



# **WELCOME**

**Cllr. Gerry Horkan**  
**Chair of Irish Sea Maritime Forum**



**Implementing the Atlantic Action Plan**

**2nd UK National Workshop of Funding and Project Idea Development**

**9th December - Liverpool, UK**



# Outline Presentation

Introduction to the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA)

The importance of the marine sector to EMRA

ISMF Background and Structure

ISMF Objectives

Atlantic Action

# Introduction to EMRA

## Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly

Coastal region on the trans-European transport network with Liverpool and Belfast.

Diverse multinational base of global companies, young and talented workforce, renewed focus on growing indigenous economy.

Our region contributes greater than 50% of national GDP

36 elected representatives on the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly

Nationally - 9 fulltime Committee of the Regions delegates

## EMRA Projects

- **Celtic Seas Partnership (2014)** – In order to deliver the ambitions of the MSFD, effective approaches that link Integrated Coastal Zone Management and MSFD objectives are required

- **RESILENS (2015)**- Exploring ways to make our critical infrastructure more resilient to human and natural threats

- **Urb-ADAPT (2016)** will allow for the integrated assessment and management of current and future climate vulnerabilities across the GDA



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Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly



# Why EMRA are involved in the ISMF

## Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly – Key focus areas

### Blue growth opportunities including:

- Marine based tourism

### Marine Spatial Planning and Coastal Management

- Celtic Seas Partnership

### Climate Change

### Maritime heritage

### Maritime transport and energy

**Exciting time for the marine sector – heralding renewed opportunities for cooperation**

### *National Growth Figures*

- Shipping & Maritime Transport (including international shipping services): €2.2bn turnover, €0.5bn GVA
- Seafood: €1bn turnover, €0.4bn GVA
- Marine Tourism & Leisure: €0.7bn turnover, €0.3bn GVA



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*for every 100 marine jobs created a further 75 jobs are created elsewhere* (Bio-Economy input-output model of the Socio-Economic Marine Institute)

