

# Celtic Seas Partnership

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# Policy Context

Rivers  
(WFD)



Coast  
(ICZM)



Seas  
(MSFD)



# Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)

**Aim:** to conserve Europe's seas, while allowing for sustainable use.

**Good Environmental Status** in all EU waters by 2020.

**Marine Strategies** for marine regions.

**But... No formal mechanisms for stakeholders to collaborate across sectors and across borders at the scale of marine regions/sub-regions.**



# Our Seas

206 million people, 41% of the EU population, live in coastal regions.

Marine and coastal activities Gross Value Added of 330 – 485 billion euros employ approximately 5.4-7 million people.

But, these benefits are coming under threat from multiple pressures... fishing, seafloor damage, pollution by nutrient enrichment and contaminants, spreading of non-native species, marine litter, underwater noise and expanding industries: marine renewables, minerals and shipping.





# Celtic Seas Partnership

Celtic Seas – marine sub-region of NE Atlantic.

Four year EC LIFE+ €4m project 2012-2016.

WWF-UK led with partners

- NERC-BODC
- University of Liverpool
- SeaWeb (France)
- Dublin Regional Authority







# Celtic Seas Partnership

*To support the delivery of Good Environmental Status in the Celtic Seas, by facilitating engagement between sectors and across borders to ensure the long term future of the environment, while safeguarding people's livelihoods and the communities that have a **relationship with the sea.***



# How?

## Developing Celtic Seas scale resources:

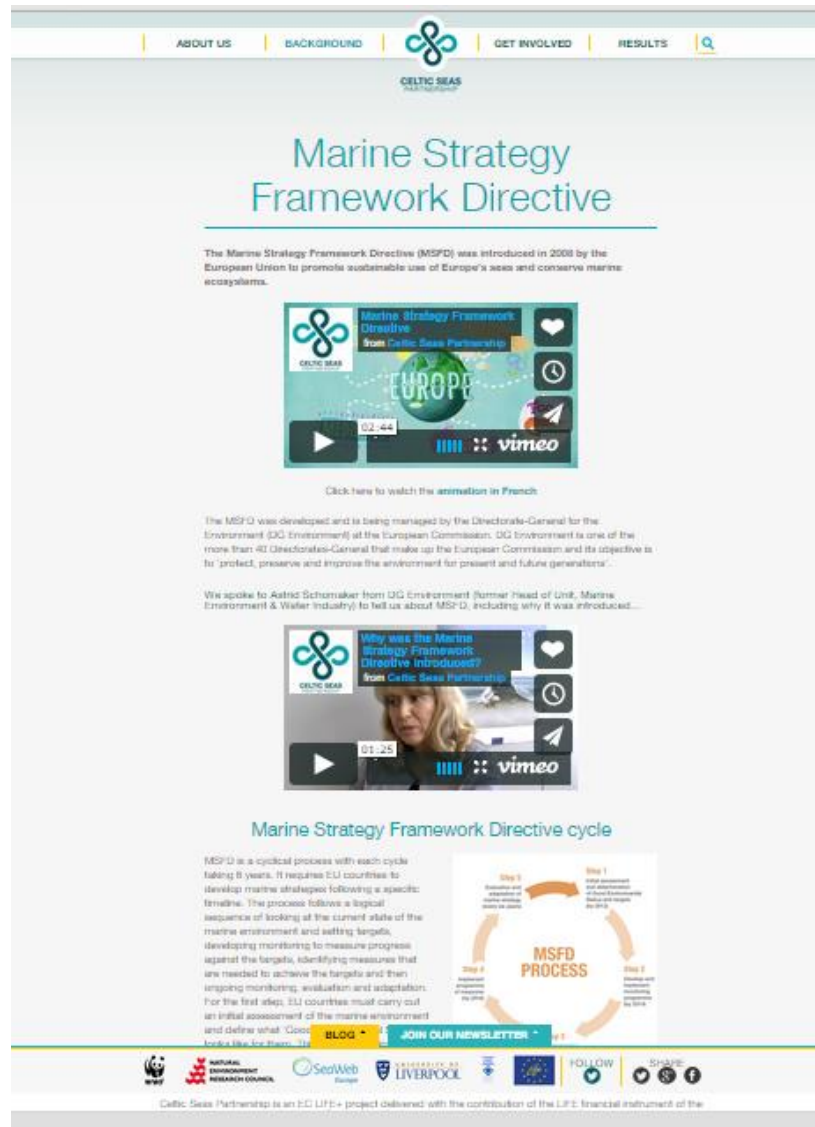
- data portal
- strategic guide to knowledge integration

## Guidelines for MSFD & ICZM:

- co-location
- transboundary governance

## Workshops & engagement activities:

- New measures for MSFD proposed by stakeholders
- Case study sites (9)



The screenshot shows the Celtic Seas Partnership website with a navigation bar (ABOUT US, BACKGROUND, GET INVOLVED, RESULTS) and a search icon. The main heading is "Marine Strategy Framework Directive". Below it, a paragraph states: "The Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) was introduced in 2008 by the European Union to promote sustainable use of Europe's seas and conserve marine ecosystems." Two video players are featured: "Marine Strategy Framework Directive from Celtic Seas Partnership" (02:44) and "Why was the Marine Strategy Framework Directive introduced?" (01:25). Below the videos, a section titled "Marine Strategy Framework Directive cycle" explains the MSFD process as a cyclical 8-year process. A diagram shows the cycle with steps: Step 1 (Initial assessment), Step 2 (Developing and implementing measures), Step 3 (Monitoring and evaluation), and Step 4 (Review and adaptation). The footer includes logos for WWF, Natural Environment Research Council, SeaWeb, and Liverpool, along with social media links and a disclaimer: "Celtic Seas Partnership is an EC LIFE+ project delivered with the contribution of the LIFE financial instrument of the..."





# Developing measures to support implementation of the MSFD

- Working with stakeholders to develop new measures.
- Using workshops, online surveys, and expert advice to develop ideas and identify priority areas based on stakeholder interests and current gaps/weaknesses.
- Measures will be fed into government consultations and/or taken forward by stakeholders

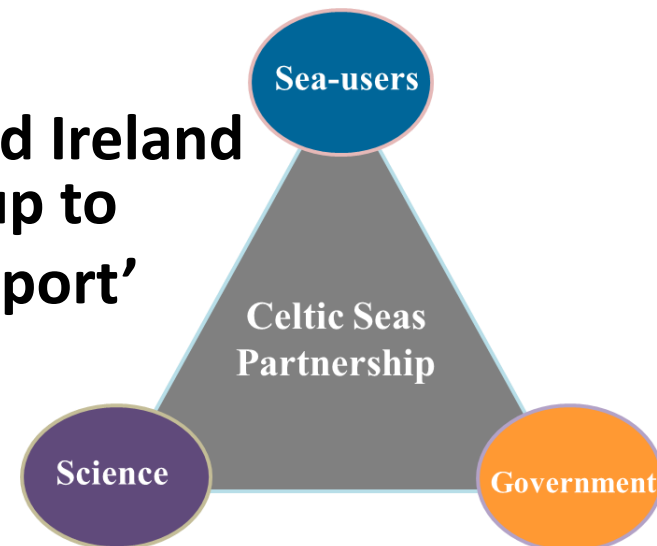


# Engagement to date

## Bringing government, science & industry together

- **70 stakeholders** from industry, government and academia attend CSP launch conference
- **6 workshops** in Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, England, France and Ireland attended by a total of **180 stakeholders**
- **410 stakeholders engaged** in project activities across the 7 project countries from **10 different sectors**.

**UK, Devolved Administrations, France and Ireland governments, the EC and OSPAR signed up to 'Celtic Seas Partnership statement of support'**





# Lessons from Integrated Coastal Management (ICZM)



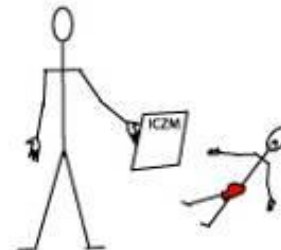
# ICZM principles (EC, 2002): the 'zip' between WFD & MSFD

+ the enabling  
mechanism for  
'land-sea interface'  
in the MSP Directive

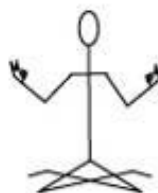
Take a broad, holistic approach



Think long term...



Use adaptive management...

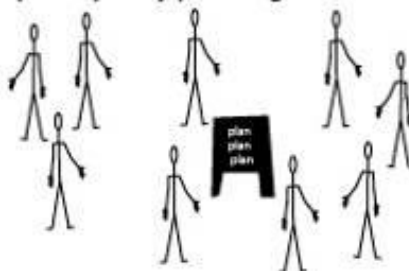


...be flexible!

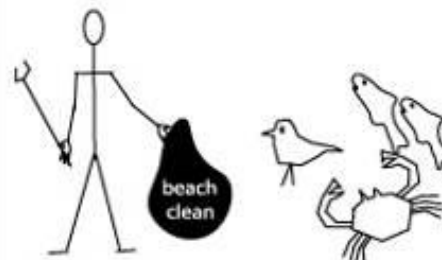
Use a wide range of instruments



Use participatory planning



Get everyone involved



Work with natural processes



Reflect local specificity





# ICZM – key principles to apply to maritime policy

## Integration of policy & practice

**Horizontal integration** – cross-sector (government, science, users)

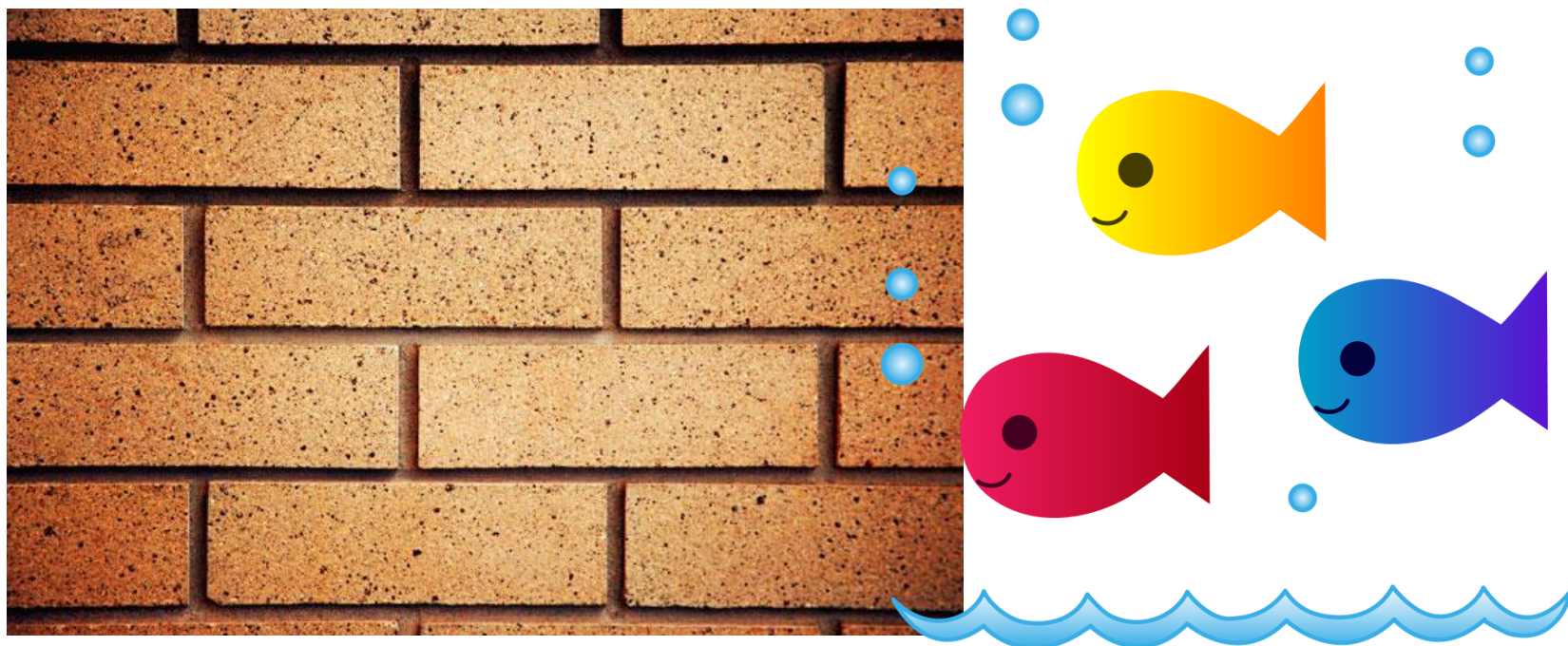
**Vertical integration** – cross-border & national to local government (& within sectors)

**Engaging people in decision-making *at the relevant scale* leads to more effective policy implementation.**



# Regional Seas: do we need stakeholder forums at this scale?





# Key Messages

Value of our Seas – has been under-estimated.

Value of (EC) legislation to incentivise Partnerships.

Stakeholder engagement - most challenging for 'remote' marine environment.

Experience from Catchment Partnerships & Coastal Partnerships valuable for 'Marine Partnerships?'

Celtic Seas Partnership investigating:

- links between coastal & marine policy in practice
- stakeholder engagement best practice
- appropriate scale(s) for stakeholder engagement fora.





*Thank you.*

*Sign up to the  
Celtic Seas  
e-newsletter  
for ongoing  
information.*

Illustrations by Kim McGillivray



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