



**Towards an alliance  
of European research  
fleets**

# **EUROFLEETS European project: first results and perspectives**

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# Eurofleets

## Towards an alliance of European research fleets

24 marine institutes, universities, foundations and industrialists, from 16 European countries (14 Member States including 4 recent ones and 2 associated countries, share their know how and/or open access to their research vessels and equipment, thanks to EC funding.

**AWI, Germany**

**CNR, Italy**

**CSIC, Spain**

**EurOcean, Portugal**

**FCT, Portugal**

**GeoEcoMar, Romania**

**HCMR, Greece**

**IEO, Spain**

**Ifremer, France**

**IMR, Norway**

**IMS-METU, Turkey**

**IO-BAS, Bulgaria**

**IOPAS, Poland**

**IPEV, France**

**MARIS, the Netherlands**

**MARUM, Germany**

**MI, Ireland**

**MPIMM, Germany**

**NERC, U.K.**

**OGS, Italy**

**RBINS-MUMM, Belgium**

**SDLO, the Netherlands**

**TUT, Estonia**

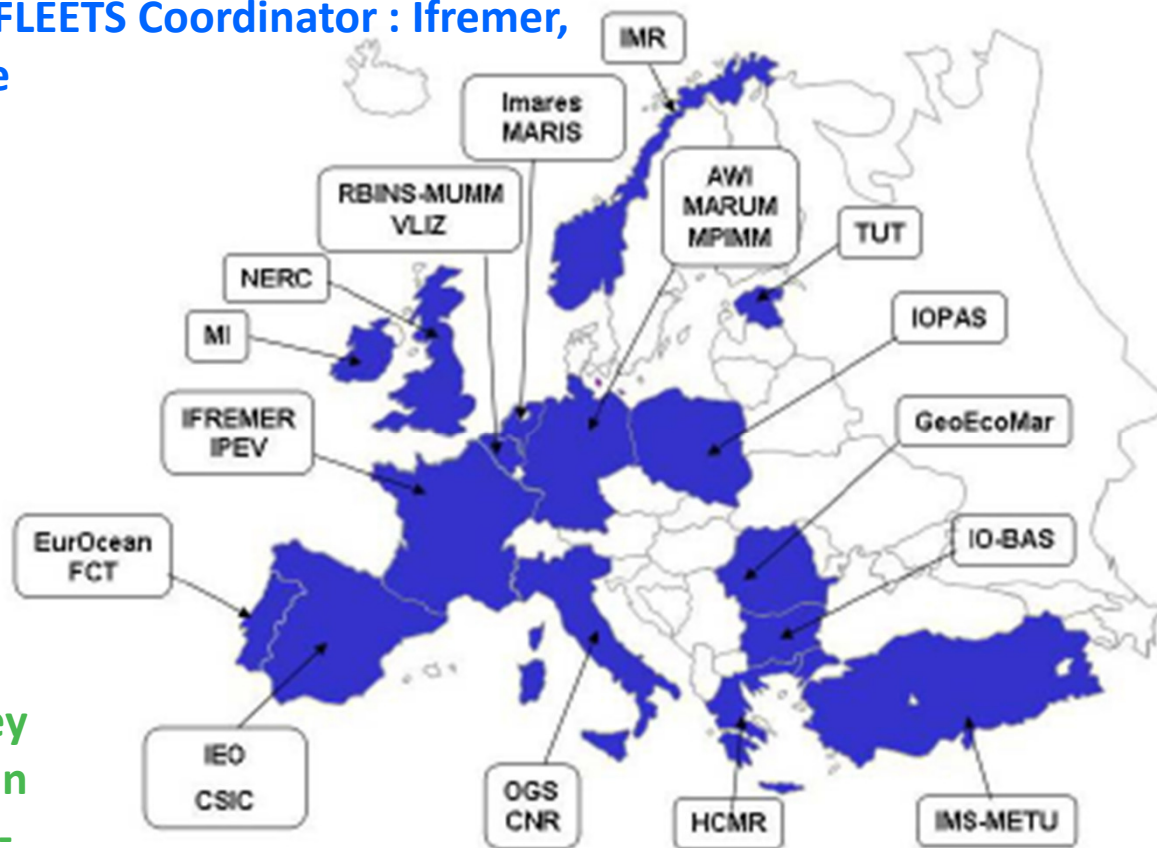
**VLIZ, Belgium**



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**EUROFLEETS Coordinator : Ifremer, France**



