



Guiding stakeholders to participate in Marine Strategy Framework Directive implementation

Sarah Twomey- PISCES Project

*Coastal & Marine Research Centre,
University College Cork, Ireland.*

MARMONI Seminar 16th November 2012





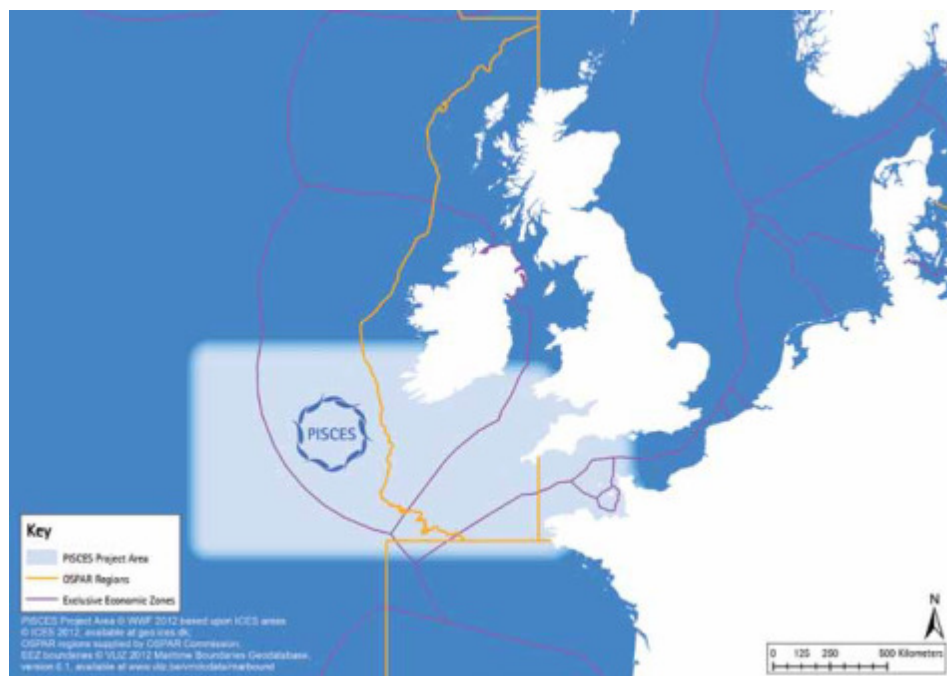
PISCES =

Partnerships **I**nvolving **S**takeholders
in the **C**eltic Sea **E**co**S**ystem





The PISCES Celtic Sea project area



- Based on ICES areas and include the Celtic Seas and West Channel
- Broadly coincides with the southern component of the MSFD Celtic Seas sub-region





Partnerships Involving
Stakeholders in the Celtic
Sea Ecosystem



This is an EC LIFE project
With the contribution of the LIFE financial
instrument of the European Community.
Project number: LIFE97/EN/000084

