

23 November 2016

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

RE: Letter of support for project proposal -
**Innovation in the Framework of the Atlantic
Deep Ocean (iFADO)**

Foras na Mara
Rinn Mhaoil
Uarán Mór
Co.na Gaillimhe
Éire
Marine Institute
Rinville
Oranmore
Co. Galway
Ireland

Telephone +353 91 387200

Fax +353 91 387201

Email institute.mail@marine.ie

www.marine.ie



Dear Prof. Neves,

We are happy to hear about your project proposal “iFADO – Innovation in the framework of the Atlantic Deep Ocean”, responding to the Atlantic Interreg 2016 Call.

As leaders of the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Coordination & Support Action, we are very interested in research projects in the Atlantic that link to Blue Growth. We are happy to hear that your consortium is perceptive and astutely aware of the existence of the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance and our H2020 funded project whose objective it is to support the implementation of the Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation. The Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance intends to advance a Canadian-EU-US shared vision of an Atlantic Ocean that is healthy, resilient, safe, productive, understood and treasured so as to promote the well-being, prosperity, and security of present and future generations.

I understand that the main goal of iFADO is to increase ocean-monitoring capabilities in the area of East-Central North Atlantic with autonomous and ship-based technologies in a sustainable way. The approach you propose with cooperation and sharing of knowledge and technologies with other Atlantic Area countries and coastal managers is a highly relevant strategy to enhance the development of innovative products for the implementation of the MSFD and indeed an ecosystem approach to ocean health and stressors. In this sense this work is aligned with the objectives and spirit of the International Galway Statement.

As a Coordination & Support Action we cannot exclusively support one project above another and will work with the consortium that is awarded the call. In this respect though, we are interested in contributing to discussions and workshops conducted by iFADO and where it makes sense to create and capitalise on synergies and synchronise with invited experts, etc and also for the AORA to benefit from iFADO workshops and training activities. We look forward to reviewing and evaluating your outputs where they may materially assist us to support the implementation of the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance.

We wish you well in this worthy endeavour!
Yours sincerely,

Dr. Margaret Rae
Director AORAC-SA at the Marine Institute

Foras na Mara
80 Sráid Fhearchair
Baile Átha Cliath 2
Éire

Marine Institute
80 Harcourt Street
Dublin 2
Ireland
Telephone +353 1
4766500
Fax +353 1 4784988

Foras na Mara
Baile Uí Fhiacháin
Co. Mhaigh Eo
Éire

Marine Institute
Furnace
Newport
Co. Mayo
Telephone +353 98 42300
Fax +353 98 42340

