

# ALL-ATLANTIC MARINE RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK (AA-MARINET)



**Leader: AIR CentreENTRE (Atlantic International Research Centre)**

**Co-leader: IFREMER (France)**

<https://allatlanticocean.org/>



AANCHOR is a Coordination & Support Action project aimed to support the implementation of the Belém Statement. It has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 818395.

## WHY IS THIS JOINT PILOT ACTION NEEDED

Marine research infrastructures provide the tools scientists and innovators need to know and better understand ocean ecosystems and to develop solutions for a sustainable use of its resources. The use and long-term sustainability of marine research infrastructures cost more than most countries can afford. For this reason, the establishment of an effective process for sharing marine research infrastructures, including the implementation of an All-Atlantic Trans-National Access mechanism, is of crucial importance to solve the common challenges at the Atlantic Ocean level.

## AIM

The **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network** is aimed at the creation of a long-term collaboration framework to promote and facilitate the convergence and the alignment of Research and Innovation infrastructure initiatives at the Atlantic Ocean level. The Network will encourage and establish an effective process for sharing marine research infrastructures including implementation of an All-Atlantic Trans-National Access mechanism, starting by (1) implementing a web portal to unlock the potential for articulation of the observation activities conducted in the Atlantic basin, (2) promoting a case-study focusing on the possibility to exchange ship-time and autonomous systems for monitoring and/or cooperation opportunities during planned cruises between research vessel operators from different Atlantic countries and (3) working on three pilot specific domains: Coastal observation (AA-COASTNET), Pelagic imaging (I/ITAPINA) and Polar research (NMPRI).

## COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Nigeria, Portugal, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, United States of America

*It is expected to have additional participation of countries from all over the Atlantic Ocean*

## ACTIVITIES

1. Governance: Set up of the Development and Management Group and the Community Group;
2. Implement an All-Atlantic ocean observation activities web portal and assess its impact;
3. Implement a case study on ship-time sharing and cooperation opportunities and draft guidelines on research infrastructure sharing in the Atlantic;
4. Implementation of the I/ITAPINA Pilot action, related to ocean technology for plankton observation: Statutes, workshop and roadmap for network implementation;
5. Implementation of the AA-COASTNET Pilot action, linked to the homogenisation of coastal/regional and offshore observations/systems: Workshop and training activity related to the design and construction of low-cost sensors and platforms to be deployed along coastal areas;
6. Implementation of the NMPRI Pilot action, aiming at establishing an effective process for Trans-National Access (TNA) in polar research infrastructures: Workshop and roadmap for implementation of TNA in polar stations.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

### Short-term outcomes:

- Implementation of governance structure bodies and report with vision and implementation strategy of the **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network**;
- Fully operational All-Atlantic ocean observation activities web portal;
- Case study on ship-time sharing and cooperation opportunities and guidelines on research infrastructure sharing in the Atlantic;
- Implementation of 3 networks:
  - Coastal observation (AA-COASTNET) – including report with recommendations on research infrastructures sharing and a training activity;
  - Plankton imaging (I/ITAPINA) – including a roadmap with activities to spread tools, to provide transnational access to the respective hardware and to aggregate the resulting data;
  - Polar research (NMPRI-PR) – including the definition of long-term objectives for research infrastructures sharing.

### Long-term outcomes:

- Fully implement the **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network**;
- Fully implement thematic networks promoting sharing of research infrastructures.





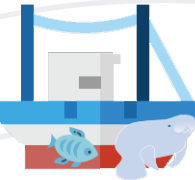
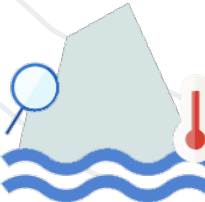


# CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALL-ATLANTIC OCEAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE AMBITION

The **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network** will support the implementation of the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance by providing a forum and tools to support the development of a transatlantic network of research infrastructure initiatives and promote Trans-National Access and other methods for sharing infrastructures in the Atlantic area. More specifically, the **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network** will:

- Provide a platform for scientific and technological cooperation by connecting existing observation networks and promoting collaborative actions;
- Increase operational efficiencies by optimising the appropriate use and sharing of research infrastructures;
- Develop our common understanding and expanding our scientific knowledge on the Atlantic;
- Promote and facilitate capacity development through scientific exchange.

The **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network** will benefit the following key common areas of interest under the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance:

 <b>Climate variability and ecosystem approaches</b>	 <b>Oceans technology</b>
 <b>Ocean observation, forecasting, and monitoring processes and systems</b>	 <b>Effects of emerging pollutants</b>
 <b>Food security, fisheries management, aquaculture, and biodiversity</b>	 <b>Polar research</b>

# EXPECTED IMPACTS

The **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network** will have a direct impact on the better articulation infrastructure related activities in the global Atlantic area thus increasing the opportunities to observe the Atlantic space and the collection of complementary measurements. More specifically the following impacts are expected:

- Environmental impact: Contribute to gather rapid support “in the field” to help operational centres involved in the management of crisis at sea. This will mitigate the potentially large impacts to the environment associated with those crisis;
- Business/Economic impact: Optimise the use of ocean observing infrastructures operating in the Atlantic through a direct impact on the reduction of the global financial effort allocated to ocean observation;
- Research: Overall improvement in the understanding of the Atlantic Ocean and its resources due to an increased the number of ocean complementary observations.

# SYNERGIES WITH EXISTING INITIATIVES

The **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network** will join forces, promote efficient cooperation and maximise impact by bringing together different initiatives that are presently responsible for the observations in the Atlantic Ocean in general, and for the articulation of specific observing systems, including the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance related projects.

# WHO CAN BE INVOLVED?

*Stakeholders engagement will ensure the success of the Joint Pilot Action*



**Programme Managers**



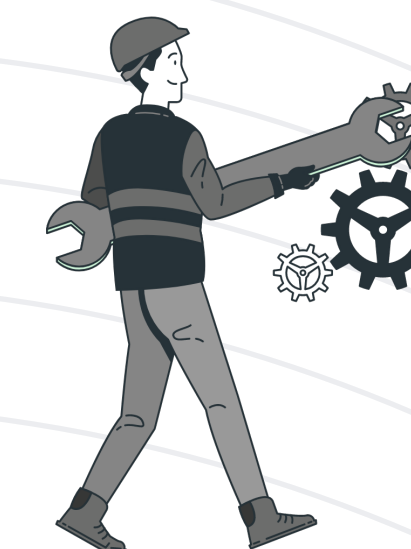
**Programme owners**



**Projects**



**International initiatives managing research infrastructures**



**Technician**



**Researchers**

# CONTACT

**José Moutinho**  
AIR Centre (Portugal)  
jose.moutinho@aircentre.org