



# Galway Statement Implementation – Atlantic Seabed Mapping Workshop

2nd December 2014 – St. George's Hall, Dublin Castle, Dublin 2

## BIOGRAPHIES FOR CHAIRS AND SPEAKERS In Alphabetical Order

**Andy Armstrong, Co-Director, Joint Hydrographic Centre, Centre for Coastal and Ocean Mapping, University of New Hampshire**



Andy Armstrong is the Co-Director of the NOAA/University of New Hampshire Joint Hydrographic Center in NOAA's Office of Coast Survey. Mr. Armstrong joined the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 1974. During his NOAA career he has served on several NOAA hydrographic ships and field parties, conducting hydrographic surveys in Alaska, Hawaii, the Pacific, Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and the Great Lakes. He commanded the *NOAA Ship Whiting*, carrying out both offshore bathymetric surveys and coastal hydrographic surveys. Before his appointment at the Joint Hydrographic Center, he was the Chief of NOAA's Hydrographic Surveys Division, managing the agency's operational hydrographic programs. At the Joint Hydrographic Center, Mr. Armstrong has been active in a variety of hydrographic research and development projects and has overseen the Center's ocean mapping education program. He is the bathymetric data acquisition team leader and the Arctic region team leader for the U.S. Interagency Extended Continental Shelf Task Force and he has led or co-led numerous extended continental shelf bathymetric mapping cruises to the Arctic Ocean, the U.S. Pacific Islands, and the U.S. Atlantic and Pacific margins. He is a member and past chairman of the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers, and past president of The Hydrographic Society of America. He has a B.S. in Geology from Tulane University and a M.S. in Technical Management from The Johns Hopkins University.

**John Bell – Director, Bioeconomy, Agriculture, Food and Marine, DG Research and Innovation.**



John Bell was appointed Director of the Bioeconomy Directorate in DG RTD on 16 January 2014. The Directorate defines, implements and evaluates EU research and innovation policy and initiatives for a sustainable and competitive bioeconomy. It responsibly addresses societal challenges in the areas of agriculture, forestry, food, biobased industries, marine and maritime by unlocking their potential benefits for European society, its economy and our global partners. It ensures the optimal integration of R&I across EU policies notably – Food Security, Water, Energy, Consumer Protection - in cooperation with Commission services. It promotes the coordination and alignment of R&I objectives with our regional, national, European and international partners. Before this he was the Chef de Cabinet of the European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, Máire Geoghegan-Quinn. In this role, as the Chief of Staff of the Commissioner's private office, he was responsible for the strategic political and policy direction of the European Commission's policy on research and innovation and the modernisation of the European Union's Research Framework Programme, which is the world's largest publicly funded research programme. Reframing research and innovation as a driver of economic reform, excellence, competitiveness and the prioritisation of tackling the grand societal challenges such as climate change, ageing, and energy security through global cooperation is central to this process. His role in the definition of the European Union's 2010 "Innovation Union" policy, the 2011 "Horizon 2020" Framework programme, reinforcing the Joint Research Centre's global scientific impact and the 2012 European Research Area package, was his main priority as it entered the delivery phase. He has been a European Commission official since 1993. During his career to date he has worked on humanitarian aid assistance programmes in the former Yugoslavia and in Albania, as well as public administration reform in Central and Eastern Europe. He was the Poland country desk officer responsible for the European Commission's Opinion on their application for EU membership.



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### Pål Buhl- Mortensen, IMR, Norway



Pål Buhl-Mortensen is a senior research scientist in the Benthic Habitat Research Group of the Institute of Marine Research. He has 14 years research experience after his PhD and has published more than 40 peer-reviewed papers. His specialty fields cover coral ecology and biodiversity, habitat mapping including distribution and description of vulnerable marine ecosystems. In 2001-2003 he was a principal scientist on a project on Coral Ecosystems in Atlantic Canada at Bedford Institute of Oceanography. Earlier he has been on shorter and longer visits as guest scientist in Sweden and Australia. He has participated in several scientific expert groups (ICES Study Group on Mapping the Occurrence of Cold Water Corals (SGCOR); ICES Working group on Deep-water Ecology (WGDEC); Chair of ICES Working group on Marine Habitat Mapping (WGMHM) since 2012), been a member of the Scientific Committee of the 2nd, 3rd 4th & 5th Symposium on Deep-Sea Corals, lead an expert group for the development of a European ISO Standard for benthic investigations using tethered inspection tools in deep water, and been a consulting expert for the Norwegian Environment Agency involving advice on ecological quality objectives for corals and other threatened and/or declining habitats for OSPAR since 2007. He has led several national research projects and worked for several EU projects (HERMES, HERMIONE, MESMA, and BENTHIS). He has planned and led 16 of the cruises in the MAREANO seabed mapping campaign.

### Aurélien Carbonniere, EU & International Affairs, IFREMER



**Trained** as a marine biologist with key research interests in relation to Integrated Coastal Zone Management issues. He held science policy positions as the Ifremer representative in Brussels and as policy officer working for the European Marine Board (strategic platform for marine science and policy in Europe) in Belgium. As policy officer in Ifremer, he monitors and oversees international cooperation with North, Central and South Americas. He also supervises the policy development of marine infrastructures and Marine Renewable Energy components at the European level. He has been involved in several European projects as FP6 marine ERA-NETs MarinERA and AmpERA and in the design and management of FP7 marine and maritime research projects (JERICO, EMAR2RES, Euromarine).

### Simon Coveney TD - Minister For Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Ireland



Mr. Simon Coveney T.D. was appointed as Minister for Agriculture, Marine and Food on March 9th 2011. Mr. Coveney chairs the Marine Coordination Group which brings together representatives of Departments and Agencies with an involvement in marine issues to drive forward the Governments joined up Marine Strategy and coordinate issues that require cross-Departmental action. For the six month period to the end of June 2013 Mr. Coveney chaired the EU Council of Agriculture & Fisheries Ministers where he was at the forefront regarding EU efforts in respect of Common Fisheries (CFP) Policy reforms. Under his chairmanship, negotiations were finalised under the Irish Presidency, with a reform package for CFP agreed in May 2013.



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Colin Devey, Professor, GEOMAR, University of Kiel



Colin Devey studied Geology at the Royal School of Mines, University of London and did his PhD at the University of Oxford working on the geochemistry and stratigraphy of the Deccan Trap lavas in India. A Royal Society post-doc fellowship took him to Nancy, France where he had his first encounter with submarine volcanoes, working on the geochemistry of seamounts near Tahiti. This led directly, in 1988, to a post-doc at the University of Kiel where he also completed his habilitation. After 6 years in Bremen as Professor for the Petrology of the Ocean Crust, he returned to Kiel in 2004 as Professor for Magmatic and Hydrothermal Systems at GEOMAR. His research interests at present concern the petrogenesis and the energy and mass balances of submarine volcanic systems.

Randy Gillespie, Director, Centre for Applied Ocean Technology, Memorial University, Newfoundland



Randy Gillespie is the Director of the Centre for Applied Ocean Technology at the Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN). He is a graduate of MUN where he completed a Master's degree in earth science. Randy began his career as a marine geologist working on numerous offshore geophysical surveys on the eastern Canadian shelf. He has also participated in many remote-sensing projects, including the Labrador Ice Margin Experiment (LIMEX'89), which was an early effort to map pack ice using airborne SAR in advance of the launch of Radarsat I. As manager of Remote Sensing at Provincial Airlines Limited, he was responsible for applications development for the Compact Airborne Spectrographic Imager (casi). Randy is a past president of the Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG) and past member of the board of directors of the Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee (ACZISC) Association. He is a registered professional geoscientist with the Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland and Labrador. In his current capacity as the director of the Centre for Applied Ocean Technology, Randy works with a top notch group of professionals to establish world class applied research programs in ocean mapping and ocean observing systems.