# ISMF Background

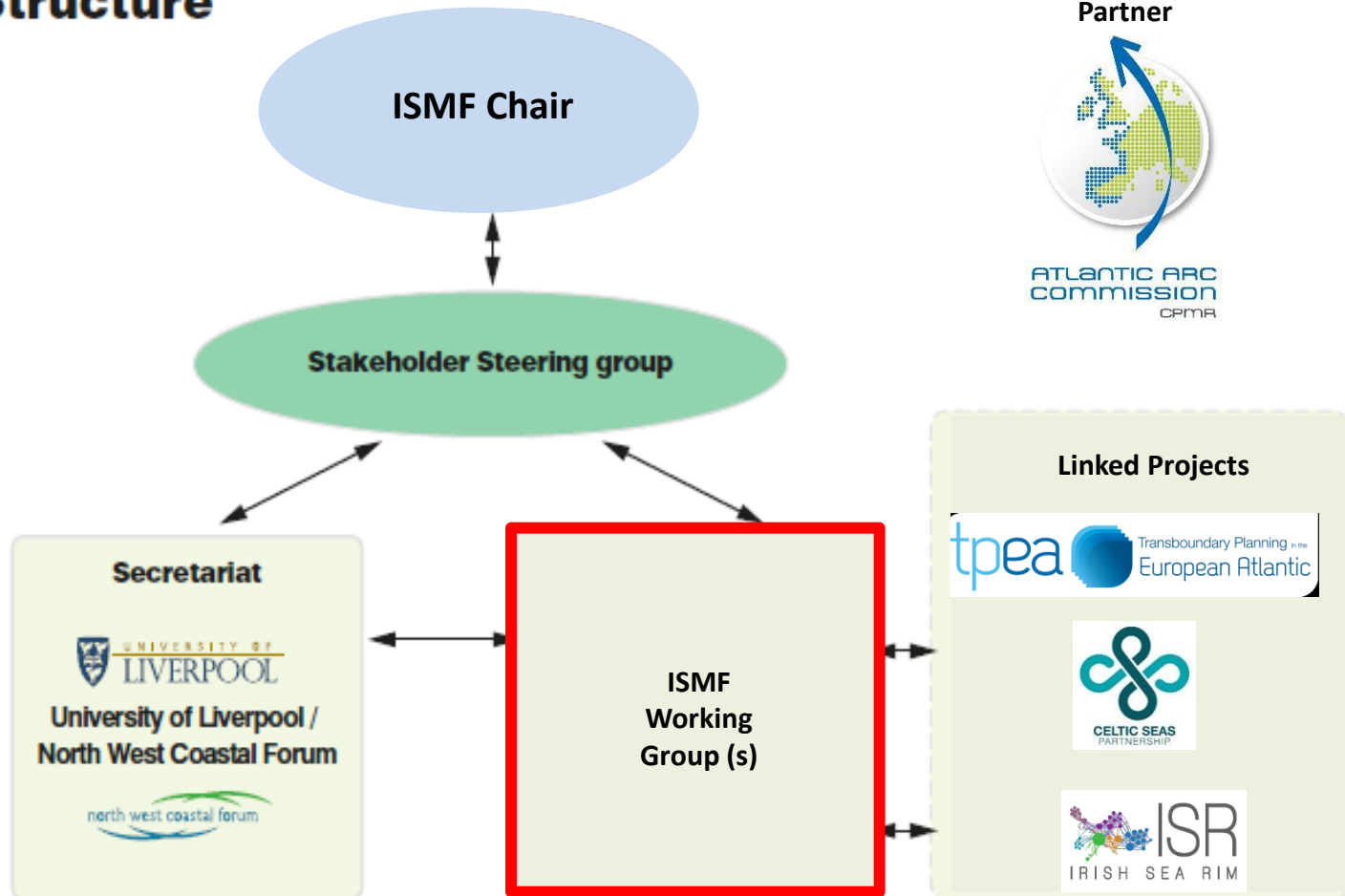
**Established 2012**

The Irish Sea Maritime Forum is a multi-sector partnership bringing together maritime stakeholders to promote and deliver sustainable development of the Irish Sea Region



# ISMF Structure

## Structure





# ISMF OBJECTIVES

- To provide a broad based forum for all Irish Sea users and provide an opportunity for voices to be heard
- To facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building across all administrative areas and sectors about marine planning
- To facilitate sharing of data and information
- To encourage and maintain political support for transnational partnership working in support of marine planning, with the aim of promoting sustainable development in the Irish Sea region
- To facilitate a more coordinated, efficient planning process for transnational issues/projects and good working relationships among Irish Sea partners



# Developing the role of ISMF



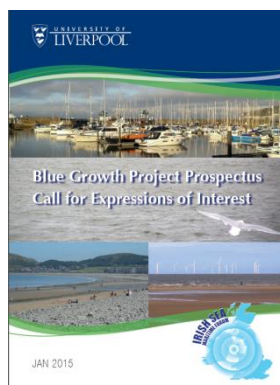
## Bringing Stakeholders Together



## Sharing Ideas and Information



## Airing Stakeholder Perspectives



## Sparking New Alliances and Action



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# The Atlantic Action Plan and ISMF

## AAP Priorities

- Promote entrepreneurship and innovation;
- Protect, secure and enhance the marine and coastal environment;
- Improve accessibility and connectivity;
- Create a socially inclusive and sustainable model of regional development



# Irish Sea Issues & Opportunities



## Fishing

- Fishers in research – data gaps
- Standardisation and share of Best Practice

## Energy

- Marine Spatial Planning
- Climate Change Mitigation
- New technologies – blue growth innovation

## Shipping/Ports

- Blue growth and coordinated planning
- Cruise and other leisure
- Efficient logistics – looking at the global picture and our potential as Gateway to Europe
- Environmental and socio-economic considerations

## Environment

- Transnational cooperation
- Shared resources – online data portals and observatories
- CSP, other projects creating shared objectives

# Atlantic Action Plan

- Numerous areas for potential collaboration
- Common priorities, not least sustained and sustainable growth
- Informed evidence based decision making required and a joined-up approach to funding mechanisms in order to implement EU policy and satisfy shared opportunities

# Funding Potential

## Some examples

- INTERREG Ireland-Wales, Europe, Northern Periphery, etc
- INTERREG Atlantic Area Programme

## Some considerations

- Geographical scope of calls;
- Priority areas within calls;
- Timing of calls;
- Matching to our areas of interest and expertise.



# Atlantic Area Programme

- Programme could be very relevant.
- The Atlantic Area Programme provides assistance to transnational co-operation projects in Ireland, Western UK, Portugal and designated coastal regions of Spain and France. For the 2014-2020 period the programme area also includes the Azores, Canary islands and Madeira.
- Assist with implementing Priority 4 of the Atlantic Action Plan.
- €140 million (€m) euro of funds.
- Anticipated budget per project of €1.5m-€2m.
- First call in 2016.



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