Activities in the Celtic Sea





PISCES project

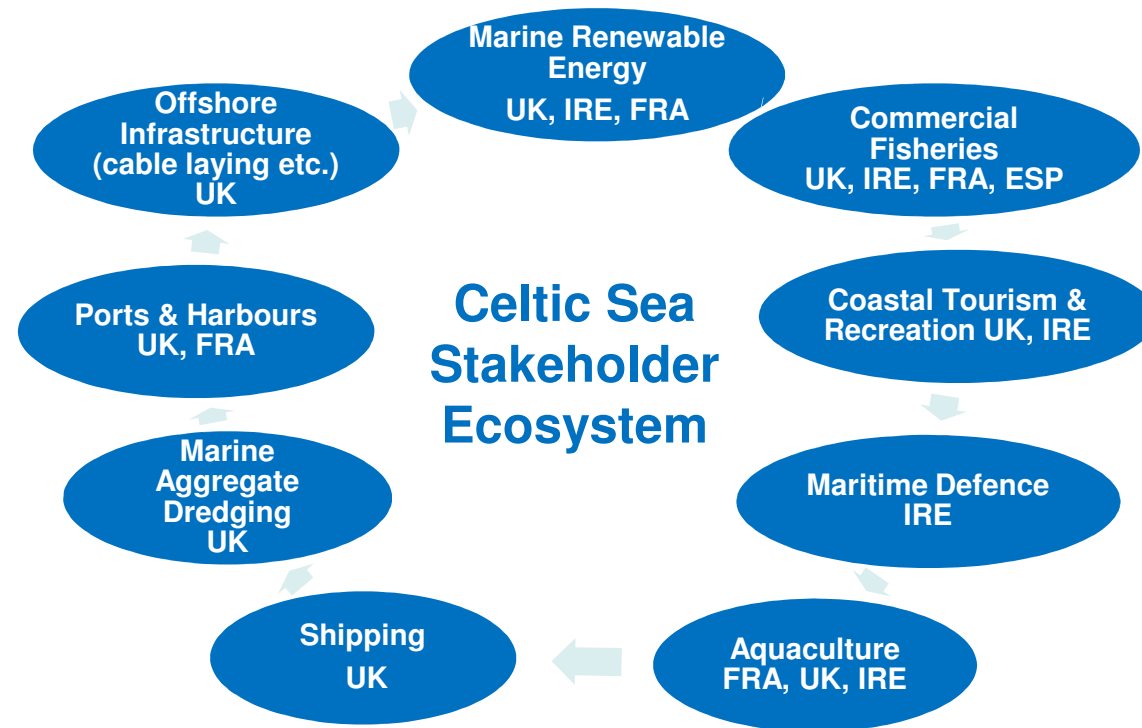


- Brought together sea-users in the Celtic Sea to:
 - Increase understanding of the Ecosystem Approach,
 - Develop a practical guide to implement the Ecosystem Approach through the MSFD.
- €2m project funded through LIFE+ Environment, Policy & Governance (2009-2012)





Sectors involved





PISCES guide



Towards sustainability
in the Celtic Sea



Supporting Sustainable Seas



A guide to implementing
the ecosystem approach
through the Marine Strategy
Framework Directive



Section 4
The Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the ecosystem approach

In order to achieve GES in a coherent and strategic manner, the MSFD establishes four marine regions, which are themselves divided into sub-regions (see Figure 3). Each EU country is required to produce a marine strategy for the waters under its jurisdiction, in cooperation with other countries that share the same sub-region. The Regional Seas Conventions will support this coordination.



Figure 3: Map showing the MSFD sub-regions.

Existing policies, agreements and legislation address many of the human activities in the marine environment that will influence the achievement of GES (see Box 6). The MSFD requires these to integrate environmental concerns. Other policies also include requirements for implementing the ecosystem approach.

Implementing the ecosystem approach through the MSFD

The MSFD's focus is on meeting environmental objectives: it is not a mechanism for integrated management of human activities. Additional governance tools, such as marine spatial planning, are needed to make the ecosystem approach a reality in coastal and marine environments. The economic, social and environmental benefits of marine spatial planning are well documented. However, marine plans are not yet in place across Europe, creating the enabling conditions for integrated marine spatial planning is a top priority.

Implementation of the MSFD will require a coordinated, coherent approach within each sub-region. This will be challenging since each country is developing its own strategy. Marine spatial planning is likely to help, as it provides a means for neighbouring countries to understand and work with adjacent demands on marine space and resources.

Stakeholder participation in implementing the MSFD

Early and effective stakeholder participation is a legal requirement of the MSFD, and a key principle of the ecosystem approach. In the context of the MSFD, consultation must be undertaken at the end of each step during the development of marine strategies, and is one of several ways in which stakeholders can participate in decision-making (see Box 7).

"The ecosystem approach is nothing without stakeholders"
(Renewables sector)





PISCES guide



- Presents the voice of stakeholders: developed through an innovative partnership of sea-users from the UK, Ireland, France and Spain.
- Explores what is needed to implement the Ecosystem Approach in the context of the MSFD.
- Aims to demystify terminology, and makes practical recommendations for stakeholders and governments.





