.

## Official Controls in cooperation with other Official Agencies

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) approves or registers and implements animal by-product (ABP) official controls at animal-by product plants. The SFPA continued its role of ongoing official controls of marine ABP plants to verify compliance with the ABP regulation. The SFPA liaised with DAFM on relevant aspects of these inspections as necessary including non-compliances. In 2022, the SFPA stepped away from having a direct role in coordinating the annual plan for sampling fishery products and other seafood at Border Control Posts (BCPs). The SFPA now have an advisory role and will be available to provide technical support to the DAFM BCPs staff on imports of seafood. The SFPA continued its ongoing official controls of residues at approved processing establishments including controls associated within finfish aquaculture as well as the follow-up of samples that are non-compliant under the National Residues Control Plan

with the assistance of the Marine Institute and DAFM veterinary, if required. No non-compliant results were reported in the routine 'target' national monitoring programme samples for farmed finfish in 2022.

## Seafood Safety Official Control Fees

Approved establishments and vessels where food safety official controls are undertaken by the SFPA were subject to fee charges as per Regulation EU 2017/625 from 1st October 2021. Fees were applied to the production and first placing on the market of fishery products and aquaculture products. Fees are calculated based on the amount of product produced and where the oval mark is first applied quarterly. Approved FBOs are charged and invoiced quarterly in arrears. Operators are obliged to complete a self-declaration form and submit it to the SFPA quarterly. A declining trend in compliance rate with the submission of the self-declaration forms has been observed. The SFPA has issued regular communication to FBOs to promote compliance and subsequent enforcement action may be taken.

## Shellfish Monitoring and Sanitary Surveys

The SFPA is dedicated to maintaining the safety and quality of shellfish production by conducting ongoing shellfish monitoring programs and sanitary surveys to classify production areas. The Authority also prevents shellfish harvesting from areas with elevated levels of marine biotoxins and phytoplankton to ensure the safety of the product. Shellfish monitoring is a critical safety measure for consumers and helps protect the shellfish industry by preventing outbreaks and ensuring that seafood remains safe to eat.

The SFPA successfully met 93% of its target for the number of *E. coli* samples collected in the National Classification Microbiological Monitoring Program for Bivalve Mollusc Production Areas in Ireland, with a total of 1,571 samples collected. Monitoring of shellfish production throughout 2022 also consisted of the submission of approximately 300 biotoxin verification samples and 450 phytoplankton water samples by SFPA staff. The SFPA also takes additional shellfish samples each November to assist the Marine Institute in the monitoring of shellfish waters for the analysis of trace metals and organohalogenes.

The SFPA conducted the annual review of shellfish classifications in Ireland based on the previous three-year dataset (01 Jan 2019 - 01 Jan 2022) of 4,788 *E. coli* results from 135 sampling sites in 60 production areas. The 2022/23 draft review was reviewed and finalised at the annual Implementation meeting.



As a result of the review, nine production areas were upgraded, one shifted in Seasonal A classification, 12 were downgraded, one was de-classified for mussels, two were declared dormant, and two received additional classifications. The Annual List of Classified Live Bivalve Mollusc Production Areas in Ireland is published at [sfpa.ie/What-We-Do/Molluscan-Shellfish/Classified-Areas](https://sfpa.ie/What-We-Do/Molluscan-Shellfish/Classified-Areas).

The publication of the annual classification list is the culmination of the ongoing partnership between the SFPA and the Marine Institute in the microbiological monitoring of shellfish production areas in Ireland.

Ireland's shellfish monitoring programme is important for both consumers and commercial producers. One of the principal remits of the SFPA is to ensure that Irish and international consumers can be assured of the quality and safety of fish and seafood harvested here. Shellfish production is an important industry in many coastal communities around Ireland and it is essential that the highest standards of food safety are maintained at all times. The SFPA works in collaboration with industry and other state agencies to ensure that production areas are of the highest possible standard and meet rigorous assessment criteria to ensure that the safety and quality of the shellfish placed on the market is not compromised in any manner. This work is an important pillar in both preserving and further enhancing Ireland's global reputation for quality, and safe seafood.

*In 2022, the SFPA continued its sanitary survey program in partnership with its existing provider and completed comprehensive surveys of Sruwaddacon Bay and Dungarvan, updating sampling plans and the representative monitoring points.*

The SFPA also conducted extensive shoreline surveys and microbiological water studies in several production areas, including Donegal Harbour, Inver Bay, North Achill, Bannow Bay, and Killala Bay, as well as an extensive shellfish microbiological study in Roaringwater Bay.



**Pictured Above (L-R):** Paschal Hayes, Executive Chairperson, Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) with Tara Chamberlain, Phytoplankton Laboratory Analyst, Marine Institute at Roaringwater Bay, West Cork, to mark the SFPA's publication of the 2022/23 List of Classified Shellfish (Bivalve Mollusc) Production Areas in Ireland, which assesses 135 classifications in 60 production areas around Ireland against strict safety requirements to ensure that all commercially-produced shellfish is safe for human consumption. Photo Andy Gibson.

The SFPA signed a contract with a third-party service provider to conduct ten more sanitary surveys of existing shellfish production areas over the next two years. The results of all those completed surveys are on the SFPA website.

## Seafood Safety Enforcement

Seafood Safety Enforcement measures in 2022 ranged from informal advisory measures to the service of Compliance Notices to the commencement of criminal prosecutions for serious non-compliances. In 2022, two separate criminal prosecutions were commenced in the District Court against FBOs for breaches of the regulations on food safety including; hygiene, temperature controls, pest control and traceability requirements. 16 Compliance Notices were issued in 2022. A high portion of the enforcement actions undertaken in 2022 resulted from inspection findings relating to freezer vessel activities and premises in which food for the final consumer is prepared. The degree of compliance with the requirements of enforcement measures, in particular the requirements of Compliance Notices, was satisfactory in most cases. An application for an Improvement Order was made in one case where the compliance process was unsatisfactorily protracted. A Prohibition Order was issued in another case where a serious risk persisted in respect of specified, identifiable products at the pre-retail processing stage.

# International Trade



## Trade flows of fish and certified fishery products

Exports of Irish seafood to international destinations outside the EU encompassed the processing of 3,670 health certificates for 78,171 tonnes of produce in 2022. This represented respective decreases over 2021 data of 17% and 33% in the amount of export health certificates issued and export tonnage certified, reflecting a re-alignment back towards 2020 levels of trade following a similar percentage increase in 2021 over 2020. The main export markets certified by volume of produce were Nigeria, Egypt, China, Congo, and Japan, primarily covering exports of high volume frozen pelagic fish.

Official controls in the deterrence of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing continued to be conducted. This included the verification of 2,831 catch certificates relating to the import of 11,747 tonnes of produce from all Third Countries, including the UK. This represented respective decreases over 2021 data of 6% and 23% in the amount of import certificates and import tonnage verified, reflecting reduced trade volumes of imports returning closer to 2020 levels. The main countries from which import consignments originated were UK, Iceland, Ecuador, China, and Vietnam. Imports from UK accounted for 58% and 28% in the respective overall amounts of certificates issued and tonnage imported from all Third Countries.

688 catch certificates were issued for the export of 10,800 tonnes of Irish seafood produce to Third Countries, including the UK. The main species exported by volume were Atlantic Mackerel, Sprat, Haddock and Atlantic Herring. This represented respective decreases over 2021 data of 21% and 55% in the amount of export catch certificates and related export tonnage catch certified. Exports to the UK accounted for 74% of the total number of certificates issued.

*A total of 700 direct landings of fishery products by non-EU fishing vessels into Ireland resulted in the import of 75,457 tonnes of produce.*

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This represented respective increases over 2021 data of 8% and 16%. Landings by UK-registered vessels accounted for 93% of the overall total number of landings by non-EU fishing vessels into Ireland. Irish vessels landed 284 times into Third Country ports, accounting for exports of 12,085 tonnes of produce, with 93% of landings taking place in UK ports.

## *The SFPA continued to develop and strengthen diplomatic and technical links with international seafood trade contacts throughout 2022.*

In addition to routine engagement with multi-agency and industry stakeholders, the SFPA actively assisted industry in preparing for and dealing with the regulatory and supply chain impact on Irish seafood companies in trading with the UK and vessels fishing in UK waters as the regulatory landscape with the UK began to settle following its exit from the EU and transition to becoming a Third Country. Active management by the SFPA of new associated risks arising from the UK's status as a stand-alone contracting party to the North East Atlantic Fishing Commission (NEAFC) and as a Third Country with respect to Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, continued to be necessary.

These control and enforcement requirements were manifest in managing consignment trade and vessel direct landings between Ireland and the UK. The SFPA continued to maintain its certification and control regimes in response to the ongoing challenges brought by COVID-19 and its impact on retaining regulatory oversight and on the changed trading patterns, risks and opportunities for Irish seafood companies. The SFPA continued to liaise with overseas control agencies and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade officials on a wide range of seafood market access and technical support issues. Export markets on which access and support work was actively conducted during the year included South Korea, Japan, China, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, USA, Canada, and the Gulf States.



### Key engagements during 2022

- Regulatory vigilance following the departure of the UK from the EU and the future trading relationship. This included national and EU co-operation and cross-agency collaboration with regulatory partner organisations and agencies to examine and prepare for food safety and fishery control implications.
- Internal capacity building within the organisation including clarification of technical requirements, contingency planning, communication, and liaison with other key stakeholders on fisheries regulatory preparedness for the UK exit from the EU regulatory regime and common market.
- Design and delivery of trade information seminars for industry trading with UK in addition to leading individualised regulatory engagement and preparation conversations with diverse external stakeholder groupings.
- Continued organisational involvement with seafood relevant areas of the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.
- Updating organisational certification and oversight regimes in response to the introduction of revised foundational EU food safety official controls regulation.

The SFPA developed its work in seafood trade regulation, provision of technical market access support, performing official controls in disciplines including company and product registration and certification, seafood safety and sea-fisheries conservation. Implementation and enforcement by the SFPA of EU official controls regulation and fisheries conservation legislation continued to act as the regulatory baseline upon which Ireland's robust seafood certification system is built. Inspection and health certification of export consignments continued during another year of specific Covid-19 related challenges in order to continue to provide public health and customer assurance regarding seafood safety and quality standards that are expected in international food markets and underpinned by EU regulations.

# European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund

The European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) runs from 2021 to 2027 and supports the EU common fisheries policy, the EU maritime policy and the EU agenda for international ocean governance. It provides supports for developing innovative projects ensuring that aquatic and maritime resources are used sustainably. The following are SFPA projects funded through the EMFAF:

## ieCatch V3

The electronic logbook software (ieCatch) is in use across the Irish fishing vessel fleet. All data from ieCatch is securely transmitted and stored in the national fisheries database known as Integrated Fisheries Information System (IFIS). The IFIS system supports the management of the fishing industry in Ireland. EU Council regulation 1224/2009 requires that Ireland maintains a database of fishing activities and has in place a control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). This system is housed and supported by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).

*ieCatch v3 was released in 2022 and training was rolled out by the SFPA across the fishing fleet.*

The new ieCatch V3 has been fully rebuilt in line with a new International UN Standard known as Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange (FLUX). This upgraded software includes the following enhancements:

- A more intuitive interface.
- More on-screen validation.
- Updated Norway, Svalbard, and North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) modules.
- New "Landing Assistant" which assists the Master to apportion catches across multiple catch areas/ differing gear types.
- Regulatory changes - removal of End of Fishing (EOF), inclusion of Fish Size Class (FSC).





## Transport Vehicle Inspection Type

A new release of SFPA fisheries control inspection tool, iInspect, in September 2022 enabled the SFPA to electronically capture all mandatory required data for Transport Vehicle Inspections (TVIs) in accordance with EU regulations. The Implementation of TVIs supports Ireland and the SFPA to exchange inspection and surveillance data in accordance with:

- Commission Regulation (EC) No 404/2011 - Implementing Regulation, Annex XXVII, Module 5.
- EU data exchange FLUX Inspection & Surveillance Report Implementation Document v1.2).

The project encompassed an assessment of data requirements for transport inspection information, user story development, iInspect system development and testing prior to release.

## Remote Electronic Monitoring: Acoustic Deterrent Testing Devices

This project identified, tested, and implemented suitable acoustic receiver devices and inspection methodologies to verify the operational use of Acoustic Deterrent Testing Devices (ADTDs) in line with the legislative technical specifications during both in port and at sea inspections for vessels over 12m.

ADTDs are used to test Acoustic Deterrent Devices (ADDs) known as pingers, used in gill net fisheries. ADDs are attached to the gill nets and emit a frequency audible to cetaceans (dolphin, porpoises, etc) to deter them from approaching fishing gear.

The ADTD project was implemented over three phases:

<b>Phase 1</b>	Covered initial controlled testing of devices.
<b>Phase 2</b>	Testing comprised Hydrophone and Frequency detector device testing.
<b>Phase 3</b>	Covered the procurement and distribution of identified device solution.

ADTDs were issued to the Irish Naval Service and SFPOs in September 2022.

These devices enable the SFPA to monitor and control compliance with Part A of Annex XIII to Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/96.

# GOAL 2



## Communicating and Engaging

Strengthen partnerships  
and re-define relationships  
with stakeholders.

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# Communications



## Stakeholder Engagement

A number of communications initiatives were devised and implemented in 2022. As part of the implementation of the recommendations from the Organisational Capability Review, in January 2022 the SFPA commissioned RedC, a leading independent market research agency to survey the sea-fishing and seafood industry with the purpose of measuring the effectiveness of our communications with the sector.



## Key findings included:

### The Role of the SFPA

- There was a high level of understanding of the role of the SFPA.
- There were reasonable levels of respect for the SFPA's work and respondents appreciated the need to play their part too.
- Some issues were expressed with what was referred to as the 'inconsistent' application of regulations at some ports.
- The methods used to deter contraventions were praised; however, there was a reluctance on the part of respondents to adopt the role of a 'whistle-blower'.

### Interaction with the SFPA

- When it came to assessing their levels of interaction with the SFPA the most positive were seafood producers, who were particularly appreciative of safety audits. Smaller fishermen surveyed were mainly neutral or positive.
- There were no issues expressed with the processing of paperwork.



## General Communications

- Respondents were only conscious of and expect communications regarding regulation and safety.
- There was positive feedback in relation to the timing, tone, accuracy, and clarity of communications coming from the organisation.
- Port officers were praised and face-to-face contact was appreciated.
- Positive sentiment was also expressed regarding support from local port offices who respond promptly to queries made in person, via email or telephone.

## Future Role of the SFPA

- Respondents highlighted that they did not expect advice and support, but that it would be most welcome in terms of helping those in the industry to meet the required changes identified in checks and audits.
- Respondents anticipated that regulation enforcement will remain strong.
- The way classification guidance was communicated to industry was regarded positively, so too notices/updates as well as Brexit related communications.

- Looking to the future, respondents would like to see the SFPA consult more widely with industry and particularly in relation to its long-term sustainability.

The findings were used to further inform the organisation's strategy in relation to the regulation of the sea-fisheries and seafood industry. The results reflect a high level of understanding of the role of the SFPA as the regulatory body charged with promoting compliance with sea-fisheries legislation and ensuring seafood safety. Further to this, there is a strong degree of positive sentiment expressed throughout the findings and acknowledgement of the work of the organisation. This is testament to the efforts of all staff to fulfil the SFPA's remit in an efficient and effective manner.

*Overall, the results provided evidence of a solid foundation from which to build upon and will further assist the SFPA as we continue to engage with our industry partners in a positive and collaborative manner.*



**Pictured Above (L-R):** Cristina Morgado, Deputy Head of Unit EU Waters and North Atlantic, EFCA; Paschal Hayes, Executive Chairperson, SFPA; Susan Steele, Executive Director, EFCA and Michael Finn, Authority Member, SFPA, aboard the Lundy Sentinel in Cork Harbour at an event on the 20th November, to mark World Fisheries Day and a joint deployment in Irish waters between the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) and European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) to promote compliance with national and EU sea-fisheries legislation, Susan Steele is pictured presenting an EFCA medal to Paschal Hayes and Michael Finn to commemorate the ongoing collaboration between the two organisations. Photo: Damian Coleman.



# Communications (continued)



**Pictured Above (L-R):** Catherine McManus, MOWI Ireland; Kareen Andersson, SFPA; Norah Parke, Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation; Rudi Amrein, SFPA at the launch of the SFPA's updated Code of Conduct for Fishing Vessels. Photo: Clive Wasson.

## Communications Initiatives and Campaigns

In the context of communications initiatives with key audiences, the following actions were also implemented in 2022:

- Communications programme to promote the SFPA Confidential Line to support those within the fishing industry and the public to report suspicious or illegal activity to the SFPA confidentially. In February 2022, we launched a communications programme to highlight the Confidential Line and specifically that the number for the line had changed and that the options to get in touch also included the addition of an email address and contact option through the SFPA website.
- A multi-channel communications programme, supported by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFAF) was rolled out. Commencing in February 2022, it utilised social media, regional and trade media relations, advertising in trade and regional publications and the SFPA owned channels to raise awareness of the Confidential Line. The campaign ran for a period of 12 weeks in regional print publications and trade publications. While focused specifically on those within the fishing community, the campaign reached 1.16 million people on the island of Ireland (through print advertising). Further to this, an official SFPA Facebook page which featured targeted online advertising reached over 700,000 people. Over the course of the entire campaign, it reached 1.86 million people.
- The SFPA commissioned Amárach to survey the attitudes of consumers (those who eat fish regularly) towards illegal fishing and sustaining Ireland's marine resources, while encouraging people, especially those in the industry and coastal communities to report any suspicious or illegal activity. The survey was conducted in December 2021. Insights from the results demonstrate strong public support for regulatory compliance. The key results were issued in a press release in February 2022. In September 2022 a second press release was issued to remind restaurants, takeaways, fishmongers, and retailers to ensure that the fish and shellfish they serve is legally and sustainably caught. While quality is the main priority of Irish consumers (96%) when buying fish or shellfish, knowing it has been caught legally (85%) and in a sustainable manner (87%) have emerged as major concerns too, on par with price (87%). These are among the findings from the survey. The vast majority of those surveyed (92%) believe more should be done to safeguard the sustainability of Ireland's marine resources. There is overwhelming support for the reporting of illegal fishing to the authorities (90%) with most (77%) consumers saying that they would not buy fish if they knew it was illegally caught. The importance of traceability also featured strongly in the results, especially amongst younger consumers, with almost half (48%) of those aged under 35 saying that having greater confidence in the traceability of a product would encourage them to eat more fish on a regular basis. The research highlighted that concern for environmental matters is very high amongst consumers - particularly for aspects relating to the marine environment. Most regular consumers of fish (82%), especially those living in coastal areas, are willing to change their buying habits to reduce their impact on marine resources while three out of four (78%) stated they only want to buy fish that is caught in a way that does not deplete stocks.
- Leaflets are another key communications tool that the SFPA use to disseminate information such as the Code of Conduct for Fishing Vessels which was produced and launched in March 2022.
- Trade events are an important platform for communicating with industry and the SFPA attended the Skipper Expo in Limerick in March 2022. It is Ireland's flagship fisheries show with many visitors and exhibitors from Ireland and abroad. The event was attended by Sea-Fisheries Protection Officer's as well as senior personnel from the SFPA.

- World Fisheries Day took place on the 21st November 2022 - to mark World Fisheries Day and a Joint Deployment Plan in collaboration with the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) to promote compliance with national and EU sea-fisheries legislation within Ireland's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), the SFPA hosted an event on the 20th November 2022 aboard the EFCA Lundy Sentinel patrol ship in Cork Harbour. The event showcased the collaboration between the SFPA, Ireland's competent regulatory authority for sea-fisheries and seafood production, and EFCA, responsible for operational coordination of fisheries control and inspection activities by member states of the European Union.

*Media relations formed a core part of all communications activities with a strong focus on engagement with trade print and online publications to share latest updates and developments with industry.*

- Press releases focused on significant regulatory changes, compliance initiatives, seasonal patrols; using SFPA data to tell the regulatory story, collaborations with organisations on initiatives, utilising the publication of the annual Shellfish Area Microbiological Classification to highlight the SFPA's role in ensuring seafood safety etc.

- In September 2022, the Sea-Fisheries Protection Officers were accompanied on an inshore fishing patrol in the Kinsale area by a journalist with the Irish Independent. This enabled the journalist to see first-hand the work of SFPA staff to ensure we have sustainable fishing stocks and vibrant marine ecosystems for future generations. The piece along with photos featured in the Irish Independent.
- News opportunities focused on significant court verdicts, calendar opportunities for example, World Fisheries Day and specific proactive initiatives that highlight the benefits of SFPA's work.
- The SFPA website is also an important communications tool for disseminating information with fishers which included updates and announcement and the publication of key documents. For example, the Control Plan, Fisheries Information Notices etc.
- The website provided an important platform for hosting the latest announcements and updates including the latest developments in the context of compliance and other important developments in the context of fishing regulations, enforcements and areas of key interest to fishers.
- Regular posting on our LinkedIn channel also highlighted the broad remit of the SFPA. For example, a series of posts on the work of Sea-Fisheries Protection Officers were posted during Science week in November 2022.



# National and European Engagement

The SFPA continues to engage and build relationships with key stakeholders both nationally and in Europe.

## National Engagement

The SFPA works closely with a range of partners in order to deliver its mandate.

### Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) is the parent Department of the SFPA with responsibility in relation to policy formulation, corporate governance oversight and resource allocation.

The SFPA engages with a number of divisions within the Department in relation to the implementation of regulations under the remit of the SFPA.

### Food Safety Authority of Ireland

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The Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) is Ireland's central competent authority for food safety across the food chain from primary production to consumption. The functions of the SFPA in respect of food safety are detailed in a service contract agreement with the FSAI. The SFPA is represented on a number of FSAI working groups.

### Department of Defence

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The SFPA has a Service Level Agreement with the Department of Defence for the provision of fishery protection services by the Naval Service and Air Corps. The SFPA produces an annual Fisheries Control Plan, which outlines the benchmark requirements for inspections at sea by the Naval Service and surveillance by the Air Corps. The annual plan uses agreed risk management strategies that produce baseline inspection benchmarks for all vessels operating in our EEZ. These levels of inspection are continuously developed using strategies including intelligence information, fleet profiling and administrative crosschecks. The SFPA works closely with the Naval Service to ensure that such inspection levels are maintained to ensure that there is a balanced and appropriate level of control on all fisheries activities in our areas of responsibility.

### Marine Institute

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The Marine Institute (MI) is Ireland's national agency for marine research, technology development and innovation. In food safety, the MI is a control partner providing extensive analytical services and scientific advice. In fishery control, the MI and the SFPA collaborate in the area of data flows to best inform scientific research.

### An Garda Síochána

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The SFPA works in close co-operation with An Garda Síochána in roadside vehicle inspections and fisheries-related investigations. Sea-Fisheries Protection Officers also jointly undertake specific enforcement actions with members of An Garda Síochána particularly in relation to the detention of fishing vessels.

### Bord Iascaigh Mhara

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Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) plays a key role in developing the Irish seafood industry by providing technical expertise, business support, funding, training and promoting responsible environmental practice. The SFPA and BIM collaborate on many different aspects that affect the fishing industry including the management of inshore fisheries, industry training, aquaculture, fishing gear technology and fisheries statistics.

### Inland Fisheries Ireland

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Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) is charged with ensuring the protection and conservation of fisheries resources in inland waters and sea angling. The IFI and the SFPA cooperate with a view to overall efficiency of state inspection services and specifically in the area of inshore fisheries control operations.



## European Engagement

The SFPA also works closely with a number of international partners including European institutions and their agencies and is represented on a number of committees and working groups.

### Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries – EU Commission

The objectives of the Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) are as follows:

- protect the maritime environment while maintaining Europe's competitiveness.
- implement the new Common Fisheries Policy.
- use the potential of Europe's seas to create sustainable jobs that preserve natural resources.
- establish rules for the management and governance of the world's oceans together with global partners.

The SFPA participates in technical meetings organised by DG MARE in the areas of Control and Enforcement.

### Directorate General for Health and Food Safety – EU Commission

Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) is responsible for EU policy on food safety and health and for monitoring the implementation of related laws.

### European Expert Group on Fisheries Control

To ensure that the Common Fisheries Policy benefits from the best scientific, technical, and economic advice the Commission established an Expert Working Group on Fisheries Control.

The Role of the Expert Group is to:

1. Review the technical aspects of monitoring and inspection in the field of fisheries
2. Assist the Commission in the preparation of legislative proposals and policy initiatives.
3. Coordinate with Member States facilitating the exchange of views.

The meetings with control experts of Member States are devoted to the control and enforcement of the Common Fisheries Policy rules. The expert group serves also to develop cooperation with and between Member States, to develop recommendations and ensure their effective implementation and application.

The meetings also cover control issues under the Regional Fisheries Management Organisation's and third countries agreement.

### European Fisheries Control Agency

The European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) is a European Union agency. The agency's mission is to promote the highest common standards for control, inspection, and surveillance under the CFP. Its primary role is to organise coordination and cooperation between national control and inspection activities so that the rules of the CFP are respected and applied effectively.

The added value of the work of the agency lies in its contribution to a European-wide level playing field for the fishing industry so that European obligations are observed by everyone and everyone in the sector is treated equally, wherever they might be operating. Secondly, it contributes towards sustainable fisheries by enhancing compliance with existing conservation and management measures to the benefit of present and future generations.



# National and European Engagement (continued)

## EFCA Administrative Board

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The SFPA represents Ireland on the EFCA's Administrative Board. The Administrative Board is made up of one representative of each Member State and six representatives of the European Commission. Roles of the Administrative Board include:

- Adopt the multi-annual work programme of the Agency which establishes its overall objectives, mandate, tasks, performance indicators and the priorities for each action of the Agency over a five-year period.
- Appoint the Executive Director.
- Adopt the general report of the Agency for the previous year.
- Adopt the Final Budget of the Agency.

The Administrative Board met on two occasions in 2022.

## EFCA Regional Steering Groups

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In 2022, the SFPA attended Regional Steering Groups hosted by the EFCA. The EU Fisheries Control regulation (1224 of 2009) allows for the European Commission, in concert with Member States, to adopt specific control and inspection programmes (SCIP) for specific fisheries or sea basins. These SCIP are implemented through Joint Deployment Plans (JDP).

Ireland is involved in three SCIP namely Western Waters, North Sea and NEAFC. In order to coordinate these SCIP, EFCA produces a JDP for each SCIP. The JDPs establish that the deployment of pooled national means is coordinated by EFCA in cooperation with the Member States and frequently with the presence of national coordinators at EFCA premises. A Regional Steering Group (RSG) composed of Commission, Member States and EFCA representatives is in charge of ensuring the proper implementation of the plan. The RSGs normally meet two to three times during the year at EFCA offices in Vigo however in 2022 one meeting was held virtually, and one held in person in Vigo.

## The North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission

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The North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) is the Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO) for the North East Atlantic. The area covered by the NEAFC Convention stretches from the southern tip of Greenland, east to the Barents Sea, and south to Portugal.

Recommendations adopted by NEAFC are legally binding. The SFPA participates in the NEAFC Technical Permanent Committee on Monitoring and Compliance (PECMAC) meetings as part of the EU delegation at NEAFC meetings.

### Permanent Committee on Monitoring and Compliance (PECMAC)

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This Committee is comprised of representatives from all the Contracting Parties of NEAFC. It is responsible for advising the NEAFC Commission on issues relating to fishing controls and the enforcement of the NEAFC Scheme. PECMAC normally meets 2/3 times annually at the NEAFC office in London. In 2022 these meetings were held virtually.

## EU Live Bivalve Mollusc Working group meeting

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The SFPA attends and represents Ireland at the EU Working group Meeting on Bivalve Mollusc chaired by the Commission.

At this forum proposed changes to legislation in the area of Live Bivalve Mollusc food hygiene requirements and official controls are discussed with Member States. Any issues identified by a Member State(s) with enforcing the relevant legislation are also highlighted at the meetings and discussed. Proposals are also put forward to the Commission. The SFPA has played a significant role in preparing submissions in consultation with relevant stakeholders and presenting at these meetings. The SFPA has built good working relationships with competent authorities in other Member States at these meetings.

During 2022 there was one meeting held virtually which the SFPA attended. Issues discussed included, 'Intermediate operators' in the shellfish supply chain and their requirements, Norovirus management proposals, revision of Official Control Regulation, official controls on scallops and Trade of Live Bivalve Molluscs to the U.S.



*The SFPA also contributes to discussions on proposals and legislation presented at the following meetings which are attended by a representative from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).*

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#### EU Expert Group on Food Hygiene and Control of Food of Animal Origin

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Food Hygiene requirements and official controls on all products of Animal Origin including Live Bivalve Molluscs and Fishery Products are discussed at these meetings. Proposed legislative changes across the whole food chain are presented at these meetings and views put forward by Member States. Any issues identified by a Member State are also highlighted and discussed at this forum.

During 2022, there were three meetings, all held virtually. The SFPA provided information to support the meeting attendee. Issues discussed were Tuna fraud and control, intermediary operators in the shellfish supply chain, super chilling of fishery products and amendments to Regulation 853/2004 on the hygiene of foods of animal origin.

#### Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed Section: Biological Safety of the Food Chain

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The Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF) is composed of representatives of all EU countries and presided by a European Commission representative. Draft regulations are presented by the Commission at these meetings for voting and views exchanged.

As part of the consultation process and in collaboration with DAFM, the SFPA gives expert opinions on the various proposals and issues discussed at these meetings.



# Sea-Fisheries Protection Consultative Committee

## The functions of the Consultative Committee are laid down in the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 as follows:

- to inform the Authority of concerns and views of the sea-fisheries and seafood sectors regarding the functions of the Authority;
- to seek to keep the sea-fisheries and seafood sectors generally informed of the applicable sea-fisheries law and food safety law, as well as of the standards, guidelines, practices and procedures operated by the Authority in relation to the enforcement of that law;
- to advise the Authority on keeping the burden on the sea-fisheries and seafood sectors generally of compliance with that law to the minimum possible consistent with the essential purposes and the effective enforcement of that law;
- to advise the Authority of its views on the fairness and consistency of the operations of the Authority;
- to seek the delivery of a high standard of service by the Authority.

The SFPA facilitated three meetings of the main SFPA Consultative Committee during 2022. Firstly, in early March information was provided on; pelagic fish weighing arrangements, upcoming EU audit update, update on EU implementing regulation for the interim National Control Plan, Labelling Plan, SFPA Complaints Procedure, Strategy and a Review Implementation update. A second meeting was convened in mid-March to discuss the Draft Control Plan. The third meeting in July discussed an update on; the ERS-ieCatch Sub-Group meeting held in June, Organisation Capability Review, 'Reconfirm/Redefine' SFPA Relationship with SFP Consultative Committee' and Consultative Committee Sectoral Updates.

## Committee Members

The members of the Consultative Committee in 2022 were:

<b>Catherine McManus (Chair)</b>	Marine Harvest
<b>Norah Parke (Deputy-Chair)</b>	Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation
<b>Eamon Dixon</b>	Erris Inshore Fishermen's Association
<b>John Harrington</b>	Kush Seafarms Ltd
<b>David Kirwan</b>	Irish South & East Fish Producers Organisation
<b>Ann-Marie Mulloy-Gautier</b>	Connemara Seafoods Ltd
<b>Sean O'Donoghue</b>	Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation
<b>John Power</b>	Inshore Fishermen Representative - Wexford Lobster Co-op Society
<b>Ebbie Sheehan</b>	Irish Fishermen's Organisation
<b>Anthony Sheehy</b>	Irish South & West Fish Producers Organisation
<b>Brendan Byrne</b>	Irish Fish Processors & Exporters Association
<b>John Ward*</b>	Irish Fish Producers Organisation
<b>Dr Ciaran Kelly**</b>	Director Fisheries Ecosystem Advisory Services, Marine Institute

\*Resigned from the Committee in 2022

\*\*Appointed to the Committee by the Minister in 2022





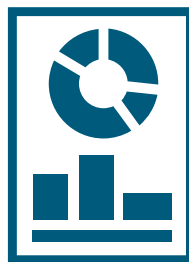
# GOAL 3



## Data Driven Delivery

Promote and enable the use of data to enhance the service delivery, inform decision making, support accountability and simplify engagement with stakeholders.

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# Data Management

The SFPA has committed to developing its IT data analytics capability to help support key activities and ensure that decision making is informed by robust statistics and derived from available data. The SFPA has a dedicated Data Management Unit in order to ensure the implementation of this goal.

## Publish Statistics

Annual and quarterly statistics are published to SFPA website, operational targets are reported against and all queries on fisheries data are answered where technically possible. Quarterly reports on landings and inspections are published online.

Weekly updates are provided in relation to further developments to the quota update page [sfpa.ie/Statistics/Quotas](https://sfpa.ie/Statistics/Quotas) which shows monthly regimes (as issued by DAFM) for each demersal stock code where appropriate. This page provides fishers and members of the public a “one stop shop” to access a range of useful data on fishing activity for quota stocks. As in previous years, the unit responded to the interest shown in the uptake of Albacore tuna by issuing daily updates to this stock on the webpage, thus ensuring all fishers had access to the same uptake data at the same time.

## Brexit Temporary Fleet Tie Up and Brexit Inshore Fisheries Business Model Adjustment schemes

The Data Unit supported the BIM administered 'Brexit Temporary Fleet Tie Up' and 'Brexit Inshore Fisheries Business Model Adjustment' schemes by reviewing the track record of applicants. For the Tie Up scheme the unit processed 236 applications with 245 checks completed including re-check requests from BIM. The unit processed 923 applications for the inshore scheme on which 1,149 checks were carried out. In addition, the unit handles 160 BIM scheme related written queries, mainly from vessel owners, and provided advice on compliance where appropriate. In cases where major non-compliances came to light during the scheme, these were passed to port offices for operational follow-up. The unit also provided support for the Cooperatives Transition scheme.

## Stakeholder Engagement

The Data Management Unit works in close collaboration with DAFM and is responsible for ensuring data quality assurance for quota balancing and responding to any related queries from vessel owners. There were 111 queries/requests in this area. The Unit monitored the activity around Rockall on an ongoing basis and reported findings to DAFM every week. In total the Unit produced 216 fishing activity reports for DAFM in 2022. DAFM's quota management meetings are supported by the Unit with 12 monthly meetings attended. The uptake data together with projected uptake figures informs quota management recommendations agreed by the fishing industry and approved by the Minister.

## Open Data

In response to the Directive (EU) 2019/1024 on Open Data and the re-use of public sector information, which was transposed into Irish law in July 2021, the Data Management Unit published a statement of commitment to Open Data [sfpa.ie/Statistics/Open-Data](https://sfpa.ie/Statistics/Open-Data) and launched a dedicated inbox for Open Data queries. The Data Management Unit inbox received 112 queries from the general public (unrelated to BIM schemes) and received and responded to 929 queries from all sources combined. The Data Management Unit is committed to the highest statistical standards and continues to work with the Central Statistics Office in relation to attaining Irish Statistics System Code of Practice (ISSCOP) certification. Data quality is also part of its remit and to that end the Unit took over the development of the VALID cross-checking system in 2022 with additional reporting capabilities in the pipeline.

# Information and Communication Technology

Information and Communication Technology continued to play a central role in the SFPA's delivery of Strategic Goal 3. The ICT unit is involved in the delivery, support and training of many of the systems that allow the SFPA to capture the data required to meet this goal.

## ieCatch V3 and iInspect Development

During 2022, the ICT Unit delivered new versions of both ieCatch which is used by fishing vessels to record fishing activity data and iInspect which is used not only by SFPA inspectors but also inspectors working on our behalf in both the Naval Service and Air Corps to capture inspection related data.

The roll out of an upgraded ieCatch V3 had two elements; the updating of the application on the electronic logbook and an Education Programme to help familiarise users with the changes and the new interface. Twelve locations were selected nationwide in an attempt to make training as accessible to industry as possible. Forty sessions were run where 299 users were trained and 191 electronic logbooks updated during the session to minimise any inconvenience or delays to the users. This new version is FLUX compliant, ensuring the data meets the UN standard for exchanging fisheries-related information between countries. This version has more on-screen validation and pre-filling where appropriate, which should lead to a better user experience. Another new feature is the Landing Assistant which automatically allocates the catch landed across the areas fished on a pro-rata basis, giving a more accurate landing figure per species per area. In 2023, electronic logbooks will be rolled out to all registered fishing vessels in the 12-15m category who currently have an exemption.

An updated version of iInspect V3 was rolled out to over 110 users nationwide. This version included added functionality to support Transport Vehicle inspections. Some of the users upgraded included our control partners in the Naval Service who received 22 Toughbooks (a line of rugged laptops) in order to utilise iInspect, which the SFPA maintains and supports.

## ICT Unit

The SFPA ICT Unit continued to support staff as they adjusted to the SFPA's hybrid working policy and helped with some of the technical challenges it presented. The SFPA move to the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer's (OGCIO's) document management system, eDocs, was completed in 2022 and the organisation is continuing preparations for a move to the OGCIO's Managed Desktop Service in 2023. The Managed Desktop service is part of the Government's Build to Share programme which delivers a standard range of services, collaboration tools, platforms and applications across the public service. A new cloud-based software for Travel & Subsistence expenses was procured and implemented in February 2022 and provides a secure, efficient and robust environment for the processing of Travel & Subsistence expenses. The ICT Unit also provided new mobile phones to staff as well as new printers in all office locations.

*Support was provided to Data and ERS Working Groups in the EU, EFCA and NEAFC, with some of our unit participating in RIB Patrols and Offshore Patrols with EFCA. Another example of our ongoing work with international control regulatory agencies is our work on the data exchange of UNCEFACT Logbooks and Sales Notes with France which should go into full production in 2023.*



# GOAL 4



## Organisational Excellence

Sustain and develop strategic and operational capacity & capability to deliver organisational excellence.

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# Corporate Governance Report

## Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies

During the year, the SFPA continued its focus on effective corporate governance and ensured it remained in compliance with the requirements of the 2016 Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (“the Code”). The SFPA submitted its 2021 Annual Report and Financial Statements in compliance with the Code and the SFPA compliance checklist with the Code was completed with no issues arising.

## Memorandum of Understanding between SFPA and DAFM

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SFPA and DAFM regarding the provision of data and services was signed in April 2018. The MOU specifies the timelines of delivery, level of detail and data quality required, and seeks to ensure that such requests for data are only sought where necessary, having regard to the resources necessary to service ad-hoc requests. During 2022, a total of 190 queries were received and processed compared with 300 in 2021. The majority of queries were data related.

## Authority

Mr. Paschal Hayes was appointed as Executive Chairperson of the SFPA on 14th January 2022. The Executive Chair of the SFPA will lead and guide the organisation over the coming years and will be responsible for securing efficient and effective enforcement of sea-fisheries and food safety law; promoting compliance while detecting and deterring contraventions.

Michael Finn was appointed to the SFPA Authority in October 2022 with responsibility for Operations.

Jonathan Hoare was appointed to the SFPA Authority in October 2022 with responsibility for Corporate Affairs, Trade Compliance & Internal Audit, Food & Fisheries Support and Communications.

There were four Authority meetings held in 2022.





## Gender Balance in the Board Membership

The SFPA does not have a Board however it consists of an executive Authority of three members. All three members were appointed in 2022. As of 31st December 2022, all three members of the Authority were male. The Authority therefore does not meet the Government target of a minimum of 40% representation of each gender in the membership of State Boards. The SFPA Management Board as of the 31st December 2022 consisted of three male and one female member.

## Information Access Request

### Freedom of Information

The SFPA is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2014 and has a guide for members of the public on how to access records under the FOI act 2014 which is available on our website. In 2022, the SFPA received 14 FOI requests.

### Access to Information on the Environment

The European Communities Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Regulations 2007 to 2018 give legal rights to those seeking to access information on the environment from public authorities such as the SFPA. The regulations also oblige the SFPA as a public authority to be proactive in disseminating environmental information to the public. The SFPA received no requests for information under AIE in 2022.

### General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The SFPA has provided information on its website on how data subjects can access their personal information held by the SFPA. In 2022, the SFPA received 1 Subject Access Request.

## Protected Disclosures

The SFPA has developed detailed guidance documents for SFPA staff and for workers from outside of the SFPA who may wish to make a protected disclosure to a member of the Authority under Statutory Instrument 339 of 2014. Guidance for external workers is published on the SFPA's website. The SFPA received no Protected Disclosures in 2022.

## Customer Charter

The SFPA has published a Customer Charter detailing our commitment to providing quality service to our customers and defines our service standards in clear and simple language. It also provides information on how customer input can contribute to the improvement of services provided and on issues such as complaints procedures and FOI.

## Section 49 Complaints

The SFPA has appointed a complaints officer from outside of the Authority to consider and report independently on complaints made under Section 49 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006. A complaint may be submitted to the Complaints Officer and details on how to make a complaint are published on the SFPA website. Complaints under this procedure may only relate to the enforcement of sea-fisheries or food safety law and must be made to the Complaints Officer at any stage within 28 days of the event. Complaints may be made on behalf of an individual by their Producer Organisation or additional recognised representative organisation. The Act states that complaints will not be considered if:

- a. it relates to any matter which is the subject of proceedings before a court or other tribunal;
- b. it is the subject of a complaint to the Ombudsman or an appeal to the Information Commissioner, or;
- c. it is not made to a Complaints Officer within 28 days after the subject matter of the complaint arose.

*The Complaints Officer received zero complaints in 2022.*

# Corporate Governance Report (continued)



## Provision of Information to Members of the Oireachtas

In 2022, the SFPA received one request for the provision of information directly from Members of the Oireachtas. 31 Parliamentary Questions were redirected from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to the SFPA, and the SFPA responded directly to the Member of the Oireachtas.

*31 Parliamentary Questions were redirected from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to the SFPA, and the SFPA responded directly to the Member of the Oireachtas.*

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## Public Sector Duty

The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 places a positive duty on public sector bodies to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality and protect human rights in our daily work. This is referred to as "The Public Sector Duty".

The SFPA is committed to the public service core values of equality, respect, and fairness. The SFPA has a Diversity, Equality & Inclusion Policy to ensure the organisation's commitment to the development and implementation of improved measures to promote and support the employment of persons with disabilities and our commitment to working together to maintain a workplace environment that reflects the spirit of equal opportunities, free from prohibited or inappropriate conduct and one where SFPA staff will be treated equally and respected for their individuality and diversity.

## Climate Action Mandate

The Climate Action Plan 2021 (CAP21) envisages the public sector leading by example on climate action to reach the target of reducing Ireland's greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030 and becoming climate neutral no later than 2050.

To support public sector bodies leading by example, a Public Sector Climate Action Mandate applies to public bodies covered by the CAP21 decarbonisation targets. As required under this mandate in 2022, the SFPA appointed a Climate and Sustainability Champion, Jonathan Hoare, and a Sustainability Lead, Yvonne Grant. The SFPA continues to work on finalisation and implementation of its Climate Action Roadmap.

## Energy Usage Report 2022

The SFPA energy consumption in 2022 showed an increase of 8% compared to 2021. This increase was due mainly to the lifting of travel restrictions as a result of the pandemic and a return to office attendance.

Vehicles accounted for the bulk of energy consumption within the SFPA at 54%. Electricity accounted for 23% of the total energy usage and heating accounted for 19%.

Business travel consumption in total by both SFPA utility vehicles and private vehicles used for business travel more than doubled due to the effects of the lifting of travel restrictions and an increase in travel nationwide to attend business meetings and training. With a new Authority in place, travel increased to attend industry meetings, internal port office, meetings with the Consultative Committee etc.

A schedule of Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) patrols took place during 2022, after an absence of RIB patrols during 2021 due to the pandemic. The increased RIB activity can be seen in an increase in petrol use.

*Air travel showed an overall increase of over five fold in terms of tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> on the previous year.*

This was as a direct result of the lifting of restrictions on overseas travel imposed during the pandemic and a business requirement to attend meetings in Brussels and Vigo in particular.

Electricity consumption accounting for an estimated 23%<sup>2</sup> of total energy usage, representing a decrease of 2% year on year from 2021. Changes to lighting controls in Head Office assisted the achievement of energy efficiencies. New premises were acquired in Greencastle, County Donegal which increased our activity metric (floor area m<sup>2</sup>). The new premises provides accommodation for an average of ten employees in the form of a Port Office. The office has been fitted out to a high standard of energy efficiency. Overall headcount in SFPA between the end of 2021 and the end of 2022 increased marginally to 167.

Heating decreased by 35% in 2021. Issues with the AHU unit serving general areas in Clonakilty have been rectified. Greater awareness and active management of the heating system in Clonakilty has added to this reduction.

## Actions Undertaken to be More Energy Efficient

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority is part of the SEAI network for medium sized organisations and the public sector network. The organisation's energy performance for the year was reported directly to the SEAI in order to track progress towards our energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions targets.

The SFPA is part of the SEAI Public Sector Partnership Programme.

Energy Audits were conducted in all 7 SFPA locations and an SFPA Energy Strategy 2020 - 2030 has been developed with the aim of achieving the target of 50% energy reduction by 2030 as directed in the government's climate action plan.

<sup>2</sup> Castletownbere electricity usage is estimated for 2022 due to a matter effecting it's MPRN.



# Audit and Risk Committee Report

**This report of the Audit and Risk Committee of the SFPA provides a summary of its key activities and outputs for the Financial Year ended 31st December 2022.**

## Membership of the Audit and Risk Committee

Mr Peter G Cowap - Chair

Mr Sean Angland - Deputy Chair

Mr Pat Farrell

Mr Rav Vithaldas

Mr Shane McCarthy

Brendan O' Shea resigned from the Audit & Risk Committee on 7th February 2022. Shane McCarthy was subsequently appointed to the Audit & Risk Committee on 9th May 2022.

The Committee wishes to acknowledge the Secretariat support provided by the Authority throughout 2022.

## Roles and Responsibilities of the Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee provide assistance and support to the SFPA in fulfilling the Authority's oversight responsibilities and sources of assurance, taking account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2016, relating inter alia to:

The integrity of the Financial System including the Financial Reporting Process;

- The Risk Management Process;
- The System of Internal Control;
- The relationship with the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG);
- The SFPA's processes and internal controls for monitoring compliance of implementation of Official Controls in the areas of Sea-Fisheries, Seafood Safety, Health and Safety and other relevant laws and regulations;

- The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority Code of Conduct and, as appropriate, the Authority's conduct of anti-Fraud and Protected Disclosure Programmes and related Investigation processes;
- Performance of the Authority's Technical and Corporate Internal Audit functions, the provision of services duly outsourced as appropriate.
- The Audit and Risk Committee is responsible for advising the Authority on whether an appropriate regime of internal control is in operation but not for the formulation or implementation of such a regime.

## Audit and Risk Committee Meetings

The Audit and Risk Committee's Terms of Reference require the Committee to meet on at least four occasions each Financial Year. The Committee met six times in 2022. In addition, the Committee conducted a further review of its terms of reference, specifically focused on the performance of Independent Scrutiny and undertook a self-assessment evaluation of its own performance through bilateral Committee Member engagement with the Chair.

The Committee engaged with all key stakeholders throughout the Financial Year through the support of the newly appointed Authority Chair (Paschal Hayes), including the Director (and Interim Director) of Finance; the Director of Trade and Audit; the Chief Scientific Officer and Brexit Lead; the Head of Corporate Affairs; the Transformation Lead; Head of HR; Director of Port Operations; Chief Risk Officer; Head of Legal & Enforcement and Director ICT.

## The salient work and areas focused on by the Audit and Risk Committee during 2022 included:

1. Reviewing the Authority's operational resilience in transitioning to a post-pandemic operating environment.
2. Reviewing the post-Brexit implementation impact on the Authority's Legal, Technical, Operational and Regulatory Trade Compliance.
3. Evaluating periodic updates on progress with a number of Operational, Legal, Compliance and Enforcement issues.
4. Reviewing progress on critical aspects of the Authority's Organisational Capability and associated Transformation Programme and their potential ramifications for Governance, Risk Management, Internal Control Environment and Compliance.
5. Reviewing the continuing progress and status of the implementation of the Authority's Interim Control Plan as approved by the EU Commission and the status of the development of a new Control Plan.
6. Reviewing and contributing to the formulation of the Authority's Data Strategy and development of the ICT Strategy.
7. Updates on the Internal Audit Plan for 2022, including Internal Audits and Assurance work focused on the Internal Controls Review and Data Quality on Seafood Safety.
8. Reviewing the implementation of the Authority's Technical Internal Audit Plan, including selected inspections (e.g., Freezer/Factory vessels) and remediation status on findings for prior audits.
9. Reviewing the Annual Statement of Internal Control for 2021 and associated Report and Financial Statement and other major activities pertaining to the Finance Unit.
10. Reviewing the Authority's Programme for Senior Management Assurance Statements via selected presentations.
11. Engaging with the Comptroller and Auditor General, both on the completion of the 2022 Audit and reviewing with them their Audit Planning approach for Financial Year 2023.

## Risk Management

As an integral core component of the Audit and Risk Committee mandate, the Committee reviews the effectiveness of the Risk Management process on an ongoing basis.

This work includes continuous review of the SFPA's Risk Policy and Risk Appetite, together with progressing enhancements in the management and operational embedding of the Authority's Risk Register, in conjunction with the Chief Risk Officer.

The Committee is satisfied that the spectrum of risks currently identified in the SFPA's Risk Register represent an accurate picture of the Authority's primary risks.

*As an integral core component of the Audit and Risk Committee mandate, the Committee reviews the effectiveness of the Risk Management process on an ongoing basis.*



# Audit and Risk Committee Report (continued)

## Priorities for 2023

The Committee's Work Programme for 2023 will include the following components:

1. Overseeing the deliverables of the SFPA Internal Audit Plan and Technical Audit Programme for 2023 and assessing outcomes and including in the case of the latter, the outputs and outcomes of the Independent Scrutiny exercise scheduled for January 2023.
2. Ongoing review of the SFPA Risk Register, in conjunction with a newly appointed Chief Risk Officer, including revised Control Plan and post-Brexit-related risks, the Organisational Transformation Programme and HR related risks, ICT and Data Management capability, augmented by the identification of additional thematic deep-dives as part of the Committee's Work Programme.
3. Engage with the Comptroller and Auditor General in delivering audit satisfaction.
4. Review emerging outcomes of the EU Commission's approval of a permanent Control Plan in order to understand and assess their potential impact on the Authority's operational resilience and compliance with the EU Official Control Regime.
5. Review of the Annual Statement of Internal Control for the Authority and associated Report and Financial Statements for 2022.
6. Continue to provide oversight of the Authority's management and remediation of outstanding audit findings and corrective actions.

## Conclusion

The Members of the Audit and Risk Committee wish to acknowledge the positive and constructive engagement and assistance of the staff of the SFPA during the year.

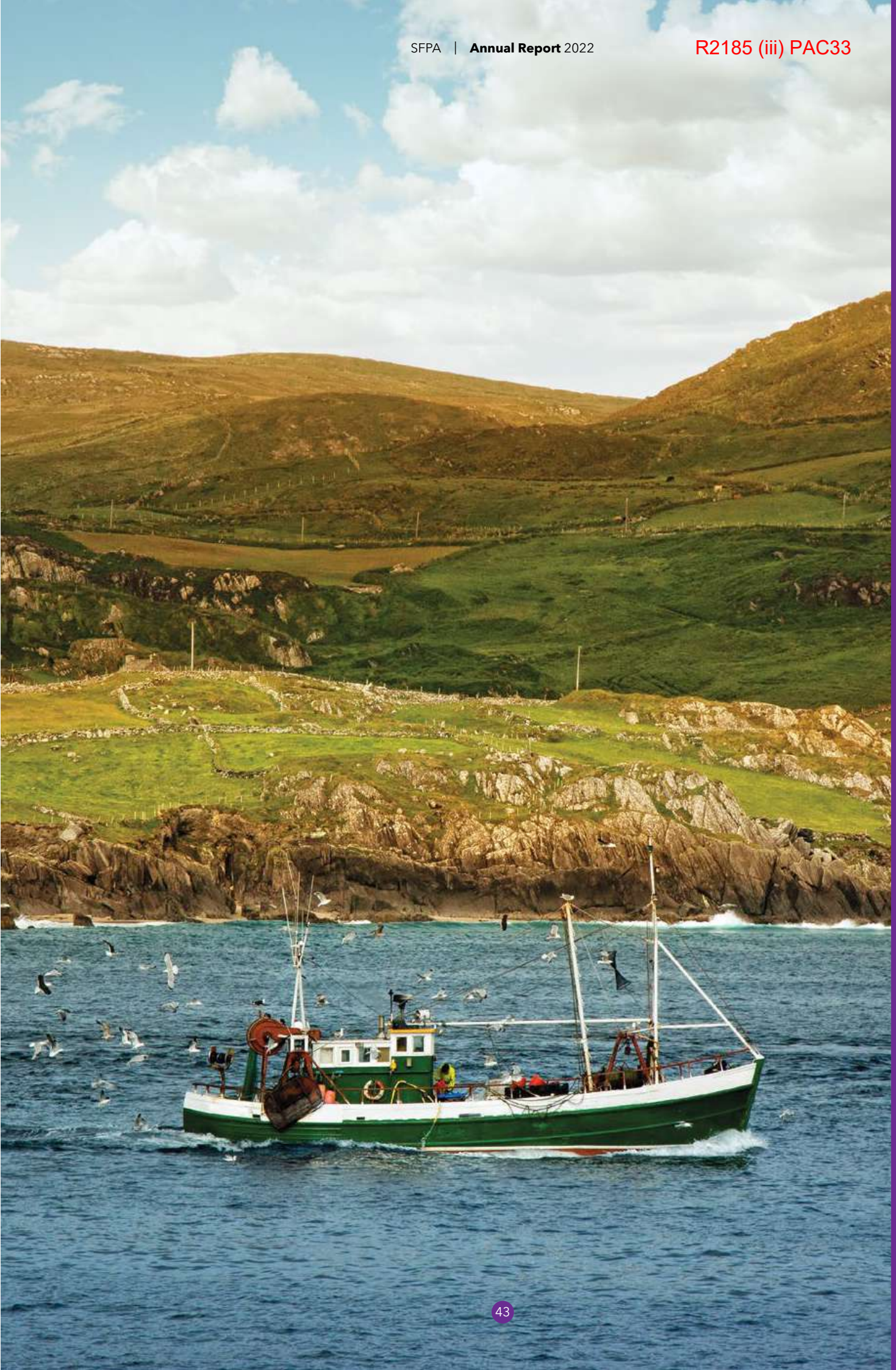
The Committee very much welcomes the significant appointments of the two new Authority Members in the last quarter of 2022, which will serve to facilitate and underpin the Committee's endeavours in 2023.

The Committee's efforts are greatly assisted by the sector-specific briefings facilitated by the Authority which form an integral feature of the Committee's meeting agendas and enable the Committee to properly inform and validate its work. This is especially valuable given the critical challenges faced by the Authority both externally (e.g., revised Control Plan, post-Brexit impacts and managing through the pandemic) and internally (e.g., executing through the new Corporate Strategy and implementing the Transformation Programme deliverables).

By way of conclusion, the Audit and Risk Committee, on whose behalf this report is prepared, is satisfied that in general there are adequate systems of internal control, risk management and sources of assurance.

### **Mr. Peter G. Cowap**

Chair - SFPA Audit and Risk Committee



# GOAL 5





## Staff Development and Support

To develop and support  
SFPA's staff.

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# Organisational Structure and Culture

The Human Resources unit is responsible for the delivery of all aspects of the human resources function, health and safety and facilities services to the organisation.



Much was accomplished by the HR and H&S team in 2022. A gradual return to the office following the pandemic was managed carefully and efficiently by the team. This ultimately led to the implementation of the SFPA Blended Working Policy which implements the Government's Remote Working Strategy.

Overall, headcount remained static at 167, mainly due to employee turnover, including a number of retirements during 2022. 27 posts were filled, including Executive Manager ICT, Executive Manager Corporate Affairs, and two Authority posts were filled by the Public Appointments Service.

## Develop and Support SFPA Staff

Goal 5 of the SFPA Statement of Strategy 2021 to 2023 is to "Develop and Support SFPA's Staff". A key focus of the HR team during 2022 was to procure and roll out a Learning Management System and an online Performance Management System.

The implementation of an online Performance Management System will increase engagement with the performance management and development process. This combined with the roll out of a new Performance Management and Development Policy in 2022 will further strengthen our PMDS process by providing the facility to align individual goals with business plans and organisational goals.



*The implementation of a Learning Management System will support the delivery of training, centralise learning content and training records and make learning content more accessible and engaging. Compliance training will be enhanced and knowledge sharing within the organisation will be increased.*

The introduction of these new systems in the HR team is the first step in moving HR processes online, as part of the broader organisation’s digital transformation.

A Learning Needs Analysis was completed by the HR team in 2022 which will be reviewed on an annual basis. A draft Learning and Development Strategy was developed for the organisation which was rolled out in Q1 2023.

### Labour Court

The SFPA attended the Labour Court in March, following three days of industrial action in the first quarter of the year. The outcome of this Labour Court hearing provided clarity in relation to long running Industrial Relations matters in dispute. Since March 2022, regular meetings have been held with the representative union to resolve matters in a timely manner, ensuring a positive working environment where the roles and responsibilities of SFPA management and representative unions are clear.

### Staffing by Grade December 2022

Grade	Dec 22
A. Sec	1
PO	3
AP	8
Engineer Grade II	2
Grade II Accountant	0
SPO (HEO + 10%)	10
SFPO	80
HEO	22
EO	18
CO	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>167</b>



# Health and Safety Report

The safety, health, and welfare of all employees remains a paramount objective for the SFPA.

This is achieved through work practices that are safe and are in accordance with legislation and public health guidelines.

The Safety, Health and Welfare programme in the SFPA remains proactive. It is designed to deliver on everyone's expectation to work in a safe environment where tasks and outputs are systematically and continuously evaluated to list and identify any potential hazards. It is then designed to devise, develop and implement work practices and procedures that work towards achieving this expectation. This is a cyclical process. Our working environment and work outputs are subject to change and consequently it is necessary that our programme remains dynamic, that it is owned by all personnel, it is concise and that it seeks to provide certainty. Throughout 2022, our Safety Committee, Port Managers and our Lead Workers Representatives, our Fire Wardens and our First Aid Responders and COVID-19 Leads all strove to achieve these aims.

## Health and Safety Training 2022

Throughout 2022, the SFPA delivered a variety of Health and Safety related training courses / events for personnel through attendance on a mixture of (1) In-House, (2) Online, (3) Private and (4) Public courses, as outlined opposite.

#	Description	No. of Attendees
1	Online Safe Boarding Procedures	6
2	H&S Induction Training Courses	11
3	Online Lone Working Training Courses	167
4	Manual Handling Training Courses (Physical attendance)	66
5	1 x Life jacket Awareness Training Courses (Practical Training)	9
6	1 x COVID-19 Lead Worker Representative Training Course	1
7	2 x PHECC* FAR** (Refresher) Training Courses	15
8	1 x Fire Warden Training Course	12
9	1 x Safety Rep Training Courses (4 new staff require in 2022)	4
10	DSE & Pregnancy Risk Assessment Training	4
11	IOSH Lead Safety for Authority and Senior Management	11
12	Safety Rep Refresher Training Courses	6
13	Risk Assessment Training	9
14	Safe Pass Training	1
15	Working at Height Course	45

\* PHECC (Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council PHECC is an independent statutory agency with responsibility for standards, education and training in the field of pre-hospital emergency).

\*\* FAR (First Aid Response).

# Organisational Capability Review

The Organisational Capability Review published in April 2020 made 46 recommendations which, when implemented, will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the SFPA.

The report forms part of the Programme for Government. Its implementation will ensure that the SFPA will have the agility and capacity to deliver on its statutory mandate in a constantly changing operating environment.

Significant progress was made in the implementation of the recommendations in the Review over the course of 2022. Of the 46 recommendations 35 have been delivered and the remaining 11 are in progress with several of those close to 100% completion.

## Key strategic recommendations which have been completed during 2022 include:

The introduction of a new business planning framework

Business plans are formulated based on strategic objectives and legislative requirements. Business plans inform goal setting with individual employees. This framework provides a strong link between strategic goals and operational activity and allows staff members across the organisation to understand the role that their work plays in the delivery of the SFPA strategy.

Introduction of a portfolio management approach and an organisation-wide Project Management Office

Building on the successful establishment of the Project Management Office, a portfolio management approach has been implemented with regard to the prioritisation and implementation of projects and programmes across the organisation. This approach will drive cohesion across the organisation to ensure that projects complement each other and effectively deliver on the SFPA strategy.



### Development of an IT Strategy

An IT Strategy and the steps required to deliver it was developed in 2022. Delivery of the strategy will enable the SFPA to leverage data and technology to deliver on its core mandate of protecting seafood trade, protecting seafood safety and protecting seafood sustainability in a more streamlined and agile manner.

*It is envisaged that work on the implementation of recommendations from the Organisational Capability Review will be completed in 2023.*

The completion of this body of work will see the finalisation of a major change programme across the SFPA that was initiated to fundamentally reset the organisation and ensure that it is well placed to deliver on its mandate in a complex and challenging environment.



# Report and Financial Statements

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# General Information

**Members of the Authority:**

Mr. Paschal Hayes  
Mr. Michael Finn  
Mr. Jonathan Hoare

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# Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General

## Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

### Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority

#### Opinion on the financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority for the year ended 31 December 2022 as required under the provisions of section 65 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006. The financial statements comprise

- the statement of income and expenditure and retained revenue reserves
- the statement of comprehensive income
- the statement of financial position
- the statement of cash flows, and
- the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority at 31 December 2022 and of its income and expenditure for 2022 in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 – *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland*.

#### Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Report on information other than the financial statements, and on other matters

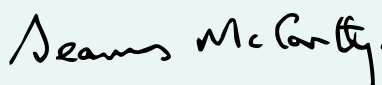
The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority has presented certain other information together with the financial statements. This comprises the annual report, the governance statement and Authority members' report, and the statement on internal control. My responsibilities to report in relation to such information, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

#### EU Commission audit of sea-fisheries control

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority is the competent authority for control of Ireland's sea-fisheries.

The statement on internal control explains that an EU Commission administrative inquiry in 2019 identified significant shortcomings in the weighing and reporting of pelagic fish landings and a lack of controls or enforcement over catches of bluefin tuna. In April 2021, the Commission revoked an existing derogation allowing the weighing of fishing catches at Irish processing facilities.

The statement on internal control states that an interim control plan was agreed with the Commission for 2022. Measures were implemented to address the issues raised by the Commission, and the Authority submitted a new, permanent, control plan in September 2022. The plan was formally approved by the Commission in December 2022 and came into effect on 1 January 2023, and is critical to ensuring Ireland adheres to its obligations under the EU Common Fisheries Policy.



**Seamus McCarthy**

COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL

30 June 2023



# Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General

## Appendix to the report

### Responsibilities of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority members

The governance statement and Authority members' report sets out the Authority members' responsibilities for

- the preparation of annual financial statements in the form prescribed under section 65 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006
- ensuring that the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with FRS102
- ensuring the regularity of transactions
- assessing whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, and
- implementing such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under section 65 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 to audit the financial statements of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures.

- I conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, on whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority to cease to continue as a going concern.
- I evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

### Information other than the financial statements

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information presented with those statements, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, I am required under the ISAs to read the other information presented and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

### Reporting on other matters

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. I report if I identify material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I report if I identify any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.

# Governance Statement and Authority Members' Report

## Governance

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority was established under the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006. The functions of the Authority are set out in section 43 of this Act. The Authority is responsible for ensuring good governance of the organisation. The regular day-to-day management, control and direction of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority is the responsibility of the Chairperson, who is an Authority member and two other Authority members. The Authority members are also members of the Senior Management Team. The Senior Management Team must follow the broad strategic direction set by the Authority and must have a clear understanding of the key activities and decisions related to the entity, and of any significant risks likely to arise. Under the provisions of Section 68 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006, the Chairperson is accountable to the Public Accounts Committee and the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

## Authority's Responsibilities

The work and responsibilities of the Authority are provided for in:

- the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006,
- other relevant legislation including; Health & Safety Law, Employment Law, Data Protection Law, Freedom of Information Law, Sea-Fisheries Law and Food Safety Law,
- the public Financial Procedures published by the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform,
- the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2016,
- the Oversight and Performance Delivery Agreement with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine 2021-2023,
- the Service Contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland, and
- the Service Level Agreement with the Department of Defence.

Matters specifically reserved for Authority decision are set out in the Corporate Governance Policies and Procedures.

Section 65 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 requires the Authority to keep, in such form as may be approved by the Minister for the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine with the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform, all proper and usual accounts of money received and expended by it.

In preparing these financial statements, the Authority is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that it will continue in operation, and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Authority is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, its financial position and enables it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 65 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006. The maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information on the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority's website is the responsibility of the Authority.

The Authority is responsible for approving the annual plan and budget. An evaluation of the performance of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority by reference to the annual plan and budget was carried out on 31 January 2023.

The Authority is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Authority considers that the financial statements of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority give a true and fair view of the financial performance and the financial position of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority at 31 December 2022.

## Authority Structure

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority does not have a Board but currently comprises a three-member Executive Authority. One of the members of the Authority is the Chairperson. The table below details the Authority members.

Authority Member	Role	Date Appointed from/to
Mr. Paschal Hayes	Authority Chairperson	14 January 2022 to 13 January 2029
Mr. Michael Finn	Authority Member	03 October 2022 to 02 October 2029
Mr. Jonathan Hoare	Authority Member	03 October 2022 to 02 October 2029
Mr. Timothy Donovan	Authority Member	28 June 2021 to 11 February 2022

The Authority Chairperson Mr. Paschal Hayes was appointed on 14 January 2022. The Authority members Mr. Michael Finn and Mr. Jonathan Hoare were both appointed on 03 October 2022. The Authority member Mr. Timothy Donovan resigned from his position on the 11 February 2022.

## Schedule of Attendance

A schedule of attendance at Authority Meetings is set out below. Authority Meetings were held on 15 March 2022, 31 May 2022, 17 October 2022 and 19 December 2022.

Authority Meetings	
Number of Meetings	4
Paschal Hayes	4
Michael Finn	2
Jonathan Hoare	2

## Audit and Risk Committee

The Authority has established an Audit and Risk Committee which comprises five independent non-executive members. The role of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) is to support the Authority in relation to its responsibilities relating to risk, control, and governance and associated assurance. The ARC is independent from the financial management of the organisation. In particular, the Committee ensures that the internal control systems including audit activities are monitored actively and independently. The ARC reports to the Authority formally in writing annually.

During 2022, the members of the Audit and Risk Committee were: Peter Cowap, Chairperson, Seán Angland, Pat Farrell, Brendan O'Shea, Rav Vithaldas and Shane McCarthy. There were six meetings of the ARC in 2022.

Brendan O'Shea retired from the ARC on 07 February 2022. Shane McCarthy was subsequently appointed to the ARC on 09 May 2022. Pat Farrell's term of appointment to the ARC was extended on 04 September 2022 for a further five years. Seán Angland resigned from the ARC on 10 February 2023.

## Schedule of Attendance, Fees and Expenses

A schedule of attendance at the Audit and Risk Committee meetings for 2022 is set out below including the fees and expenses received by each ARC member:

Audit & Risk Committee	Fees 2022	Expenses 2022
	€	€
Number of Meetings	6	
Peter Cowap, Chair	6	2,414
Seán Angland	5	-
Pat Farrell	5	1,414
Brendan O'Shea	1	283
Rav Vithaldas	6	1,697
Shane McCarthy	4	1,131
	<b>6,939</b>	<b>1,173</b>

# Governance Statement and Authority Members' Report (continued)

## Review of the Organisational Capability of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority

Government policy as expressed in their strategy "Civil Service Renewal Plan" provides for the implementation of a programme of organisational reviews, the purpose being:

'To embed a culture of regular and objective assessments of the capacity and capability of each Department to achieve its objectives and take the necessary action to close any gaps'. In 2019, the Authority commissioned a Review of the Organisational Capability of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority. The principal objective of the review is to contribute to the ongoing and future development of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority so that it is recognised as an agency of excellence and role model for other agencies.

An Organisational Capability Review was completed by external service providers and a report issued on 3 April 2020. An independent advisory board has been appointed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to support the Authority and to oversee the implementation of the Review recommendations. The Review made 46 recommendations that, when implemented, will address issues identified to improve the effectiveness of the organisation. Of the 46 recommendations, 43 are complete and the implementation of the remaining 3 recommendations is in progress. The full Review report is available on the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority website.

## Disclosures Required by Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016)

The Authority is responsible for ensuring that the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority has complied with corporate governance requirements, including those of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies ("the Code"), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform in August 2016. The following disclosures are required by the Code:

## Employee Short-Term Benefits Breakdown

Employees' short-term benefits in excess of €60,000 are categorised into the following bands:

Range From	To	Number of employees 2022	Number of employees 2021
€60,000	- €69,999	13	9
€70,000	- €79,999	10	14
€80,000	- €89,999	38	36
€90,000	- €99,999	7	7
€100,000	- €109,999	5	2
€110,000	- €119,999	-	1
€140,000	- €149,999	1	-

Note: For the purposes of this disclosure, short-term employee benefits in relation to services rendered during the reporting period include salary, allowances, overtime and other payments made to the employee, but exclude employer's PRSI.

## Consultancy Costs

Consultancy costs include the cost of external advice to management and exclude outsourced 'business-as-usual' functions.

	2022 €	2021 €
Financial/accounting advice	35,713	-
Human resources	25,514	16,504
Legal advice	214,329	465,622
Public relations	90,985	65,028
Business improvement projects	22,140	-
Strategy implementation <sup>1</sup>	81,426	-
EMFF/AF project management support <sup>2</sup>	932,705	954,110
<b>Total consultancy costs</b>	<b>1,402,812</b>	<b>1,501,264</b>
Consultancy costs charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves	1,402,812	1,501,264
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,402,812</b>	<b>1,501,264</b>

<sup>1</sup> In 2022, strategy implementation consultancy costs includes the cost of the external service provider engaged to undertake the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) strategy review of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority.

<sup>2</sup> The comparative figure for 2021 has been restated by €2,384,866 to remove IMT development expenditure paid to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine that was misclassified as consultancy costs.

## Legal Costs and Settlements

The table below provides a breakdown of amounts recognised as expenditure in the reporting period in relation to legal costs, settlements and conciliation and arbitration proceedings. This does not include expenditure in relation to general legal advice received by the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority which is disclosed in Consultancy costs above.

	2022 €	2021 €
Legal fees - legal proceedings	336,281	344,664
Settlements	63,986	466
<b>Total</b>	<b>400,267</b>	<b>345,130</b>

Included in these legal costs is an amount of €Nil (2021: €Nil) in relation to on-going matters involving the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority.

## Travel and Subsistence Expenditure

Travel and subsistence expenditure is categorised as follows:

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Domestic</b>		
Authority <sup>3</sup>	13,388	1,635
Employees <sup>4</sup>	710,318	479,100
Audit & Risk Committee	1,173	-
Consultative Committee	3,375	-
<b>International</b>		
Authority <sup>3</sup>	1,692	566
Employees <sup>4</sup>	25,039	5,537
<b>Total</b>	<b>754,985</b>	<b>486,838</b>

## Hospitality Expenditure

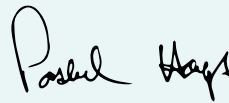
The Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves includes the following hospitality expenditure:

	2022 €	2021 €
Staff hospitality	-	-
External stakeholder hospitality	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## Statement of Compliance

The Authority has adopted the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) and has put procedures in place to ensure compliance with its corporate governance responsibilities including those laid down in the Code, as they apply to the Authority. Where other relevant legislation including the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 specifies corporate governance obligations, these supersede the provisions of the Code.

On behalf of the Authority



**Paschal Hayes**  
EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON  
26 June 2023

<sup>3</sup> Includes travel and subsistence of €15,137 (2021: €1,820) paid directly to Authority members relating to 2022. A balance of €459 (2021: €381) relates to expenditure paid by the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority on behalf of the Authority members. During 2022, €516 (2021: €Nil) of the total amount of travel and subsistence costs for the Authority members was reimbursed to the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority by EU agencies.

<sup>4</sup> During 2022, €6,908 (2021: €4,976) of the total amount of travel and subsistence costs for employees was reimbursed to the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority by EU agencies.

# Statement on Internal Control

## Scope of Responsibility

On behalf of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority I acknowledge the Authority's responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).

## Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely manner.

The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform, has been in place in the Authority for the year ended 31 December 2022 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements except for the internal control issues outlined below.

## Capacity to Handle Risk

The Authority has established an Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) comprising five independent non-executive members with financial, audit, governance and technical expertise, one of whom is the Chair. The ARC met six (6) times in 2022.

The Authority has outsourced its internal audit function to a professional services firm. Internal audit operates in accordance with the Authority's internal audit charter and the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016). The programme of work performed by internal audit is agreed in advance with the ARC. The programme is reviewed annually and revised as and when required. The current internal audit work programme takes account of areas of potential risk identified by the organisation having regard to its strategic objectives and risk management framework. All internal audit reports are considered by the Authority and ARC. These reports highlight deficiencies or weaknesses, if any, in the system of internal control and the recommended corrective actions to be taken where necessary.

The Authority has developed a risk management policy which sets out its risk appetite, the risk management processes in place and details the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to risk. This policy has been issued to all staff who are expected to work within the Authority's risk management policies, to alert management on emerging risks and control weaknesses and assume responsibility for risks and controls within their own area of work.

