

What?	Summary of the project Kick-off meeting. February 11th – 13th 2014, Iceland
Is happening now	Launching of the Website: <a href="http://www.mareframe-fp7.org">www.mareframe-fp7.org</a>
Coming Soon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Launching of the Case Studies: 7 Workshops at Sea Basin level until May 2014.</li> <li>- Meeting with the Advisory Councils (ACs) to discuss how stakeholders can formally become part of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries advice process. Schedule: July 2014.</li> </ul>
Actions for ACs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To send info for the Website: ACs short description, pictures, and any relevant information.</li> <li>- To support –as far as possible- case study leaders in the organization of the Workshops.</li> <li>- To ensure relevant AC expertise is provided for each meeting through participation of key members. This will facilitate stakeholders' knowledge transfer to project partners.</li> </ul>

## Summary of the kick-off meeting

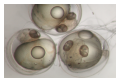






- Goals:** to ensure common understanding of the project's objectives, tasks, expected results, management structures, potential risks, partners' responsibilities and project communication.
- Main challenges arising from the meeting:**
  - MareFrame is not a project to deepen our knowledge about nature, but to *make possible what is necessary to implement the Ecosystem Approach into fisheries advice*.
  - The Decision Support Framework will be the main output; remarkably, it illustrates the tension among the scientific requirements –highly complicated assessment models-, the stakeholders' needs –a user-friendly and practical tool that is fit for purpose- and the dynamics of the decision-making processes.  
Acknowledging that final decisions must be taken in the political arena, partners suggested a more accurate name for the tool: Proposal Support Tool.
  - The Ecosystem approach adds more complexity to the conundrum of fisheries management; the advice needs to be focused on tactical (i.e. immediate) decisions but at the same time, it should meet long term strategic choices.
  - Multi-species advice for fisheries management identifies the choices and trade-offs to be made by the target end users (policy makers, stakeholders or both);
  - Obtaining reliable advice from ecosystem models is tricky.
  - Project training actions will be focused on policy-makers and stakeholders.
  - Project management issues: links between deliverables, deadlines and input-feedback relations have been addressed.
  - Project financial issues: procedures and payments were explained. An ad-hoc meeting was held with ACs partners to deal with specific concerns.
- Communication:** transparency and accountability are guiding principles for MareFrame. Nevertheless, both intellectual property (IP) rights and conditions for scientific publications generate some constraints. This topic will be specifically addressed with the ACs to ensure a smooth exchange of information while protecting IP and copyright ownership.