**A significant group of key marine research actors in Europe, covering all eco-regions, completed by 3 Associated Partners**

**OFEG permanent invitee**





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Based on the conclusions of  
the Ocean Research Fleets Working Group  
published in

the ESF-Marine Board Position Paper 10 :  
« *European Ocean Research Fleets – Towards a  
Common Strategy and Enhanced Use* » (March 2007)

<http://www.esf.org/research-areas/marine-sciences/publications.html>



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Key dates:

- Proposal submission: 29 February 2008
- Negotiation period from June 2008 to March 2009,  
**EC contribution : 7,2 M€ (minus 10%) upon 9 M€**
- Project starting date: 1st September 2009 for 4 years

**3 TNA calls successfully completed:**

**« Global/Ocean » + « Regional 1 » in Spring 2010**

**« Regional 2 » in Spring 2011**



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Networking Activities - NA (7 work packages) :  
(Activity coordination : IMR, Norway)

**WP1** : STRATEGIC COORDINATION VISION  
(Leading partner Ifremer, France)

including innovative e-access generalisation

**First Deliverable on European research Fleets evolution for the period 2011-2020 completed**

**WP2** : VIRTUAL RESEARCH FLEET PLATFORM  
(Leading partner MARIS, the Netherlands)

in partnership with POGO and SeaDataNet



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### Networking Activities (2):

**WP3** : ECO-RESPONSABILITY AND ECO-DESIGN FOR EXISTING AND NEW RESEARCH VESSELS  
(Leading partner NERC, United Kingdom)

including guidelines towards future new buildings and innovative eco-design for Regional research vessels

**WP4** : OPERATIONAL ISSUES – CONTRIBUTION TO OPERATIONAL FLUIDITY WITHIN EUROPEAN RESEARCH FLEETS  
(Leading partner CSIC, Spain)

including interoperability





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### Networking Activities (3):

**WP5 : EUROFLEETS SCIENTIFIC USER ACCESS MODALITY AND PEER REVIEW**  
(Leading partner AWI, Germany)

This WP is devoted to the management of the three calls to be launched under the TNA activities :  
« Ocean » (TNA 1), « Regional 1 » and « Regional 2 » (TNA2)

Two Scientific and Logistics Review Panels in action  
17 cruise proposals received under « Regional 2 » call

Ratio realized/proposed: **32%** for two first ship time calls  
Two industrial participations





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### Networking Activities (4):

**WP6 : ADVANCED TRAINING AND EDUCATION**  
(Leading partner OGS, Italy)

including transnational deployment teams and register of exchangeable technical personnel under finalization

More than **50 trained persons** on board 3 RVs made available by Project's beneficiaries (MI, IMR, IOPAS)

**WP7 : DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION**  
(Leading partner EurOcean, Portugal)

including EUROFLEETS "Internet Hub"



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### WP8 : TNA1 Ocean and Global Research Vessels

7 cruises scheduled o/b 5 Ocean/Global RVs, for 78 days

Trans National Access - TNA

(Activity coordination : HCMR, Greece)





