

## BIM EMFAF Work Programme Project Report 2022

<b>BENEFICIARY:</b>	Bord Iascaigh Mhara
<b>PROJECT REFERENCE NUMBER:</b>	22/SCBS/CSS-BG019-BR087
<b>NAME OF PROJECT:</b>	<b>ICES Annual Science Conference 2022</b>
<b>IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:</b>	1st January to 31st December 2022

### Project Scope

The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) is an intergovernmental marine science organization, meeting societal needs for impartial evidence on the state and sustainable use of our seas and oceans. The goal of ICES is to advance and share scientific understanding of marine ecosystems and the services they provide and to use this knowledge to generate state-of-the-art advice for meeting conservation, management, and sustainability goals.

ICES is a network of nearly 6,000 scientists from over 700 marine institutes in 20 member countries and beyond. Over 2,500 scientists participate in activities annually. The ICES Annual Science Conference (ASC) is the key scientific meeting organised by ICES with annual meetings almost every year since 1902.

BIM, in conjunction with the ICES secretariat team, DAFM, and the Marine Institute organised and hosted the ICES Annual Science Conference (ASC) which was held at the Aviva Stadium in Dublin from 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022.

As ICES is at the cutting edge of marine science, BIM will benefit from the extensive networking opportunities this affords, along with gaining valuable knowledge and insight into what is happening in the marine sphere internationally. In turn, this will further help BIM to deliver against its EMFAF mandate and will increase awareness, participation and engagement of industry with the international scientific community.

### Objectives

The objective of the ICES Annual Science Conference is to allow industry and BIM to actively participate and to engage with and influence the international marine scientific community.

### Outcomes

Main highlights of ICES ASC 2022 in numbers:

- 829 participants
- 589 attended the ICES in Dublin
- 240 joined online
- 202 early career scientists
- 341 oral presentations
- 100 poster presentations



The marine science community met in the AVIVA stadium in Dublin from 19-22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2022 for the ICES Annual Science Conference (ASC). A number of important project and ICES business meetings also took place on the fringes of the conference. Having been unable to meet in person since 2019, Ireland and the Irish delegates were proud to host the first in-person ASC post-COVID. Charlie McConalogue, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, welcomed the ICES community to Ireland and highlighted the importance of international scientific collaboration and cooperation. As well as providing the first opportunity for the community to gather together in three years, ICES ASC 2022 is the first time that the conference was offered as a hybrid model - and while more than 500 scientists took part in Dublin, there were a further 200+ joining proceedings from around the world online.

A key focus of the conference was climate change impacts on the North Atlantic. The opening keynote address featured four Irish perspectives on the impacts that climate changes have or will have on North Atlantic and Irish waters, featuring talks on oceanography, fisheries, Blue Carbon, and climate justice. Gerard McCarthy, Irish Climate Research and Analysis Unit (ICARUS), Maynooth University, spoke about how changes in the wider North Atlantic impact on ocean climate in Irish waters. Dave Reid, Marine Institute Ireland, explored the changes in the distributions of fish species around Ireland, stating that fishing pressure remains the main driver for fish distributions, not climate. Grace M. Cott, University College Dublin, focus was on the impact of climate change on Ireland's Blue Carbon habitats, such as saltwater marshes. Eimear Manning, National Youth Council of Ireland, finished by examining how all this, often conflicting, evidence appears in the wider social dimension in the context of Climate Justice.

The Annual Science Conference is an important gathering for the ICES community. It provides opportunities for marine scientists to present and discuss the latest science, develop new ideas and establish partnerships. The conference also provides opportunities for everyone, from students and early career scientists to senior scientists and leaders of research institutes, academia and other scientific organisations to network and showcase their work. The conference consisted of 18 theme sessions covering a wide range of topics including sustainable aquaculture, the role of small-scale fisheries and communities in ocean governance, offshore renewable energy and scientific surveys, mixed fisheries, oceanography and ecosystems in the North Atlantic, and ecosystem-based management.

There were also several important networking sessions including: Advancing the pathways for oceanography to ecosystem science and advice, Connecting ICES working groups to early career scientists, Operationalising model ensembles to provide scientific advice for fisheries management, Strengthening ICES through national networks and The Kraken's Lair: EBM operationalization pitch pit. The main social events at the conference allowed participants to build or reconnect with their peer network this included a Monday evening Welcome Reception, Tuesday evening Poster Session and Wednesday evening Conference Dinner.

From a national perspective it was excellent to see scientists from Irish institutions and organisations playing a leading role in the conference by delivering key notes, chairing themes sessions, presenting their results and conclusions as papers or posters. The conference was well attended by officials from Government Departments including DAFM, DECC, DHLGH as well as the agencies including BIM, IFI and the MI.

#### **Online Keynote Presentations:**

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4gXA2v1PWKP0DboeQQYBnovN56gdpX-l>

#### **News Items:**

<https://www.ices.dk/news-and-events/news-archive/news/Pages/ICESASC22kickoff.aspx>

<https://www.ices.dk/news-and-events/news-archive/news/Pages/ASCaward22.aspx>



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag  
an Aontas Eorpach

Co-Funded by the  
European Union

<https://www.marine.ie/site-area/news-events/press-releases/ireland-hosting-major-marine-conference-week>  
<https://www.marine.ie/site-area/news-events/press-releases/ireland-hosting-major-marine-conference-week?language=ga>  
<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/644e0-minister-mcconalogue-welcomes-international-council-for-the-exploration-of-the-sea-ices-to-dublin/>

## Summary of Project Spend

Summary of Spend	
Total Approved Costs	€200,000
Total Eligible Expenditure	€197,657
EMFAF Eligible Expenditure	€98,828
Exchequer	€98,828

Report by: Wendy Sullivan, BIM & Helen Boles and Dr. Colm Lordan (MI)

Date: March 2023



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag  
an Aontas Eorpach

Co-Funded by the  
European Union