

Impact of the European Marine Board

The European Marine Board (EMB) is the leading European think tank in marine science policy. Its members are major national marine and oceanographic research performing institutes, funding agencies and national university consortia with a strong marine focus. EMB provides a platform to

advance marine research, develop common priorities and to bridge the gap between science and policy.

Through its network, EMB identifies emerging scientific and societal challenges and opportunities and articulates the research and capacities needed to address them. EMB then draws upon its wide scientific network to identify the best experts to participate in its Working Groups. EMB publications are peer-reviewed by leading global experts.

"The European Marine Board actively delivers advice to the European Institutions. At the Marine Resources Unit in DG Research & Innovation, we appreciate every policy document EMB publishes."

Sigi Gruber, European Commission, DG Research & Innovation

A rigorous process of expert input, independent review and communication ensures EMB publications are of high quality and well received by a wide diversity of stakeholders from the scientific community to policy makers, funding bodies and maritime industry at National, Regional and European levels. EMB Member Organizations use EMB foresight papers to define their institutional and National research agendas, to strengthen national and European research grant proposals and to advise national research policy. Examples of recent EMB activities and their impacts are listed below. A full list of EMB activities is available at www.marineboard.eu.



Navigating the Future IV (2013) identified and prioritized a number of key future opportunities and challenges in marine science and technology. It received wide praise as a comprehensive blueprint for seas and ocean research priorities and was cited several times in scoping papers and reflection documents supporting the development of Horizon 2020 work programmes, in particular with respect to the Blue Growth Focus area of Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine, Maritime and

Inland Water Research and the Bioeconomy. It was cited on several occasions by EC personnel as a key

reference document for marine and maritime research priorities and needs. NFIV has also been cited in various scientific papers as policy drivers for the science they do¹. It was used as reference for national research policies, such as the Irish 'National Marine Research & Innovation Strategy 2017 – 2021'.

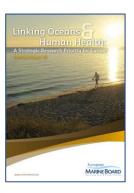
"Navigating the Future IV is particularly important as it foregrounds the fundamental role that marine research already plays and will play in the future... and will actively contribute to the Commission's preparation of work programmes." Maria da Graça Carvalho, MEP

4000 copies of Navigation of the Future IV have been downloaded from the EMB website and disseminated in hard copy, and on Research Gate it has around 200 reads (July 2018).

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¹ e.g. Engelhard et al. (2016) ICES meets marine historical ecology: placing the history of fish and fisheries in current policy context. ICES Journal of Marine Science, 73 (5), 1386–1403 https://doi.org/10.1093/icesjms/fsv219

EMB Position Paper 19 'Linking Oceans and Human Health' (2013) identified key research targets to build the necessary research capability to understand the links between the seas and oceans, and human health and well-being. As a direct uptake of the publication, the recommendations to continue to explore these relationships were used in the Horizon 2020 call BG-06-2017 which funded the Coordinated Support Action (CSA) project SOPHIE (Seas, Oceans and Public Health in Europe, start: December 2017). The EMB is part of the SOPHIE consortium and leads the task to deliver a Strategic Research Agenda on Oceans and Human Health in Europe by 2020.



3000 copies of the Position Paper 19 have been downloaded from the EMB website and disseminated in hard copy (July 2018).



EMB Position Paper 22 'Delving Deeper: Critical challenges for 21st century deep-sea research' (2015) explored the mismatch between the rising demand and capability to exploit deep-sea resources and the lack of scientific knowledge and regulatory frameworks to effectively manage this

vast area, much of which falls in areas beyond national jurisdiction. The publication, together with the related Policy Brief (No. 2, 2015) has been recognized as an important review

paper and referenced by the Joint Programming Initiative Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans, as input to the implementation of the JPI Oceans strategic area on Deep-sea Resources and by the European Commission. This publication is also relevant to other stakeholders, including the ongoing development of regulations for deep-sea mining, e.g. by the International Seabed Authority.

"Because of the broad consultation of deep-sea stakeholders and its multi-disciplinary approach, the EMB's position paper "Delving Deeper" has been of tremendous help to DG MARE in fine tuning its Blue Growth strategy. It is a source of inspiration as we are trying to identify future research priorities at European level." Hélène Clark, European Commission DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Position Paper 22 and the related Policy Brief 2 have together around 600 reads on Research Gate, and 3000 copies were downloaded from the EMB website disseminated in hard copy (July 2018).

The most recent 6th **European Marine Board Forum** (2017) fostered a greater role of the marine science community in supporting the ongoing work to advance the UN 2030 Agenda and the

Sustainable Development Goals. The Forum was timely as it was announced at the Forum that the General Assembly of the United Nations formally supported an International Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development for the years 2021-2030. A Forum message with key messages and commitments indicated EMB's support for the UN Ocean Decade and as a result, EMB has been invited by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO as a key stakeholder contributing to the UN Ocean Decade planning.

"IOC will strongly count on EMB in the process of developing the UN Decade of Ocean Science Implementation Plan. We need your expertise and your inherent combination of scientific excellence and policy relevance." Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary of IOC