Sieglinde Gruber, Head of Marine Resources Unit, DG Research and Innovation, European



After graduating from the University of Padua (Italy) in Slavonic and Germanic Studies, Sigi Gruber worked for the German-Italian Culture Institute in Padua and the German Cultural Institute (Goethe-Institute) in Milan. In 1991 she was appointed as an expert to work for the European Commission to launch the LINGUA Programme, the European Communities' first foreign language learning programme. Afterwards she worked in the Directorate General for Education and Training where she was - inter alia - responsible for the actions dealing with foreign language learning for vocational training and for policy development of the vocational training programme, the Leonardo da Vinci Programme. Then she became the General Secretary of the European Association for the Education of Adults before re-joining the European Commission in 2001, on this occasion in the Directorate General for Research. She was Head of Sector for Researchers' Careers, and her responsibilities included policy initiatives related to the *European Charter for Researchers*, the *Modernising Agenda of European Universities* and the *European Institute of Innovation and Technology*. From 2007 to 2011 she headed the Unit responsible for Relations with Third Countries. This Unit aimed to promote coherence and synergy between Member States and the EU as regards international cooperation policies and activities with major partner countries and regions. At this time she was also responsible for launching the *Indo-European Research and Innovation Partnership*. This Unit also ensured the follow-up of cooperation with multilateral fora such as the G8 and Carnegie. In



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April 2011 she took responsibility for EU science, research and innovation cooperation with North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, where she coordinated the launch of *the Canada-EU-US Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance*. Since January 2014 she is heading the newly established Marine Resources Unit in the Directorate General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission.

#### Peter Heffernan – Chief Executive, Marine Institute



Dr Heffernan has led the Marine Institute, the national agency for marine research and development since 1993. The Marine Institute provides essential research infrastructure platforms such as the national research vessels and ROV Holland 1 and ocean energy test and development platforms. The MI delivers a range of research and monitoring and advisory services in fisheries, aquaculture, oceanography, maritime development, as well as acting as a driver for marine research and development through funding programmes. The Institute also provides advice on marine research policy at a national and European level. Dr Heffernan obtained a B.Sc. (1st Class Hons) Degree and Ph.D. in marine science from the National University of Ireland, Galway. He held a post doctoral position in University of Georgia, US (1985 -1992) where he became an associate professor/research scientist leading the shellfish research laboratory. On his return to Ireland in 1992 he was Manager in the Martin Ryan Institute at the National University of Ireland, Galway.

Dr Heffernan is a member of the Royal Irish Academy (2006 – Present). He was appointed as an Adjunct Professor in Marine Science, National University of Ireland, Galway in 2006. Earlier this year Dr Heffernan was appointed to the Research Innovation and Science (RISE) policy experts high-level group, which provides direct support to the European Commissioner for Research Innovation and Science.

#### José Joaquín Hernández-Brito, PLOCAN



Mr José Hernández-Brito holds a PhD in Chemistry (1986) from the University of La Laguna, and has been a marine science researcher, supervisor for several thesis, and responsible for over twenty national and international projects. He has held several R&D management positions at the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, such as Dean of the Faculty of Marine Science, Director of the Research Results Transfer Office (TTO), Director of Scientific and Technological Park and Research Vice-Rector. He has also held the positions of Director of the Canary Institute of Marine Science. Since 2009, Dr Hernández-Brito is the Manager of the ICTS (Science and Technological Singular Infrastructure) PLOCAN (Oceanic Platform of the Canary Islands) where he is in charge of developing infrastructures, services and projects. He is responsible for meeting objectives for PLOCAN's operational, environmental, financial and commercial performance under the supervision of the Director. Moreover, he is Director of the European projects within PLOCAN, such as LEANWIND or OCEANERA-NET, associated with sustainable energies new developments and innovations. He also coordinates the project FIX003 which is on the multidisciplinary observatory side of science.