How the guide was developed



- 25 core stakeholders
- 100 moderating/wider stakeholders
- Advisory group of international experts (incl. UNESCO, OSPAR)
- 5 multinational cross-sectoral workshops supplemented by structured interviews, questionnaires, literature reviews





Partnership-approach





Who is the guide for?



- Aimed at stakeholders operating in and around the Celtic Sea, and government decision-makers responsible for implementing the MSFD
- Highly relevant and transferable to other marine regions





Key areas for action



1. Improving stakeholder participation in MSFD implementation



Step 5: Evaluation and adaptation (every six years)

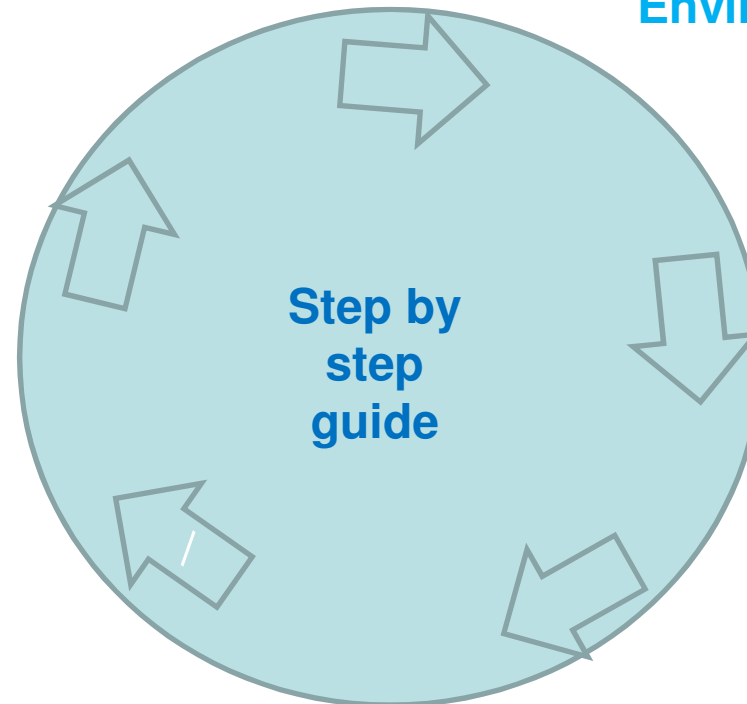
Stakeholder role:

- Evaluate data
- Suggest new measures

Step 4: Implement programmes of measures (by 2016)

Stakeholder role:

- Voluntary measures
- Support enforcement



Step 1: Initial assessment and determination of Good Environmental Status (by 2012)

Stakeholder role:

- Provide information
- Indicate value
- Share data

Step 2: Develop and implement monitoring programme (by 2014)

Stakeholder role

- Collect data
- Assist methodology

Step 3: Develop programmes of measures (by 2015)

Stakeholder role:

- Identify and test measures
- Provide information and evaluate
- Socio-economic impacts





Key areas for action



- 2) Encouraging stakeholders to implement their own solutions.
 - Modifying activities (e.g. avoiding wildlife breeding seasons),
 - Sustainable markets (e.g. Responsible Irish Fish certification scheme),
 - Participate in stakeholder forum (e.g. Celtic Seas Forum)





Key areas for action



3) Greater communication between stakeholders and stakeholders and government.

- Regional multi-sector forums
- Clear objectives, formal status
- Representative
- Funded





Stakeholder feedback



“Communication through initiatives such as PISCES helps bring different stakeholders together that would never normally have an opportunity to engage in dialogue.” (Renewables sector)

*“It was a unique opportunity to interact with other stakeholders in a free environment where you can really express your views, and there is nothing at stake but just to try and work better together.”
(Fisheries)*





Further information



- PISCES guide (available in English, French and Spanish)
- PISCES website: www.projectpisces.eu
- PISCES launch events:
London & Brussels: November 2012
Ireland & France: December 2012





Thank you



s.twomey@ucc.ie
pisces@wwf.org.uk
www.piscesproject.eu
www.twitter.com/projectpisces

*This is an EC LIFE+ project with the contribution of the LIFE
financial instrument of the European Community.
Project number: LIFE07 ENV/UK/0009*