## Risk and Control Framework

The Authority has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks.

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority Risk Management Policy complies with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2016. The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority has appointed a Chief Risk Officer. Unit based risk registers have been developed by each business unit which identify the key risks facing the Authority and are subject to on-going review.

Risks are identified, assessed and measured according to their significance. Any risks deemed to be fundamental risks or of a certain score will be included as part of the overall risk register for consideration and discussion by the Authority. The register is reviewed and updated by the Authority on a quarterly basis and subsequently presented to the ARC. The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibility for operation of controls assigned to specific business units/managers. The Authority has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- procedures for all key business processes have been documented,
- clearly defined management responsibilities and powers,
- there is a comprehensive budgeting system with an annual budget which is reviewed, approved and kept under review by the members of the Authority,
- regular reviews by the Authority of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts,
- financial and operational responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability,
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of information and communication technology systems,
- there are systems in place to safeguard the assets, and
- regular internal audit reviews on financial, operational and compliance controls and procedures.

## Ongoing Monitoring and Review

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes and control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action and to management and the Authority members, where relevant, in a timely manner. I confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- key risks and controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies,
- reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned, and
- there are regular reviews by Authority members and senior management of periodic and annual performance and financial reports which indicate performance against budgets/forecasts.

## Procurement

I confirm that the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines as set out by the Office of Government Procurement.

## Impact of COVID-19

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority's response to the impact of COVID-19 continues to evolve in light of changing circumstances and risks.

As part of the transitional protocol announced by Government, the Authority has maintained the good practices, built up over the past two years and began a phased approach to the return to its physical workplaces in February 2022. The following internal control measures are in place to ensure effective internal controls are maintained during the transition phase:

- Implementation of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority COVID-19 Response Plan,
- Establishment of a Blended Working Policy in line with the Blended Working Policy Framework for Civil Service Organisations, and
- Revision of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority operational Standard Operating Procedures to ensure the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority statutory responsibilities continue to be met while ensuring the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority follows Government guidance on COVID-19 best practice.

The Authority's response to the impact of COVID-19 has been considered as part of the review of effectiveness of the system of internal control for 2022.

## BREXIT

Due to its regulatory role the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority is one of the key marine agencies post-Brexit following the UK's departure from the EU. Significant resources have been put in place to implement the monitoring of landings from UK fishing vessels including providing services in 2022 to newly designated third country landing ports. This includes the establishment of a new port office in Greencastle, Co. Donegal. The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority continues to operate the trade support measures that it has put in place to facilitate the import of seafood products from Great Britain. Planning is underway to support industry for the introduction of a requirement for Export Health Certification of fishery products to Great Britain pending confirmation of UK requirements in this regard during 2023.

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority is required to continue to provide additional certification, control and enforcement actions in the following areas as a result of Brexit: Import Consignments, Import Direct Landings, Export Consignments and Export Direct Landings. The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine designated additional Irish ports for fish landings by third country registered fishing vessels during 2022 in order to facilitate Northern Ireland registered vessels landing into Ireland. Quigley's Point and Moville have been added to the list of designated ports.

## Review of Effectiveness

The Authority's review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by:

- the senior managers within the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority who have responsibility for the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority procedures and practices that uphold the internal control and assurance framework,
- the work of the Internal Auditor,
- the Audit and Risk Committee which oversees the work of the internal auditor,
- the work of External Auditors, including the Comptroller and Auditor General and European Commission,
- oversight of management activity through the risk management system and compliance functions including health & safety and procurement, and
- the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority response to the impact of COVID-19.

The Statement on Internal Control has been reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee and the Authority members to ensure it accurately reflects the control system in operation during the reporting period.

I confirm that the Authority members conducted an annual review of the effectiveness of the internal controls for 2022, in January 2023.

# Statement on Internal Control (continued)

## Internal Control Issues

### - Details of Weaknesses in 2022

#### 1. EU Commission Administrative Inquiry

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority, in its capacity as the competent authority for sea-fisheries control, has been given the task of coordinating Ireland's response to the Administrative Inquiry and with relevant liaison with the Commission.

#### Background

In July 2019, the EU Commission initiated an Administrative Inquiry to examine in detail the systems of fishery control in place in Ireland. Following from the initial inquiry in April 2021, the Commission revoked Ireland's Control Plan as a result of what it described as 'significant and ongoing concerns regarding inaccurate weighing of catches'.

From extensive preparatory work and consultation, a revised Control Plan was submitted to the Commission in December 2021. Subsequently, the Commission agreed to an interim control plan for an initial period January to April 2022 which was subsequently approved by extension to December 2022.

#### New Control Plan

As a result of the extensive range of measures that Ireland has put in place to address the issues raised in the 2019 Administrative Inquiry, in September 2022, the SFPA submitted a new, permanent, Control Plan to the Commission. This Control Plan was formally approved by the Commission in December 2022 and came into effect on 01 January 2023.

The Control Plan which is in place from 01 January 2023 is critical in ensuring that Ireland adheres to its obligations under the EU Common Fisheries Policy and is a central component in Ireland receiving a derogation allowing 'weighing after transport' for 95% of its fishery products.

#### 2. Organisational Capability Review

An Organisational Capability Review report of the SFPA was issued on 03 April 2020. The Review made 46 recommendations that, when implemented, will address issues identified to improve the effectiveness of the SFPA. An independent Advisory Board oversees the implementation of the recommendations. Of the 46 recommendations, 43 are complete and the implementation of the remaining 3 recommendations is in progress.

A number of the Review recommendations relate to inadequacies in the SFPA's data management and data analytics capability, IT capability and industrial relations capability.

In 2022, an IT strategy was prepared. The strategy identified a number of recommendations including the transition of IT infrastructure to the OGCIO, the development of IT infrastructure to support unified data systems and the transition to a new IT operating model.

The investment required is significant and it will be a multi-annual programme. The steps required and the timeline for those steps will be identified in the IT roadmap. This roadmap is currently in development and it is anticipated that it will be finalised by Q3 2023. A data strategy, that aligns with the IT strategy, was also completed in 2023. Implementation of the data strategy will commence in Q3 2023.

An agreed protocol on how management and staff engage is a key recommendation from the Review. In May 2023, a protocol for industrial relations engagements between the Union and the SFPA was concluded.

#### 3. Executive Management

During 2022, there has been significant changes in the Executive Management of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority, due to a number of resignations and retirements. A new Chairperson was appointed to the Authority on 14 January 2022 followed by two new Authority members on 03 October 2022. At 31 December 2022, there are five further vacancies in the Executive Management structure.

There is an increased risk of a loss of corporate and technical knowledge due to these changes. The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority has responded to this risk by ensuring that:

- appropriate guidance and training is provided for staff members who have taken on additional responsibilities,
- there is appropriate oversight of the areas by Senior Executive Managers,
- clear, documented procedures and roles are in place, and
- appropriate segregation of duties is maintained.

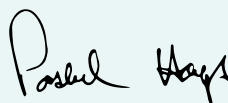
#### 4. Fixed Assets

An internal audit and external C&AG audit identified a number of weaknesses in control over fixed assets and made a number of recommendations. There is a risk that all assets on the Fixed Asset Register are not tagged, that the Asset Tag listing is incomplete and that obsolete assets are not identified.

In 2023, the SFPA will conduct a physical inventory reconciliation of its assets and where necessary adjust fixed asset values accordingly.

No other weaknesses in internal control were identified in relation to 2022 that require disclosure in the financial statements.

On behalf of the Authority



**Paschal Hayes**  
EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON  
26 June 2023

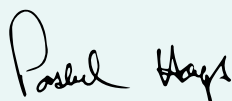


# Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 €	2021 €
<b>INCOME</b>			
Oireachtas Grants	2	17,063,000	14,606,000
EMFF/AF Project Income	3/12	3,788,299	3,422,694
Net Deferred Funding for Pensions	15 c	3,825,000	3,337,000
Less: Pension contributions refundable to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform	15 a	(584,000)	(539,000)
Fee Income	4	105,415	25,126
Profit on Disposal of Fixed Assets		4,000	-
		24,201,714	20,851,820
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Employee Benefits	5	11,608,019	10,366,925
Retirement Benefit Costs	15 a	4,106,000	3,296,000
Accommodation and Establishment	6	550,992	425,281
Support Services	7	1,006,374	621,961
General Administration	8	1,021,798	715,976
Professional Fees	9	4,907,686	4,975,707
Audit Fee		34,700	26,200
Depreciation	10	491,658	537,830
		23,727,227	20,965,880
Surplus/(deficit) for year		474,487	(114,060)
Transfer (to)/from Capital Account	14	(107,098)	231,190
<b>Operating Profit for year</b>		<b>367,389</b>	<b>117,130</b>
Balance brought forward at 1 January		281,805	164,675
<b>Balance carried forward at 31 December</b>		<b>649,194</b>	<b>281,805</b>

All income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2022 and the previous year relate to continuing operations. The Statement of Cash Flows and Notes 1 to 21 form part of these financial statements.



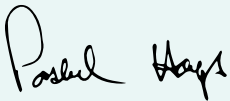
**Paschal Hayes**  
EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON  
26 June 2023

# Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 €	2021 €
Operating Profit for year		367,389	117,130
Experience gains/(losses) on retirement benefit scheme		214,000	(1,043,000)
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of retirement benefit scheme liabilities		23,118,000	(4,179,000)
Actuarial gains on retirement benefit liabilities	15	23,332,000	(5,222,000)
Adjustment to deferred retirement benefit funding	15	(23,332,000)	5,222,000
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>367,389</b>	<b>117,130</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows and Notes 1 to 21 form part of these financial statements.



**Paschal Hayes**

EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON

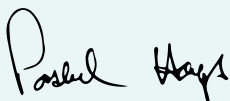
26 June 2023

# Statement of Financial Position

## As at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	10	1,141,221	1,034,123
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		2,547,139	1,843,209
Receivables	11	223,365	150,628
		2,770,504	1,993,837
<b>Less Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	12	1,698,422	1,279,182
Forfeiture Funds	13	422,888	432,850
		2,121,310	1,712,032
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			
		649,194	281,805
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities before Retirement Benefits</b>			
		1,790,415	1,315,928
Retirement Benefit Obligations	15 b	(51,981,000)	(71,488,000)
Deferred Retirement Benefit Funding Asset	15 e	51,981,000	71,488,000
<b>Net Assets</b>			
		<b>1,790,415</b>	<b>1,315,928</b>
<b>Financed By:</b>			
Retained Revenue Reserves		649,194	281,805
Capital Account	14	1,141,221	1,034,123
		<b>1,790,415</b>	<b>1,315,928</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows and Notes 1 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

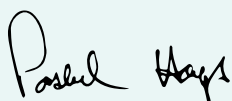


**Paschal Hayes**  
EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON  
26 June 2023

# Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Operating Profit for year		367,389	117,130
Transfer to/(from) Capital Account	14	107,098	(231,190)
Depreciation	10	491,658	537,830
Increase in Receivables	11	(72,737)	(10,080)
Increase in Payables	12	419,240	176,296
(Decrease)/Increase in Forfeiture Funds	13	(9,962)	12,000
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities		1,302,686	601,986
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>			
Payments to Acquire Fixed Assets	10	(598,756)	(306,640)
Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities		(598,756)	(306,640)
Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		703,930	295,346
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the Year		1,843,209	1,547,863
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the Year</b>		<b>2,547,139</b>	<b>1,843,209</b>



**Paschal Hayes**

EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON

26 June 2023

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

## 1. Accounting Policies

The basis of accounting and significant accounting policies adopted by the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority are set out below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the year and for the preceding year.

### a) General Information

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority was established on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007, under the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006. The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority is committed to the effective and fair regulation of the sea-fishing and seafood sectors that fall within its mandate. This means all fishing vessels operating within Ireland's 200-mile limit, Irish fishing vessels wherever they operate, and all seafood produced in Ireland wherever it is marketed.

### b) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority for the year ended 31 December 2022 have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC).

### c) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis, under the historical cost convention and comply with the financial reporting standards of the FRC, except as indicated below.

The financial statements are in the form approved by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine with the concurrence of the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform.

The financial statements are prepared in Euro which is the functional currency of the Authority.

### d) Oireachtas Grants

Income arising from Oireachtas Grants is accounted for on a cash receipts basis.

### e) Fee Income

Fee income from fish processors is accounted for on a cash receipts basis. This fee income is generated from set charges for the approval of fishery establishments and fixed penalty notices.

Fee income related to the mandatory application of fees for official controls provided for under EU Regulation 2017/625 is recognised on an accruals basis. Invoiced fee income owed by food business operators at the end of the financial year is recorded as Trade Debtors and shown as a Receivable on the Statement of Financial Position.

### f) The European Maritime and Fisheries/Aquaculture Fund (EMFF/AF) Project Income

Income received in relation to EMFF/AF EU projects is recognised on an accruals basis whereby the income is recognised in the accounting period in which the related expenditure is charged. Income received in advance is treated as deferred income and included within Payables on the Statement of Financial Position. Expenditure incurred where the related income has not been received is treated as accrued income and shown as a Receivable on the Statement of Financial Position.

### g) Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at their historical cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves on a straight line basis, at the rates set out below, so as to write off the assets, adjusted for residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:-

Vehicles	20% per annum
IT, office equipment and software	33.33% per annum
Furniture, fixtures and fittings	20% per annum
Leasehold	10% per annum
Vessels and water separator	20% per annum
IT special projects	33.33% per annum

The residual value and useful lives of fixed assets are considered annually for indicators that these may have changed. Where such indicators are present, a review will be carried out of the residual value, depreciation method and useful lives, and these will be amended if necessary. Changes in depreciation rates arising from this review are accounted for prospectively over the remaining useful lives of the assets.

### h) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash consists of cash on hand and demand deposits.

### i) Foreign Currencies

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into euro and recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the dates of transactions.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

## j) Employee Benefits

### Short-term Benefits

Short term benefits such as holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the year, and benefits that are accrued at year-end are included in the Payables figure on the Statement of Financial Position.

### Retirement Benefits

The Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act, 2006, provides that the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, with the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform, shall make and carry out superannuation schemes in respect of the members of staff of the Authority as well as the Authority members. Pension contributions in respect of members of staff and Authority members are deducted and paid over to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The financial statements recognise the pension costs and liabilities in respect of members of staff and Authority members.

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority also operates the Single Public Services Scheme (Single Scheme) which is a defined benefit scheme for pensionable public servants appointed on or after 1 January 2013. Single Scheme members' contributions are paid over to the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform.

Pension scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees in the period and are shown net of staff pension contributions which are refundable to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in accordance with the funding arrangements. An amount corresponding to the pension charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments. Actuarial gains or losses arising from changes in actuarial assumptions and from experience surpluses and deficits are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year in which they occur and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

Pension liabilities represent the present value of future pension payments earned by the staff to date. Deferred pension funding represents the corresponding asset to be recovered in future periods from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

## k) Forfeiture Account

Following the detention of a vessel on fisheries charges, a Court may order that a bond is to be provided by the vessel owners to cover potential liabilities and confiscation of catch and gear. The Authority hold such Court bonds made payable to the Authority until such time as directed by the Court to refund the bond to the vessel owner or to submit the bond to the Court.

## l) Capital Account

The Capital Account represents the unamortised value of income used by the Authority to acquire fixed assets.

## m) Contingencies

Contingent liabilities arising as a result of past events, are not recognised unless (i) it is not probable that there will be an outflow of resources or that the amount cannot be reliably measured at the reporting date or (ii) when the existence will be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of uncertain future events not wholly within the Authority's control. Contingent liabilities are disclosed in the financial statements unless the probability of an outflow is remote.

Contingent assets are not recognised. Contingent assets are disclosed in the financial statements when an inflow of economic benefits is probable.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### n) Critical Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities at year end and expenses during the year.

Judgements and estimates are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Authority makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant effect on the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the financial statements are discussed below:

#### **Going concern**

There is no material uncertainty regarding the Authority's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, and to continue as a going concern. On this basis, the Authority considers it appropriate to prepare financial statements on a going concern basis. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include any adjustments to the carrying amounts and classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the Authority was unable to continue as a going concern.

#### **Depreciation and Residual Values**

The Authority members have reviewed the asset lives and associated residual values of all fixed asset classes, and in particular, the useful economic life and residual values of fixtures and fittings and have concluded that asset lives and residual values are appropriate.

#### **Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment**

Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less cost to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

#### **Retirement Benefit Obligation**

The assumptions underlying the actuarial valuations for which the amounts recognised in the financial statements are determined (including discount rates, rates of increase in future compensation levels, mortality rates and healthcare cost trend rates) are updated annually based on current economic conditions, and for any relevant changes to the terms and conditions of the pension and post-retirement plans.

The assumptions can be affected by:

- (i) the discount rate, changes in the rate of return on high-quality corporate bonds;
- (ii) future compensation levels, future labour market conditions; and
- (iii) healthcare cost trend rates, the rate of medical cost inflation in relevant regions.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

## 2. Oireachtas Grants

Funding was made available under subhead D.6 of Vote 30 Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in the year. The funds are used for pay, general administration and capital costs.

	2022 €	2021 €
Oireachtas Grants received	<b>17,063,000</b>	<b>14,606,000</b>

## 3. EMFF/AF Project Income

The European Maritime and Fisheries/Aquaculture Fund (EMFF/AF) is one of the five European Structural and Investment Funds which complement each other to deliver more jobs and growth in the EU. Funding was made available under the Operational Programme of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and supported by EMFF/AF in the year. EMFF/AF project receipts in 2022 were €3,869,802 (2021: €3,436,181):

EMFF/AF project expenditure breakdown	2022 €	2021 €
Union Priority 3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP (Note 12)	<b>3,788,299</b>	<b>3,422,694</b>

## 4. Fee Income

Fee income related to the mandatory application of fees for official controls provided for under EU Regulation 2017/625 was introduced in Q4 2021 with the first billing period completed in Q1 2022, a quarter in arrears. Total fee income recognised from the introduction of these fees is set out below.

	2022 €	2021 €
Regulation 625 fee income	103,615	19,825
Other income	1,800	5,301
	<b>105,415</b>	<b>25,126</b>

## 5. Remuneration

### (a) Aggregate Employee Benefits and related expenses

The number of staff employed by the Authority at 31 December 2022 was 167 (2021: 165). The average number of employees in the Authority during the year was 167. Aggregate employee benefits and related costs were as follows:

	2022 €	2021 €
Staff short-term benefits	10,276,480	9,302,559
Lump sum benefits	279,137	138,591
Employer's contribution to social welfare	1,083,536	968,993
Social welfare costs recovered	(31,134)	(43,218)
	<b>11,608,019</b>	<b>10,366,925</b>

Additional superannuation contributions of €375,383 (2021: €352,039) have been deducted from staff and €375,383 (2021: €352,039) paid over to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in 2022.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

## For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 5. Remuneration (continued)

#### (b) Staff Short-Term Benefits

	2022 €	2021 €
Basic pay	8,756,260	7,946,754
Allowances	1,435,438	1,283,576
Overtime	84,782	72,229
	<b>10,276,480</b>	<b>9,302,559</b>

#### (c) Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel in the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority consists of the three members of the Authority including the Chairperson of the Authority and Senior Executive Managers. The total value of employee benefits for key management personnel is set out below:

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Salary</b>	<b>403,165</b>	<b>426,355</b>

This does not include the value of retirement benefits earned in the period.

#### (d) Chief Executive's Remuneration

The role of Chief Executive is performed by a full time Chairperson of the Authority in accordance with the relevant legislation establishing the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority.

	2022 €	2021 €
Basic pay	<b>140,577</b>	<b>76,133</b>

The Chairperson was appointed on 14 January 2022 at Assistant Secretary grade. The previous Chairperson resigned on 31 August 2021 at Principal Officer grade.

The Chairperson is a member of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority Superannuation Scheme for Authority members and the entitlements in that regard do not extend beyond the terms of the model public service pension scheme. The value of retirement benefits earned in the period is not included above.

### 6. Accommodation and Establishment

	2022 €	2021 €
Rent	173,870	170,636
Lighting and heating	119,743	88,930
Maintenance - premises	194,679	144,476
Office furnishings	50,301	12,275
Office expenses	12,399	8,964
	<b>550,992</b>	<b>425,281</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

## 7. Support Services

	2022 €	2021 €
IT hardware and software	300,401	76,882
IT consumables and services	189,936	174,328
Staff development, training and support	304,178	166,547
Maintenance - vehicles	11,875	6,857
Official control analysis	83,712	109,501
Safety and control equipment	116,272	87,846
	<b>1,006,374</b>	<b>621,961</b>

## 8. General Administration

	2022 €	2021 €
Stationery and office supplies	107,626	58,476
Telephone	92,416	104,260
Insurance	5,889	9,420
Room hire	39,736	8,798
Travel and subsistence	765,769	529,107
Subscriptions	5,652	1,394
Other operating costs	4,710	4,521
	<b>1,021,798</b>	<b>715,976</b>

## 9. Professional Fees

	2022 €	2021 €
Legal and professional	4,495,783	4,564,556
Accountancy	87,302	86,683
Recruitment	157,011	186,207
Public relations and marketing	167,590	138,261
	<b>4,907,686</b>	<b>4,975,707</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

## 10. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Vehicles €	IT, office equipment & software €	Furniture, fixtures & fittings €	Leasehold improvements €	IT special projects €	Vessels & water separator €	Total €
<b>Cost</b>							
Balance at 01/01/22	242,517	2,587,666	532,889	1,225,489	2,444,555	433,729	7,466,845
Acquisitions	-	117,215	19,489	441,068	-	20,984	598,756
Disposals	-	(20,772)	-	-	-	(13,284)	(34,056)
Balance as at 31/12/22	242,517	2,684,109	552,378	1,666,557	2,444,555	441,429	8,031,545
<b>Depreciation</b>							
Balance at 01/01/22	190,536	2,243,888	407,320	860,315	2,312,489	418,174	6,432,722
Charge in year	17,650	200,349	36,074	101,363	129,814	6,408	491,658
Disposals	-	(20,772)	-	-	-	(13,284)	(34,056)
Balance as at 31/12/22	208,186	2,423,465	443,394	961,678	2,442,303	411,298	6,890,324
Net book value as at 31/12/22	34,331	260,644	108,984	704,879	2,252	30,131	1,141,221
Net book value as at 01/01/22	51,981	343,778	125,569	365,174	132,066	15,555	1,034,123

## 11. Receivables

	2022 €	2021 €
Trade debtors	7,221	-
Other debtors and accrued income	42,647	36,127
Prepayments	173,497	114,501
	<b>223,365</b>	<b>150,628</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 12. Payables

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade payables	89,459	41,283
Accruals	1,017,976	859,591
EMFF/AF deferred income	81,503	-
PAYE/PRSI/USC/LPT	340,613	322,946
VAT/RCT	65,848	11,274
Professional services withholding tax	100,201	40,882
Other payroll accruals	2,822	3,206
	<b>1,698,422</b>	<b>1,279,182</b>

Tax and social insurance are subject to the terms of the relevant legislation.

### 13. Forfeiture Funds

	2022 €	2021 €
Forfeiture funds held at 1 January (gross of bank charges)	432,850	420,850
Add Receipts	9,198	12,000
Less Payments	(19,160)	-
<b>Forfeiture funds held at 31 December</b>	<b>422,888</b>	<b>432,850</b>

### 14. Capital Account

	2022 €	2021 €
Balance at 1 January	1,034,123	1,265,313
Transfer from Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves		
- Income used to purchase fixed assets	598,756	306,640
- Income amortised in year in line with depreciation of asset	(491,658)	(537,830)
	107,098	(231,190)
<b>Balance as at 31 December</b>	<b>1,141,221</b>	<b>1,034,123</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

### 15. Retirement Benefit Costs

#### (a) Analysis of total retirement benefit costs charged to expenditure

	2022 €	2021 €
Current service cost	3,597,000	3,192,000
Interest on retirement benefit scheme liabilities	1,093,000	643,000
Employee contributions refundable to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform	(584,000)	(539,000)
	<b>4,106,000</b>	<b>3,296,000</b>

#### (b) Movement in net retirement benefit liability during the financial year

	2022 €	2021 €
Net retirement benefit liability at 1 January	71,488,000	62,929,000
Current service cost	3,597,000	3,192,000
Interest on retirement benefit scheme liabilities	1,093,000	643,000
Benefits paid in year	(865,000)	(498,000)
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(23,332,000)	5,222,000
<b>Net retirement benefit liability at 31 December</b>	<b>51,981,000</b>	<b>71,488,000</b>

#### (c) Deferred funding for retirement benefits

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for pensions on the basis of the set of assumptions described below and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the model public sector defined benefit superannuation scheme, and the policy and practice in relation to funding public service pensions including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process.

The Authority has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such retirement benefit liabilities in accordance with current practice.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

## 15. Retirement Benefit Costs (continued)

### (c) Deferred funding for retirement benefits (continued)

The net deferred funding for pensions recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves is as follows:-

	2022 €	2021 €
Funding recoverable in respect of current year retirement benefit costs	4,690,000	3,835,000
State grant applied to pay retirement benefits	(865,000)	(498,000)
	<b>3,825,000</b>	<b>3,337,000</b>

(d) Retirement benefit contributions deducted by the Authority from staff salaries are refundable to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform.

### (e) History of defined benefit obligations

	2022 €	2021 €	2020 €	2019 €	2018 €
Defined benefit obligations	51,981,000	71,488,000	62,929,000	54,410,000	42,920,000
Experience (gains)/losses on scheme liabilities	(214,000)	1,043,000	505,000	515,000	(353,000)
Percentage of the present value of scheme liabilities	(0.4%)	1.4%	0.8%	0.9%	(0.8%)

### (f) General description of the Scheme

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority was established under the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006. Sections 59 and 60 of the Act provide that the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority shall make schemes for the granting of superannuation benefits to and in respect of members of the Authority and members of staff, subject to Ministerial approval. Two such approved schemes – the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority (Employees) Superannuation Scheme 2016 and the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority Superannuation Scheme 2016 are being operated by the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority. The former scheme provides retirement benefits (lump sum and pension) to staff members, death gratuity benefits in respect of death in service and provides pension benefits for the surviving spouses and dependent children of deceased members. The latter scheme provides these benefits for members of the Executive Authority.

Both schemes are defined benefit superannuation schemes and adopt the rules set out in the Schedule to the Rules for Pre-existing Public Service Pension Scheme Members Regulations 2014 i.e. current "model" public sector scheme regulations. Pensions for those employees paying Class A PRSI are integrated with the State Pension. Normal retirement age is a member's 65th birthday, and pre 2004 members have an entitlement to retire without actuarial reduction from the age of 60. Staff superannuation contributions are paid to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

Retirement benefits in payment (and deferment) normally increase in line with general public sector salary inflation.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

## 15. Retirement Benefit Costs (continued)

### (f) General description of the Scheme (continued)

The Single Public Service Pension Scheme (Single Scheme) is the defined benefit pension scheme for pensionable public servants appointed for the first time on or after 1 January 2013 in accordance with the Public Service Pension (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012. The scheme provides for a pension and retirement lump sum based on career-average pensionable remuneration, and spouses and childrens pensions. The minimum pension age is 66 years (rising in line with State pension age changes). It includes an actuarially-reduced early retirement facility from age 55. Pensions in payment increase in line with the consumer price index. Staff superannuation contributions are paid to the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform.

For the purposes of reporting in accordance with FRS102, the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority has been advised by a qualified independent actuary who has prepared a full valuation in order to assess the scheme liabilities at 31 December 2022.

The main actuarial assumptions used were:

Valuation Method	2022	2021
Discount rate	3.50%	1.50%
Salary increases	4.10%	3.70%
Pension increases-Superannuation scheme	3.60%	3.20%
Pension increases-Single scheme	2.60%	2.20%
Inflation rate	2.60%	2.20%

The average remaining life expectancy according to the mortality tables used to determine pension liabilities is as follows:

	2022	2021
Male aged 65	22.1	21.9
Female aged 65	24.4	24.3
Male aged 45	24.3	24.2
Female aged 45	26.4	26.3

## 16. Authority Members' Expenses

Authority members' expenses reimbursed were as follows:

	2022	2021
	€	€
Mr. Paschal Hayes	9,639	-
Mr. Michael Finn	3,914	-
Mr. Jonathan Hoare	713	-
Mr. Timothy Donovan	871	1,870
	<b>15,137</b>	<b>1,870</b>

The Authority Chairperson Mr. Paschal Hayes was appointed on the 14 January 2022 and the Authority members Mr. Michael Finn and Mr. Jonathan Hoare were both appointed on the 03 October 2022.

The Authority member Mr. Timothy Donovan resigned from his position on the 11 February 2022.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

## 17. Property Costs

	Location	Status	Annual Rent	Lease Expiry
Headquarters	Clonakilty, Co. Cork	OPW Owned <sup>5</sup>	N/A	N/A
Castletownbere port office	Co. Cork	Lease in negotiation <sup>6</sup>	19,500	2042
Howth port office	Co. Dublin	Lease in negotiation <sup>6</sup>	26,000	2042
Clogherhead office	Co. Louth	Leased	4,834	2023
Dunmore East port office	Co. Waterford	Leased	14,000	2042
Dingle port office	Co. Kerry	Lease in negotiation <sup>6</sup>	7,500	2042
Dingle storage	Co. Kerry	Lease in negotiation <sup>6</sup>	5,200	2022
Ros a Mhil port office	Co. Galway	Leased	17,050	2023
Killybegs port office	Co. Donegal	Lease in negotiation <sup>6</sup>	43,000	2042
Killybegs storage	Co. Donegal	License in negotiation <sup>6</sup>	7,000	2028
Greencastle port office	Co. Donegal	Leased	29,400	2042
			<b>173,484</b>	

<sup>5</sup> The premises located in Clonakilty are Office of Public Works buildings which the Authority occupies. No rent is payable on these buildings.

<sup>6</sup> Expiry dates for leases and licenses in negotiation are based on dates agreed during pre-lease negotiations or draft lease/license agreements as appropriate.

### Lease Commitments

Total future minimum lease payments in respect of these leases are as follows:

	As at 31 Dec 2022 €	As at 31 Dec 2021 €
Under 1 year	164,021	157,750
Between 2 - 5 years	585,600	522,463
Over 5 years	2,096,250	1,828,250
	<b>2,845,871</b>	<b>2,508,463</b>

Lease payments recognised as an expense in 2022 were €156,002 (2021: €170,636).

## 18. Authority Members' Interest / Related Party Transactions

The Authority follows procedures in accordance with guidelines issued by the Standards in Public Office Commission of the Ethics in Public Office Act 1995 in relation to the disclosure of interests by Authority Members. There were no transactions declared in the year in relation to the Authority's activities in which the Members of the Authority had any material interest.

## 19. Contingent Liabilities

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority was involved in a number of legal proceedings relating to its statutory role at the year end. An accurate quantification of the settlement of costs or timing of such settlement cannot be made at the reporting date.

## 20. Events after the end of the Financial Year

The Authority is not aware of any events occurring after 31 December 2022 which affect these financial statements.

## 21. Approval of Financial Statements

The Financial Statements were approved by the Authority on the 21 June 2023.







AN t-ÚDARÁS UM  
CHOSAINT  
IASCAIGH MHARA

SEA-FISHERIES  
PROTECTION  
AUTHORITY

An t-Údarás um Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara,  
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Príomhoifig, An Cloichín,  
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# 2022

Annual Report and  
Financial Statements



**Bord Iascaigh Mhara**  
Developing the  
Irish Seafood Industry

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# 2022 at a Glance

**€1.3**  
**billion** Estimated GDP of Irish Seafood industry



**5,825**

Aquaculture Remote Classroom (ARC) delivered webinars to 5,825 students & visited 1,509 in schools



**15,373**

Total number of people employed in the Irish seafood industry



**1,993**

Number of Registered Irish Fishing Vessels



**1,883**

Grants provided - worth a total €27.5M - under various EU funded schemes



**1,170**

participants completed BIM training courses in 2022

“Bord Iascaigh Mhara has a unique responsibility to Irish seafood, and to the people who work in the Irish seafood sector. This strategy underscores our renewed promise to those who catch, farm and enjoy Irish seafood. We want to make sure that Irish seafood remains on the menu for generations to come.”

## Statement of Strategy

Bord Iascaigh Mhara’s vision is that we will partner with the Irish seafood sector in every possible way, with intent and urgency, to identify and drive the changes needed to ensure its sustainable future’, as outlined in our ‘Turning the Tide Strategy 2022-2026’, which was completed and launched during the year under review.

Seafood from Ireland enjoys an enviable reputation for quality. The people who catch or farm the seafood that Ireland eats and exports have often done so for generations. At BIM, our aim has always been to help this community achieve more, and to be rewarded more for their efforts. We seek ways for the Irish seafood sector to protect what is unique and yet still look for growth and improvement. Now, more than ever, we need to fulfil this role.

Bord Iascaigh Mhara has a designated responsibility to Irish seafood, and to the people who work in the Irish seafood sector. This strategy underscores our renewed promise to those who catch, farm and enjoy Irish seafood. We want to make sure that Irish seafood remains on the menu for generations to come. We want to help the sector innovate and grow, so those who work with Irish seafood can sustain a living, and the next generation can have the same opportunity, if not better, if they wish.

In early 2021, BIM started to consider how best to respond to the long-term, existential threats that now face the Irish seafood sector. Alongside the immediate measures that were introduced at the time, we also started a process of planning for integral change. We knew this would be required across the sector and in our own organisation.

The foundation of this process was that our mission remains unchanged and is fundamental: to support and enable an increase in value creation of an Irish sustainable seafood sector, across the supply chain, from catch to consumer.

With the support of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, we have developed our new five-year ‘Turning the Tide’ strategy. It sets out four goals that aim to redefine what we do, and to positively reshape the sector as a result. These goals are supported by four new approaches to how we work which will change the culture and consequence of BIM as an organisation.

The goals are:



**Lead and nurture leadership**



**Deliver results with solutions that effect change**



**Invest for long-term growth**



**Protect our environment and our sector**

# Chairperson's Statement

I am delighted on behalf of the Board to present the Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) Annual Report for 2022.



2022 was a challenging one for the Irish seafood sector, as it had to navigate major hurdles such as the continued impact of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union on the industry, and hugely increased fuel and energy costs due to the economic impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. During 2022, BIM published its new, Turning the Tide strategy, which is an ambitious roadmap for how we will work with the sector over the next five years to invest for long-term growth, protect our environment and the wider sector, nurture leadership and demonstrate it ourselves, and deliver results with solutions that effect positive change across the industry. Working collaboratively as a partner with industry and other stakeholders is at the cornerstone of our strategy. We are supporting and helping the seafood industry to innovate and to grow its overall value, with a clear focus on sustainability. As an organisation, we are fully committed to working with the seafood sector to help them to develop and grow their businesses in a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable manner.

Last year, the value of the Irish seafood industry increased by 4% to €1.3 billion in Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The increase was underpinned by factors such as higher prices, the full re-opening of Irish foodservice outlets after the final ending of Covid-19 restrictions and the increased consumption of seafood in the domestic market. The sector remains a vital element of the State's coastal communities. A total of 15,373 people were employed in the seafood sector, through a combination of both direct and indirect employment. There were 1,993 registered vessels, 296 aquaculture sites, and 101 seafood processors.

The impact of the European Union/UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) is having a significant effect upon the Irish seafood sector. The report of the Seafood Task Force, established by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue, TD, and completed in the autumn of 2021 contained 16 recommendations that were designed to help mitigate the impact of the TCA agreement on the Irish fishing sector and on our coastal communities. During the year, the first tranche of support schemes from the 16 recommendations - which have a total potential backing of just over €423 million - was launched by BIM, which is managing and administering the schemes.

In 2022, the range of schemes that were being implemented had a total value of €265 million under the Brexit Adjustment Reserve. The funding will help ensure that the Irish seafood sector can be restructured to ensure that it is profitable, innovative and sustainable.

The first scheme, designed to support the inshore fishing sector, went live in January. Under the scheme, grant aid of between €2,700 and €4,000 was available to vessel owners on completion of specific training programmes designed to help them adjust to the new post-Brexit market conditions. In June, BIM launched the €25 million Brexit Blue Economy Enterprise Development Scheme to help coastal communities rejuvenate in the wake of Brexit. The scheme is supporting activities such as seafood coastal tourism, marine recreation, boat building, and renewable energy initiatives that support the blue economy.

During the year, a Voluntary Permanent Cessation Scheme was launched to support fishers who opted to voluntary decommission their vessels. This key recommendation of the report was agreed to fund the removal of up to 8,000 gross tonnes from the Irish prawn and whitefish fleet to ensure the future profitability of the sector given the long-term impact of Brexit.

The scheme achieved 84% of its target, as post year-end the owners of a total of 42 vessels had accepted €63 million in support payments to decommission their vessels, releasing approximately €30 million of quota for species such as prawns, hake, monkfish and haddock for those vessels remaining in the fleet, and re-balancing the available quota with fleet capacity.

The Brexit Processing Capital Support Scheme was also launched during the year. Its key aim is to assist the Irish seafood processing sector to move higher up the value chain and become more efficient by providing capital grants to assist investment plans. The information contained in this report shows the considerable breadth of BIM's activities across a wide spectrum of the Irish seafood and marine sector.

Working in partnership with the industry and other stakeholders, we are continuing to make significant progress across a range of sustainability initiatives, for example:

We continued to support the Clean Oceans Initiative to educate the sector and other stakeholders about the impact of plastic on the marine environment, to ensure that old gear is repurposed in a sustainable manner and to help clean up marine litter in the fishing and aquaculture sectors.

I would like to thank all of the BIM team for their efforts during the year. Like many organisations we have been adjusting to the new hybrid environment, and I'd like to thank the BIM team for the commitment and flexibility they have shown during the past 12 months. I would also like to thank the Minister for Agriculture, Food & the Marine, Charlie McConalogue, TD, and all of the officials in the Department, with whom we work on a regular basis.

Finally, on behalf of BIM I'd like to extend our appreciation to Ireland's fishers, processors and aquaculture operators. We will continue to work in partnership with them to support the sustainable long-term growth of the Irish seafood sector.

Aídan Cötter  
Chairperson



## CEO Statement

The resilience of the Irish seafood sector stood out in 2022 as it continued to seize opportunities in a challenging trading environment.



As we moved towards the latter part of 2022, it became clear that the challenges posed by the globalisation of the sector could also offer some significant opportunities.

In 2022, schemes with a value of €268 million were administered by BIM, funded through the Brexit Adjustment Reserve, the allocation of which is based on the recommendations of the Seafood Taskforce Report in late 2021. A significant number of Brexit Adjustment Reserve schemes are being implemented by BIM and during 2022, the agency implemented seven schemes through the Reserve with 1,146 grants approved, with funding of just over €22.36 million disseminated.

The Brexit Adjustment Reserve fund has been a vital mechanism to mitigate the most severe impacts of Brexit on the seafood sector. In addition to providing critical support to the catching sector it has enabled the processing and aquaculture sectors to invest in cutting edge technology and infrastructure to improve their competitiveness and to lay the foundations for them to scale and compete on global markets.

A new European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) also became operational in 2022, with €258 million of funding available to the seafood sector which will build on the investments made under the Brexit Adjustment Reserve. This scheme supports the entire sector and enables BIM to provide technical support, innovation services and to commission and undertake applied research, in partnership with both industry and other state agencies and stakeholders. The development of sectoral strategies are a key output of this fund as we seek to grow all parts of the sector in a new environment where is less raw material available and we assist, guide and support businesses, large and

2022 was a very demanding year for the seafood sector with the triple challenges of Brexit, the continued aftermath of COVID and a sustained fuel crisis which increased operating costs of businesses generally, but impacted fishing particularly badly.

BIM's new corporate strategy 'Turning the Tide' set out to address these challenges. The impacts of Brexit continue to be felt as the Irish fleet will lose 25% of its fishing quota in the period to 2025. Exports and imports of ingredients and supplies to and from the UK have also become disrupted, while the UK land-bridge, which had traditionally been the main route to Continental Europe for Irish seafood products, is more complex, particularly for the export of live shellfish.

BIM has always been committed in our work to support and develop the seafood sector. But the scale of the current context - in addition to the impacts of climate change - required fresh thinking, renewed energy, and an absolute focus on the new challenges ahead.

small, to add more value to their product, to become more cohesive as a sector and to ensure we are optimising the tremendous assets that we have with high quality, sustainable and innovative products. Our Fishery Improvement Projects are a key part of our sustainability programme and remain a key priority as we move into 2023 and strengthen the quality assurance of Irish seafood products.

In February, the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue established the CFP (Common Fisheries Policy) Review Group to examine the issues that arose for Ireland in the context of the CFP Review. A final report was presented in October, and recommendations included the legislative change needed to address the impacts of Brexit, along with supports required for environmental sustainability and further development of the aquaculture sector.

BIM remained on course in its role of promoting, funding, training and providing expertise across the year and our regional teams worked closely with our clients to assist them in accessing funding support through our grant schemes.

The National Fishermen's Development Group inputted into BIM's training strategy and provided constructive input into the BIM Labour Force and Carbon Footprint studies during the year. The Fisheries Conservation team continued work with the fishing industry on reducing unwanted catches to improve fish stock sustainability and help protect marine biodiversity.

The BIM Skills Unit worked closely across the organisation to deliver online training and funding as part of the Brexit Inshore Business Model Adjustment Scheme. As part of this scheme digital training was delivered to 801 fishers with more than €2.66 million of grants paid and has proven to be an excellent model for the delivery of digital skills more widely across the sector. In 2022 BIM received approval for a modern, professional sea survival training facility in the BIM National Fisheries College of Ireland in Greencastle, Co Donegal which will create a modern, cost-effective maritime Centre of Excellence that will provide a professional sea survival training unit for students and instructors, on-site in the college, supporting a safe and professional sea fishing industry.

Innovation is critical to the development of the sector and the Seafood Innovation Hub worked with 45 individual seafood industry clients on a range of different innovation projects and services in 2022. The Aquatech sector continues to grow, with 62 Irish Aquatech companies now operating in Ireland employing over 800 people. The Aquaculture Accelerator Programme led by BIM and Hatch works with early-stage aquaculture innovation companies and provides an insight into the opportunity for Ireland to develop this sector on a global scale. Technology transfer from other sectors, coupled with emerging and novel technologies developed in Ireland are resulting in significant innovations in the way seafood is produced. Under this programme BIM is supporting annual Innovation Studios which have raised capital of €13 million to date with demand for this programme doubling annually.

2022 was an important year for both BIM and for our clients as we work to help them re-position after a hugely disruptive and difficult period. Our new strategy provides a clear path for BIM and we will continue to work in partnership with our stakeholders in the sector to help them to stabilise and grow in 2023.

I would like to thank Jim O'Toole for his significant contribution to BIM over the past five years as CEO as he guided the sector so ably through difficult times.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank our tremendous staff right for their hard work and dedication. For many people our teams on the coast are the face of BIM and we are very proud of the work that they do. I also would like to thank the Board for their strong support and the Chair in particular for his guidance throughout the year.

I feel very privileged to lead an organisation that plays such a vital role in supporting our coastal communities and is a key part of the Irish economy.

**Caroline Bocquel**

Chief Executive Officer



# Sustainability



## Introduction

Ensuring the environmental, social and economic sustainability of the Irish seafood sector is a key mission which guides the work of BIM each year. Each of these three pillars of sustainability is important which is reflected by the range of projects and services carried out by BIM last year. Throughout the year, we continued to work closely with the seafood sector to address challenges and leverage opportunities around sustainability.

Efforts to reduce unwanted catches with innovative fishing methods, and to improve fish stock sustainability through mackerel tagging and lobster v-notching programmes helped protect and restore marine biodiversity. These initiatives also provide market opportunities through the Fisheries Improvement Projects and the Marine Stewardship Council sustainability certification.

Increasing fuel prices raised concerns about economic viability, but also provided momentum around work on improving and creating data-led insights on energy and carbon efficiency. Fisheries conservation trials demonstrated substantial improvements in energy efficiency and profitability by vessels. Major progress was made on capital investment in renewable energy and more efficient production lines which will reduce costs and carbon emissions in the pelagic sector.

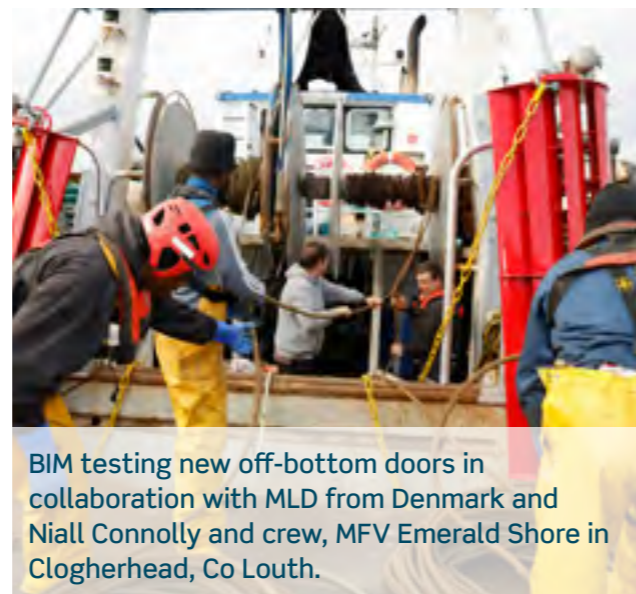
Building on BIM's strategic aim to minimise and eliminate waste, the Clean Oceans Initiative continued to develop and implement smart waste management systems for fisheries and aquaculture producers while preparing them for the new Single Use Plastics Directive.

## Fisheries Conservation

In 2022, the BIM Fisheries Conservation team continued work with the fishing industry on reducing unwanted catches to improve fish stock sustainability and help protect marine biodiversity. We issued an updated guide containing one-page summaries of 22 gear modifications, survival exemptions and technical tools developed in close collaboration with the fishing industry.

Ongoing research on underwater lights and modified rigging on bottom trawls demonstrated substantial reductions in low-quota cod and non-targeted skates and rays. We developed an innovative pop-up satellite tagging technique which delivered robust scientific results on cod survival in the commercially important demersal seine-net fishery, which has major potential applications for other fish species.

Working with industry to improve fuel and carbon efficiency in response to the energy crisis - and cognisant of the longer-term transition away from fossil fuels - we completed a biological and economic assessment of pair fishing. This demonstrated a 29% increase in catch rates, 40% reduction in fuel use, and 32% increase in profitability compared with solo-fishing operations. Major scope exists to scale up this technique in the whitefish sector.



**BIM testing new off-bottom doors in collaboration with MLD from Denmark and Niall Connolly and crew, MFV Emerald Shore in Clogherhead, Co Louth.**

## Sustainable Development of Mesopelagic Resources

During 2022, BIM and the Marine Institute worked in collaboration on a 12-day mesopelagic research cruise on the new RV Tom Crean. Detailed acoustic data was collected, fishing gear performance was assessed, and samples were collected for subsequent eDNA analysis, biological analysis, and ingredient product development.

This was Ireland's first dedicated mesopelagic survey and has provided a robust baseline of information that can be further developed to understand the mesopelagic resources off our coast. These trials conducted during 2022 further builds on two ongoing large scale H2020 projects; namely MEESO (<https://www.meeso.org/about>) and SUMMER (<https://summerh2020.eu/>), which are assessing the sustainable development potential of mesopelagics.

## Sustainable Lobster Stocks

The Lobster V-Notching Conservation Scheme aims to improve the sustainability of Ireland's lobster fishery by protecting female lobsters so they can successfully breed a number of times before being harvested. Commercial fishers bring female lobsters they encounter while fishing ashore for v-notching by BIM personnel. This involves cutting a small v-shaped notch in the tail which confers legal protection on the lobster.

They are then returned to the sea to breed with the v-notch, typically lasting three months or up to six years after v-notching. After the successful recovery of the programme post COVID-19 and disrupted markets in 2021, 2022 set new records for its success. Eighty-two projects involving v-notching of lobsters received support of €392,000. A total of 40,000 lobsters with a weight of 27.74 tonnes were marked and released to enhance the breeding stock.

The 2022 releases represent a spawning potential of 302 million lobster larvae, which would otherwise have been lost to the stock around the Irish coast.



## CLAMS

Coordinated Local Aquaculture Management System (CLAMS) is a long-standing nationwide initiative to support the sustainable development of aquaculture in individual bays around the coast. At a national level, CLAMS is co-ordinated by a national executive composed of representatives from BIM, IFA (Irish Farmers Association) Aquaculture, the Marine Institute and Údarás na Gaeltachta. The group is also chaired by BIM.

Locally, it is a system by which aquaculture operators can come together and proactively formulate coordinated projects. CLAMS documents were produced for two new areas with active aquaculture production, Achill and Kenmare Bay. The National Overview was updated in light of the priorities identified in the 13 CLAMS addendums.

A review was completed of the alignment between the priorities of the 13 CLAMS groups and the actions described in the draft NSPSA (National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development). Analysis of the alignment with the NSPSA will inform a development programme that the National CLAMS executive will pursue over the lifetime of the EMFAF (European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund).

## Clean Oceans Initiative

The Clean Oceans Initiative was launched in 2019, building on BIM's ongoing work in marine litter under the Fishing for Litter (FFL) project. To improve the management of onboard and onshore industry-generated waste streams, BIM has carried out several workstreams in recent years.

As part of the Clean Oceans Initiative, 12 ports take part in the programme, accepting marine litter from vessels landing in these ports. 97% of vessels landing in these ports have signed up to the Clean Oceans Initiative. The FFL programme has collected over 750 tonnes of marine litter, trialled onboard technologies to reduce fishing generated waste and carried out waste characterisation surveys. The aquaculture sector collected 84.88 tonnes of marine litter.

CLAMS groups collaborating with local communities and NGOs worked on 34 clean-ups across 14 bays nationwide, increasing awareness among seafood producers and heightening the profile of marine litter prevention and collection. During 2022, significant progress was made to ready the fishing industry and gear suppliers for the implementation of the new Single Use Plastics Directive.

## Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs)

FIPs are a science-based approach to making continual improvements in the sustainability of specific fisheries. They offer a mechanism to bring together an alliance of fishermen, seafood buyers and suppliers, to talk through the challenges faced in a specific fishery, identify data needs, agree on a set of priority actions to improve the fishery, and oversee an action plan. These stakeholders work together to improve a fishery by pressing for better policies and management, while voluntarily changing purchasing and fishing practices to reduce problems such as illegal fishing, bycatch, and habitat impacts.

There are nine BIM supported FIPs across a range of wild caught species, brown crab, Nephrops, hake, haddock, whiting, saithe, monkfish, megrim and albacore tuna. Five of these FIPs are registered on Fishery Progress, an independent NGO which tracks the progress of these FIPs against a series of benchmarks, generating an overall ranking.

## The National Fisherman's Development Group (NFDG)

The National Fishermen's Development Group (NFDG) provides a platform for dialogue amongst fishers on issues impacting the day-to-day running of fishing vessels as businesses. Established in 2017, the membership of the group comes from all sectors of the Irish fleet. BIM facilitates the NFDG through the provision of technical and financial support through the EMFF Sustainable Fisheries Scheme.

During 2022, the NFDG continued to discuss and provide feedback to the Producer Organisations and the National Inshore Fisheries Forum (NIFF) and Regional Inshore Fisheries Forum (RIFF) on a range of topics. The group inputted into BIM's training strategy and provided constructive input into BIM Labour Force and Carbon Footprint studies. The group also progressed the development of a register of fishermen, that would help gather data to build a better picture of the catching sector, and a fishing handbook providing information on basic seamanship, rules of the road, navigation lights and buoys.

The NFDG participated in a pilot study aimed at developing a fishery for live caught prawns. Members of the group visited ports in Brittany to observe the French live prawn fishery and participated in trials at sea during the summer months.

## Industry Working Groups

During 2022, the Irish Oyster Packers Group (IOPG) met on three occasions. The IOPG worked with ZV Fish Auctions in Belgium to look at new and innovative ways of dealing with Brexit challenges to logistics and accessing the EU market. A partnership has now been set up with ZV Fish Auctions to assist in direct sales to EU customers of Irish oysters.

Norovirus results and analyses were sent to all members of the IOPG on a weekly basis in a joint project with the Marine Institute in 2022. This norovirus study is part of another BIM EMFAF funded project and has proven to be extremely beneficial to the IOPG and their customers. A new working group of next generation oyster farmers was established and the first formal meeting was held over two days in June 2022.

## Inshore Fisheries Forums

The Regional Inshore Fisheries Forums (RIFFs), established in 2014, provide a platform for the discussion and progression of issues that affect the sector, and channel discussions to the National Inshore Fisheries Forum (NIFF). Here, each of the six regional forums can interact with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and marine agencies.

Challenges in progressing a number of issues meant the six RIFFs met less frequently than in previous years. However, a very successful workshop on the most recent developments in Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) was held in November attended by more than 50 participants. A complete gap analysis of the inshore sector's national seafood survey data was conducted, which is available to inform the design and commissioning of an inshore census. This will deliver a comprehensive profile of the inshore sector that can be used to support its interactions with state and non-state actors, particularly in the areas of marine spatial planning and funding in 2023.



BIM Clean Oceans Initiative pilot gear retirement scheme announced on World Oceans Day. Pictured from left to right: Jim Connolly, MFV Supreme II, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue, TD, BIM CEO, Jim O'Toole, David Kirwain, MFV Ambitious, Howth Harbour Master, Harry McLoughlin, BIM Chair, Aidan Cotter, Tracy Floyd, Skippers Mate Pro, BIM Sustainability and Assurance Manager, Catherine Morrisson.

## Marine Challenge

Increased occurrence of phytoplankton and zooplankton in coastal waters is a threat to the Irish aquaculture sector. Harmful plankton impacts range from suboptimal growth to increased mortalities. Previous projects demonstrated the efficacy of desalinated water treatments against gill infections. A snorkel that supported a reduced salinity lens to provide open access for salmon to freshwater in a test pen was trialed in a commercial setting in 2022. The snorkel worked effectively to maintain a salinity of less than five parts per thousand at a depth of four metres. However, the need for redesign to ensure stability on the exposed west coast was apparent, in 2023.

A “bubble curtain” barrier system was successfully deployed under commercial conditions in 2022. The curtain was deployed at 17 metres, and results indicated that it was successful in excluding plankton species with variable exclusion rates being noted at different stages of the tide. On the flood tide, the bubble curtain demonstrated 80% to 95% reductions in target species of phytoplankton at two metres with similar results at seven metres indicating that the bubble curtain had a significant impact on the plankton community encountering the stock.

However, at the end of a strong ebb tide the bubble curtain removed between 20% and 40% of the target species at two metres. This reduction was less pronounced at seven metres where the difference was generally less than 20% with further work required in 2023.

## Cabfishman

Cabfishman is an INTERREG EU programme that involves fishery institutes from five countries. The main aim of the project is to promote the socio-economic growth of inshore fisheries, while preserving marine biodiversity. Significant work has been carried out across numerous workstreams concerning issues faced by the small-scale fishing fleets along the Atlantic Arc.

Data is the focus of one workstream with detailed databases analysed to extract the maximum amount of information on fleet activity to date. The cultural heritage of the small scale fisheries (SSF) has been assessed with valuation exercises completed, estimating the willingness to pay for cultural ecosystem services associated with the SSF.

In-depth statistical models have been created to estimate the relations between key quantitative and qualitative indicators concerning the SSF to garner information on the overall ecosystem services associated with SSF. All data and work carried out will be displayed on a web-GIS tool accessible by all SSF stakeholders.

## Native Oyster Stock Enhancement

BIM's native oyster work has focused on the integration of aquaculture practices and fisheries management practices to enhance native oyster recruitment in oyster order areas. Work continues to optimise the use of spatting ponds through trialling different settlement materials and controlling environmental parameters.

The resulting spat (attached oyster larvae) on shell has been reared under different aquaculture nursery scenarios and broadcast onto protected beds where it is being monitored for growth and survival alongside weathered cultch, used for oyster beds, which was deployed into selected areas for habitat restoration and enhancement of natural recruitment. A workshop for all Irish native oyster stakeholders, under the umbrella of the Irish Native Oyster Fisheries Forum (INOFF), was held in July to share results of the various stock enhancement and restoration projects and to work towards a common approach to drafting management plans for the *Ostrea edulis* resources around the coast.

## Invasive Alien Species

Invasive Alien Species (IAS) pose a significant threat to marine environments, native biodiversity and habitats, including those upon which aquaculture operations rely. Their association with aquaculture movements also presents a risk to the public perception and reputation of the sector and can also negatively affect aquaculture stock.

The IAS project continues to deliver important baseline data for the aquaculture sector. Shellfish Associated Species Inventory Surveys were conducted in 14 aquaculture bays and four additional mussel seedbeds to contribute to the baseline species register and ongoing monitoring. This helps to inform best practice in stock movements and ensures that the sector actively contributes to risk management.



At a wider level, the project helps to ensure that biosecurity measures are both proportionate to risk management, and workable for the aquaculture businesses. Education and awareness are important components in management and are supported via targeted training, conference presentations, and direct support in the development of farm scale biosecurity plans.

## Depuration/Water Quality - Aquaculture Industry Services

Depuration and water quality actively reduce risks to the reputation of Irish seafood and support the continued reliance on the food service markets. An intensive water sampling programme was targeted in Bannow Bay to identify the source of E.coli and inform pollution prevention strategies which will protect shellfish production.

Water quality results were disseminated to oyster producers and relevant agencies and local authorities to inform actions to protect Shellfish Production Areas.

## Archaeological Assessments - Aquaculture Industry Services

Following concerns that there may be physical structures of archaeological heritage value in areas where aquaculture licences have been applied for, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine has requested that reviews of the spatial overlap of aquaculture in these areas - regarded as being important - should be inspected. This will allow aquaculture operators to comply with national legislation, while also informing marine spatial planning. Marine archaeology specialists were appointed under a multi-party framework. Two supplementary Requests for Tender were completed for dive surveys in Sneem and Kilmackilloge and for desktop and geophysical surveys in Kinsale Harbour with an underwater archaeological impact assessment.

# Competitiveness



## Introduction

BIM is focused on driving competitive advantage for all sectors of the industry through targeted services based on driving efficiency, integration of digital services, and providing business insight services. The Brexit Processing Capital Support Scheme was also launched during the year. This scheme was pivotal in providing much needed financial assistance, in the form of capital grants, to support the processing sector in an increasing competitive global marketplace.

## Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR)

Funding under the Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) came on stream during 2022. The BAR is funded by the EU and provides financial support to the Member States, regions and sectors most affected by Brexit. Ireland, as the Member State most impacted, has received a significant allocation of over €1 billion, or just over 20% of the entire reserve.

Several schemes established as a result of recommendations of the Seafood Taskforce that reported to Government in 2021 opened in 2022. These included support for the whitefish sector in the form of a Temporary Cessation Scheme, inshore vessels through the Inshore Business Model Adjustment Scheme and Blue Economy Enterprise Development Scheme, as well as capital funding schemes for the processing and aquaculture sectors.

The aim of all of these schemes is to develop and restructure the sector, ensuring a profitable and sustainable fishing fleet and to identify opportunities for jobs and economic activity in coastal communities dependent on fishing.

Based on the significant interest level in the processing and aquaculture BAR schemes, it is anticipated the level of private investment will increase in 2023, given funding under these schemes requires significant levels of matched funding.

One of the most important schemes launched in 2022 under the Brexit Adjustment Reserve was a voluntary decommissioning scheme. The purpose of this is to restore balance between fleet capacity and available quotas following the quota reductions arising from Brexit and ensuring the future profitability of the fleet.

The impact of Britain leaving the EU has been profound for the Irish fisheries sector. The Decommissioning Scheme is seeking to rebalance the vessels in the fleet with the quota available, helping those who remain to have a sustainable, viable livelihood

It is targeted at whitefish and beam trawl vessels and opened for applications in September 2022. The Seafood Taskforce, which recommended this scheme, agreed a target of approximately 60 whitefish and beam trawl vessels with total capacity of 8,000 gross tonnes to ensure the future profitability of the Irish whitefish fleet, with approximately 170 vessels remaining.

Applications to the scheme closed in November 2022 with 57 vessels with total gross tonnes of 8,700 GTs applying to decommission. Letters of offer were issued to these vessels and the process of decommissioning vessels accepting these offers has begun. The scheme is due to be completed by the end of 2023.

## Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) Review Group

In February 2022, the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie Mc Conalogue T.D., established the CFP Review Group to examine the issues that arose for Ireland in the context of the CFP Review, to advise the Minister on priorities for the negotiations, and to identify strategies most likely to influence the outcome of the review.

Chaired by John Malone, former Secretary General of the Department of Agriculture and assisted by a steering committee, the group included representatives of producer organisations, the NIFF, the aquaculture industry, co-ops, the seafood processing industry and representatives of environmental NGOs. As part of the process, a public consultation was opened in April 2022, inviting written submissions or observations from the public, resulting in a total of 108 submissions.

In making its recommendations, the Minister asked the Review Group to focus on four strategic areas:

- 1 **Supporting the social and economic health of Ireland's fisheries dependent coastal communities**
- 2 **The economic development of the seafood sector**
- 3 **Delivering long term sustainability of fish stocks**
- 4 **Maximising protection of habitats and the marine environment**

The group met six times before delivering a final report to the Minister. Overall, the committee made 35 recommendations under the key headings of: Brexit and the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), the Environment, and Aquaculture.

## Enabling the Pelagic Strategy

BIM identified a variety of development projects for 2022 aligned with the pelagic strategy roadmap. In collaboration with the Marine Institute and Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation, scanners were deployed at three pelagic processing plants to detect tagged mackerel. The collection and analysis of recapture data is part of a European project that seeks to enhance understanding of stock biomass, distribution and migratory patterns of mackerel. The data will feed into ICES annual stock assessments for mackerel and improve overall management decisions, and longer-term stock sustainability.

BIM also sought to enhance the value of blue whiting through air-dried product development trials. A variety of higher value products were market tested and best-fit processes were identified, including the use of renewable energy. BIM worked closely with pelagic processors to assist in accessing funding support through the Brexit Processing Capital Support Scheme.

The majority of pelagic processors are submitting projects to become greener, more efficient and to extract more value from available raw material. It is anticipated that the overall capital spend for the pelagic sector will be in excess of €30 million.

## Whitefish Strategy Development

Following engagement with industry a demersal strategy and implementation plan has been developed to identify value creation opportunities across the supply chain. As part of this, industry stakeholders were interviewed, enablers and barriers to sector development were identified, and a vision and goals were detailed. The goals are in line with BIM strategy and Foodwise 2025, in terms of reducing 70% of the volume of the demersal catch being exported in commodity format. BIM will liaise with industry stakeholders in 2023 in identifying and implementing value creation projects.

## Labour Study

The labour force analysis of the Irish fishing industry provides a detailed analysis of the employment characteristics of the sector. Key findings show that the share fishing model dominates all fleet segments except for the pelagic sector where the majority of crew are employed on a PAYE basis.

Crew typically view the share fishing model as advantageous to maximise income. Access to social welfare and certainty of income are seen as key advantages of PAYE employment.

Employers prefer share fishing arrangements citing flexibility of doing business and low administrative burden. Higher costs of PAYE employment due to employers' PRSI, rights of PAYE workers to paid holidays and other costs were cited.

Recruitment barriers include the negative perception of the industry as one in decline, competition for low-skilled labour in other sectors, lower earnings in whitefish sector, access to social welfare, administrative burden of tax compliance for share fishers.

## Data and Insights Working Group

Given the large volumes of data that BIM manages on behalf of the seafood sector, it is of the utmost importance to protect these data assets and to manage seafood data in a way that maximises benefits to the sector.

In 2022, the Data and Insights Working Group conducted monthly workshops across the organisation to achieve an effective implementation of our data strategy. This strategy aims to consolidate strategic data to facilitate the production of insight, writing of key reports and the development of applications that use different data sets.

Key actions include setting up the BIM Data Steering Committee, creation of a BIM data catalogue and the appointment of internal data champions within BIM's business units.

## Shellfish Survey Programme Mussel Seed Survey

In order to optimise shellfish production, the collection and communication of field data is essential in support of the seed mussel fishery, so as to minimise consumption of fossil fuel by the sector and to generate data in support of sustainable management measures.

In 2022, six weeks in total were spent at sea searching and assessing seed mussel beds. Five settlements were found on the east coast (mainly off Wexford and Wicklow), representing around 11,250 tonnes. A further settlement was found in Cromane, representing 2,122 tonnes.

Identified tonnages supported an opening of the fishery in early September on the east coast and early October for Cromane. Two rounds of genetic screening (600 individual mussel approximately) were also carried out on test plots to assess survival of different strains of relayed mussels.

## Seaweed Development

The strategic guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture stress the need to promote the farming of algae as a way of contributing to achieving several objectives of the European Green Deal. The farming of algae

can contribute to achieving the national and EU objectives in terms of decarbonisation, zero pollution, circularity, the protection of ecosystems, restoration of biodiversity and the development of environmental services.

The EMFAF funded seaweed development programme supported the Irish seaweed industry through a number of projects. A programme of mentoring in hatchery and seeding techniques was provided to industry members. BIM supported the deployment and an early batch of seeded string to combat sub-optimal deployment conditions in late autumn/winter on an exposed site.

Results to date indicate that this initiative was successful and early deployment may be advisable to avoid the winter storms. A new seeding method, known as direct seeding, was trialled to reduce costs and manpower, with a new strategy to be launched in 2023.

## Certification Services

BIM holds Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification for both the rope and bottom grown mussel sector in Ireland. This centralised certification represents an innovative approach to the certification process and provides best value for money for the whole industry.

During 2022, Ireland's bottom grown mussels and rope grown mussels continued to retain (MSC) certification. There are currently 37 MSC certified rope mussel members and 47 bottom mussel members (combined ROI & NI).

For aquaculture products, organic certification has been a significant success and these products command premium prices. Organic products remain a key market segment for Irish aquaculture, with BIM assisting companies to achieve and retain accreditation to EU organic standards.

## Food Safety

The testing of oysters is critical to demonstrating compliance with quality control procedures and to provide quality assurance to customers. The presence of Norovirus is a potential threat, particularly in the winter months, and can cause a health risk for consumers. The examination of up

to 40 industry provided samples per week - with a higher sampling frequency over the winter months has allowed the development of best practice for Norovirus monitoring of Irish oysters for export.

This time-series has also developed a baseline model for use by Ireland to establish national Norovirus trends and develop a study that will help establish the ratio of infectious & non-infectious virus, at key points in the oyster production chain.

## Fish Health and Welfare

Fish health and welfare workshops are designed to equip industry with the knowledge and competence in fish welfare practice, and handling techniques to meet regulatory and third-party standards requirements for best practices for the aquaculture industry.

Three full curriculum class-based workshops (recognised for third party standards certification) were delivered during May and November, which included two workshops for the marine sector and one workshop for the freshwater sector. These workshops were targeted at individuals who wished to enhance their knowledge of fish welfare in the finfish aquaculture sector and were of particular interest to new entrants.

They were also aimed as a refresher for freshwater and marine site staff working directly with, and

involved in the handling, transferring and harvesting of fish. A further two modularised practical sessions were delivered, focused on impacts of harmful plankton species on fish health and welfare, and sampling for disease diagnostics. In total there were 115 attendees across the five workshops.

## Collecting Seafood Data

A key service provided by BIM is the collection, analysis and reporting of national socioeconomic data on the catching and aquaculture sectors to the European Commission. Data is collected annually through BIM's suite of National Seafood Surveys (NSS). The scope and type of information collected is set out in various EU regulations, collectively known as the EU MAP - a multiannual European Union programme for the collection, management, and use of data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, funded through (EMFAF).

In 2022, the findings of the NSS for fisheries and aquaculture were published as separate national reports and disseminated to industry. These reports provide insights and trends for the financial and operational performance of the sectors, and the drivers behind these trends. In addition, a series of NSS information meetings hosted by BIM for vessel owners took place at various ports to discuss the importance of completing the annual survey and included demonstrations on how to register for and complete the new online survey.



Fish handling being demonstrated to students of BIM Certificate in Fishmonger Skills programme.

# Skills





## Introduction

BIM provides the skills required to support a modern, safe, professional, sustainable and profitable Irish seafood sector.

Each year, BIM delivers more than 1,000 formal training places to students in the seafood industry. These are delivered through a wide range of training programmes in locations around Ireland to the fishing, aquaculture, seafood processing and retail industries.

These courses provide a wide range of skills that are required across the whole seafood supply chain, from catch to consumer. This includes programmes in safety at sea, radio communications, certificates of competency, navigation, commercial diving, fishmonger skills and leadership.

BIM training facilities and staff are a well-placed and a recognised form of support for the sector. Many students return to BIM to further build on their skills and progress their careers. This creates strong links and lasting relationships between BIM and the industry.

In addition, BIM continue to promote the diversity of careers in the sector such as attending School Summits in Munster and Connaught and supporting career counsellors in secondary schools.

In upskilling the people for the industry, it enables client companies to attract, retain and develop talent and helps them to grow their businesses.

## Leadership and Management Development Programme 2022

To grow and develop, companies must continue to adapt how they do business to meet the ever-changing needs of customers and consumers. This requires a diverse professional and personal skillsets. To assist seafood companies to meet this challenge, BIM has developed three key programmes - Emerging Leaders Programme, Elevate and the Mid-Management Development Programme.

## Emerging Leaders Programme

The BIM Emerging Leaders Programme is designed to deliver business and leadership training to

professionals transitioning into leadership positions in the catching, aquaculture and processing seafood sectors at all levels of scale. The programme offers participants the opportunity to transform into effective leaders, providing clear direction and avoiding the pitfalls new leaders commonly encounter early in their leadership journey.

This includes how to develop an understanding of leadership styles and understand your own strengths and weaknesses as a leader in an economic environment of change, developing the capabilities to lead and provide direction for key employees. Many owners and CEOs from SMEs in the catching, aquaculture and processing sectors have not undertaken upskilling in leading teams or providing leadership within their companies. There are also individuals transitioning into leadership positions within the industry that would benefit from refining their skillset.

The two-day Emerging Talent Programme was launched in February and was delivered remotely in May and June. Day 1 focused on Understanding Leadership and Leadership Styles and Day 2 on Developing Management Capability in a Change Management Environment. Four participants from the whitefish, shellfish and aquaculture sectors completed the programme.

## Elevate Programme

One of the major challenges facing employers in the industry today is attraction and retention of talent. Elevate is BIM's talent integration programme, designed to equip seafood businesses with the skills, knowledge and tools needed to nurture talent in the seafood industry. The programme is targeted at progressive seafood companies and aims to give them a talent management development toolkit, backed by five days consultancy support from human resources experts.

It offers upskilling in the recruitment and induction process, professional staff development process, and employee engagement practices. This project supports the seafood sector to compete for talent and to be seen as a rewarding, exciting sector with opportunities to build a career in an increasingly challenging environment. Four seafood companies completed the programme that involves a four-month upskilling programme.

## BIM Mid-Management Programme

BIM's Mid-Management Programme, in partnership with Ibec, was launched in January 2022. The programme offers a range of short courses and accredited programmes to build the skillset and capabilities at mid-management level in the seafood industry. Content is fully online, offering peer-to-peer learning and the opportunity to benefit from expert tutors and the experiences of other sectors. Five participants from seafood processing companies took part in the programme during 2022.

## BIM National Fisheries Colleges of Ireland's (NFCI)

The BIM colleges and the Coastal Training Unit (CTU) are approved by the Department of Transport Marine Survey Office (MSO) to deliver Standards of Training and Certification of Watchkeeper (STCW) courses, and to issue certification on their behalf.

## BIM Coastal Training Units

BIM deliver geographically targeted training to fishers around the coast using two mobile Coastal Training Units (CTUs). The units operate on the east and west coasts of the country and are outreach training centres that deliver essential mandatory training to the fishing industry. These vehicles ensure that fishers can complete their training with minimum impact to their fishing schedules. The coastal training units are completely self-contained, consisting of a classroom area, office, and a practical workshop area with radio simulation equipment and chart tables.

## Capital Investment Projects

The BIM Skills Unit undertook several significant capital investments during 2022 to support programme delivery and professional training facilities. This included the commissioning of a new radio training suite and navigation simulators. These investments are specifically developed for the maritime education and training industry.

The simulators deliver a modern simulation experience and provide functionalities specific to the fishing sector.

The simulators are designed to replicate real-life navigational conditions for helm and ship control training and practice, and for vessel routine and distress alert training. It is the most modern ship simulation equipment in the country for mandatory Electronic Navigation System and Navigation Command and Control Training. The simulators replace the old simulators which were working on an older platform, had limited processing power and slower graphics. The new equipment includes the latest Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS), equipment complying with SOLAS requirements and can be used as an alternative to paper charts on board vessels.

## Sea Survival Training Facility

BIM has received approval and funding for a modern, professional sea survival training facility in the BIM NFCI Greencastle, Co. Donegal.

Significant work was undertaken on this project during 2022. This included Stage 1 enabling works which included the initial preparation of the building and purchase of the pool equipment.

This project, will create a cost-effective Maritime Centre of Excellence that provides a modern sea survival training unit for students and instructors, on-site at the NFCI Greencastle, supporting a safe and professional sea fishing industry.

A number of additional capital investment projects were undertaken to increase the sustainable energy efficiency credentials of BIM's properties. Work was completed on a new freshwater heating system at NFCI Greencastle, and new LED lighting was installed at NFCI Castletownbere to improve energy efficiency and reduce costs.

## Promoting Careers in the Seafood Sector

Recent research informed BIM of the lack of awareness of careers available to young people in the seafood sector. Indeed, there can be that negative perception of careers in the industry. In 2022, the Skills Unit launched a project to promote a wide variety of careers in seafood for all levels of education. In addition, BIM used a range of platforms to reach young people and those who influence them, to change the current negative perception around careers in seafood. These included:

- The Skills Unit collaborated with colleagues across BIM to promote careers in seafood using the Aquaculture Remote Classroom (ARC). This educational vehicle visits schools to teach children including Transition Year students about aquaculture and other careers in seafood. In April, the ARC attended the Connacht School Summit hosted in the Connacht GAA Air Dome, Bekan, Co. Mayo where thousands of students attended the event from Transition Year, 5th and 6th year classes in the Connacht region. There was a very positive response to the remote classroom and the information shared with the students on careers in the seafood sector.
- The BIM Skills Unit continues to advertise on [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie), Ireland's leading career guidance website and feedback at the Schools Summit highlighted that students use this portal as a go-to website for careers information.
- The Skills Unit will build on a strong interactive presence at career fairs in 2023.

## Basic Safety Training

The Skills Unit worked closely with industry and the BIM Investment Services to ensure that all applicants for the scheme had BIM Safety Cards and were offered BIM training where appropriate. From May to October 2022, CTU 2 delivered Basic Safety Training for 67 crew members along the east coast, from Clogherhead to Kilmore Quay to meet demand from the scheme.

## Commercial Diver Programmes

Commercial diving operations in Ireland require a commercial diving qualification. BIM are the sole providers of two QQI (Quality & Qualifications Ireland) commercial diving programmes in Ireland – Commercial SCUBA Diving Operations and Surface Supplied Inshore Diving Operations. Courses are delivered at the BIM National Fisheries and Diving College, Castletownbere, Co. Cork.

The International Diving Schools Association (IDSA) annual general meeting was hosted by BIM at the National Fisheries and Diving College, Castletownbere during May. A total of 28 delegates attended representing schools from the Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom, Ireland, Spain, Argentina and online by schools from other countries.

The role of IDSA is to establish and maintain training standards for commercial diving schools that represent best international practice and current requirements for divers entering industry. The collective experience and knowledge shared by IDSA members helps to ensure training standards are realistic and safe.

## Commercial SCUBA Diver QQI Level 6

The Commercial SCUBA Diver course is the foundation programme for all commercial diver training. The programme addresses the requisite dive theory and practices that are fundamental to commercial diving operations. Students are instructed in the principles of basic SCUBA equipment and how it is applied in a commercial setting, in addition to simple communication systems and safety protocol.

Divers master the ability of working underwater in a range of environments using a range of core tools to complete their underwater tasks. In 2022, 11 students qualified in commercial SCUBA diving operations.

## Surface Supplied Diver QQI Level 6

Divers with a Surface Supplied qualification can operate in commercial diving operations in the aquaculture industry. Surface Supplied Diving (SSD) is the preferred method of diving in the aquaculture industry. It has many health and safety advantages providing greater protection for the diver, unlimited air supply in addition to a fully independent back-up supply. In 2022, nine students qualified in Surface Supply Diving Operations.

Divers are crucial to the successful operation and maintenance of fish farms and most aquaculture activities. Daily duties include removal of mortalities from the bottom of cages/nets, net inspection and repair, net changing and weight placement, mooring system inspection, survey, cleaning, benthos survey/sampling, livestock monitoring (underwater video/photography), search and recovery.

The refurbished dive barge is also used by two European projects, STREAM (Sensor Technologies for Remote Environment Aquatic Monitoring) and STEPS (Storage of Power and Energy Systems), as a test bed for the development of systems that will be of benefit to the aquaculture industry.

## Digital Learning

BIM continues to evolve its online offering to support and complement the wide range of in-person training. This includes the use of the Canvas learning platform, as well as a number of short courses that were delivered fully online to clients.

In addition, the BIM Skills Unit worked closely with BIM Grants Unit to deliver online training and funding as part of the Brexit Inshore Business Model Adjustment Scheme.

This short-term scheme was designed to help the sector navigate the difficult trading conditions facing them as a result of Brexit. It was devised to support the inshore sector to adjust to the new market realities post-Brexit and provides real and practical benefit through a range of easily accessible courses. These will help the industry strengthen their skills and find new opportunities for their businesses.

To receive a grant, applicants must have completed at least one of five online training courses to equip

them with the skills to adapt to the new market realities post-Brexit. These courses can enable vessel owners to explore finding new market opportunities for their catch; adjust their business plans to account for the new market conditions; use digital technology to reach customers directly; help maximise the value of their catch and show how they can access alternative markets.

As part of this scheme, training was delivered to 801 fishers, and funding worth €2,661,900 was funded via grants.

## Certificate in Fishmonger Skills

In 2022, this programme was presented on three occasions, in BIM's head office in Dún Laoghaire, in Howth and in BIM's Seafood Innovation Hub, Clonakilty, Co. Cork. The programme is designed to equip learners with essential knowledge and skills to work competently in seafood retailing. Participants studied a wide range of topics including food hygiene, seafood quality assessment and customer service. They also had the opportunity to develop their culinary and technical fish filleting skills.

Graduates of this programme receive a QQI Level 5 special purpose award Certificate in Fishmonger Skills, which is a professional qualification that is recognised nationally and internationally.



## Foodservice Training

Working with the technological universities and catering colleges countrywide, BIM offered seafood masterclasses in fish preparation and filleting techniques to culinary skills students. During these events a master fishmonger shares his expertise with them to build their knowledge, appreciation and understanding of Irish seafood. During 2022, there were three seafood masterclasses delivered.

## Taste The Atlantic

Taste The Atlantic (TTA) is a joint initiative with Fáilte Ireland that promotes a seafood trail along the Wild Atlantic Way with visitor attractions to highlight Ireland's seafood and coastal heritage. A full review of the 21 producers involved in this programme was conducted in early 2022 with results indicating the need for further awareness through social media of the TTA trail. This was put into action with the Taste the Atlantic Young Chef programme.

The Young Chef Ambassador programme was further developed in 2022 on the success of the initial programme in 2021. Five young chefs were selected by programme partners Chef Network, from around Ireland. Development works were carried out on a wide range of the facilities of the 21 producers along the TTA route in consultation with Fáilte Ireland. A target of 10 producers for the development of tours were set out in 2022. This target was met and developments were undertaken in eight of these locations during the year.



Diarmuid Kelly, Kelly Oysters with Roann Byrne, one of five 2022 BIM Taste the Atlantic Young Chef Ambassadors.

A significant amount of media coverage was achieved from a range of activities associated with the TTA from the Young Chef Ambassadors to the launch of new tours. This is a significant support to the social licence objective that this activity supports. Media (not including social media) coverage reach in 2022 was estimated at 500,000 people throughout Ireland with a wide regional spread. In addition to this, sentiment from this media coverage was exclusively positive.

## Food Safety, Seafood Quality & Technical Skills

During 2022, BIM developed its capacity to integrate blended learning, such as e-learning and virtual classroom, into its food safety programmes. BIM piloted the delivery of several online non-accredited bearing programmes. This means the agency can continue to offer food safety training and advice to clients despite geographical challenges. A successful Seafood Hygiene Induction pilot training course was delivered in 2022. This gave BIM good insights and feedback to develop further online courses in food safety.

Other short training courses, such as Seafood Labelling and Seafood Nutrition were offered to clients remotely in 2022 and were very successful with positive feedback from industry.

## Seafood HACCP Workshops

The BIM Food Safety team delivered two HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) workshops in Cork and Sligo in 2022. It is a legal requirement that seafood is produced in a safe manner, adhering to all food safety legislative requirements.

This practical two-day workshop is designed to equip industry with the knowledge and competence to develop and update a food safety management system-based HACCP, principles in a seafood business. Participants are given an overview of food safety legislation and the importance of good hygiene practices. This is followed by an introduction to seafood HACCP and a step-by-step guide to implementing the HACCP principles. The workshop is open to individuals who wish to enhance their knowledge of food safety management in a seafood business. It is of particular interest to quality managers, production managers and supervisors, HACCP team leaders and HACCP team members working across all sectors of the seafood industry.

## Quality Assurance

BIM is approved by Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) to deliver training programmes leading to awards on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). In 2022, BIM delivered programmes leading to NFQ awards in commercial scuba diving, surface supplied inshore diving, marine engineering processes and fishmonger skills.

During 2022, BIM continued to develop the Quality Assurance (QA) system, including the formation of an academic council. The academic council's membership includes independent experts in education and training and its remit includes the monitoring of quality, teaching, learning and assessment. In December, the annual Quality Assurance report was produced which captures quality enhancements made during 2022 and makes recommendations for further improving the quality assurance system.

BIM has evolved its existing Training and Development Committee. The committee is tasked with supporting the development of BIM's Training and Development Strategy for the colleges and Coastal Training Units and the setting of appropriate strategic priorities. Changes within the committee included the appointment of a new chair and two new members. The committee met twice in late 2022 and has commenced the development of a skills strategy to address challenges and opportunities facing the seafood sector.

The Quality Management System (QMS) for delivery of maritime training and education in the National Fisheries College of Ireland (NFCI) Greencastle, Co Donegal and Castletownbere, Co. Cork was audited by an independent certification body in January and July 2022. The QMS was deemed to continue to comply with the requirements of ISO 9001:2015, with no non-conformances identified. All BIM training programmes that are approved by the Marine Survey Office (MSO) in the Department of Transport are included in the scope of the QMS and the ISO 9001:2015 certification.

The QMS brings a consistent approach to learning, ensuring that students receive the same high standard of instruction across all BIM training sites.



## Seafood Training Scheme

The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), one of the European Structural and Investments Funds (ESIF), supports the implementation of the reformed Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the EU Integrated Maritime Policy. The purpose of the fund is to support the sustainable growth of fisheries and aquaculture by developing professional training, new skills and lifelong learning.

Learners undertaking BIM training are supported by EMFF funding. In addition, a number of externally delivered courses are also supported, to enable individuals to develop their professional skills for the seafood sector.

During 2022, 248 learners received grant aid with a total value of €148,545. This was an increase of 143 beneficiaries of the scheme year-on-year and an increase of €37,545 in funding.

In 2022, the Skills Unit worked on improvements to make the application for funding under the scheme simpler for users and to make the process more mobile responsive. BIM continues to promote and evolve the scheme for industry and expand the eligibility for the scheme within the parameters of the of the EMFF Implementation Plan.

## Migrant Workers in the Seafood Industry

The permits system is designed to accommodate the arrival of non-EEA nationals to fill skills and labour gaps for the benefit of the Irish economy in the short to medium term.

Some 46 non-EEA migrant fishers (3.51% of the total BIM training provision in 2022) completed Basic Safety Training to take up employment as crew members on Irish registered fishing vessels. BIM continues to work closely with the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC) to provide training for their Fisheries Inspection team, promote awareness of the scheme with industry and to ensure that non-EEA fishers are accommodated on BIM training courses as required.

Four WRC inspectors completed training in 2022 for deployment on fisheries inspections. This facilitates engagement with industry to ensure compliance, deliver an awareness and educational campaign with the whitefish sector, undertake inspections of the whitefish fleet to detect contraventions, and, where necessary, initiate prosecutions.

Contraventions of employment law detected by the WRC could include failure to produce or to keep records leave, public holiday and Sunday entitlements working without permission and a failure to issue payslips.



## Seafood Industry Training

### BIM's Seafood Industry Training attendances through all training centres in 2022

Course Description	Total
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Department of Transport (DoT) Certificates	All Centres
DoT Deck Officer (Fishing Vessel) Second-Hand Full	38
DoT Deck Officer (Fishing Vessel) Second-Hand Limited	1
DoT Engineer Officer (Fishing Vessel) Class 2	1
DoT Passenger Boat Proficiency Certificate	50
Navigation Control Course (NCC) (Fishing)	21
Electronic Navigation Systems (ENS) (Fishing)	30
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>141</b>

### Safety at Sea

Mandatory 3 Day Basic Safety Training leading to a BIM Safety Training Card	462
Foundation Deckhand Programme	9
IMO (International Maritime Organisation) STCW Personal Survival Techniques	124
IMO (International Maritime Organisation) Elementary First Aid On-Board Ship (EFA Only)	4
IMO (International Maritime Organisation) STCW Marine Fire Fighting (3 Day)	98
IMO (International Maritime Organisation) STCW Advanced Fire Fighting (5 Day)	39
IMO (International Maritime Organisation) STCW Medical First Aid (3 Day)	49
IMO (International Maritime Organisation) STCW Medical Care Aboard Ship (5 Day)	50
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>835</b>

### Radio Communications

GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System) Short Range Certificate	63
GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System) General Operators Certificate (GOC)	44
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>107</b>

### Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) validated training programmes

QQI Certificate in Fishmonger Skills	18
QQI Commercial SCUBA Diving Operations	11
QQI Surface Supplied Diving Operations	9
QQI Marine Engineering Processes (MEP)	12
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>50</b>

### Seafood Processing, Retail and Distribution (Non-accredited upskilling)

Two Day Seafood HACCP Workshop	16
An Introduction to Fish Handling and Filleting	21
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>37</b>

<b>Total Training Provision</b>	<b>1170</b>
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# Innovation



## Introduction

As a catalyst for innovation, BIM supports Irish seafood operators' need to identify, trial, measure and implement new practices and new thinking. In 2022, BIM's Seafood Innovation Hub (SIH) worked with over 45 individual seafood industry clients providing support on the latest technologies to drive the processing sector forward. The Aquaculture Accelerator Programme continued to attract investment and new companies to the aquatech industry in Ireland with a total of €14 million in private funding raised and a total of 145 jobs created by the end of 2022.

## Seafood Innovation Hub

The Seafood Innovation Hub (SIH) applies an innovation design process to provide seafood specific supports that can add value. This includes facilitating discussions on technical feasibility, market desirability and commercial viability, interpreting findings and arriving at an action plan through a business specific outcome.

The SIH has worked with 45 individual seafood clients on a range of different innovation projects and services. There were 149 formal interactions between the various innovation projects and services resulting in 88 client services and 17 projects. The SIH delivered its services through the 'three lenses' of innovation to include technical capability, financial viability and market insights. The innovation services were delivered over a wide range of seafood species including, 15 whitefish, 11 salmonids, 15 pelagic, and 55 multiple species. Some 78 of these services were focused on adding value within the sector, while 27 were focused on cost reductions.

## Developing Formed Bait - Commercial Whelk Fishery

BIM, the Marine and Freshwater Research Centre at ATU (Atlantic Technological University) Galway, and inshore fishers and processors (Inshore Reference Group-IRG) are working together to identify a cost effective, reliable, and sustainable source of bait for the Irish whelk pot fishery.

Candidate baits have been produced and live holding tank trials have been conducted at the ATU. In addition to the performance of the bait (movement of whelk towards the bait), the availability of the raw materials, costs and sustainability are also critical considerations. The chemical formulations of the odour plumes from these baits are also being assessed to gauge whether it is possible to synthesise the attractants.

In total, four IRG meetings have been held and ATU have communicated progress to industry stakeholders. The project will be completed during 2023 and the candidate baits will be tested in detail.

## Seafood Industry Trading Supports

In 2022, BIM supported 10 processing companies through the Seafood Industry Trading Supports project. This support consisted of individual processing companies working with an approved BIM mentor, analysing the company's trading situation and interpreting and explaining how new custom requirements will impact the company's trading situation. This included supporting the company to implement actions to satisfy the new requirements and allow for trade to continue to and through the UK. The project also supported processors in areas such as logistics and supply chain, food safety and financial planning, to capitalise on opportunities as a result of Brexit.

As well as direct support to individual seafood processors, a Brexit guide was developed for the Irish Skipper Expo 2022 and information notes on new custom requirements and developments were communicated to industry.

As an emerging sector, blue biotechnology will benefit from an already strongly established base of pharmaceutical companies (including multi-nationals), biomedical companies, food supplementation and food ingredient companies and others already located here and actively innovating in this space. Blue biotech SMEs are located in the coastal counties of Donegal, Sligo, Galway, Cork and Kerry.

The overall long term objective of the Aquaculture Accelerator is to make Ireland a global centre for aquaculture innovation and provide an environment for companies to grow and develop in this area.

## Challenge Focused Innovation System

Comprehensive benchmarking to identify international best practice in innovative ways of working with a cross industry perspective was completed during the year. A full report with learnings for the sector was obtained and will be used to inform further development of the project for 2023.

The testing and deployment of project management initiatives to support new innovation practices were carried out within BIM to facilitate innovation services to our clients. This occurred alongside the testing and deployment of facilitated idea generation and innovation process workshops to this stakeholder group.

## Innovation Process 2022

The Innovation Process is implemented through BIM's Seafood Innovation Hub to help build and evolve a business case for investment and for a successful commercial launch of innovative projects.

This innovation culture will be achieved by embedding the widespread use of methodologies developed specifically for seafood by BIM to drive commercial growth across the sector in the most efficient way possible.



Lee Hunter, Founder and CEO, The Oyster Pitch who took part in the 2022 BIM Innovation Studio.

The specific projects throughout the year included:

- **Research on new and upcoming innovation skills that benefit the industry**
- **Innovation tools to support seafood processors to meet the sustainability requirements of their key buyers in retail and hospitality sectors**
- **Identification of innovative sustainable retail packaging formats and technologies as part of the sustainability agenda**
- **Economic assessment of the seafood processing sector that enables development of targeted supports**
- **Development of functional seafood concepts for fishmongers and retail outlets to build on consumer demands for health and wellbeing as part of the sustainability agenda**
- **Research on innovative digital technologies aligned to seafood quality to build seafood processors' digital transformation requirements**

## Innovation Advisory Programme

The Seafood Innovation Hub works in partnership with other agencies including Bord Bia, Teagasc, third level institutions, industry groups and specific technology providers to ensure that the latest technology, IP and market insights are available to the sector. The Innovation Advisory Programme is a collaboration between BIM and Irish third level institutions that provides a wealth of expertise, with the latest thinking on innovation application from different sectors and industries applied to the seafood sector.

The innovation advisory service provided during 2022 included food sciences, financial, commerce and sustainability marketing support. This programme specifically supported sustainability as a market driver for seafood products, applications of functional seafood, sustainable packaging for seafood processing, digital quality systems, and an economics assessment of seafood processors.

## Innovative Processing Technologies

The first project undertaken investigated monkfish as a prime seafood, which has a value of €14 million in Ireland and is sold predominately as frozen commodity. The research determined the potential development into value-add options for the international market in France and Spain. A market scoping assessment was undertaken and identified the monkfish supply chain and potential value-add options.

A report on the processing supply chain for monkfish added-value into an export retail option, including an assessment of international competitors was communicated to industry stakeholders. The market demands identified potential for more hospitality and consumer ready retail packs, particularly in the French market.

The second project involved assessing innovative processing technologies that can transform whiting and haddock into the value-add options through automated systems to meet specifications in the marketplace. An evaluation of technologies was undertaken, with one specific processing technology demonstrated to industry at the Seafood Innovation Hub.

## Digital Skills Training

The low level of digital skills in the inshore sector has been identified as a constraint for the sector. Digital skills training material was developed by BIM to equip fishers with the skills to access and utilise BIM's Grants Electronic Management System (GEMS) effectively. This also serves as a tool to develop general digital skills. Two three-hour training modules have been created as part of this training, required by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

These two modules are designed to complement the prescribed content and structure of the 10-hour digital literacy course delivered nationally by the Education and Training Boards (ETBs). They can also be used as standalone modules in informal settings such as one-to-one training in community resource centres.

## Special Unified Marking System (SUMS)

Special Unified Marking Schemes (SUMS) provide improved navigation and safety for all users of the marine environment in areas where aquaculture coexists with other users. The SUMS marking schemes mark the boundaries of aquaculture production areas with fewer, higher quality marks with a long lifespan, achieving efficiencies for the producers. It reduces the visual impact of marks while also creating a system that is easily interpreted by mariners.

During 2022, regular inspections were performed on all Special Unified Marking Schemes (SUMS) to ensure safe navigation while maintenance and mark replacement was undertaken as required. Maintenance was completed for inner Bantry, Roaringwater and Mulroy Bay while Carlingford and Killary were inspected and maintained. Three new SUMS were designed, and statutory sanction sought. Muckinish Phase 1 was completed.

Ballylongford was partially deployed and is expected to be finalised in early 2023. Ardbear was fully deployed and is operational.

## Department of Transport Marine Safety Working Group Communications Sub-Group

BIM participates on a Marine Safety Working Group Communications sub-group coordinated by the Irish Coast Guard, which includes a range of representatives tasked with supporting safety on

the water and at sea. BIM is an active member and works with the Irish Coast Guard, Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), Water Safety Ireland (WSI), Met Éireann, Irish Sailing Association (ISA) and Commissioners of Irish Lights (CIL) to ensure consistent messaging for all stakeholders on all communications issued by the group and through the hub [www.safetyonthewater.ie](http://www.safetyonthewater.ie).

The group has completed an evaluation of a proposed safety on the water mobile application which is going to tender through the Department of Transport. BIM submitted its response to a public consultation on the Code of Practice for the Safe Operation of Recreational Craft. Statistics on drownings, fatalities and incidents are reviewed by the group and emerging trends are reviewed.

## Aquaculture Remote Classroom (ARC)

In 2022, the online ARC programme delivered eight individual webinars delivered to a total of 5,825 students. There were 59 individual schools' visits to 1,509 pupils. Ten public outreach events took place with a total of 7,885 participants. In total, 15,219 participants were involved with the ARC project overall in 2022. The ARC now offers content for primary schools (5th and 6th class) secondary schools (aquaculture and careers for transition Year, 5th & 6th year) online videos and quizzes, live webinars and attendance at large educational events (Schools Summit 2022) and industry events. In addition to the work of the ARC in Ireland, two presentations have been made to the European Commission and the Committee of the Regions in Brussels.



BIM Aquaculture Remote Classroom facilitator, Áine Lisa Shannon with pupils from Realt na Mara, Kilkee, Co. Clare.



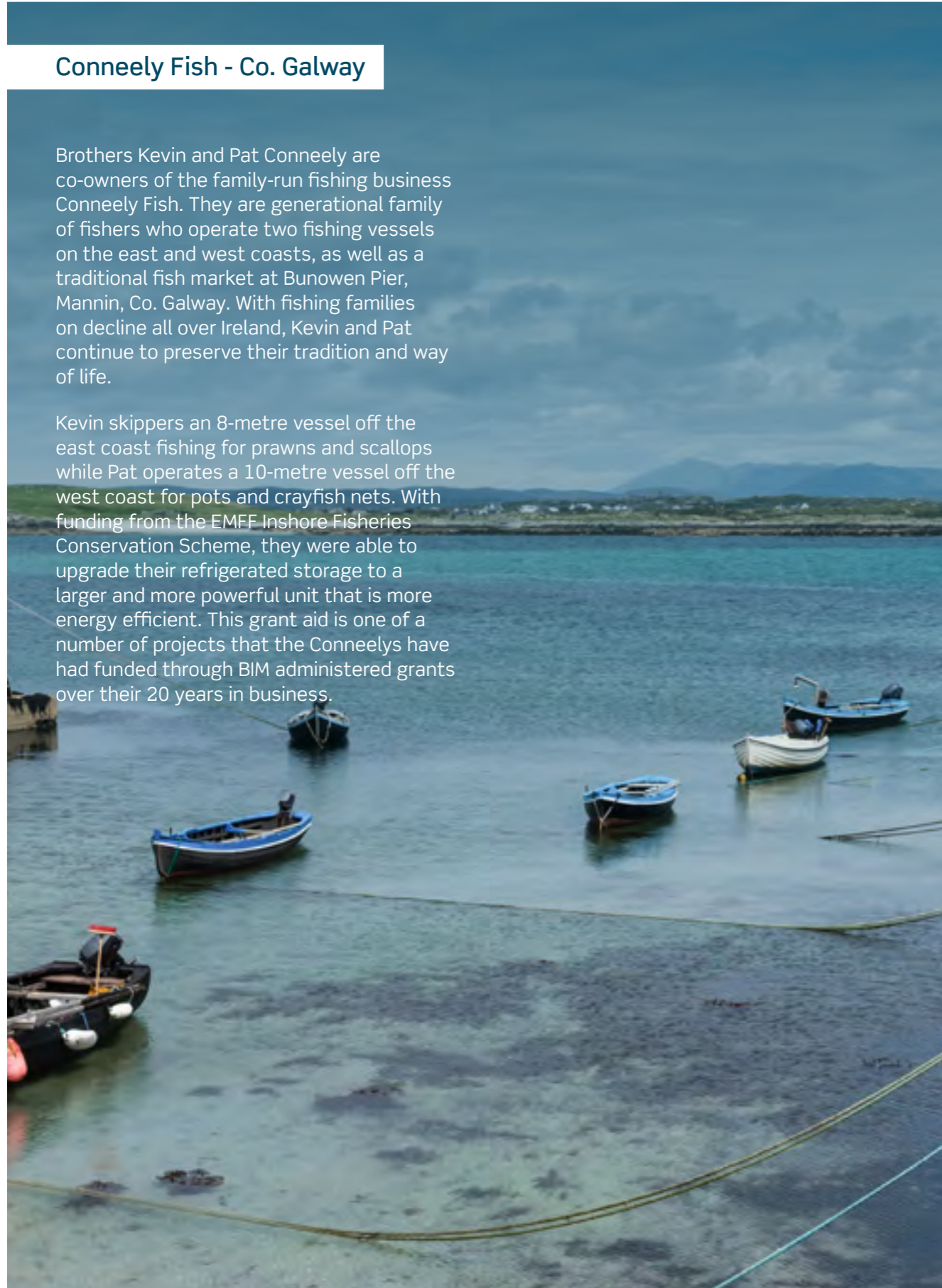
# Case Studies



## Conneely Fish - Co. Galway

Brothers Kevin and Pat Conneely are co-owners of the family-run fishing business Conneely Fish. They are a generational family of fishers who operate two fishing vessels on the east and west coasts, as well as a traditional fish market at Bunowen Pier, Mannin, Co. Galway. With fishing families on decline all over Ireland, Kevin and Pat continue to preserve their tradition and way of life.

Kevin skippers an 8-metre vessel off the east coast fishing for prawns and scallops while Pat operates a 10-metre vessel off the west coast for pots and crayfish nets. With funding from the EMFF Inshore Fisheries Conservation Scheme, they were able to upgrade their refrigerated storage to a larger and more powerful unit that is more energy efficient. This grant aid is one of a number of projects that the Conneelys have had funded through BIM administered grants over their 20 years in business.



## V-notching – Irish Southwest Lobster Association - Co. Cork



Each year, up to 35,000 adult female lobsters carrying eggs caught by Irish inshore fishers have a v-shaped notch removed from their tail by trained BIM staff. Known as v-notching, this signals to other fishers that the lobster caught is a breeding female that should be returned to sea. V-notching allows breeding lobsters to continue to reproduce on up to three more occasions before the notch is repaired, helping maintain Ireland's lobster fishery.

A part of the Irish Lobster Association, the Irish Southwest Lobster Association was formed for the conservation of lobsters and the livelihood of the fishers. The Irish Southwest Lobster Association is among 22 such groups who received financial support from the EMFF Inshore Fisheries V-Notching Scheme in 2022 for a proportion of the value of the v-notched lobsters returned to the sea.

Established around 30 years ago, the Irish Southwest Lobster Association covers an area from Courtmacsherry to Mizen Head in Co. Cork. The work of v-notching lobsters is carried out by twelve of the association's members. The association decided to initiate this important work after noticing that the amount of lobsters in their area was in decline and conservation measures were needed to prevent lobsters from extinction.

## Kingfisher Fresh - Co. Wexford



Kingfisher Fresh is a small, 100% Irish owned and operated company, based in Co. Wexford. They work with Irish fishers to supply distributors locally and internationally with 100% wild and fresh seafood. From the funding received from EMFF Inshore Fisheries Conservation Scheme through BIM, Kingfisher Fresh created a new logo and website which allows people to find their business online and learn about their work, along with their responsibilities within the sector.

They work with several fishermen in the area, including the Kirwans. Their home port is in Clogherhead and their vessels include the MV Atlantic Rose and MV Rose of Sharon. Both Michael Kirwan, Snr and Michael Kirwan, Jnr are generational fishermen.

Kingfisher Fresh work with the Kirwans to source fresh wild seafood to ensure their customers receive top quality Irish fish. Sustainability is at the forefront of what they do, as they hire skip bins at their own expense to collect rubbish that comes up in their nets and remove it responsibly. Maintaining a healthy clean ocean and playing an early leading role in marine stewardship is deeply engrained in their mindset.

**Brian Everard and Michelle O'Neill, co-founders of Kingfisher Fresh, Wexford.**

## Ocean Deep Oysters - Donegal Bay



Ocean Deep Oysters are one of the longest established oyster farms in Ireland growing oysters in Donegal Bay since the mid-1980s. Donegal Bay is unique and one of the best bays in Ireland at producing the top marque of 'Speciale' oysters. Like most traditional farms in Ireland, Ocean Deep Oysters is a family operation, run by the Reids, with all hands needed across a variety of labour-intensive activities. This combined effort produces circa 500 tonnes per annum on 50 hectares of oyster beds. Nearly all their production is exported to the French market where good quality oysters are always in high demand in the restaurant and retail sector.

BIM has continually supported the business. This support is business-wide from solving technical issues on the ground right through to implementing market led initiatives which have helped the Reids identify and retain their customers in an increasingly competitive environment. The BIM funding programmes from the Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme from EMFF funding target and reduce the lengthy capital-intensive period to get to first harvest and have helped install the necessary machinery thereafter to do the job effectively.

## Atlantic Rose Fishing Company Clogherhead, Co. Louth

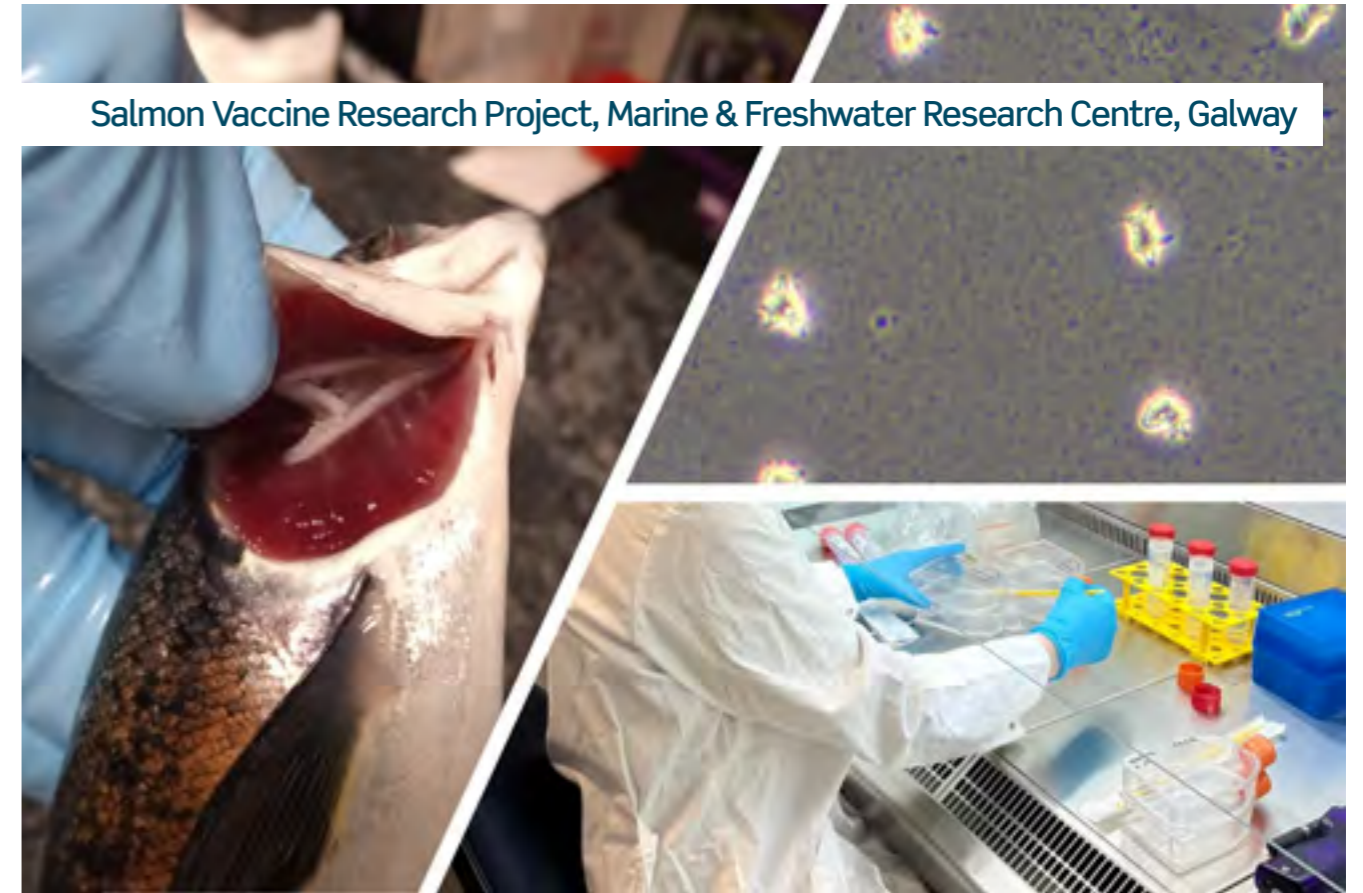
Atlantic Rose Fishing Company Limited received a grant of some €150,000 from the Sustainable Fisheries Scheme through the EMFF from BIM to support their sustainable fishing practices. The company, led by Michael Kirwan Jr., used the grant to implement a new fish handling system. This included a sea water supply system, fish holds, freezers, and a towed gear monitoring system. The objective was to enhance the quality of their catch, improve energy efficiency, and address climate change impacts.

The installation of the new fish handling system enabled Atlantic Rose to freeze prawns at sea, preserving their freshness and appeal to potential buyers. Additionally, the towed gear monitoring system optimised fishing practices by adjusting equipment in real-time, reducing energy consumption and minimising environmental impact.

According to Michael, adopting the freeze-at-sea technology improved the quality of their product, resulting in higher market value. These advancements strengthened Atlantic Rose's position in the market, offering a sustainable and appealing product while minimising environmental impact.



## Salmon Vaccine Research Project, Marine & Freshwater Research Centre, Galway



Dr. Orla Slattery, a researcher at Atlantic Technological University, was awarded a grant of €102,000 from the Knowledge Gateway Scheme from BIM through the EMFF to support her research project. The project aimed to develop a potential vaccine for Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD) in salmon, caused by the *Neoparamoeba perurans* parasite. The grant played a crucial role in facilitating the initial stages of the research.

The main objective of the project was to explore the development of a vaccine that could effectively target the *Neoparamoeba perurans* parasite, addressing the challenges associated with AGD in salmon, such as gill damage and impaired oxygen absorption.

The project team focused on formulating a vaccine consisting primarily of membrane protein antigens. The grant facilitated the employment of a postdoctoral researcher, Dr Michelle McCormack, and a research assistant, Erin Molloy, to carry out the research. In addition, the necessary resources and materials for their research could be obtained via the funding.

The funding was instrumental in supporting the early stages of Dr. Slattery's research project. While the project had not yet progressed to the testing stage, it remains a promising avenue of research which may yet yield successful results.

## Cara na nOilean Teo - County Donegal

Cara na nOilean Teo, a ferry service company based in the offshore Islands of Donegal, recently undertook an ambitious project to modernise their esteemed vessel, the M.V. Coll. With the generous support of a €48,000 Fisheries Local Development Areas Group Scheme grant from BIM through the EMFF, the company successfully revitalised their ageing ferry, securing the future of their business and ensuring the continuation of their essential services to the local communities.

Operating a scheduled ferry service to Arranmore Island every day of the year, as well as cargo sailings to all the islands off the coast of Donegal, Cara na nOilean Teo faced the challenge of maintaining their high standards of service while keeping their vessel up-to-date. Recognising the need for a comprehensive overhaul, the company decided to give the M.V. Coll a new lease of life.

The modernisation process began by completely stripping down the engine room and installing new engines, gearboxes, main shafts and propellers. The engine room was also rewired and equipped with a new generator, exhaust system and keel cooling system. In addition, the wheelhouse underwent a remarkable transformation, with state-of-the-art equipment including an auto-pilot, radar, and plotters.

Cara na nOilean Teo do not receive any other subsidies for their services to Arranmore Island or any of the Donegal Islands. Without the grant aid from BIM, this ambitious modernisation project would not have been possible. The financial assistance provided by BIM allowed the company to enhance the M.V. Coll's capabilities, ensuring the vessel could continue to meet the demands of their loyal customers.

As a result of the modernisation efforts, the M.V. Coll has been rejuvenated, securing the jobs of the dedicated crew members and office staff at Cara na nOilean Teo. With a renewed sense of purpose and improved performance, the company is committed to providing the best possible service to their customers.



## Allihies Seafood Ltd - County Cork

BIM's grant funding scheme has played a significant role in the success and expansion of Allihies Seafood Ltd., an SME located in Lickbarahan, Cahermore, Beara, Co. Cork. Established in October 2011, Allihies Seafood Ltd. specialises in the large-scale cultivation of seaweed at sea in their licensed farm and the enhancement of biomass in tank culture at their hatchery. With the support of EU funding, the seaweed farming business sought assistance to develop their farm by purchasing and installing 19 cultivation lines and mooring blocks, for which they received a grant of over €58,000.

According to company Director Michael O'Neill, thanks to the grant provided the Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme from BIM through EMFAF, Allihies Seafood Ltd. was able to more than double their seaweed production capacity, leading to a host of positive business and economic benefits. The increased capacity allowed the business to meet the growing demand for seaweed products both domestically and internationally. As a result, they were able to expand their customer base and secure new contracts, driving revenue growth and enhancing their market position.

The expansion of the seaweed farm also had a number of positive ripple effects in the local economy, by creating new employment opportunities. Beyond the immediate business benefits, the cultivation of seaweed has several environmental advantages. Seaweed plays a crucial role in carbon sequestration, improving water quality, and providing habitat for marine life. By expanding their seaweed farm, Allihies Seafood Ltd. has contributed to the conservation and restoration of marine ecosystems, aligning with BIM's commitment to sustainable aquaculture practices.



### Malahide Charter Boat Fish & Trips, Co. Dublin



Eamon McGrattan is the skipper of a vessel that runs nature, seascape and walking tours in Lambay Island, off Malahide village in north county Dublin.

Marketed as “Fish & Trips” the guided tours on both sea and land give overseas and domestic visitors the chance to see and learn about marine and plant life that is native to Ireland, along with the history of the locality.

Eamon availed of a Marine Tourism Safety Grant for electronic safety equipment for his chartered boat, which he feels has really bolstered safety standards and gives him more “peace of mind.”

“I do some surveying as well with the boat, and once I was out with my son in a thick fog with no radar working and we came right up against the back of another boat. This grant allowed me to upgrade the chart plotter and we now have AIS radar. This gives me peace of mind and confidence in terms of the safety of passengers.”

Automatic Identification System (AIS) is a short-range coastal tracking system currently used on some boats and ships. It was developed to provide identification and positioning information to both vessels and shore stations.

### Ocean Farms Limited, Killybegs, Co. Donegal



Ocean Farms Limited (OFL) is a salmon farming company that has been operating in Donegal Bay for over 30 years. Exporting its well-known organic salmon worldwide, OFL is a year-round business that provides much-needed permanent employment, in an area heavily reliant on seasonal fishing and ancillary support industries. Limited investment in alternative year-round industries makes OFL an essential contributor to the local economy.

OFL approached Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) with a specific issue regarding the age and capacity of the crane on their main vessel. OFL sought grant funding from BIM to purchase a new crane. The grant provided a game-changing opportunity for OFL, enhancing the capability and efficiency of their operations.

Thanks to the grant-funded crane, OFL can now lift larger quantities of salmon feed onto the vessel and transfer it to their feeding barges. Previously, adverse weather conditions would sometimes prevent these transfers, leading to disruptions in feeding the fish.

The crane has resolved this issue, while also significantly improving the harvesting process for OFL. The ability to lift fish bins from boat to shore, regardless of the tide, has increased operational efficiency and staff safety, while also ensuring the quality of the product.

The grant has not only solved existing challenges but has also positioned OFL for continued growth in the organic salmon farming industry. The funding provided to OFL by BIM exemplifies the positive impact that grant aid can have on businesses, fostering innovation and driving local economic development.

# Corporate Governance



## Corporate Governance

The Board of BIM is committed to a strong corporate governance framework in BIM, cultivating a culture of integrity and providing high levels of assurance to our stakeholders. During 2022, BIM maintained and strengthened compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2016. Effective corporate governance provides an essential foundation for the organisation in conducting all aspects of our business from strategic planning to risk management, financial control and standards of behaviour. BIM's commitment to the highest levels of corporate governance was recognised by Transparency Ireland International who awarded BIM first place in their review of transparency practices of 39 public bodies in 2022.

## The Board

The Board convened twelve meetings during 2022. The key functions of the Board include the setting of the strategy and the provision of strategic direction to the Executive; the production of the annual report and the financial statements; the approval of risk management policies; agreeing annual budgets and overseeing significant expenditure and investment decisions.

During 2022, in addition to these items the Board discussed the organisation's response to Brexit at each meeting. Meetings during the year also addressed board procedures and governance; organisational policies; the implementation of grant schemes under the Brexit Adjustment Reserve; collaboration with other state agencies and the development of the sector generally.

## Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) advises the Board of BIM in relation to adequacy of systems of internal financial control, risk management, the internal audit function, and the codes of business conduct. The ARC is independent of the executive and reports directly to the Board. The ARC reviewed four internal audits that were carried out in 2022 by the internal auditors:

- Review of the effectiveness of the system of Internal Control
- Review of Cybersecurity
- Review of compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies
- Review of Grants Management (Brexit Temporary Fleet Tie-Up Scheme)

The Executive Risk Committee is responsible for the oversight of risks and controls within BIM and works closely with the ARC. The corporate risk register together with a report were provided to the ARC each quarter by the Chief Risk Officer. In accordance with the 2016 Code, the ARC carried out a self-assessment of the effectiveness of the Committee in December 2022. The responses included several recommendations, all of which are being addressed. The Committee also reviewed the effectiveness of the internal auditors and confirmed their satisfaction with their performance and the service provided to BIM.

Members of BIM Executive presented to the ARC on specific aspects of their remit. During 2022, the ARC received presentations from BIM Executive on the implementation of the recommendations of the Seafood Taskforce, Brexit and Data Protection. The ARC found these presentations to be of significant benefit in aiding a better understanding of the issues/risks facing BIM, and for facilitating a two-way communication of issues between management and the ARC.

The ARC sought specific reports from the Director of Corporate Services to provide assurances to the Committee in respect of Fraud, Corruption and Bribery; Procurement Compliance; GDPR and Taxation Compliance. Additionally, the ARC reviewed, and recommended updated fixed assets, debt management, banking, T&S (Travel & Subsistence), anti-fraud, and protected disclosures policies to the Board for approval in 2022.

## Training and Development Committee

The Training and Development Committee was established in 2020 as a subcommittee of the Board to advise on BIM's strategic direction in respect of training, and to provide guidance and oversight of BIM's training and development services for the sectors BIM serves. In 2022 the Board updated the terms of reference for the Committee and established an independent Academic Council. Two meetings were held in 2022. The committee commenced the development of a skills strategy for BIM which will be published in 2023.

## Nominations and Remunerations Committee

The Nominations and Remunerations Committee is appointed as an independent subcommittee of the Board to manage the processes relating to the recruitment of a Chief Executive Officer or senior management roles. The committee convenes as required by the Board. The committee was convened in 2022 and oversaw the recruitment and appointment of the new CEO.

## Statutory and Other Notices

*The Ethics in Public Office Act, 1995 and the Standards in Public Office Act, 2001.*

All persons holding a designated position within BIM complied with the requirements of the Public Office Commission in accordance with Sections 18 and 20 of the Ethics in Public Office Act, 1995.

## Protected Disclosures Act 2014

BIM has a procedure in place for the making of protected disclosures in accordance with section 21(1) of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014. There were no protected disclosures made during 2022.

## Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997

It is BIM policy to ensure that all payments are made promptly. Every effort, consistent with proper

financial procedures, is being made to ensure that all suppliers are paid within the required time frame, in accordance with best practice. Quarterly reports of compliance are published on the BIM website.

## Information Access Requests

*The Freedom of Information Act 2014*

The Freedom of Information Act 2014 asserts the right of members of the public to access official information to the greatest extent possible, consistent with the public interest and the right to privacy of individuals. BIM received a total of seven requests under the Freedom of Information Acts in 2021, of which four were granted and two were part-granted. One request was refused. The requests sought access to a diverse range of information including finance, procurement, systems, internal decision-making processes, human resources, and scientific information.

*European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2018 (AIE)*

The AIE Regulations provide for the right to access environmental information, and also oblige BIM as a public authority to be proactive in disseminating environmental information to the public. BIM received one request for information under AIE in 2022 and this request was granted.

*General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)*

BIM received no requests for information under the GDPR Regulations in 2022. BIM experienced no breaches that required reporting to the Data Protection Commissioner (DPC) in 2022

## Customer Charter

BIM has published a Customer Charter detailing its full commitment to providing customers with an efficient, timely, professional and courteous service. The charter sets out the standards of service customers can expect to receive from the authority and is available in the reception area of BIM's main offices and online.



## Risk Management

A strong risk management framework is in place at BIM which identifies the key risks facing the organisation and set outs the mitigations in place to manage those risk.



The Corporate Risk Register is reviewed and updated by the Executive Risk Committee and is reported to both the Audit and Risk Committee and the Board quarterly. BIM has carried out an assessment of the organisation's risks and the following principal risks were identified in 2022.

Risk	Mitigations
<b>Volatile and rapidly changing market and economic conditions for clients</b>	BIM liaises closely with the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM) on impacts related to the turbulent economic climate. BIM is also in regular contact with industry stakeholders to monitor the situation and provides assistance via targeted grant schemes.
<b>Brexit</b>	A Brexit team is in place which provides support to industry and liaises closely with DAFM and other agencies providing analysis and information.
<b>Risk of failure or loss of significant infrastructure</b>	Implementation of maintenance and safety policies and procedures with appropriate technical support as needed. In the event of a loss, significant assets are covered by insurance; training for staff including sea survival training.

## Procurement and the Public Spending Code

BIM has a robust and responsive public procurement process that is fully compliant with the Public Spending Code and all EU and national procurement rules and reflects best practice procurement. BIM advertised 32 tenders on etenders.gov.ie in 2022, in addition to procuring through the Office of Government Procurement's framework agreements. A comprehensive review of the organisation's compliance with the Public Spending Code for 2022 was undertaken at the year-end. This confirmed that BIM is in full compliance with the Code.

## Health and Safety

BIM has a Health and Safety Policy that underpins our commitment to drive continuous improvement in line with all the applicable compliance obligations, including the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005. The BIM Safety Statement is based on risk assessments of risks at the workplace and appropriate control measures are implemented to protect the health and safety of staff, contractors and visitors to our place of work. In 2022, one minor road traffic accident was reported to BIM involving a BIM contractor. There were no injuries and only minor damage to the vehicle.

## Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

In 2022, BIM progressed its Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) policy and Action Plan during the year which led to the Irish Centre for Diversity awarding BIM the Investors in Diversity bronze accreditation. This demonstrates our commitment to further embedding diversity and inclusion into the wider organisational systems throughout BIM. BIM's achievement of the standard gives a positive message to all stakeholders, internal and external, and is a result of the input and success of the EDI Working Group.

Just over one-in-ten (11%) of staff in the organisation reported having a disability in 2022. Our vision is to continue to build a working environment that recognises and values diversity among its staff, clients, and stakeholders, where people are treated with respect and understanding and where diversity, equality and inclusion are part of our culture and practices. BIM employees comprise 53% men and 47% women. At 31 December 2022, the Board had three (50%) female and three (50%) male members. The Board therefore meets the Government target of a minimum of 40% representation of each gender in the membership of State Boards.

## Provision of Information to Members of the Oireachtas

BIM responded clearly and promptly to all queries from Members of the Oireachtas in 2022.

## Energy Efficiency and Conservation

BIM is committed to continuing to reduce our carbon footprint through improved efficiency of energy performance, water consumption and waste reduction, all of which are supported by staff awareness campaigns. In 2022, BIM implemented several energy projects, including the upgrading of all failed lighting to LED fittings with occupancy and LUX sensors, and the implementation of a 30kVA Solar PV system at BIM's National Fisheries College in Greencastle, Co. Donegal.

### Reduction in BIM's overall Energy Usage & GHG Emissions in 2022

BIM has reduced energy consumption significantly year-on-year, exceeding the Government's 2030 CAP targets of a 50% reduction in energy usage - with a 53% reduction in energy use compared to the 2009 baseline. Similarly, BIM has reduced its CO2 emissions year-on-year with a 44% reduction versus the 2016-2018 baseline.

BIM Energy Usage	Baseline (2009)	2021	2022
Total Final Consumption [kWh]	4,109,369	2,575,398	1,941,940
Savings [kWh]	2,167,429	37%	53%

BIM GHG Emissions	Baseline (2016-2018)	2021	2022
Total Emissions [kgCO2]	1,051,023	705,398	589,437
Savings [kgCO2]	461,586	33%	44%

BIM performed very well in the Eco Merit recertification audit in 2022 for implementing an Environmental Management System in its head office in Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. As part of this plan, BIM monitor its electrical and gas usage, water consumption and waste disposal on site. BIM intends to extend these monitoring controls to our other operations and buildings in the future, with scope to introduce bio-diversity measures on some sites. A BMS system is planned for 2023 which will further reduce energy consumption in our head office. Smart monitoring and control devices are being tested in our colleges with a view to rolling these energy-saving devices out, in all facilities.

An SI426 energy audit is underway with support from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) to identify new opportunities to improve

energy performance, reduce CO2 emissions and protect the environment. Further projects are underway to reduce energy use, including the installation of a new energy efficiency sea survival pool at the National Fisheries College at Greencastle, Co. Donegal. BIM is also investigating the potential for installing PV solar panels across more sites and reducing water consumption through sensor controls on taps. Fossil fuel heating sources in our colleges are being examined with a view to replacing them with renewable sources.

The installation of charging points for electrical vehicles is planned and BIM will be gradually replacing its fleet of vans with electrical vehicles, with the first EV vehicle due to be delivered in 2023.

# BIM Grant Schemes



## EMFF Operational Programme

### European Maritime and Fisheries Fund / Brexit Adjustment Reserve 2022 Schemes

#### BIM Industry External Grant Schemes

During 2022, BIM implemented 15 grant schemes for the seafood sector. This resulted in 1,882 payments totalling €27.5 million in grant aid. The three funding sources were:

- The European Maritime Fisheries Fund (EMFF) Operational Programme (50% EU and 50% National Exchequer funded)
- The Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) Fund (100% funded through the EU)
- The National Exchequer (100% funded by the Irish Government)

### EMFF Operational Programme

The EMFF and the Irish Government co-fund the EMFF Operational Programme (OP) for Ireland on a 50:50 ratio. BIM is committed to collaborative work programmes funded under the EMFF with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), our sister agencies Bord Bia and the Marine Institute. These collectively deliver on the national commitments set out in Food Wise 2025 (10-year plan for the agri-food sector) and the Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth integrated marine plan.

The EMFF funds actions that support the EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and Integrated Maritime Policy through the implementation of an Operational Programme in the period 2014-2020.

This OP is currently being finalised and will be closed off by the end of 2023. In Ireland, the EMFF OP was approximately €239.2 million, of which approximately €100 million is allocated to schemes operated by BIM for the following objectives:

- **To help fishers in the transition to sustainable fishing**
- **To support coastal communities in diversifying their economies**
- **To finance projects that create new jobs and improve quality of life along European coasts**
- **To support sustainable aquaculture developments**
- **To make it easier for applicants to access financing. Under EMFF, BIM implemented nine schemes and these were co-funded at a rate of 50% by the European Maritime Fisheries Fund (EMFF). This accounted for grant payments of €4.5 million. Four Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) funded schemes accounted for grant payments of €22.4 million**

These BAR schemes are funded at a rate of 100% by the EU. The Fleet and Marine Tourism Safety scheme grants accounted for the balance of €583,380.79. These two safety schemes are 100% funded through the National Exchequer.

### EMFF OP Grant Schemes 2022

The EMFF OP is organised around six Union Priorities (UP's), with the grant aid schemes operated by BIM supporting four of those priorities: UP1 Sustainable Development of Fisheries; UP2 Sustainable Development of Aquaculture; UP4 Sustainable Development of Fisheries & Aquaculture Areas and UP5 Marketing and Processing.

EMFF OP funded (50% EU, 50% National Exchequer)				
Scheme	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Sustainable Fisheries Scheme Part B	38	€1,667,682.15	€833,841.08	€833,841.08
Inshore Fisheries Conservation Scheme	25	€127,058.93	€63,529.465	€63,529.465
Inshore Fisheries Conservation Scheme - V-Notching	235	€397,829.88	€198,914.94	€198,914.94
Knowledge Gateway Scheme	11	€1,215,748.79	€607,874.395	€607,874.395
Producer Organisation Scheme	4	€291,922.25	€145,961.13	€145,961.13
Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme	12	€525,459.48	€262,729.74	€262,729.74
Seafood Training Scheme	182	€123,776.49	€61,888.25	€61,888.25
Fisheries Local Area Development Scheme FLAGS	2	€490.16	€245.08	€245.08
Seafood Scaling & New Marketing Development Scheme	4	€179,826.65	€89,913.33	€89,913.33
<b>EMFF Total</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>€4,529,794.78</b>	<b>€2,264,897.39</b>	<b>€2,264,897.39</b>

## The Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) Fund

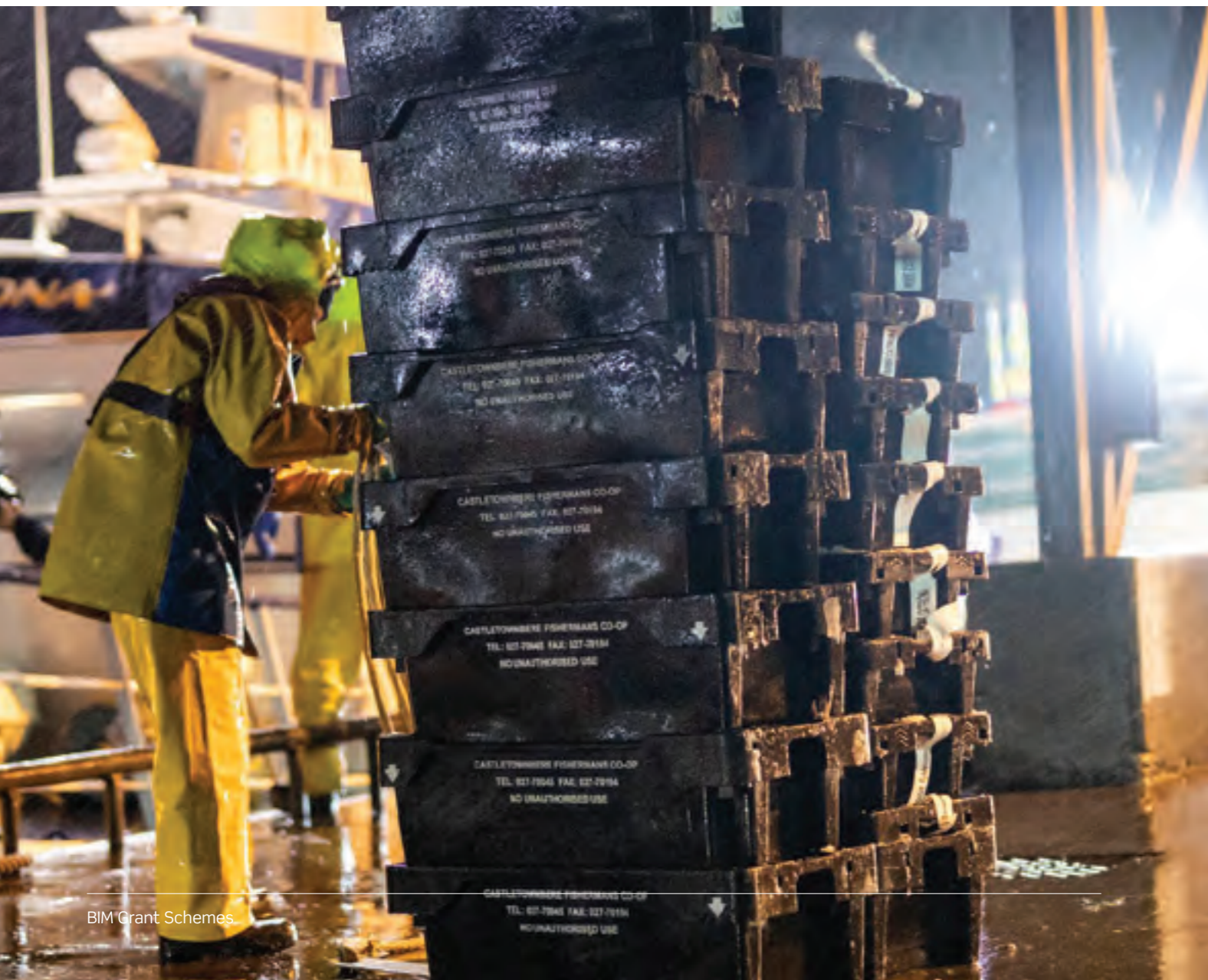
The Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) fund aims to provide financial support to the Member States, regions and sectors most affected by Brexit to deal with the adverse economic, social, territorial and, where appropriate, environmental consequences. Ireland, as the Member State most affected, has received a significant allocation of over €1 billion, or just over 20% of the entire reserve.

In its report in October 2021, the Seafood Taskforce made 16 recommendations to leverage BAR funding to support the seafood sector and coastal communities in responding to the challenges posed by Brexit.

### Report of the Seafood Taskforce

Based on these recommendations, under the oversight of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) a number of support schemes are being implemented by BIM. These are in line with Department of Public Expenditure & Reform and EU eligibility requirements. Projects funded under BAR support schemes must be completed and paid before the end of 2023.

During 2022 BIM implemented four schemes under the BAR fund. As a result, these were 100% funded by the EU.



BIM Grant Schemes

BAR funded (100% EU)		
Scheme	Number of Grants	Grant Value
Brexit Inshore Fisheries Business Model Adjustment Scheme	801	€2,661,900.00
Brexit Temporary Fleet Tie-up Scheme 2022	340	€18,876,100.00
Brexit Fisheries Co-operatives Transition Scheme	4	€643,839.91
Brexit Sustainable Aquaculture Growth Scheme	1	€182,762.00
<b>BAR Total</b>	<b>1146</b>	<b>€22,364,601.91</b>

During 2022 BIM continued to operate two Safety Schemes. These were funded 100% by the National Exchequer. Fisheries 'de minimis' rules apply to these schemes.

National Exchequer funded 100%		
Scheme	Number of Grants	Grant Value
Fleet Safety Scheme	210	€541,092.27
Marine Tourism Grant Schemes	14	€42,288.52
<b>Exchequer Total</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>€583,380.79</b>

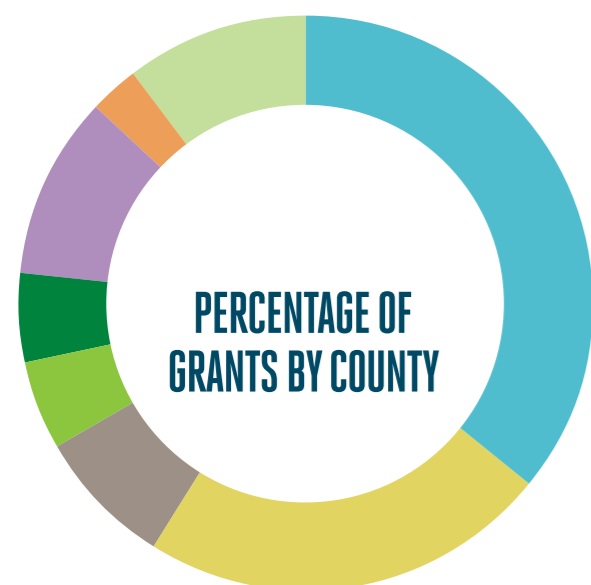
All Schemes (EMFF, BAR and National Exchequer)	Number of Grants	Grant Value
<b>Total</b>	<b>1883</b>	<b>€27,477,777.48</b>

European Maritime and Fisheries Fund 2022 Schemes The Irish Operational Programme is organised around six Union Priorities (UPs), with the programmes operated by BIM supporting four of those priorities UP1 Sustainable Development of Fisheries; UP2 Sustainable Development of Aquaculture; UP4 Sustainable Development of Fisheries & Aquaculture Areas and UP5 Marketing and Processing

### Sustainable Fisheries Scheme Part B

This scheme provides grant aid for on-board capital investment in marine fishing vessels, with the objective of improving the energy efficiency of the vessel, reducing impact on the environment, improving conditions around the storage of fishing catch and improving fuel or energy efficiency for the vessel. During 2022, under this scheme 38 projects were completed and paid grant aid totalling €1,667,682.15.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Cork	14	€497,178.57	€248,589.29	€248,589.28
Donegal	9	€439,817.96	€219,908.98	€219,908.98
Dublin	3	€157,988.80	€78,994.40	€78,994.40
Galway	2	€117,900.00	€58,950.00	€58,950.00
Kerry	2	€118,749.00	€59,374.50	€59,374.50
Louth	3	€256,255.36	€128,127.68	€128,127.68
Mayo	1	€883.80	€441.90	€441.90
Wexford	4	€78,908.66	€39,454.33	€39,454.33
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>€1,667,682.15</b>	<b>€833,841.08</b>	<b>€833,841.08</b>

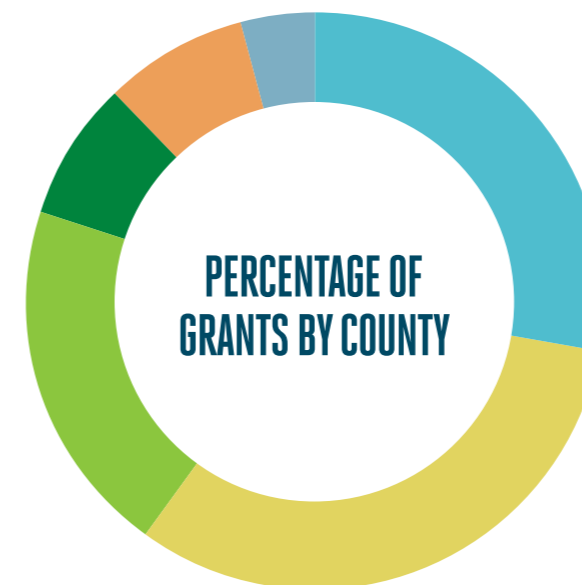


<b>CORK</b>	<b>14.37%</b>	<b>KERRY</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
<b>DONEGAL</b>	<b>9.24%</b>	<b>LOUTH</b>	<b>3.8%</b>
<b>DUBLIN</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>MAYO</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>GALWAY</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>WEXFORD</b>	<b>4.1%</b>

### Inshore Fisheries Conservation Scheme

The objective of the Inshore Fisheries Scheme is to provide a dedicated funding stream to support the inshore fisheries sector. The scheme supports measures for enhanced management and conservation of inshore stocks as well as the preparation and implementation of management plans for inshore stocks. The scheme has resulted in increased storage and security along with fresher and better quality produce. During 2022, 25 projects were completed under this scheme and grant aid totalling €127,058.93 was paid.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Cork	7	€31,942.00	€15,971.00	€15,971.00
Donegal	8	€35,253.66	€17,626.83	€17,626.83
Galway	5	€25,605.01	€12,802.51	€12,802.51
Kerry	2	€8,640.00	€4,320.00	€4,320.00
Mayo	2	€24,183.26	€12,091.63	€12,091.63
Wexford	1	€1,435.00	€717.50	€717.50
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>€127,058.93</b>	<b>€63,529.465</b>	<b>€63,529.465</b>

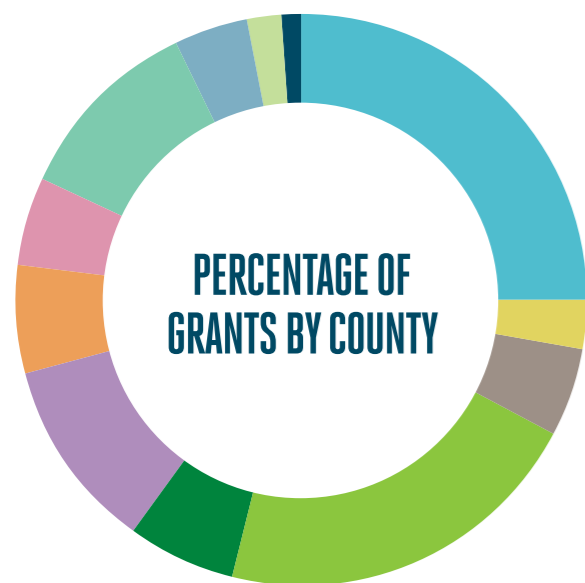


<b>CORK</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>KERRY</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>DONEGAL</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>MAYO</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>GALWAY</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>WEXFORD</b>	<b>4%</b>

### Inshore Fisheries Conservation Scheme - V-Notching

This scheme provides for grant aid to approved groups (and in exceptional cases, individuals) to implement local lobster v-notching programmes. The scheme helps improve the sustainability of Ireland's lobster fisheries, by protecting female lobsters so that they can successfully breed several times before being harvested. The scheme ensures that young female breeding lobsters are given a better chance of survival, which in turn produces a more sustainable lobster population. During 2022, 235 projects were completed under this scheme and grant aid totalling €397,829.98 was paid.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Clare	2	€9,523.91	€4,761.96	€4,761.96
Cork	58	€62,231.56	€31,115.78	€31,115.78
Donegal	8	€8,366.29	€4,183.15	€4,183.15
Dublin	12	€18,203.40	€9,101.70	€9,101.70
Galway	50	€63,826.13	€31,913.07	€31,913.07
Kerry	13	€47,420.24	€23,710.12	€23,710.12
Louth	27	€65,773.30	€32,886.65	€32,886.65
Mayo	14	€34,804.28	€17,402.14	€17,402.14
Sligo	12	€31,336.31	€15,668.16	€15,668.16
Waterford	26	€31,753.81	€15,876.91	€15,876.91
Wexford	9	€18,129.65	€9,064.83	€9,064.83
Wicklow	4	€6,461.00	€3,230.50	€3,230.50
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>€397,829.88</b>	<b>€198,914.94</b>	<b>€198,914.94</b>

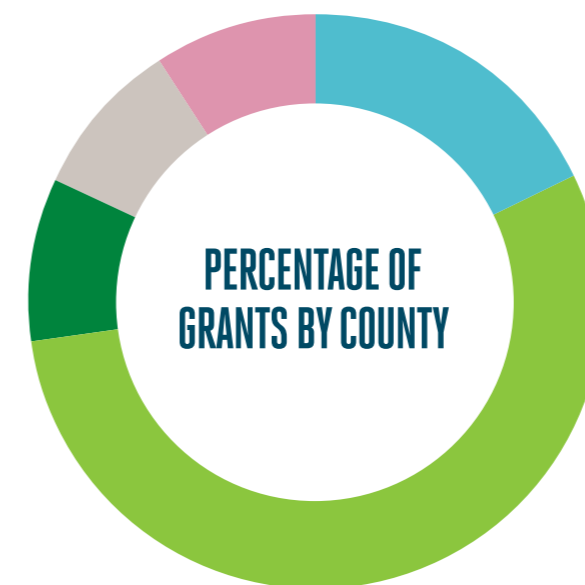


<b>CLARE</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>LOUTH</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>CORK</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>MAYO</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>DONEGAL</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>SLIGO</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>DUBLIN</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>WATERFORD</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>GALWAY</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>WEXFORD</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>KERRY</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>WICKLOW</b>	<b>2%</b>

### Knowledge Gateway Scheme

The Knowledge Gateway Scheme supports applied research, new species development and commercialisation, research into managing diseases and parasites, the provision of environmental and business planning advice as well as training and networking opportunities for the aquaculture sector. During 2022, 11 projects were completed under this scheme with grant aid totalling €1,215,748.79.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Cork	2	€224,386.29	€112,193.15	€112,193.15
Galway	6	€633,441.46	€316,720.73	€316,720.73
Kerry	1	€115,377.04	€57,688.52	€57,688.52
Limerick	1	€231,044.00	€115,522.00	€115,522.00
Sligo	1	€11,500.00	€5,750.00	€5,750.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>€1,215,748.79</b>	<b>€607,874.395</b>	<b>€602,124.4</b>



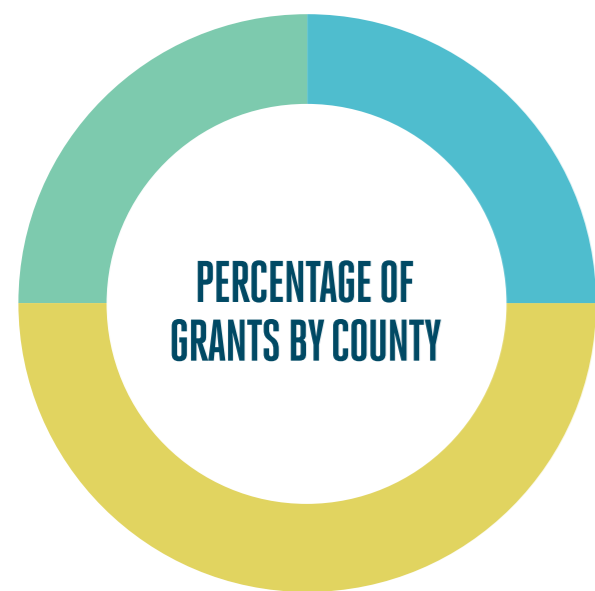
<b>CORK</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>LIMERICK</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>GALWAY</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>SLIGO</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>KERRY</b>	<b>9%</b>		

### Producer Organisation Scheme

This scheme provides support to registered producer organisations (POs). This is achieved through assisting them in the preparation and implementation of production and marketing plans; supporting attendance at certain meetings; dissemination of knowledge and advisory services and support for specified capital and administrative costs.

The scheme enables communication, co-operation and dissemination of knowledge to the POs and their stakeholders as well as assisting with enabling representation by primary producers at high level policy meetings. During 2022, four projects were completed under this scheme with grant aid totalling €291,922.25

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Cork	1	€89,073.98	€44,536.99	€44,536.99
Donegal	2	€169,400.16	€84,700.08	€84,700.08
Waterford	1	€33,448.11	€16,724.06	€16,724.06
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>€291,922.25</b>	<b>€145,961.13</b>	<b>€145,961.13</b>



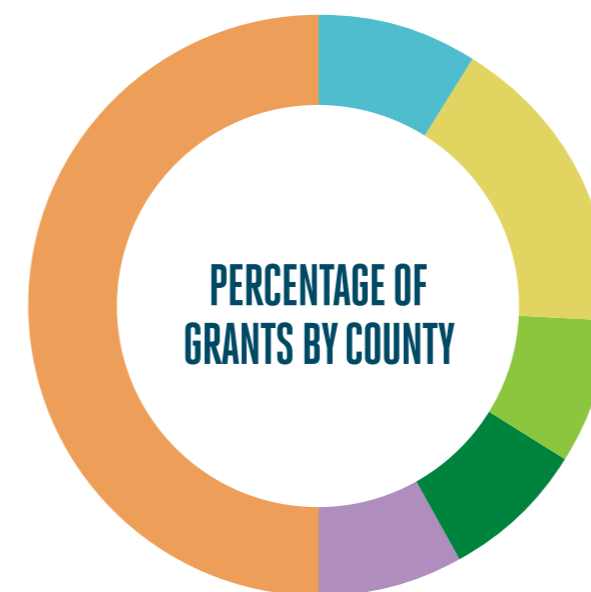
<b>CORK</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>DONEGAL</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>WATERFORD</b>	<b>25%</b>

### Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme

The objective of the Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme is to promote the sustainable growth of output, value and employment in the aquaculture sector. It focuses on providing supports for sustainably increasing the productive output of aquaculture enterprises and supporting new aquaculture enterprises entering the sector. It also aims to assist aquaculture enterprises in scaling up to improve their competitiveness and efficiency, diversifying into new species and increasing farming of underutilised species. It also promotes and supports organic aquaculture.