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Global/Ocean Vessels	Ship operator	Lead Organisation	Other members of the scientific party from	Cruise Name	Timing	Duration (Days)
<i>Polarstern</i>	AWI, Germany	Polish Academy of Science, Poland	Germany	ATLANTIC-CDOM	Spring 2012	28
<i>Celtic Explorer</i>	MI, Ireland	GEOMAR, Germany with GEOMAR ROV	Norway industrialist, UK	ECO2@NORTH SEA	April- Sept 2012	18
<i>Marion Dufresne</i> + giant corer	IPEV, France	Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia, Portugal	France, Spain, UK	TORE	Summer 2013	2
<i>Marion Dufresne</i> + giant corer	IPEV, France	Ghent University, Belgium	Canada, France, Germany, Morocco, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland	GATEWAY	Summer 2013	5
<i>L'Atalante</i> + launch <i>Haliotis</i>	Ifremer, France	University of Rome, Italy	Portugal, Spain	FAVI	Summer 2011	12,5
<i>L'Atalante</i>	Ifremer, France	Zoological Society of London, UK with a chartered ROV	Portugal	IOZOC	Summer 2011	1,5
<i>OGS-Explora</i> + seismics	OGS, Italy	ICREA University of Barcelona, Spain	Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, UK industrialist	SALTFLU	Oct/Nov 2011	11

**3 physical oceanography, 3 geological, 1 biological cruises**





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AWI : *Heincke*

CNR : *Urania*

CSIC : *Garcia del Cid*

FCT : *Dom Carlos I*

GeoEcoMar : *Mare Nigrum*

HCMR : *Aegeo* (Thetis, Max Rover or Super Achille)

IEO : *Ramon Margalef*

IMS-METU : *Bilim 2*

IO-BAS : *Akademik*

IOPAS : *Oceania*

MI : *Celtic Voyager*

RBINS-MUMM : *Belgica*

TUT : *Salme*

Trans National Access :

WP9 : TNA2 Regional Research Vessels

5 cruises scheduled under « Regional 1 » call o/b  
5 of the 13 Regional accessible RVs, for 36.6 days



Dom Carlos I





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Regional class research vessels	Ship operator	Lead Organisation	Other members of the scientific party from	Cruise Name	Timing	Duration (Days)
<i>Akademik</i>	IOBAS, Bulgaria	NIOZ, the Netherlands	Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany	SPUX	September 2012	8
<i>Akademik</i>	IOBAS, Bulgaria	Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS), Turkey	JRC, Romania, Russia, Ukraine	BIO-OPT	July 2011	3,6
<i>Mare Nigrum</i>	GeoEcoMar, Romania	Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS), Turkey	JRC, Romania, Russia, Ukraine	BIO-OPT	End June 2011	5
<i>Garcia del Cid</i>	CSIC, Spain	Laboratorio Nacional de Energia e Geologia, Portugal	United Kingdom	Iberia-Forams	Summer 2012	6
<i>Urania</i>	CNR, Italy	GEOMAR, Germany	Greece, Italy, Portugal	PaCO2	End July 2011	5
<i>Dom Carlos I</i>	FCT, Portugal	Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium	Portugal	DIAPICNA	Summer 2011 tbc	9

**3 physical oceanography, 2 biological cruises**



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Joint Research Activities - JRA:

(Coordination of this Activity : MARUM, Germany)

**WP10** : JRA1 UP TO DATE SOFTWARES TO FACILITATE TRANS NATIONAL ACCESS  
(Leading partner Ifremer, France)  
In liaison with SeaDataNet and US project R2R

**WP11** : JRA2 SHARED AND FLEXIBLE PAYLOADS FOR ROV, AUV & OBSERVATORIES and COMMON MISSION PLANNING TOOL  
(Leading partner MARUM, Germany)



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« Mid term » conclusions

Fully efficient evaluation thanks to AWI efforts,  
Sustainable European interest for funded ship  
time, especially on key infrastructures, as RV  
*Marion Dufresne* and her Calypso corer,

An operational and optimised process for TNA,  
50 European students and technicians trained  
thanks to OGS, IOPAN, MI and IMR efforts.