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**Rick Hester, Research Platform Manager, NOAA Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research**



Lieutenant Commander Richard E. Hester Jr. has 18 years on active duty in the U.S. sea services. He first served aboard U.S. Coast Guard vessels in the Northeast Pacific and the Western Pacific conducting search and rescue operations, drug and migrant interdictions, and servicing navigational buoys. In 2000 he transitioned to the NOAA Commissioned Corps to support science and stewardship missions, and was first assigned to NOAA Ship *RAINIER* - among the most productive hydrographic survey platforms in the world. His roles aboard *RAINIER* included Navigation Officer, Horizontal Geodetic Control, and Officer in Charge of multiple hydrographic survey sheets in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. As Operations Officer on NOAA Ship *KA'IMIMOANA* he maintained the Tropical Atmosphere Ocean (TAO) buoy array across the equatorial Pacific critical for understanding and predicting climate variability. As Executive Officer and then Commanding Officer of NOAA Ship *Delaware II* he conducted numerous fisheries and marine mammal surveys and related mooring operations from Cape Hatteras to Nova Scotia, occasionally working joint projects under U.S. and Canadian authorities and permits. LCDR Hester's three shore assignments have been in NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR). As Physical Scientist at the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle WA, he earned an M.S. Physics and investigated ocean current variability with impacts on North Pacific fisheries and global climate. As Associate Director of the Earth System Research Laboratory in Boulder CO, he supported NOAA's climate and weather mission goals, Unmanned Aerial Systems, Arctic Sea Ice, and connections to the U.S. national security and emergency preparedness community. LCDR Hester currently serves as Research Platform Manager overseeing the prioritization, allocation and scheduling of NOAA and charter ship time resources for OAR in Silver Spring MD.

**Penny Holliday, OOI/OSNAP, National Oceanographic Centre, Southampton, UK**



Dr Holliday is a physical oceanographer with over 20 years experience in observational research. She specialises in North Atlantic subpolar circulation and variability (seasonal to decadal), and the role of Arctic freshwater in the North Atlantic. She is lead investigator for a programme of sustained hydrographic measurements in the eastern subpolar region, and is project leader for UK-OSNAP.

**Jennifer Jencks, Manager, National Geophysical Data Centre, NOAA**



Jennifer Jencks is a professional research assistant collaborating with NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center through the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Science (CIRES) of the University of Colorado. Ms. Jencks manages global marine geophysical data archives at NGDC and the co-located International Hydrographic Office Data Center for Digital Bathymetry. She is an active member of the U.S. Extended Continental Shelf (ECS) project, leading one of the seven ECS regional teams and participating in the development of the ECS data management system. Jennifer is also one of five U.S. representatives to the fifteen-member Environmental Protection and Safety Panel (EPSP). EPSP is an Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) panel providing independent advice to the Science Planning Committee and to the IODP Management International, with regard to geology-related safety and environmental issues at proposed scientific drill sites. Before joining NGDC in 2008, Ms. Jencks worked for the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) and for a geophysical consulting firm in California. She earned her B.S. in Geological Engineering from the University of Mississippi and M.S. in Ocean Engineering from the University of Rhode Island.



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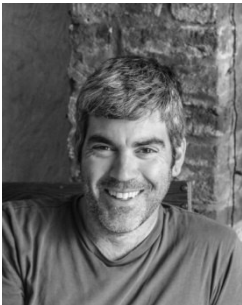
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### Stephen Locke, Director, Geological Survey of Canada



Stephen is the Director of the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) Atlantic Division, part of Natural Resources Canada (NRCan). He is located in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO). Stephen is responsible for GSC marine geoscience and is the NRCan Director of Canada's UNCLOS submission that in 2014 completed an arctic expedition mapping the seafloor in the area of the North Pole. Stephen works closely with Fisheries and Oceans Canada on many Government of Canada offshore science initiatives.

