



School of Environmental
and Biological Sciences

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences
71 Dudley Road
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
USA

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 I would like to confirm that we are willing to support your application for the iFADO proposal. As a member of the Rutgers University Center for Ocean Observing Leadership (RUCOOL), with a focus on developing ocean observing technologies to advance our understanding of the global ocean, we see this as a wholly beneficial project to link to our interests, particularly in coordinated multi-national ocean observing. The proposed approach built on cooperation and sharing of knowledge and technologies with other Atlantic Area countries and coastal managers is an effective and in our opinion required strategy to enhance the development of innovative products in the implementation of the MSFD.

Therefore, we confirm our involvement as a final beneficiary / active stakeholder and a potential end-user of project results.

RUCOOL welcomes the opportunity to participate in stakeholder meetings, or training activities, to gather inputs for the project and community benefit be able and to evaluate some of the final project tools, guidelines and methodologies.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Josh T. Kohut

*Associate Professor, Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey*