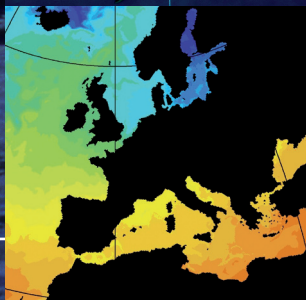


The Marine Board

Forum • Synergy • Strategy • Voice
for Marine Research in Europe



www.esf.org/marineboard

Edition: May 2009



FORUM

- **Bringing together European marine research organisations (both research-funding and research-performing) to share information, to identify and address common challenges, to develop common positions and strategies, and to cooperate, the Marine Board provides a forum via:**

- **Plenary meetings:** Delegates from Member Organisations meet at the Marine Board Plenary twice yearly.

- **Working Groups:** These are the primary foresight tool of the Marine Board, providing the mechanism for establishing research priorities. Set up with dedicated Terms of Reference for a 12- to 18-month duration, they address subjects of pan-European relevance, which are considered by the Board to be of strategic importance for marine research. The output of a Working Group is published as a peer-reviewed Position Paper.

www.esf.org/marineboard/workinggroups

- **Vision Groups:** To best support the policy-making process in the marine research domain, Vision Groups are convened to investigate, within a short time scale, emergent scientific issues of strategic importance, with the aim of developing a short Vision Document.

www.esf.org/marineboard/visiongroups

- **Panels:** These operate as long-term instruments, to address operational issues of relevance to marine research. They provide a forum for their members and a source of expertise and information for reference and interaction with the Marine Board.

On-going Marine Board Panels:

- Marine Board Communications Panel (established in 2002)
- Marine Board European Scientific Diving Panel (established in 2008)

www.esf.org/marineboard/panels

- **Marine Board Biennial Forum series:** These topic-specific fora facilitate interactions between the Marine Board and non-Member Organisations, networks and individual scientists. The biennial Forum is an instrument in support of the Marine Board's objectives to reduce duplication of initiatives and limit fragmentation within the European marine research landscape.

www.esf.org/marineboard/forum



SYNERGY

● **Fostering European added-value in national and regional programmes and promoting synergy between research disciplines and sectors, the Marine Board works:**

- **Towards a partnership approach:** based on the Marine Board experience as a co-organiser of Science Policy Conferences (e.g. EurOCEAN series) and as an initiator in establishing a sustainable dialogue between the marine and maritime research stakeholders, industry representatives, and policymakers.
- **From strategic concepts to implementation tools:** based on the Marine Board's involvement in EU Framework Programme projects.
- Establishing a platform for interactions between Research Funding Organisations through the MarinERA – AMPERA (FP6 ERA-NET; 2005 – 2009) Forum: a series of annual fora for FP6 marine and environmental ERA-NETs.
- Providing a node for policy interface – e.g. Policy Interface Panel for *European MARine and MARitime REsearch and Science Communities* (FP7 project EMAR²RES; 2009 – 2011).

www.esf.org/marineboard/fpactivities

Key examples of the Marine Board's activities include:

- Initiating and ensuring the (deputy) coordination of MarinERA, FP6 ERA-NET (2004 – 2009) dedicated to the coordination of national marine research funding programmes, conducting strategic analysis – e.g. *Future Looks: Strategic Analyses for New Activities*, MarinERA Report No. 7 (November 2008).

STRATEGY

- **Identifying and prioritising emergent (inter-) disciplinary marine scientific issues of strategic European importance, initiating analysis and studies in order to develop a European strategy for marine research, the Marine Board's output includes:**



- *Marine Board – EuroGOOS Vision Document on EMODNET* (September 2008)
- *The Effects of Anthropogenic Sound on Marine Mammals*, Position Paper 13 (June 2008)
- *Remote Sensing of Shelf Sea Ecosystems*, Position Paper 12 (February 2008)
- *Marine Board Responses to the EC's Green Papers on: Maritime Policy, and the ERA*, Position Paper 11 (November 2007)
- *Investigating Life in Extreme Environments – A European Perspective*, Joint Marine Board and ESF Report (May 2007)
- *European Ocean Research Fleets – Towards a Common Strategy and Enhanced Use*, Position Paper 10 (March 2007)

- *Climate Change Impacts on the European Marine and Coastal Environment – Ecosystems Approach*, Position Paper 9 (March 2007)
- *Navigating the Future III*, Position Paper 8 (November 2006)
- *Modelling of Coastal and Shelf Seas – European Challenges*, Position Paper 7 (June 2005)
- *Navigating the Future II*, Position Paper 6 (March 2003)
- *Integrating Marine Science in Europe*, Position Paper 5 (November 2002)
- *Marine Biotechnology – A European Strategy for Marine Biotechnology*, Position Paper 4 (December 2001)
- *Navigating the Future – Towards a European Marine Research Area*, Position Paper 3 (March 2001)

www.esf.org/marineboard/publications





VOICE

- Expressing a collective vision of the future for European marine research in relation to developments in Europe and world-wide, and improving the understanding of marine research and challenges related to the European seas and oceans by policymakers and advisors, the delivery of the Marine Board's Voice is, *inter alia*, via:

- **Science Policy Conferences**

(co-organisation of-, contribution to-, endorsement of-)

- EurOCEAN Conference series
- EU Presidency Conferences
- EuroScience Open Forum series
- European Maritime Day Stakeholder Conference series

- **Science Policy Statements**

The Marine Board produces statements and responses to European policy initiatives and consultations launched on e.g. the European Research Area, the Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union, or the Marine and Maritime Research Strategy.

www.esf.org/marineboard/statements

Regarded as a driving force for marine research policy in Europe, the Marine Board works as a think-tank to promote collaboration amongst the main marine research-funding agencies and institutes. The activities of the Marine Board are developed around four pillars: Forum, Synergy, Strategy and Voice.

Marine Board Structure

Board

The Marine Board is a non-governmental pan-European organisation. Its institutional membership is composed of:

- 30 Member Organisations from 20 European countries (May 2009)
- Observers from the European Commission and from countries which are not Members of the Council of Europe.

www.esf.org/marineboard/members

Executive Committee

The Marine Board appoints an Executive Committee consisting of one Chair, six vice-Chairs and the Marine Board Executive Scientific Secretary.

www.esf.org/marineboard/about

Executive Secretariat

A permanent Executive Secretariat, funded directly by the Marine Board Member Organisations, supports and implements the activities identified by the Marine Board and its Executive Committee.

www.esf.org/marineboard/contact

