



National Development Plan 2007–2013
Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Programme
Marine Research Sub-Programme

BioMarine 2008 Sea Change Travel Grants

Guidelines for Applicants



BioMarine 2008
THE EUROPE MARITIME INITIATIVE
IN THE WORLD *Dive into change*



National Development Plan 2007 - 2013

Introduction

The **Sea Change Networking Initiative** forms part of the *Sea Change*¹ **Innovation Supporting Programme** and is funded under the Marine Research Sub-Programme of the National Development Plan 2007-2013².

Sea Change – A Marine Knowledge, Research and Innovation Strategy for Ireland 2007-2013, presents a national agenda, comprising science, research, innovation and management, aimed at a complete transformation of the Irish maritime economy. It incorporates applied and basic research programmes, which aim to increase industry competitiveness, build new research capacity and address policy issues.

Specifically it seeks to:

- Strengthen the competitiveness and environmental sustainability of the marine sector by developing a much greater alignment between public sector & third-level research capacity and industry needs;
- Build new multidisciplinary research capacity and capability in fundamental technologies that can be applied to marine-related activities, leading to the acquisition of new technical skills, the flow of personnel between the research community and industry and the creation of new commercial opportunities and applications;
- Deliver a comprehensive planned policy research programme which will apply the knowledge gained from research and monitoring to inform public policy, governance and regulation.

The Strategy is being implemented via three **Research Measures** (Industry, Discovery and Policy Support) and two **Supporting Programmes** (Innovation and Infrastructure).

Under the National Development Plan 2007-2013, some €141 million is targeted towards the *Marine Research Sub-Programme*; directly aimed at addressing the research activities and priorities identified in the *Sea Change*.

The **Innovation Supporting Programme** of *Sea Change* is a cross-cutting support Measure appropriate to all three *Sea Change* Research Measures. It encompasses a range of technical support mechanisms associated with the management and delivery of the three Measures. These include dedicated programme management resources, third level/industry brokering and facilitation, the stimulation of international collaboration, support for commercialisation and networking and technology transfer initiatives.

¹ www.marine.ie/home/SeaChange.htm

² www.ndp.ie

The BioMarine 2008 Forum (www.biomarine.org)

BioMarine is a unique international forum that will bring together business, science, government, civil society and media to advance ocean sustainability.

This international platform for dialogue will include a large number of interactive world-class conferences, debates and a business convention.

The first edition of the Forum will take place from 20th to 21st October 2008 in Toulon and from 22nd to 24th October 2008 in Marseille – France.

The BioMarine 2008 Forum will be the major maritime event of the French Presidency of the European Union.

Main themes:

- Maritime geopolitics.
- Security, pollution, prevention.
- Oceans, environment and energy
- Multimodal transport: ports and maritime transport.
- Life resources of the oceans.

The BioMarine 2008 Sea Change Travel Grant Scheme.

Travel Awards

(Maximum €1,000)

To mark this event and provide an opportunity for young Irish researchers to attend this important Forum, the Sea Change Innovation Supporting Programme is offering up-to six travel grants (€1,000 max) on a competitive basis.

Who May Apply?

Applications are invited from PhD scholars (or equivalent) and early post-doctoral researchers (1st post-doctoral position) with the appropriate qualifications and expertise to benefit from attendance at the BioMarine 2008 Forum.

Travel Grant applications will only be accepted from PhD scholars and early post-doctoral researchers with the endorsement of their research supervisor.

How is your Application Assessed?

Applications will be assessed, by a Marine Institute panel, on the basis of the benefit to the Beneficiary (as argued in the Application Form) of participation in the BioMarine 2008 Forum.

The recommendation of the panel will be final.

What Costs can be Claimed?

- Eligible costs include those additional costs necessary to support attendance at the BioMarine 2008 Forum e.g. travel/subsistence (economy rates), etc.
- Grant support must not represent budget substitution or profit.

How to Claim Grant-aid

Payments are on a reimbursement basis and will be conditional on:

- (a) Evidence of attendance at the BioMarine 2008, including a brief report detailing the benefits gained by the Beneficiary in participating in this Initiative.
- (b) the submission and acceptance of all relevant receipts.
- (c) the claim being submitted to the Sea Change Funding and Administration Office by the 28th November 2008.

It is anticipated that the Host Institute will provide travel and subsistence costs to the beneficiary to be reimbursed by the Marine Institute.

Application Procedure & Deadline

Applications must be made using the appropriate BioMarine 2008 Sea Change Travel Grant Application Forms.

Electronic copies of the Application Forms are available to download from www.marine.ie/home/funding/.

Completed applications should be submitted by email to the following address:
networking@marine.ie

Applications received by the submission deadline will be assessed within two weeks of receipt.

Deadline for receipt of Applications: 17.30 hrs, Thursday 31st July 2008.

Queries

Queries in relation to the Networking Initiative should be sent to networking@marine.ie.