

Marine Institute Job Description

Position	Scientific and Technical Officer (STO)
Contract	Temporary Specified Purpose Contract funded by SIMCelt project up to 31st December 2017
Service Group	Marine Environment and Food Safety Services
Location	Rinville, Oranmore, Co. Galway.

Brief description of the Marine Institute:

The Marine Institute is a non-commercial semi-state body, which was formally established by statute (Marine Institute Act, 1991) in October 1992.

Under the Act, the Marine Institute was given the responsibility:

“to undertake, to co-ordinate, to promote and to assist in marine research and development and to provide such services related to marine research and development, that in the opinion of the Institute will promote economic development and create employment and protect the marine environment”.

The Marine Institute is the national agency responsible for marine research, technology, development and innovation (RTDI). The Marine Institute seeks to assess and realise the economic potential of Ireland’s 220 million acre marine resource; promote the sustainable development of marine industry through strategic funding programmes and scientific services; and safeguard the marine environment through research and environmental monitoring. The Institute works in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) and a network of other Government Departments, semi-state agencies, national and international marine partners.

The vision of the Marine Institute is

“ a thriving maritime economy in harmony with the ecosystem and supported by the delivery of excellence in our services “

In order to achieve this vision, the MI have six service areas; (1) Ocean Science and Information Services, (2) Marine Environment & Food Safety Services, (3) Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services, (4) Irish Maritime Development Office, (5) Policy, Innovation and Research Services and (6) Corporate Services.

The Marine Institute 3 Year Strategic Plan (2015 to 2018) is available on; http://www.marine.ie/Home/sites/default/files/MIFiles/Docs_Comms/MI%20Strategic%20Business%20Plan%20-%202015%20-%202018.pdf

Harnessing our Ocean Wealth (HOOW) is an Integrated Maritime Plan (IMP) for Ireland. HOOW sets out a roadmap for the Irish Government’s vision, high level goals and integrated actions across policy, governance and business to enable our marine potential to be realised. Goal 2 of HOOW focuses on healthy marine ecosystems and specifically; to protect and conserve our rich marine biodiversity and ecosystems; manage our living and non-living resources in harmony with the ecosystem; implement and comply with environmental legislation (see <http://www.ouroceanwealth.ie/>)

Description of Service Group:

Marine Environment & Food Safety Services

Marine Environment & Food Safety Services provide government agencies, industry and other clients with food safety, environmental and fish health scientific services, primarily through the implementation of monitoring programmes and research programmes and the provision of advice. The successful candidate will primarily be based within the MI Marine Chemistry Section.

Overview of M.I. MSP Activities

Under the Marine Institute Act, it is a duty of the Institute *“to promote and assist the improvement, development and application of technical and other processes for the exploitation and development of the marine resource”*. Consistent with this responsibility the Institute provides support and advice on the development of a maritime spatial plan. The Marine Institute provides advice to a range of national and international agencies and departments which supports both national and EU policy decisions across all marine sectors. This includes the formulation of EU Marine Science Policy and Programme Development.

Summary of the Role:

The role of the STO is to support the delivery of a project, funded under Direct Management of the EMFF, to support implementation of the Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Directive by Member States (MS) within the Celtic Seas (OSPAR Region III), and to contribute to supporting cross-border cooperation between MS in relation to implementation of the MSP Directive. A consortium which includes UCC, DOE Northern Ireland, Scottish Government, Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine, Agence des Aires Marines Protégées, University of Liverpool and the Marine Institute will deliver this project. Use of any output/outcomes of the project will be decided by individual Member States (MS) as determination of any approach to maritime spatial planning lies with MS for their respective marine areas. The work will primarily be carried at the Marine Institute's facilities in Oranmore Co. Galway. Assignments may also be carried out at the Institute's offices in Wilton Place, Dublin 2 and the offices of other partners in the project.

Call for Proposals MARE /2014/46 available at:-

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/maritimeaffairs_fisheries/contracts_and_funding/calls_for_proposals/2014_46/index_en.htm

Background to Requirement:

The Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (2014/89/EU) came into force in July 2014 and establishes a framework for maritime spatial planning aimed at promoting the sustainable growth of maritime economies, the sustainable development of marine areas and the sustainable use of marine resources. The Department of Environment, Community and Local Government is the lead department for implementing the Directive and is supported by the Marine Institute. This is the first time Ireland will prepare a marine spatial plan. The objectives of this particular project is to contribute to the practical aspects of MSP implementation, with a specific focus on transboundary cooperation and the identification and sharing of best practice, in order to enhance understanding and address the issues and challenges to MSP implementation that span the Celtic Seas.