The scheme has resulted in adding value to aquaculture businesses through assisting the expansion of new and existing businesses and their production capacities, better growing methods and the development of new sites. During 2022, 12 projects were completed and paid grant aid totalling €525,459.48.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Cork	1	€27,752.20	€13,876.10	€13,876.10
Donegal	2	€37,453.80	€18,726.90	€18,726.90
Galway	1	€5,877.69	€2,938.85	€2,938.85
Kerry	1	€31,454.80	€15,727.40	€15,727.40
Louth	1	€9,485.16	€4,742.58	€4,742.58
Mayo	6	€413,435.83	€206,717.92	€206,717.92
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>€525,459.48</b>	<b>€262,729.74</b>	<b>€262,729.74</b>



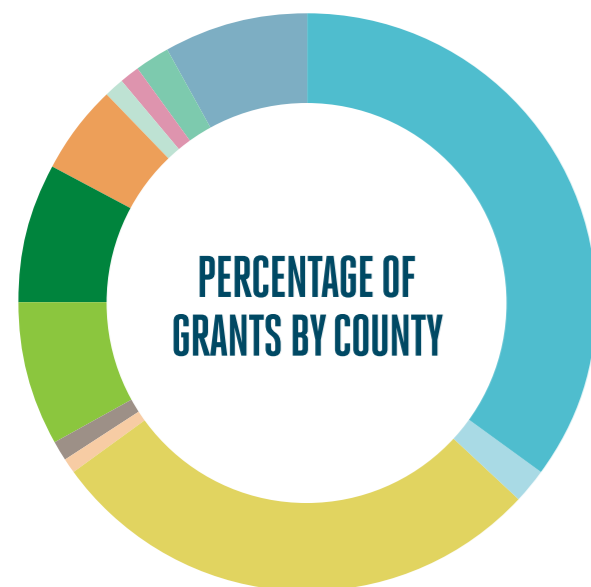
<b>CORK</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>KERRY</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>DONEGAL</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>LOUTH</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>GALWAY</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>MAYO</b>	<b>50%</b>



## Seafood Training Scheme

This scheme provides grant aid for training to the Irish catching, fish farming and seafood processing sectors. These accredited training programmes are available to all sectors of the seafood industry including those looking to explore a new career path in the fishing, aquaculture or retail and processing sectors. The aquaculture industry is now the largest employer of commercial divers in Ireland. During 2022, 182 projects were completed and paid grant aid totalling €123,776.49.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Cork	63	€39,898.92	€19,949.46	€19,949.46
Derry	4	€873.87	€436.94	€436.94
Donegal	51	€32,893.70	€16,446.85	€16,446.85
Down	2	€774.58	€387.29	€387.29
Dublin	1	€375.42	€187.71	€187.71
Galway	15	€19,774.34	€9,887.17	€9,887.17
Kerry	14	€9,334.61	€4,667.31	€4,667.31
Mayo	10	€4,697.79	€2,348.90	€2,348.90
Offaly	2	€1,065.56	€532.78	€532.78
Sligo	2	€3,773.45	€1,886.73	€1,886.73
Waterford	4	€2,269.47	€1,134.74	€1,134.74
Wexford	14	€8,044.78	€4,022.39	€4,022.39
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>€123,776.49</b>	<b>€61,888.25</b>	<b>€61,888.25</b>



<b>CORK</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>KERRY</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>DERRY</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>MAYO</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>DONEGAL</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>OFFLAY</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>DOWN</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>SLIGO</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>DUBLIN</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>WATERFORD</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>GALWAY</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>WEXFORD</b>	<b>8%</b>

## Fisheries Local Area Development Scheme FLAGS

The Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGS) is established under Union Priority 4 (Sustainable Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture Areas) of Ireland's Operational Programme, under the European Maritime COVID-19 Aquaculture Support Scheme and Fisheries Fund 2014-2020 and is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Commission.

FLAG, Fisheries Local Area Action Group (2014 - 2020) is a coastal community development strategy with a fund of €12 million for seven designated Irish coastal communities. The seven FLAGS are South FLAG (Cork), Southwest (Kerry, Limerick), Southeast (Waterford, Wexford, Wicklow) West, (Galway, Clare), Northwest (Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim), North (Donegal), and Northeast (Dublin, Louth, Meath).

BIM assists FLAGS to deliver this scheme through administering supports via grant aid, training and on the ground facilitation, with dedicated FLAG coordinators in each region fact check with work area has been closed to applications in 2021 as its budget was exhausted. During 2022, two final projects were completed and paid grant aid of €490.16.

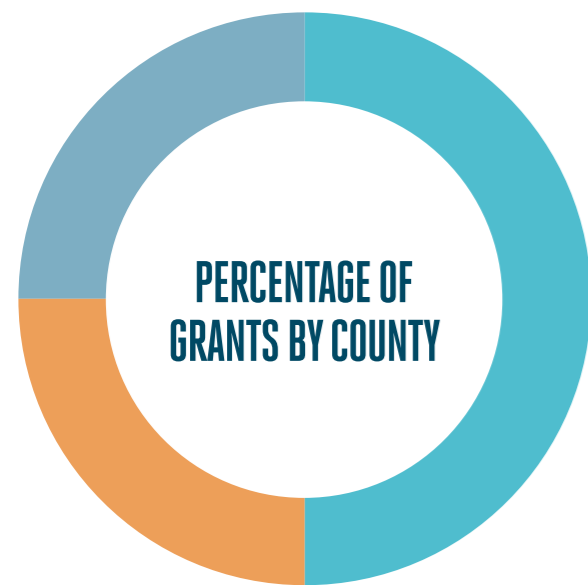
County	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Clare	1	€429.96	€214.98	€214.98
Galway	1	€60.20	€30.10	€30.10
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>€490.16</b>	<b>€245.08</b>	<b>€245.08</b>

### Seafood Scaling & New Marketing Development Scheme

The Seafood Scaling & New Marketing Development Scheme is established under Union Priority 5 (Marketing and Processing) of Ireland’s Operational Programme under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund 2014-2020, which is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Commission.

This Scheme supports investment to promote scale and collaboration in the sector and to fund projects which address key sectoral issues. Supports are focused on industry collaboration forums, joint ventures between companies, producers and processors and projects which address common sectoral issues. During 2022, three projects were completed and paid grant aid of €179,826.65.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value	Exchequer	EMFF
Cork	2	€82,833.15	€41,416.58	€41,416.58
Mayo	1	€47,393.50	€23,696.75	€23,696.75
Wexford	1	€49,600.00	€24,800.00	€24,800.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>€179,826.65</b>	<b>€89,913.33</b>	<b>€89,913.33</b>



<b>CORK</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>MAYO</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>WEXFORD</b>	<b>25%</b>

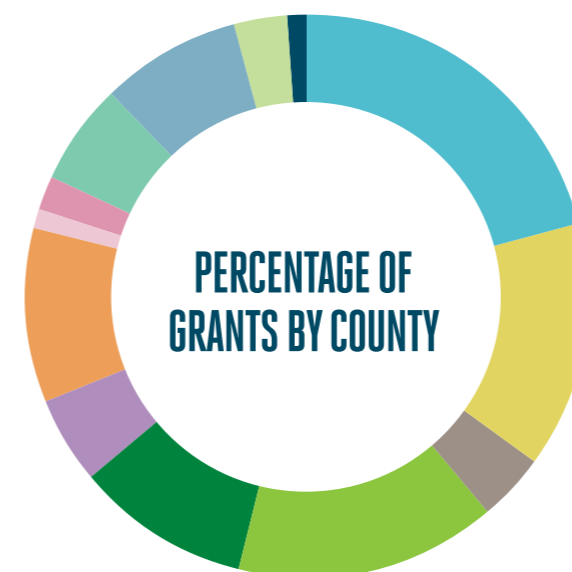
### Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) Funded Schemes

#### Brexit Inshore Fisheries Business Model Adjustment Scheme

Under this scheme, fishing vessel owners with boats up to 8 metres in length may apply for grant aid of up to €2,700, while those with fishing vessels up to 18 metres in length can apply for grant aid of up to €4,000. For vessel owners to be eligible, they must demonstrate that they were actively fishing between January and June 2021.

To receive their grant, applicants must have completed at least one of five online training courses that are designed to provide the sector with the skills to adapt to the new market realities post-Brexit. These courses are designed to enable vessel owners to explore finding new market opportunities for their catch, adjust their business plans to account for the new market conditions, use digital technology to reach customers directly, help maximise the value of their catch and show how they can access alternative markets. During 2022, under this scheme 801 projects were completed and paid grant aid of €2,661,900.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value
Clare	11	€41,400.00
Cork	169	€523,900.00
Derry	1	€2,700.00
Donegal	116	€373,000.00
Down	1	€4,000.00
Dublin	35	€127,000.00
Galway	118	€364,100.00
Kerry	83	€277,400.00
Louth	38	€149,400.00
Mayo	84	€280,100.00
Meath	4	€16,000.00
Sligo	15	€50,900.00
Waterford	45	€148,800.00
Wexford	61	€224,500.00
Wicklow	20	€78,700.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>€2,661,900.00</b>



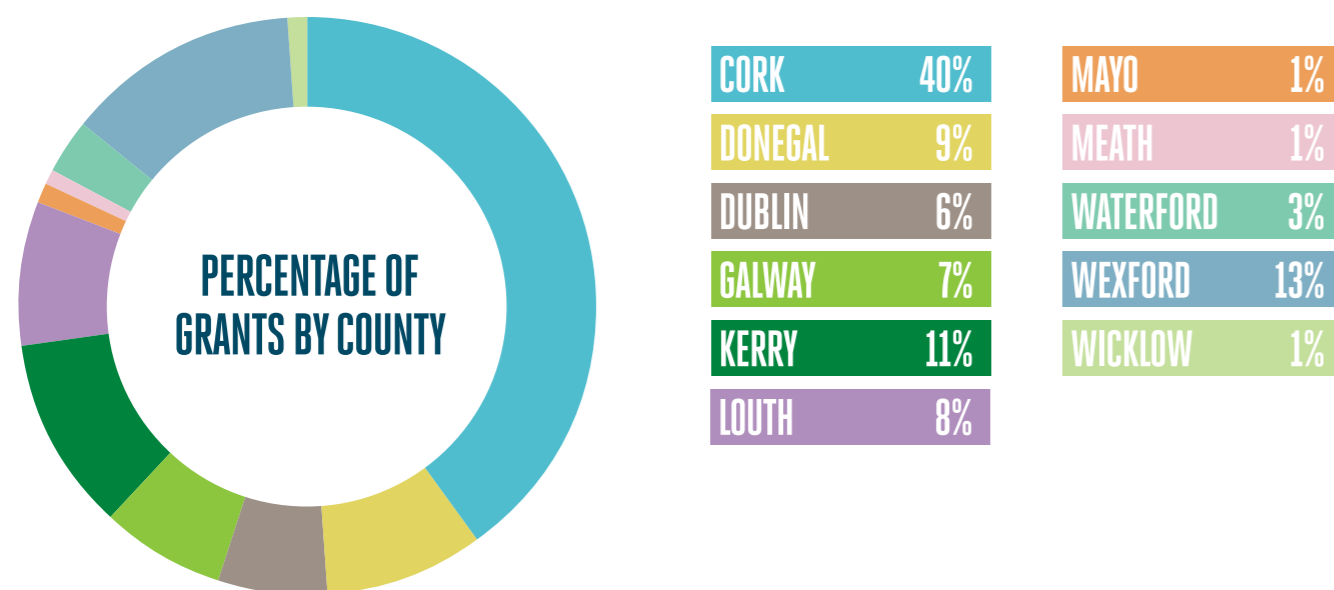
<b>CLARE</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>LOUTH</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>CORK</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>MAYO</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>DERRY</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>MEATH</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>DONEGAL</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>SLIGO</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>DOWN</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>WATERFORD</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>DUBLIN</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>WEXFORD</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>GALWAY</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>WICKLOW</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>KERRY</b>	<b>10%</b>		

## Brexit Temporary Fleet Tie-up Scheme 2022

The scheme was established on foot of the Seafood Taskforce Report to temporarily mitigate the negative impacts on the white fish sector from the reduction in quotas arising from the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) by mitigating the losses associated with certain stocks as well as difficulties in accessing UK waters or third country waters.

The scheme supported white fish vessels in the polyvalent and beam trawl segment segments to temporarily cease all fishing activity in a particular calendar month, thus increasing the quota available for remaining vessels. During 2022, under this scheme 340 projects were completed and paid grant aid of €18,876,100.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value
Cork	137	€6,846,800.00
Donegal	31	€2,070,600.00
Dublin	21	€1,380,400.00
Galway	24	€1,308,000.00
Kerry	36	€1,073,000.00
Louth	28	€2,243,700.00
Mayo	3	€94,400.00
Meath	4	€295,400.00
Waterford	9	€266,300.00
Wexford	45	€3,179,500.00
Wicklow	2	€118,000.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>€18,876,100.00</b>



## Brexit Fisheries Co-operatives Transition Scheme

This scheme aims to mitigate the adverse economic and social consequences of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union on Fisheries Cooperatives that are primarily focused on Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) quota stocks (hereinafter 'the cooperatives').

The scheme aims to provide short-term aid to offset the reductions in turnover experienced by the cooperatives, directly due to reductions in raw material arising from the TCA-induced quota transfers. The support is design to stabilise cashflow in the short-term, allowing the cooperatives to re-configure and re-structure their businesses in the longer-term - to adapt to the changed trading environment under the TCA. During 2022, under this scheme four projects were completed and paid grant aid of €643,839.91.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value
Cork	1	€239,813.11
Donegal	1	€171,241.00
Galway	1	€69,682.61
Louth	1	€163,103.19
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>€643,839.91</b>

## Brexit Sustainable Aquaculture Growth Scheme

The purpose of the scheme is to mitigate the adverse economic and social consequences of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union on:

- (1) Seafood processors adversely affected by loss of raw material supply arising from the TCA quota reductions,
- (2) Aquaculture enterprises directly impacted by the UK withdrawal, and
- (3) Coastal communities adversely affected by a broad range of impacts arising from the TCA quota reductions and wider Brexit impacts.

During 2022, under this new scheme, one project was completed and paid grant aid of €182,762.00.

Several BAR funded schemes also launched in 2022 that will begin to draw down funding in 2023.

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value
Kilkenny	1	€182,762.00

In addition to those BAR schemes listed above, three additional BAR schemes were launched in 2022. Though several projects were approved under these, they have not yet drawn down funds.

## Brexit Voluntary Permanent Cessation Scheme

The purpose of the scheme is to restore balance between fleet capacity and available quotas following the quota reductions arising from the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), ensuring the profitability of the fleet.

The scheme aims to support fleet segment impacted by:

- The reduction in quotas for 2021 to 2026 arising from the Trade and Cooperation Agreement. The Scheme aims to mitigate losses associated with certain stocks included in Annex FISH.1 and FISH.2 of the TCA.
- Difficulties in accessing UK waters or third country waters due to Brexit.

The scheme will support vessels in the polyvalent and beam trawl segments to permanently cease all fishing activity, thus increasing the quota available for remaining vessels.

While vessels in the polyvalent and beam trawl fleets may fish quota species impacted by the TCA quota reductions and are thus negatively impacted by the TCA, the scheme prioritises applications by vessels most active in fishing such quota species as their voluntarily removal from the fleet will most contribute to restoring fleet balance and to increasing the amount of quota available to vessels remaining in the fleet.

## Brexit Blue Economy Enterprise Development Scheme

The purpose of the scheme is to counter the adverse economic and social consequences of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union on businesses operating in the blue economy and located in communities within 10km of the coastline.

**Three types of projects are considered for funding:**

### Project Type 1

Capital Investment

### Project Type 2

Business Mentoring and Capacity Development

### Project Type 3

Upskilling and Training

## Brexit Processing Capital Support Scheme

Apply for grant funding targeted at projects which are deemed as transformational capital investment, in the seafood processing sector.

The scheme supports the Irish processing sector to engage in transformational change, mitigating the effects of the TCA/Brexit while also building more environmentally friendly, sustainable and competitive enterprises which serve the EU and wider global markets, create higher levels of employment more locally, and make better and more sustainable use of Irish landed or imported raw material.

It is aimed at supporting industry-led transformative capital investments that enable the sector to focus on “creating more from less,” in the wake of reduced supply of raw material and move enterprises in the sector further up the supply chain. Its objective is to produce higher value product and shift the industry to a focus on secondary processing and beyond, to products targeting end-user markets.

## BIM National Exchequer Funded Schemes

Two safety related schemes are funded via the National Exchequer (100%).

## Fleet Safety and Marine Tourism Grant Schemes

The Fleet Safety Scheme's objective is to improve the safety standard on board Irish fishing vessels. The scheme provides grant aid in support of the purchase and installation of safety items including statutory lifesaving, firefighting, navigation, and communication equipment.

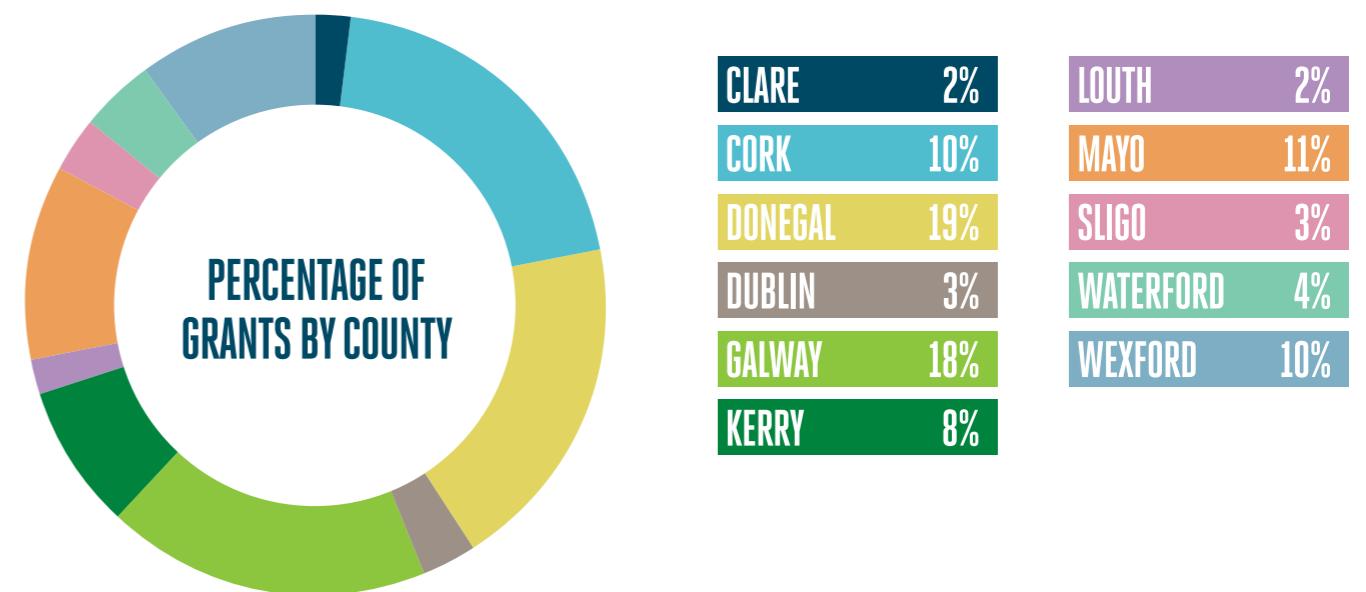
The Marine Tourism Scheme aims to improve the overall safety standard on-board Irish marine tourism vessels. The scheme provides support for the purchase and installation of safety items including statutory lifesaving, firefighting, navigation, and communication equipment for licensed marine tourism vessels up to 15 metres overall.

Both the Fleet Safety and Marine Tourism Schemes allow for the purchase and installation of safety equipment. Items which may be considered for funding include:

- Survival items such as lifejackets, flares and life rafts
- Navigation equipment such as GPS or autopilot
- Electronics such as CCTV cameras
- Fire safety items such as breathing apparatus and fire pumps
- Structural safety items such as gangways and access ladders, windows
- Survey Fees for Code of Practice for vessels engaged in sea-fishing

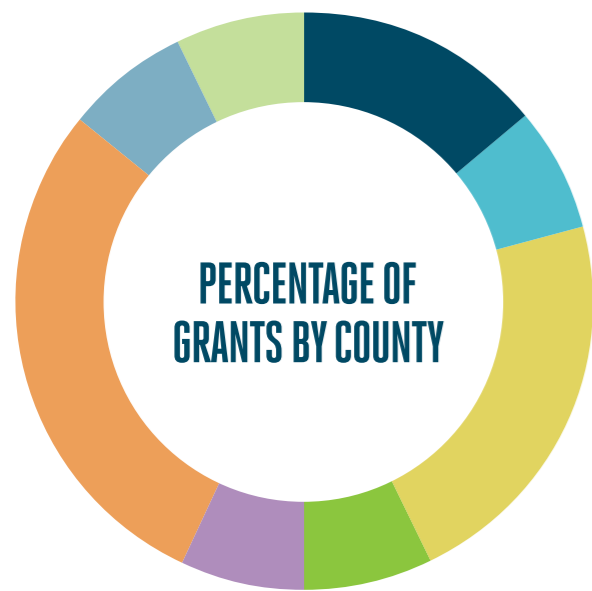
## Fleet Safety

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value
Clare	4	€7,219.69
Cork	42	€142,228.42
Donegal	39	€87,724.61
Dublin	6	€7,571.51
Galway	38	€29,692.86
Kerry	17	€83,982.04
Louth	5	€51,082.29
Mayo	22	€31,463.91
Sligo	6	€4,554.13
Waterford	9	€37,869.08
Wexford	22	€57,703.73
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>€541,092.27</b>



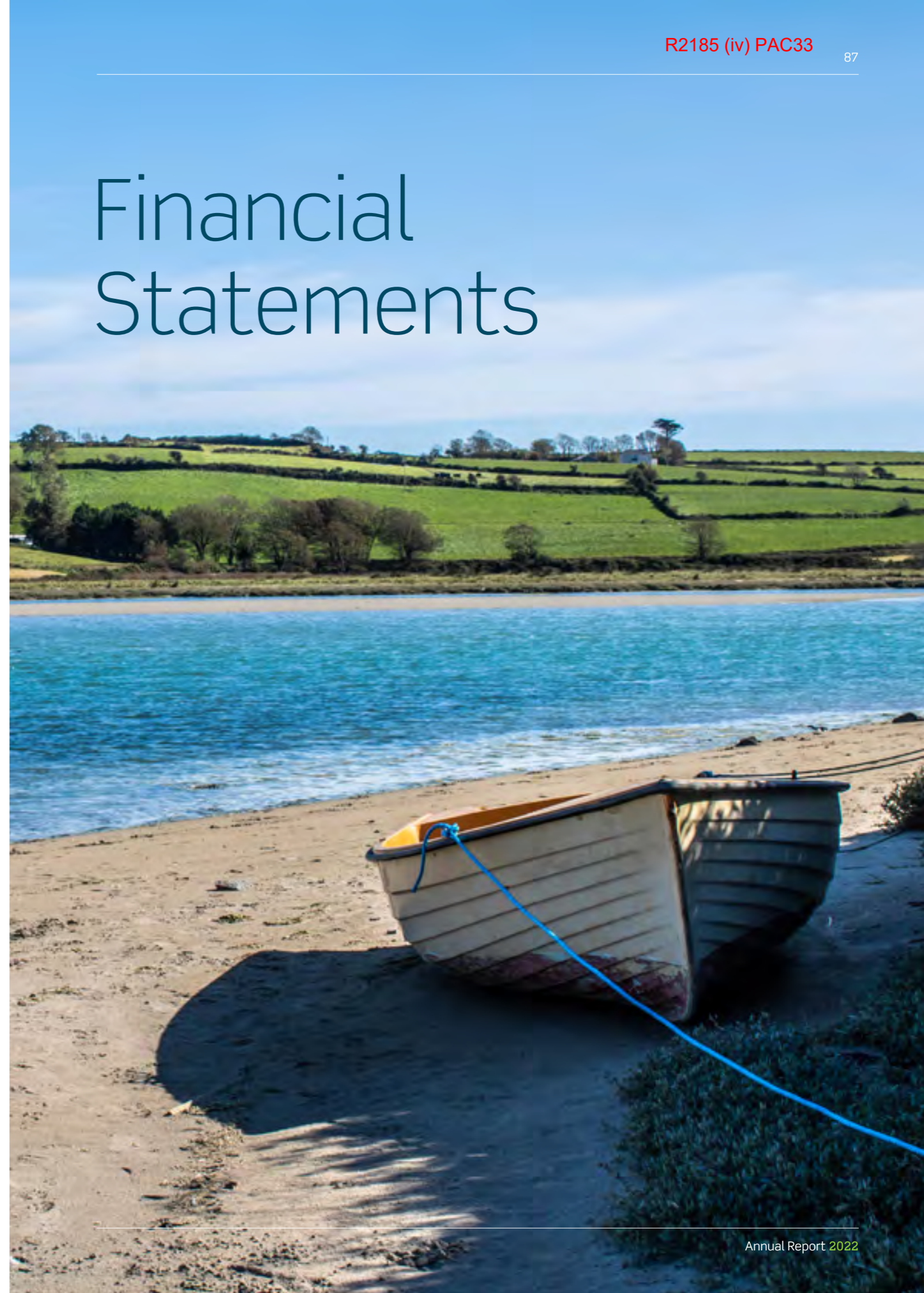
Marine Tourism Safety Scheme

County	Number of Grants	Grant Value
Clare	2	€3,761.66
Cork	1	€336.00
Donegal	3	€8,360.80
Galway	1	€3,065.20
Louth	1	€2,215.94
Mayo	4	€2,941.52
Wexford	1	€21,400.40
Wicklow	1	€207.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>€42,288.52</b>



<b>CLARE</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>LOUTH</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>CORK</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>MAYO</b>	<b>29%</b>
<b>DONEGAL</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>WEXFORD</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>GALWAY</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>WICKLOW</b>	<b>7%</b>

# Financial Statements



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## Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste Comptroller and Auditor General

### Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

#### An Bord Iascaigh Mhara

##### Opinion on financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of An Bord Iascaigh Mhara for the year ended 31 December 2022 as required under the provisions of section 5 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993. The financial statements comprise

- the statement of income and expenditure and retained revenue reserves
- the statement of comprehensive income
- the statement of financial position
- the statement of cash flows, and
- the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of An Bord Iascaigh Mhara at 31 December 2022 and of its income and expenditure for 2022 in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 — *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland*.

##### Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of An Bord Iascaigh Mhara and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

##### Report on information other than the financial statements, and on other matters

An Bord Iascaigh Mhara has presented certain other information together with the financial statements. This comprises the annual report including the governance statement and Board members' report, and the statement on internal control. My responsibilities to report in relation to such information, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

I have nothing to report in that regard.

**Andrew Harkness**

**For and on behalf of  
Comptroller and Auditor General**

**23 June 2023**

## Appendix to the report

### Responsibilities of Board members

As detailed in the governance statement and Board members' report, the Board members are responsible for

- the preparation of annual financial statements in the form prescribed under paragraph 9 of the First Schedule to the Sea Fisheries Act 1952
- ensuring that the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with FRS102
- ensuring the regularity of transactions
- assessing whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, and
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993 to audit the financial statements of An Bord Iascaigh Mhara and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures.

- I conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, on whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on An Bord Iascaigh Mhara's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my report. However, future events or conditions may cause An Bord Iascaigh Mhara to cease to continue as a going concern.
- I evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

### Information other than the financial statements

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information presented with those statements, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, I am required under the ISAs to read the other information presented and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

### Reporting on other matters

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. I report if I find material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I report if I find there is any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.

# Governance Statement and Board Members' Report

## Governance

The Board of BIM was established under the Sea Fisheries Act 1952. The functions of the Board are set out in section 15 of this Act. The Board is accountable to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The Board is responsible for ensuring good governance and performs this task by setting strategic objectives and targets and taking strategic decisions on all key business issues. The regular day-to-day management, control and direction of BIM is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the senior management team. The CEO and the senior management team must follow the broad strategic direction set by the Board, and must ensure that all Board members have a clear understanding of the key activities and decisions related to the entity and of any significant risks likely to arise. The CEO acts as a direct liaison between the Board and management of BIM.

## Board Responsibilities

The work and responsibilities of the Board are set out in the Oversight and Performance Delivery Agreement, which also contains the matters specifically reserved for Board decision. Standing items considered by the Board include:

- declaration of interests,
- reports from committees,
- financial reports/management accounts,
- performance reports, and
- reserved matters.

Section 15 of the Sea Fisheries Act 1952 requires the Board of BIM to keep, in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine with consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, all proper and usual accounts of money received and expended by it.

In preparing these financial statements, the Board of BIM is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that it will continue in operation, and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Board is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, its financial position and enables it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 9 of the first schedule of the Sea Fisheries Act 1952. The maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information on BIM's website is the responsibility of the Board.

The Board is responsible for approving the annual plan and budget. An evaluation of the performance of BIM by reference to the annual plan and budget has been carried out.



The Board is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Board considers that the financial statements of BIM give a true and fair view of the financial performance and the financial position of BIM at 31 December 2022.

### Board Structure

The Board consists of a Chairperson and five ordinary members, all of whom are appointed by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The members of the Board were appointed for a period of three years and meet on a monthly basis. The table below details the appointment period for current members:

Board Member	Role	Date Appointed
Aidan Cotter	Chairperson	17 May 2022
Lisa Vaughan	Director	Term completed 18 June 2022, reappointed 19 June 2022
William Deasy	Director	19 November 2020
Jean Callanan	Director	19 November 2020
Marie Gleeson	Director	19 November 2020
George Golden	Director	29 September 2021

The Board has established the following committees:

**Audit and Risk Committee:** comprises two Board members and three independent members. The role of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) is to support the Board in relation to its responsibilities for issues of risk, control and governance and associated assurance. The ARC is independent from the financial management of the organisation. In particular the Committee ensures that the internal control systems including audit activities are monitored actively and independently. The ARC reports to the Board after each meeting, and formally in writing annually.

The members of the Audit and Risk Committee are:

- Lisa Vaughan (Chairperson)
- George Golden
- Gearóid Breathnach
- Stephen McGovern
- Aidan Dunning

There were five meetings of the ARC in 2022.

**Training and Development Committee:** comprises two Board members and three independent members. The role of the Training and Development Committee (TADC) is to provide oversight and review of the operation of the BIM Training Unit. The TADC reports to the Board after each meeting and formally in writing annually.

The members of the Training and Development Committee are:

- Jean Callanan (Chairperson)
- Marie Gleeson
- Cormac Gebruers
- John Lynch
- Mark Skinner

There were two meetings of the TADC in 2022.

	Board	Audit and Risk Committee	Fees 2022 €'000	Expenses 2022 €'000
Aidan Cotter	(7/7)	-	7	-
Lisa Vaughan	(11/12)	(5/5)	8	1
William Deasy	(12/12)	-	8	4
Jean Callanan	(12/12)	-	8	1
Marie Gleeson	(11/12)	-	8	2
George Golden	(11/12)	(4/5)	8	3
Gearóid Breathnach	-	(5/5)	1	-
Stephen McGovern	-	(5/5)	1	-
Aidan Dunning	-	(5/5)	1	-
<b>Total</b>			<b>50</b>	<b>11</b>

### Board Member Changes

The Chairperson, Aidan Cotter, was appointed on 17 May 2022.

Lisa Vaughan was reappointed on 19 June 2022.

### Disclosures Required by Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016)

The Board is responsible for ensuring that BIM has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) ("the Code"), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. The following disclosures are required by the Code:

### Employee Short-Term Benefits Breakdown

Employees' short-term benefits in excess of €60,000 are categorised in Note 9(c) to the Financial Statements.

### Consultancy Costs

Consultancy costs include the cost of external advice to management and exclude outsourced 'business-as-usual' functions.

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Legal advice	50	111
Financial/actuarial advice	-	-
Human Resources	-	-
Business improvement	-	-
Other	-	-
<b>Total consultancy costs</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>111</b>
Consultancy costs capitalised	-	-
Consultancy costs charged to the Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves	50	111
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>111</b>

### Legal Costs and Settlements

The table below provides a breakdown of amounts recognised as expenditure in the reporting period in relation to legal costs, settlements and conciliation and arbitration proceedings relating to contracts with third parties. This does not include expenditure incurred in relation to general legal advice received by BIM which is disclosed in consultancy costs above.

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Legal fees - legal proceedings	-	51
Conciliation and arbitration payments	-	-
Settlements*	-	95
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>146</b>

\* The 2021 settlements figure of €95,000 is made up of settlements paid of €62,000 and associated legal costs of €33,000.

### Travel and Subsistence Expenditure

Travel and subsistence expenditure is categorised as follows:

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Domestic</b>		
- Board*	13	3
- Employees	473	307
<b>International</b>		
- Board*	-	-
- Employees	78	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>315</b>

\*Includes travel and subsistence of €10,000 paid directly to Board members in 2022 (2021: €3,000). The balance of €3,000 (2021: €1,000) relates to expenditure paid by BIM on behalf of the Board members.

### Hospitality Expenditure

The Income and Expenditure Account includes the following hospitality expenditure::

	2022 €	2021 €
Staff hospitality	1	1
Client hospitality	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

### Statement of Compliance

The Board has adopted the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) and has put procedures in place to ensure compliance with the Code. BIM was in full compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) for 2022.



Aidan Cotter  
Chairperson  
21st June, 2023

# Statement on Internal Control

## Scope of Responsibility

On behalf of BIM I acknowledge the Board's collective responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated, for preparing the accounts of BIM and for complying with all statutory obligations applicable to BIM. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).

## Key Control Procedures to Provide Effective Internal Control

The key procedures which the Board Members have established with a view to providing effective internal control are as follows:

- The Board conducted an annual review of the effectiveness of the internal controls which concluded in March 2023. In undertaking this review the Directors considered the following:
  - A report on the system of internal controls in 2022 including Risk Management, Internal Audits, External Audit and the work of the Audit and Risk Committee in 2022;
  - An annual review of compliance with the Public Spending Code;
  - A Code of Practice compliance report; and
  - The Internal Auditors report on the Systems of Internal Financial Control.
- A clear focus on business objectives as determined by the Board in the light of the statutory responsibilities.
- A defined organisational structure with clear lines of responsibility, delegation of authority and segregation of duties designed to provide an appropriate control environment.
- A risk management process which considers the strategy and business plans in the context of the annual budget process when financial plans and targets are set and reviewed by the Board in the light of determined objectives.
- A reporting and control system which includes a review of the annual capital and current budgets by the Board and regular review of actual results against budget.
- Control procedures - comprehensive policies are maintained by the Board in respect of all of its main activities. In particular there are clearly defined limits and procedures for financial expenditure, including procurement and capital expenditure.
- Monitoring systems - compliance with control procedures is monitored by the internal audit function that operates in accordance with the framework for the application of best practice as set out in the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016). The work of internal audit is informed by analysis of the risk to which BIM is exposed. The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) has received the report of internal audit for 2022, which included the Internal Auditor's opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal control, and this was presented to the Board. The internal audit and monitoring systems are supplemented by audit work performed annually on the various grant aid measures by external auditors as required under the governing EU legislation of the measures.
- The Audit and Risk Committee, established by the Board in 2009 consists of non-executive Board Members and three independent external members. The Board's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of internal control is informed by reports to the Audit & Risk Committee by management, the external auditors who carry out work on EU Grant Measures and comments made by the Comptroller & Auditor General in his Management Letter or other reports. In addition, the Board has as required, commissioned independent reviews of specific internal control systems in the organisation.

## Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way. While the effectiveness of an internal control system can change over time, BIM reviews and updates such systems as required.

This system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform has been in place in BIM for the year ended 31 December 2022 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

## Review of Statement on Internal Control

This Statement on Internal Control 2022 was reviewed by the BIM Audit & Risk Committee (ARC) and the Board in March 2023 to ensure that it accurately reflects the control system in place during 2022.

## Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the Control Environment

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, and the resulting public health advice and safety measures, rapidly and fundamentally changed the working practices of BIM, with remote working becoming the norm for staff.

In 2020, BIM completed the OC&AG's COVID-19 Risk Assessment, this assessment was reviewed and updated in 2021 and again in 2022. BIM has continued to monitor developments closely and follows all Government guidance, looking to mitigate the risks that may affect business operations, staff, and stakeholders.

Actions taken by BIM include:

- Transitioning BIM's business operations to a remote working environment where most business processes can continue as normal.
- Continual assessment of significant risks pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic and the agility of BIM to respond effectively.
- Ensuring robust segregation of duties are retained with remote working and adequate cover is in place.
- Ensuring all existing data protection and records management policies and procedures continue to apply in the remote working environment and are monitored and reported on as normal.
- Ensuring that staff members access BIM's network using BIM approved ICT equipment, and that all staff members working remotely have been equipped with the necessary ICT equipment.
- Assessing potential for weaknesses in internal controls resulting from COVID-19 and taking measures to monitor and update internal controls where necessary.

BIM has an ARC comprising two Board members and three independent external members, with financial and audit expertise. The ARC met five times in 2022.

BIM has outsourced its internal audit function; it is adequately resourced and conducts a programme of work agreed with the ARC.

The Board has developed a risk management policy which sets out its risk appetite, the risk management processes in place and details the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to risk. The policy has been issued to all staff who are expected to work within BIM's risk management policies, to alert management on emerging risks and control weaknesses and assume responsibility for risks and controls within their own area of work.

### Risk and Control Framework

BIM has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks.

A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks facing BIM and these have been identified, evaluated and graded according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the ARC on a quarterly basis and is a standing item for the Board. The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibility for operation of controls assigned to specific staff. I can confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- procedures for all key business processes have been documented,
- financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability,
- there is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under review by senior management,
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the information and communication technology systems,
- there are systems in place to safeguard the assets, and
- control procedures over grant funding to outside agencies ensure adequate control over approval of grants and monitoring and review of grantees to ensure grant funding has been applied for the purpose intended.

### Breaches in Control

There were no reported instances of breaches in control in 2022.

### Material Losses or Frauds

There were no reported material losses or frauds in 2022.

### Ongoing Monitoring and Review

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes and control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action and to management and the Board, where relevant, in a timely way. I confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- Key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies,
- Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned, and
- There are regular reviews by senior management of periodic and annual performance and financial reports which indicate performance against budgets/forecasts.

### Procedures for addressing financial implications of major business risks

The financial implications of business risks have been considered through the formal business risk assessment process and in the preparation of the BIM Internal Audit Plans. These are further assessed and evaluated through the phased implementation of the BIM's Internal Audit Plan.

### Financial & Budgetary Information

The system of internal controls is based on a framework of regular management information, a system of delegation and accountability, a set of financial and administrative procedures including segregation of duties. In particular it includes:

- A comprehensive budgeting system with an annual budget, which is reviewed and approved by the Board.
- The assignment of budgets and budgetary authority and responsibility for specific functions to selected managers.
- Arrangements for all purchasing to be conducted and controlled through BIM's financial management system and procedures.
- Monthly reviews by the Board of financial management reports.
- Adoption of an annual Corporate Procurement Plan and the appointment of a Procurement Officer.

The inbuilt controls in the Financial Systems have continued to operate as normal during 2022 with no procedures or key controls being overridden in order to maintain business-as-usual.

### Procurement

I confirm that BIM has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines and that during 2022 BIM complied with those procedures. BIM is in compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines as set out by the Office of Government Procurement.

### Review of Effectiveness

I confirm that BIM has procedures to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. BIM's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors, the ARC which oversees their work, and the senior management within BIM responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal financial control framework.

I confirm that the Board conducted an annual review of the effectiveness of the internal controls for 2022 in January 2023.

### Internal Control Issues

No breaches to internal controls were identified in relation to 2022 that require disclosure in the financial statements

### Approval by the Board

The statement on internal control has been reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee and the Board to ensure it accurately reflects the control system in operation during the reporting period.

Signed on behalf of the Board of BIM;



Aidan Cotter  
Chairperson  
21st June, 2022

## Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves

For the year ended 31st December 2022

	Note	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Income</b>			
Oireachtas Grants	3	51,065	45,900
Net Deferred Funding for Retirement Benefit Obligations	19(c)	1,168	665
		<b>52,233</b>	<b>46,565</b>
E.U. Grants	4	35	334
Turnover Ice Plants	5	306	341
Other Income	6	822	596
		<b>53,396</b>	<b>47,836</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
EU Current Development	4	1	45
Industry Capital Development	7	2,819	9,272
Industry Current Development	8(a)	38,906	26,308
Industry Current Administration	8(b)	6,028	5,261
Depreciation Charged During the Year	8(c)	1,079	1,244
Retirement Benefit Obligations	19(a)	3,257	2,840
Expenditure on Ice Plants	5	1,144	1,115
		<b>53,234</b>	<b>46,085</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>		<b>162</b>	<b>1,751</b>
Net Transfer to Capital Reserve	15	(680)	(647)
Balance brought forward at 1st January		<b>(268)</b>	<b>(1,372)</b>
<b>Balance carried forward at 31st December</b>		<b>(786)</b>	<b>(268)</b>

All income and expenditure for the year relates to continuing activities at the reporting date.

Notes 1-23 form part of these Financial Statements.

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board on the 21st June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Aidan Cotter  
Chairperson  
21st June, 2023



Caroline Bocquel  
Chief Executive  
21st June, 2023

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31st December 2022

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1,751</b>
Experience gains/(losses) on retirement benefit obligations	(499)	(653)
Changes in assumptions	24,154	(3,940)
Adjustment to deferred retirement benefit funding	(23,655)	4,593
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the year</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1,751</b>

Notes 1-23 form part of these Financial Statements.

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Chairperson  
21st June, 2023



Caroline Bocquel  
Chief Executive  
21st June, 2023

## Statement of Financial Position

As at 31st December 2022

	Note	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	11	4,849	4,169
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Receivables	12	666	825
Inventory		9	10
Cash and Cash equivalents		835	8,988
		<b>1,510</b>	<b>9,823</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables (amounts falling due within one year)	13	(2,296)	(10,091)
<b>Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		<b>(786)</b>	<b>(268)</b>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities before Pensions</b>		<b>4,063</b>	<b>3,901</b>
Retirement Benefit Obligation	19(b)	(66,903)	(89,390)
Deferred Retirement Benefit Funding Asset	19(c)	66,903	89,390
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>4,063</b>	<b>3,901</b>
<b>Representing</b>			
Retained Revenue Reserves		(786)	(268)
Capital Reserves	15	4,849	4,169
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>4,063</b>	<b>3,901</b>

Notes 1-23 form part of these Financial Statements.

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board on the 21st June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



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Chairperson  
21st June, 2023



Caroline Bocquel  
Chief Executive  
21st June, 2023

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31st December 2022

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Reconciliation of Operating Surplus/(Deficit) to Net Cash flow from Operating/Development Activities</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1,751</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	162	1,751
Bank Interest	-	-
Depreciation Charge	1,079	1,244
Income from sale of Fixed Assets	1	1
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventory	1	29
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables	159	93
Increase/(Decrease) in Payables	(7,796)	6,989
<b>Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating/Development Activities</b>	<b>(6,394)</b>	<b>10,107</b>
<b>Statement of Cash Flows</b>		
Net Cash Inflow from Operating/Development Activities	(6,394)	10,107
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>		
Interest Received	-	-
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>		
Payments to Acquire Tangible Fixed Assets	(1,759)	(1,891)
Receipt from sale of assets	-	-
<b>Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>(8,153)</b>	<b>8,216</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	8,988	772
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>8,988</b>

Notes 1-23 form part of these Financial Statements.

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board on the 21st June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Aidan Cotter  
Chairperson  
21st June, 2023



Caroline Bocquel  
Chief Executive  
21st June, 2023

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## For the year ended 31st December 2022

### 1. Accounting Policies

The basis of accounting and significant accounting policies adopted by BIM are set out below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the year and for the preceding year.

#### General Information

BIM was set up under the Sea Fisheries Act, 1952, and has a head office at Dún Laoghaire, County Dublin.

The primary objectives of BIM as set out in the Sea Fisheries Act, 1952 are as follows: to develop the seafood industry both at sea and ashore, to enable it to make its full contribution to the economy of the coastal regions and the country as a whole. It is the State Agency with primary responsibility for the sustainable development of the Irish seafood industry and the diversification of the coastal economy.

BIM is a Public Benefit Entity (PBE).

#### Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of BIM for the year ended 31 December 2022 have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC).

#### Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities that are measured at fair values as explained in the accounting policies below. The financial statements are in the form approved by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine with the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform under the Sea Fisheries Act, 1952. The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to BIM's financial statements.

#### Revenue - Oireachtas Grants

Revenue is generally recognised on an accruals basis; the exception to this is in the case of Oireachtas Grants which are recognised on a cash receipts basis.

#### Refunds of grants paid

Grants paid become refundable in certain circumstances, such as liquidation/dissolution of the recipient company, or if the conditions of the grant are not met. Grant refunds are recognised when it is probable that the money will be received by BIM and the amount can be estimated reliably; therefore they are accounted for on an accruals basis.

#### Interest income

Interest income is recognised on an accruals basis using the effective interest rate method.

#### Other Revenue

Other revenue is recognised on an accruals basis.

#### Deferred Income

Deferred income comprises European funding and Salmon Hardship funding that has been deferred pending expenditure on delivery of services.

#### Grant Schemes

Payments made under the various grant schemes operated by the Board are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Grants payable by BIM are recognised as expenditure when the grantee has complied with the conditions stipulated in the grant agreement and supplied the documentation necessary to confirm compliance.

Commitments arising on foot of approvals under the various Grant Schemes operated by the Board are shown in Note 16.

#### Bad Debts

Provision is made for debts considered to be doubtful of collection and against any losses anticipated on foot of guarantees. Bad debts are written-off in the year in which the relevant loan agreement is terminated.

#### Inventory

Inventory consists of goods for resale, and is recognised in the financial statements at the lower of Cost and Net Realisable Value (NRV). Cost is calculated on a first-in-first-out (FIFO) basis and includes all purchase costs. NRV is the selling price (actual or estimated) less all necessary completion costs.

#### Receivables

Receivables are recognised at fair value, less a provision for doubtful debts. The provision for doubtful debts is a specific provision and is established when there is objective evidence that BIM will not be able to collect all amounts owed to it. All movements in the provision for doubtful debts are recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves.

#### Operating Leases

Rental expenditure under operating leases is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves over the life of the lease. Expenditure is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease period, except where there are rental increases linked to the expected rate of inflation, in which case these increases are recognised when incurred. Any lease incentives received are recognised over the life of the lease.

#### Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation, adjusted for any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided on all property, plant and equipment, other than freehold land and artwork, at rates estimated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each asset on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

- Land and Premises
 

a. Land		Nil
b. Premises:	Navigational Stations – Original	2%
	Navigational Stations – Additions	10%
	Other Premises	10%

• Plant and Machinery	
a. Training Equipment	16.6%
b. Other Plant and Machinery	10%
c. Technical Equipment	20%
• Motor Vehicles	20%
• Gear and Equipment	
a. Fishing Gear	50%
b. Vessels	10%
c. Office Equipment	20%
d. Computer Equipment (ICT)	33.3%

Residual value represents the estimated amount which would currently be obtained from disposal of an asset, after deducting estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of an age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

If there is objective evidence of impairment of the value of an asset, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves in the year.

#### Capital Reserves

Capital Reserves comprise the unamortised value of capital grants used to fund fixed assets.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash consists of cash on hand and demand deposits. Cash equivalents consist of short term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash that are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Foreign Currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rates ruling at the reporting date. Revenues and costs are translated at the exchange rates ruling at the dates of the underlying transactions.

Profits and losses arising from foreign currency translations and on settlement of amounts receivable and payable are dealt with in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves.

#### Employee Benefits

**Short-term Benefits:** Short term benefits such as holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the year, and benefits that are accrued at year-end are included in the Payables figure in the Statement of Financial Position.

**Retirement Benefits:** BIM previously established its own defined benefit pension scheme, funded annually on a pay-as-you-go basis from monies provided by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and from contributions deducted from staff and members' salaries. BIM also operates the Single Public Services Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme"), which is a defined benefit scheme for pensionable public servants appointed on or after 1 January 2013. Single Scheme members' contributions are paid over to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER).

The Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012 became law on 28th July 2012 and introduced the new Single Public Service Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme") which commenced with effect from 1st January 2013. All new entrants to the Public Sector, on or after 1st January 2013 are members of the Single Scheme.

Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees in the period and are shown net of staff pension contributions which are retained by BIM. An amount corresponding to the pension charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable, and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments.

Actuarial gains or losses arising on scheme liabilities are reflected in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

The financial statements reflect, at fair value, the assets and liabilities arising from BIM's pension obligations and any related funding, and recognises the costs of providing pension benefits in the accounting periods in which they are earned by employees. Retirement benefit scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method.

#### Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Board has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events; it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably.

#### Contingencies

Contingent liabilities arising as a result of past events, are not recognised when (i) it is not probable that there will be an outflow of resources or that the amount cannot be reliably measured at the reporting date or (ii) when the existence will be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of uncertain future events not wholly within the Board's control. Contingent liabilities are disclosed in the financial statements unless the probability of an outflow is remote.

Contingent assets are not recognised. Contingent assets are disclosed in the financial statements when an inflow of economic benefits is probable.



## 2. Critical Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

Judgements and estimates are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Board makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below:

### (a) Establishing lives for depreciation purposes of property, plant and equipment

Long lived assets, consisting primarily of property, plant and equipment, comprise a significant portion of the total assets. The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual values. The Board regularly review these asset lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset lives can have a significant impact on depreciation charges for the period. Detail of the useful lives is included in the accounting policies.

### (b) Provision for doubtful debts

The Board makes an estimate of the recoverable value of trade debtors and other debtors. The Board uses estimates based on historical experience in determining the level of debts, which may not be collected. These estimates include such factors as the current rating of the debtor, the ageing profile of debtors and historical experience. The level of provision required is reviewed on an on-going basis.

### (c) Retirement Benefit

The Board recognises amounts owing from the State for the unfunded deferred liability for pensions on the basis of a number of past events. These events include the statutory backing for the superannuation scheme, and the policy and practice in relation to funding public service pensions including the annual estimates process. While there is no formal agreement and therefore no guarantee regarding these specific amounts with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, the Board has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to progressively meet this amount in accordance with current practice.

### (d) Retirement Benefit Obligations

The assumptions underlying the actuarial valuations for which the amounts recognised in the financial statements are determined (including discount rates, rates of increase in future compensation levels, mortality rates and healthcare cost trend rates) are updated annually based on current economic conditions and for any relevant changes to the terms and conditions of the pension and post-retirement plans.

The assumptions can be affected by:

- (i) The discount rate, changes in the rate of return on high-quality corporate bonds.
- (ii) Future compensation levels, future labour market conditions.
- (iii) Health care cost trend rates, the rate of medical cost inflation in the relevant regions.

## 3. Oireachtas Grants: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Vote 30 - Subhead D5 Current Development</b>		
Pay	8,250	7,700
Superannuation	2,450	2,600
Non-pay	35,865	23,850
<b>Total Current Development</b>	<b>46,565</b>	<b>34,150</b>
Capital Development	4,500	11,750
	<b>51,065</b>	<b>45,900</b>

## 4. Grants

### Grants received

Project	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Interreg	35	334
	<b>35</b>	<b>334</b>

### Grants expended

Project	Salaries	Non-pay	Grants	Total	Total
Interreg	-	1	-	1	45
	-	<b>1</b>	-	<b>1</b>	<b>45</b>

All EU receipts were applied in the year and related to industry current development expenditure. The difference between grants received and grants expended of €34,000 is due to timing differences in the administration of claims for scheme funding.

## 5. Ice Supply Operating results

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
<b>Turnover</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>341</b>
Less: Wages	(507)	(486)
Less: Operating costs	(526)	(482)
Less: Administration costs	(111)	(147)
<b>Total Expenditure on Ice Plants*</b>	<b>(1,144)</b>	<b>(1,115)</b>
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus on Operations</b>	<b>(838)</b>	<b>(774)</b>

\*Total expenditure does not include depreciation charges on ice plants fixed assets in the year of €14,000 (2021: €16,000).

Note: The Board of BIM evaluated an updated business case for future ice plant operations in 2022. This is currently being progressed with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

## 6. Other income

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Admin Income - incl. Rent Receivable	30	32
Sea Fisheries Income	247	210
North Western Waters Council	16	16
Training Income	439	294
Sea Fisheries Grant Refunds	89	43
Receipts from Sale of Assets	1	1
	<b>822</b>	<b>596</b>

## 7. Industry Capital Development Expenditure

Project	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Seafood Technical Services	2,819	6,631
Development & Innovation Services	-	2,641
	<b>2,819</b>	<b>9,272</b>

STS includes aquaculture of €577k in 2022 (2021: €2,821k)

## 8. Industry Current Development Expenditure

### (a) Development

Project	Salaries	Non-pay	Grants	Total 2022 €'000	Total 2021 €'000
Seafood Technical Services	2,244	3,127	24,214	29,585	16,641
Economic & Strategic Services	499	471	-	970	1,455
Development & Innovation Services	1,183	2,516	90	3,789	4,337
Technical Assistance (EMFF)	458	507	-	965	862
Skills Development Services	1,388	1,163	124	2,675	2,470
Communications	343	579	-	922	543
	<b>6,115</b>	<b>8,363</b>	<b>24,428</b>	<b>38,906</b>	<b>26,308</b>

### (b) Administration

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Salary Costs	1,871	1,675
Travel Administrative Staff	48	24
Board Members' Fees and Travel Expenses	71	60
Rent, Rates, and Repairs	138	185
Telephone, Postage, and Stationery	209	215
Data Processing (ICT)	1,807	1,319
Power, Light, and Cleaning	236	112
Legal, Professional, and Consultants' Fees	848	946
Audit Fee	32	32
Annual Report	15	15
Insurance	109	88
Advertising & Sponsorship	3	3
Staff Development and Training Costs	320	333
Sundries, General Expenses and Trade Subscriptions	321	254
	<b>6,028</b>	<b>5,261</b>

### (c) Depreciation

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Depreciation during the year	1,079	1,244
	<b>46,013</b>	<b>32,813</b>

## 9. Staff Costs

Staff salaries in the year are charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure Account and Retained Revenue Reserves under the following headings. Ice Plant Operators wages are charged to Ice Plant running costs (See Note 5).

### (a) Staff Salaries by Division

	Staff Numbers at 31 Dec 2022	2022 € '000	Staff Numbers at 31 Dec 2021	2021 €'000
Seafood Technical Services Salaries - Note 8(a)	32	2,244	32	2,294
Economic & Strategic Services - Note 8(a)	6	499	6	403
Business Development & Innovation Salaries - Note 8(a)	16	1,183	20	1,179
Skills Development Services Salaries - Note 8 (a)	20	1,388	22	1,264
Communications Salaries - Note 8(a)	5	343	5	320
Corporate Services - Note 8(b)	35	2,035	28	2,129
Ice Plant Salaries - Note 5	12	507	9	486
	<b>126</b>	<b>8,199</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>8,075</b>

Salaries of €458,000 relating to staff retained under Technical Assistance (2021: €498,000) funded by EMFF grant aid, have been included in the Corporate Services unit for 2022. Overtime of €42,000 (2021: €44,000) is included in the above. There were no on-board allowances paid in the year (2021: €1,000).

### (b) Pensions Paid in the Year

Pensioners are pension payments to retired BIM staff (See Note 19).

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Pensioners	128	2,357
Lump Sum Payments	124	217
	<b>128</b>	<b>2,574</b>

€273,000 of pension levy has been deducted from staff and paid over to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Following an EU ruling in 2008 all contract staff who qualified for a contract of indefinite duration became a permanent member of staff. These staff are included in BIM's authorised numbers as agreed with Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

### (c) Employee Benefits Breakdown

Range of total employees		Number of Employees	
From	To	2022	2021
€60,000	€69,999	23	35
€70,000	€79,999	23	7
€80,000	€89,999	9	11
€90,000	€99,999	8	5
€100,000	€109,999	2	-
€110,000	€119,999	2	-
€120,000	€129,999	-	-
€130,000	€139,999	-	1

## 10. Directors' and CEO Salary

		Fees 2022 €'000	Fees 2021 €'000	Travel Expenses 2022 €'000	Travel Expenses 2021 €'000
Aidan Cotter (Term 17 May 2022 to 16 May 2025)	Chairperson	7	-	-	-
Lisa Vaughan (Term 19 June 2020 to 18 June 2022) (reappointed 19 June 2022 to 18 June 2025)	Director	8	8	1	1
William Deasy (Term 26 July 2017 to 25 July 2020) (Term 19 November 2020 to 18 November 2023)	Director	8	8	4	1
Jean Callanan (Term 19 November 2020 to 18 November 2023)	Director	8	8	1	1
Aaron Forde (Term 19 November 2020 to 17 February 2021)	Director	-	1	-	-
Marie Gleeson (Term 19 November 2020 to 18 November 2023)	Director	8	8	2	1
George Golden (Term 29 September 2021 to 28 September 2024)	Director	8	2	3	1
		<b>47</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>

The Board held 12 TBC full meetings in 2022. Board Members attended other meetings and events on behalf of BIM in addition to Board and Audit Meetings.

	Board Attendance 2022	Other Meetings 2022
Aidan Cotter	(7/7)	-
Lisa Vaughan	(11/12)	6
William Deasy	(12/12)	-
Jean Callanan	(12/12)	2
Marie Gleeson	(11/12)	2
George Golden	(11/12)	4

	Salary 2022 € '000	Salary 2021 €'000
CEO (Jim O'Toole)	117	136
Interim CEO (Caroline Bocquel)	20	-
	<b>137</b>	<b>136</b>

The CEO is a member of the BIM defined benefit scheme and expenses of €7,000 were also paid to the CEO for 2022. The CEO resigned on 31st October 2022.

Caroline Bocquel was appointed Interim CEO on 1st November 2022. Expenses of €2,139 were paid to the Interim CEO for 2022.

## 11. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Total €'000	Land and Premises €'000	Plant and Machinery €'000	Assets in the course of construction €'000	Motor Vehicles €'000	Gear and Equipment €'000
<b>Cost</b>						
Balance as at 1 January	33,352	6,762	5,965	-	382	20,243
Additions	1,759	121	758	621	2	257
Transfer*						
Disposals	(4)		(4)	-		
<b>Balance as at 31 December</b>	<b>35,107</b>	<b>6,883</b>	<b>6,719</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>20,500</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>						
Balance as at 1 January	29,183	6,010	4,532	-	293	18,348
Charge for Year	1,079	160	318	-	34	567
Disposals	(4)	-	(4)	-		
<b>Balance as at 31 December</b>	<b>30,258</b>	<b>6,170</b>	<b>4,846</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>18,915</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>						
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>4,849</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>1,873</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1,585</b>
<b>At 31 December 2021</b>	<b>4,169</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>1,433</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>1,895</b>

\*Assets under construction related to a capital commitment at the 31st December 2022.

## 12. Receivables

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Other Receivables	313	406
Prepayments	369	434
	<b>682</b>	<b>840</b>
Less: Provision for Doubtful Debts	(16)	(15)
	<b>666</b>	<b>825</b>

### 13. Payables (amounts falling due within one year)

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Deferred Income	54	54
Trade payables and accruals	1,917	1,388
Grant Accruals	325	8,649
	<b>2,296</b>	<b>10,091</b>

Tax and social insurance are subject to the terms of the relevant legislation. Interest accrues on late payment. No interest was due at the financial year end date. The terms of accruals are based on the underlying contracts. Other amounts included within creditors not covered by specific note disclosures are unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.

### 14. Lease Commitments

At 31 December 2022 BIM had the following future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases for each of the following periods:

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Payable within one year	17	17
Payable within two to five years	41	53
Payable after five years	9	19
	<b>67</b>	<b>89</b>

### 15. Capital Reserves

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Balance as at 1st January	4,169	3,522
<b>Transfer (to)/from Income and Expenditure Account</b>		
Funding of Asset Additions	1,759	1,891
Amortisation in line with Asset Depreciation	(1,079)	(1,244)
<b>Transfer to Statement of Income and Expenditure Account and Retained Revenue Reserves</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>647</b>
<b>Balance as at 31st December</b>	<b>4,849</b>	<b>4,169</b>

### 16. Contingent Liabilities and Commitments

There were no contingent liabilities and commitments at 31 December 2022 arising from:

- (a) At the year-end there were grant applications that had been fully approved, against which no claim had been received.

Balances outstanding in respect of these financial facilities approved but not taken up at 31st December were as follows:

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Fisheries	15,378	5,454

### 17. Cross Border Aquaculture Initiative

The Cross-Border Aquaculture Initiative which is supported by the Special Programme for Peace and Reconciliation was incorporated in 1998 as a European Economic Interest Grouping (EEIG) and registered in the Companies Office. It is jointly owned by BIM and Northern Ireland Seafood Limited.

An annual statement is filed with the CRO (IG8) signed by the membership of the EEIG, the accounts for Aquaculture Initiative are audited by Bluett Conran.

The Cross-Border Aquaculture Initiative finished operations at 31 December 2020 and the process of liquidation via a High Court application commenced in 2021 and is still ongoing.

### 18. Bantry Equity Fund

This fund was established by the government to promote the development of the aquaculture industry in the Bantry region following the closure of the Whiddy Oil Terminal. All shares are held in the name of the Minister for Finance. It is not possible to assess accurately the value of these shares, as this is dependent on the performance of the enterprises.

The following investments were held at 31 December 2022:

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Kush Seafarms Limited	19	19
Fastnet Mussels Limited	19	19
	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>

## 19. Retirement Benefits Costs

### (a) Retirement Costs

Analysis of total retirement benefit costs charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves:

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Current Service Cost	2,418	2,439
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities	1,251	799
Employee Contributions	(412)	(398)
	<b>3,257</b>	<b>2,840</b>

### (b) Movement in net Retirement Benefit Obligations

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Net Pension Liability at 1 January	89,390	84,132
Net Current Service Cost	2,006	2,041
Employees Contributions	412	398
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities	1,251	799
Actuarial Loss/(Gain)	(23,655)	4,593
Pensions paid in the year	(2,501)	(2,573)
Payment in respect of transfer of service to third party*	-	-
	<b>66,903</b>	<b>89,390</b>

### Financial Assumptions

The principal actuarial assumptions were as follows:

	2022	2021
Rate of increase in salaries	4.15%	3.60%
Rate of increase in pensions in payment	3.65%	3.10%
Discount Rate	3.65%	1.40%
Inflation Rate	2.65%	2.10%

The mortality basis adopted allows for improvements in life expectancy over time, so that life expectancy at retirement will depend on the year in which a member attains retirement age (age 65). The table below shows the weighted average life expectancy for members used to determine benefit obligations.

Year of attaining age 65	2022	2042
Life expectancy - male	24.3	22.1
Life expectancy - female	26.4	24.4

### (c) Deferred Funding Asset for Pensions

The Board recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for pensions on the basis of the set of assumptions described below and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the superannuation schemes, and the policy and practice currently in place in relation to funding public service pensions including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process. While there is no formal agreement regarding these specific amounts with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, the Board has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current practice.

Net Deferred Funding for Pensions in the year	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Funding recoverable in respect of current year pension costs	3,669	3,238
State Grant applied to pay pensioners and transfers of service	(2,501)	(2,573)
	<b>1,168</b>	<b>665</b>

### (d) History of scheme liabilities and experience (gains)/losses

Net Deferred Funding for Pensions in the year	2022 € '000	2021 € '000	2020 € '000	2019 € '000	2018 €'000
Defined benefit obligations	66,903	89,390	84,132	78,619	71,082
Experience gains on plan liabilities	499	653	338	(980)	(1,317)
Experience gains as percentage of plan liabilities	0.7%	0.7%	0.4%	(1.2%)	(1.9%)

### (e) Pension Scheme

BIM operates unfunded defined benefit superannuation scheme for staff. Superannuation entitlements arising under the schemes are paid out of current income and are charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves, net of employee superannuation contributions, in the year in which they become payable. The results are set out above on an actuarial valuation of the pension liabilities in respect of serving, retired, and deceased staff of BIM as at 31st December 2022. This valuation was carried out by a qualified independent actuary.

### (f) Single Scheme

The Single Scheme is the occupational pension scheme for public servants hired since 2013. It is a defined benefit scheme, with retirement benefits based on career-average pay. The scheme generates pension credits and retirement lump sum credits for each scheme member. These money credit, known as "referable amounts", accrue as percentages of pay on an ongoing basis. The referable amounts accrued each year are valued annually until retirement in line with inflation increases (Consumer Price Index). The annual pension awarded on retirement is the cumulative total of a scheme member's pension referable amounts, and the lump sum awarded is, similarly, the total of the scheme member's lump sum referable amounts.

## 20. Board Members' Interests

The Board adopted procedures in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to the disclosure of interests by Board Members and those procedures have been adhered to in the year. There were no instances where board members declared interests in 2022.

## 21. Related Party Disclosures

Key management personnel in BIM consist of the CEO and members of the Board of Directors. Total compensation paid to key management personnel, including Board members' fees and expenses and total CEO remuneration, amounted to €204,000 (2021: €184,000).

For a breakdown of the remuneration and benefits paid to key management personnel, please refer to Note 10.

BIM adopts procedures in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform covering the personal interests of Board members. In the normal course of business, BIM may approve grants or enter into other contractual arrangements with entities in which BIM Board members are employed or are otherwise interested.

BIM own 100% of the ordinary share capital of St. George Fishery Company Limited, a company incorporated in Ireland, which is dormant and did not trade during the period. The company has net assets of €1,270.

## 22. Going Concern - COVID-19

BIM continues to manage the evolving circumstances around the COVID-19 pandemic. This process involves following the latest Government protocols and ensuring appropriate mitigations are in place via BIM's Risk Management Framework. A COVID-19 contingency plan is in place and this is managed and updated by the senior leadership team.

## 23. Approval of financial statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board at its meeting on 21st June 2023.

# 2022

Tuarascáil Bhliantúil  
agus Ráitis Airgeadais



**Bord Iascaigh Mhara**

Tionscal Bhia Mara na  
hÉireann á Fhorbairt



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## Sracfhéachaint ar 2022

**€1.3**  
billiún

OTI Mheasta Tionscal  
Bia Mara na hÉireann



**5,825**

Rinne an Seomra Cianfhoghlama Dobharshaothraithe (ARC) seimineáir ghréasáin a sholáthar do 5,825 dalta & thug siad cuairt ar 1,509 dalta i scoileanna



**15,373**

Líon iomlán daoine atá fostaithe i dtionscal bia mara na hÉireann



**1,993**

Líon Árthaí Iascaireachta Cláraithe na hÉireann



**1,883**

Deontais curtha ar fáil - de luach iomlán €27.5M - faoi scéimeanna éagsúla atá á maoiniú ag an AE



**1,170**

rannpháirtí a thug cúrsaí oiliúna BIM chun críche in 2022

“Tá freagracht ar leith ag Bord Iascaigh Mhara do bhia mara na hÉireann, agus do na daoine a oibríonn san earnáil bia mara. Cuireann an straitéis seo béim ar ár ngealltanais athnuaite dóibh siúd a bheireann ar, a thugann faoi fheirmeoireacht agus a bhaineann taitneamh as bia mara na hÉireann. Is mian linn a chinntiú go bhfanfaidh bia mara na hÉireann ar an mbiachlár do na glúnta atá le teacht.”

## Ráiteas Straitéise

Is í an fhís atá ag Bord Iascaigh Mhara ná go n-oibreimid i gcomhar le hearnáil bia mara na hÉireann ar gach bealach gur féidir, le rún agus le práinn, chun na hathruithe atá ag teastáil chun a todhchaí inbhuanaithe a chinntiú, a aimsiú agus a thiomáint, mar atá leagtha amach inár Straitéis 'Ag Casadh na Taoide 2022-2026', a críochnaíodh agus a seoladh le linn na bliana atá faoi athbhreithniú.

Tá clú agus cáil ar bhia mara na hÉireann ó thaobh cáilíochta de. Is minic gurb iad na daoine a bheireann ar nó a thugann faoi fheirmeoireacht ar an mbia mara, a itheann agus a easpórtálann pobal na hÉireann, na daoine céanna atá á dhéanamh sin leis na glúnta. Tá sé i gcónaí mar aidhm againne i BIM cabhrú leis an bpobal seo níos mó a bhaint amach, agus níos mó a chúiteamh leo as a gcuid iarrachtaí. Lorgáimid bealaí chun gach atá uathúil maidir le hearnáil bia mara na hÉireann a chosaint fad is atá sí ag fás agus dul chun feabhais ag an am céanna. Anois, níos mó ná riamh, ní mór dúinn an ról seo a chomhlíonadh.

Tá freagracht ceaptha do Bhord Iascaigh Mhara ar bhia mara na hÉireann, agus do na daoine a oibríonn in earnáil bia mara na hÉireann. Cuireann an straitéis seo béim ar ár ngealltanais athnuaite dóibh siúd a bheireann ar, a thugann faoi fheirmeoireacht agus a bhaineann taitneamh as bia mara na hÉireann. Is mian linn a chinntiú go bhfanfaidh bia mara na hÉireann ar an mbiachlár do na glúnta atá le teacht. Is mian linn cabhrú leis an earnáil a bheith nuálach agus chun fáis, ionas go mbeidh iad siúd a oibríonn le bia mara na hÉireann in ann slí bheatha a chothú, agus ionas go mbeidh an deis chéanna, nó deis níos fearr, más mian leo, ag an gcéad ghluin eile.

Go luath in 2021, thosaigh BIM ag smaoineamh ar conas is fearr freagairt do na bagairtí fadtéarmacha eiseacha atá os comhair earnáil bia mara na hÉireann anois. I dteannta leis na bearta a cuireadh isteach láithreach bonn ag an am, thosaíomar próiseas pleanála d'athrú iomlán freisin. Bhí a fhios againn go mbeadh sé seo ag teastáil ar fud na hearnála agus inár n-eagraíocht féin.

Ba é bunús an phróisis seo nach dtiocfadh aon athrú ar ár misean agus go raibh sé bunúsach: chun tacú le, agus chun méadú i gcruthú fiúntais maidir le hearnáil bia mara inbhuanaithe na hÉireann a chumasú, trasna shlabhra an tsoláthair, ó ghabháil go dtí an tomhaltóir.

A bhuí le tacaíocht na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, tá straitéis chúig bliana nua, 'Ag Casadh na Taoide', forbartha anois againn. Leagann sé amach ceithre sprioc leis an straitéis sin arb é is aidhm dóibh sainmhíniú as an nua a dhéanamh ar a ndéanaimid, agus cruth nua dearfach a chur ar an earnáil mar thoradh air sin. Tacaítear leis na spriocanna sin le ceithre chur chuige nua maidir leis an gcaoi a n-oibrímid — rud a athróidh cultúr agus iarmhairt BIM mar eagraíocht.

Is iad na cuspóirí atá againn ná:



**Ceannaireacht a stiúradh agus a chothú**



**Torthaí a sheachadadh le réitigh a chuireann athrú i bhfeidhm**



**Infheistíocht a dhéanamh d'fhás fadtéarmach**



**Ár gcomhshaol agus ár n-earnáil a chosaint**

# Ráiteas an Chathaoirleigh

## Táim lánássta Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Bhord Iascaigh Mara (BIM) do 2022 a chur i láthair ar son an Bhoird.



An bhliain seo caite, d'ardaiigh luach earála bia mara na hÉireann 4% go €1.3 billiún maidir le hOlltáirgeacht Intire (OTI). Bhi gnéithe cosúil le praghsanna níos airde, athoscailt iomlán ar ionaid díolacháin seirbhísi bia na hÉireann nuair a tugadh chun críche srianta deiridh Cóvid-19 agus méadú ar chaitheamh bia mara sa mhargadh intire mar bhonn faoin méadú.

Tá an earráil fós ina gné rithábhachtach do phobail chosta an Stáit. Ar an iomlán, fostáidh 15,373 duine san earráil bia mara, idir fhóstaíocht dhíreach agus indíreach. Bhi 1,993 ártach cláraithe, 296 suíomh dobharshaothraithe, agus 101 próiseálaí bia mara ann.

Tá éifeacht shuntasach ag tionchar an Chomhaontaithe Trádála & Comhoibriúche idir an Aontas Eorpach agus na Ríocht Aontaithe (TCA) ar earráil bia mara na hÉireann.

Bhi 16 moladh sa tuairisc ar an Tascfhórsa Bia Mara, bunaithe ag an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia & Mara, Charlie McCaonálogue, TD, agus a tugadh chun críche san fhómhar in 2021, a dearadh chun tionchar an chomhaontaithe TCA a mhaoliú ar earráil bia mara na hÉireann agus ar ár bpobail chosta.

Le linn na bliana, sheol an BIM, atá ag bainistiú agus ag réachtháil na scéimeanna, an chéad sciar de na scéimeanna tacaíochta ó na 16 moladh - a bhfuil tacaíocht fheideartha iomlán thart ar €423 milliún acu.

In 2022, bhí luach €265 milliún san iomlán ag an réimse scéimeanna a cuireadh i bhfeidhm faoin gCúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breaitimeachta. Cabhróidh an maoiniú lena chinníú gur féidir earráil bia mara na hÉireann a athchóiriú chun a chinníú go bhfuil sí brabúsach, nuálach agus inbhuanaithe.

Tháinig an chéad scéim, a dearadh chun tacú leis an earráil iascaireachta cladaigh, i bhfeidhm i mí Eanáir. Faoin scéim, bhí cúnamh deontais de luach idir €2,700 agus €4,000 ar fáil d'úinéirí ártachaigh, tar éis clár oiliúna shonracha atá deartha chun cabhrú leo dul i ngleic leis na coinmíolacha nua margálaíochta iar-Bhreaitimeachta a chríochnú.

Is ag feidhmiú mar pháirtí i gcomhar leis an tionscal agus le páirtithe leasmhara eile bunloch na straitéise. Táimid ag tacú agus ag cabhrú leis an tionscal bia mara a bheith nuálach agus a luach foriomlán a mhéadú, le focas soiléir ar inbhuanaitheacht. Mar eagraíocht, táimid tiomanta go hiomlán d'obriú leis an earráil bia mara chun cabhrú leo a ngnólaíochtaí a fhorbairt agus a fhás ar bhealach atá inbhuanaithe ó thaobh na sochaí, an gheilleagair agus an chomhsaol de.

an tionscail.