### Peter La Femina, Pennsylvania State University/MARUM



Dr. Peter La Femina is an Associate Professor of Geosciences at The Pennsylvania State University. In his geodynamics research, he integrates geophysical measurements with numerical modeling to study active tectonic and volcanic processes. Specifically, he applies satellite geodesy (Global Positioning System) to the investigation of strain accumulation and partitioning across plate boundary zones and to monitoring volcanic systems. He combines these data with geologic, geophysical (seismic) and laboratory data, to better model the geodynamics of strain accumulation and release in the lithosphere, the long-term evolution of plate boundary zones and magma-tectonic interactions. The goals of this research are to gain and improve our knowledge of fault systems during the earthquake cycle, the geodynamics of plate boundary zone deformation and the short and long-term interaction of magmatic and fault systems. Dr. La Femina currently is Chairman of the Board of Directors – UNAVCO, Inc. and currently on sabbatical in Bremen, Germany.

### Nuno Lourenço, IPMA, Portugal



PhD in Marine Sciences (spe. Marine Geology, University of Algarve). One year experience in Oil industry consultancy. Participated in 24 deep sea scientific cruises being chief scientist in 7 of them. He is author or co-author of 24 scientific publications in peer reviewed journals. He holds a position as professor at the Algarve University. During 7 years he was attached to the Portuguese Task Group for the Extension of the Continental Shelf, where he led the R&D office. In this scope he coordinated the Deep water ROV LUSO operationalization project, the marine Biodiversity Information System and the geoscientific component of the Portuguese submission to the UN for the extension of the continental Shelf in the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). He participated in several international consultancy projects (State to state) in the scope of UNCLOS. He participated in several public administration workgroups concerning sardine fisheries, offshore aquaculture, National Ocean Strategy 2014-2020 and related action plan and was actively engaged in the drafting of the European Union Strategy for the Atlantic Basin. He is national delegate to H2020 SC2 Programming committee and ICES. He is a member of the Management board of Joint Programming Initiative – Oceans.



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### Craig McLean, Acting Assistant Administrator for Oceanographic and Atmospheric Research, NOAA



Craig McLean is the deputy for NOAA's Oceanic and Atmospheric Research programs and administration. He is responsible for daily operations and administration of NOAA's research enterprise, and the execution of NOAA programs including the Climate program, National Sea Grant, and Ocean Exploration. He has previously served in NOAA as Executive Officer of the National Ocean Service, and was the founding Director of NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration. McLean served in uniform for nearly 25 years, retiring from NOAA's Commissioned Corps in the grade of Captain after service at sea, underwater, and in operational, legal, and marine resource management positions. McLean served aboard hydrographic, oceanographic, and fisheries research ships and was the first commanding officer of NOAA's largest fisheries research vessel, the 224-foot Gordon Gunter. A life-long diver, he began exploring deep shipwrecks through decompression diving while in junior high school. These experiences have taken him to the Amazon River searching for freshwater dolphins, and to the RMS Titanic searching for solutions in shipwreck management. Craig McLean is also an attorney and has practiced marine resource law for NOAA. He has been awarded the Departmental Silver and Bronze Medals, the NOAA Corps Commendation Medal, Special Achievement Medal, and recognized as the NOAA 2005 Senior Leader of the Year. He is a Fellow in the Explorers Club, Chairman of the Marine Law and Policy Committee of the Marine Technology Society, and is Chairman of the Board of the Sea-Space Symposium.