« Leverage effect » of European funding

First impacts and recognitions

... and a lot of work to achieve the Project



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Towards a EUROFLEETS2 proposal

With an enlarged partnership,

With new key accessible RV like *G.O. Sars* or *Pourquoi pas ?* and equipment like German MEBO, on top of already opened infrastructures,

With Networking « experiments » for Virtual fleets or polar presence, taking advantage of ERICON AB main achievements,

With JRA focus on innovative Regional class RV,

Developing training and inter operability efforts,

In cooperation with industrial partners.





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Longer term perspectives:

To progress in integration, complementing with existing initiatives such as OFEG and ERVO and avoiding to create any new heavy structure,

To optimise ship time and funding usages,

To foster regional scale coordination,

To attract international scientists thanks to European excellent infrastructures,

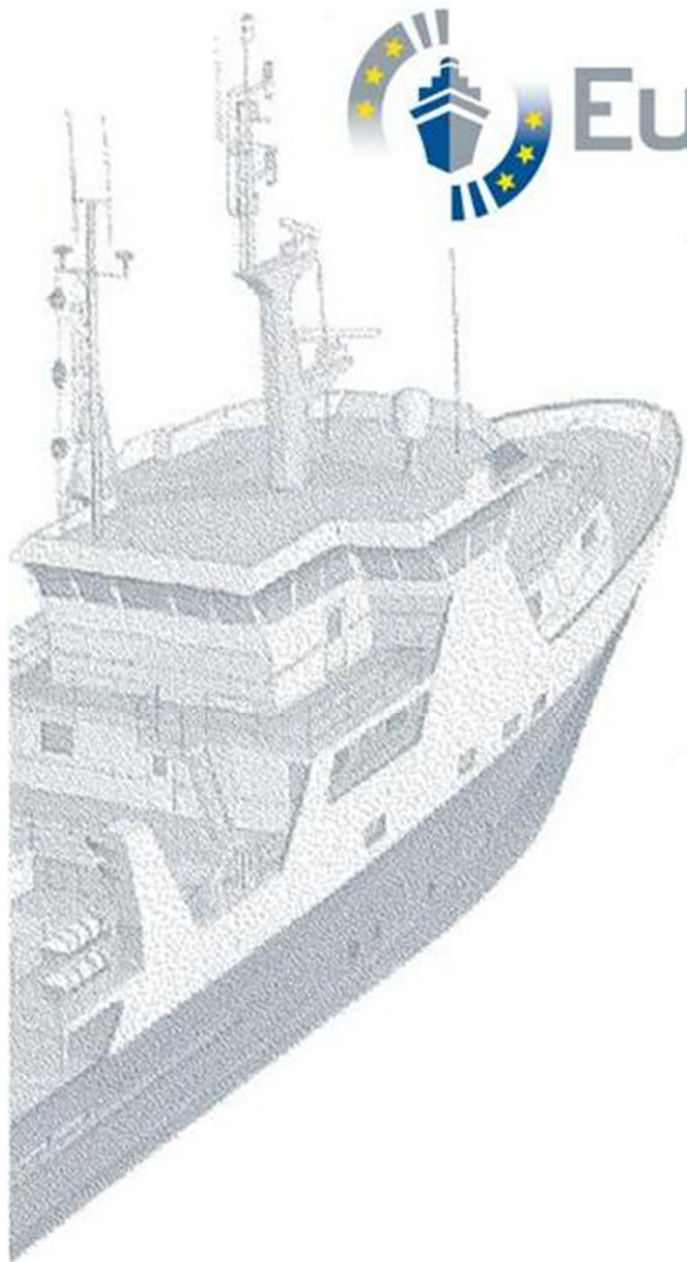
To maximise societal impacts,

By proposing a group of 10 to 12 innovative and inter operable Regional class Research Vessels to join the ESFRI roadmap.



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More information about EUROFLEETS:

**[www.eurofleets.eu](http://www.eurofleets.eu)**

**Thanks for your attention**