Principal Tasks:

The candidate will be responsible for carrying out a range of duties to deliver the objectives of the project outlined above. These include:

- Lead on developing recommendations on cumulative effects assessment. The STO will be directly involved in this aspect of the project and will be required to make a significant contribution to developing recommendations on cumulative effects assessment methodology through a systematic spatial assessment of human activities, their pressures and subsequent impacts on ecosystem components in the Celtic Seas. This will assist forward planning and decision making by the competent authorities. Case studies will be used to support this work.
- Collating spatial information on all human activities in the Celtic Seas and using a systematic process such as ODEMM, prepare pressure maps. Undertake an analyses of pressures, including cumulative pressures, against available habitat maps and identify and map where there are interactions and impacts.
- Support the delivery of:-
 - A summary of information on the marine aspects of the Celtic Seas, particularly cross-border issues, and including existing work of relevance to MSP.
 - An overview report on the current state and potential future spatial requirements of key maritime activities in the Celtic Seas (this will include consideration of the inter-relationship between marine sectors and marine conservation) and sector/interest-specific information in the most useful format, e.g. sector briefing notes, information in documents supporting MSP in Member States.
 - Analysis of data needs and existing data gaps; specifically relating to transboundary working.
 - Assessment of opportunities and barriers to interoperability and suggested action plan to address data needs and improve data exchange.
 - Initial activity to address data needs and management guidance document.
 - Enhancement of relevant information tools, particularly to enable interoperability, and ability to produce Celtic Seas wide information.
 - Report on potential approaches and mechanisms for stakeholder engagement on MSP and the outcome of pilot testing in transboundary and localised cross-border working.
 - Issue-specific analysis and conclusions that are practice focused and policy relevant.
 - Report on possible approaches to cross-border cooperation including stakeholder engagement mechanisms.
 - Report to Steering Committee on analysis of approaches taken to evaluation of MSP in the Celtic Seas and any conclusions drawn.
 - Administration of the project as required

Reporting Structure:

Initially, the successful candidate will report to the Section Manager with responsibility for Marine Spatial Planning.

Contacts:

Within the Marine Institute:

Director MEFS, MSP Section Manager and any new staff that may be appointed on MSP, data and GIS personnel of various divisions in the MI.

External:

Regular liaison with the project Coordinator UCC and project partners.

Education, Professional or Technical Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills, Aptitudes, Experience and Training

Essential:

- Third level degree or relevant professional qualification in a planning, marine science or geography discipline.
- Strong GIS and spatial analysis skills.
- Experience and knowledge of current best practice in assessing pressures and impacts including cumulative impacts in the marine environment
- Good working knowledge of using computers including MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook.
- Demonstrated understanding of planning and marine governance.
- Good organisation skills and structured approach to daily work activities.
- Ability to work on own initiative.
- Good communication skills.
- Willingness to attend meetings in Ireland and within the EU.

Desirable:

- Experience in working in planning and/or marine planning.
- Experience in spatial analysis of data
- Understanding of and experience in dealing with socio-economic data
- A full driving licence.

Special personal attributes required for the position:

It is essential that the successful candidate is a good communicator and works well with colleagues. Additionally, this person should be industrious, decisive, have a proven ability to use his/her own initiative while at the same time working well as a team player. The candidate must be meticulous in their work with good personal organisational and time management skills.

Salary:

Remuneration is in accordance with the Public Sector, Department of Finance approved Salary Scale for Scientific Technical Officer, with a starting salary of €29,376 per annum pro-rated with time worked. You will become a member of the Single Public Service pension scheme.

Annual Leave:

The annual leave entitlement for a Scientific Technical Officer is 25 working days per annum prorated to reflect time worked. Annual leave entitlements are exclusive of Public Holidays. All leave must be approved by your manager or their authorised representative; in advance of being

taken and in line with Marine Institute leave policies.

Duration of Contract:

The contract will be issued on a temporary specified purpose basis for a duration of up to 31st December 2017 subject to funding. There will be a 6 month probationary period.

How to Apply:

A C.V. and letter of application, summarising experience and skill set applicable to the position should be emailed to recruitment@marine.ie or posted to Human Resources at the Marine Institute, Rinville, Oranmore, Galway.

All correspondence for this post should quote reference **SIMCelt/STO/ April. 2106**

Closing date for Applications:

All applications for this post should be received by the Marine Institute in advance of **17:00** on **Tuesday 3rd May 2016**. Please note that late applications will not be accepted

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