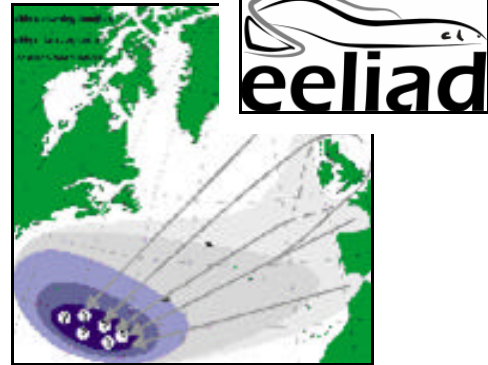




EELIAD - European Eels in the Atlantic: Assessment of Their Decline

Project Details

Funding Programme: 7th Framework Programme (FP7)
 Sub-Programme: Cooperation, Theme 6: Environment (including Climate Change)
 Funding Scheme: Small to medium scale collaborative project
 Project Duration: 48 months (2008-2012)
 Total Project Value: €4m
 EU Grant-Aid: €2.6m
 Funding to Ireland: €112,809
 Website: <http://www.eeliad.com/>



Project Description

EELIAD is a research initiative to investigate the ecology and biology of European eels. The information gained will be integrated into models to determine the most important factors that influence silver eel production and migration success. The fulfillment of this objective will provide a means to evaluate the likely success of the EU Eel Recovery Plan, to enable management actions to be most effectively directed to enhance and conserve eel stocks across Europe, and to determine the dynamics of eel population structure and reproductive success.

Field studies on migration routes, behaviour and spawning, will be supported by the use of cutting edge biotechnological analyses to determine population structure, and innovative modeling approaches that will incorporate these data into fishery management models. EELIAD will link with other groups and projects, such as INDICANG (a network of monitoring programmes that report on the status and the development of eel populations over the Atlantic Area) and the joint EIFAC/ICES Working Group on Eel.

The knowledge gained from the **EELIAD** project, aside from its scientific significance, will be of direct use to the conservation of eel stocks as it will help to clarify the reasons for the recent decline in the stock. This information will then be used to change and improve the way that eel fisheries and habitats are managed across Europe, and to help ensure that enough silver eels migrate to their spawning grounds to reproduce and sustain the species.

Project Partners

Project Coordinator	Sec. State for Env, Food& Rural Affairs Centre Env., Fish & Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)(UK)
Ireland	Marine Institute Central Fisheries Board
France	Ifremer Centre for Agricultural and Environmental Engineering Research (Cemagref) Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle Laboratoire de Mathématiques Appliquées (UPPA_LMA) Laboratoire de Biologie et d'Ecologie Tropicale et Méditerranéenne (LBETM)
Denmark	Dept of Inland Fisheries, Danish Institute of Fisheries Research
Norway	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research
Sweden	Swedish Board of Fisheries
Spain	Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas

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