



ALL-ATLANTIC OCEAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE

Creating an Atlantic Ocean Community by Implementing
the Galway and Belém Statements

AA-MARINET report – I/ITAPINA line of activity: Network Statutes



BUILDING AN ALL ATLANTIC
OCEAN COMMUNITY
Implementing the Belém Statement



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JOINT PILOT ACTIONS

ALL-ATLANTIC JOINT PILOT ACTIONS

Following a year-long collaborative process among more than 70 stakeholders at the Atlantic level, the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Multi-Stakeholder Platform, divided into 5 sub-multi-stakeholders platforms, identified more than 1000 initiatives towards strengthening marine research and innovation collaboration at the Atlantic level, 56 gaps and 79 needs/recommendations to achieve the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance ambition, guided by a total of 20 Strategic Objectives, 20 Operational Objectives, and 10 Key Performance Indicators.

Based on these findings and on the idea of collaboration, alignment, and use of existing resources, they have developed six ambitious and long-term collaborative Joint Pilot Actions:

- [All-Atlantic Training Platform \(AA-TP\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform \(AA-ATiP\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Marine Biotechnology Initiative \(AA-BIOTECMAR\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Data Enterprise 2030 \(AA-DATA2030\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network \(AA-BSN\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network \(AA-MARINET\)](#)

This report is developed by the **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network (AA-MARINET)** Joint Pilot Action, that provides tools to support a transatlantic network of Research Infrastructures initiatives, promoting Trans-National Access and other methods for sharing infrastructures in the Atlantic area. It will work as a platform where stakeholders can share information about planned observation activities and available spare capacities, creating a forum where thematic networking and synergies will bring a better articulation of infrastructure-related activities in the Atlantic basin, improving the support of multidisciplinary science to address global societal challenges.

This report is a deliverable in scope of AA-MARINET, I/ITAPINA line of activity, task 6.1.1 “Drafting of I/ITAPINA statutes (purpose of I/ITAPINA, membership conditions, code of conduct)” that aimed at defining the statutes for Imagine/Imaging the Atlantic – A Pelagic Imaging Network Approach (I/ITAPINA).





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**BUILDING AN ALL ATLANTIC
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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.



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SUMMARY

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Task 6.1.1 is the first out of two tasks in AA-MARINET's work on the development of a Pelagic Imaging Network (I/ITAPINA). I/ITAPINA mainly aims to consolidate the pelagic imaging research across and along the Atlantic. To achieve this goal, research community members can join the I/ITAPINA network. The statutes define the goals, rights and duties of I/ITAPINA members. The statutes are published at:

<https://www.aa-mari.net/i-itapina-general-info/>





1. Task objectives

[Imagine/Imaging the Atlantic - A Pelagic Imaging Network Approach \(I/ITAPINA\)](#) is a networking activity, implemented under the umbrella of [AA-MARINET](#) All-Atlantic JPA and supported by the [All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance](#). I/ITAPINA aims to build the All-Atlantic Pelagic imaging community and to develop a framework for operational marine ecosystem monitoring with pelagic imaging techniques. Commercially available and custom-built pelagic imaging instruments, such as the UVP5/UVP6, the Zooscan, the Video Plankton Recorder and others already are used by a loosely organized research community. I/ITAPINA will help to consolidate this community and strengthen it in South Atlantic countries, which are slightly underrepresented in the community. Network members are encouraged to share data, code, knowledge and instruments for pelagic imaging. The long-term objective of I/ITAPINA is the development of pelagic imaging towards operationality.

Task 6.1.1 “Drafting of I/ITAPINA statutes (purpose of I/ITAPINA, membership conditions, code of conduct)”, is the first step towards the long-term objectives of I/ITAPINA and serves to provide a clear description of I/ITAPINA members rights and duties. It also specifically mentions that any kind of harassment will not be accepted and will lead to the exclusion from I/ITAPINA. A questionnaire is open to the Atlantic community stakeholders that would like to join the network - <https://www.aa-mari.net/i-itapina-general-info/>.



2. Description of the work

The statutes were formulated by I/ITAPINA co-leads Dr. Rainer Kiko, Prof. Dr. Rubens Lopes and Dr. Yavouwi Dodji Soviadan. They were communicated to the I/ITAPINA members via the I/ITAPINA webpage in the AA-MARINET website. The last update to the statutes was conducted on the 26.1.2023.

3. Outcomes – I/ITAPINA network Statutes

The [I/ITAPINA Network Statues](#) are publicly available via the I/ITAPINA webpage in the AA-MARINET website. The statutes describe the goals of the I/ITAPINA network (see above) and outline the access conditions and code of conduct. For simplicity, these are repeated here:

Membership statutes for Imagine/Imaging the Atlantic - A Pelagic Imaging Network Approach

Purpose of the network approach

Imagine/Imaging the Atlantic - A Pelagic Imaging Network Approach (I/ITAPINA) is a networking activity, implemented under the umbrella of AA-MARINET and supported by the [All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance](#). I/ITAPINA aims to build the All-Atlantic Pelagic imaging community and to develop a framework for operational marine ecosystem monitoring with pelagic imaging techniques. Commercially available and custom-built pelagic imaging instruments, such as the UVP5/UVP6, the Zooscan, the Video Plankton Recorder and others already are used by a loosely organized research community. I/ITAPINA will help to consolidate this community and strengthen it in South Atlantic countries, which are slightly underrepresented in the community. Network members are encouraged to share data, code, knowledge and instruments for pelagic imaging. Long-term objective of I/ITAPINA is the development of pelagic imaging towards operability.

Please take a look at the [Events](#) and [Online Resources](#) to learn more about this activity.

Access conditions

I/ITAPINA is an open access online network dedicated to sharing information and promoting scientific and technological development of pelagic imaging initiatives, covering marine and



freshwater ecosystems around the Atlantic. The network is however open to anyone interested in pelagic imaging around the globe. To join I/ITAPINA, please answer the following [questionnaire](#) and additionally contact the I/ITAPINA lead Dr. Rainer Kiko (rkiko@geomar.de).

Code of conduct

Network members are requested to observe the following code of conduct to enable productive and respectful scientific and personal interactions:

- 1) Network members are advised to approach their counterparts by applying the highest standards of interpersonal communication, avoiding discrimination of any kind.
- 2) I/ITAPINA members aim to share computer code, data and publications freely, according to the FAIR research guidelines.
- 3) Network members commit to sharing pelagic imaging instruments and the knowledge of their use, and to providing access to pelagic imaging research facilities, including research cruises.
- 4) Misuse of shared data, code or infrastructure and mistreatment of network members will lead to the exclusion of the offender.
- 5) Communication amongst network members is enabled via the I/ITAPINA mailing list. All members are subscribers to that list and can post to it. The I/ITAPINA lead moderates the posts. I/ITAPINA members can provide content to the I/ITAPINA lead for publication on the I/ITAPINA website. Members are responsible to keep their contact information up to date, by contacting the I/ITAPINA lead, should their e-mail address change.

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