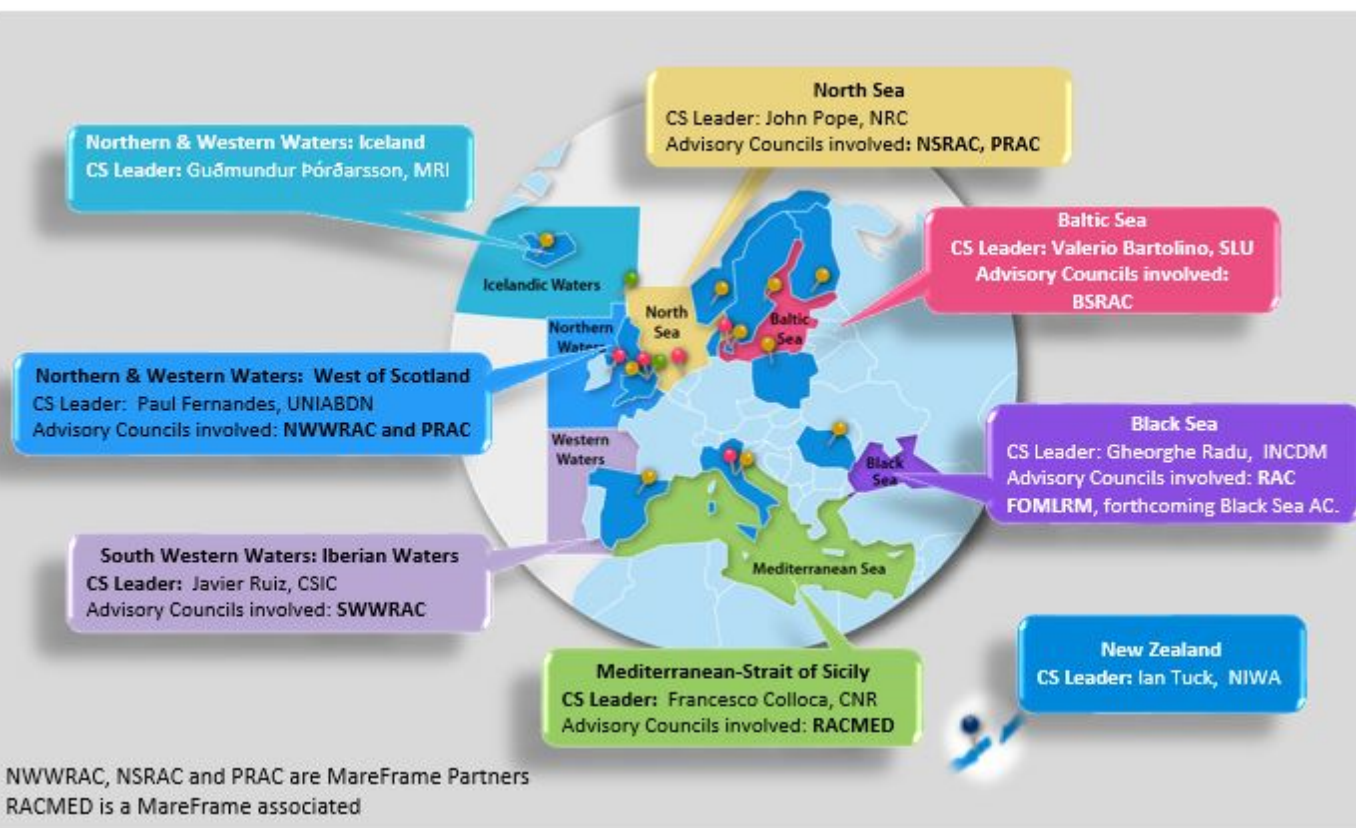
**The work packages (WPs) in a nutshell:** All WPs are interrelated and continuous communication and coordination is ensured through project management (WP9)

### WP1. Co-creation and pathways for implementation

A forum to co-produce knowledge on how to integrate the ecosystem approach into fisheries advice; i.e., ideas that are feasible (scientific validity) acceptable (stakeholders input) and useful for the decision making process (policy relevance). The input of the Advisory Councils in this WP is critical for its success.



<b>WP2. Select &amp; apply analytical methods</b>	 Search and integration of data coming from new tools and technologies (e.g. genetics) to develop new knowledge; i.e., to use pioneering sources to improve the advice.
<b>WP3. Data management</b>	Database system to serve the needs of the other WPs; i.e., the “glue” ensuring that the data to be handled are manageable. 
<b>WP4. Ecosystem models &amp; assessment models</b>	 Systematic comparison of modelling approaches and search for results that can support robust management decisions; i.e., to build a virtual ecosystem, in a computer, in order to compare different management approaches
<b>WP5. Apply new methods in case studies</b>	Eight case studies ( <b>see map below</b> ); i.e. the place where theory becomes practice and where evidence-based knowledge be generated to inform decision support work. 
<b>WP6. Develop a Decision support framework</b>	 Develop, test and adapt a decision support framework for policy makers and other stakeholders, developing management plans to address case specific issues; i.e., making the EAF advice operative.
<b>WP7. Synthesis &amp; training development</b>	Evaluation of results, assessment of socio-economic impacts and development of interactive learning tools. i.e., what we have learnt and how to use it. 
<b>WP8. Dissemination</b>	 Dissemination, knowledge transfer, public outreach strategies, use of results and training of scientists and stakeholders.



## FAQs

**Where can I get more information?** The official minutes from the meeting will be available upon request. The AC Secretariats and CETMAR will be also a contact point for the stakeholders.

**How can I support the Case Study leader in the organization of the Workshop?** Each Case Study leader will contact the concerned Advisory Council; your support in setting the final date, engaging the stakeholders and optimizing resources (meeting rooms, etc.) will be appreciated.