

RESPONSE FROM THE MARINE INSTITUTE (IRELAND) TO  
THE EC GREEN PAPER

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The Marine Institute (Ireland) ([www.marine.ie](http://www.marine.ie)) welcomes the opportunity provided by the European Commission to respond to the Green Paper: *From Challenges to Opportunities: Towards a Common Strategic Framework for EU Research and Innovation Funding* (9.2.2011 COM(2011) 48).

Regarding the 27 specific questions posed by the Green Paper, the Marine Institute fully endorses and supports the detailed response contained in the **Response from Ireland to the EC Green Paper (May 2011)** prepared by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, the Advisory Council for Science, Technology and Innovation and Forfás – the Enterprise and Science Policy Advisory Board.

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The Marine Institute also supports the statement contained in the Irish response that the reply to 27 questions posed by the Commission in its Green Paper is to be regarded as *a first stage in defining the guiding principles, structure and content of the common strategic framework*.

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The next, more substantive phase in the consultation process must seek agreement on the content and specific thematic priorities and/or grand challenges to be addressed by the common strategic framework. It must also set out a clear transition from the current Framework Programme to the common strategic framework and the incorporation of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) and European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT).

website: [www.marine.ie](http://www.marine.ie)

Regarding the thematic priorities/grand challenges to be addressed by the Common Strategic Framework (2014-2020), the Marine Institute fully endorses and supports the output of the EuroOCEAN 2010 Conference, the Ostend Declaration ([www.euroocean2010.eu](http://www.euroocean2010.eu)) which calls for the **Seas and Oceans to be recognised as one of the grand challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> century and as a topic to be prioritised in the forthcoming EU Common Strategic Framework Programme**.

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