Le linn 2022, d'fhóisigh BIM a straitéis nua 'Ag Casadh na Taoide', plean uailmhianach a léiríonn an tsíl a n-obireoidid leis an earráil do na cúig bliana atá amach romhainn chun infheistiúocht a dhéanamh i bhfás fadéarmach, ar gcomhsaol agus an earráil i gcoitinne a chosaint, ceannasáíocht a chothú agus i a léiriú muid féin, agus forthar a chur ar fáil le réitigh a mbíonn tionchar acu ar athrú dearfach trasna an tionscail.

Rúise ar an Úcráin.

Ba bhliain dhushláinach i 2022 d'earráil bia mara na hÉireann, mar bhí ar an earráil a bealach a dhéanamh trí dhushláin ollmhóra, cosúil leis an tionchar leanúnach atá ag an mBreaitimeacht ar an earráil, agus an méadú ollmhór ar chostais bhreosla agus fhuinnimh mar gheall ar thionchar eacnamaíochta ionraidh na Rúise ar an Úcráin.

I mí an Mheithimh, sheol BIM an Scéim Forbartha Fiontraíochta Breaitimeachta don Gheilleagar Gorm arbh fhíú €25 milliún i, chun cabhrú le pobail chosta a athnuachan tar éis na Breaitimeachta. Tacaíonn an scéim le gníomhaíochtaí cosúil le turasoíríocht chosta bia mara, fóillíocht mhar, saoirseacht bad agus tionscnaimh fhuinnimh in-athnuaithe a thacaíonn leis an ngeilleagar gorm.

Le linn na bliana, seoladh Scéim Scoir Buan Deonach chun tacú le hiascairí a roghnaigh go toilteanach a n-ártachaigh a chur as feidhm. Aontáidh príomhholadh na tuarascála chun suas le 8,000 olltona a bhaint ó chabhlaigh cloicheáin agus iasc gear na hÉireann, a mhaoiniú chun brabúsacht na hearála sa todhchaí a chinntiú mar gheall ar thionchar fadéarmach na Breaitimeachta.

Bhain an scéim 84% a sprice amach, mar faoi dheireadh na bliana, ghlac úinéirí 42 ártach san iomlán le €63 milliún in íocaíochtaí tacaíochta chun a n-ártachaigh a dhíchoimisiúniú, ag cur cuóta timpeall €30 milliún ar fáil do speicis cosúil le cloicheáin, colmóir, anglaít agus cadóg do na hártachaigh atá fós sa chabhlaigh, agus ag athchóiriú an chuóta atá ar fáil le hacmhainn cabhlaigh.

Seoladh an Scéim Tacaíochta Capitiúm Próiseáil an Bhreaitimeachta le linn na bliana freisin. Ba é príomhaidhm na scéime ná cabhrú le hearráil phróiseálaíthe bia mara na hÉireann áit níos airde a fháil ar an slabhra breisluacha agus a bheith níos éifeachtaí trí dheontais chaipitil a chur ar fáil chun cabhrú le pleananna infheistiúochta.

Tá dul chun cinn suntasach fós á dhéanamh agáin trasna réimse tionscnaimh inbhuanaithe, agus muid ag obair i gcomhar leis an earráil agus leis na páirtithe leasmhara eile, mar shampla:

Leanamar ar aghaidh ag tacú leis an Tionscnaimh Aigéan Glan chun an earráil agus páirtithe leasmhara eile a chur ar an eolas faoin tionchar atá ag pláisteach ar an timpeallacht mhuirí, chun cinníú go mbaintear athfearaíocht as an seanfhearas ar bhealach inbhuanaithe agus chun cabhrú leo bruscar mara a ghlanadh suas sna hearnálaíochta iascaireachta agus dobharshaothraithe.

Focas eile a bhí ann le linn na bliana ná forbairt cheannasáíochta feabhsuithe níos fearr san earráil, le clár oiliúna chun cabhrú leis na ceannairí atá ag teacht chun cinn, agus an té atá ag obair ar leibhéal meánbhairnaisíochta faoi láthair. Chuireamar réimse cúrsaí oiliúna sábháilteachta rithábhachtacha ar

Fáil le linn 2022 freisin, le beagnach 470 duine ag críochnú an chláir oiliúna sábháilteachta éigeantach trí lá, mar shampla.

D'obriigh an Mol Nuálaíochta Bia Mara le 45 cliant san earráil bia mara ar réimse tionscnaimh. Ba é focas lárnach na dtionscnaimh a rinneadh le linn na bliana ná luach a mhéadú, agus ba ghné shuntasach é laghdú costais freisin.

D'imigh ár bPríomhfhéidhmeannach Jim O'Toole ó BIM le linn na bliana, agus ar son an Bhoird agus na heagraíochta ar fad, ba mhaithe linn mo bhúiochas a ghabháil le Jim as ucht a chuid oibre dúthrachtaí le linn a thréimhse mar POF agus guim gach rath air lena ról nua le Bord Bia.

Faoi dheireadh na bliana, ceapadh Caroine Bocquel mar Phríomhfhéidhmeannach nua BIM tar éis mhíonphróisis chuardaigh. Is ceannaire láidir í agus tá mioneoilas aici maidir leis an earráil bia mara, agus táim ag tnúth le bheith ag obair go dlúth léi sna blianta atá romhainn. Ba mhór an onóir é a bheith ceaptha mar Chathaoirleach ar BIM i mí na Bealtaine seo caite, agus ba mhaithe linn mo bhúiochas a ghabháil le mó chomhghleacaíthe ar fad ar an mBord, leis an bhfoireann shinsereach ceannaireachta, agus leis an bhfoireann ar fad san eagraíocht as an tacaíocht a thug siad dom go dtí seo.

Ba mhaithe linn mo bhúiochas a ghabháil le foireann BIM ar fad as ucht a gcuid iarrachtaí le linn na bliana. Cosúil le go leor eagraíochtaí, bhíomar ag dul i dtáthí ar an timpeallacht hibrideach nua, agus ba mhaithe linn mo bhúiochas a ghabháil le foireann BIM as an tionscnaimh agus an solúbthacht a léirigh siad le bliain anuas. Chomh maithe leis sin, ba mhaithe linn Bia & Mara, Charlie McCaonálogue, TD, agus leis na hoifigigh ar fad sa Roinn, a oibriú le go rialta.

Leanamar ar aghaidh ag tacú leis an Tionscnaimh Aigéan Glan chun an earráil agus páirtithe leasmhara eile a chur ar an eolas faoin tionchar atá ag pláisteach ar an timpeallacht mhuirí, chun cinníú go mbaintear athfearaíocht as an seanfhearas ar bhealach inbhuanaithe agus chun cabhrú leo bruscar mara a ghlanadh suas sna hearnálaíochta iascaireachta agus dobharshaothraithe.

Focas eile a bhí ann le linn na bliana ná forbairt cheannasáíochta feabhsuithe níos fearr san earráil, le clár oiliúna chun cabhrú leis na ceannairí atá ag teacht chun cinn, agus an té atá ag obair ar leibhéal meánbhairnaisíochta faoi láthair. Chuireamar réimse cúrsaí oiliúna sábháilteachta rithábhachtacha ar



Aidan Cotter  
An Cathaoirleach

## Ráiteas an POF

Sheas teacht aniar earnáil bia mara na hÉireann amach in 2022 agus í ag gabháil deiseanna i dtimpeallacht dhúshlánach trádála.



Agus muid ag bogadh i dtreo an dara cuid de 2022, ba léir go bhféadfadh na dúshláin a bhaineann le domhandú na hearnála roinnt deiseanna suntasacha a chur ar fáil freisin.

Sa bhliain 2022, rinne BIM scéimeanna ar luach €268 milliún a riaradh, arna maoiniú tríd an gCúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta, a bhfuil aleithdháileadh bunaithe ar mholtaí Thuarascáil an Tascfhórsa Bia Mara go déanach in 2021. Tá líon suntasach scéimeanna Cúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta á gcur i bhfeidhm ag BIM agus chuir an ghníomhaireacht seacht scéim i bhfeidhm tríd an gCúlchiste le linn 2022 agus ceadaíodh 1,146 deontas, agus scaipeadh maoiniú de bheagnach €22.36 milliún.

Tá an Cúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta ina mheicníocht ríthábhachtach chun na tionchair is déine atá ag an mBreatimeacht ar an earnáil bia mara a mhaolú. Chomh maith le tacaíocht ríthábhachtach a chur ar fáil don earnáil iascaireachta, chuir sé ar chumas na n-earnálacha próiseála agus dobharshaothraithe infheistíocht a dhéanamh i dteicneolaíocht agus i mbonneagar ceannródaíoch chun feabhas a chur ar a n-iomaíochas agus chun an dúshraith a leagan síos dóibh chun margaidh domhanda a scálú agus dul san iomaíocht iontu.

Tháinig Ciste Eorpach Muirí lascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe (EMFAF) i bhfeidhm freisin in 2022, agus cuireadh €258 milliún de mhaoiniú ar fáil don earnáil bia mara a chuirfidh leis na hinfeistíochtaí a rinneadh faoin gCúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta. Tacaíonn an scéim seo leis an earnáil ar fad agus cuireadh sé ar chumas BIM tacaíocht theicniúil, seirbhísí nuálaíochta a sholáthar agus taighde feidhmeach a choimisiúnú agus a dhéanamh, i gcomhpháirtíocht leis an tionscal agus le gníomhaireachtaí agus páirtithe leasmhara stáit eile. Is príomh-aschur de chuid an chiste seo iad straitéisí earnála a fhorbairt agus muid ag iarraidh gach cuid den earnáil a fhás i dtimpeallacht nua ina bhfuil níos lú amháibhar ar fáil agus mar a dtugaimid cúnamh, treoir agus tacaíocht do ghnólachtaí, idir

Ba bhliain an-dian í 2022 d'earnáil an bhia mara agus dúshláin thriaracha an Bhreatimeachta, iarmhairt leanúnach COVID agus géarchéim leanúnach breosla a mhéadaigh costais oibriúcháin gnólachtaí i gcoitinne, ach a raibh tionchar an-dona acu ar an iascaireacht.

Leagadh amach i straitéis chorparáideach nua BIM 'Ag Casadh na Taoide' chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na dúshláin seo. Tá tionchar an Bhreatimeachta fós le brath mar go gcaillfidh cabhlach na hÉireann 25% dá chuóta iascaireachta sa tréimhse go dtí 2025. Cuireadh isteach chomh maith ar easpórtálacha agus iompórtálacha comhábhar agus soláthairtí chuig agus ón RA agus tá droichead talún na RA, a bhí go traidisiúnta mar an príomhbhealach le fada an lá chuig Mór-roinn na hEorpa do tháirgí bia mara na hÉireann, níos casta anois go háirithe chun sliogéisc bheo a easpórtáil.

Bhí BIM tiomanta i gcónaí inár gcuid oibre chun tacú leis an earnáil bia mara agus í a fhorbairt. Ach mar gheall ar scála an chomhthéacs seo – chomh maith le tionchar na hathraithe aeráide – bhí smaointe nua, fuinneamh athnuaite agus fócas iomlán ar na dúshláin nua atá romhainn ag teastáil.

inbhuanaithe agus nuálacha. Is cuid lárnach dár gclár inbhuanaitheachta iad ár dTionscadail Feabhsúcháin lascaigh agus tá siad fós ina bpríomhthosaíocht agus muid ag bogadh isteach in 2023 agus ag neartú dearbhú cáilíochta tháirgí bia mara na hÉireann.

I mí Feabhra, bhunaigh an tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia & Mara, Charlie McConalogue Grúpa Athbhreithnithe an CFP (Comhbheartas lascaigh) chun measúnú a dhéanamh ar na fadhbanna a tháinig chun cinn d'Éirinn i gcomhthéacs an athbhreithnithe CFP. Cuireadh tuarascáil dheiridh i láthair i mí Dheireadh Fómhair, agus i measc na moltaí, áirítear an t-athrú reachtaíochta atá ag teastáil chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar thionchair na Breatimeachta, chomh maith le tacaíochtaí a bhí ag teastáil le haghaidh inbhuanaitheachta comhshaoil agus forbairt sa bhreis san earnáil dhobharshaothraithe.

D'fhan BIM ar chúrsa ina ról maidir le cur chun cinn, maoiniú, oiliúint agus saineolas a chur ar fáil i rith na bliana agus d'oibrigh ár bhfoirne réigiúnacha go dlúth lenár gcliaint chun cabhrú leo teacht ar thacaíocht mhaoinithe trínár scéimeanna deontais.

Chuir an Grúpa Forbartha Iascaire Náisiúnta le straitéis oiliúna BIM agus chuir siad ionchur fiúntach ar fáil i bhFórsa Saothair BIM agus staidéir ar Lorg Carbóin le linn na bliana. Lean an fhoireann um Chaomhnú lascaigh ar aghaidh ag obair leis an tionscal iascaireachta ar mhaolú gabhála nach bhfuil ag teastáil chun inbhuanaitheacht stoc éisc a fheabhsú agus chun cabhrú le cosaint bhithéagsúlachta mara.

D'oibrigh Aonad Scileanna an BIM go dlúth ar fud na heagraíochta chun oiliúint ar líne agus maoiniú a chur ar fáil mar chuid den Scéim Oiriúnaithe Múnla Gnó Cladaigh Breatimeachta. Mar chuid den scéim seo, cuireadh oiliúint dhigiteach ar fáil do 801 iascaire le níos mó ná €2.66 milliún de dheontais íoctha agus tá sé cruthaithe gur samhail den scoth í chun scileanna digiteacha a sheachadadh ar fud na hearnála. In 2022, fuair BIM faomhadh d'áis oiliúna nua-aimseartha, ghairmiúil marthanais farraige i gColáiste Náisiúnta Iascaigh BIM sa Chaisleán Nua, Co. Dhún na nGall, a chruthóidh Ionad Barr Feabhais muirí nua-aimseartha, éifeachtach ó thaobh costais de, a chuirfidh aonad oiliúna marthanais farraige gairmiúil ar fáil do mhic léinn agus do theagascóirí, ar an láthair sa choláiste, ag tacú le tionscal iascaireachta mara atá sábháilte agus gairmiúil.

Tá nuálaíocht ríthábhachtach d'fhorbairt na hearnála agus d'oibrigh an Mol Nuálaíochta Bia Mara le 45 cliant aonair de chuid an tionscail bia mara ar

raon tionscadal agus seirbhísí nuálaíochta éagsúla in 2022. Tá an earnáil dobhartheicneolaíochta uisce ag fás i gcónaí, agus tá os cionn 800 duine fostaithe ag 62 comhlacht dobhartheicneolaíochta Éireannach in Éirinn anois. Oibríonn an Clár Luasaire Dobharshaothraithe faoi stiúir BIM agus Hatch le cuideachtaí nuálaíochta dobharshaothraithe luathchéime agus tugann sé léargas ar an deis atá ag Éirinn an earnáil seo a fhorbairt ar scála domhanda. Tá nuálaíochtaí suntasacha ar an gcaoi a dtáirgtear bia mara mar thoradh ar aistriú teicneolaíochta ó earnálacha eile, mar aon le teicneolaíochtaí atá ag teacht chun cinn agus teicneolaíochtaí nua a forbraíodh in Éirinn. Faoin gclár seo, tá BIM ag tacú le Stiúideonna Nuálaíochta bliantúla a bhfuil caipiteal de €13m bailithe acu go dtí seo agus an t-éileamh ar an gclár seo ag dúbailt gach bliain.

Ba bhliain thábhachtach í 2022 do BIM agus dár gcliaint araon agus muid ag obair chun cabhrú leo seasamh arís tar éis tréimhse thar a bheith suaiteach agus deacair. Cuireann ár straitéis nua bealach soiléir ar fáil do BIM agus leanfaimid orainn ag obair i gcomhpháirtíocht lenár bpáirtithe leasmhara san earnáil chun cabhrú leo cumas agus fás a bhaint amach in 2023.

Ba mhaith liom mo bhúochas a ghabháil le Jim O'Toole as an méid suntasach a chuir sé le BIM le cúig bliana anuas mar Phríomhfheidhmeannach agus é ag treorú na hearnála chomh cumasach sin le linn amanna deacra.

Mar fhocal scoir, ba mhaith liom búochas ó chroí a ghabháil lenár bhfoireann iontach as a gcuid oibre cruá agus a ndúthracht. I gcás go leor daoine is iad ár bhfoirne ar an gcósta aghaidh BIM agus táimid an-bhródúil as an obair a dhéanann siad. Ba mhaith liom búochas a ghabháil freisin leis an mBord as a dtacaíocht láidir agus leis an gCathaoirleach go háirithe as a threoir i rith na bliana.

Is mór an phribhléid dom a bheith i gceannas ar eagraíocht a bhfuil ról ríthábhachtach aici maidir le tacú lenár bpobail cois cósta agus is cuid lárnach de gheilleagar na hÉireann í.

**Caroline Bocquel**

Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin

# Inbhuanaitheacht



## Réamhrá

Is misean tábhachtach é inbhuanaitheacht chomhshaoil, shóisialta agus eacnamaíoch earnála bia mara na hÉireann a chinntiú, a threoraíonn obair an BIM gach bliain. Tá gach ceann de na trí cholún inbhuanaitheachta seo tábhachtach, rud a léirítear sa raon tionscadal agus seirbhísí a rinne BIM anuraidh. Le linn na bliana, leanamar ar aghaidh ag obair go dlúth leis an earnáil bia mara chun dul i ngleic le dúshláin agus feidhm a bhaint as deiseanna maidir le hinbhuanaitheacht.

Chabhraigh iarrachtaí chun gabhálacha nach raibh ag teastáil a mhaolú le modhanna iascaireachta nuálaíochta, agus chun inbhuanaitheacht stoic éisc a fheabhsú trí chlibeáil maicréil agus cláir v-eangúcháin gliomaigh le bithéagsúlacht mara a chosaint agus a thabhairt ar ais. Cuireann na tionscnaimh seo deiseanna margáíochta ar fáil freisin leis na Tionscadail Fheabhais lascaigh agus leis an deimhniúchán inbhuanaitheachta don Chomhairle Mhaoirseachta Mara.

Ba chúis inní iad praghsanna breosla a bheith ag ardú maidir le hinmharthanacht eacnamaíochta, ach thug siad spreagadh maidir leis an obair le léargas atá bunaithe ar shonraí ar éifeachtacht fhuinnimh agus charbóin a fheabhsú agus a chruthú. Léirigh trialacha caomhnaithe iascaigh feabhsuithe suntasacha ar éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh agus brabúsacht soithí. Rinneadh dul chun cinn suntasach ar infheistíocht chaipitil san fhuinneamh in-athnuaite agus i línte táirgthe níos éifeachtaí a laghdóidh costais agus astaíochtaí carbóin san earnáil pheiligeach.

Ag cur le haidhm straitéiseach BIM chun dramhaíl a laghdú agus deireadh a chur leis, lean an Tionscanamh Aigéan Glan ag forbairt agus ag cur córais bhainistíochta dramhaíola cliste i bhfeidhm d'iascaigh agus do tháirgeoirí dobharshaothraithe fad is a ullmhaíonn sé iad don Treoir Phlaistigh Aonúsáide nua.

## Caomhnú lascaigh

Sa bhliain 2022, lean foireann Chaomhnaithe lascaigh BIM ar aghaidh ag obair leis an tionscal iascaireachta chun gabhálacha nach bhfuil ag teastáil a laghdú chun inbhuanaitheacht stoic éisc a fheabhsú agus cabhrú le bithéagsúlacht mhuirí a chosaint. D'eisíomar treoirleabhar uasdátaithe a chuimsigh achoimrí leathanach amháin de 22 mionathrú gair, díolúintí maireachtála agus uirlisí teicniúla forbartha i ndlúthchomhar leis an tionscal iascaireachta.

Léirigh taighde leanúnach ar shoilse faoin uisce agus rigín athruithe ar thráil ghrinnill laghduithe suntasacha i dtrosca ísealchuóta agus sciataí agus roic neamh-dhírthe. D'fhorbraíomar teicníc nuálach tagála satailíte a chuir torthaí eolaíochta láidre ar fáil maidir le maireachtáil troisc san iascach tráchtála grinnill líon-saighne, a bhfuil an-chuid feidhmithe aici do speicis éisc eile.

Ag obair leis an tionscal chun éifeachtacht bhreosla agus charbóin a fheabhsú mar fhreagairt ar an ngéarchéim fhuinnimh - agus leis an tuiscint go bhfuilimid ag bogadh ar aghaidh ó bhreosla iontaise san fhadtárma - chríochnaíomar measúnú bithéolaíoch agus eacnamaíoch ar iascaireacht phéire. Léirigh sé sin méadú 29% i rátaí gabhála, laghdú 40% in úsáid bhreosla agus méadú 32% i mbrabúsacht i gcomparáid le hoibríochtaí iascaireachta aonair. Tá scóip mhór ann chun an teicneolaíocht seo a mhéadú san earnáil iasc gearl.



**BIM ag tástáil doirse nua ón-mbun aníos i gcomhar le MLD ón Danmhairg agus Niall Connolly agus a fhoireann, MFV Emerald Shore i gCeann Chlochair, Co. Lú.**

## Forbairt Inbhuanaithe Acmhainní Méiseapheiligeacha

Le linn 2022, d'oibrigh BIM agus Foras na Mara i gcomhar le chéile ar chúrsáil taighde mesopelagic 12 lá ar an RV nua Tom Crean. Bailíodh mionsonraí acústacha, rinneadh measúnú ar fheidhmiú trealaimh iascaireachta agus bailíodh samplaí le haghaidh anailíse eDNA, anailíse bithéolaíochta agus forbairt tháirge comhábhair ina dhiaidh sin.

Ba é sin an chéad shuirbhé dírithe ar mhéiseapheiligeach in Éirinn agus chuir sé bonnlíne eolais láidir ar fáil gur féidir é a fhorbairt tuilleadh chun na hacmhainní méiseapheiligeacha amach ón gcósta a thuiscint. Cuireann na trialacha a rinneadh le linn 2022 le dhá thionscadal leanúnach H2020 ar scála mór; is iad sin MEESO (<https://www.meeso.org/about>) agus SUMMER (<https://summer2020.eu/>), atá ag déanamh measúnaithe san fhorbairt inbhuanaithe féideartha méiseapheiligeacha.

## Stoic Inbhuanaithe Ghlíomach

Is í aidhm na Scéime um Chaomhnú lascaigh Intíre (V-eangúchán) ná inbhuanaitheacht iascach gliomaigh na hÉireann a fheabhsú trí gliomaigh bhaineanna a chosaint ionas go mbeidh siad in ann póru go rathúil cúpla uair sula mbaintear iad. Tugann iascairí tráchtála gliomaigh bhaineanna a aimsíonn siad agus iad ag iascaireacht i dtír le bheith v-eangaithe ag pearsanra BIM. Is é atá i gceist leis sin ná eang bheag v-eangaithe a ghearradh san eireaball a bhronnann cosaint dhlíthiúil ar an nglíomach.

Cuirtear ar ais san fharrage iad chun póru leis an v-eangú, a mhaireann idir trí mhí agus sé bliana tar éis v-eangúcháin go hiondúil. Tar éis téarnamh rathúil an chláir iar-Cóivid-19 agus cur isteach ar mhargaí in 2021, sáraíodh iarrachtaí nua i 2022 maidir lena rath. Fuair ochtó dó tionscadal a bhaineann le v-eangúchán gliomach tacaíocht arbh fhiú €392,000 iad. Marcáladh 40,000 gliomach san iomlán de mheáchan 27.74 tona agus scaoileadh saor iad chun an stoc póraithe a mhéadú.

Acmhainn sceite 302 milliún larbha gliomaigh is ea scaoileadh na bliana 2022, a bheadh mar chailliúint ar an stoc thart ar chósta na hÉireann murach sin.



## CLAMS

Tionscnamh seanbhunaithe náisiúnta is ea Córas Comhordaithe Bainistíochta an Dobharshaothraithe Áitiúil (CLAMS) a thacaíonn le forbairt inbhuanaithe an dobharshaothraithe i mbánna timpeall an chósta. Ar leibhéal náisiúnta, tá CLAMS comhordaithe ag feidhmeannach náisiúnta a chuimsíonn ionadaithe ó BIM, IFA (Feirmeoirí Aontaithe na hÉireann) Dobharshaothrú, an Foras Mara agus Údarás na Gaeltachta. Déanann an BIM cathaoirleacht ar an ngrúpa seo freisin.

Ar bhonn áitiúil, is córas é lenar féidir le hoibreoirí dobharshaothraithe teacht le chéile agus tionscadail chomhordaithe réamhghníomhacha a chur le chéile. Cuireadh cáipéisí CLAMS ar fáil do dhá shuíomh nua le táirgeadh gníomhach dobharshaothraithe, is iad sin, Acaill agus Bá Neidín. Uasdátáíodh an Léargas Náisiúnta i bhfianaise na tosaíochtaí a aithníodh sna 13 agusín CLAMS.

Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar an nasc idir tosaíochtaí na 13 ghrúpa CLAMS agus na gníomhartha a bhí curtha síos sa dréachtchlár NSPSA (Plean Náisiúnta Straitéiseach um Fhorbairt Inbhuanaithe Dobharshaothraithe). Beidh anailís ar an nasc leis an NSPSA mar bhunús do chlár forbartha a leanfaidh feidhmeannach Náisiúnta CLAMS feadh a mhaireann EMFAF (Ciste Eorpach Muirí, lascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe).

## Tionscnamh Aigéan Glan

Seoladh an Tionscnamh Aigéan Glan in 2019, ag tógáil ar obair leanúnach an BIM i mbruscar mara faoin dtionscadal Ag Iascaireacht Bruscair (FFL). Rinneadh roinnt sruthanna oibre le blianta beaga anuas chun bainistiú sruthanna dramhaíola ginte ag an tionscal ar bord agus ar tír a fheabhsú.

Mar chuid den Tionscnamh Aigéan Glan, glacann 12 caladh páirt sa chlár, ag glacadh le bruscar mara ó na hárthaigh a thagann chun na gcalaí seo. Chláraigh 97% d'árthaí a thagann chun cladaigh sna calaí seo don Tionscnamh Aigéan Glan. Bhailigh an clár FFL níos mó ná 750 tona bruscar mara, bhain siad triail as teicneolaíochtaí ar bord chun dramhaíl a ghineann an iascaireacht a laghdú agus rinne siad suirbhéanna tréithrithé dramhaíola. Bhailigh earnáil an docharshaothraithe 84.88 tona bruscar mara.

D'oibrigh grúpaí CLAMS le pobail áitiúla agus ENRanna ar 34 glantachán trasna 14 bá timpeall na tíre, ag ardú feasachta i measc táirgeoirí bia mara agus ag ardú próifíle maidir le cosc agus bailiúchán dramhaíola mara. Le linn 2022, rinneadh dul chun cinn suntasach chun an tionscal iascaireachta agus soláthraithe trealaimh a ullmhú le haghaidh cur i bhfeidhm na Treorach maidir le Plaistigh Aonúsáide.

## Tionscnaimh Fheabhsaithe Iascaigh (FIPanna)

Is cur chuige bunaithe ar eolaíocht iad FIPanna chun feabhsuithe leanúnacha a dhéanamh in inbhuanaitheacht iascaigh ar leith. Cuireann siad córas ar fáil chun comhaontas iascairí, ceannaitheoirí agus soláthróirí bia mara a thabhairt le chéile, chun na dúshláin atá i ndán d'iascach ar leith a phlé, riachtanais sonraí a aimsiú, sraith ghníomhartha tosaíochta a aontú chun an t-iascach a fheabhsú, agus plean gníomhaithe a mhaoirsiú. Oibríonn na páirtithe leasmhara seo le chéile chun an t-iascach a fheabhsú trína bheith diongbháilte le beartais agus bainistíocht níos fearr a fháil, fad is a athraíonn siad go toilteanach cleachtais cheannaigh agus iascaireachta cosúil le hiascaireacht mhídhleathach, seachghabháil agus tionchair ghnáthóige a mhaolú.

Tá na FIPanna a thacaíonn an BIM leo feadh réimse speiceas fiáin a gabhadh, portán dearg, Nephropanna, colmóir, cadóg, faoitín, glasán, anglait, scoilteán agus tuinnín colgach. Tá cúig cinn de na FIPanna cláraithe ar Dhul Chun Cinn Iascaigh, ENR neamhspleách a rianaíonn dul chun cinn na FIPanna seo in aghaidh sraithe tagarmharcanna, ag giniúint rangaithe iomláin.

## Grúpa Forbartha an Iascaire Náisiúnta (NFDG)

Cuireann Grúpa Forbartha an Iascaire Náisiúnta (NFDG) ardán ar fáil do chomhphlé i measc iascairí ar fhadhbanna a chuireann isteach ar réachtáil laethúil mar fhiontair, na n-árthach iascaireachta. Tagann baill an ghrúpa, a bunaíodh in 2017 ó earnálacha uile ar fud chabhlaigh na hÉireann. Éascaíonn BIM NFDG trí thacaíocht theicniúil agus airgeadais a sholáthar trí Scéim Iascaigh Inbhuanaithe CEMI.

Le linn 2022, lean NFDG ag plé agus ag cur aiseolais ar fáil d'Eagraíochtaí Táirgeoira agus an Fóram Náisiúnta Iascaigh Cois Cladaigh (NIFF) agus an Fóram Réigiúnach Iascaigh Cois Cladaigh (RIFF) ar réimse ábhar. Bhí ionchur ag an ngrúpa ar straitéis oiliúna BIM agus bhí ionchur fiúntach acu i staidéir ar Lucht Oibre agus Lorg Carbóin BIM. Lean an Grúpa ar aghaidh le forbairt an Chláir Iascairí, a chabhródh le sonraí a bhailiú chun pictiúr níos fearr a thógáil den earnáil ghabhála, agus Lámhleabhar Iascaireachta freisin, a chuireann eolas ar fáil faoi mhairnéalachta bhunúsach, rialacha na mara, soilse loingseoireachta agus baoithe.

Ghlac an NFDG páirt i staidéar prólótach dírithe ar iascach a fhorbairt do chloicheáin a bheirtear orthu nuair atá siad beo. Thug baill an ghrúpa cuairt ar chalaí sa Bhriotáin chun iascach cloicheáin bheo a scrúdú, agus ghlac siad páirt i dtrialacha ar mhuir le linn mhíonna an tsamhraidh.

## Meithleacha Oibre Tionsclaíochta

Le linn 2022, bhuail an Grúpa Pacálaithe um Oisrí na hÉireann (IOPG) le chéile ar thrí ócáid. D'oibrigh an IOPG le Ceantanna Éisc ZV sa Bheilg chun féachaint ar bhealaí nua agus nuálacha chun dul i ngleic le dúshláin na Breatimeachta maidir le lóistíochta agus an rochtain atá acu ar mhargadh an AE. Tá comhar ar bun le Ceantanna Éisc ZV faoin am seo chun cabhrú le díolachán díreach oisrí do chustaiméirí san AE.

Seoladh torthaí noraivíris agus anailís do bhaill ar fad an IOPG ar bhonn seachtainiúil i gcomhthionscadal le Foras na Mara in 2022. Tá an staidéar noraivíris seo mar chuid de thionscadal BIM eile maoinithe ag an EMFAF agus tá sé cruthaithe go bhfuil sé an-fhiúntach don IOPG agus a gcustaiméirí. Bunaíodh grúpa oibre nua d'fheirmeoirí oisrí na Chéad Ghluíne eile agus réachtáladh an chéad chruinniú foirmiúil thar dhá lá i Meitheamh 2022.

## Fóraim Iascach Cois Chladaigh

Cuireann na Fóraim Iascach Cois Chladaigh (RIFanna), a bunaíodh in 2014, ardán ar fáil do phlé agus cur chun cinn ar cheisteanna a chuireann isteach ar an earnáil, agus seolann siad plé don Fóram Iascach Cois Chladaigh (NIFF). Anseo, is féidir le gach ceann de na sé fhóram réigiúnach idirghníomhú leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara agus forais mhara.

Chiallaigh dúshláin i ndul chun cinn roinnt fadhbanna nár bhuail na RIFanna chomh minic le chéile i gcomparáid le blianta roimhe sin. Mar sin féin, réachtáladh ceardlann an-rathúil ar na forbairtí is déanaí i bhFuinneamh In-athnuaithe Eischósta (ORE) i mí na Samhna ar fhreastail níos mó ná 50 rannpháirtí uirthi. Rinneadh anailís iomlán ar bhearnaí i sonraí suirbhé náisiúnta bia mara na hearnála cois chladaigh, atá ar fáil chun eolas a thabhairt ar dhearadh agus choimisiúnú daonáirimh chladaigh. Cuirfidh sé seo cuntas cuimsitheach ar fáil den earnáil cois chladaigh gur fhéidir é a úsáid chun tacú lena ngníomhaíochtaí le heagraíochtaí stáit agus neamhstáit, go háirithe i réimsí Pleanála Spásúil Mhuirí agus maoiniú i 2023.



Fógraíodh scéim phiolótach scoir fearas de chuid Thionscnamh na nAigéan Glan BIM ar Lá Domhanda na nAigéan. Sa pictiúr seo ó chlé go deas: Jim Connolly, MFV Supreme II, An tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, Charlie McConalogue, TD, POF BIM, Jim O'Toole, David Kirwain, MFV Ambitious, Máistir Cuain Bhinn Éadair, Harry McLoughlin, Cathaoirleach BIM, Aidan Cotter, Tracy Floyd, Skippers Mate Pro, Bainisteoir Inbhuanaitheachta agus Dearbhaithe BIM, Catherine Morrison.



## Dúshlán Mara

Is bagairt é an méadú ar fhíteaplanctón agus zóplanctón in uisce cósta d'earnáil dhobharshaothraithe na hÉireann. Téann tionchar an phlanctóin bhaolaigh ó fhás fo-optamach go méadú ar bhásanna. Léirigh tionscadail roimhe sin éifeachtacht chóireálacha uisce díshalannuithe in aghaidh ionfhabhtuithe geolbacha. Rinneadh snorcal a thacaigh le lionsa salandachta laghdúithe chun rochtain oscailte d'fhíoruisce a chur ar fáil do bhradán i gcró tástála a thástáil i suíomh tráchtála in 2022. D'oibrigh an snorcal go héifeachtach chun salandacht níos lú ná cúig chuid sa mhíle a choinneáil ag doimhneacht ceithre mhéadar. Mar sin féin, ba léir go raibh gá le hathdhearadh chun cobhsaíocht a chinntiú ar chósta an iarthair nochta, in 2023.

Cuireadh córas bacainne “brat bolgáin” i bhfeidhm go rathúil faoi choinníollacha tráchtála in 2022. Cuireadh an brat i bhfeidhm ag 17 méadar, agus léirigh na torthaí go raibh sé rathúil maidir le speicis phlanctóin a sheachaint, le rátaí eisiata éagsúla a aithníodh ag céimeanna éagsúla na taoide. Ar an taoide thuile, léirigh an brat bolgáin laghdúithe idir 80% agus 95% i speicis dhírite fíteaplanctóin ag dhá mhéadar le torthaí cosúil leis sin ag seacht méadar - ag léiriú go raibh tionchar suntasach ag an mbrat bolgáin ar an bpobal planctóin maidir le stoc.

Ag deireadh taoide thrá láidir, áfach, bhain an brat bolgáin idir 20% agus 40% de na speicis dhírite ag dhá mhéadar. Bhí an laghdú seo níos lú ag seacht méadar, áit a raibh an difríocht i gcoitinne níos lú ná 20% agus tá obair sa bhreis le déanamh i 2023.

## Cabfishman

Is clár AE INTERREG AE é Cabfishman a chuimsíonn institiúidí iascaigh ó chúig thír. Is é príomhspríoc an tionscadail ná fás socheacnamaíoch na n-iascach cois chladaigh a chur chun cinn, agus bithéagsúlacht mhuirí a chosaint ag an am céanna. Rinneadh obair shuntasach trasna roinnt sruthanna oibre maidir le fadhbanna a bhíonn i ndán do chabhlaigh iascaireachta ar scála beag ar Chuar an Atlantaigh.

Is é fócas srutha oibre amháin ná sonraí, le hanailís déanta ar mhionbhunachar sonraí chun an t-uasmhéid eolais ar ghníomhaíocht chabhlaigh go dtí seo, a asbhaint. Rinneadh measúnú ar oidhreacht chultúrtha iascach ar scála beag le ceachtanna luachála déanta, ag meas an fhoinne atá orthu íoc as seirbhísí cultúrtha éiceachórais a bhaineann leis an SSF.

Cruthaíodh mionmhúnláí staitistiúla chun na caidrimh idir príomhchomharthaí cainníochtúla agus cáilíochtúla maidir leis an SSF a mheas chun eolas a fháil ar na seirbhísí éiceachórais iomlána a bhaineann leis an SSF. Léireofar na sonraí agus an obair a rinneadh ar uirlis idirlín GIS inrochtana ag na páirtithe leasmhara SSF ar fad.

## Feabhsú Stoic Oisre Dúchasach

Dhírigh obair oisre dúchais BIM ar chomhtháthú cleachtas dobharshaothraithe agus cleachtas bainistíochta iascach chun earcaíocht oisre dúchais a mhéadú i gceantair oisre. Leanann obair ar aghaidh chun úsáid linnte larbhaí a mhéadú trí thrial a bhaint as ábhair lonnaithe éagsúla agus ag rialú paraiméadair timpeallachta.

Tógadh na larbhaí oisre atá fágtha ar an sliogán faoi chásanna síl dobharshaothraithe éagsúla ar leapacha cosanta atá á measúnú d'fhás agus do mhaireachtáil chomh maith le hábhar beirtrí sionchaite, atá in úsáid do leapacha oisre, a úsáideadh i roinnt ceantair le haghaidh athchóirithe gnáthóige agus feabhsú earcaíochta nádúrtha. Reáchtáladh ceardlann do pháirtithe leasmhara oisre dúchais na hÉireann, faoin Fhóram um Iascaigh Oisre Náisiúnta na hÉireann (INOFF), i mí Iúil chun na torthaí maidir le méadú stoic agus tionscadail athchóirithe a roinnt agus chun a bheith ag obair i dtreo cur chuige comónta do dhréachtphleananna bainistíochta le haghaidh acmhainní *Ostrea edulis* timpeall an chósta.

## Speicis Choimhthíocha Ionracha

Is mór an dúshlán iad Speicis Choimhthíocha Ionracha (SCI) dár dtimpeallachtaí mara, bithéagsúlacht dhúchasach agus gnáthóga, lena n-áirítear iad siúd ar a mbraitheann oibríochtaí dobharshaothraithe orthu. Chomh maith leis sin, tugann a mbaint le gluaiseachtaí dobharshaothraithe riosca do dhearcadh poiblí agus cáil na hearnála agus is féidir leis sin tionchar diúltach a bheith aige ar stoc dobharshaothraithe.

Leanann an tionscadal IAS ar aghaidh ag cur sonraí tábhachtacha bonnlíne ar fáil don earnáil dhobharshaothraithe. Rinneadh Suirbhéanna Fardail um Speiceas a bhaineann le Sliogiasc i 14 bá dobharshaothraithe agus ar cheithre cheapach síl diúilicín chun cur le bonnlíne an chláir speiceas agus monatóireacht leanúnach. Cabhraíonn sé sin eolas a dhéanamh don chleachtas is fearr i ngluaiseachtaí stoic agus cinntíonn sé go gcuireann an earnáil go gníomhach le bainistíocht riosca.



Ar leibhéal níos leithne, cabhraíonn an tionscadal lena chinntiú go bhfuil bearta bithshlándála i gcomhréir le bainistíocht riosca agus inoibríthe don fhiontar dobharshaothraithe araon. Is gnéithe tábhachtacha iad oideachas agus feasacht i mbainistíocht agus tacaítear leo trí oiliúint dhírite, cuir i láthair comhdhála agus tacaíocht dhírite i bhforbairt phleananna bithshlándála ar scála feirme.

## Íonú/Caighdeán Uisce - Seirbhísí Tionscail Dobharshaothraithe

Maolaíonn íonú agus caighdeán uisce rioscaí do cháil bia mara na hÉireann go gníomhach agus tacaíonn siad le spleáchas leanúnach na margáí seirbhíse bia. Bhí dianchlár samplála uisce dírite i gCuan Bhanú chun foinse an E.coli a aithint agus straitéisí coiscitheacha truaillithe a chur in iúl a chosnóidh táirgeacht sliogéisc.

Scaipeadh torthaí caighdeán uisce do tháirgeoirí oisre agus údaráis bhainteacha agus údaráis áitiúla chun bearta a chosnódh Limistéir Tháirgthe Shliogéisc a chur in iúl.

## Measúnuithe Seandálaíochta - Seirbhísí Tionscail Dobharshaothraithe

Mar gheall ar imní go bhféadfadh struchtúir fhísiciúla de luach oidhreacht seandálaíochta a bheith i gceantair ina ndearnadh iarratas ar cheadúnais dobharshaothraithe, d'iarr an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara gur cheart iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar athbhreithnithe ar fhorlú spásúil an dobharshaothraithe sna limistéir seo - a mheastar a bheith tábhachtach. Cuirfidh sé seo ar chumas oibreoirí dobharshaothraithe cloí leis an reachtaíocht náisiúnta, agus ag an am céanna bonn eolais a chur faoi phleanáil spásúil mhuirí. Ceapadh speisialtóirí seandálaíochta mara faoi chreat ilpháirtí. Críochnaíodh dhá larradh forlúntach ar Thairiscint do Shuirbhéanna tumadóireachta sa tSnáidhm agus i gCill Mocheallóg agus do Shuirbhéanna deisce agus geofisiceacha i gCuan Chionn tSáile le measúnú ar thionchar seandálaíochta faoi uisce.

# Iomaíochas



## Réamhrá

Tá BIM dírithe ar bhuntáiste iomaíoch a thiomáint d'earnálacha ar fad an tionscail trí seirbhísí dírithe bunaithe ar éifeachtacht a thiomáint, comhtháthú seirbhísí digiteacha agus seirbhísí léargais ghnó a chur ar fáil. Seoladh an Scéim Tacaíochta Caipitil um Próiseáil an Bhreathimeachta le linn na bliana freisin. Bhí an scéim seo lárnach i soláthar cúnamh airgeadais a bhí ag teastáil go géar, i bhfoirm deontas caipitil, chun tacú leis an earnáil próiseála i margadh domhanda atá ag éirí níos iomaíche.

## Cúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta (BAR)

Thosaigh maoiniú faoin gCúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta (BAR) ag feidhmiú le linn 2022. Tá an BAR maoinithe ag an AE agus cuireann sé tacaíocht airgeadais ar fáil do Bhaill Stáit, réigiúin agus earnálacha a raibh an tionchar is mó ag an mBreatimeacht orthu. Toisc gurb í an Ball Stáit a raibh an tionchar is mó ag an mBreatimeacht uirthi, fuair Éire leithdháileadh suntasach de luach thart ar €1 billiún, nó thart ar 20% an Chúlchiste iomlán.

Osclaíodh roinnt scéimeanna a bunaíodh mar thoradh ar mholtaí an Tascfhórsa Bia Mara a thuairiscigh don Rialtas in 2021 in 2022. Cuirtear tacaíocht don earnáil iasc geal i bhfoirm Scéime Sealadaí Scoir, d'árthaigh chladaigh trí Scéim Coigeartaithe Múnla Gnó Cladaigh agus Scéim Fhorbartha um Fhiontair an Gheilleagair Ghoirm, chomh maith le scéimeanna maoinithe caipitil do na hearnálacha próiseála agus do bharrshaothraithe.

Is í aidhm na scéimeanna seo ar fad ná an earnáil a fhorbairt agus a athchóiriú, ag cinntiú cabhlaigh iascaireachta brabúsach agus inbhuanaithe, agus chun deiseanna fostaíochta agus gníomhaíochta eacnamaíochta a aimsiú i bpobail chósta atá ag brath ar an iascaireacht.

Bunaithe ar leibhéal suime suntasach sna scéimeanna BAR próiseála agus do bharrshaothraithe, táthar ag súil go dtiocfaidh méadú ar leibhéal na hinfheistíochta príobháidí in 2023, toisc go bhfuil leibhéal shuntasacha maoinithe comhoiriúnaithe ag teastáil don mhaoiniú faoi na scéimeanna seo.

Is í ceann de na scéimeanna is tábhachtaí a seoladh in 2022 faoin gCúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta ná scéim dheonach díchoimisiúnaithe. Is é cuspóir na

scéime seo ná cothromaíocht idir acmhainn cabhlaigh agus na cuótaí atá ar fáil a thabhairt ar ais tar éis laghdúithe cuóta a d'eascair mar gheall ar an mBreatimeacht, agus brabúsachta an chabhlaigh sa todhchaí a chinntiú.

Bhí tionchar ollmhór ag an mBreatimeacht ar earnáil iascaigh na hÉireann. Déanann an Scéim Díchoimisiúnaithe iarracht na háirde sa chabhlaigh a athchothromú leis an gcuóta atá ar fáil, ag cabhrú leis na daoine atá fágtha, slí bheatha inbhuanaithe, inmharthana a bheith acu

Tá sí dírithe ar áirde iasc geal agus trál bíoma agus osclaíodh le haghaidh iarratas í i Meán Fómhair 2022. D'aontaigh an Tascfhórsa Bia Mara, a mhol an scéim seo, ar sprioc timpeall 60 áirde iasc geal agus trál bíom le hacmhainn iomlán 8,000 olltona chun brabúsacht cabhlaigh iasc geal na hÉireann a chinntiú sa todhchaí, le timpeall 170 áirde fágtha.

Dúnadh iarratais ar an scéim i mí na Samhna 2022 nuair a bhain 57 soitheach le holltona iomlán de 8,700 GT ar dhíchoimisiúnú. Eisíodh litreacha tairisceana do na soithí seo agus tosaíodh an próiseas chun na soithí a ghlacann leis na tairiscintí seo ar dhíchoimisiúnú. Táthar ag súil go mbeidh an scéim críochnaithe faoi dheireadh 2023.

## Grúpa Athbhreithnithe an Chomhbheartais Iascaigh (CFP)

I mí Feabhra 2022, bhunaigh an tAire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, Charlie Mc Conalogue T.D., Grúpa Athbhreithnithe CFP chun iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar na fadhbanna a tháinig chun cinn i gcomhthéacs an Athbhreithnithe CFP, chun comhairle a thabhairt don Aire maidir le tosaíochtaí do chainteanna, agus chun straitéisí is dóichí tionchar a bheith acu ar thoradh an athbhreithnithe a aimsiú.

Faoin gcathaoirleach John Malone, iar-ArdRúnaí na Roinne Talmhaíochta agus le cabhrú coiste stiúrtha, cuimsíonn an grúpa ionadaithe ó eagraíochtaí táirgeora, an NIFF, an earnáil do bharrshaothraithe, comharchumainn, an earnáil phróiseála bia mara agus ionadaithe ENRanna comhshaoil. Mar chuid den phróiseas, osclaíodh comhairliúchán poiblí i mí Aibreáin 2022, ag lorg aighneachtaí scríofa nó tuairimí ón bpobal, agus faoi dheireadh, bhí 108 aighneacht san iomlán.

Agus a chuid moltaí á gcur i gcríoch aige, d'iarr an tAire ar an nGrúpa Athbhreithnithe díriú ar cheithre réimse straitéiseach:

- 1 **Ag tacú le sláinte shóisialta agus eacnamaíoch phobal cósta na hÉireann a bhíonn ag brath ar iascaigh**
- 2 **Forbairt eacnamaíochta na hearnála bia mara**
- 3 **Ag cur inbhuanaitheachta fadtéarmaí stoc éisc ar fáil**
- 4 **Ag uasmhéadú cosaint gnáthóige agus na timpeallachta muirí**

Bhuail an grúpa le chéile sé huair sular chuir siad tuarascáil deiridh ar fáil don Aire. Ar an iomlán, chuir an coiste 35 moladh ar aghaidh faoi na buncheannteidil seo a leanas: Breatimeacht agus an Comhaontú Trádála agus Comhoibrithe (TCA), an Timpeallacht, agus Dobharshaothrú.

## Ag Éascú na Straitéise Peiligí

D'aithin BIM roinnt tionscadail forbartha do 2022 atá ailínithe leis an bplean straitéise peiligí. I gcomhar leis an Institiúid Mhuirí agus Eagraíocht Iascaire na gCealla Beaga, rinneadh scanóirí a imlonnú ag trí mhonarcha phróiseála peiligí chun ronnaigh a raibh clibeanna orthu a aimsiú. Tá bailiú agus anailís sonraí athghabhála mar chuid de thionscadal Eorpach a lorgaíonn tuiscint a mhéadú ar bhithmhais agus dháileadh stoic agus ar phatrúin imirceacha ronnaigh. Tiocfaidh an t-eolas isteach i Measúnuithe Stoic Bliantúla ICES do ronnaigh agus feabhsóidh sé cinntí bainistíochta i gcoitinne chomh maith le hinbhuanaitheacht stoic fadtéarmach ronnach.

Rinne BIM iarracht luach an fhaoitín ghoirm a mhéadú freisin trí thrialacha forbartha táirgí aerthriomaithe. Tástáladh réimse táirgí de luach níos airde sa mhargadh agus aithníodh na próisis is oiriúnaí, úsáid fhuinnimh in-athnuaithe san áireamh. D'oibrigh BIM go dlúth le próiseálaithe peiligeacha chun cabhrú le rochtain a fháil ar thacaíocht mhaoinithe trí an Scéim Tacaíochta Caipitil um Próiseáil an Bhreathimeachta.

Tá an chuid is mó de phróiseálaithe peileagacha ag cur tionscadail isteach chun a bheith níos glaise, níos éifeachtaí agus níos mó luacha a asbhaint as an amhábh ar fáil. Táthar ag súil go mbeidh caiteachas caipitil iomlán don earnáil pheileagach níos mó ná €30 milliún.

## Forbairt Straitéise Iasc Geal

Ag leanúint ó ghealltanas le tionscal, forbraíodh straitéis ghrinnill agus plean feidhmithe chun deiseanna cruthú luacha a aimsiú trasna an tslabhra soláthair. Mar chuid den straitéis seo, cuireadh páirtithe leasmhara faoi agallamh, aithníodh áisitheoirí agus constaicí d'fhorbairt earnála agus tugadh eolas faoi fhís agus cuspóirí. Tá na cuspóirí ar aon líne le straitéis BIM agus Foodwise 2025, maidir le maolú 70% toirt gabhála grinnill á easpórtáil i bhfoirm tráchtearra. Oibreoidh BIM le páirtithe leasmhara tionscail in 2023 in aithint agus i gcur i bhfeidhm tionscadal cruthaithe luacha.

## Staidéar Saothair

Cuireann anailís lucht saothair earnála bia mara na hÉireann mionanailís ar fáil ar ghnéithe fostaíochta na hearnála. Léiríonn na príomhthorthaí go bhfuil an múnla iascaireachta sciartha chun cinn ar na cabhlaigh ar fad seachas an earnáil pheiligeach, ina bhfuil an chuid is mó den fhoireann fostaíthe ar bhunús PAYE.

Go hiondúil, ceapann an fhoireann go bhfuil an múnla iascaireachta sciartha tairbheach chun ioncam a uasmhéadú. Deirtear gur buntáistí tábhachtacha fostaíochta ÍMAT iad rochtain a bheith agat ar leas sóisialta agus cinnteacht maidir le hioncam.

Is fearr le fostóirí socruithe iascaireachta a roinnt, ag tagairt do sholúbthacht gnó agus ualach beag riaracháin. Rinneadh tagairt do chostais níos airde fostaíochta ÍMAT mar gheall ar ÁSPC fostóirí, cearta fostaíthe ÍMAT ar shaoire le híocaíocht agus costais eile.

Maidir le bacainní earcaíochta, áirítear dearcadh diúltach an tionscail mar thionscal atá ag meath, iomaíocht d'obair ísealoilte in earnálacha eile, tuilleamh níos lú san earnáil iasc geal, rochtain do leas sóisialta agus ualach riaracháin comhlíonta cánach d'iascairí.

## Grúpa Oibre Sonraí agus Léargais

Mar gheall ar an méid mór sonraí a bhainistíonn BIM ar son na hearnála bia mara, tá sé ríthábhachtach na hacmhainní sonraí a chosaint agus sonraí bia mara a bhainistiú ar bhealach a uasmhéadaíonn buntáistí don earnáil.

In 2022, chuir an Grúpa Oibre Sonraí agus Léargas ceardlanna míosúla ar fáil trasna na heagraíochta chun chur i bhfeidhm éifeachtach ar straitéise sonraí a bhaint amach. Is í aidhm na straitéise seo ná sonraí straitéiseacha a dhaingniú chun táirgeadh léargais a éascú, tuarascálacha tábhachtacha a scríobh agus iarratais a úsáideann tacair shonraí éagsúla a fhorbairt.

Áirítear bunú Choiste Stiúradh Sonraí BIM, cruthú catalóige sonraí BIM agus ceapachán cosantóirí sonraí inmheánacha laistigh d'aonaid ghnó BIM sna príomh-gníomhartha atá aitheanta.

## Clár Suirbhé Sliogiasc Suirbhé Síil Diúilicín

Chun táirgeadh sliogéisc a uasmhéadú, tá bailiúchán agus cumarsáid sonraí ceantair ríthábhachtach chun tacú leis an iascach diúilicín síolraithe, chun caitheamh breosla iontaise ag an earnáil a íoslaghdú agus sonraí a shaothrú i dtacaíocht le modhanna bainistíochta inbhuanaithe.

In 2022, caitheadh sé seachtaine san iomlán ar muir ag lorg agus ag déanamh measúnaithe ar bheirtreacha diúilicíní. Aimsíodh cúig lonnaíocht ar an gcósta thoir (Loch Garman agus Cill Mhantáin go príomha), a raibh timpeall 11,250 tona i gceist leo. Aimsíodh lonnaíocht eile sa Chromán, lena bhain 2,122 tona.

Thacaigh tonnáiste aimsithe le hoscailt iascaigh ag tús mhí Mheán Fómhair ar an gcósta thoir agus ag tús mhí Dheireadh Fómhair don Chromán. Rinneadh dhá bhabhta scagthástála géiniteach (thart ar 600 diúilicín ar leith) ar phlotaí tástála freisin chun maireachtáil thréithchineála éagsúla diúilicíní athsheachadta a mheasúnú.

## Forbairt Feamainne

Cuireann treoirleá straitéiseacha le haghaidh do bharshaothraithe AE níos inbhuanaithe agus níos iomaíche béim ar an ngá atá ann feirmeoireacht algaí a chur chun cinn chun cabhrú le roinnt cuspóirí Socraithe Glas na hEorpa a bhaint amach. Is féidir le feirmeoireacht algaí cabhrú le cuspóirí náisiúnta agus AE maidir le dhíchárbónú, truailliú nialasach,

ciorcaíocht, cosaint éiceachórais, athbhunú bithéagsúlachta agus forbairt seirbhísí timpeallachta a bhaint amach.

Thacaigh an clár forbartha feamainne, maoinithe ag an EMFAF, le hearnáil fheamainne na hÉireann trí roinnt tionscadal. Cuireadh clár meantóireachta i ngorlann agus teicnící síolraithe ar fáil do bhaill tionscail. Thacaigh BIM leis an úsáid agus luathbhaisc sreangán síolraithe chun dul i ngleic le coinníollacha fo-optamacha imlonnaithe ag deireadh an fhómhair/tús an gheimhridh ar shuíomh sceirdiúil.

Léiríonn na torthaí go dtí seo gur éirigh go maith leis an tionscnamh seo agus b'fhéidir go mbeadh sé inmholta é a chur i bhfeidhm go luath chun bagairt stoirmeacha an gheimhridh a sheachaint. Rinneadh triail ar mhodh síolaithe nua, ar a dtugtar síolú díreach, chun costais agus daonchumhachta a laghdú, agus tá straitéis nua le seoladh in 2023.

## Seirbhísí Deimhniúcháin

Tá teastas Comhairle Mhaoirseachta Muirí (MSC) ag BIM do na hearnálacha diúilicín téide agus grinnill araon in Éirinn. Léiríonn an deimhniúchán láraithe seo cur chuige nuálach maidir leis an bpróiseas deimhniúcháin agus faigheann an tionscal iomlán luach margadh an-mhaith mar gheall air.

Le linn 2022, lean diúilicíní grinnill agus téide na hÉireann dá gcuid dteastas MSC a choimeád. Tá 37 ball diúilicín téide agus 47 baill diúilicín grinnill deimhnithe ag an MSC i láthair na huairé (idir Phoblacht na hÉireann & Thuaisceart na hÉireann).

Tá an-rath ag baint le deimhniúchán orgánach maidir le táirgí do bharshaothraithe agus tá na táirgí seo á ndíol ar phraghas ard. Tá táirgí orgánacha fós ina cuid ríthábhachtach margaidh do dhobharshaothrú na hÉireann, le BIM ag cabhrú le comhlachtaí creidiúnú do chaighdeáin orgánacha AE a bhaint amach agus a choinneáil.

## Sábháilteacht Bia

Tá tástáil oisre ríthábhachtach chun comhlíontacht chriticiúil le gnásanna rialúcháin cháilíochta a léiriú agus dearbhú cáilíochta a chur ar fáil do chustaiméirí. D'fhéadfadh bagairt a bheith bainteach le láithreach Nóravíris, go háirithe i míonna an gheimhridh, agus d'fhéadfadh sé a bheith ina bhaol sláinte do thomhaltóirí. Trí iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar suas go 40 sampla a cuireadh ar fáil ón tionscal gach

seachtain - le sampláil níos minice i rith mhíonna an gheimhridh, tá forbairt ar dhea-chleachtas maidir le monatóireacht Nóravíris na n-oisrí Éireannacha atá á n-easpórtáil éascaithe.

Tá an amshraith seo tar éis cur chuige bonnlíne a fhorbairt freisin atá ar fáil d'úsáid na hÉireann chun treochtaí Nóravíris náisiúnta a bhunú agus taighde a fhorbairt a chabhróidh leis an gcaidreamh idir víreas atá tógalach agus víreas neamh-thógalach ag pointí tábhachtacha sa slabhra táirgthe an oisre.

## Sláinte agus Folláine Éisc

Deartar ceardlanna Sláinte agus Folláine Éisc chun an tionscal a chur ar an eolas agus a chumasú i gcleachtas folláine éisc agus teicnící láimhseála chun riachtanais chaighdeán rialála agus tríú páirtí do dhea-chleachtais don tionscal do bharshaothraithe a bhaint amach.

Seoladh trí cheardlann churaclam rang-bhunaithe iomlán (aitheanta do dheimhnithe caighdeáin tríú páirtí) i mí na Bealtaine agus i mí na Samhna, lena n-áirítear dhá cheardlann don earnáil mhuirí agus ceardlann amháin don earnáil fhíoruisce. Díródh na ceardlanna seo ar dhaoine aonair ar mhian leo a gcuid eolais maidir le sláinte éisc san earnáil do bharshaothraithe iasc eite a fheabhsú agus bhí spéis shuntasach ag iarrrthóirí nua iontu.

Chomh maith leis sin, bhí siad dírithe mar chúrsaí athnuachana do bhaill foirne fíoruisce agus muirí a oibríonn go díreach le, agus a bhfuil baint acu le, láimhseáil, aistriú agus marú éisc. Cuireadh seisiúin

phraiticiúla mhodúlacha eile ar fáil, a bhí dírithe ar thionchar speiceas baolach planctóin ar shláinte agus leas éisc, agus ar shampláil le haghaidh diagnóisic ghalair. Ar an iomlán d'fhreastail 115 duine ar an gcúig cheardlann.

## Ag Bailiú Sonraí Bia Mara

Seirbhís ríthábhachtach a chuireann BIM ar fáil ná bailiúchán, anailís agus tuairisciú sonraí socheacnamaíochta náisiúnta ar na hearnálacha gabhála agus do bharshaothraithe don Choimisiún Eorpach. Bailítear sonraí go bliantúil trí fhoireann Suirbhéanna Náisiúnta Bia Mara (NSS) BIM. Tá an scóip agus an cineál eolais a bhailítear leagtha amach i roinnt rialacháin AE, a dtugtar an MAP AE orthu le chéile - clár ilbhliantúil an Aontais Eorpaigh do bhailiúchán, bhainistíocht agus úsáid sonraí sna hearnálacha iascach agus do bharshaothraithe, maoinithe tríd (EMFAF).

Foilsíodh torthaí NSS d'iascaigh agus do bharshaothrú In 2022 mar thuarascálacha náisiúnta ar leith agus scaipeadh ar thionscal iad. Tugann na tuarascálacha seo léargais agus treochtaí d'fheidhmiú airgeadais agus oibríochta na n-earnálacha, agus na tiománaithe atá taobh thiar de na treochtaí seo. Ina theannta sin, bhí sraith cruinnithe eolais NSS a d'óstáil BIM d'úinéirí ártach ar siúl ag roinnt calaí chun an tábhacht a bhaineann leis an suirbhé bliantúil a líonadh amach a phlé agus áiríodh taispeántais ar conas is féidir clárú le haghaidh an tsuirbhé nua ar líne agus é a líonadh amach.



Láimhseáil éisc á léiriú do mhic léinn an clár BIM le haghaidh Teastais i Scileanna an Cheannaí Éisc.

# Scileanna



## Réamhrá

Cuireann BIM na scileanna ar fáil atá ag teastáil chun tacú le hearnáil bia mara nua-aimseartha, shábháilte, phroifisiúnta, inbhuanaithe agus bhrabúsach in Éirinn.

Gach bliain, cuireann BIM níos mó ná 1,000 áit fhoirmiúil oiliúna ar fáil do mhic léinn san earnáil bia mara. Soláthraíodh iad trí réimse leathan clár oiliúna in áiteanna timpeall na hÉireann do na hearnálacha iascaireachta, do bharshaothraithe, próiseála bia mara agus miondíola.

Cuireann na cúrsaí seo réimse leathan scileanna ar fáil atá ag teastáil trasna an tslabhra soláthair iomlán, ó ghabháil go tomhaltóir. Cuireann sé sin clár i sábháilteacht mhuirí, cumarsáid raidió, teastais inniúlachta, loingseoireacht, tumadóireacht tráchtála, scileanna ceannaithe éisc agus ceannasaíocht san áireamh.

Is tacaíocht choinbhinsiúnach agus cineál aitheanta tacaíochta iad áiseanna oiliúna agus foireann BIM don earnáil. Filleann a lán mac léinn chuig BIM chun cur lena scileanna agus cur chun cinn a dhéanamh ina ngairm beatha. Cruthaíonn sé sin naisc láidre agus caidrimh bhuan idir BIM agus an tionscal.

Anuas air sin, leanann BIM ar aghaidh ag cur éagsúlachta gairmeacha san earnáil chun cinn, mar shampla ag freastal ar Chruinnithe Scoile i gCúige Mumhan agus i gCúige Chonnacht agus ag tacú le comhairleoírí gairme i meánscoileanna.

Agus ag scilbhisiú daoine don tionscal, cuireann sé cliantchuideachtaí ar an gcumas tallann a mhealladh, a choimeád agus a fhorbairt agus cabhraíonn sé leo a bhfiontair a fhás.

## Clár Ceannaireachta agus Forbartha Bainistíochta 2022

Chun fás agus forbairt a dhéanamh, ní mór do chomhlachtaí leanúint ar aghaidh ag dul in oiriúint maidir leis an mbealach a dhéanann siad gnó chun freastal ar riachtanais na gcustaiméirí agus na dtomhaltóirí atá de shíor ag athrú. Bíonn tacar scileanna éagsúil gairmiúil agus pearsanta de dhíth anseo. Chun cabhrú leis na comhlachtaí bia mara an dúshlán seo a bhaint amach, d'fhorbair BIM trí phríomhchlár - Clár Ceannasaithe atá ag Teacht Chun Cinn, Elevate agus an Clár Forbartha um Mheánbhainistíocht.

## Clár Ceannasaithe atá ag Teacht Chun Cinn

Deartar Clár Ceannasaithe atá ag Teacht Chun Cinn BIM chun oiliúint ghnó agus cheannasaíochta a sholáthair do dhaoine gairmiúla atá ag aistriú go poist cheannasaíochta sna hearnálacha gabhála, do bharshaothraithe agus próiseála ar gach leibhéal den scála. Tugann an clár an deis do rannpháirtithe athrú go ceannairí éifeachtacha, ag cur treo soiléir ar fáil agus ag seachaint na ngaistí a chasann ceannairí nua orthu go luath ina dturas ceannasaíochta.

Cuimsíonn sé sin conas tuiscint ar mhodhanna ceannasaíochta a fhorbairt agus do láidreachtaí agus laigí mar cheannaire i dtimpeallacht athraithe eacnamaíochta a thuiscint, ag forbairt cumais a bheith in ann stiúradh agus treoir a chur in iúl d'fhostaithe ríthábhachtacha. Ní dhearna go leor úinéirí agus POFanna ó ghnóthais bheaga agus mheánmhéide uasolúint i bhfoirne ceannaireachta agus ní cuireann siad ceannaireacht ar fáil ina gcomhlachtaí. Tá daoine freisin atá ag dul i dtreo poist ceannaireachta laistigh den tionscal a bhainfeadh tairbhe as a gcuid scileanna a bheachtú.

Seoladh an Clár Tallainne atá ag Teacht Chun Cinn dhá lá i mí Feabhra agus soláthraíodh ó chian é i mí na Bealtaine agus mí an Mheithimh. Dhírigh an chéad lá ar Thuiscint ar Cheannasaíocht agus Modhanna Ceannasaíochta agus dhírigh an dara lá ar Fhorbairt Acmhainn Táirgthe i dtimpeallacht Bainistíochta Athruithe. D'éirigh le ceathrar rannpháirtí ó na hearnálacha iasc geal, sliogiasc agus do bharshaothraithe an clár a chríochnú.

## Clár Elevate

Is é ceann de na dúshláin is mó atá i ndán d'fhostóirí sa tionscal sa lá atá inniu ann ná mealladh agus coinneáil tallainne. Is é atá in Elevate ná clár um chomhtháthú tallainne de chuid BIM, atá deartha chun na scileanna, eolas agus uirlisí is gá a thabhairt do gnólachtaí bia mara d'fhonn tallann a chothú sa tionscal bia mara. Dirítear an clár ar chomhlachtaí céimnitheacha bia mara agus is í an aidhm atá acu ná tacar forbartha bainistíochta tallainne a thabhairt dóibh, le tacaíocht chomhairleachta cúig lá ó shaineolaithe acmhainní daonna mar thaca leis.

Táirgeann sé sin scilbhisiú sa phróiseas earcaíochta agus ionduchtaithe, sa phróiseas forbartha proifisiúnta foirne, agus sna chleachtais ghealltanais fostaithe. Tacaíonn an tionscadal leis an earnáil bia

mara dul in iomaíocht le haghaidh tallainne agus a bheith feicthe mar earnáil fhiúntach, chorrathach a bhfuil deiseanna ann inar fhéidir le duine gairm a dhéanamh i dtimpeallacht atá i gcónaí ag éirí níos dúshlánaí. Chríochnaigh ceithre chomhlacht bia mara an clár lena n-áirítear clár scilbhisithe ceithre mí.

## Clár Meánbhainistíochta BIM

Seoladh Clár Meánbhainistíochta BIM, i gcomhar le Ibec, i mí Eanáir 2022. Cuireann an clár réimse gearrchúrsaí agus clár creidiúnaithe ar fáil chun tacar scileanna agus an cumas ag leibhéal na meánbhainistíochta a fhorbairt sa tionscal bia mara. Tá an t-ábhar go hiomlán ar líne, ag tairiscint foghlama idir píaraí agus an deis tairbhe a bhaint as sainoid agus taithí earnálacha eile. Ghlac cúigear rannpháirtí ó chomhlachtaí próiseála bia mara páirt sa chlár sa bhliain 2022.

## Coláistí Náisiúnta Iascach na hÉireann BIM (NFCI)

Ceadaítear na coláistí BIM agus an tAonad Oiliúna Cósta (CTU) ag an Roinn um Suirbhé Iompar agus Muirí (MSO) cúrsaí maidir le Caighdeáin Oiliúna agus Teastas Fairtheora (STCW) a chur ar fáil, agus teastas a eisiúint ar a son.

## Aonaid Oiliúna Cósta BIM

Cuireann BIM oiliúint dírithe ar thíreolaíoch d'iascairí timpeall an chósta trí úsáid a bhaint as dhá Aonad Oiliúna Cósta (CTUanna). Feidhmíonn na haonaid ar chóstaí thoir agus thiar na tíre agus is ionaid oiliúna for-rochtana iad a cuireann oiliúint ríthábhachtach éigeantach ar fáil don earnáil iascaireachta. Cinntíonn na bealaí seo gur féidir le hiascairí oiliúint a sheachadadh le miontionchar ar a sceidil iascaireachta. Tá na hionaid oiliúna cósta go hiomlán neamhspleách, agus cuimsíonn siad limistéar seomra ranga, oifig, agus limistéar ceardlainne praiticiúil le háiseanna ionsamhlaithe raidió agus táblaí cairteacha.

## Tionscadail Infheistíochta Chaipitiúil

Chomhlíon an tAonad Scileanna BIM roinnt infheistíochtaí caipitiúil shuntasacha le linn 2022 chun tacú le soláthair an chlár agus áiseanna oiliúna proifisiúnta. Chuir sé sin coimisiúnú foireann oiliúna raidió nua agus ionsamhlóirí loingseoireachta san áireamh. Forbraíodh na hinfeistithe seo go sonrach don tionscal oideachais agus oiliúna muirí.

Cuireann na hinsamhlóirí eispéireas ionsamhlaithe nua-aimseartha ar fáil agus cuireann feidhmiúlachtaí ar fáil a bhaineann go sonrach leis an earnáil iascaireachta.

Tá na hinsamhlóirí deartha chun fíorchoinníollacha loingseoireachta a athchruthú d'oiliúint agus cleachtadh smachta stiúrach agus loinge, agus do ghnáthamh árthaigh agus oiliúint fholáirimh ghuaise. Is é an fearas ionsamhlaithe loinge is nua-aimseartha sa tír é d'Oiliúint éigeantach Córais Loingseoireachta Leictreonach agus Ordaithe agus Smachta Loingseoireachta. Tháinig na hinsamhlóirí in ionad na seanionsamhlóirí a bhí ag obair ar ardán níos sine, agus a bhí cumhacht phróiseála teoranta agus grafaic níos moille acu. Cuireann an fearas nua an Córas Eolais agus Taispeántais Chairt Leictreonach (ECDIS) is nua san áireamh, fearas a chloíonn le riachtanais SOLAS agus gur féidir é a úsáid mar rogha eile do chairteacha páipéir ar bord soithí.

## Ionad Oiliúna chun Teacht Slán ón bhFarraige

Fuair BIM faomhadh agus maoiniú d'áis oiliúna maireachtála mara nua-aimseartha, gairmiúil in NFCI BIM an Chaisleán Nua, Co. Dhún na nGall.

Rinneadh obair shuntasach ar an tionscadal seo le linn 2022. Cuireann sé sin Céim 1 oibreacha cumasaithe san áireamh, a áiríodh ullmhú tosaigh an fhoirgnimh agus ceannach trealaimh linne.

Leis an dtionscadal seo, cruthófar Ionad Barr Feabhais Muirí atá éifeachtúil ó thaobh costas de agus a cuireann ionad oiliúna nua-aimseartha chun teacht slán ón bhfarraige ar fáil do dhaltaí agus teagascóirí ar an láthair in NFCI an Chaisleán Nua, rud a thacódh le tionscal sábháilte gairmiúil iascaireachta mara.

Tugadh faoi roinnt tionscadal infheistíochta caipitil sa bhreis chun creidiúint éifeachtachta fuinnimh inbhuanaithe réadmhaoine BIM a mhéadú. Críochnaíodh obair ar chóras teasa fíoruise nua ag NFCI an Chaisleán Nua, agus suiteáladh soilse nua LED ag NFCI Baile Chaisleán Bhéarra chun éifeachtacht fuinnimh a fheabhsú agus costais a laghdú.