### Glenn Nolan, Marine Institute, Ireland - Copernicus/Mercator Oceans



Dr. Glenn Nolan has 15 years experience as an oceanographer and in the management and roll-out of oceanographic and marine climate projects. Responsible for the Irish National Weather Buoy Network, Irish Tide Gauge Network, Ocean Modelling, Remote Sensing, Coastal and deep water oceanography at the Marine Institute, he headed the Marine Climate Change team at the Marine Institute 2007 and 2009. His own research is primarily in the area of coastal processes and in the descriptive physical oceanography of the Irish region having conducted more than 30 research cruises in Irish waters, the Caribbean and the sub-polar regions, 14 as chief scientist. He has considerable experience in management of large-scale research projects: Joint Coordinator of FP6 European Seafloor Observatory Network Implementation Model (ESONIM) SSA, WP Leader in JERICO I3 project (FP7), WP Leader in MyOcean2 FP7 project. Board Member: European component of the Global Ocean Observing System (EuroGOOS) 2005-2012. Co-Chair: Technology Plan Working Group (EuroGOOS). Co-chair: Iberia Biscay Ireland Regional OOS (2011-present). Steering Group Member: North West Shelf OOS (2005-present). ICES Working Group on Oceanic Hydrography (2004-Present) (co-chair 2008-2010). Member: Royal Irish Academy, Climate Change Sciences Committee.

### Ricardo Serrão Santos, Member of the European Parliament



Ricardo Serrão Santos (RSS) is Member of the European Parliament since July 2014. Full member of the Committee on Fisheries and the Delegation for Relations with Canada. Substitute member of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development as well as of the Delegations for Relations with the United States and Delegation for Relations with the Countries of the Andean Community. RSS has a Doctorate Degree from the University of Liverpool and the University of the Azores. Has been involved in Marine Research for around 30 years with more than 300 scientific papers and books. Besides his academic position at the University of the Azores he is member of the Scientific Council of the Oceanography Institute of Paris and Visiting Professor at the University of Southampton. He is the Vice-Chair of the European Marine Board and President of EurOcean and member of the Commission of the Sargasso Sea. RSS has been President of IMAR-Institute of Marine Research, Pro-Rector of the University of the Azores and the Director of the Department Oceanography and Fisheries of the University of the Azores. He coordinated the selection of contents for the Azores Pavilion in the World Expo



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of 1998. In 2007, he chaired a meeting of international experts for the UN Convention on Biodiversity, which defined the scientific criteria for the selection of marine EBSA (Ecological and Biological Significant Areas), adopted in COP9 in Bona. He has received honourable mentions and awards, among which a Gift to the Earth by WWF in 2002, and the designation as Sea Ambassador by the EU Commissioner Joe Borg in 2007. In 2012 he received the Autonomous Insignia of Recognition from the Azores Government and the Azores Legislative Parliament. In 2013 he was knighted "Chevalier de l'Ordre de Saint Charles" by SAS Prince Albert II of Monaco. RSS is a member of the Portuguese Academy of Sciences and of the Portuguese Navy Academy.

#### Kaiser Souza, Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovação – MCTI, Brazil



Kaiser Gonçalves De Souza is a geologist graduated at the University of Vale do Rio dos Sinos – UNISINOS, Brazil (1983), Master in Geotectonics of the Continents and Oceans (1985) and Ph.D. in marine geology from the University of Paris, France (1991). Completed post-doctorate in the field of marine geology and geophysics at the Federal Institute of Geosciences and Natural Resources, in Hanover, Germany (1993). He participate in a training programme in marine mineral resources exploitation sponsored by the Preparatory Commission of the International Seabed Authority (United Nations) (1994) and specialized in matters relating to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (1996). He served as expert in marine natural resources in the Ministry of Science and Technology, Brazil (1995-1997). Worked as a Marine Geologist at the International Seabed Authority, Jamaica (1997-2004). Served as Head of the Division of Marine Geology at the Geological Survey of Brazil (2005 - 2013), where his main responsibilities were focused on the geological surveying and the assessment, prospecting and exploration of mineral resources located in the Brazilian Continental Shelf and in the international seabed area of the South and Equatorial Atlantic Ocean. From 2011 to 2012 he acted as a Member of the Legal and Technical Commission of the International Seabed Authority. Since 2010 he is Director at the International Marine Mineral Society (IMMS). From 2013 he works as independent consultant on its own Company, the *Oceanis Mineral International*, where his main focus is the geological surveying and the sustainable exploitation of marine mineral resources located in areas under national and international jurisdictions.

