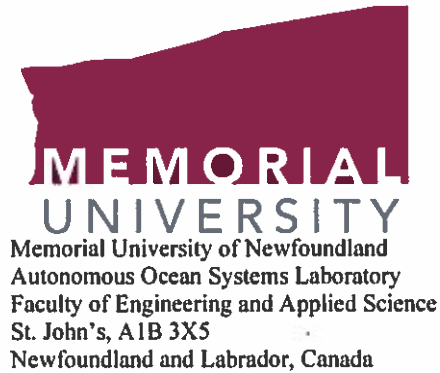


2 December 2016



To:
Ramiro Neves (iFADO project coordinator)
MARETEC / IST – Instituto Superior Técnico
Mechanical Engineering Department
Av. Rovisco Pais, 1049-001 Lisboa
Portugal

LETTER OF SUPPORT

In reference to your proposed project titled “*Innovation in the Framework of the Atlantic Deep Ocean (iFADO)*” for the call in the Specific Objective 1.2 “*Strengthening the transfer of innovation results to facilitate the emergence of new products, services and processes*” from Priority Axis 1 “*Stimulating innovation and competitiveness and the specific objective*”.

Herewith we would like to confirm that we are willing to support your application for the iFADO proposal. As the Autonomous Ocean Systems Laboratory (AOSL) at Memorial University of Newfoundland, a highly innovative research group with competences in marine system development, data collection and research activities in the North-West Atlantic related to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), we see this as an extremely beneficial project to link to our interests in the enhancement of existing and development of new capacities in the area of marine systems innovation for ocean sampling and observations at the AOSL. The proposed approach with cooperation and sharing of knowledge and technologies with other Atlantic Area countries and coastal managers is a relevant strategy to enhance the development of innovative products in the implementation of the MSFD.

Therefore, we confirm our involvement as an active stakeholder and a potential end-user of the project results.

The Autonomous Ocean Systems Laboratory welcomes the opportunity to participate in stakeholder meetings and training activities. We are looking forward to an active collaboration and information exchange with the iFADO team for mutual project and wider community benefits. In particular we are excited about applying and evaluating some of the final project tools, guidelines and methodologies.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Ralf Bachmayer
Associate Professor
Faculty of Engineering
and Applied Science
rbachmayer@mun.ca
1-709-864-6793



Dr. Brad de Young
Professor
Department of Physics
and Physical Oceanography
bdeyoung@mun.ca
1-709-864-8839