## Ag Cur Gairmeacha Chun Cinn san Earnáil Bia Mara

Thug taighde a rinneadh le déanaí eolas do BIM ar an easpa feasachta ar ghairmeacha atá ar fáil do dhaoine óga san earnáil bia mara. Go deimhin, d'fhéadfadh an dearcadh diúltach sin a bheith ann maidir le gairmeacha sa tionscal. Sheol an tAonad Scileanna tionscadal in 2022 chun a réimse leathan gairmeacha i mbia mara a chur chun cinn do gach leibhéal oideachais. Ina theannta sin, bhain BIM úsáid as réimse ardán chun dul i dteagmháil le daoine óga agus na daoine a bhíonn tionchar acu orthu, chun an dearcadh diúltach atá ann faoi láthair maidir le gairmeacha i mbia mara a athrú. Áirítear ar na hardáin iad seo a leanas:

- D'oibrigh an tAonad Scileanna le chéile le comhghleacaithe trasna an BIM chun gairmeacha a chur chun cinn, ag baint úsáid as an Seomra Cianfhoghlama Dobharshaothraithe (ARC). Tugann an acmhainn oideachasúil seo cuairt ar scoileanna chun páistí agus déagóirí, daltaí na hIdirbhliana san áireamh, a mhúineadh faoi dhobharshaothrú agus gairmeacha eile le bia mara. I mí Aibreáin, d'fhreastail an ARC ar Chruinniú Scoileanna Connachta a óstáladh i gCruinneachán Aeir CLG Connachta, Béacán, Co. Mhaigh Eo, áit ar fhreastail na mílte dalta ar an imeacht ón Idirbhliain (TY), ón gCúigiú agus Séú Bliain ó réigiún Connachta. Bhí freagra an-dearfach maidir leis an seomra cianfhoghlama agus an t-eolas a roinneadh le daltaí maidir le gairmeacha san earnáil bia mara.
- Leanann an tAonad Scileanna BIM ar aghaidh ag fógairt ar [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie), an príomhshuíomh gréasáin in Éirinn maidir le treoir ghairme agus chuir aiseolas ag Cruinniú na Scoileanna béim ar an mbealach a úsáideann daltaí an tairseach seo mar shuíomh gréasáin is fearr le dul chuige chun eolas gairme a fháil.
- Cuirfidh an tAonad Scileanna le cur i láthair láidir idirghníomhach ag aontaí gairme in 2023.

## Bunoiliúint Shábháilteachta

D'oibrigh an tAonad Scileanna go dlúth le tionscal agus Seirbhísí Infheistíochta BIM chun a chinntiú go raibh Cártáí Sábháilteachta BIM ag na hiarrthóirí go léir agus gur thairgeadh oiliúint BIM dóibh más bainteach. Ó mhí na Bealtaine go mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2022, chuir CTU 2 Bunoiliúint Shábháilteachta ar fáil do 67 ball foirne ar an gcósta thoir, ó Cheann Chlochair go Cé na Cille Móire, chun freastal ar éileamh na scéime.

## Cláir do Thumadóirí Tráchtála

Teastaíonn cáilíocht tumadóireachta tráchtála le haghaidh oibriúchán tumadóireachta tráchtála in Éirinn. Is iad BIM soláthróirí aonair dhá chlár tumadóireachta tráchtála QQI (Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann) in Éirinn - Oibríochtaí Tráchtála Scúbadóireachta agus Oibríochtaí Tumadóireachta le Gaireas Análaithe ón Dromchla. Cuirtear cúrsaí ar fáil ag Coláiste Náisiúnta Iascach agus Tumadóireachta na hÉireann, Baile Chaisleáin Bhéarra, Co. Chorcaí.

D'óstáil BIM cruinniú ginearálta bliantúil an Údaráis Idirnáisiúnta um Scoileanna Tumadóireachta (IDSA) ag an gCóláiste Náisiúnta Iascach agus Tumadóireachta, Baile Chaisleáin Bhéarra, i mí na Bealtaine. D'fhreastail 28 toscaire san iomlán ar an gcruinniú ag déanamh ionadaíochta do scoileanna ón Ísiltír, ón Iorua, ón Ríocht Aontaithe, ó Éirinn, ón Spáinn, ón Airgintín agus ar líne ag scoileanna ó thíortha eile.

Is é ról an IDSA ná caighdeán oiliúna a bhunú agus a chaomhnú do scoileanna tráchtála tumadóireachta a dhéanann ionadaí ar an gcleachtas is fearr idirnáisiúnta agus na riachtanais reatha do thumadóirí atá ag teacht isteach sa tionscal. Cabhraíonn an taithí agus an t-eolas a roinneann baill IDSA leo a chinntiú go bhfuil caighdeán oiliúna réalaíoch agus sábháilte ann.

## QQI Leibhéal 6 Tumadóirí Scúba Tráchtála

Is ionann an cúrsa Tumadóirí SCUBA Tráchtála agus an bunchlár don oiliúint ar fad do thumadóirí tráchtála. Dírionn an clár ar an teoiric tumadóireachta riachtanach agus na cleachtais tumadóireachta riachtanacha atá mar dhlúthchuid d'aon oibriúchán tumadóireachta tráchtála. Múintear do na mic léinn maidir leis na prionsabail a bhaineann le buntrealamh SCUBA agus an tslí ina gcuirtear i bhfeidhm é i dtimpeallacht tráchtála, chomh maith le córais shimplí chumarsáide agus prótacail sábháilteachta.

Faigheann tumadóirí máistreacht ar obair a dhéanamh faoin uisce i réimse timpeallachtaí ag baint úsáide as uirlisí tábhachtacha chun na tascanna faoin uisce a chur i gcrích. In 2022, bhain 11 mac léinn cáilíocht amach in oibríochtaí tráchtála tumadóireacht SCUBA.

## QQI Leibhéal 6 Tumadóirí le Gaireas Análaithe ón Dromchla

Is féidir le tumadóirí atá cáilithe le Gaireas Análaithe ón Dromchla feidhmiú in oibríochtaí tráchtála tumadóireachta san earnáil dobharshaothraithe. Is í Tumadóireacht le Gaireas Análaithe ón Dromchla (SSD) an cineál tumadóireachta is fearr san earnáil dobharshaothraithe. Tá a lán buntáistí sláinte agus sábháilteachta ann a chuireann an chosaint is fearr ar fáil don tumadóir, chomh maith le soláthar aeir neamhtheoranta agus soláthar neamhspleách mar chúltaca. In 2022, cáilíodh naonúr mac léinn in Oibríochtaí Gairis Análaithe ón Dromchla.

Tá tumadóirí ríthábhachtach d'oibríocht rathúil agus caomhnú feirmeacha éisc agus don chuid is mó de na gníomhartha dobharshaothraithe. Maidir leis na dualgais laethúla, áirítear baint básanna ó bhun na gcásanna/líonta, scrúdú agus deisiú líonta, athrú líonta agus cur meáchain, scrúdú ar chóras múrála, suirbhéireacht agus glanadh, suirbhé/sampláil bheantóis, monatóireacht ar bheostoic (físeán/fótagrafaíocht faoin uisce), cuardach agus aisghabháil.

Tá dhá thionscadal Eorpach ag baint úsáide as an mbáirse tumadóireachta athchóirithe, STREAM (Teicneolaíochtaí Braiteora do Chianmhonatóireacht Timpeallachta Uisce) agus STEPS (Stóráil Chórais Chumhachta agus Fhuinnimh), mar leaba tástála d'fhorbairt chórais a bhainfidh an earnáil dobharshaothraithe tairbhe astu.

## Foghlaim Dhigiteach

Leanann BIM ag forbairt a dtairisceana ar líne chun tacú le agus teacht leis an réimse leathan oiliúna a bhíonn ar siúl ar an láthair. Áiríonn sé sin úsáid an ardáin fhoghlama Canvas, chomh maith le roinnt cúrsaí gearra a cuireadh ar fáil do chliant ar líne amháin.

Ina theannta sin, d'oibrigh an tAonad Scileanna BIM go dlúth leis an Aonad Deontas BIM chun oiliúint ar líne agus maoiniú a chur ar fáil mar chuid den Scéim Coigeartaithe Múnla Gnó Chois Chladaigh an Bhreathimeachta.

Dearadh an scéim ghearrthéarmach seo chun cabhrú leis an earnáil aghaidh a thabhairt ar na coinníollacha casta trádála a bhí i ndán dóibh mar thoradh ar an mBreathimeacht. Ceapadh í chun tacú leis an earnáil chois chladaigh dul i dtaithe ar na fírinne margaidh nua iar-Breathimeachta agus cuireann siad tairbhe réadúil agus praiticiúil ar fáil trí réimse cúrsaí atá inrochtana go héasca. Cabhróidh sé sin leis an earnáil a scileanna a threisiú agus deiseanna nua a aimsiú dár ngnóthaí.

Chun deontas a fháil, ní mór d'iarrthóirí ar a laghad ceann amháin den chúig chúrsa oiliúna ar líne a chríochnú chun na scileanna atá ag teastáil chun dul i dtaithe ar na fírinne margaidh nua iar-Breathimeachta a bhaint amach. Cuireann na cúrsaí seo ar chumas na n-úinéirí árthaigh deiseanna margaidh nua a aimsiú dá ngabháil; a bpleananna gnó a athrú chun míniú a thabhairt ar na coinníollacha margaidh nua; teicneolaíocht dhigiteach a úsáid chun dul i dteagmháil go díreach le custaiméirí; cabhrú leo luach a ngabhála a uasmhéadú agus taispeáin dóibh conas rochtain a fháil ar mhargaí eile.

Mar chuid den scéim, cuireadh oiliúint ar fáil do 801 iascaire, agus cuireadh maoiniú de luach €2,661,900 ar fáil le deontais.

## Teastas i Scileanna Ceannaí Éisc

In 2022, cuireadh an clár seo i láthair ar thrí ócáid, i bpríomhoifig BIM i nDún Laoghaire, i mBinn Éadair agus i Mol Nuálaíochta Bia Mara BIM, Cloich na Coillte, Co. Chorcaí. Deartar an clár chun eolas agus scileanna riachtanacha a mhúineadh d'fhoghlaiméoirí ionas go mbeidh siad in ann oibriú go cumasach i miondíol bia mara. Rinne foghlaiméoirí staidéar ar réimse leathan topaicí lena n-áirítear sláinteachas bia, measúnú ar chaighdeán bia mara agus seirbhís do custaiméirí. Bhí an deis acu freisin a scileanna bia agus a scileanna teicniúla um éisc a fhilleáid a fhorbairt.

Faigheann céimithe an chláir seo Teastas sainchuspóireach QQI Leibhéal 5 i Scileanna Ceannaithe Éisc, cáilíocht ghairmiúil a aithnítear ar fud na tíre agus timpeall an domhain.



## Oiliúint Seirbhíse Bia

Ag obair le hollscoileanna teicneolaíochta agus coláistí lónadóireachta ar fud na tíre, thairg BIM máistir-ranganna bia mara in ullmhú éisc agus teicnící filléid do mhic léinn scileanna cócaireachta. Le linn na n-imeachtaí, roinneann ceannaí éisc a gcuid eolais leo chun a gcuid eolais, tuisceana agus léirthisceana a fhorbairt i dtaca le bia mara na hÉireann. Le linn 2022, rinneadh trí máistir-rang bia mara a sheachadadh.

## Blas an tAtlantach (Taste The Atlantic)

Is chomhthionscnamh é Blas an tAtlantach (TTA) le Fáilte Ireland a chuireann conair bia mara ar Shlí an Atlantaigh Fhiáin chun cinn le taitneamhachtaí cuairteora chun béim a chur ar oidhreacht bia mara agus chósta na hÉireann. Rinneadh athbhreithniú iomlán ar na 21 táirgeoir a bhí páirteach sa chlár seo i dtús 2022, agus thaispeáin na torthaí gur gá tuilleadh feasachta a bhaint amach trí na meáin shóisialta maidir le trialacha TTA. Cuireadh é sin i bhfeidhm le Clár an Chócaire Óig Blas an tAtlantach.

Rinneadh forbairt ar Chlár Ambasadóir an Chócaire Óig i 2022 bunaithe ar rath tosaigh an chlár in 2021. Roghnaigh comhpháirtithe an chlár, Chef Network, cúigear cócaire óg ó thimpeall na hÉireann. Rinneadh obair fhorbartha ar réimse leathan áiseanna na 21 táirgeoir ar shlí an TTA i gcomhairle le Fáilte Ireland. Leagadh sprioc 10 táirgeoir amach d'fhorbairt na dturas in 2022. Baineadh an sprioc seo amach, agus rinneadh forbairtí in ocht suíomh le linn na bliana.



**Diarmuid Kelly, Kelly Oysters le Roann Byrne, duine de chúigear Ambasadóir Chef Óig BIM Blas an Atlantaigh 2022.**

Baineadh méid shuntasach clúdach meán amach ó réimse gníomhartha a bhaineann leis an TTA, ó na hAmbasadóirí Cócaire Óig go seoladh na dturas nua. Is tacaíocht shuntasach í seo don sprioc ceadúnais shóisialta a dtacaíonn an ghníomhaíocht leo. Measadh clúdach meán (gan na meáin shóisialta a chur san áireamh) ar 500,000 duine in 2022 timpeall na hÉireann le leathadh leathan réigiúnach. Ina theannta sin, bhí tuairimí ón gclúdach seo sna meáin go huile is go hiomlán dearfach.

## Sábháilteacht Bia, Cáilíocht Bhia Mara agus Scileanna Teicniúla

I rith 2022, d'fhorbair BIM a gcumas le foghlaim chumaisc, mar shampla foghlaim leictreonach agus seomra ranga fíorúil, a chur san áireamh ina gclár shláinte bia. Rinne BIM triail ar sheachadadh roinnt clár ar líne nach raibh creidiúnú acu. Ciallaíonn sé seo go bhfuil an comhlacht in ann leanúint ag cur oiliúna agus comhairle sláinte bia ar fáil do chustaiméirí in ainneoin dúshláin gheografaíochta. D'éirigh go maith le cúrsa oiliúna píolótach um Ionduchtú Sláinteachais Bia Mara a cuireadh ar fáil i 2022. Thug sé seo léargas agus aiseolas maith do BIM chun cláir eile i sláinte bia ar líne a fhorbairt.

Cuireadh cúrsaí oiliúna gairid eile ar fáil go cianda do chustaiméirí i 2022, mar shampla Lipéadú Bia Mara agus Cothú Bia Mara, agus d'éirigh thar barr leo agus fuair siad aiseolas dearfach ón tionscal.

## Ceardlanna AGPRC maidir le Bia Mara

Reachtáil foireann Sláinte Bia BIM dhá cheardlann AGPRC (Pointí Criticiúla Rialaithe Riosca Feidhme) i gCorcaigh agus i Sligeach in 2022. Is riachtanas dlíthiúil é go dtáirgtear bia mara ar bhealach sábháilte, ag cloí le gach riachtanas Reachtaíochta Sláinte Bia.

Tá an cheardlann phraiticiúil dhá lá seo deartha chun faisnéis agus cumas a chur ar fáil do thionscal le prionsabail bhainistíochta sláinte bia atá córas bunaithe an AGPRC a fhorbairt agus a nuashonrú i bhfiontar bia mara. Tugtar léargas ar reachtaíocht shábháilteachta bia agus an tábhacht a bhaineann le dea-chleachtas sláinteachais do rannpháirtithe. Tar éis sin, tugtar réamhrá ar AGPRC bia mara agus treoir céim ar chéim ar chur i bhfeidhm prionsabal an AGPRC. Tá an cheardlann ar oscailt do dhaoine gur mhian leo níos mó eolais a fháil ar bhainistíocht shábháilteachta bia i bhfiontar bia mara. Tá spéis ar leith ag bainisteoirí cáilíochta, bainisteoirí táirgthe, maoirseoirí, ceannairí foirne AGPRC agus baill foirne AGPRC atá ag obair i ngach earnáil den tionscal bia mara ann.

## Dearbhú Cáilíochta

Tá BIM dearbhaithe ag Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann (QQI) chun cláir oiliúna a chur ar fáil, agus bronntar gradaim ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí (NFQ) orthu mar thoradh air sin. Chuir BIM cláir ar fáil in 2022 agus mar thoradh orthu, bronnadh gradam NFQ maidir le scúbadóireacht tráchtála, tumadóireacht chladaigh gairis anáilaithe, próiseálaithe innealtóireachta muirí agus scileanna ceannaithe éisc.

Le linn 2022, lean BIM le forbairt a dhéanamh ar an gcóras Dearbhaithe Cáilíochta (QA), lena n-áirítear bunú comhairle acadúil. I measc baill an chomhairle acadúla tá saineolaithe neamhspleácha in oideachas agus in oiliúint agus áirítear lena shainchúram monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar cháilíocht, teagasc, foghlaim agus measúnú. Táirgeadh an tuarascáil bhliantúil um Dhearbhú Cáilíochta i mí na Nollag, a ghabhann feabhsuithe cáilíochta a rinneadh le linn 2022 agus a dhéanann moltaí d'fheabhsuithe eile ar an gcóras um Dhearbhú Cáilíochta.

D'fhorbair BIM an Coiste Oiliúna agus Forbartha atá acu cheana féin. Tá sé mar chúram ar an gcoiste tacú le forbairt Straitéise Oiliúna agus Forbartha BIM do na coláistí agus do na hAonaid Oiliúna Chósta agus tosaíochtaí straitéiseacha cuí a shocrú. I measc na n-athruithe sa choiste, bhí ceapachán cathaoirligh nua agus beirt bhall nua. Bhuaill an coiste le chéile ar dhá ócáid ag deireadh 2022, agus thosaigh siad ar fhorbairt straitéise scileanna, chun dul i ngleic le dúshláin agus deiseanna na hearnála bia mara.

Rinneadh iniúchadh ar an gcóras Bainistíochta Cáilíochta (QMS) ag comhlacht deimhnithe neamhspleách ar sholáthar oiliúint agus oideachas muirí sa Choláiste Náisiúnta Iascaigh (NFCI) sa Chaisleán Nua, Co. Dhún na nGall agus i mBaile Chaisleáin Bhéarra, Co. Chorcaí i mí Eanáir agus i mí Iúil 2022. Dearbháíodh go raibh an QMS fós ag comhlíonadh riachtanais ISO 9001:2015, agus níor aithníodh aon neamhchomhréireachtaí. Tá gach clár oiliúna a cheadaíonn an Oifig Suirbhé Mara (MSO) sa Roinn Iompair san áireamh san scóip a bhaineann leis an QMS agus le dearbhú ISO 9001:2015.

Cuireann an QMS chur chuige comhordaithe i bhfeidhm maidir le foghlaim, ag déanamh cinnte de go bhfaigheann mic léinn an t-ardchaidheán teagasc céanna ar fud na láithreán oiliúna go léir.





## Scéim Oiliúna do Bhia Mara

Tugann an Ciste Eorpach um Mhuirí agus Iascaigh (CEMI), ceann de na Cistí Straitéiseacha agus Infheistíochta Eorpacha (ESIF), tacaíocht do chur i bhfeidhm an Chomhbheartas Iascaigh (CFP) athraithe agus Polasaí Mhuirí Comhtháite an AE. Is é cuspóir an chiste ná tacú le fás inbhuanaithe lascaigh agus Dobharshaothraithe trí oiliúint ghairmiúil, scileanna nua agus foghlaim fad saoil a fhorbairt.

Faigheann foghlaimeoirí atá ag tabhairt faoi oiliúint BIM tacaíocht ó mhaoiniú CEMI. Ina theannta sin, tacaítear le roinnt cúrsaí a chuirtear ar fáil go seachtrach freisin, chun cur ar chumas daoine aonair a gcuid scileanna gairmiúla a fhorbairt don earnáil bia mara.

Le linn 2022, fuair 248 foghlaimeoir cúnamh deontais ar luach iomlán de €148,545. Ba ardú 143 tairbhí é seo faoin scéim bliain ar bhliain agus ardú de €37,545 i maoiniú.

In 2022, d'oibrigh An tAonad Scileanna ar fheabhsúcháin chun an t-iaratas ar mhaoiniú faoin scéim a dhéanamh níos simplí d'úsáideoirí agus chun an próiseas a dhéanamh níos freagrúla do ghléasanna soghluaiste. Leanann BIM ag cur chun cinn agus ag forbairt na scéime do thionscal agus ag leathnú cáilitheachta don scéim laistigh de pharaiméadair Phlean Gníomhaithe CEMI.

## Oibríthe Imirceacha sa Tionscal Bia Mara

Deartar an córas ceadúnais chun freastal ar dhaoine nach bhfuil ón Aontas Eorpach, bearnaí i scileanna agus saothar oibre a líonadh, ar mhaithe le geilleagar na hÉireann ar bhonn gearrthéarmach go meántéarmach.

Chríochnaigh 46 imirceach iascaire nach ón gComhchoiste an Limistéir Eorpaigh Eacnamaíoch iad (3.51% de sholáthar oiliúna iomlán an BIM in 2022) Oiliúint Bhunúsach Slándála chun glacadh le poist mar bhall foirne ar chabhlaigh iascaireachta atá cláraithe in Éirinn. Leanann BIM ag obair go dlúth leis an gCoimisiún um Chaidreamh san Áit Oibre (WRC) chun oiliúint a chur ar fáil d'fhoireann Fhiosrúcháin Iascaigh, chun feachtas a chothú ar an scéim le tionscal agus chun a chinntiú go bhfreastalaítear ar iascairí nach ón gComhchoiste an Limistéir Eorpaigh Eacnamaíoch iad, ar chúrsaí oiliúna BIM de réir mar is gá.

Chríochnaigh ceathrar cigire WRC oiliúint in 2022 ar mhaithe le hiad a cheapadh le tabhairt faoi iniúchadh iascaigh. Cinntíonn sé seo gníomhú le tionscal ar mhaithe le comhlíonadh a chinntiú, le feachtas feachtas agus oideachais a chur ar fáil leis an earnáil iasc geal, tabhairt faoi iniúchadh ar chabhlaigh iasc geal chun sárúithe a aimsiú, agus, de réir mar is gá, ionchúisimh a thosú.

Áirítear ar na sárúithe ar dhlí fostaíochta a aimsíonn an WRC, teip taifeadta a choimeád nó a chur ar fáil maidir le saoire poiblí agus teidlíochtaí maidir le hobair ar an Domhnach, ag obair gan cead agus teip duilíní pá a eisiúint.



## Oiliúint Tionscail Bia Mara

### Tinreamh Oiliúna Tionscail Bia Mara BIM ar fud na n-ionad oiliúna uile in 2022

Cur Síos ar an gCúrsa Iomlán

Deimhniúcháin na Roinne Iompair (DoT)	Na hIonaid ar fad
Deimhniúchán Iomlán Athlámhe an DoT um Oifigigh Deice (Árthach Iascaireachta)	38
Deimhniúchán Teoranta Athlámhe an DoT um Oifigigh Deice (Árthach Iascaireachta)	1
Oifigeach Innealtóireachta DoT (Árthach Iascaireachta) Aicme 2	1
Oilteacht Báid Phaisinéirí DoT	50
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### Soláthar Iomlán Oiliúna

**1170**

# Nuálaíocht



## Réamhrá

Mar chatalaíoch do nuálaíocht, tacaíonn BIM le hoibrítheoirí iascaireachta na hÉireann chun cleachtas agus smaointe nua a aithint, a thástáil, a mheas agus a chur i bhfeidhm. In 2022, d'oibrigh Mol Nuálaíochta Bia Mara (SIH) de chuid BIM le níos mó ná 45 cliant aonair sa tionscal bia mara, ag cur tacaíochta ar fáil maidir leis na teicneolaíochtaí is déanaí chun an earnáil phróiseála a chur chun cinn. Lean an Clár Luasaire Dobharshaothraithe ag mealladh infheistíochta agus cuideachtaí nua chuig tionscal na teicneolaíochta uisce in Éirinn le maoiniú próbháideach arbh fhiú €1.4 milliún agus cruthaíodh 145 post san iomlán faoi dheireadh 2022.

## Mol Nuálaíochta Bia Mara

Cuireann an Mol Nuálaíochta Bia Mara (SIH) próiseas deartha nuálaíochta i bhfeidhm chun tacaíochtaí a bhaineann go sonrach le bia mara a chur ar fáil ar féidir leo luach breise a chur leo. Áirítear leis sin plé a éascú maidir le indéantacht theicniúil, inmhianaitheacht an mhargaidh agus inmharthanacht tráchtála, torthaí a léirmhíniú agus teacht ar phlean gníomhaíochta trí thoradh a bhaineann go sonrach le gnó.

D'oibrigh an SIH le 45 cliant iascaireachta aonair ar réimse leathan tionscadal agus seirbhíse nuálaíochta éagsúla. Bhí 149 idirghníomhaíocht fhoirmiúil idir na tionscadail agus na seirbhíse nuálaíochta éagsúla, bhí 88 seirbhís do chliant agus 17 tionscadal mar thoradh air sin. Chuir an SIH a sheirbhís ar fáil trí 'trí lionsa' den nuálaíocht a chruthú, lena n-áirítear cumas teicniúil, éifeachtacht airgeadais agus léargais ar an margadh. Cuireadh na seirbhíse nuálaíochta ar fáil ar fud réimse leathan speicis bia mara, lena n-áirítear 15 lasc Geal, 11 Salmainid, 15 Peileagach, agus 55 speiceas ilghnéitheach. Bhí 78 de na seirbhíse sin dírithe ar luach a chur leis an earnáil, agus bhí 27 dírithe ar laghdú costais.

## Ag Forbairt Baoite Chumtha - Iascach Tráchtála Cuachma

Tá BIM, an t-Ionad Taighde Fíoruisce agus Mara ag OTA (Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh) Gaillimh, agus iascairí agus próiseálaithe cois chladaigh (Grúpa Tagartha Cois Chladaigh-IRG) ag obair le chéile chun foinsé baoite éifeachtach ó thaobh costais de, iontaofa agus inbhuanaithe a aimsiú d'iascach cuachma pota na hÉireann.

Táirgeadh baoití iarrthóra agus rinneadh trialacha taiscumair beo ag an ATU. Chomh maith le feidhmiú na baoite (gluaiseacht cuachma chuig an mbaoite), is ceisteanna rithábhachtacha chomh maith iad soláthar amhábhhar, costais agus inbhuanaitheacht. Tá na foirmeacha ceimiceacha a bhaineann le scairdeanna bolaidh seo á mheas chomh maith, chun fáil amach más féidir an substaint mhealladh a dhéanamh go sintéiseach.

Ar an iomlán, reáchtáladh ceithre chruinniú IRG agus chuir ATU cur chun cinn in iúl do pháirtithe leasmhara an tionscail. Críochnófar an tionscadal le linn 2023 agus déanfar miontástáil ar na baoití iarrthóra.

## Tacaíochtaí Trádála don Tionscal Bia Mara

In 2022, thacaigh BIM le 10 gcomhlacht próiseálaithe tríd an tionscadal Tacaíochtaí Trádála don Tionscal Bia Mara. Chuiimsigh an tacaíocht seo comhlachtaí próiseálaithe aonair a bhí ag obair le meantóir ceadaithe BIM, ag déanamh anailíse ar chás trádála an chomhlachta agus ag léirmhíniú agus ag míniú conas a bheidh tionchar ag riachtanais nua gnó ar chás trádála an chomhlachta. Áiríodh tacú leis an gcomhlacht gníomhartha a chur i bhfeidhm chun na riachtanais nua a shásamh agus trádáil a cheadú le leanúint ar aghaidh go dtí agus tríd na RA. Chomh maith leis sin, thacaigh an tionscadal seo le próiseálaithe i réimsí cosúil le lóistíochtaí agus soláthair slabhra, sábháilteacht bhia agus pleanáil airgeadais, chun leas a bhaint as deiseanna mar thoradh ar an mBreatimeacht.

Chomh maith le tacaíocht dhíreach do phróiseálaithe bia mara ar leith, forbraíodh treoirleabhar Breatimeachta d'Aonach Scipéara na hÉireann 2022 agus cuireadh nótaí eolais ar riachtanais agus forbairtí níos nua in iúl don tionscal.

Mar earnáil atá ag teacht chun cinn, bainfidh bith-theicneolaíocht ghorm tairbhe as bunús comhlachtaí cógaisíochta atá láidir cheana féin (ilnáisiúnta san áireamh), comhlachtaí bithleighis, comhlachtaí forlíonta bia agus comhábhair bia agus comhlachtaí eile atá lonnaithe anseo cheana féin agus atá nuálach go gníomhach sa spás seo. Tá gnóthais bheaga agus mheánmhéide ghorma lonnaithe sna contaetha cósta Dhún na nGall, Shligigh, na Gaillimhe, Chorcaí agus Chiarraí.

Is é cuspóir iomlán fadtéarmach an Luasaire Dobharshaothraithe ná ionad domhanda a dhéanamh d'Éirinn do nuálaíocht dhobharshaothraithe, agus timpeallacht a chur ar fáil ina mbeidh comhlachtaí in ann fás agus forbairt sa réimse seo.

## Córas Nuálach Dírithe ar Dhúshlán

Rinneadh tagarmharcáil chuimsitheach chun an cleachtas is fearr go hidirnáisiúnta i dtaca le bealaí nuálacha a bheith ag obair le dearcadh trastionscal a aithint le linn na bliana. Fuarthas tuarascáil iomlán le torthaí don earnáil agus bainfear úsáid as chun eolas sa bhreis a chuir ar fáil d'fhorbairt an tionscadail don bhliain 2023.

Cuireadh tástáil agus infheistiú i bhfeidhm ar thionscadail bhainistíochta phraiticiúla chun tacú le cleachtaí nuálaíochta nua laistigh de BIM, chun seirbhíse nuálaíochta a chur ar fáil dár gcliaint. Tharla sé sin chomh maith le tástáil agus soláthar giniúint smaointe éascaithe agus ceardlanna próiseála nuálaíochta don ghrúpa páirtithe leasmhara seo.

## Próiseas Nuálaíochta 2022

Cuirtear an Próiseas Nuálaíochta i bhfeidhm trí Mhol Nuálaíochta Bia Mara BIM chun cabhrú le cás gnó a chruthú agus a fhorbairt d'infheistíocht, agus do sheoladh tráchtála rathúil na dtionscadal nuálaíochta.

Bainfear an cultúr nuálaíochta seo amach trí úsáid fhairsing na modheolaíochtaí a forbraíodh go sonrach don bhia mara ag BIM a leabú, chun fás tráchtála a spreagadh ar fud na hearnála sa bhealach is éifeachtaí gur féidir.



Lee Hunter, Bunaitheoir agus POF, The Oyster Pitch a ghlac páirt i Stiúideo Nuálaíochta BIM 2022.

Áiríodh na tionscadail shainiúla seo a leanas le linn na bliana:

- **Taighde ar scileanna nuálaíochta nua agus atá le teacht atá tairbheach don tionscal**
- **Scileanna nuálaíochta chun tacú le próiseálaithe bia mara freastal ar riachtanais inbhuanaitheachta a gcustaiméirí príomha in earnálacha miondíola agus fáilteachais**
- **Struchtúir agus teicneolaíochtaí nuálaíochta inbhuanaithe do phacáistiú miondíola mar chuid den chlár inbhuanaitheachta a shainithint**
- **Measúnú eacnamaíoch ar an earnáil próiseála bia mara a chumasáionn forbairt tacaíochtaí spriocdhírthe**
- **Forbairt na gcoincheap feidhmiúla bia mara do cheannaithe éisc agus do hionaid mhiondíola chun freastal ar éilimh na dtomhaltóirí maidir le sláinte agus leas an duine mar chuid den chlár inbhuanaitheachta**
- **Taighde ar theicneolaíochtaí dhigiteacha nuálacha atá ailínithe le caighdeán bia mara chun cur le riachtanais athruithe dhigiteacha na bpróiseálaithe bia mara**

## Clár Comhairleach Nuálach

Oibríonn an Mol Nuálaíochta Bia Mara i gcomhar le húdarais eile lena n-áirítear Bord Bia, Teagasc, institiúidí tríú leibhéal, grúpaí tionscail agus soláthóirí teicneolaíochta áirithe chun a chinntiú go bhfuil an teicneolaíocht, IP agus léargais mhargaidh is déanaí ar fáil don earnáil. Is comhar idir an BIM agus institiúidí Éireannacha tríú leibhéal é an Clár Comhairleach Nuálach a chuireann neart saineolais ar fáil, leis na smaointe is déanaí ar fheidhmiú nuálaíochta ó earnálacha agus tionscail éagsúla a chuirtear i bhfeidhm don earnáil bia mara.

Áiríodh leis an tseirbhís nuálaíochta comhairliúcháin a cuireadh ar fáil le linn 2022 eolaíochtaí bia, tacaíocht margáíochta airgeadais, tráchtála agus inbhuanaithe. Thacaigh an clár seo go sonrath le hinbhuanaitheacht mar thiománaí margaidh do tháirgí bia mara, feidhmithe bia mara feidhmiúil, pacáiste inbhuanaithe do phróiseáil bia mara, córais chaighdeán dhigiteacha, agus measúnú eacnamaíoch ar phróiseálaithe bia mara.

## Teicneolaíochtaí Próiseála Nuálacha

Rinne an chéad thionscadal iniúchadh ar anglait mar bhia mara príomha, a bhfuil luach €14 milliúin aici in Éirinn agus a dhíoltar mar earra reoite go príomha. Rinne an taighde iniúchadh ar an bhféidearthacht tabhairt faoi fhorbairt maidir le roghanna breisluacha don mhargadh idirnáisiúnta san Fhrainc agus sa Spáinn. Rinneadh measúnú ar scóip mhargaidh agus aithníodh an tslabhra soláthair anglaite agus na roghanna breisluacha féideartha.

Cuireadh tuarascáil ar an tslabhra próiseálaithe soláthair d'anglait bhreisluacha go rogha miondíola easpórtála, measúnú ar iomaitheoirí idirnáisiúnta san áireamh, ar fáil do pháirtithe leasmhara tionscail. Aithníodh éilimh an mhargadh acmhainneacht do níos mó pacáí miondíola réidh do thionscal an fháilteachais agus don tomhaltóir, go háirithe i margadh na Fraince.

Is éard a bhí i gceist leis an dara tionscadal ná measúnú a dhéanamh ar theicneolaíochtaí nuálaíochta próiseálaithe gur féidir faoi tháirgí agus cadóg a athrú go roghanna a chuireann leis an luach trí chórais uathoibríthe chun freastal ar shonraíochtaí sa mhargadh. Rinneadh measúnú ar roinnt teicneolaíochtaí agus léiríodh teicneolaíocht phróiseálaithe amháin do thionscal ag an Mol Nuálaíochta Bia Mara.

## Oiliúint ar Scileanna Digiteacha

Aithníodh leibhéal íseal na scileanna digiteacha san earnáil chois chladaigh mar shrian don earnáil. Forbraíodh ábhar oiliúna scileanna digiteacha ag BIM chun scileanna a thabhairt d'iascairí rochtain a fháil ar Chóras Deontas Bainistíochta Leictreonach (GEMS) an BIM agus é a úsáid go héifeachtach. Feidhmíonn sé sin mar uirlis freisin chun scileanna digiteacha ginearálta a fhorbairt. Cruthaíodh dhá mhodúl oiliúna trí uair an chloig mar chuid den oiliúint seo, atá mar riachtanas ag an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

Tá an dá mhodúl seo deartha chun cur le hábhar agus struchtúr ceaptha an chúrsa 10 n-uaire ar an litearthacht dhigiteach a chuireann na Boird Oideachais agus Oiliúna (ETBanna) ar fáil go náisiúnta. Is féidir iad a úsáid mar mhodúil aonair freisin i suíomhanna neamhfhoirmiúla cosúil le oiliúint duine-ar-dhuine in ionaid acmhainní pobail.

## Córas um Mharcáil Aontaithe Speisialta (SUMS)

Soláthraíonn Scéimeanna um Mharcáil Aontaithe Speisialta (SUMS) loingseoireacht agus sábháilteacht níos fearr do gach úsáideoir de chuid na mara i gceantair ina bhfuil an dobarshaothrú ag feidhmiú in éineacht le húsáideoirí eile. Cuireann scéimeanna marcála SUMS teorainneacha na limistéar táirgthe dobarshaothraithe in iúl le níos lú marcanna, a bhfuil caighdeán níos fearr acu, le fad saoil fhada, a bhaineann éifeachtachtaí amach do na táirgeoirí. Laghdaíonn sé tionchar físiúil na marcanna fad is a chruthaíonn sé córas atá éasca do mhairnéalaigh é a thuiscint.

Le linn 2022, rinneadh measúnuithe rialta ar gach Scéim Marcála Aontaithe Speisialta (SUMS) chun loingseoireacht shábháilte a chinntiú agus rinneadh cothabháil agus athsholáthar marcála de réir mar a bhí gá. Rinneadh cothabháil ar Bheanntaí laistigh, Loch Trasna agus an Mhaoil Rua, agus rinneadh measúnú agus cothabháil ar Chairlín agus ar an gCaolaire Rua. Dearadh trí SUMS nua, agus lorgaíodh ceadú reachtúil. Críochnaíodh Muicinis Céim 1.

Baineadh feidhm go páirteach as Béal Átha Loingfoirt agus táthar ag súil go mbeidh sé curtha i gcrích go luath in 2023. Baineadh feidhm iomlán as Aird Bhéarra agus tá sé ag feidhmiú.

## Roinn Iompair Grúpa Oibre um Shábháilteacht Mhuirí Foghrúpa Cumarsáide

Glacann BIM páirt i bhFoghrúpa Cumarsáide an Ghrúpa Oibre um Shábháilteacht Mhuirí comhordaithe ag Garda Cóstá na hÉireann, lena n-áirítear réimse ionadaithe a raibh cúram orthu

tacú le sábháilteacht ar an uisce agus ar muir. Is ball gníomhach é BIM agus oibríonn siad le Garda Cóstá na hÉireann, Institiúid Náisiúnta Ríoga na mBád Tarrthála (RNLI), Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann (WSI), Met Éireann, Cumann Seoltóireachta na hÉireann (ISA) agus Coimisinéirí Soilse na hÉireann (CIL) chun seoladh teachtaireachtaí seasta a chinntiú do na páirtithe leasmhara maidir leis na cumarsáidí ar fad atá eisithe ag an ngrúpa agus tríd an mol [www.safetyonthewater.ie](http://www.safetyonthewater.ie).

Rinne an grúpa measúnú ar fheidhmchlár móibleach molta, sábháilteacht ar an uisce, a chuirfeadh ar tairiscint tríd an Roinn Iompair. Chuir BIM a fhreagra isteach do chomhairliúchán poiblí ar an gCód Cleachtas d'Oibríocht Shábháilte Árthaigh Fhóillíochta. Déanann an grúpa athbhreithniú ar staitisticí maidir le bá, básanna agus eachtraí agus déantar athbhreithniú ar threochtaí atá ag teacht chun cinn.

## Seomra Cianfhoghlama Dobharshaothraithe (ARC)

In 2022, chuir an clár ARC ocht seimineár gréasáin ar fáil ar líne do 5,825 mac léinn san iomlán. Tugadh cuairt ar 59 scoil ar leith agus ar 1,509 dalta. Bhí deich n-imeacht for-rochtana poiblí ar siúl le 7,885 rannpháirtí san iomlán. Ar an iomlán, bhí baint ag 15,219 rannpháirtí leis an tionscadal foriomlán ARC in 2022. Cuireann an ARC ábhar ar fáil faoi láthair do bhunscoileanna (Rang a 5 agus a 6) meánscoileanna (Dobharshaothrú agus Gairmeacha don Idirbhliain, 5ú agus 6ú Bliain) físeanna agus tráth na gceist ar líne, seimineáir ghréasáin bheo agus tinreamh ag imeachtaí oideachasúla móra (Schools Summit 2022) agus imeachtaí tionscail. Chomh maith le hobair an ARC in Éirinn, seoladh dhá chur i láthair don Choimisiún Eorpach agus Coiste na Réigiún sa Bhruiséil.



Éascaitheoir Seomra Cianfhoghlama Dobharshaothraithe BIM, Áine Lisa Shannon le daltaí ó Réalt na Mara, Cill Chaoi, Co. an Chláir.

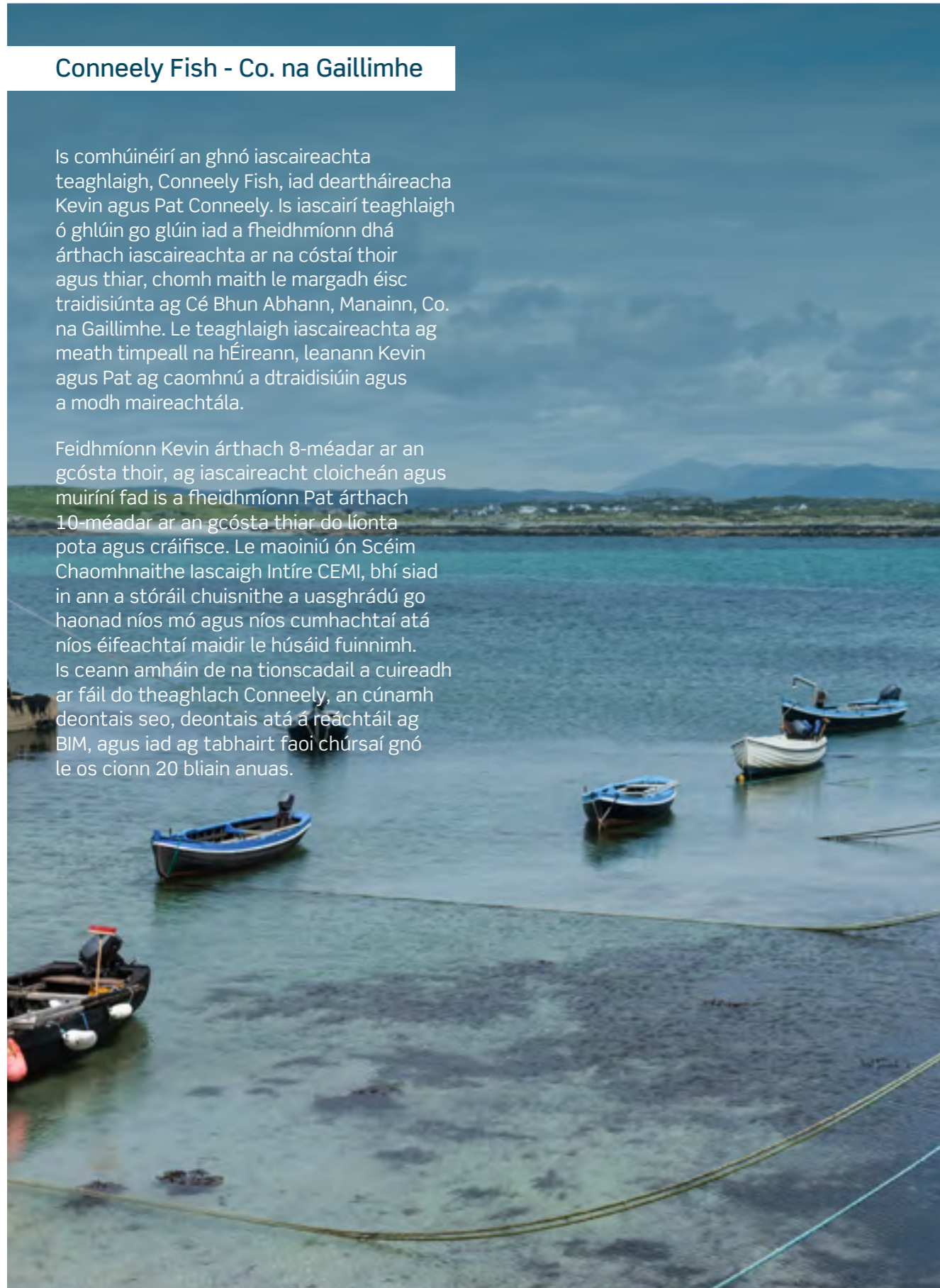
# Cás Staidéir



## Conneely Fish - Co. na Gaillimhe

Is comhúinéirí an ghnó iascaireachta teaghlaigh, Conneely Fish, iad deartháireacha Kevin agus Pat Conneely. Is iascairí teaghlaigh ó ghlúin go glúin iad a fheidhmíonn dhá ártach iascaireachta ar na cóstaí thoir agus thiar, chomh maith le margadh éisc traidisiúnta ag Cé Bhun Abhann, Manainn, Co. na Gaillimhe. Le teaghlaigh iascaireachta ag meath timpeall na hÉireann, leanann Kevin agus Pat ag caomhnú a dtraidisiúin agus a modh maireachtála.

Feidhmíonn Kevin ártach 8-méadar ar an gcósta thoir, ag iascaireacht cloicheán agus muiríní fad is a fheidhmíonn Pat ártach 10-méadar ar an gcósta thiar do líonta pota agus cráifisce. Le maoiniú ón Scéim Chaomhnaithe Iascaigh Intíre CEMI, bhí siad in ann a stóráil chuisnithe a uasghrádú go haonad níos mó agus níos cumhachtaí atá níos éifeachtaí maidir le húsáid fuinnimh. Is ceann amháin de na tionscadail a cuireadh ar fáil do theaghlach Conneely, an cúnamh deontais seo, deontais atá á reáchtáil ag BIM, agus iad ag tabhairt faoi chúrsaí gnó le os cionn 20 bliain anuas.



## V-eangúchán - Cumann Thiar Theas Gliomaigh na hÉireann - Co. Chorcaí

Gach bliain, baineann foireann oilte ag an BIM eangú v-eangaithe ó eireaball suas go 35,000 gliomach baineann aosach atá ag iompar uibheacha, a mbeireann iascairí cois chladaigh na hÉireann orthu. Cuireann an modh seo, ar a dtugtar v-eangúchán iascairí eile ar an eolas gur gliomach baineann atá ag pórú atá i gceist leis an ngliomach a rugadh uirthi agus gur chóir í a chur ar ais san fharraige. Ceadáíonn v-eangúchán do ghliomaigh atá ag pórú leanúint ar aghaidh ag pórú ar suas go trí bhabhta eile sula ndeísítear an t-eangú, ag cabhrú le caomhnú iascaigh ghliomaigh na hÉireann.

Mar chuid de Chumann Gliomach na hÉireann, bunaíodh Cumann Gliomach Thiar Theas na hÉireann ar mhaithe le caomhnú ar ghliomaigh agus do shlí bheatha iascairí. Tá Cumann Gliomach Thiar Theas na hÉireann i measc 22 grúpa dá leithéid a fuair tacaíocht airgeadais ón Scéim V-eangúchán Iascaigh Cois Chladaigh EMFF in 2022 do sciar luacha na ngliomach v-eangaithe a cuireadh ar ais san fharraige.

Bunaithe timpeall ar 30 bliain ó shin, clúdaíonn Cumann Gliomach Thiar Theas na hÉireann limistéar ó Chúirt Mhic Shéafraidh go Carn Uí Néid i gCo. Chorcaí. Déanann dhá bhall déag ón eagraíocht an v-eangúchán ar na gliomaigh. Shocraigh an eagraíocht an obair thábhachtach seo a thosú nuair a thug siad faoi deara go raibh meath ag teacht ar an méid gliomach a bhí sa cheantar agus bhí bearta caomhnaithe ag teastáil chun cosc a chur le díothú na ngliomach.



## Kingfisher Fresh - Co. Loch Garman



Is comhlacht beag, 100% Éireannach é Kingfisher Fresh, atá lonnaithe i gCo. Loch Garman. Oibríonn siad le hiascairí Éireannacha chun dáileoirí áitiúla agus domhanda a sholáthar le bia mara atá 100% fiáin agus úr. Ón maoiniú a fuarthas ó Scéim Chaomhnaithe Iascaigh Chladaigh EMFF trí BIM, chruthaigh Kingfisher Fresh lógó agus suíomh gréasáin nua, a cheadaíonn do dhaoine a gcomhlacht a aimsiú ar líne agus eolas a fháil ar a gcuid oibre chomh maith lena gcuid freagrachtaí san earnáil.

Oibríonn siad le roinnt iascairí sa cheantar, an teaghlach Kirwan san áireamh. Tá a gcalafort baile i gCeann Chlochair agus áirítear an MV Atlantic Rose agus MV Rose of Sharon ar na háirde atá acu. Is iascairí ó ghlúin go glúin iad Michael Mór Kirwan agus Michael Óg Kirwan araon.

Oibríonn Kingfisher Fresh leis an teaghlach Kirwan chun bia mara úr fiáin a fháil chun a chinntiú go bhfaigheann a gcustaiméirí iasc Éireannach ar ardchaighdeán. Tá inbhuanaitheacht i gcroílár a gcuid oibre, agus faigheann siad scipí bruscair ar cíos ar a gcostas féin chun bruscar a thagann isteach ina gcuid líonta a bhailiú agus é a bhaint go freagrach. Tá aigéan glan sláintiúil a chaomhnú agus príomhról luath a bheith acu i maoirseacht mhara fréamhaithe go daingean i gcroílár a n-aighe.

**Brian Everard agus Michelle O'Neill, comhbhunaitheoirí Kingfisher Fresh, Loch Garman.**

## Ocean Deep Oysters - Bá Dhún na nGall



Tá Ocean Deep Oysters ar cheann de na feirmeacha oisre is sine atá bunaithe in Éirinn atá ag fas oisrí i mBá Dhún na nGall ó lár na 1980idí. Is áit uathúil í Bá Dhún na nGall agus tá sé ar cheann de na báinna is fearr in Éirinn i dtáirgeadh na n-oisrí cáiliúla 'Speciale'. Cosúil leis an gcuid is mó d'fheirmeacha traidisiúnta na hÉireann, is gnó teaghlaigh é Ocean Deep Oysters, ina bhfuil an teaghlach Reid i mbun an ghnó, le gach uile dhuine ag teastáil chun réimse gníomhaíochtaí dlúthfhostaíochta a dhéanamh. Táirgeann an iarracht uilig timpeall 500 tona sa bhliain ar 50 heicteár leapacha oisre. Easpórtáiltear an chuid is mó dá dtáirgeadh do mhargadh na Fraince ina bhfuil ardéileamh i gcónaí d'oisrí ar ardchaighdeán san earnáil na bialainne agus miondíola.

Thacaigh BIM go leanúnach leis an ngnó. Tá an tacaíocht seo trasna an ghnó ó fhadhbanna teicniúla a réiteach ar an láthair go cur i bhfeidhm tionscnamh atá dírithe ar mhargadh, atá tar éis cabhrú leis an teaghlach Reid a gcustaiméirí a aimsiú agus a choinneáil i dtimpeallacht atá i gcónaí ag éirí níos iomaíche. Tá cláir atá maoinithe ag BIM ón Scéim Dobharshaothraithe Inbhuanaithe ó EMFF, dírithe ar mhaoiniú agus laghdaíonn siad, an tréimhse fhada dian ar chaipiteal chun an chéad fhómhar a fháil agus chabhraigh siad le suiteáil an innealra atá ag teastáil chun an post a dhéanamh go héifeachtach.



## Comhlacht Iascaireachta Atlantic Rose, Ceann Chlochair, Co. Lú

Fuair Atlantic Rose Fishing Company Limited deontas de thart ar €150,000 ón Scéim Iascaigh Inbhuanaithe tríd an EMFF ó BIM chun tacú lena gcleachtais iascaireachta inbhuanaithe. Bhain an comhlacht seo, faoi stiúir Michael Óg Kirwan, úsáid as an deontas chun córas nua láimhseála éisc a chur i bhfeidhm. Áirítear córas soláthair uisce mara, greamanna éisc, réiteoirí, agus córas monatóireachta gair tharraingthe leis seo. Ba é an cuspóir a bhí acu ná caighdeán a ngabhála a mhéadú, éifeachtacht fhuinnimh a fheabhsú, agus dul i ngleic le tionchar na n-athraithe aeráide.

Chuir suiteáil an chórais láimhseála éisc nua ar chumas Atlantic Rose cloicheáin a reo ar muir, á gcuid úire a chaomhnú agus ceannaitheoirí féideartha a mhealladh. Anuas air sin, d'uasmhéadaigh an córas monatóireachta gair tharraingthe cleachtais iascaireachta trí fhearas a athrú i bhfíor-am, caitheamh fuinnimh a laghdú agus tionchar comhshaoil a foslághdú.

Dar le Michael, d'fheabhsaigh an teicneolaíocht reoigh-ar-muir a chuir siad i bhfeidhm, cáilíocht a dtáirge, le luach margaidh níos airde mar thoradh air. Threisigh na forbairtí seo áit an Atlantic Rose sa mhargadh, táirge inbhuanaithe agus tarraingteach a chuir ar fáil acu, fad is a laghdaíonn siad an tionchar ar an timpeallacht.



## Tionscadal Taighde Vacsaíne Bradáin, Ionad Taighde Muirí & Fíoruisce, Gaillimh



Bronnadh deontas €102,000 ar an Dr Orla Slattery, taighdeoir in Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh, ón Scéim Thairsí Eolais ó BIM tríd an EMFF chun tacú lena tionscadal taighde. Dhírigh an tionscadal ar vacsaín ar leith a fhorbairt le haghaidh Galair Gheolbhaigh Aiméibeach (AGD) sa bhradán, a bhfuil an seadán perúnaigh Neoparamoeba mar chúis leis. Bhí ról ríthábhachtach ag an deontas in éascú céimeanna tosaigh na taighde.

Is é príomhchuspóir an tionscadail ná forbairt vacsaíne a phlé gur fhéidir díriú ar an seadán perúnaigh Neoparamoeba, ag dul i ngleic leis na dúshláin a bhaineann le AGD i mbradán, cosúil le damáiste geolbhaigh agus ionsú ocsaigine lagaithe.

Dhírigh an fhoireann thionscadail ar cheapadh vacsaíne a bhaineann go príomha le hantaigin próitéine scannáin. D'éascaigh an deontas fostaíocht taighdeora iardhochtúireachta, Dr. Michelle McCormack, agus cúntóra taighde, Erin Molloy, chun an taighde seo a dhéanamh. Anuas air sin, d'fhéadfaí na hacmhainní a bhí ag teastáil don taighde a fháil leis an maoiniú.

Bhí an maoiniú ríthábhachtach chun tacú le luathchéimeanna tionscadail taighde an Dr. Slattery. Cé nach bhfuil an tionscadal ag an gcéim tástála go fóill, is deis taighde iontach í fós a bhfuil sé ar a cumas torthaí rathúla a bhaint amach.

## Cara na nOileán Teo - Co. Dhún na nGall

Thug Cara na nOileán Teo, comhlacht seirbhíse farantóireachta lonnaithe ar oileáin amach ó chósta Dhún na nGall, faoi thionscadal uailmhianach le déanaí chun a n-árthach breá, an M.V. Coll, a nuachóiriú. Le tacaíocht fhlaithiúil an dheontais de luach €48,000 ó Scéim Ghrúpa na Limistéar Forbartha Áitiúil lascaigh ó BIM tríd an EMFF, d'éirigh leis an gcomhlacht a mbád farantóireachta a bhí ag dul in aois a athbheochan, todhchaí a ngnó a chinntiú agus leanúint do sheirbhísí riachtanacha do na pobail áitiúla a chuir ar fáil.

Agus iad i mbun feidhme, seirbhís farantóireachta sceidealaithe chuig Oileán Árann Mhór gach lá den bhliain a chuir ar fáil, chomh maith le seoladh lasta go dtí na hoileáin uile ar chósta Dhún na nGall, ba é príomhdhúshlán Cara na nOileán Teo ná ardchaighdeán a gcuid seirbhísí a chothú ach ag an am céanna, an t-árthach a choinneáil cothrom le dáta. Thuig an comhlacht gur gá forbairt chuimsitheach a dhéanamh agus go raibh sé riachtanach an M.V. Coll a athnuachan.

Thosaigh an próiseas nuálaíochta leis an seomra innill agus innill iomlán a bhaint as a chéile, gearbhoscaí, príomhsheafthaí agus líain nua a shuiteáil. Rinneadh athshreangú ar an seomra innill freisin, le gineadóir nua, córas sceite agus fuarú chile curtha ar fáil. Ina theannta sin, rinneadh athrú suntasach sa chábán stiúrach, le trealamh den scoth lena n-áirítear uathphólóta, radar, agus breacairí.

Ní fhaigheann Cara na nOileán Teo aon mhaoiniú eile dá gcuid seirbhísí chuig Árann Mhór ná d'aon cheann d'Oileáin Dhún na nGall. Gan an cúnamh deontais ó BIM, ní bheadh an tionscadal nuálaíochta uailmhianach seo ar bun. Cheadaigh an cúnamh airgeadais a chuir BIM ar fáil don chomhlacht cumais an M.V. Coll a chur chun cinn, ag cinntiú go bhféadfadh an t-árthach leanúint ag freastal ar riachtanais a gcustaiméirí dlís.

Mar thoradh ar na hiarrachtaí athchóirithe, athbheodh an M.V. Coll, ag daingniú poist na mball foirne tiomanta agus na bhfoirne oifige ag Cara na nOileán Teo. Le cuma athnuaithe orthu agus feidhmiú níos fearr, tá an comhlacht tiomanta don tseirbhís is fearr riamh a chur ar fáil dá gcustaiméirí.



## Allihies Seafood Teo - Co. Chorcaí



Bhí ról suntasach ag scéim mhaoinithe deontais an BIM i rath agus i bhforbairt Allihies Seafood Teo., SME lonnaithe i Leac Bhearcháin, An Chathair Mhór, Béarra, Co. Chorcaí. Déanann Allihies Seafood Teo., a bunaíodh i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2011 sainchúram de shaothrú feamainne ar scála mór ar muir ar a bhfeirm ceadúnaithe agus de fheabhsú bitmhaise i gcultúr umar éisc ag a ngorlann. Le tacaíocht ó mhaoiniú ón Aontas Eorpach, lorg an gnó feirmeoireachta feamainne cúnamh chun a bhfeirmeacha a fhorbairt trí 19 líne saothraithe agus bloic mhúrála a cheannach, agus fuair siad deontas níos mó ná €58,000 dóibh.

De réir an stiúrthóra Michael O'Neill, a bhfuil leis an deontas a cuireadh ar fáil don Scéim Dobharshaothraithe Inbhuanaithe ó BIM tríd EMFF, bhí Allihies Seafood Teo. in ann a n-acmhainn táirgthe feamainne a dhúbailt, agus bhí réimse buntáistí dearfacha gnó agus eacnamaíochta mar gheall air sin. Thug an acmhainn mhéadaithe deis don ghnó freastal ar an éileamh méadaitheach ar tháirgí feamainne sa bhaile agus go hidirnáisiúnta. Mar thoradh air sin, bhí siad in ann a mbonn custaiméirí a leathnú agus conarthaí nua a dhaingniú, fás ioncaim a thiomáint agus a seasamh sa mhargadh a fheabhsú.

Bhí roinnt tionchar dearfacha ag leathadh na feirme feamainne sa ghéilleagar áitiúil freisin, trí dheiseanna fostaíochta nua a chruthú. Ag dul níos faide ná na buntáistí láithreacha gnó, tá roinnt buntáistí timpeallachta a bhaineann le saothrú feamainne. Tá ról ríthábhachtach ag feamainn i gceapadh carbóin, ag feabhsú caighdeán an uisce agus ag cur gnáthóige ar fáil do shaol na mara. Tríd an bhfeirm fheamainne a leathadh, chuir Allihies Seafood Teo. le caomhnú agus athchóiriú éiceachórais mhuirí, ag ailíniú le gealltanas BIM do chleachtas inbhuanaithe dobharshaothraithe.

### Malahide Charter Boat Fish & Trips (Iasc & Turais Bád Cairte Mhullach Íde), Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath



Is é Eamon McGrattan scipéir á rthaigh a ritheann turais dúlra, farraige agus siúlóide ar Reachrann, amach ó shráidbhaile Mhullach Íde i dtuaisceart chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Ar an margadh mar “Fish & Trips” (Éisc & Turais) tugann na turais threoraithe ar muir agus ar tír araon deis do chuairteoirí ó thar lear agus sa bhaile saol na mara agus na bplandaí atá dúchasach d’Éirinn a fheiceáil agus foghlaim fúthu, chomh maith le stair an cheantair.

Bhain Éamon leas as Deontas Sábháilteachta Turasóireachta Mara faoin gCiste Eorpach um Iascach Muirí (CEMI) le haghaidh trealamh sábháilteachta leictreonach dá bhád cairtfhostaithe, rud a chuireann go mór le caighdeán sábháilteachta, dar leis, agus a thugann níos mó “suaimhneas intinne” dó.

“Déanaim roinnt suirbhéireachta chomh maith leis an mbád, agus uair amháin nuair a bhí mé amuigh le mo mhac i gceo tiubh gan aon radar ag obair tháinig muid an-ghar do chúil báid eile. Thug an deontas seo deis dom an chairt bhreactha a uasghrádú agus tá radar CIU againn anois. Tugann sé seo suaimhneas intinne agus muiníne dom maidir le sábháilteacht na bpaisinéirí.”

Is córas rianaithe cósta gearr-raoin é an Córas Aitheantais Uathoibríoch (CIU) a úsáidtear faoi láthair ar roinnt bád agus long. Forbraíodh é chun faisnéis aitheantais agus suite a chur ar fáil do shoithí agus do stáisiúin chladaigh araon.

### Ocean Farms Limited (Feirmeacha Aigéin Teoranta), Na Cealla Beaga, Co. Dhún na nGall



Is comhlacht feirmeoireachta bradán é Ocean Farms Limited (OFL) atá ag feidhmiú i gCuan Dhún na nGall le breis agus 30 bliain. Agus a mbradán orgánach clúiteach á onnmhairiú ar fud an domhain, is gnó ar feadh na bliana é OFL a chuireann fostaíocht bhuan a bhfuil géarghá leis ar fáil, i gceantar atá ag brath go mór ar thionscail iascaireachta séasúracha agus ar thionscail tacaíochta choimhdeacha. Mar gheall ar infheistíocht theoranta i dtionscail mhalartacha ar feadh na bliana, cuireann OFL go mór leis an ngeilleagar áitiúil.

Chuaigh OFL i dteagmháil le Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) le ceist shonrach maidir le haois agus acmhainn an chraein ar a bpríomhárthach. Lorg OFL maoiniú deontais ó BIM chun craein nua a cheannach. Thug an deontas deis dochreidte do OFL, rud a chuir le cumas agus le héifeachtúlacht a gcuid oibríochtaí.

A bhfuil leis an gcraein a bhí maoinithe ag deontas, is féidir le OFL méideanna níos mó de bheathú bradán a ardú ar an soitheach anois agus é a aistriú chuig a mbáirsí beathaithe. Roimhe seo, chuirfeadh drochaimsir cosc uaireanta ar na haistrithe sin, rud a chuirfeadh isteach ar bheathú an éisc.

Réitigh an craein an cheist seo, agus ag an am céanna feabhsaíodh go mór an próiseas bainte do OFL. Tá éifeachtúlacht oibríochtúil agus sábháilteacht foirne méadaithe ag an gcumas boscaí bruscair éisc a ardú ó bhád go cladach, beag beann ar an taoide, agus cáilíocht an táirge á chinntiú ag an am céanna.

Ní hamháin gur réitigh an deontas na dúshláin a bhí ann ach chuir sé an OFL i dtreo fás leanúnach sa tionscal feirmeoireachta bradán orgánach. Léiríonn an maoiniú a chuireann BIM ar fáil do OFL an tionchar dearfach a d’fhéadfadh a bheith ag cúnamh deontais ar ghnólachtaí, ag cothú nuálaíochta agus ag cur forbairt eacnamaíoch áitiúil chun cinn.

# Rialachas Corparáideach



## Rialachas Corparáideach

Tá Bord an BIM tiomanta do chreat corparáideach láidir sa BIM, ag saothrú cultúir ionracais agus ag cur ardleibhéil ghealltanais ar fáil dár bpáirtithe leasmhara. Sa bhliain 2022, rinne BIM comhlíonadh leis an gCód Cleachtais um Rialú Comhlachtaí Stáit 2016 a chothabháil agus a threisiú. Soláthraíonn rialachas éifeachtach corparáide bunús riachtanach don eagraíocht chun gach gné dár gcuid gnó a chur i gcrích, idir phleanáil straitéiseach agus bhainistíocht riosca, rialú airgeadais agus caighdeán iompraíochta. Aithníodh dúthracht BIM do na leibhéil is airde rialachas corparáideach ag Transparency Ireland International, a bhronnadh an chéad áit do BIM ina n-athbhreithniú ar chleachtais trédhearcachta 39 forás poiblí in 2022.

## An Bord

Thionóil an Bord dhá chruinniú déag sa bhliain 2022. Áirítear ar phríomhfheidhmeanna an Bhoird leagan amach na straitéise agus treoir straitéiseach a sholáthar don choiste feidhmiúcháin; soláthar tuarascáil bhliantúil agus na ráitis airgeadais; ceadú beartas um bainistíocht riosca; buiséid bhliantúla a cheadú agus caiteachas suntasach agus cinntí infheistithe a mhaoirsiú.

Sa bhliain 2022, chomh maith leis na míreanna seo, phléigh an Bord freagra na heagraíochta don Bhreimeacht ag gach cruinniú. Thug cruinnithe le linn na bliana aghaidh ar nósanna imeachta agus rialú an bhoird freisin; beartais eagraíochta; cuir i bhfeidhm scéimeanna deontais faoin gCúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta; comhoibriú le húdarais stáit eile agus forbairt na hearnála go ginearálta.

## Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca

Tugann an Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca (ARC) comhairle do Bhord an BIM maidir le leordhóthanacht chórais rialaithe airgeadais inmheánach, bainistíocht riosca, an fheidhm iniúchadh inmheánach agus na cóid iompair ghnó. Tá ARC neamhspleách ar an gcoiste feidhmiúcháin agus tuairiscíonn sé go díreach don Bhord. In 2022, rinne ARC athbhreithniú ar cheithre iniúchadh inmheánach a rinne na hiniúcháirí inmheánach:

- Athbhreithniú ar éifeachtacht an chórais Rialaithe Inmheánaigh
- Athbhreithniú ar Chibearshláid
- Athbhreithniú ar comhlíontacht leis an gCód Cleachtais do Rialachas na bhForas Stáit
- Athbhreithniú ar Bhainistíocht Deontais (Scéim Shealadach Breatimeachta Cabhlaigh Seasta)

Tá an Coiste Feidhmiúcháin um Riosca freagrach as maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar rioscaí agus rialú laistigh de BIM agus oibríonn sé go dlúth le ARC. Chuir an Príomhoifigeach Bainistíochta Rioscaí an clár riosca corparáideach le chéile leis an tuarascáil ar fáil don ARC gach ceathrú. De réir an Chóid 2016, rinne an ARC féinmheasúnú ar éifeachtacht an Choiste i mí na Nollag 2022. Chuir na freagraí roinnt moltaí san áireamh, agus táthar ag tabhairt fúthu go léir. Rinne an Coiste athbhreithniú freisin ar éifeachtacht na n-iniúcháirí inmheánach agus dheimhnigh siad go raibh an-áthas orthu le feidhm na n-iniúcháirí agus leis an tseirbhís a thug siad do BIM.

Chuir baill de Choiste Feidhmiúcháin BIM eolas i láthair an ARC maidir le gnéithe áirithe dá gcuid cúraimí. Le linn 2022, fuair an ARC cuir i láthair ó Fheidhmeannach BIM ar chur i bhfeidhm moltaí an Tascfhórsa Bia Mara, na Breatimeachta agus Cosanta Sonraí. Cheap an ARC go raibh tairbhe suntasach ag baint leis na cuir i láthair seo chun cabhrú leo tuiscint níos fearr a fháil ar na fadhbanna/rioscaí atá i ndán do BIM, agus chun cumarsáid dhá-bhealach na bhfadhbanna a éascú idir bainistíocht agus an ARC.

Lorg an ARC tuarascálacha sonracha ón Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí Corparáideacha chun cinnteachtaí a chur ar fáil don Choiste maidir le Caimiléireacht, Éilliú agus Breabaireacht; Comhlíontacht Sholáthair; RGCS agus Comhlíontacht Chánach. Anuas air sin, rinne an ARC athbhreithniú ar, agus mhol sé sócmhainní seasta uasdátaithe, bainistíocht fhiacha, baincéireacht, T&S (Taisteal agus Cothú), frith-chalaois agus polasaithe fáisnéisithe cosanta uasdátaithe don Bhord le haghaidh faomhadh in 2022.

## Coiste Oiliúna agus Forbartha

Bunaíodh an Coiste Oiliúna agus Forbartha sa bhliain 2020 mar fhochoiste an Bhoird chun comhairle a chuir ar fáil maidir le treo straitéiseach BIM maidir le hoiliúint, agus treoir agus maoirseacht seirbhísí oiliúna agus forbartha BIM a chur ar fáil do na hearnálacha a fhreastalaíonn BIM orthu. In 2022 d'uasdátaigh an Bord na téarmaí tagartha don Choiste agus bhunaigh siad Comhairle Acadúil neamhspleách. Reáchtáladh dhá chruinniú in 2022. Thosaigh an coiste forbairt straitéise scileanna don BIM a fhoilseofar sa bhliain 2023.

## Coiste Ainmniúcháin agus Luach Saothair

Ceaptar an Coiste Ainmniúcháin agus Luach Saothair mar fhochoiste neamhspleách den Bhord chun bainistiú a dhéanamh ar na próisis a bhaineann le Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin nó ról shinsearacha bhainisteoireachta a earcú. Tagann an coiste le chéile de réir mar a cheanglaíonn an Bord. Tionóladh an coiste in 2022 agus rinne siad maoirseacht ar earcaíocht agus ar cheapachán an POF nua.

## Fógraí Reachtúla agus Fógraí Eile

*An tAcht um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí, 1995 agus an tAcht um Chaighdeán in Oifigí Poiblí, 2001.*

Chomhlíon gach duine ag a bhfuil post ainmnithe laistigh de BIM na riachtanais de chuid an Choimisiúin Oifigí Poiblí i gcomhréir le hAlt 18 agus 20 san Acht um Eitic in Oifigí Poiblí, 1995.

## An tAcht um Nochtadh Cosanta, 2014

Tá nós imeachta in áit ag BIM chun nochtadh cosanta a dhéanamh i gcomhréir le hAlt 21(1) den Acht um Nochtadh Cosanta 2014. Ní dhearnadh aon nochtaí cosanta le linn 2022.

## An tAcht um Íoc Pras Cuntas 1997

Is beartas BIM é a chinntiú go ndéantar gach íocaíocht go pras. Tá gach iarracht á dhéanamh, i gcomhréir leis na nósanna imeachta cuí airgeadais, chun a áirithiú go n-íocfar gach soláthróir laistigh den

tréimhse ama a éilítear, i gcomhréir leis an dea-chleachtas. Foilsítear tuarascálacha ráithiúla maidir leis an gcomhlíonadh ar shuíomh gréasáin BIM.

## Iarratais ar Rochtain ar Fhaisnéis

*An tAcht um Shaoráil Faisnéise, 2014*

Dearbhaítear leis an Acht um Shaoráil Faisnéise 2014 an ceart atá ag daoine den phobal rochtain a fháil ar fhaisnéis oifigiúil a mhéid is féidir i gcomhréir le leas an phobail agus leis an gceart chun príobháideachta atá ag daoine aonair. Fuair BIM seacht n-iarratas san iomlán faoi na hAchtanna um Shaoráil Faisnéise in 2021, ceadaíodh ceithre iarratas go hiomlán agus ceadaíodh cuid de dhá iarratas eile. Diúltaíodh iarratas amháin. Lorg na hiarratais seo rochtain ar réimse leathan eolais, lena n-áirítear airgeadas, soláthar, córais, próiseálaithe cinnteoireachta inmheánach, acmhainní daonna agus eolas eolaíoch.

*Rialacháin na gComhphobal Eorpach (Rochtain ar Fhaisnéis faoin gComhshaol), 2007 go 2018 (AIE)*

Cuireann na Rialacháin AIE an ceart rochtain ar eolas comhshaoil a fháil, agus cuireann siad oibleagáid ar BIM mar údarás poiblí a bheith réamhghníomhach i scaipeadh eolais chomhshaoil don phobal freisin. Fuair BIM iarratas amháin le haghaidh eolais faoin AIE in 2022 agus ceadaíodh an t-iarratas.

*Rialachán Ginearálta maidir le Cosaint Sonraí (RGCS)*

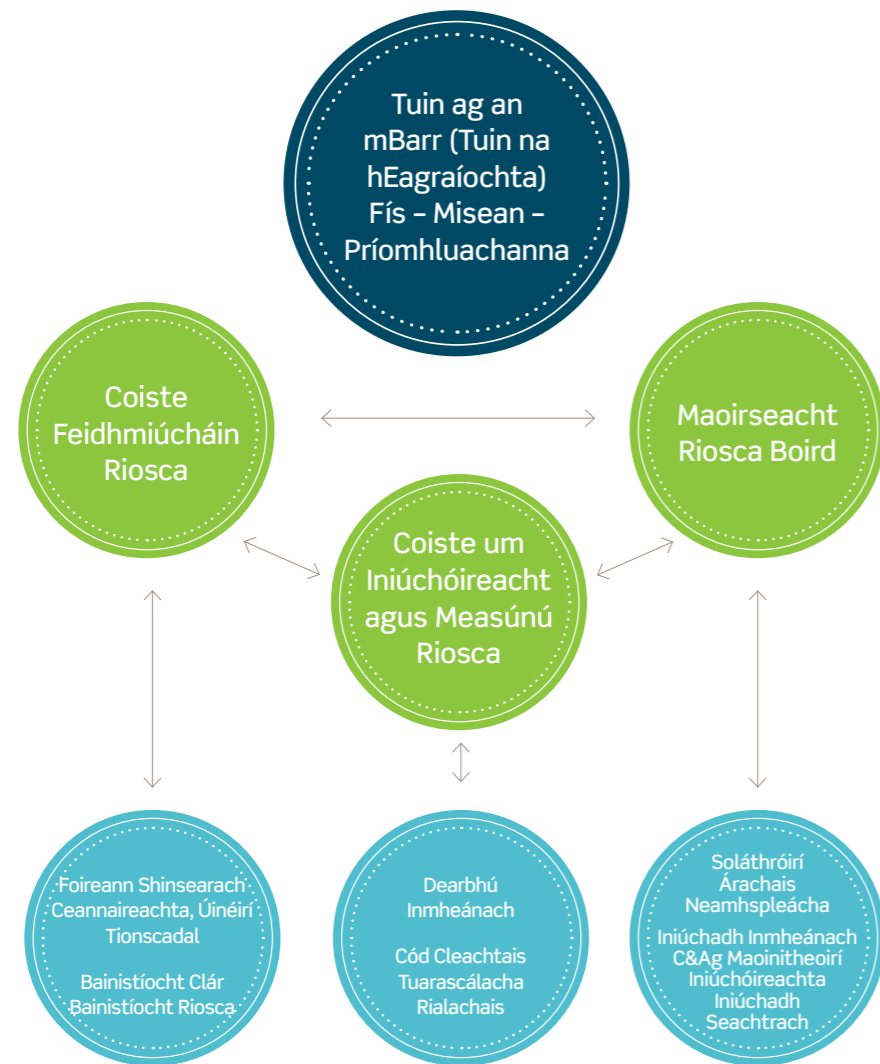
Ní bhfuair BIM aon iarratas chun eolas a fháil faoi na Rialacháin RGCS in 2022. Ní raibh aon shárúithe ag BIM a raibh tuairisc don Choimisinéir Cosanta Sonraí (DPC) ag teastáil in 2022

## Cairt do Chustaiméirí

D'fhoilsigh BIM Cairt do Chustaiméirí ag léiriú a ghealltanais iomlán do sheirbhís éifeachtach, phras, phroifisiúnta agus chúirtéiseach a chur ar fáil do chustaiméirí. Leagann an Chairt amach na caighdeáin gur fhéidir le custaiméirí seirbhíse a bheith ag súil leo ón údarás agus tá sí ar fáil i bhfálú na bpríomhoifigí BIM agus ar líne.