#### Alan Stevenson, Marine Geology Team Leader, British Geological Survey



Alan Stevenson is Marine Geology and Operations Team Leader at the British Geological Survey (BGS) in Edinburgh and BGS Co-ordinator for the Natural Environment Research Council's UK Marine Environmental Mapping Programme (MAREMAP). Alan is also Co-ordinator of the geological component of the European Commission's European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet), consisting of a network of 36 geoscience organisations from 30 countries. He holds a number of committee roles, including Vice-Chair of the European Geological Surveys' Marine Geology Expert Group. Alan is also a member of the Scientific Organising Committee of the GeoHab Conference series (Geology and Biology of Marine Habitats). He is involved in the European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling (ECORD) as Outreach Manager for the Science Operator and is a member of the programme's strategy committee.





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#### Fernando Tempera, Joint Research Centre, European Commission



Post-Doc Researcher at the European Commission Joint Research Centre focusing on Modelling and Mapping of Marine Ecosystem Services. Throughout his career, he has built a generalist perspective of marine biodiversity from intertidal to deep sea areas and developed an expertise in seafloor mapping. His main motivation has been the exploration of poorly-known biotopes of the Northeast Atlantic and their informed management.

#### Koen Verbruggen, Director, Geological Survey of Ireland



Koen is the Director of the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI), which is the Irish Geoscience Agency and part of the Government Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources. He is also incoming President (2015-16) of EuroGeoSurveys, the organisation of European Geological Surveys. He has been with GSI since 2000 and from 2006-13 he managed INFOMAR (Integrated Mapping for Sustainable Development of Ireland's Marine Resource), the Irish national marine mapping programme run in conjunction with the Marine Institute and successor to GSI's Irish National Seabed Survey. Prior to GSI Koen worked for 15 years in the international exploration industry. He holds a BSc Geology and MSc Petroleum Geology from University College Dublin.

#### Phil Weaver, EMODNET, Seascope Consultancy Ltd, UK



Professor Phil Weaver trained as a geologist and completed a PhD in micropalaeontology in 1978. He joined the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences in the UK in 1980 and transferred with them to the National Oceanography Centre (NOC) in Southampton in 1995. Through most of his career he has been involved in studies of sedimentary processes in the deep ocean, especially investigating the history of landslides from the Canary Islands and NW African margin. In 1993 he was co-chief scientist on an International Ocean Drilling Project to the Canary Basin that studied the volcanic development of Gran Canaria and the history of continental margin erosion by landsliding and sediment mass wasting. He has conducted many investigations around the world into sediment stability on continental margins, including numerous site and pipeline investigations for the hydrocarbon industry.

Phil has been involved in a large number of international projects and has coordinated five EC-funded European research projects investigating a range of marine topics. His career has gradually taken him into research areas with more environmental focus. He was scientific coordinator of the highly successful FP6 HERMES project (2005-2009) and its FP7 successor, the HERMIONE project (2009-2012). These two projects led him to develop a strong interest in sustainable management of the deep sea. Phil presented results from the HERMIONE project at the UN General Assembly in September 2009 regarding the impacts of bottom fishing in the deep-sea. Phil was also an invited speaker at the UNICPOLOS meeting in June 2011 and at the UN General Assembly in September 2011 where deep-water fishing resolutions 61/105 and 64/72 were debated. Professor Weaver was Director of the NERC Strategic Research Division at NOC from 2006 – 2010. He left NOC in 2010 to set up Seascope Consultants Ltd, though he remains a Senior Visiting Fellow of NOC and still actively publishes his research in leading marine science journals. Phil is currently the Scientific Coordinator of the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI), and is the Coordinator of the new FP7-funded MIDAS project.