## Bainistíocht Riosca

Tá creat láidir bainistíochta riosca ar bun ag BIM a aimsíonn na príomhrioscaí atá i ndán don eagraíocht agus a leagann maoluithe amach chun na rioscaí sin a bhainistiú.



Déanann an Coiste Feidhmiúcháin Riosca athbhreithniú agus nuashonrú ar an gClár Riosca Corparáideach agus tuairiscítear don Choiste Iniúchta agus Riosca agus don Bhord go ráithiúil. Rinne BIM measúnú ar rioscaí na heagraíochta agus aithníodh na príomhrioscaí seo a leanas in 2022.

Riosca	Maoluithe
<b>Margadh luaineach atá ag athrú go tapa agus coinníollacha eacnamaíochta do chliant</b>	Oibríonn BIM go dlúth leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) ar thionchair a bhaineann le timpeallacht eacnamaíoch achrannach. Bíonn BIM i dteagmháil go rialta le páirtithe leasmhara eanála chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar chúrsaí agus cuireann sé cúnamh ar fáil trí scéimeanna deontais dírithe.
<b>Breathimeacht</b>	Tá foireann Breathimeachta ann a thugann tacaíocht don tionscal agus a oibríonn go dlúth le DFAM agus gníomhaireachtaí eile a chuireann anailís agus eolas ar fáil.
<b>Riosca cliste nó cailteanais bonneagair shuntasáigh</b>	Beartais agus nósanna imeachta cothabhála agus sábháilteachta a chur i bhfeidhm chomh maith le tacaíocht theicniúil de réir mar is gá. Dá gcaillfí aon rud, tá sócmhainní suntasacha clúdaithe ag an árachas; oiliúint don fhoireann, lena n-áirítear oiliúint chun teacht slán ón bhfarraige.

## Soláthar agus an Cód Caiteachais Phoiblí

Tá próiseas soláthair phoiblí láidir agus sofhreagrach ag BIM atá i gcomhréir go hiomlán leis an gCód Caiteachais Phoiblí chomh maith le gach riail soláthair náisiúnta agus de chuid an AE agus a léiríonn an cleachtas is fearr maidir le soláthar. D'fhógair BIM 32 tairiscint ar [etenders.gov.ie](http://etenders.gov.ie) in 2022, i dteannta le soláthar trí chreat-chomhaontaithe na hOifige um Soláthar Rialtais. Rinneadh tuarascáil chuimsitheach ar chomhlíonadh na heagraíochta leis an gCód Caiteachais Phoiblí don bhliain 2022 ag deireadh na bliana. Dhearbhaigh sé seo go bhfuil BIM i gcomhréir go hiomlán leis an gCód.

## Sláinte agus Sábháilteacht

Tá Polasaí Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta ag an BIM a chuireann béim ar ár ngealltanas chun feabhas leanúnach a thiomáint ar aon líne leis na dualgais chomhlíonta uile ábhartha, an tAcht um Shábháilteacht, Sláinte agus Leas ag an Obair 2005 san áireamh. Tá Ráiteas Sábháilteachta an BIM bunaithe ar mheasúnuithe riosca sa láthair oibre agus cuirtear modhanna smachta oiriúnacha i bhfeidhm chun sláinte agus sábháilteacht na foirne, na gconraitheoirí agus cuairteoirí chuig ár láthair oibre a chosaint. In 2022, tuairiscíodh miontimpiste bhóthair amháin don BIM ina raibh baint ag conraitheoir amháin BIM léi. Níor gortaíodh aon duine agus ní dheanadh ach miondamáiste don fheithicil.

## Comhionannas, Éagsúlacht agus Cuimsiú

In 2022, d'fhorbair BIM a Pholasáí Comhionannais, Éagsúlachta agus Cuimsithe (EDI) agus a Phlean Gníomhaíochta le linn na bliana agus dá bharr sin, bhronn Ionad Éagsúlachta na hÉireann creidiúnú cré-umha Infheisteoirí in Éagsúlacht ar an BIM. Léiríonn sé sin ár ngealltanas chun éagsúlacht agus cuimsiú a dhaingniú i gcóras eagraíochta níos leithne tríd an BIM. Tugann gaiscí an BIM an caighdeán sin a bhaint amach, teachtaireacht dhearfach do na páirtithe leasmhara ar fad, idir inmheánach agus seachtrach, agus tá na gaiscí sin mar thoradh ar ionchur agus rath an Ghrúpa Oibríthe EDI.

Thuairiscigh beagán os cionn duine as gach deichniúr (11%) den fhoireann san eagraíocht go raibh siad faoi mhíchumas in 2022. Is í an fhís atá againn leanúint de thimpeallacht oibre a thógáil a aithníonn agus a léiríonn meas ar éagsúlacht i measc a foirne, a chliant agus a pháirtithe leasmhara, áit a gcaitear le daoine le meas agus le tuiscint agus ina bhfuil éagsúlacht, comhionannas agus cuimsiú mar chuid dár gcultúr agus dár gcleachtais. Is fir iad 53% de bhaill foirne BIM agus is mná iad 47%. Ar an 31ú Nollaig 2022, bhí triúr (50%) bean agus triúr (50%) fear mar bhaill den Bhord. Mar sin, comhlíonann an Bord sprioc an Rialtais chun ionadaíocht íosta de 40% ar gach inscne i gcomhaltas Bhoird an Stáit a bhaint amach.

## Soláthar Eolais do Chomhaltaí an Oireachtais

D'fhreagair BIM gach iarratas ó Chomhaltaí an Oireachtais in 2022 go pras agus go soiléir.

## Éifeachtúlacht agus Caomhnú Fuinnimh

Tá BIM tiomanta chun ár lorg carbóin a laghdú agus feabhsú á dhéanamh ar éifeachtacht feidhmíochta fuinnimh, ar ídiú uisce agus ar laghdú dramhaíola. Tacaítear leo seo ar fad le feachtais feasachta foirne. In 2022, chuir BIM roinnt tionscadal fuinnimh i bhfeidhm, lena n-áirítear uasghrádú soilse nach bhfuil ag obair go feistithe LED le háitíocht agus braiteoirí LUX, agus cur i bhfeidhm chórais 30kVA PV Gréine ag Coláiste Náisiúnta Iascach na hÉireann an BIM sa Chaisleán Nua, Co. Dhún na nGall.

### Laghdú in Úsáid Fuinnimh Iomlán an BIM & Astaíochtaí GHG in 2022

Laghdaigh BIM caitheamh fuinnimh go suntasach bliain ar bhliain, ag sárú spriocanna CAP an Rialtais 2030 CAP de laghdú 50% in úsáid fuinnimh - le laghdú 53% in úsáid fuinnimh i gcomparáid leis an mbonnlíne ó 2009. Ar an gcaoi chéanna, laghdaigh BIM a chuid astaíochtaí CO2 bliain i ndiaidh bliana le laghdú 44% i gcomparáid le bonnlíne 2016-2018.

Úsáid Fuinnimh BIM	Bonnlíne (2009)	2021	2022
Ídiú Deiridh Iomlán [kWh]	4,109,369	2,575,398	1,941,940
Coigiltis [kWh]	2,167,429	37%	53%

Astaíochtaí GHG BIM	Bonnlíne (2016-2018)	2021	2022
Astaíochtaí Iomlána [kgCO2]	1,051,023	705,398	589,437
Coigiltis [kgCO2]	461,586	33%	44%

D'éirigh go han-mhaith le BIM san iniúchadh athdheimhnithe Eco Merit in 2022 chun Córas Bainistíochta Comhshaoil a chur i bhfeidhm ina cheannoifig i nDún Laoghaire, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath. Mar chuid den phlean seo, déanann BIM monatóireacht ar a úsáid leictreach agus gháis, caitheamh uisce agus diúscairt dramhaíola ar an láthair. Tá sé i gceist ag BIM na rialuithe monatóireachta seo a leathnú amach chuig oibriúcháin agus foirgnimh eile amach anseo agus an scóip ann chun bearta bithéagsúlachta a thabhairt isteach i láithreáin áirithe. Tá córas BMS beartaithe do 2023 chun caitheamh fuinnimh a laghdú níos mó inár bpríomhoifig. Tá gléasanna monatóireachta agus rialaithe cliste á thriail inár gcoláistí chun na gléasanna seo a shábhálann fuinneamh a fhorbairt agus a úsáid i inár n-áiseanna ar fad.

Tá iniúchadh fuinnimh SI426 ar siúl faoi láthair le tacaíocht ó Údarás Fuinnimh Inmharthana na hÉireann (SEAI) chun deiseanna nua a aithint chun

feabhas a chur ar fheidhmiú fuinnimh, astaíochtaí CO2 a laghdú agus an timpeallacht a chosaint. Tá tionscadail eile ar bun chun úsáid fuinnimh a laghdú, suiteáil linn éifeachtachta fuinnimh maireachtála mara san áireamh ag an gColáiste Náisiúnta Iascach sa Chaisleán Nua, Co. Dhún na nGall. Tá BIM ag iniúchadh na féidearthachtaí painéil ghréine PV a shuiteáil i níos mó áiteanna agus caitheamh uisce a laghdú le rialuithe braiteora ar sconnáil. Tá BIM ag scrúdú foinsí teasa breosla iontaise inár gcoláistí ar fad freisin, agus é ar intinn againn foinsí in-athnuaite a chur ina n-áit.

Tá pleananna leagtha amach chun pointí luchtaithe do ghluaisteáin leictreacha a shuiteáil agus beidh BIM ag úsáid feithiclí leictreacha in ionad a gcabhláigh veaineanna, agus táthar ag súil go mbeidh an chéad ghluaisteán EV á sheachadadh sa bhliain 2023.

# Scéimeanna Deontais BIM



## Clár Oibríochta CEMI

### Scéimeanna an Chiste Eorpaigh Muirí agus lascaigh / Cúlchiste Coigeartaithe Brexit 2022

### Scéimeanna BIM Deontais Tionscail Sheachtrach

Le linn 2022, chuir BIM 15 scéim deontais i bhfeidhm don earnáil bia mara. Dá bharr sin, tugadh 1,882 íocaíocht amach le cúnamh deontais de luach €27.5 milliún san iomlán. Ba iad na trí foinsé maoinithe ná:

- Clár Oibríochta um Chiste Eorpach Muirí agus lascaigh (CEMI) (maoinithe 50% ag an AE agus 50% ag an Státchiste Náisiúnta)
- Cúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta (BAR) (100% maoinithe ag an AE)
- An Státchiste Náisiúnta (100% maoinithe ag Rialtas na hÉireann)

## Clár Oibríochta CEMI

Comh-mhaoiniú an CEMI agus Rialtas na hÉireann an Clár Oibríochta CEMI (OP) d'Éirinn ar chóimheas 50:50. Tá BIM tiomanta do chlár oibre comhoibríthe atá maoinithe faoin CEMI leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM) agus lenár gcomhchomhlachtaí Bord Bia agus Foras na Mara. Cuireann siad seo go léir lena dtiomantais náisiúnta atá leagtha amach in Food Wise 2025 (plean 10 mbliana don earnáil bia talmhaíochta) agus i gclár comhtháite na mara Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth.

Cuireann CEMI maoiniú ar fáil do ghníomhaíochtaí a thacaíonn le Comhbheartas lascaigh an AE (CFP) agus le Beartas Muirí Lánpháirtithe trí chur i bhfeidhm Clár Oibríochta sa tréimhse 2014-2020.

Tá an CO seo á chur i gcrích faoi láthair agus cuirfear deireadh leis faoi dheireadh 2023. In Éirinn, ba ionann an CO CEMI agus timpeall €239.2 milliún, agus leithdháiltear timpeall €100 milliún do scéimeanna feidhmíthe ag BIM do na cuspóirí seo a leanas:

- **Chun cabhrú le hiascairí san aistriú i dtreo na hiascaireachta inbhuanaithe**
- **Chun tacú le pobail chósta in éagsúlú a ngeilleagair**
- **Chun tionscadail a mhaoiniú a chruthaíonn deiseanna fostaíochta nua agus a fheabhsaíonn caighdeán saoil ar chóstaí na hEorpa**
- **Chun tacú le forbairtí inbhuanaithe do bharshaothraithe**
- **Chun é a dhéanamh níos éasca d'iarthóirí maoiniú a fháil. Faoin CEMI, chuir BIM naoi scéim i bhfeidhm agus bhí siad 50% comh-maoinithe ag an gCiste Eorpach Muirí agus lascaigh (CEMI). Is ionann seo agus íocaíochtaí deontais ar luach €4.5 milliún. Bhí ceithre scéim maoinithe ag an gCúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta (BAR) ina gcúis le híocaíochtaí deontais de luach €22.4 milliún**

Tá na scéimeanna BAR sin 100% maoinithe ag an AE. Tá deontais na scéime um Shábháilteacht Turasóireachta Cabhlaigh agus Mara ina gcúis le hiarmhéid de luach €583,380.79. Tá an dá scéim sábháilteachta seo maoinithe 100% ag an Státchiste Náisiúnta.

## Scéimeanna CO CEMI 2022

Eagraítear an CO CEMI timpeall sé Tosaíocht Aontais (UPanna), le scéimeanna cúnamh deontais feidhmíthe ag BIM ag tacú le ceithre cinn de na tosaíochtaí sin: UP1 Forbairt Inbhuanaithe lascaigh; UP2 Forbairt Inbhuanaithe Dobharshaothraithe; UP4 Forbairt Inbhuanaithe lascaigh & Ceantar Dobharshaothraithe agus UP5 Margaíocht agus Próiseáil.

Maoinithe ag an CEMI CO (50% AE, 50% Státchiste Náisiúnta)				
Scéim	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státchiste	CEMID
Scéim Iascach Inbhuanaithe Cuid B	38	€1,667,682.15	€833,841.08	€833,841.08
Scéim Chaomhnaithe lascaigh Intíre	25	€127,058.93	€63,529.465	€63,529.465
An Scéim um Chaomhnú lascaigh Intíre - V-eangúchán	235	€397,829.88	€198,914.94	€198,914.94
An Scéim um Thairseach Eolais	11	€1,215,748.79	€607,874.395	€607,874.395
Scéim Eagraíochta Táirgeora	4	€291,922.25	€145,961.13	€145,961.13
Scéim Inbhuanaithe Dobharshaothraithe	12	€525,459.48	€262,729.74	€262,729.74
Scéim Oilúna do Bhia Mara	182	€123,776.49	€61,888.25	€61,888.25
Scéim Fhorbartha lascaigh Limistéir Áitiúla FLAGS	2	€490.16	€245.08	€245.08
An Scéim um Scálú Bia Mara & Forbairt ar Mhargaíocht Nua	4	€179,826.65	€89,913.33	€89,913.33
<b>Iomlán CEMI</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>€4,529,794.78</b>	<b>€2,264,897.39</b>	<b>€2,264,897.39</b>

## An Cúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta (BAR)

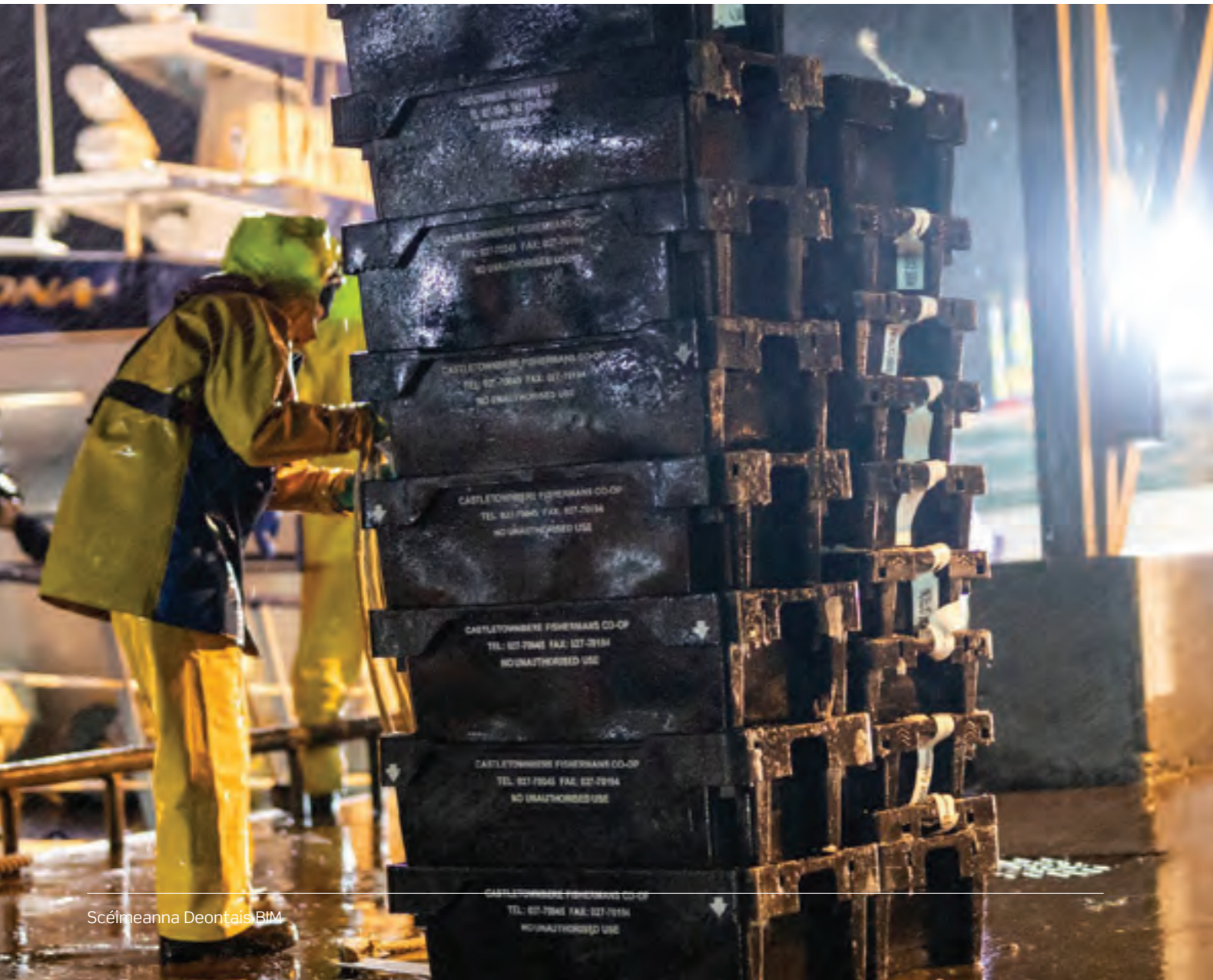
Tá an Cúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta (BAR) dírithe ar thacaíocht airgeadais a chur ar fáil do Bhaill Stáit, réigiúin agus earnáil go raibh an tionchar is mó ag an mBreatimeacht orthu chun dul i ngleic leis na hiarmhairtí díúltacha eacnamaíochta, sóisialta, críche agus, más cuí, comhshaoil. Toisc gurb í an Ball Stáit a raibh an tionchar is mó ag an mBreatimeacht uirthi, fuair Éire leithdháileadh suntasach de luach thart ar €1 billiún, nó thart ar 20% an Chúlchiste iomlán.

Ina thuarascáil i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2021, rinne an Tascfhórsa Bia Mara 16 moladh chun ciste BAR a threisiú chun tacú leis an earnáil bia mara agus le pobail chósta mar fhreagairt ar na dúshlán a bhí i gceist mar gheall ar an mBreatimeacht.

### Tuarascáil an Tascfhórsa Bia Mara

Bunaithe ar na moltaí sin, faoi mhaoirseacht na Roinne Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM), tá roinnt scéimeanna tacaíochta á gcur i bhfeidhm ag BIM. Tá siad seo de réir riachtanais incháilitheachta na Roinne Caiteachais Phoiblí & Athchóirithe agus an AE. Ní mór do thionscadail faoi scéimeanna tacaíochta BAR a bheith críochnaithe agus íoctha roimh dheireadh 2023.

Le linn 2022 chuir BIM ceithre scéim i bhfeidhm faoin gciste BAR. Mar thoradh air sin, bhí siad 100% maoinithe ag an AE.



Scéimeanna Deontais BIM

Maoinithe ag an BAR (100% AE)		
Scéim	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais
Scéim Coigeartaithe Múnla Gnó Cois Chladaigh an Bhreatimeachta	801	€2,661,900.00
Scéim Shealadach an Bhreatimeachta um Fheistiú Cabhlaigh 2022	340	€18,876,100.00
Scéim Aistrithe Chomharchumann Iascaigh an Bhreatimeachta	4	€643,839.91
Scéim Fáis Dobharshaothraithe Inbhuanaithe an Bhreatimeachta	1	€182,762.00
<b>Iomlán BAR</b>	<b>1146</b>	<b>€22,364,601.91</b>

Le linn 2022 lean BIM ar aghaidh ag feidhmiú dhá Scéim Shábháilteachta. Bhí siad maoinithe 100% ag an Stáitchiste Náisiúnta. Tá rialacha 'de minimis' iascach i bhfeidhm ar na scéimeanna seo.

Maoinithe 100% ag an Stáitchiste Náisiúnta		
Scéim	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais
Scéim Shábháilteacht an Chabhlaigh	210	€541,092.27
Scéimeanna Deontas Turasóireachta Mara	14	€42,288.52
<b>Iomlán Stáitchiste</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>€583,380.79</b>

Na Scéimeanna ar fad (CEMI, BAR agus Stáitchiste Náisiúnta)	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>1883</b>	<b>€27,477,777.48</b>

**Scéimeanna Ciste Eorpach Muirí agus Iascaigh 2022 Tá Clár Oibríochta na hÉireann bunaithe ar sé Thosaíocht Aontais (UPanna), agus tacaíonn na cláir atá feidhmithe ag BIM le ceithre cinn de na tosaíochtaí seo UP1 Forbairt Inbhuanaithe Iascaigh; UP2 Forbairt Inbhuanaithe Dobharshaothraithe; UP4 UP4 Forbairt Inbhuanaithe Iascaigh & Ceantar Dobharshaothraithe agus UP5 Margaíocht agus Próiseáil**

### Scéim Iascach Inbhuanaithe Cuid B

Cuireann an scéim seo cúnamh deontais ar fáil d'infheistíocht chaipitiúil ar bord in áirthaigh iascaireachta mara, leis an gcuspóir éifeachtacht fhuinnimh an áirthach a fheabhsú, tionchar a laghdú ar an gcomhshaol, coinníollacha maidir le stóráil ghabhála éisc a fheabhsú agus éifeachtacht bhreosla nó fhuinnimh a fheabhsú don áirthach. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh 38 tionscadal faoin scéim seo chun críche agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €1,667,682.15 leo.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státchiste	CEMID
Corcaigh	14	€497,178.57	€248,589.29	€248,589.28
Dún na nGall	9	€439,817.96	€219,908.98	€219,908.98
Baile Átha Cliath	3	€157,988.80	€78,994.40	€78,994.40
Gaillimh	2	€117,900.00	€58,950.00	€58,950.00
Ciarraí	2	€118,749.00	€59,374.50	€59,374.50
Lú	3	€256,255.36	€128,127.68	€128,127.68
Maigh Eo	1	€883.80	€441.90	€441.90
Loch Garman	4	€78,908.66	€39,454.33	€39,454.33
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>€1,667,682.15</b>	<b>€833,841.08</b>	<b>€833,841.08</b>



<b>CORCAIGH</b>	<b>14.37%</b>
<b>DÚN NA NGALL</b>	<b>9.24%</b>
<b>BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH</b>	<b>3.8%</b>
<b>GAILLIMH</b>	<b>2.5%</b>

<b>CIARRAÍ</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
<b>LÚ</b>	<b>3.8%</b>
<b>MAIGH EO</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>LOCH GARMAN</b>	<b>4.1%</b>

### Scéim Chaomhnaithe Iascaigh Intíre

Is é cuspóir na Scéime Iascaigh Intíre ná sruth maoinithe tiomnaithe a chur ar fáil chun tacú leis an earnáil iascaigh intíre. Tacaíonn an scéim le bearta maidir le bainistíocht agus caomhnú stoc intíre chomh maith le hullmhú agus le cur i bhfeidhm pleananna bainistíochta stoc intíre. Mar thoradh ar an scéim seo, bhí méadú ar stóráil agus ar shlándáil chomh maith le táirgí níos úire de chaighdeán níos airde. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh 25 tionscadal faoin scéim seo chun críche agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €127,058.93.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státchiste	CEMID
Corcaigh	7	€31,942.00	€15,971.00	€15,971.00
Dún na nGall	8	€35,253.66	€17,626.83	€17,626.83
Gaillimh	5	€25,605.01	€12,802.51	€12,802.51
Ciarraí	2	€8,640.00	€4,320.00	€4,320.00
Maigh Eo	2	€24,183.26	€12,091.63	€12,091.63
Loch Garman	1	€1,435.00	€717.50	€717.50
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>€127,058.93</b>	<b>€63,529.465</b>	<b>€63,529.465</b>



<b>CORCAIGH</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>DÚN NA NGALL</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>GAILLIMH</b>	<b>20%</b>

<b>CIARRAÍ</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>MAIGH EO</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>LOCH GARMAN</b>	<b>4%</b>

## An Scéim um Chaomhnú Iascaigh Intíre - V-eangúchán

Cuireann an scéim seo cúnamh deontais ar fáil do ghrúpaí (agus i gcásanna eisceachtúla, daoine ar leith) ceadaithe chun cláir áitiúla v-eangúcháin gliomach a chur i bhfeidhm. Cuidíonn an scéim seo le feabhas a chur ar inbhuanaitheacht iascaigh ghliomaigh na hÉireann trí ghliomaigh bhaineanna a chosaint ionas gur féidir leo pórú roinnt uaireanta sula mbainfear iad. Déanann an scéim cinnte de go dtiocfadh a oiread gliomach bainean pórúcháin agus is féidir slán, rud a chuireann le daonra gliomach níos inbhuanaithe. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh 235 tionscadal faoin scéim seo chun críche agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €397,829.98.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státchiste	CEMID
An Clár	2	€9,523.91	€4,761.96	€4,761.96
Corcaigh	58	€62,231.56	€31,115.78	€31,115.78
Dún na nGall	8	€8,366.29	€4,183.15	€4,183.15
Baile Átha Cliath	12	€18,203.40	€9,101.70	€9,101.70
Gaillimh	50	€63,826.13	€31,913.07	€31,913.07
Ciarraí	13	€47,420.24	€23,710.12	€23,710.12
Lú	27	€65,773.30	€32,886.65	€32,886.65
Maigh Eo	14	€34,804.28	€17,402.14	€17,402.14
Sligeach	12	€31,336.31	€15,668.16	€15,668.16
Port Láirge	26	€31,753.81	€15,876.91	€15,876.91
Loch Garman	9	€18,129.65	€9,064.83	€9,064.83
Cill Mhantáin	4	€6,461.00	€3,230.50	€3,230.50
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>€397,829.88</b>	<b>€198,914.94</b>	<b>€198,914.94</b>



<b>AN CLÁR</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>LÚ</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>CORCAIGH</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>MAIGH EO</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>DÚN NA NGALL</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>SLIGEACH</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>PORT LÁIRGE</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>GAILLIMH</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>LOCH GARMAN</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>CIARRAÍ</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>CILL MHANTÁIN</b>	<b>2%</b>

## An Scéim um Thairseach Eolais

Tacaíonn an Scéim um Thairseach Eolais le taighde feidhmeach, forbairt speiceas nua agus tráchtálú, taighde maidir le galair agus seadáin a bhainistiú, comhairle maidir leis an gcomhshaol agus pleanáil gnó a chur ar fáil chomh maith le deiseanna oiliúna agus líonraithe don earnáil do bharshaothraithe. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh 11 tionscadal faoin scéim seo chun críche le cúnamh deontais de luach €1,215,748.79.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státchiste	CEMID
Corcaigh	2	€224,386.29	€112,193.15	€112,193.15
Gaillimh	6	€633,441.46	€316,720.73	€316,720.73
Ciarraí	1	€115,377.04	€57,688.52	€57,688.52
Luimneach	1	€231,044.00	€115,522.00	€115,522.00
Sligeach	1	€11,500.00	€5,750.00	€5,750.00
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>€1,215,748.79</b>	<b>€607,874.395</b>	<b>€607,874.395</b>



<b>CORCAIGH</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>LUIMNEACH</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>GAILLIMH</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>SLIGEACH</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>CIARRAÍ</b>	<b>9%</b>		

## Scéim Eagraíochta Táirgeora

Tugann an scéim seo tacaíocht d'eagraíochtaí táirgeora (ETanna) cláraithe. Baintear é seo amach trí chabhair a thabhairt dóibh chun pleananna táirgeachta agus margaíochta a ullmhú agus a chur i bhfeidhm; trí thacú le tinreamh ar chruinnithe ar leith; trí scaipeadh eolais agus seirbhísí comhairleacha agus tacaíocht do chostais shonraithe chaipitil agus riaracháin.

Déanann an scéim seo cumarsáid, comhoibriú agus scaipeadh eolais a chumasú do na heagraíochtaí táirgeora agus a gcuid páirtithe leasmhara chomh maith le cabhrú le hionadaíocht na bpríomhthairgeoirí a chumasú ag cruinnithe ardleibhéil polasaí. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh ceithre tionscadal faoin scéim seo chun críche le cúnamh deontais de luach €291,922.25

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státchiste	CEMID
Corcaigh	1	€89,073.98	€44,536.99	€44,536.99
Dún na nGall	2	€169,400.16	€84,700.08	€84,700.08
Port Láirge	1	€33,448.11	€16,724.06	€16,724.06
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>€291,922.25</b>	<b>€145,961.13</b>	<b>€145,961.13</b>



CORCAIGH	25%
DÚN NA NGALL	50%
PORT LÁIRGE	25%

## Scéim Inbhuanaithe Dobharshaothraithe

Is é cuspóir na Scéime Inbhuanaithe Dobharshaothraithe ná fás inbhuanaithe aschuir, luacha agus fostaíochta a chur chun cinn san earnáil dotharshaothraithe. Dírionn sé ar thacaíochtaí a chur ar fáil, ag méadú aschuir thairbheach na bhfiontar dotharshaothraithe go hInbhuanaitheacht agus ag tacú le fiontair dhobharshaothraithe nua atá ag teacht isteach san earnáil. Cuspóir eile atá aici ná cabhrú le fiontair dhobharshaothraithe méadú chun a n-iomaíochas agus a n-éifeachtacht a fheabhsú, ag éagsúlú go speicis nua agus ag méadú feirmeoireachta speiceas nach mbaintear go leor úsáide astu. Cuireann sí dotharshaothráil orgánach chun cinn.

Mar thoradh ar an scéim, tháinig méadú ar luach na bhfiontar dotharshaothraithe trí chabhrú le leathnú na bhfiontar nua agus na cinn atá ann cheana féin agus a n-acmhainn táirgthe, modhanna fáis is fearr agus forbairt suíomhanna nua. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh 12 tionscadal chun críche agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €525,459.48.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státchiste	CEMID
Corcaigh	1	€27,752.20	€13,876.10	€13,876.10
Dún na nGall	2	€37,453.80	€18,726.90	€18,726.90
Gaillimh	1	€5,877.69	€2,938.85	€2,938.85
Ciarraí	1	€31,454.80	€15,727.40	€15,727.40
Lú	1	€9,485.16	€4,742.58	€4,742.58
Maigh Eo	6	€413,435.83	€206,717.92	€206,717.92
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>€525,459.48</b>	<b>€262,729.74</b>	<b>€262,729.74</b>

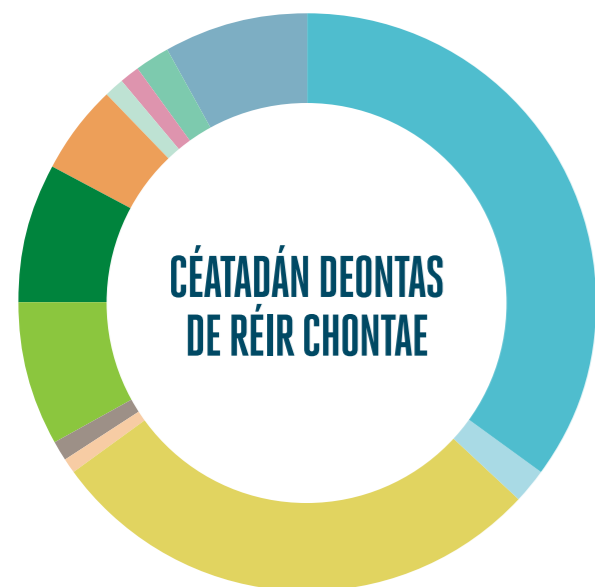


CORCAIGH	9%	CIARRAÍ	8%
DÚN NA NGALL	17%	LÚ	8%
GAILLIMH	8%	MAIGH EO	50%

## Scéim Oiliúna do Bhia Mara

Cuireann an scéim seo cúnamh deontais ar fáil le haghaidh oiliúint d'earnálacha gabhálacha, feirmeoireachta éisc agus próiseála bia mara na hÉireann. Tá na cláir oiliúna creidiúnaithe seo ar fáil d'earnálacha uile thionscal an bhia mara lena n-áirítear iad siúd atá ag iarraidh conair ghairme nua a aimsiú sna hearnálacha iascaireachta, dobharshaothraithe nó earnáil miondíola agus próiseálaithe. Is é an tionscal dobharshaothraithe anois an príomhfhostóir de thumadóirí tráchtála in Éirinn. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh 182 tionscadal chun críche agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €123,776.49.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státchiste	CEMID
Corcaigh	63	€39,898.92	€19,949.46	€19,949.46
Doire	4	€873.87	€436.94	€436.94
Dún na nGall	51	€32,893.70	€16,446.85	€16,446.85
An Dún	2	€774.58	€387.29	€387.29
Baile Átha Cliath	1	€375.42	€187.71	€187.71
Gaillimh	15	€19,774.34	€9,887.17	€9,887.17
Ciarraí	14	€9,334.61	€4,667.31	€4,667.31
Maigh Eo	10	€4,697.79	€2,348.90	€2,348.90
Uíbh Fhailí	2	€1,065.56	€532.78	€532.78
Sligeach	2	€3,773.45	€1,886.73	€1,886.73
Port Láirge	4	€2,269.47	€1,134.74	€1,134.74
Loch Garman	14	€8,044.78	€4,022.39	€4,022.39
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>€123,776.49</b>	<b>€61,888.25</b>	<b>€61,888.25</b>



<b>CORCAIGH</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>CIARRAÍ</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>DOIRE</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>MAIGH EO</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>DÚN NA NGALL</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>UÍBH FHAILÍ</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>AN DÚN</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>SLIGEACH</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>PORT LÁIRGE</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>GAILLIMH</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>LOCH GARMAN</b>	<b>8%</b>

## Scéim Fhorbartha Iascaigh Limistéir Áitiúla FLAGS

Bunaíodh Grúpaí Iascaigh Gnímh Áitiúla (FLAGS) faoi Thosaíocht Aontais 4 (Forbairt Inbhuanaithe Iascaigh agus Ceantair Dhobharshaothraithe) Clár Oibríochta na hÉireann, faoin Scéim Tacaíochta agus Ciste Iascach Eorpach Dobharshaothraithe Muirí Cóivid-19 2014-2020 agus tá sé comh-mhaoinithe ag Rialtas na hÉireann agus ag an gCoimisiún Eorpach.

Is straitéis fhorbartha pobal cósta é FLAG, Grúpa Iascaigh Gnímh Áitiúla (2014 - 2020) le ciste de luach €12 milliún do sheacht bpobal cósta áirithe in Éirinn. Is iad na seacht FLAGanna ná FLAG Theas (Corcaigh), Thiar Theas (Ciarraí, Luimneach), Thoir Theas (Port Láirge, Loch Garman, Cill Mhantáin) Thiar, (Gaillimh, An Clár), Thiar Thuaidh (Maigh Eo, Sligeach, Liatroim), Thuaidh (Dún na nGall), agus Thoir Thuaidh (Baile Átha Cliath, Lú, An Mhí).

Cuidíonn BIM le FLAGanna an scéim seo a sheachadadh trí thacaíochtaí a riaradh trí chúnamh deontais, oiliúint agus éascú ar an talamh, le comhordaitheoirí tiomnaithe FLAG i ngach réigiún tá seiceáil fíricí le limistéar oibre dúnta d'iarrais in 2021 toisc go raibh a bhuiséad ídithe. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh dhá thionscadal chun críche agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €490.16 leo.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státchiste	CEMID
An Clár	1	€429.96	€214.98	€214.98
Gaillimh	1	€60.20	€30.10	€30.10
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>€490.16</b>	<b>€245.08</b>	<b>€245.08</b>

## An Scéim um Scálú Bia Mara & Forbairt ar Mhargaíocht Nua

Bunaítear an Scéim um Scálú Bia Mara & Forbairt ar Mhargaíocht Nua faoi Thosaíocht Aontais 5 (Margaíocht agus Próiseáil) Clár Oibríochta na hÉireann faoin gCiste lascaigh agus Muirí na hÉireann 2014-2020, atá comh-mhaoinithe ag Rialtas na hÉireann agus ag an gCoimisiún Eorpach.

Tacaíonn an Scéim seo le hinfheistíocht chun scála agus comhoibriú san earnáil a chur chun cinn agus chun tionscadail a thugann aghaidh ar bhunfhadhbanna earnála a mhaoiniú. Dírónn tacaíochtaí ar fhóiraim chomhoibríthe earnála, ar chomh-fhiontair idir comhlachtaí, táirgeoirí agus próiseálaithe agus tionscadail a thugann aghaidh ar fadhbanna comónta san earnáil. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh trí tionscadal chun críche agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €179,826.65 leo.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais	Státhchiste	CEMID
Corcaigh	2	€82,833.15	€41,416.58	€41,416.58
Maigh Eo	1	€47,393.50	€23,696.75	€23,696.75
Loch Garman	1	€49,600.00	€24,800.00	€24,800.00
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>€179,826.65</b>	<b>€89,913.33</b>	<b>€89,913.33</b>



CORCAIGH	50%
MAIGH EO	25%
LOCH GARMAN	25%

## Scéimeanna Maoinithe ag Cúlchiste Coigeartaithe Breatimeachta (BAR)

### Scéim Coigeartaithe Múnla Gnó Cois Chladaigh an Bhreatimeachta

Faoin scéim seo, is féidir le húinéirí árthaigh iascaireachta le báid suas go 8 méadar ar fad iarratas a dhéanamh chun cúnamh deontais suas go €2,700 a fháil, agus is féidir leis an té le hárthaigh iascaireachta suas go 18 méadar ar fad iarratas a dhéanamh chun cúnamh deontais suas go €4,000 a fháil. Chun a bheith incháilithe, ní mór d'úinéirí ártach léiriú go raibh siad ag iascaireacht go gníomhach idir Eanáir agus Meitheamh 2021.

Chun a ndeontas a fháil, ní mór d'iarthóirí ar a laghad ceann amháin de na cúig chúrsa oiliúna ar líne a thabhairt chun críche, atá deartha chun na scileanna atá ag teastáil ón earnáil, chun dul i dtailí ar fhírinne lom an mhargadh nua iar-Bhreatimeachta a chur ar fáil. Deartar na cúrsaí seo chun cur ar chumas úinéirí ártach deiseanna margaíochta nua a aimsiú dá ngabháil éisc, a bpleananna gnó a athrú chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na coinníollacha margaidh nua, teicneolaíocht dhigiteach a úsáid chun dul i dteagmháil go díreach le custaiméirí, cabhrú leo luach a ngabhála a uasmhéadú agus léiriú dóibh conas is féidir leo rochtain a bheith acu ar mhargaí éagsúla. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh 801 tionscadal chun críche faoin scéim seo agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €2,661,900 leo.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais
An Clár	11	€41,400.00
Corcaigh	169	€523,900.00
Doire	1	€2,700.00
Dún na nGall	116	€373,000.00
An Dún	1	€4,000.00
Baile Átha Cliath	35	€127,000.00
Gaillimh	118	€364,100.00
Ciarraí	83	€277,400.00
Lú	38	€149,400.00
Maigh Eo	84	€280,100.00
An Mhí	4	€16,000.00
Sligeach	15	€50,900.00
Port Láirge	45	€148,800.00
Loch Garman	61	€224,500.00
Cill Mhantáin	20	€78,700.00
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>€2,661,900.00</b>



AN CLÁR	1%	LÚ	5%
CORCAIGH	21%	MAIGH EO	10%
DOIRE	0%	AN MHÍ	1%
DÚN NA NGALL	14%	SLIGEACH	2%
AN DÚN	0%	PORT LÁIRGE	6%
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH	4%	LOCH GARMAN	8%
GAILLIMH	15%	CILL MHANTÁIN	3%
CIARRAÍ	10%		

## Scéim Shealadach an Bhreiteamhachta um Fheistiú Cabhlaigh 2022

Bunaíodh an scéim seo bunaithe ar Thuarascáil an Tascfhórsa Bia Mara chun an drochthionchar ar an earnáil iasc geal ón laghdú cuóta a tháinig chun cinn ón gComhaontú Trádála agus Comhoibrithe (TCA) a mhaolú go sealadach tríd na cailteanais a bhaineann le stoic áirithe, chomh maith le deacrachtaí rochtain a fháil ar uiscí na RA nó uiscí tríú tíre, a mhaolú.

Thacaigh an scéim le hárthaigh iasc geal i míreanna ilfhiúsacha agus trál bíoma chun stop sealadach a chur le gach gníomhaíocht iascaireachta i mí féilire áirithe, mar sin, ag méadú an chuóta a bhí ar fáil do na hárthaigh eile. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh 340 tionscadal chun críche faoin scéim seo agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €18,876,100 leo.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais
Corcaigh	137	€6,846,800.00
Dún na nGall	31	€2,070,600.00
Baile Átha Cliath	21	€1,380,400.00
Gaillimh	24	€1,308,000.00
Ciarraí	36	€1,073,000.00
Lú	28	€2,243,700.00
Maigh Eo	3	€94,400.00
An Mhí	4	€295,400.00
Port Láirge	9	€266,300.00
Loch Garman	45	€3,179,500.00
Cill Mhantáin	2	€118,000.00
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>€18,876,100.00</b>



CORCAIGH	40%	MAIGH EO	1%
DÚN NA NGALL	9%	AN MHÍ	1%
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH	6%	PORT LÁIRGE	3%
GAILLIMH	7%	LOCH GARMAN	13%
CIARRAÍ	11%	CILL MHANTÁIN	1%
LÚ	8%		

## Scéim Aistrithe Chomharchumann Iascaigh an Bhreiteamhachta

Is í aidhm na scéime seo ná dul i ngleic le tionchair eacnamaíochta agus sóisialta diúltacha an Bhreiteamhachta ar Chomharchumann Iascaireachta atá bunaithe go príomha ar chuótaí na Comhaontaithe Trádála agus Comhoibrithe (TCA) (dá ngairtear 'na comharchumann' anseo feasta).

Is í aidhm na scéime seo ná cúnamh gearrthéarmach a chur ar fáil chun cúiteamh a dhéanamh ar laghduithe i láimhdeachas a bhí ag na comharchumann, go díreach mar thoradh ar laghduithe san amhábh a thagann chun cinn ó aistrithe cuóta TCA. Deartar an tacaíocht chun sreabhadh airgid a chobhsú sa ghearrthéarma, a cheadaíonn do na comharchumann a ngnó a athchumrú agus a athstruchtúrú go fadtéarmach - chun dul i dtaithe ar an timpeallacht trádála athraithe faoin TCA. Sa bhliain 2022, tugadh chun críche ceithre thionscadal faoin scéim seo agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €643,839.91 leo.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais
Corcaigh	1	€239,813.11
Dún na nGall	1	€171,241.00
Gaillimh	1	€69,682.61
Lú	1	€163,103.19
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>€643,839.91</b>



## Scéim Fáis Dobharshaothraithe Inbhuanaithe an Bhreathimeachta

Is é cuspóir na scéime seo ná na hiarmhairtí diúltacha eacnamaíochta agus sóisialta a bhaineann le aistarraingt na Ríochta Aontaithe ón Aontas a mhaolú ar:

- (1) Phróiseáilte bia mara a raibh tionchar diúltach orthu mar gheall ar chailleadh soláthair amhábhair atá ag teacht chun cinn ó na laghduithe cuóta TCA,
- (2) Fhiontair dhobharshaothraithe a raibh tionchar díreach ag aistarraingt na RA orthu, agus
- (3) Phobail chósta a raibh tionchar diúltach orthu mar gheall ar réimse leathan tionchar a tháinig chun cinn ó laghdú cuóta TCA agus ó thionchair Bhreathimeachta níos leithne.

Faoin scéim nua seo, tugadh tionscadal amháin chun críche sa bhliain 2022 agus íocadh cúnamh deontais de luach €182,762.00 leis.

Seoladh roinnt scéimeanna maoinithe BAR in 2022 freisin a thosóidh ar mhaoiniú a tharraingt anuas in 2023.

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais
Cill Chainnigh	1	€182,762.00

Chomh maith leis na scéimeanna BAR thuasluaite, seoladh trí scéim BAR sa bhreis in 2022. Cé gur ceadaíodh roinnt tionscadal faoi na scéimeanna seo, níor tharraing siad cistí anuas go fóill.

## Scéim Scoir Buan Deonach an Bhreathimeachta

Is é cuspóir na scéime seo ná cothromaíocht idir acmhainn táirgthe cabhlaigh agus na cuótaí atá ar fáil a thabhairt ar ais tar éis laghduithe cuóta ag eascairt ón gComhaontú Trádála agus Comhoibrithe (TCA), ag cinntiú brabúsachta an chabhlaigh.

Is í aidhm na scéime seo ná tacaíocht a thabhairt do sciar cabhlaigh a raibh tionchar ag na gnéithe seo a leanas orthu:

- Na laghduithe cuóta ó 2021 go 2026 atá ag teacht chun cinn ón gComhaontú Trádála agus Comhoibrithe. Is í aidhm na Scéime ná na cailleanais a bhaineann le stoic áirithe atá curtha san áireamh in Aguisín FISH.1 agus FISH.2 an TCA a mhaolú.
- Deacrachtaí rochtain a bheith acu ar uiscí na RA nó uiscí tríú tír nach bhfuil san AE mar thoradh ar an mBreathimeacht.

Tacóidh an scéim le hárthaigh i sciartha ilfhiúsacha agus trála bíoma chun deireadh buan a chur le gach gníomhaíocht iascaireachta agus mar sin, ag méadú an chuóta a bhí ar fáil do na hárthaigh eile.

Cé gur féidir le hárthaigh sna cabhlaigh ilfhiúsacha agus trála bíoma a bheith ag iascach speiceas cuóta a raibh tionchar ar laghduithe cuóta TCA orthu agus, mar sin, a raibh tionchar diúltach ag an TCA orthu, tugann an scéim tús áite d'iarraitis ó na hárthaigh is gníomhaí in iascaireacht na speiceas cuóta seo mar beidh baint ag a n-aistarraingt dheonach ón gcabhlach le hathbhunú cothromaíochta cabhlaigh agus le méadú an chuóta atá ar fáil d'árthaigh atá fós sa chabhlach.

## Scéim Forbartha Fiontraíochta Breathimeachta don Gheilleagar Gorm

Is é cuspóir na scéime seo ná cur i gcoinne na gcúinsí diúltacha eacnamaíochta agus sóisialta atá i gceist mar gheall ar aistarraingt na Ríochta Aontaithe ón Aontas Eorpach ar fhiontair atá ag feidhmiú sa gheilleagar gorm agus atá suite i bpobail laistigh de 10km an chósta.

**Cuirtear trí chineál tionscadal san áireamh chun maoiniú a bhaint amach:**

**Cineál Tionscadail 1**  
Infheistíocht Chaipitil

**Cineál Tionscadail 2**  
Meantóireacht Gnó agus Forbairt Acmhainne

**Cineál Tionscadail 3**  
Uasoiliúint agus Oiliúint

## Scéim Tacaíochta Caipitil um Próiseáil an Bhreathimeachta

Déan iarratas chun maoiniú deontais a fháil le haghaidh tionscnamh atá measta mar infheistíocht chaipitiúil bhunathraithe, san earnáil phróiseáilte bia mara.

Tacaíonn an scéim le hearnáil phróiseála na hÉireann chun tabhairt faoi athrú bunathraithe, ag maolú éifeachta an TCA/na Breathimeachta agus ag an am céanna, ag cruthú fiontar atá níos fearr don timpeallacht, níos inbhuanaithe agus níos iomaíche a fhreastalaíonn ar mhargaí san AE agus timpeall an domhain, leibhéal fostaíochta níos airde a chruthú go háitiúil agus úsáid níos fearr agus níos inbhuanaithe a bhaint as amhábhair a thagann isteach go hÉirinn.

Díríonn sí ar thacaíocht a thabhairt d'infheistíochtaí caipitiúil bhunathraitheacha a dhíríonn ar thionscal a éascaíonn don earnáil díriú ar “níos mó a chruthú ó níos lú,” tar éis soláthair laghduithe amhábhair, agus fiontair san earnáil a bhogadh suas níos faide an tslabhra soláthair. Is é cuspóir na scéime ná táirge de luach níos airde a tháirgeadh agus an tionscal a aistriú chun díriú ar phróiseáil tánaisteacha agus níos faide, ar tháirgí a dhíríonn ar mhargaí úsáideora deiridh.

## Scéimeanna maoinithe ag Stáitchiste Náisiúnta BIM

Tá dhá scéim a bhaineann le sábháilteacht maoinithe ag an Stáitchiste Náisiúnta (100%).

## Scéimeanna Deontais um Shábháilteacht an Chabhlaigh agus Turasóireachta Muirí

Is é cuspóir na Scéime Sábháilteachta Cabhlaigh ná caighdeán sábháilteachta ar árthaigh iascaireachta na hÉireann a fheabhsú. Cuireann an scéim cúnamh deontais ar fáil chun tacú le ceannach agus suiteáil earraí sábháilteachta lena n-áirítear trealamh reachtúil amhail trealamh tarrthála, trealamh um chomhrac dóiteáin, trealamh loingseoireachta, agus trealamh cumarsáide.

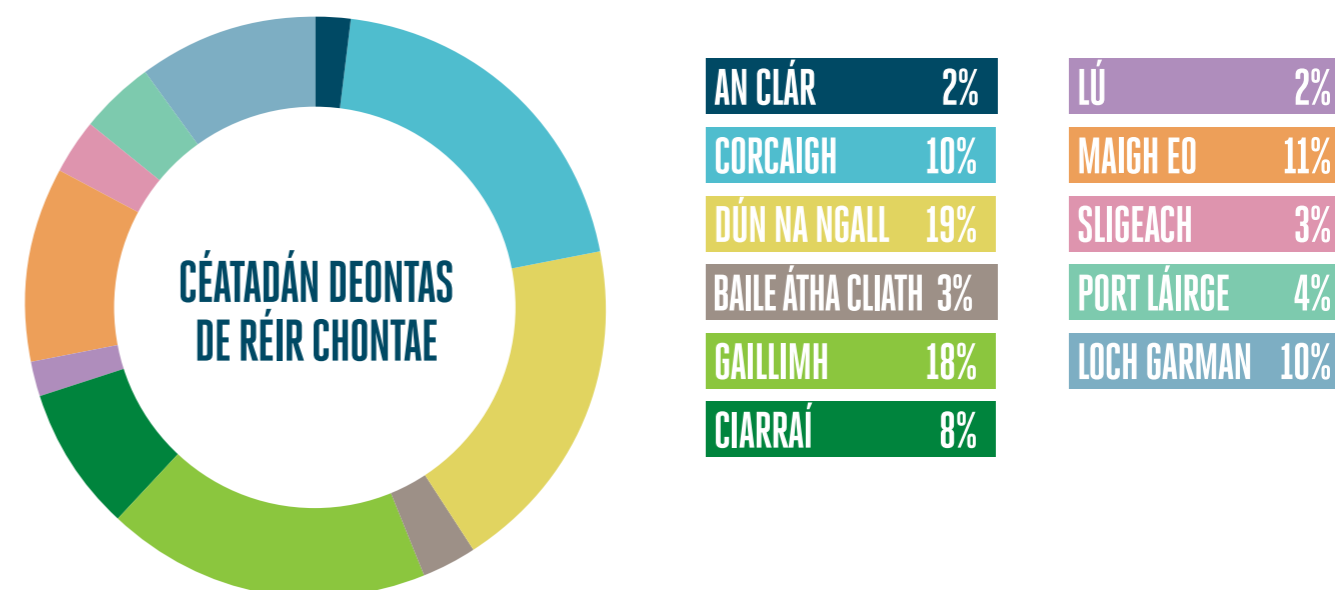
Is í aidhm na Scéime Turasóireachta Muirí ná an caighdeán sábháilteachta foriomlán ar árthaigh turasóireachta muirí na hÉireann a fheabhsú. Cuireann an scéim tacaíocht ar fáil le ceannach agus suiteáil earraí sábháilteachta lena n-áirítear trealamh reachtúil amhail trealamh tarrthála, trealamh um chomhrac dóiteáin, trealamh loingseoireachta, agus trealamh cumarsáide do shoithí turasóireachta muirí ceadúnaithe suas go dtí 15 méadar san iomlán.

Ceadaítear ag an Scéim Sábháilteachta Cabhlaigh agus an Scéim Turasóireachta Muirí araon ceannach agus suiteáil trealamh sábháilteachta. I measc na míreanna a d'fhéadfaí a mheas don mhaoiniú tá na rudá seo a leanas:

- Míreanna Marthanais amhail seaicéid tarrthála, bladhmana agus raftaí tarrthála
- Trealamh loingseoireachta amhail GPS nó uathphíolóta
- Leictreonaic amhail ceamaraí slándála TCI
- Míreanna sábháilteachta dóiteáin amhail gaireas anáilithe agus caidél dóiteáin
- Míreanna sábháilteachta struchtúracha amhail geataí bordála agus dréimírí, fuinneoga rochtana
- Táillí Suirbhé an Chóid Cleachtais do shoithí atá ag dul don iascaireacht mhara

## Sábháilteacht Cabhlaigh

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais
An Clár	4	€7,219.69
Corcaigh	42	€142,228.42
Dún na nGall	39	€87,724.61
Baile Átha Cliath	6	€7,571.51
Gaillimh	38	€29,692.86
Ciarraí	17	€83,982.04
Lú	5	€51,082.29
Maigh Eo	22	€31,463.91
Sligeach	6	€4,554.13
Port Láirge	9	€37,869.08
Loch Garman	22	€57,703.73
<b>Móiriomlán</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>€541,092.27</b>



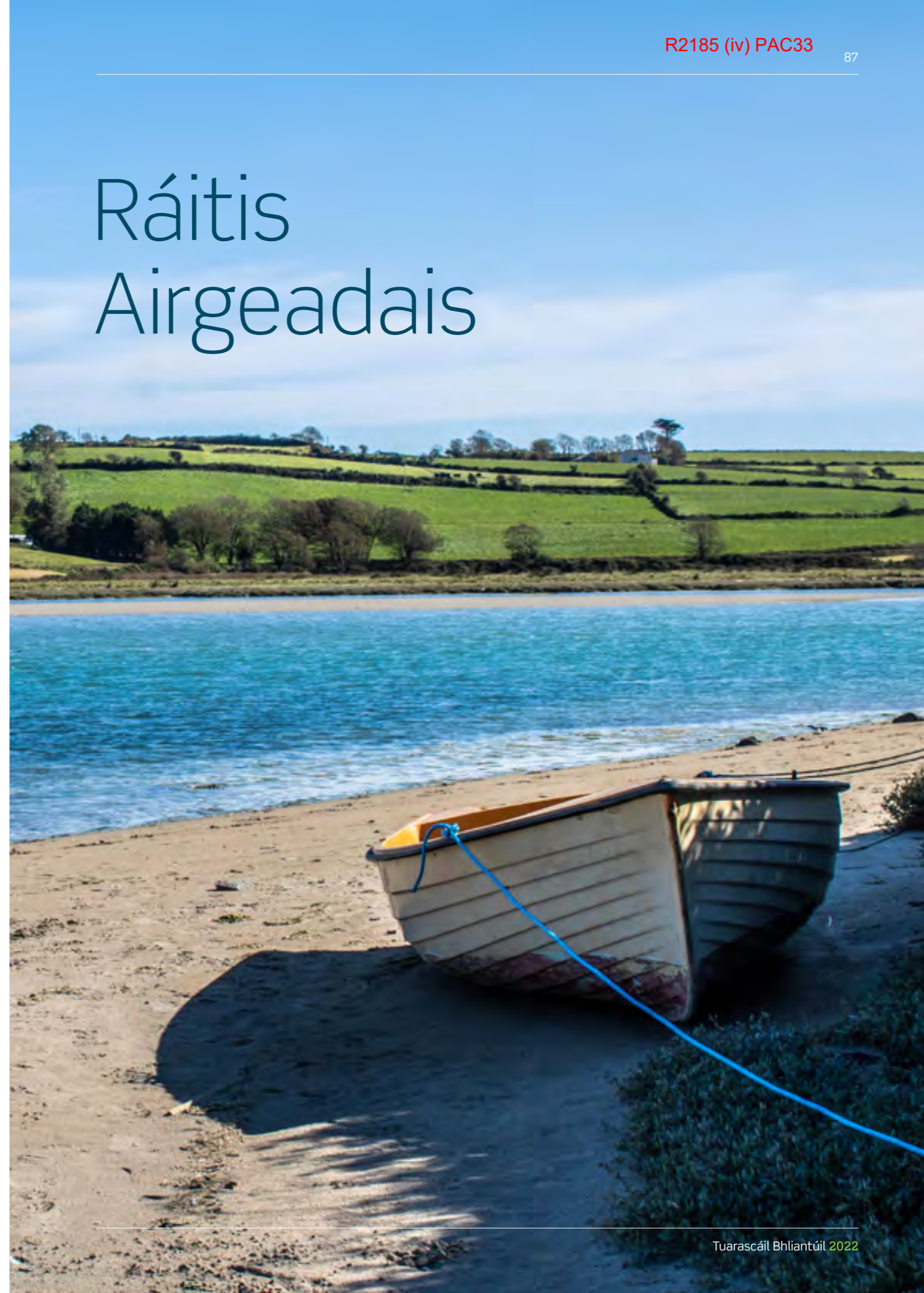
## Scéim Sábháilteachta Turasóireachta Muirí

Contae	Líon na nDeontas	Luach Deontais
An Clár	2	€3,761.66
Corcaigh	1	€336.00
Dún na nGall	3	€8,360.80
Gaillimh	1	€3,065.20
Lú	1	€2,215.94
Maigh Eo	4	€2,941.52
Loch Garman	1	€21,400.40
Cill Mhantáin	1	€207.00
<b>Móriomlán</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>€42,288.52</b>



<b>AN CLÁR</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>LÚ</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>CORCAIGH</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>MAIGH EO</b>	<b>29%</b>
<b>DÚN NA NGALL</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>LOCH GARMAN</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>GAILLIMH</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>CILL MHANTÁIN</b>	<b>7%</b>

# Ráitis Airgeadais



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Ráitis Airgeadais  
don bhliain dar chríoch an 31 Nollaig 2022



## Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste Comptroller and Auditor General

### Tuarascáil le cur faoi bhráid Thithe an Oireachtais

#### An Bord Iascaigh Mhara

##### Tuairim ar na ráitis airgeadais

Tá iniúchadh déanta agam ar ráitis airgeadais an Bhoird Iascaigh Mhara le haghaidh na bliana dar chríoch an 31 Nollaig 2022, mar a cheanglaítear faoi fhorálacha alt 5 d'Acht an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste (Leasú) 1993. Áirítear sa ráiteas airgeadais

- an ráiteas ioncaim agus caiteachais agus cúlchistí coinnithe ioncaim
- an ráiteas ioncaim chuimsitheach
- an ráiteas ar staid an airgeadais
- an ráiteas ar shreafaí airgeadais, agus
- na nótaí gaolmhara, lena n-áirítear achoimre ar bheartais shuntasacha chuntasaíochta.

Is é mo thuairim go dtugann na ráitis airgeadais léargas fírinneach cóir ar acmhainní, dhliteanais agus staid airgeadais an Bhoird Iascaigh Mhara ag 31 Nollaig 2022 agus a ioncam agus a chaiteachas do 2022, faoi réir Chaighdeán um Thuairisciú Airgeadais (FRS) 102 - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (An Caighdeán Tuairiscithe Airgeadais atá infheidhme sa Ríocht Aontaithe agus i bPoblacht na hÉireann).

##### Bunús Tuairime

Rinne mé m'iniúchadh ar na ráitis airgeadais faoi réir Chaighdeán Idirnáisiúnta um Iniúchadh (ISAnna), faoi mar a mholann an Eagraíocht Idirnáisiúnta Uasfhoras Iniúcháireachta. Déantar cur síos ar mo dhualgais faoi na caighdeáin sin san aguisín leis an tuarascáil seo. Feidhmíonn go neamhspleách ó An Bord Iascaigh Mhara agus chomhlíon mé mo dhualgais eite eile de réir na gcaighdeán.

Creidimid go bhfuil an fhianaise iniúcháireachta atá faighte agam leordhóthanach agus cuí chun bunús a sholáthar do mo thuairim.

##### Tuarascáil ar eolas seachas na ráitis airgeadais, agus ar nithe eile

Chuir An Bord Iascaigh Mhara eolas ar leith eile i láthair leis na ráitis airgeadais. Ina measc, tá an tuarascáil bhliantúil lena n-áirítear an ráiteas rialachais agus tuarascáil Chomhaltaí an Bhoird, agus an ráiteas ar rialú inmheánach. Déantar cur síos ar mo dhualgais tuairisciú a dhéanamh ar an eolas seo, agus ar nithe ar leith eile a thuairiscim orthu mar eisceacht, san aguisín leis an tuarascáil seo.

I have nothing to report in that regard (Níl aon rud le tuairisciú agam maidir leis seo).

Andrew Harkness

Ar son agus thar ceann  
An tArd-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste

23 Meitheamh 2023

## Aguisín leis an tuarascáil

### Dualgais Chomhaltaí an Bhoird

Mar a shonraítear sa ráiteas rialaithe agus tuarascáil chomhaltaí an Bhoird, tá comhaltaí an Bhoird freagrach as na nithe seo a leanas

- ráitis airgeadais bhliantúla a ullmhú san fhoirm atá leagtha síos faoi mhír 9 de Chéad Sceideal d'Acht lascaigh Mhara 1952
- ag cinntiú go dtugann na ráitis airgeadais léargas fírinneach cóir faoi réir FRS102
- rialtacht idirbheart a chinntiú
- measúnú a dhéanamh an bhfuil úsáid bhunús an ghnóthais leantaigh i leith na cuntasaióchta oiriúnach nó nach bhfuil, agus
- an méid rialaithe inmheánach is a mheasann siad a theastaíonn d'fhonn ullmhú na ráiteas airgeadais a chur i gcrích, saor ó mhíthuairiscí ábharach, bíodh sé de thoradh calaoise nó earráide.

### Freagrachtaí an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste

Tá dualgas orm, faoi Acht an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste (Leasú) 1993, iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar ráitis airgeadais An Bhoird lascaigh Mhara agus tuairiscí orthu do Thithe an Oireachtais.

Is é an aidhm atá agam agus an t-iniúchadh seo á chur i gcrích agam dearbhú réasúnta a fháil an bhfuil na ráitis airgeadais ina n-iomlán saor ó mhíthuairisc ábharach de thoradh calaoise nó earráide nó nach bhfuil. Is éard is dearbhú réasúnta ann ardleibhéal dearbhaithe, ach ní ráthaíocht, go n-aimseoidh iniúchadh a dhéantar i gcomhréir leis na ISAanna míthuairisc ábharach nuair atá ceann ann. Is féidir le míthuairiscí teacht ó chalois nó ó earráid agus meastar go bhfuil siad ábharach más féidir leo, ina n-aonar nó trí chéile, tionchar a bheith acu ar chinntí eacnamaíocha na n-úsáideoirí ar bhonn na ráiteas airgeadais.

Mar chuid d'iniúchadh i gcomhréir leis na ISAanna, úsáidim breithiúnas gairmiúil agus coimeádam sceipteachas gairmiúil tríd an iniúchadh. Agus é seo á dhéanamh agam,

- Sainníomh agus measaim na rioscaí a bhaineann le míthuairisc ábharach na ráiteas airgeadais, bíodh sé de thoradh calaoise nó earráide; dearaim agus déanaim nósanna imeachta iniúchta freagrúil do na rioscaí sin; agus faighim fianaise iniúchta atá dóthanach agus cuí le tacú le bunús mo thuairime. Tá an riosca a bhaineann le míthuairisc ábharach a thagann ó chalois agus gan í a aithint níos airde ná an riosca a bhaineann le míthuairisc a thagann ó earráid, mar is féidir le claonpháirtíocht, brionnú, easnaimh d'aon ghnó, mífhaisnéisí, nó sárú ar smacht inmheánach a bheith i gceist le calaois.
- Faighim tuiscint ar smacht inmheánach atá ábhartha don iniúchadh chun nósanna imeachta iniúchta a cheapadh atá cuí sna cúinsí, ach ní chun tuairim a nochtadh maidir le héifeachtacht smachta inmheánacha.
- Déanaim oiriúnacht na mbeartas cuntasaióchta agus réasúnacht na meastachán cuntasaióchta agus nochtadh gaolmhara a úsáidtear a mheas.

- Tagaim ar thátaí maidir le cuibhiúlacht úsáid bhunús ghnóthas leantach na cuntasaióchta, agus bunaithe ar an bhfianaise iniúchóireachta a fuarthas, déanaim cinneadh an ann do neamhchinnteacht ábharach a bhaineann le teagmhais nó coinníollacha a d'fhéadfadh amhras a chruthú faoi chumas An Bhoird lascaigh Mhara leanúint ar aghaidh mar ghnóthas leantach. Má chinnim go bhfuil neamhchinnteacht ábharach ann, tá sé de dhualgas orm na nochtáí a bhaineann léi sna ráitis airgeadais a léiriú i mo thuarascáil nó, má tá na nochtáí sin uireasacha, mo thuairim a athrú. Tá mo chonclúidí bunaithe ar fhianaise iniúchta a fuarthas suas le dáta mo thuarascála. D'fhéadfadh tarlaithe nó cúinsí amach anseo, áfach, cur ar an mBord lascaigh Mhara deireadh a chur le leanúint ar aghaidh mar ghnóthas leantach.
- Déanaim measúnú ar léiriú, struchtúr agus inneachar iomlán na ráiteas airgeadais, lena n-áirítear na nochtáí, agus an léiriú na ráitis airgeadais idirbhearta bunúsacha agus imeachtaí ar bhealach a léiríonn léiriú cothrom nó nach léiríonn.

Déanaim teagmháil leis na daoine atá faoi chúram rialachais maidir le, i measc rudaí eile, raon feidhme agus uainiú an iniúchta agus torthaí suntasacha an iniúchta, lena n-áirítear easpaí suntasacha i smacht inmheánach a aithním le linn m'iniúchta.

Tuairiscim go heisceachtúil, mura bhfuil, i mo thuairim,

- an t-eolas agus na míniúcháin ar fad a theastaigh uaim do m'iniúchadh faighte agam, nó
- na taifid chuntasaióchta sásúil le go bhféadfaí iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar na ráitis airgeadais go héasca agus i gceart, nó
- na ráitis airgeadais i gcomhréir leis na taifid chuntasaióchta.

#### *Eolas seachas na ráitis airgeadais*

Ní chuimsíonn mo thuairim ar na ráitis airgeadais an t-eolas eile curtha i láthair leis na ráitis sin, agus ní léirím aon chonclúid gealltanais orthu.

Mar aon le m'iniúchadh ar na ráitis airgeadais, tá dualgas orm faoi na ISAanna an t-eolas eile a cuireadh i láthair a léamh agus, ag déanamh amhlaidh, machnamh a dhéanamh an bhfuil an t-eolas eile neamhréireach go hábhartha leis na ráitis airgeadais nó le heolas a fuarthas le linn an iniúchta nó eolas atá míchruinn go hábhartha. Má chinnim, bunaithe ar an obair atá déanta agam, go bhfuil míthuairisc ábhartha ar an eolas eile seo, caithfidh mé an fhíríc sin a thuairiscíú.

#### *Tuairiscíú ar nithe eile*

Déantar m'iniúchadh ag déanamh tagartha do na cúinsí speisialta a bhaineann le comhlachtaí Stáit maidir lena mbainistíocht agus lena bhfeidhmíú. Tuairiscim má aimsim nithe ábhartha ann a bhaineann leis an mbealach inar cuireadh gnó poiblí i gcrích.

Déanaim iarracht fianaise a fháil maidir le rialtacht na n-idirbheart airgeadais le linn iniúchta. Tuairiscim má aimsim aon chás ábhartha nuair nár baineadh úsáid as airgead poiblí mar a bhí leagtha síos dó, nó nach raibh na hidirbhearta ag teacht leis na húdaráis atá á rialú.

# Ráiteas Rialachais agus Tuarascáil na gComhaltaí Boird

## Rialú

Bunaíodh Bord BIM faoin Acht lascaigh Mhara 1952. Tá feidhmeanna an Bhoird leagtha amach i gcuid 15 den Acht sin. Tá an Bord freagrach don Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara. Tá an Bord freagrach as dea-rialú a chinntiú agus comhlíonann sé an tasc seo trí chuspóirí agus spriocanna straitéiseacha a leagan síos agus cinntí straitéiseacha a ghlacadh i dtaobh phríomhcheisteanna gnó. Is í freagracht an Phríomhoifigigh Fheidhmiúcháin agus an bhainistíocht shinsearach BIM a bhainistiú, a rialú agus a threorú ó lá go lá. Ní mór don Phríomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin agus don fhoireann bainistíochta shinsearach an treoir straitéiseach ginearálta atá leagtha síos ag an mBord a leanúint, agus ní mór dó cinntiú go bhfuil tuiscint shoiléir de na príomhghníomhaíochtaí agus cinntí a bhaineann leis an eagraíocht aige, agus d'aon rioscaí suntasacha a d'fhéadfadh a theacht aníos. Feidhmíonn an Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin mar theagmháil dhíreach idir an Bhord agus bainistíocht BIM.

## Freagrachtaí an Bhoird

Tá obair agus freagrachtaí an Bhoird leagtha amach sa Chomhaontas um Sheachadadh Feidhmíochta agus Mhaoirseachta, a chuimsíonn freisin na hábhair a dhéanann an Bord cinneadh fúthu amháin. Cuid de na nithe seasta a mheasann an Bord ná:

- dearbhú leasanna,
- tuairiscí ó choistí,
- tuarascálacha airgeadais/cuntais bhainistíochta,
- tuairiscí feidhmíochta, agus
- ábhair forchoimeáda.

De réir Chuid 15 den Acht lascaigh Mhara 1952, tá sé de cheanglas ar Bhord BIM na cuntais go léir is cuí agus is gnách a choimeád faoi airgead a fuair sé nó a chaith i cibé foirm is cuí leis an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mar le toiliú an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe.

Agus é ag ullmhú na ráitis airgeadais seo, tá sé de cheanglas ar Bhord BIM:

- polasaithe cuntasaióchta cuí a roghnú agus iad a chur i bhfeidhm go seasmhach,
- breithiúnais agus meastacháin a dhéanamh atá réasúnta agus críonna,
- na ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú ar bhonn ghnóthais leantaigh mura bhfuil sé neamhchuí a cheapadh go leanfaidh sé ar aghaidh ag feidhmiú, agus
- a mhaíomh an é gur leanadh caighdeáin chuntasaióchta infheidhme, faoi réir aon imeacht ábhartha atá nochtá nó mínithe sna ráitis airgeadais.

Tá an Bord freagrach as leabhair chúil chuntais a choimeád a nochtann le cruinneas réasúnta ag tráth ar bith staid airgeadais Bhord lascaigh Mhara agus a chuireann ar a chumas a chinntiú go gclóíonn na ráitis airgeadais leis na ceanglais reachtúla a leagtar amach i gCuid 9 den chéad sceideal san Acht lascaigh Mhara 1952. Is í freagracht an Bhoird cothabháil agus iontaofacht an eolais chorparáidigh agus airgeadais atá foilsithe ar shuíomh gréasáin BIM a chinntiú.

Tá an Bord freagrach as an bplean agus buiséad bliantúil a fhaomhadh. Rinneadh meastachán d'fheidhmíocht BIM a dhéanamh ag tagairt don phlean agus don bhuiséad bliantúil.

Tá an Bord freagrach freisin as cosaint a shócmhainní agus mar sin as bearta réasúnta a ghlacadh do chosc agus brath calaoise agus neamhréireachtaí eile.

Measann an Bord go dtugann ráitis airgeadais BIM léargas fíor agus cothrom d'fheidhmíocht airgeadais agus de staid airgeadais BIM ar an 31 Nollaig 2022.

### Struchtúr an Bhoird

Tá Cathaoirleach agus cúigear gnáthchomhaltaí ar an mBord, iad ar fad ceaptha ag an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara. Ceapadh comhaltaí an Bhoird ar feadh tréimhse trí bliana agus cruinníonn siad le chéile go míosúil. Tugann an tábla thíos sonraí faoi thréimhse cheapacháin na gcomhaltaí reatha:

Comhalta Boid	Ról	Dáta Ceapacháin
Aidan Cotter	An Cathaoirleach	17 Bealtaine 2022
Lisa Vaughan	Stiúrthóir	Téarma críochnaithe 18 Meitheamh 2022 athcheaptha 19 Meitheamh 2022
William Deasy	Stiúrthóir	19 Samhain 2020
Jean Callanan	Stiúrthóir	19 Samhain 2020
Marie Gleeson	Stiúrthóir	19 Samhain 2020
George Golden	Stiúrthóir	29 Meán Fómhair 2021

Chuir an Bord na coistí seo a leanas ar bun:

**Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca:** tá dhá chomhalta Boid agus trí chomhalta neamhspleácha ann. Is é ról an Choiste um Iniúchóireacht agus Measúnú Riosca (ARC) tacaíocht a thabhairt don Bhord maidir lena fhreagrachtaí a bhaineann le rialáil rioscaí agus rialú agus ráthaíochtaí gaolmhara. Tá an Coiste um Iniúchóireacht agus Measúnú Riosca neamhspleách ó bhainistíocht airgeadais na heagraíochta. Ach go háirithe, cinntíonn an Coiste go ndéantar monatóireacht ghníomhach agus neamhspleách ar na córais rialaithe inmheánaí lena n-áirítear na gníomhaíochtaí iniúchóireachta. Tuairiscíonn an Coiste um Iniúchóireacht agus Measúnú Riosca don Bhord tar éis gach cruinniú, agus go foirmeálta i scríbhinn uair sa bhliain.

Is iad comhaltaí an Choiste um Iniúchóireacht agus Measúnú Riosca ná:

- Lisa Vaughan (Cathaoirleach)
- George Golden
- Gearóid Breathnach
- Stephen McGovern
- Aidan Dunning

Chruinnigh an ARC le chéile cúig uaire in 2022.

**Coiste Oiliúna agus Forbartha:** tá dhá chomhalta Boid agus trí chomhalta neamhspleácha ann. Ról an Choiste Oiliúna agus Forbartha (TADC) ná maoirseacht agus athbhreithniú a chur ar fáil maidir le hoibríocht Aonad Oiliúna BIM. Tuairiscíonn TADC don Bhord i ndiaidh gach cruinnithe, agus go foirmeálta i scríbhinn uair sa bhliain.

Is iad comhaltaí an Choiste Oiliúna agus Forbartha ná:

- Jean Callanan (Cathaoirleach)
- Marie Gleeson
- Cormac Gebruers
- John Lynch
- Mark Skinner

Bhí dhá chruinniú de chuid TADC ar siúl in 2022.

	Bord	Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca	Táillí 2022 €'000	Speansais 2022 €'000
Aidan Cotter	(7/7)	-	7	-
Lisa Vaughan	(11/12)	(5/5)	8	1
William Deasy	(12/12)	-	8	4
Jean Callanan	(12/12)	-	8	1
Marie Gleeson	(11/12)	-	8	2
George Golden	(11/12)	(4/5)	8	3
Gearóid Breathnach	-	(5/5)	1	-
Stephen McGovern	-	(5/5)	1	-
Aidan Dunning	-	(5/5)	1	-
<b>Iomlán</b>			<b>50</b>	<b>11</b>

### Athruithe ar na Comhaltaí Boid

Ceapadh an Cathaoirleach, Aidan Cotter, an 17 Bealtaine 2022.

Athcheapadh Lisa Vaughan an 19 Meitheamh 2022.

### Nochtaí atá ina gCeanglais faoin gCód Cleachtas chun Comhlachtaí Stáit a Rialú (2016)

Tá an Bord freagrach as a chinntiú go ndearna BIM ceanglais an Chóid Chleachtas chun Comhlachtaí Stáit a Rialú, 2016 ("an Cód") a chomhlíonadh, arna fhoilsiú ag an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe. De réir an Chóid, is gá na nochtuithe seo a leanas a dhéanamh:

### Mionsonrú ar Shochair Ghearrthéarmacha Fostaithe

Aicmítear sochair gearrthéarmacha fostaithe os cionn €60,000 i Nóta 9(c) de na Ráitis Airgeadais.

### Costais Chomhairliúcháin

Cuimsíonn costais chomhairliúcháin costas comhairle sheachtrach don bhainistíocht agus ní chuimsíonn sé feidhmeanna 'gnó mar is gnách'.

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Comhairle dlí	50	111
Comhairle airgeadais/achtúireach	-	-
Acmhainní Daonna	-	-
Feabhsú gnó	-	-
Eile	-	-
<b>Costais chomhairliúcháin iomlán</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>111</b>
Costais chomhairliúcháin chaipitlithe	-	-
Costais chomhairliúcháin bainte as Caiteachas agus Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe	50	111
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>111</b>

### Costais Dhlí agus Socruithe

Tugann an tábla thíos mionsonrú ar na suimeanna a aithnítear mar chaiteachas sa tréimhse tuairiscithe maidir le costais dhlí, socruithe agus imeachtaí idir-réitigh agus eadrána a bhaineann le conarthaí a dhéantar le tríú páirtithe. Ní chuimsíonn sé seo caiteachas a thabhaítear maidir le comhairle dlíthiúil ghinearálta a fuair BIM a nochtar sna costais chomhairliúcháin thuas.

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Táillí Dlí - imeachtaí dlíthiúla	-	51
Íocaíochtaí idir-réitigh agus eadrána	-	-
Socruithe*	-	95
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>146</b>

\* Tá figiúr socraíochtaí 2021 de €95,000 comhdhéanta de shocraíochtaí íoctha de €62,000 agus costais ghaolmhara dlí de €33,000.

### Caiteachas Taistil agus Cothabhála

Déantar caiteachas taistil agus cothabhála a aicmiú mar seo a leanas:

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Intíre</b>		
- Bord*	13	3
- Fostaithe	473	307
<b>Idirnáisiúnta</b>		
- Bord*	-	-
- Fostaithe	78	5
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>315</b>

\*Lena n-áirítear costais taistil agus cothaithe de €10,000 a íocadh go díreach le comhaltaí an Bhoird in 2022 (2021: €3,000). Baineann iarmhéid €3,000 (2021: €1,000) le caiteachas a d'íoc BIM thar ceann chomhaltaí an Bhoird.

### Caiteachas ar Fhálteachas

Cuimsíonn an Cuntas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais an caiteachas ar fhálteachas seo a leanas:

	2022 €	2021 €
Fálteachas don Fhoireann	1	1
Fálteachas do chliant	-	-
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

### Ráiteas Comhlíonta

Ghlac an Bord leis an gCód Cleachtais chun Comhlachtaí Stáit a Rialú (2016) agus tá nósanna imeachta curtha i bhfeidhm aige chun comhlíonadh BIM leis an gCód a chinntiú. Rinne BIM riachtanais an Chóid Chleachtais chun Comhlachtaí Stáit a Rialú (2016) a chomhlíonadh le haghaidh 2022.



Aidan Cotter  
An Cathaoirleach  
21 Meitheamh, 2023

# Ráiteas ar Rialú Inmheánach

## Rian Freagrachta

Thar ceann BIM glacaim le freagracht an Bhoird chun a chinntiú go ndéantar córas éifeachtach de rialú inmheánach a choinneáil agus a oibriú, go n-ullmhaítear chuntais BIM agus go gcomhlíontar gach oibleagáid reachtúil a bhaineann le BIM. Aithníonn an fhreagracht seo na ceanglais atá sa Chód Cleachtais chun Comhlachtaí Stáit a Rialú (2016).

## Príomhnósanna Imeachta Rialaithe chun Rialú Éifeachtach Inmheánach a Sholáthar

Is iad na príomhnósanna imeachta a bhunaigh an Bord ar mhaithe le rialú inmheánach éifeachtúil a chinntiú ná:

- Rinne an Bord athbhreithniú bliantúil ar éifeachtacht na rialuithe inmheánacha a críochnaíodh i mí an Mhárta 2023. Ag tabhairt faoin athbhreithniú seo rinne na Stiúrthóirí na rudaí seo a leanas a mheas:
  - Tuarascáil ar chóras rialuithe inmheánacha in 2022 lena n-áirítear Bainistíocht Riosca, Iniúchtaí Inmheánacha, Iniúchadh Seachtrach agus obair an Choiste Iniúcháireachta agus Measúnú Riosca in 2022;
  - Athbhreithniú bliantúil ar chomhlíonadh leis an gCód um Chaiteachas Poiblí;
  - Tuarascáil maidir le comhlíonadh an Chóid Cleachtais; agus
  - Tuarascáil na n-Iniúcháirí Inmheánacha maidir le Córais Rialuithe Inmheánacha.
- Béim léir ar chuspóirí gnó faoi mar a chinneann an Bord i bhfianaise na gceanglas reachtúil.
- Struchtúr sainithe eagraíochta ina bhfuil freagrachtaí leagtha amach go soiléir, tarmligean údaráis agus deighilt idir dualgais a fhéachann le timpeallacht chúil rialaithe a chruthú.
- Próiseas um bainistíocht rioscaí a dhéanann breithniú ar phleananna straitéiseacha agus gnó i gcomhthéacs phróiseas an bhuiséid bhliantúil tráth a leagtar amach agus a dhéantar athbhreithniú ar phleananna agus ar spriocanna airgeadais ag an mBord i bhfianaise na spriocanna cinntithe.
- Córas tuairiscithe agus rialaithe lena n-áirítear athbhreithniú a dhéanann an Bord ar an mbuiséad bliantúil chomh maith le hathbhreithniú rialta a dhéanamh ar na torthaí féin i leith an bhuiséid.
- Nósanna imeachta um rialú - coinníonn an Bord beartais chuimsitheacha maidir lena phríomhghníomáíochtaí go léir. Is ann do theorainneacha agus do nósanna imeachta, go háirithe, atá sainmhínithe go soiléir do chaiteachas airgeadais, lena n-áirítear soláthar agus caiteachas caipítíl.
- Córais mhonatóireachta - déantar monatóireacht ar nósanna imeachta um rialú leis an bhfeidhm iniúchta inmheánaigh a oibríonn de réir an chreata i gcomhair feidhmithe dea-chleachtais mar atá leagtha amach sa Chód Cleachtais um Rialú Comhlachtaí Stáit 2016. Tugtar eolas i dtaobh obair an iniúchta inmheánaigh trí anailís ar an riosca a bhfuil BIM nochtá dó. Tá an tuairisc ar rialú inmheánach do 2022 faighte ag an gCoiste Iniúcháireachta agus Measúnú Riosca, agus tá tuairim an Iniúcháir Inmheánaí faoi leordhóthanacht agus éifeachtúlacht an chórais rialaithe inmheánaí sa tuairisc sin, agus cuireadh é seo os comhair an Bhoird. Tá an obair iniúcháireachta a rinne iniúcháirí seachtracha go bliantúil ar bhearta cúnamh deontais éagsúla curtha leis na córais iniúcháireachta agus monatóireachta inmheánaí mar a cheanglaítear faoin reachtaíocht AE ar na bearta.
- Tá Comhaltaí Boird neamhfheidhmiúcháin agus triúr comhaltaí seachtracha neamhspleácha ar an gCoiste Iniúchta Riosca, ar chuir an Bord ar bun é in 2009. Tá tuairiscí an Choiste um Iniúcháireacht & Measúnú Riosca don bhainistíocht, agus na hiniúcháirí seachtracha a dhéanann obair ar Bhearta Deontais AE, agus ráitis a dhéanann an tArd-Reachtair Cuntas & Ciste in Litir Bhainistíochta nó i dtuairiscí eile mar bhun eolais ag monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú an Bhoird d'éifeachtúlacht an chórais rialála inmheánaí. Ar a bharr sin, choimisiúnaigh an Bord, mar is cú, athbhreithnithe neamhspleácha de na córais rialaithe inmheánacha ar leith san eagraíocht.

## Cuspóir an Chórais Rialaithe Inmheánaí

Tá an córas rialaithe inmheánach deartha chun rioscaí a bhainistiú ag leibhéal inghlactha seachas iad a dhíbirt ar fad. Mar sin, is féidir leis an gcóras seo ráthaíocht réasúnta seachas absalóideach a thabhairt go gcosnófar sócmhainní, go dtabharfar údarás agus go ndéanfar taifead ceart d'idirbhearta agus go ndéanfar earráidí ábhartha nó neamhréireachtaí eile a chosc agus a bhrath go tráthúil. Cé gur féidir éifeachtacht córais rialaithe inmheánach athrú le himeacht aimsire, déanann BIM athbhreithniú agus nuashonrú ar na córais sin de réir mar a éilítear.

Tá an córas rialaithe inmheánach seo, atá ag teacht leis an treoir a d'eisigh an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe, i bhfeidhm in BIM don bhliain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig 2022 agus suas go dtí dáta formheasta na ráiteas airgeadais.

## Athbhreithniú ar Ráiteas ar Rialú Inmheánach

Rinne an Coiste um Iniúcháireacht & Measúnú Riosca (ARC) agus an Bord athbhreithniú ar an Ráiteas ar Rialú Inmheánach 2022 seo i mí an Mhárta 2023. chun cinntiú go léiríonn sé go cruinn an córas rialaithe a bhí ann le linn 2022.

## Tionchar phaindéim COVID-19 ar an Timpeallacht Rialaithe

D'athraigh teacht phaindéim COVID-19 go luath in 2020, agus an chomhairle sláinte poiblí agus bearta sábháilteachta dá bharr, cleachtais oibre BIM go gasta agus b'é an chianobair an gnás don fhoireann.

In 2020, chríochnaigh BIM Measúnú Riosca COVID-19 an OC&AG agus rinneadh athbhreithniú agus uasdátú ar an measúnú in 2021 agus arís in 2022. Lean BIM ar aghaidh le monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar fhorbairtí go cruinn agus leanann sé treoir an Rialtais ar fad, agus é ag súil le rioscaí a laghdú a d'fhéadfadh dul i bhfeidhm ar oibríochtaí gnó, ar an bhfoireann agus ar pháirtithe leasmhara.

I measc na ngníomhartha a ghlac BIM bhí:

- Oibríochtaí gnó BIM a aistriú go timpeallacht cianoibre, áit ar comhlíonadh formhór na bpróiseas gnó mar ba ghnách.
- Measúnú leanúnach ar rioscaí suntasacha a bhain le paindéim COVID-19 agus cumas BIM freagairt go héifeachtach.
- Cinnta a dhéanamh gur leanadh le scaradh dualgas leis an grianobair agus go raibh clúdach cúil ann.
- Cinnta a dhéanamh gur leanadh le beartais agus nósanna imeachta a bhain le cosaint sonraí agus bainistíocht taifead sa timpeallacht cianoibre agus go ndearnadh tuairisc orthu mar ba ghnách.
- Cinnta a dhéanamh go bhfuair baill foirne rochtain ar líonra BIM agus iad ag baint úsáide as trealamh TF, ceadaithe ag BIM, agus go raibh an trealamh TF riachtanach sin ag gach ball den fhoireann a bhí ag cianobair.
- Measúnú an fhéidearthacht a bhí ann maidir le laigí sna rialúcháin inmheánacha de bharr COVID-19 agus bearta a ghlacadh chun na rialúcháin inmheánacha a mheasúnú agus a nuashonrú nuair a bhí gá.

Tá ARC ag BIM ina bhfuil beirt chomhalta Boird agus triúr chomhalta neamhspleácha seachtracha, a bhfuil saineolas airgeadais agus iniúchta acu. Tháinig an ARC le chéile cúig uaire in 2022.

Tá a fheidhm iniúcháireachta inmheánaí seachfhoinisithe ag BIM; tá cistiú dóthanach aige agus comhlíonann sé clár oibre atá aontaithe leis ARC.

Tá polasaí bainistíochta riosca forbartha ag an gCoiste Iniúcháireachta agus Measúnú Riosca a leagan amach an inghlacthacht riosca, na próisis bhainistíochta riosca atá i bhfeidhm agus a thugann sonraí faoi róil agus freagrachtaí na foirne i leith riosca. Rinneadh an polasaí a eisiúint leis an bhfoireann ar fad atá faoi cheanglas oibriú laistigh de pholasaithe bainistíochta riosca BIM, an bhainistíocht a chur ar an airdeall faoi rioscaí féidearthachta agus laigí rialaithe agus freagracht a ghlacadh as rioscaí agus rialaithe laistigh dá réimse oibre féin.



## Creat Riosca agus Rialaithe

Tá córas bainistíochta riosca curtha i bhfeidhm ag BIM a aithníonn agus a thuiriscíonn príomhrioscaí agus na gníomhaíochtaí bainistíochta atá á úsáid chun déileáil leis na rioscaí seo, a oiread agus is féidir.

Tá clár rioscaí ann ina n-aithnítear na príomhrioscaí atá os comhair BIM agus rinneadh iad seo a aithint, a mheas agus a aicmiú ag brath ar chomh suntasach agus atá siad. Déanann an ARC an clár a athbhreithniú agus a nuashonrú ar bhonn ráithiúil agus is ní seasta ar an gclár é don Bhord. Úsáidtear torthaí na measúnaithe seo chun acmhainní a phleanáil agus a leithdháileadh chun a chinntiú go ndéantar bainistíocht ar riosca go dtí leibhéal atá inghlactha.

Tugann an clár riosca sonraí faoi na rialaithe agus gníomhaíochtaí is gá chun rioscaí a mhaolú agus faoi fhreagrachtaí d'fheidhmiú rialaithe atá ag baill foirne ar leith. Dearbhaím go bhfuil timpeallacht rialaithe leis na gnéithe seo a leanas i bhfeidhm:

- rinneadh nósanna imeachta do gach príomhphróiseas gnó a dhoiciméadú,
- rinneadh freagrachtaí airgeadais a dháileadh ag leibhéal na bainistíochta leis an gcuntasáocht chúí,
- tá córas buiséadaithe cuí ann le buiséad bliantúil atá faoi athbhreithniú ag an mbainistíocht shinsearach,
- tá córais ann atá dírithe ar shlándáil faisnéise agus córais teicneolaíochta cumarsáide,
- tá córais i bhfeidhm chun na sócmhainní a chosaint, agus
- cinntíonn nósanna imeachta rialála do chistiú deontais do ghníomhaireachtaí seachtracha rialú leordhóthanach maidir le formheas deontais agus go ndéantar monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú ar dheontaithe chun a chinntiú gur cuireadh i bhfeidhm an cistiú deontais chun na críocha cearta.

## Sáruithe Rialúcháin

Ní raibh cás ar bith de shárú rialúcháin tuairiscithe in 2022.

## Cailteanais Ábhartha nó Calaoisí

Níor tuairiscíodh aon chailteanais ná calaoisí ábhartha in 2022.

## Monatóireacht agus Athbhreithniú Leanúnach

Bunaíodh nósanna imeachta foirmeálta chun próisis rialaithe agus easpaí rialaithe a mhonatóiriú agus déantar iad seo a chur in iúl dóibh siúd atá freagrach as gníomhaíochtaí ceartaitheacha a ghlacadh agus don bhainistíocht agus don Bhord, más íomchuí, go tráthúil. Dearbhaím go bhfuil na córais mhonatóireachta leanúnacha seo i bhfeidhm:

- Rinneadh príomhrioscaí agus rialaithe gaolmhara a aithint agus cuireadh próisis i bhfeidhm chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar oibríocht na bpríomhrialaithe sin agus aon easpaí aitheanta a thuirisciú,
- Bunaíodh socruithe tuairiscithe ag gach leibhéal ag a bhfuil freagracht as bainistíocht airgeadais tugtha, agus
- Déanann an bhainistíocht shinsearach athbhreithnithe rialta den fheidhmíocht thráthrialta agus bhliantúil agus cuireann siad le chéile tuairiscí airgeadais a chuireann feidhmíocht i gcomparáid le buiséid/réamhfaisnéis.

## Nósanna Imeachta chun Aghaidh a Thabhairt ar Impleachtaí Airgeadais de Mhór-rioscaí Gnó

Rinneadh impleachtaí airgeadais na mór-rioscaí gnó a mheas trí phróiseas foirmiúil an mheasúnaithe bainistíochta rioscaí agus trí Phleananna Iniúchta Inmheánaigh BIM a ullmhú. Déantar a thuilleadh measúnaithe agus athbhreithnithe orthu siúd trí Phlean Iniúchta Inmheánaigh BIM a chur i bhfeidhm de réir a chéile.

## Faisnéis Airgeadais agus Buiséid

Tá córas an rialúcháin inmheánaigh bunaithe ar chreat d'fhaisnéis rialta bhainistíochta, córas tarmligin agus freagrachta, tacair de nósanna imeachta airgeadais agus riaracháin lena n-áirítear leithscaradh na ndualgas. Cuimsíonn sé go háirithe na rudáí seo a leanas:

- Córas cuimsitheach buiséadaithe a bhfuil buiséad bliantúil aige, ar a ndéantar athbhreithniú agus faomhadh ag an mBord.
- Sannadh buiséad agus údaráis buiséadaithe agus freagrachta maidir le feidhmeanna ar leith do bhainisteoirí roghnaithe.
- Socruithe do gach ceannach le bheith déanta agus rialaithe trí chóras agus nósanna imeachta bainistíochta airgeadais BIM.
- Athbhreithnithe míosúla déanta ar thuarascálacha bainistíochta airgeadais ag an mBord.
- Glacadh le Plean Corparáideach Soláthair bliantúil agus Oifigeach Soláthair a cheapadh.

Lean na rialuithe ionsuite sna Córais Airgeadais ag oibriú ar aghaidh mar is gnáth i rith 2022 gan sárú nós imeachta nó príomhrialaithe chun gnó mar is gnáth a choinneáil ag imeacht.

## Soláthar

Dearbhaím go bhfuil nósanna imeachta i bhfeidhm ag BIM chun comhlíonadh le rialacha agus treoracha soláthair reatha a chomhlíonadh agus gur chloígh BIM leis na nósanna imeachta seo in 2022. Comhlíonann BIM na rialacha soláthair reatha agus na treoirlínte atá leagtha amach ag an Oifig um Sholáthar Rialtais.

## Athbhreithniú ar Éifeachtúlacht

Dearbhaím go bhfuil nósanna imeachta i bhfeidhm ag BIM chun éifeachtúlacht a nósanna imeachta bainistíochta riosca agus rialaithe a mhonatóiriú. Tá obair na n-iniúcháirí inmheánacha agus seachtracha, an Coiste um Iniúcháireacht agus Measúnú Riosca a mhaoirsíonn a n-obair, agus an bhainistíocht shinsearach laistigh den BIM atá freagrach as forbairt agus cothabháil an chreat rialaithe airgeadais inmheánaí, tá siad mar bhun eolais ag mhonatóiriú agus athbhreithniú an BIM ar éifeachtúlacht an chórais rialaithe inmheánaí.

Dearbhaím go ndearna an Bord athbhreithniú bliantúil ar éifeachtúlacht na rialúcháin inmheánach do 2022 in Eanáir 2023.

## Fadhbanna Rialaithe Inmheánaí

Níor aithníodh aon laigí sa rialú inmheánach in 2022 ar gá iad a nochtadh sna ráitis airgeadais

## Faomhadh an Bhoird

Rinne an Coiste Iniúcháireachta agus Measúnú Riosca agus an Bord an ráiteas ar rialú inmheánach a athbhreithniú chun a chinntiú go bhfreagraíonn sé go huile agus go hiomlán leis na córais rialaithe a bhí i bhfeidhm i rith na tréimhse tuairiscithe.

Sínithe thar ceann Bhord BIM,



Aidan Cotter  
An Cathaoirleach  
21 Meitheamh, 2022

## Ráiteas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus na Cúlchistí Ioncaim

### don bhliain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig 2022

	Tabhair do d'aire	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Ioncam</b>			
Deontais an Oireachtais	3	51,065	45,900
Glanmhaoiniú Iarchurtha don Scor			
Oibleagáidí Sochair	19(c)	1,168	665
		<b>52,233</b>	<b>46,565</b>
Deontais an AE	4	35	334
Láimhdeachas Ghléasra Oighir	5	306	341
Ioncam Eile	6	822	596
		<b>53,396</b>	<b>47,836</b>
<b>Caiteachas</b>			
Forbairt Reatha an AE	4	1	45
Forbairt Chaipitil Tionscail	7	2,819	9,272
Forbairt Reatha Tionscail	8(a)	38,906	26,308
Riarachán Reatha Tionscail	8(b)	6,028	5,261
Dímheas a Gearradh i Rith na Bliana	8(c)	1,079	1,244
Oibleagáidí Sochar Scoir	19(a)	3,257	2,840
Caiteachas ar Ghléasraí Oighir	5	1,144	1,115
		<b>53,234</b>	<b>46,085</b>
<b>Barrachas/(Easnamh) don bhliain</b>		<b>162</b>	<b>1,751</b>
Glanastríú go Cúlchiste Caipitil	15	(680)	(647)
Iarmhéid tugtha ar aghaidh amhail an 1 Eanáir		<b>(268)</b>	<b>(1,372)</b>
<b>Iarmhéid tugtha ar aghaidh amhail an 31 Nollaig</b>		<b>(786)</b>	<b>(268)</b>

Baineann an t-ioncam agus caiteachas go léir don bhliain le gníomhaíochtaí leantacha amhail an dáta tuairiscithe.

Tá Nótaí 1-23 ina gcuid de na Ráitís Airgeadais seo.

Rinne an Bord na Ráitís Airgeadais a fhaomhadh ar an 21 Meitheamh 2023 agus sínítear iad thar a cheann ag:



Aidan Cotter  
An Cathaoirleach  
21 Meitheamh, 2023



Caroline Bocquel  
Príomhfheidhmeannach  
21 Meitheamh, 2023

## Ráiteas ar Ioncam Cuimsitheach

### Don bhliain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig 2022

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Barrachas/(Easnamh) don bhliain</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1,751</b>
Gnóthachain/(caillteanas) ó thaithí ar oibleagáidí shochar scoir	(499)	(653)
Athruithe ar thiomhdí	24,154	(3,940)
Coigeartú ar mhaoiniú iarchurtha shochar scoir	(23,655)	4,593
<b>Ioncam Cuimsitheach Iomlán don bhliain</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1,751</b>

Tá Nótaí 1-23 ina gcuid de na Ráitís Airgeadais seo.

Rinne an Bord na Ráitís Airgeadais a fhaomhadh ar an 21 Meitheamh 2023 agus sínítear iad thar a cheann ag:



Aidan Cotter  
An Cathaoirleach  
21 Meitheamh, 2023



Caroline Bocquel  
Príomhfheidhmeannach  
21 Meitheamh, 2023

## Ráiteas ar Stad Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig 2022

	Tabhair do d'aire	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Sócmhainní Seasta</b>			
Maoín, Gléasra agus Trealamh	11	4,849	4,169
<b>Sócmhainní Reatha</b>			
Infháltais	12	666	825
Fardal		9	10
Airgead Tirim agus Coibhéisí Airgead Tirim		835	8,988
		<b>1,510</b>	<b>9,823</b>
<b>Dlíteanas Reatha</b>			
Méideanna Iníochta (suimeanna dlíte laistigh de bhliain amháin)	13	(2,296)	(10,091)
<b>Glansócmhainní/(Dlíteanais) Reatha</b>		<b>(786)</b>	<b>(268)</b>
<b>Sócmhainní Iomlána Lúide Dlíteanais Reatha roimh Phinsean</b>		<b>4,063</b>	<b>3,901</b>
Oibleagáid Sochair Scoir	19(b)	(66,903)	(89,390)
Sócmhainn Iarchurtha Mhaoinithe Shochair Scoir	19(c)	66,903	89,390
<b>Glansócmhainní Iomlána</b>		<b>4,063</b>	<b>3,901</b>
<b>In ionannas le</b>			
Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe		(786)	(268)
Cúlchistí Caipitil	15	4,849	4,169
<b>Glansócmhainní Iomlána</b>		<b>4,063</b>	<b>3,901</b>

Tá Nótaí 1-23 ina gcuid de na Ráitis Airgeadais seo.

Rinne an Bord na Ráitis Airgeadais a fhaomhadh ar an 21 Meitheamh 2023 agus sínítear iad thar a cheann ag:



Aidan Cotter  
An Cathaoirleach  
21 Meitheamh, 2023



Caroline Bocquel  
Príomhfheidhmeannach  
21 Meitheamh, 2023

## Ráiteas ar Shreafaí Airgid

Don bhliain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig 2022

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Réiteach ar an mBarrachas/(Easnamh) Oibriúcháin le Glansreabhadh Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibriúcháin/Forbartha</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1,751</b>
Barrachas/(Easnamh) don Bhliain	162	1,751
Ús Bainc		-
Muirear Dímhheasa	1,079	1,244
Ioncam ó Dhíol Sócmhainní Seasta (Méadú)/Laghdú ar an bhFardal	1	1
Laghdú/(Méadú) ar Infháltais	159	93
Méadú/(Laghdú) ar Iníochtaigh	(7,796)	6,989
<b>Glan-Airgid (eis-sreabhadh) /Insreabhadh ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibriúcháin/Forbartha</b>	<b>(6,394)</b>	<b>10,107</b>
<b>Ráiteas maidir le Sreafaí Airgid</b>		
Glan-insreabhadh Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibriúcháin/Forbartha	(6,394)	10,107
<b>Sreafaí Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Maoinithe</b>		
Ús a Fuarthas	-	-
<b>Sreafaí Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Infheistíochta</b>		
Íocaíochtaí chun Sócmhainní Seasta Inláimhsithe a Ghnóthú	(1,759)	(1,891)
Fáltas ó dhíol sócmhainní	-	-
<b>Méadú/(Laghdú) ar Airgead Tirim agus ar Choibhéisí in Airgead Tirim</b>	<b>(8,153)</b>	<b>8,216</b>
Airgead tirim agus coibhéisí in airgead tirim ag tús na bliana	8,988	772
<b>Airgead tirim agus coibhéisí in airgead tirim ag deireadh na bliana</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>8,988</b>

Tá Nótaí 1-23 ina gcuid de na Ráitis Airgeadais seo.

Rinne an Bord na Ráitis Airgeadais a fhaomhadh ar an 21 Meitheamh 2023 agus sínítear iad thar a cheann ag:



Aidan Cotter  
An Cathaoirleach  
21 Meitheamh, 2023



Caroline Bocquel  
Príomhfheidhmeannach  
21 Meitheamh, 2023

# Nótaí a ghabhann leis na Ráitis Airgeadais

## Don bhliain dar chríoch an 31 Nollaig 2022

### 1. Beartais Chuntasaíochta

Tá an bonn cuntasáíochta agus na polasaithe cuntasáíochta suntasacha a ghlac an BIM leo leagtha amach thíos. Cuireadh iad sin i bhfeidhm go comhsheasmhach i rith na bliana agus don bhliain roimhe.

#### Faisnéis Ghinearálta

Bunaíodh BIM faoin Acht lascaigh Mhara, 1952, agus tá a cheannoifig i nDún Laoghaire, Contae Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Is iad príomhchuspóirí BIM mar a leagtar amach iad san Acht lascaigh Mhara, 1952, ná: an tionscal a fhorbairt ar tonn agus ar tír, chun a chur ar a chumas cur go hiomlán le geilleagar na réigiún cósta agus le geilleagar na tíre trí chéile. Is í an Ghníomhaireacht Stáit ag a bhfuil freagracht phríomhúil as forbairt inbhuanaithe thionscal bia mara na hÉireann agus as éagsúlú an gheilleagair chósta í.

Is Eintiteas Sochair Phoiblí é BIM.

#### Ráiteas Comhlíonta

Rinneadh ráitis airgeadais BIM don bhliain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig 2022 a ullmhú de réir FRS 102, an caighdeán tuairiscithe airgeadais infheidhme sa RA agus in Éirinn arna eisiúint ag an gComhairle um Thuairisciú Airgeadais (FRC).

#### Bunús Ullmhúcháin

Ullmhaíodh na ráitis airgeadais faoi choinbhinsiún an chostais stairiúil, ach amháin i gcás sócmhainní agus dliteanas áirithe a ndéantar iad a thomhas ag a luach cóir mar a mhínítear sna beartais chuntasaíochta thíos. Tá na ráitis airgeadais i bhfoirm atá faofa ag an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara le toiliú ón Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe faoin Acht lascaigh Mhara, 1952. Cuireadh na beartais chuntasaíochta seo a leanas i bhfeidhm go comhsheasmhach maidir le nithe a réiteach a mheastar gur nithe ábhartha iad i dtaca le ráitis airgeadais BIM.

#### Ioncam - Deontais an Oireachtais

Sonraítear ioncam ar bhonn fabhráithe de ghnáth; an t-aon eisceacht ná Deontais an Oireachtais a shonraítear ar bhonn fáltas airgid.

#### Aisíocaíochtaí ar na Deontais a Íocadh

Bíonn na deontais a íocadh in-aisíoctha in imthosca áirithe, mar shampla má dhéantar an chuideachta a fuair an deontas a leachtú/dhíscáoilleadh, nó mura gcloítear le coinníollacha an deontais. Aithnítear aisíocaíochtaí deontais áit ar dócha go bhfaighidh an BIM an t-airgead agus gur féidir an méid a mheas go beacht; mar sin, cuirtear san áireamh iad ar bhonn fabhráithe.

#### Ioncam Úis

Sonraítear ioncam úis ar bhonn fabhráithe ag úsáid an mhodha um ghlanráta úis.

#### Ioncam Eile

Sonraítear ioncam eile ar bhonn fabhráithe.

#### Ioncam Iarchurtha

Cuimsíonn ioncam iarchurtha cistiú Eorpach agus cistiú Chruatain Bhradáin a iarcuireadh ag brath ar chaiteachas ar sheachadadh seirbhísí.

#### Scéimeanna Deontais

Déantar íocaíochtaí a dhéantar faoi na scéimeanna deontais éagsúla a oibríonn an Bord a chur san áireamh ar bhonn fabhráithe.

Déantar deontais atá iníoctha le BIM a aithint mar chaiteachas nuair a chomhlíonann an deontas na coinníollacha atá leagtha amach sa chomhaontas deontais agus gur chuir sé isteach an doiciméadú cuí chun an comhlíonadh seo a dheimhniú.

Déantar ceangaltais a eascraíonn de bhun ceaduithe faoi na Scéimeanna éagsúla Deontais atá á bhfeidhmiú ag an mBord a léiriú i Nóta 16.

#### Drochfhiacha

Déantar foráil d'iasachtaí agus d'fhiachais a mheastar go bhfuil amhras ann go mbaileofar iad agus i gcoinne aon chaillteanas a bhféadfadh teacht aníos de bharr ráthaíochtaí. Glantar drochfhiacha sa bhliain ina ndéantar deireadh a chur le comhaontú na hiasachta atá i gceist.

#### Fardal

Is éard atá san fhardal ná earraí atá le hathdhíol, agus sonraítear é sna ráitis airgeadais ag an gCostas nó an Glanluach Inréadaíthe (GLI), cibé acu is ísle. Ríomhtar an costas ar bhonn an chinn is túisce isteach, is túisce amach agus cuirtear na costais cheannacháin go léir san áireamh ann. Is é an GLI ná an praghas díola (fíorphraghas nó praghas measta) lúide na costais riachtanacha chríochnúcháin go léir.

#### Infháltais

Sonraítear infháltais ag a luach cóir, lúide soláthar in aghaidh fiach amhrasach. Is foráil ar leith an fhoráil in aghaidh fiach amhrasach, agus déantar í a bhunú nuair atá fianaise oibiachtúil ann nach mbeidh BIM in ann na suimeanna ar fad atá dlíte dó a bhailiú. Sonraítear na gluaiseachtaí go léir i soláthar in aghaidh fiach amhrasach sa Ráiteas maidir le hioncam agus Caiteachas agus le Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe.

#### Léasanna Oibriúcháin

Sonraítear an caiteachas cíosa faoi léasanna oibriúcháin sa Ráiteas maidir le hioncam agus Caiteachas agus le Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe thar saolré an léasa. Sonraítear an caiteachas de réir méid chothroim thar thréimhse an léasa, ach amháin sa chás go dtagann méadú ar an gcíos atá nasctha le ráta ionchais an bhoilscithe. Sa chás sin, sonraítear na méaduithe nuair a thabhaítear iad. Sonraítear thar shaolré an léasa na dreasachtaí léasa a fhaightear.

#### Maoin, Gléasra agus Trealamh

Luaitear maoin, gléasra agus trealamh ag a gcostas lúide dímheas carntha, agus iad mionchoigeartaithe do sholáthar in aghaidh bearnaithe, más ann dó. Déantar soláthar in aghaidh dímheasa ag rátaí measta ar an maoin, gléasra agus trealamh go léir, ach amháin talamh ruilse agus saothar ealaíne, chun an costas, lúide an luach iarmharach measta, atá ar gach sócmhainn a dhíscríobh de réir méid chothroim thar a saol úsáideach measta, mar seo a leanas:

- Talamh agus Áitribh
  - a. Talamh Nialas
  - b. Áitribh:
    - Stáisiúin Loingseoireachta - Bunaidh 2%
    - Stáisiúin Loingseoireachta - Breise 10%
    - Áitribh Eile 10%

- Gléasra agus Innealra
  - a. Trealamh Oiliúna 16.6%
  - b. Gléasra agus Innealra Eile 10%
  - c. Trealamh Teicniúil 20%
- Mótarfheithiclí 20%
- Gléasanna agus Trealamh
  - a. Trealamh Iascaireachta 50%
  - b. Árthaí 10%
  - c. Trealamh Oifige 20%
  - d. Trealamh Ríomhaireachta (TF) 33.3%

Is ionann an luach iarmharach agus an tsuim mheasta a gheofaí faoi láthair ar dhiúscairt sócmhainne, tar éis costais mheasta na diúscairthe a asbhaint, sa chás go mbeadh an tsócmhainn d'aois agus de riocht a mbeifeá ag súil leo ag deireadh a saoil úsáidigh.

Más ann d'fhianaise oibiachtúil go bhfuil luach sócmhainne bearnaithe, sonrófar cailteanas bearnaithe sa Ráiteas maidir le hloncam agus Caiteachas agus le Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe don bhliain.

### Cúlchistí Caipitil

Is éard atá sna Cúlchistí Caipitil ná an luach gan amúchadh atá ar na deontais chaipitil a úsáidtear chun sócmhainní seasta a mhaoiniú.

### Airgead Tirim agus Coibhéisí Airgead Tirim

Is éard atá in airgead tirim ná airgead ar láimh agus taiscí prapéilimh. Is éard atá i gcoibhéisí in airgead tirim ná infheistíochtaí gearrthéarmacha an-leachtacha ar féidir iad a chomhshó go réidh i suimeanna aitheanta airgid thirim, suimeanna nach bhfuil ach mionriosca ann go dtiocfaidh athrú ar a luach.

### Airgeadraí Iasachta

Aistrítear sócmhainní agus dliteanais airgid in airgeadraí iasachta ag na rátaí malairte ar an dáta tuairiscithe. Aistrítear ioncam agus costais ag na rátaí malairte ar dhátaí na n-idirbheart atá i gceist.

Pléitear sa Ráiteas maidir le hloncam agus Caiteachas agus le Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe le brabúis agus le cailteanais a eascraíonn as idirbhearta in airgeadraí iasachtacha agus as socraíocht na suimeanna infhaighte agus iníoctha.

### Sochair na bhFostaithe

**Sochair Ghearrthéarmacha:** Sonraítear sochair ghearrthéarmacha amhail pá saoire mar chostas sa bhliain, agus cuirtear na sochair atá carntha ag deireadh na bliana san áireamh i bhfigiúr na nIníocthach sa Ráiteas maidir le Staid Airgeadais.

**Sochair Scoir:** Roimhe seo, bhunaigh BIM a scéim sochair phinsin deimhnithe féin, a cistíodh go bliantúil ar bhonn íoc-mar-a-thuilltear ó airgead a chuir an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara ar fáil agus ó íocaíochtaí rannpháirteacha a baineadh ó thuarastail bhaill foirne agus tuarastail chomhaltaí. Oibríonn BIM Scéim Pinsin Seirbhísí Poiblí Aonair (“Scéim Aonair”) freisin, ar scéim sochair dheimhnithe í d'fhostaithe sa tseirbhís phoiblí a ceapadh ar nó tar éis an 1 Eanáir 2013. Íoctar ranníocaíochtaí bhaill na Scéime Singile leis an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe (RCPA).

Achtaíodh an t-Acht um Pinsin Seirbhísí Phoiblí (Scéim Singil agus Forálacha Eile) 2012 ar an 28 Iúil 2012 agus thug sé isteach Scéim Phinsin Seirbhísí Poiblí Singil (“Scéim Singil”) le héifeacht ón 1 Eanáir 2013. Is baill gach iontrálaí nua sa tSeirbhís Phoiblí, ar nó tar éis an 1 Eanáir 2013, den Scéim Singil.

Léiríonn costais phinsin na sochair phinsin a thuilleann fostaithe sa tréimhse agus sonraítear iad de réir ranníocaíochtaí pinsin na mball foirne a choimeádann BIM. Déantar suim a fhreagraíonn don táille pinsin a aithint mar ioncam sa mhéad agus atá sé in-aisghabhála, agus gur féidir é a fhritháireamh in aghaidh deontais a fuarthas sa bhliain chun na híocaíochtaí pinsin a dhéanamh.

Léirítear na gnóthachain nó na cailteanais achtúireacha a eascraíonn as dliteanais na scéime sa Ráiteas maidir le hloncam Cuimsitheach agus sonraítear athrú comhfhreagrach sa tsuim atá in-aisghabhála ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

Léiríonn na ráitis airgeadais luach cóir na sócmhainní agus dliteanais a eascraíonn as ceangaltais pinsin an BIM, mar aon le haon mhaoiniú gaolmhar, agus sonraítear iontu na costais a bhaineann le sochair pinsin a sholáthar sna tréimhsí cuntasáíochta inar gnóthaíodh ag na fostaithe iad. Déantar dliteanais maidir le scéim shochar scoir a thomhas ar bhonn achtúireach ag úsáid mhodh na n-aonad réamh-mheasta creidmheasa.

### Soláthairtí

Sonraítear soláthairtí nuair atá ceangaltas reatha dlíthiúil nó inchiallaithe ar an mBord mar thoradh ar imeachtaí roimhe seo; is dócha go mbeidh eis-sreabhadh acmhainní de dhíth chun an ceangaltas a réiteach agus gur féidir méid na hoibleagáide a mheas go cinnte.

### Suimeanna Teagmhasacha

Ní shonraítear dliteanais theagmhasacha a eascraíonn as imeachtaí roimhe seo (i) mura dócha go mbeidh eis-sreabhadh acmhainní ann nó mura féidir an tsuim a thomhas go hiontaofa amhail an dáta tuairiscithe, nó (ii) má dhéanfar iad a dheimhniú trí imeachtaí neamhchinnte a tharlóidh nó nach dtarlóidh sa todhchaí, nach bhfuil go hiomlán faoi rialú an Bhoird. Déantar dliteanais theagmhasacha a nochtadh sna ráitis airgeadais ach amháin más fánach an seans go dtarlóidh eis-sreabhadh.

Ní shonraítear sócmhainní teagmhasacha. Déantar sócmhainní teagmhasacha a nochtadh sna ráitis airgeadais nuair is dócha go dtarlóidh insreabhadh de shochair gheilleagracha.

## 2. Breithiúnais agus Meastacháin An-Tábhachtacha Chuntasaíochta

Le linn do na ráitis airgeadais seo a bheith á n-ullmhú, bíonn ar an lucht bainistíochta breithiúnais, meastacháin agus toimhdí a dhéanamh a chuireann isteach ar fhorfheidhmiú na mbeartas agus ar na suimeanna a thuairiscítear i leith sócmhainní agus dliteanas, ioncaim agus costas.

Déantar breithiúnais agus meastacháin a mheas go leanúnach agus bunaítear ar chleachtaí stairiúla agus ar thosca eile iad, lena n-áirítear ionchais maidir le himeachtaí amach anseo a mheastar gur ionchais réasúnta iad sna himthosca. Déanann an Bord meastacháin agus toimhdí maidir leis an todhchaí. Is annamh go mbeidh na meastacháin chuntasaíochta, faoi mar a thuigfeá, a eascraíonn as, mar an gcéanna leis na fíorthorthaí gaolmhara. Pléitear thíos na meastacháin agus na toimhdí a bhfuil baol mór ann go dtiocfaidh athrú ó thaobh ábhair de, dá mbarr, ar shuimeanna glanluacha na sócmhainní agus na ndliteanas sa chéad bhliain airgeadais eile:

### (a) Saolréanna a bhunú chun críocha dímheasa do mhaoin, do ghléasra agus do threalamh

Is cuid mhór de na sócmhainní iomlána iad sócmhainní fadsaolacha, .i. maoin, gléasra agus trealamh den chuid is mó. Braitheann an muirear bliantúil dímheasa go príomha ar shaolréanna measta gach cineál sócmhainne agus ar mheastacháin luachanna iarmharacha. Déanann an Bord athbhreithniú rialta ar shaolréanna na sócmhainní agus athraíonn sé iad nuair is gá chun an smaointeoireacht reatha ar na saolréanna atá fágtha a léiriú i bhfianaise úsáid ionchasach geilleagrach agus riocht fisiceach na sócmhainní lena mbaineann. Is féidir le tionchar suntasach a bheith ag athruithe ar shaolréanna sócmhainní ar na muirir dhímheasa don tréimhse. Tá mionsonraí faoi shaolréanna úsáideacha curtha san áireamh sna beartais chuntasaíochta.

### (b) Soláthar le haghaidh fiach amhrasach

Déanann an Bord meastacháin maidir le luach in-aisghabhála na bhféichiúnaithe trádála agus féichiúnaithe eile. Úsáideann an Bord meastacháin atá bunaithe ar chleachtadh stairiúil chun leibhéal na bhfiach a shocrú go mb'fhéidir nach mbaileofaí iad. Cuirtear san áireamh sna meastacháin tosca amhail rátáil reatha an fhéichiúnaí, próifíl aosaithe na bhféichiúnaithe agus an cleachtadh stairiúil. Déantar athbhreithniú leanúnach ar leibhéal riachtanach an tsoláthair.

### (c) Sochar Scoir

Déanann an Bord na suimeanna atá ag dul dó ón Stát as an dliteanas iarchurtha neamhchistithe pinsin, a shonrú bunaithe ar roinnt imeachtaí roimhe seo. Áirítear leis na himeachtaí sin tacaíocht rathúil don scéim aoisliúntais, agus an beartas agus an cleachtadh a bhaineann le pinsin seirbhíse poiblí a mhaoiniú, lena n-áirítear an próiseas bliantúil um meastachán. Cé nach ann do chomhaontú foirmiúil, agus mar sin do ráthaíocht, i ndáil leis na suimeanna faoi leith seo leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, níl aon fhianaise ag an mBord nach mbainfidh an beartas maoinithe seo an tsuim seo amach de réir a chéile de réir an chleachtais reatha.

### (d) Oibleagáidí Sochar Scoir

Déantar nuashonrú go bliantúil ar na toimhdí atá mar bhunús ag na luachálacha achtúireacha dá ndéantar na suimeanna atá sonraithe sna ráitis airgeadais a leagann amach (lena n-áirítear rátaí lascaire, rátaí méadaithe ar leibhéal cúitimh amach anseo, rátaí báis agus rátaí treochta um chostais cúram sláinte) bunaithe ar chúinsí geilleagracha reatha, agus má dhéantar aon athrú ábhartha ar théarmaí agus coinníollacha na bpleananna pinsin agus iar scoir.

Is féidir leis na nithe seo a leanas dul i gcion ar thoisí:

- (i) Athraíonn an ráta lascaire sa ráta fáltais ar bhannaí corparáideach d'ardchaighdeán.
- (ii) Leibhéil chúitimh don todhchaí, coinníollacha margaidh lucht saothair todhchaí.
- (iii) Rátaí treochta um chostais cúram sláinte, ráta an bhoilscithe de bharr costais leighis i réigiúin ábhartha.

## 3. Deontais an Oireachtais: An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Vóta 30 - Fo-cheannteideal D5 Forbairt Reatha</b>		
Pá	8,250	7,700
Aoisliúntas	2,450	2,600
Neamhphá	35,865	23,850
<b>Iomlán Forbartha Reatha</b>	<b>46,565</b>	<b>34,150</b>
Forbairt Chaipitil	4,500	11,750
	<b>51,065</b>	<b>45,900</b>

## 4. Deontais

### Deontais a Fuarthas

Tionscadal	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Interreg	35	334
	<b>35</b>	<b>334</b>

### Deontais a Caitheadh

Tionscadal	Tuarastail	Neamhphá	Deontais	Iomlán	Iomlán
Interreg	-	1	-	1	45
	-	<b>1</b>	-	<b>1</b>	<b>45</b>

Cuireadh fáltais uile an AE i bhfeidhm le linn na bliana agus bhain siad le caiteachas ar fhorbairt reatha tionscail. Baineann an difríocht, de €34,000, idir na deontais a fuarthas agus na deontais a caitheadh le difríochtaí ama i riar na n-éileamh le haghaidh maoinithe scéime.

## 5. Torthaí oibriúcháin maidir le Soláthar Oighir

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
<b>Láimhdeachas</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>341</b>
Lúide: Pánna	(507)	(486)
Lúide: Costais oibriúcháin	(526)	(482)
Lúide: Costais riaracháin	(111)	(147)
<b>Caiteachas Iomlán ar Ghléasraí Oighir*</b>	<b>(1,144)</b>	<b>(1,115)</b>
<b>(Easnamh)/Barrachas ar oibríochtaí</b>	<b>(838)</b>	<b>(774)</b>

\*Ní áirítear sa chaiteachas iomlán muirir dhímheasa ar shócmhainní seasta gléasra oighir de €14,000 sa bhliain (2021: €16,000).

Nóta: Rinne Bord BIM measúnú ar chás gnó nuashonraithe d'oibríochtaí gléasra oighir amach anseo in 2022. Tá dul chun cinn á dhéanamh air seo faoi láthair leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

## 6. Ioncam eile

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Ioncam Riaracháin – lena n-áirítear. Cíos Infhála	30	32
Ioncam lascaigh Mhara	247	210
Comhairle Uiscí an Iarthuaiscirt	16	16
Ioncam ó Oiliúint	439	294
Aisíocaíochtaí ar Dheontais lascaigh Mhara	89	43
Fáltais ó Dhíol Sócmhainní	1	1
	<b>822</b>	<b>596</b>

## 7. Caiteachas Forbartha Caipitil Tionscail

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
<b>Tionscadal</b>		
Seirbhísí Teicniúla Mara	2,819	6,631
Seirbhísí Forbartha agus Nuálaíochta	-	2,641
	<b>2,819</b>	<b>9,272</b>

Áirítear le STS doharshaothrú de €577k in 2022 (2021: €2,821k)

## 8. Caiteachas ar Fhorbairt Reatha Tionscail

### (a) Forbairt

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000			
<b>Tionscadal</b>	<b>Tuarastail</b>	<b>Neamhphá</b>	<b>Deontais</b>	<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>Iomlán</b>
Seirbhísí Teicniúla Mara	2,244	3,127	24,214	29,585	16,641
Seirbhísí Eacnamaíochta agus Straitéiseacha	499	471	-	970	1,455
Seirbhísí Forbartha agus Nuálaíochta	1,183	2,516	90	3,789	4,337
Cúnamh Teicniúil (EMFF)	458	507	-	965	862
Seirbhísí Forbartha Scileanna	1,388	1,163	124	2,675	2,470
Cúrsaí Cumarsáide	343	579	-	922	543
	<b>6,115</b>	<b>8,363</b>	<b>24,428</b>	<b>38,906</b>	<b>26,308</b>

### (b) Riarachán

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Costais Tuarastail	1,871	1,675
Baill Foirne Riaracháin Taistil	48	24
Costais Táillí agus Taistil Chomhaltáí an Bhoird	71	60
Cíos, Rátaí agus Deisiúcháin	138	185
Guthán, Postas agus Páipéarachas	209	215
Próiseáil Sonraí (TF)	1,807	1,319
Cumhacht, Soilse agus Glantóireacht	236	112
Táillí Dlí, Gairmiúla agus Sainchomhairleoirí	848	946
Táille Iniúchta	32	32
Tuarascáil Bhliantúil	15	15
Árachas	109	88
Fógraíocht & Urraíocht	3	3
Costais Oiliúna agus Forbartha Foirne	320	333
Ilnithe, Costais Ghinearálta agus Suibscríbhinní Trádála	321	254
	<b>6,028</b>	<b>5,261</b>

### (c) Dímhéas

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Dímhéas i rith na bliana	1,079	1,244
	<b>46,013</b>	<b>32,813</b>

## 9. Costais Foirne

Gearrtar tuarastail foirne i gcaitheamh na bliana ar an gCuntas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus Cúlchistí Coimeádta Ioncaim Reatha faoi na ceannteidil seo a leanas. Gearrtar pá Oibreoirí Ghléasra Oighir ar chostais reatha Ghléasra Oighir (Féach Nóta 5).

### (a) Tuarastail Foirne de réir Rannáin

	Líon na mBall Foirne amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022	2022 € '000	Líon na mBall Foirne amhail an 31 Nollaig 2021	2021 €'000
Tuarastail maidir le Seirbhísí Teicniúla Bia Mara - Nóta 8 (a)	32	2,244	32	2,294
Seirbhísí Eacnamaíochta & Straitéiseacha - Nóta 8(a)	6	499	6	403
Tuarastail Forbartha Gnó & Nuála - Nóta 8(a)	16	1,183	20	1,179
Tuarastail Forbartha Seirbhísí Oiliúna - Nóta 8 (a)	20	1,388	22	1,264
Tuarastail Cumarsáide - Nóta 8(a)	5	343	5	320
Seirbhísí Corparáideacha - Nóta 8(b)	35	2,035	28	2,129
Tuarastail Ghléasra Oighir - Nóta 5	12	507	9	486
	<b>126</b>	<b>8,199</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>8,075</b>

Áiríodh tuarastail de €458,000 a bhaineann le foireann a coinníodh faoin Scéim Chabhrach Teicniúil (2021: Áirítear €498,000), arna gcistiú ag cúnamh deontais EMFF, san aonad Seirbhísí Corparáideacha do 2022. Áirítear ragobair de €42,000 (2021: €44,000) sa mhéid thuas. Níor íocadh aon liúntais ar bord sa bhliain (2021: €1,000).

### (b) Pinsin a hÍocadh sa Bhliain

Is iad is pinsinéirí iontu ná íocaíochtaí pinsin a dhéantar le baill foirne BIM atá ar scor (Féach Nóta 19).

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Pinsinéirí	128	129
Íocaíochtaí Cnapshuime	124	217
	<b>128</b>	<b>129</b>
	<b>2,501</b>	<b>2,574</b>

Baineadh tobhach pinsin €273,000 ó bhail foirne agus íocadh é leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara. Tar éis rialú an AE in 2008 rinneadh ball seasta foirne de gach ball foirne ar conradh a bhí i dteideal conartha thréimhse éiginnte. Áirítear na baill foirne seo le líon na mball foirne atá údaraithe ag BIM, mar a comhaontaíodh leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara.

### (c) Mionsonrú ar Shochair na bhFostaithe

Ó	Raon iomlán na bhfostaithe		Líon na bhFostaithe	
	Go dtí	2022	2021	
€60,000	€69,999	23	35	
€70,000	€79,999	23	7	
€80,000	€89,999	9	11	
€90,000	€99,999	5	5	
€100,000	€109,999	2	-	
€110,000	€119,999	2	-	
€120,000	€129,999	-	-	
€130,000	€139,999	-	1	



## 10. Tuarastal na Stiúrthóirí agus an POF

		Táillí 2022 €'000	Táillí 2021 €'000	Taisteal Speansais 2022 €'000	Taisteal Speansais 2021 €'000
Aidan Cotter (Téarma 17 Bealtaine 2022 to 16 Bealtaine 2025)	An Cathaoirleach	7	-	-	-
Lisa Vaughan (Téarma 19 Meitheamh 2020 agus an 18 Meitheamh 2022) (athcheaptha 19 Meitheamh 2022 agus an 18 Meitheamh 2025)	Stiúrthóir	8	8	1	1
William Deasy (Téarma 26 Iúil 2017 go dtí 25 Iúil 2020) (Téarma idir an 19 Samhain 2020 agus an 18 Samhain 2023)	Stiúrthóir	8	8	4	1
Jean Callanan (Téarma idir an 19 Samhain 2020 agus an 18 Samhain 2023)	Stiúrthóir	8	8	1	1
Aaron Forde (Téarma idir an 19 Samhain 2020 agus an 17 Feabhra 2021)	Stiúrthóir	-	1	-	-
Marie Gleeson (Téarma idir an 19 Samhain 2020 agus an 18 Samhain 2023)	Stiúrthóir	8	8	2	1
George Golden (Téarma 29 Meán Fómhair 2021 to 28 Meán Fómhair 2024)	Stiúrthóir	8	2	3	1
		<b>47</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>

Bhí 12 lánchruinniú TBC ag an mBord in 2022. D'fhreastail Comhaltaí Boird ar chruinnithe agus imeachtaí eile lasmuigh de chruinnithe an Bhoird agus Cruinnithe Iniúchóireachta thar ceann BIM.

	Freastal an Bhoird 2022	Cruinnithe Eile 2022
Aidan Cotter	(7/7)	-
Lisa Vaughan	(11/12)	6
William Deasy	(12/12)	-
Jean Callanan	(12/12)	2
Marie Gleeson	(11/12)	2
George Golden	(11/12)	4

	Tuarastal 2022 € '000	Tuarastal 2021 €'000
POF (Jim O'Toole)	117	136
Príomhfheidhmeannach Eatramhach	20	-
	<b>137</b>	<b>136</b>

Tá an POF ina bhall de scéim shochair shainithe BIM agus íocadh costais de €7,000 leis an bPríomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin do 2022 freisin. D'éirigh an Príomhfheidhmeannach as an 31 Deireadh Fómhair 2022.

Ceapadh Caroline Bocquel mar POF Eatramhach ar 1 Samhain 2022. Íocadh costais de €2,139 leis an POF Eatramhach le haghaidh 2022.

## 11. Maoin, Gléasra agus Trealamh

	Iomlán €'000	Talamh agus Áitribh €'000	Gléasra agus Innealra €'000	Sócmhainní le linn tógála €'000	Feithiclí Mótair €'000	Gaireas agus Trealamh €'000
<b>Costas</b>						
Iarmhéid amhail an 1 Eanáir	33,352	6,762	5,965	-	382	20,243
Breiseanna	1,759	121	758	621	2	257
Aistriú*						
Diúscairtí	(4)		(4)	-		
<b>Iarmhéid amhail an 31 Nollaig</b>	<b>35,107</b>	<b>6,883</b>	<b>6,719</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>20,500</b>
<b>Dímheas</b>						
Iarmhéid amhail an 1 Eanáir	29,183	6,010	4,532	-	293	18,348
Muirear don Bhliain	1,079	160	318	-	34	567
Diúscairtí	(4)	-	(4)	-		
<b>Iarmhéid amhail an 31 Nollaig</b>	<b>30,258</b>	<b>6,170</b>	<b>4,846</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>18,915</b>
<b>Glanluach Leabhair</b>						
<b>Amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022</b>	<b>4,849</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>1,873</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1,585</b>
<b>Amhail an 31 Nollaig 2021</b>	<b>4,169</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>1,433</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>1,895</b>

\*Tagraíonn sócmhainní atá á thógáil faoi láthair don tiomantas caipitil sonraithe ar an 31 Nollaig 2022.

## 12. Infháltais

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Infháltais Eile	313	406
Réamhíocaíochtaí	369	434
	<b>682</b>	<b>840</b>
Lúide: Soláthar le haghaidh Fiach Amhrasach	(16)	(15)
	<b>666</b>	<b>825</b>

### 13. Méideanna Iníochta (suimeanna dlite laistigh de bhliain amháin)

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Ioncam Iarchurtha	54	54
Iníochta agus fabhruithe trádála	1,917	1,388
Fabhruithe Deontais	325	8,649
	<b>2,296</b>	<b>10,091</b>

Tá cáin agus árachas sóisialta faoi réir théarmaí na reachtaíochta ábhartha. Gearrtar ús ar íocaíochtaí déanacha. Ní raibh aon ús dlite ag dáta deiridh na bliana airgeadais. Tá téarmaí na bhfabhruithe bunaithe ar na conarthaí bunaidh. Na suimeanna eile a chuirtear san áireamh i gcreidiúnaithe, nach bhfuil cumhdaithe ag nochtadh nótaí ar leith, is suimeanna neamhraithe iad atá gan ús agus iníochta ar éileamh.

### 14. Ceangaltais Léasa

Amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022 bhí na híocaíochtaí íosta todhcháiocha léasa seo a leanas ag BIM, faoi léasanna oibríocháin nach féidir iad a chealú, do na tréimhsí seo a leanas:

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Iníochta laistigh de bhliain amháin	17	17
Iníochta laistigh de dhá bhliain suas le cúig bliana	41	53
Iníochta tar éis cúig bliana	9	19
	<b>67</b>	<b>89</b>

### 15. Cúlchistí Caipitil

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Iarmhéid amhail an 1 Eanáir	4,169	3,522
<b>Aistriú (chuig an)/ón gCuntas Ioncaim agus Caiteachas</b>		
Maoiniú Bhreiseanna Sócmhainní	1,759	1,891
Amúchadh i gcomhréir le Dímheas Sócmhainní	(1,079)	(1,244)
<b>Aistriú chuig an Ráiteas maidir leis an gCuntas Ioncaim agus Caiteachais agus le Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>647</b>
<b>Iarmhéid amhail an 31 Nollaig</b>	<b>4,849</b>	<b>4,169</b>

### 16. Dlíteanais agus Ceangaltais Theagmhasacha

Ní raibh aon dlíteanais agus ceangaltais theagmhasacha ann amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022, a d'eascair as seo a leanas:

- (a) Ag deireadh na bliana bhí iarratais ar dheontais ann a bhí faofa go hiomlán, agus nach bhfuarthas aon iarratas ina leith.

Ba iad na hiarmhéideanna maidir leis na háiseanna airgeadais seo a faomhadh ach nár úsáideadh ar an 31 Nollaig ná:

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
lascaigh	15,378	5,454

### 17. Tionscnamh Dobharshaothraithe Trasteorann

Rinneadh an Tionscnamh Dobharshaothraithe Trasteorann arna thacú ag an gClár Speisialta um Shíocháin agus Athmhuintearas a chorprú in 1998 mar Ghrúpáil Eorpach um Leas Eacnamaíoch (EEIG) agus a chláraíodh san Oifig um Chlárú Cuideachtaí. Tá sé faoi chomhúinéireacht BIM agus Bhia Mara Thuaisceart Éireann Teoranta (Northern Ireland Seafood Limited).

Comhdaítear ráiteas bliantúil leis an CRO (IG8) agus síníonn ballraíocht an GELE é, Bluett Conran a iniúchann na cuntais don Tionscnamh Dobharshaothraithe.

Chríochnaigh an Tionscnamh Dobharshaothraithe Trasteorann a chuid oibríochtaí ar an 31 Nollaig 2020 agus cuirfead tús leis an bpróiseas leachtaithe, trí iarratas Ard-Chúirte, in 2021 agus tá sé fós ar siúl.

### 18. Ciste Cothromais Bheanntaí

Bhunaigh an Rialtas an ciste faoi leith seo le forbairt thionscal do bharshaothraithe réigiún Bheanntaí a chur chun cinn tar éis dhúnadh Chríochfort Ola Fhaoide. Sealbhaítear na scaireanna uile in ainm an Aire Airgeadais. Ní féidir luach na scaireanna seo a mheas go cruinn de bharr go mbraitheann sé ar fheidhmíocht na bhfontar.

Sealbhaíodh na hinfheistíochtaí seo a leanas amhail an 31 Nollaig 2022:

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Kush Seafarms Teoranta	19	19
Fastnet Mussels Teoranta	19	19
	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>

## 19. Costais Shochair Scoir

### (a) Costais Scoir

Anailís ar na costais iomlána shochar scoir a gearradh ar an Ráiteas maidir le hIoncam agus Caiteachas agus le Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe:

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Costas Seirbhíse Reatha	2,418	2,439
Ús ar Dhliteanais Scéime Pinsin	1,251	799
Ranníocaíochtaí Fostaí	(412)	(398)
	<b>3,257</b>	<b>2,840</b>

### (b) Gluaisteacht i nglan-Oibleagáidí Shochar Scoir

	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Glandliteanas Pinsin amhail an 1 Eanáir	89,390	84,132
Costas Glan Seirbhíse Reatha	2,006	2,041
Rannchuidithe Fostaithe	412	398
Ús ar Dhliteanais Scéime Pinsin	1,251	799
Caillteanas/(Gnóthachan) Achtúireach	(23,655)	4,593
Pinsin a híocadh sa bhliain	(2,501)	(2,573)
Íocaíocht i leith aistriú seirbhíse go tríú páirtí*	-	-
	<b>66,903</b>	<b>89,390</b>

### Toimhdí Airgeadais

Ba iad seo a leanas na príomhthoimhdí achtúireacha:

	2022	2021
Ráta méadaithe na dtuarastal	4.15%	3.60%
Ráta méadaithe na bpinsean á n-íoc	3.65%	3.10%
Ráta Lascaine	3.65%	1.40%
Ráta Boilscithe	2.65%	2.10%

Ligeann bonn na básmháireachta a nglactar leis d'fheabhsúcháin ar ionchas saoil le himeacht aimsire. Mar sin de, braithfidh ionchas saoil tráth scoir ar an mbliain a bhaineann ball aois scoir amach (65 bliain d'aois). Taispeántar sa tábla thíos an meánionchas saoil ualaithe a úsáidtear chun oibleagáidí sochair na mball a leagadh amach.

Bliain ar baineadh aois 65 bliain amach	2022	2042
Ionchas saoil - fir	24.3	22.1
Ionchas saoil - mná	26.4	24.4

### (c) Sócmhainn Maoinithe Iarchurtha le haghaidh Pinsean

Breathnaíonn an Bord ar na méideanna seo mar shócmhainn a fhreagraíonn don dliteanas iarchurtha gan mhaoiniú le haghaidh pinsean de réir na sraithe toimhdí a mhínítear thíos agus roinnt imeachtaí a tharla san am atá thart. Ar na himeachtaí seo tá an bonn reachtúil um bunú na scéimeanna aoisliúntais, agus an beartas agus an cleachtas atá i bhfeidhm faoi láthair i ndáil le maoiniú pinsean na seirbhíse poiblí, lena n-áirítear ranníocaíochtaí fostaithe agus an próiseas bliantúil meastachán. Cé nach ann do chomhaontú foirmiúil i ndáil leis na suimeanna faoi leith seo leis an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, níl aon fhianaise ag an mBord nach mbainfidh an beartas maoinithe seo na suimeanna seo amach mar is dual dó de réir an chleachtais reatha.

Glanmhaoiniú Iarchurtha le haghaidh Pinsean sa bhliain	2022 € '000	2021 €'000
Maoiniú in-aisghabhála maidir le costais phinsin na bliana reatha	3,669	3,238
Deontas Stáit caite le pinsinéirí a íoc agus aistriú seirbhíse	(2,501)	(2,573)
	<b>1,168</b>	<b>665</b>

### (d) Stair na nDlíteanais Scéime agus na ngnóthachan/(caillteanas) Taithí

Glanmhaoiniú Iarchurtha le haghaidh Pinsean sa bhliain	2022 € '000	2021 € '000	2020 € '000	2019 € '000	2018 €'000
Oibleagáidí sainithe sochair	66,903	89,390	84,132	78,619	71,082
Gnóthachain ó thaithí ar dhliteanais phlean	499	653	338	(980)	(1,317)
Gnóthachain ó thaithí mar chéatadán de dhliteanais phlean	0.7%	0.7%	0.4%	(1.2%)	(1.9%)

### (e) Scéim Pinsin

Feidhmíonn BIM scéim aoisliúntais sochair sainithe don fhoireann. Íoctar teidlíochtaí aoisliúntais a eascraíonn ó na scéimeanna as ioncam reatha agus gearrtar ar an Ráiteas maidir le hIoncam agus Caiteachas agus le Cúlchistí Ioncaim Coinnithe iad, de réir glan-ranníocaíochtaí aoisliúntais na bhfostaithe, sa bhliain a bhíonn siad le híoc. Leagtar amach na torthaí thuas ar luacháil achtúireach de dhliteanais pinsin maidir le foireann BIM atá ag obair, atá scoite nó básaithe ar an 31 Nollaig 2022. Rinne achtúire neamhspleách cáilithe an luacháil seo.

### (f) Scéim Aonair

Is í an Scéim Aonair an scéim pinsin gairme d'fhostaithe sa tseirbhís poiblí a earcaíodh ó 2013 i leith. Is scéim sochar sainithe atá ann, le sochair scoir bunaithe ar meánphá gairmréime. Gnóthaíonn an scéim sochair pinsin agus sochair chnapshuime scoir do gach ball den scéim. Fabhraíonn na sochair airgid seo, ar a nglaoitear "suimeanna inghairthe", mar chéatadán de phá ar bhonn leanúnach. Déantar na suimeanna inghairthe fabhráithe gach bliain a luacháil go bliantúil go dtí scor ag teacht le méaduithe boilscithe (Praghasinnéacs Tomhaltóirí). Is ionann an pinsean bliantúil a bhronntar ar scor agus iomlán carnach suimeanna inghairthe pinsean bhall den scéim agus, ar an gcuma chéanna, is ionann an cnapshuim a bhronntar agus iomlán suimeanna inghairthe chnapshuime bhall den scéim.

## 20. Leasanna Bhail an Bhoird

Ghlac an Bord le nósanna imeachta de réir na dtreoirlínte a d'fhoilsigh an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe i dtaca le nochtadh Chomhaltaí an Bhoird faoi leasanna agus comhlíonadh na nósanna imeachta seo i rith na bliana. Níor nocht Comhaltaí Boird leasanna in am ar bith in 2022.

## 21. Nochtadh Páirtí Baintigh

Is ionann na príomhphearsanra bainistíochta i BIM agus an Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin agus Bord na Stiúrthóirí. B'ionann iomlán an chúitimh a íocadh leis an bpríomhphearsanra bainistíochta, táillí agus speansais chomhaltaí an Bhoird agus luach saothair iomlán an Phríomhoifigigh Fheidhmiúcháin, agus €204,000 (2021: €184,000).

Chun briseadh síos a fháil ar luach saothair agus sochair a íocadh leis an bpríomhphearsanra bainistíochta, déan tagairt le do thoil le Nóta 10.

Glacann BIM nósanna imeachta i gcomhréir leis na treoirlínte a eisiónn an Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe a chlúdaíonn leasanna pearsanta chomhaltaí an Bhoird. I ngnáthchúrsa an ghnó, féadfaidh BIM deontais a fhorhreas nó dul isteach i socruithe conarthacha le haonáin ina bhfuil comhaltaí Boird an BIM fostaithe nó a bhfuil leas eile acu iontu.

Is le BIM 100% de ghnáth-scairchaipiteal St. George Fishery Company Limited, cuideachta atá corpraithe in Éirinn, nach bhfuil ag feidhmiú faoi láthair agus nár thrádáil le linn na tréimhse. Tá glansócmhainní de €1,270 ag an gcuideachta.

## 22. Gnóthas Leantach - COVID-19

Leanann BIM air ag bainistiú cúinsí athraitheacha maidir le paindéim COVID-19. Baineann an próiseas seo leis na prótacail is déanaí ón Rialtas a leanúint agus cinnte a dhéanamh go bhfuil maoluithe cuí i bhfeidhm le Creat Bainistíochta Riosca BIM. Tá plean teagmhais COVID-19 i bhfeidhm agus déanann foireann shinsearach ceannaireachta é a bhainistiú agus a nuashonrú.

## 23. Faomhadh na Ráiteas Airgeadais

Rinne an Bord na Ráitis Airgeadais a fhaomhadh ag an gcruinniú ar an 21 Meitheamh 2023.

