



## Co-Operation for Restoring Cockle Shellfisheries and its Ecosystem Services in the Atlantic Area (AA)

ES

Cooperación para recuperar las pesquerías de berberecho y sus servicios de ecosistema en el AA

FR

Coopération pour la restauration des pêcheries de coques et de leurs services écosystémiques dans l'AA

PT

Cooperação para a recuperação das pescarias de berbigão e os seus serviços de ecossistema na AA

CY

Cydweithio i Adfer Pysgodfeydd Cocos a'u Gwasanaethau i Ecosystemau Ardal yr Iwerydd

GA

Comhoibriú le haghaidh a chuir ar ais iascaigh bhlaosc cockle agus a sheirbhís éiceachórais i Limistéar an Atlantaigh (AA)

GL

Cooperación para a recuperación do marisqueo de berberecho e os seus servizos ambientais na Área Atlántica

### BRIEF SUMMARY

Cockles provide a wealth of services to coastal communities in the Atlantic Area (AA). COCKLES will restore production and the services provided by this emblematic resource, threatened by disease outbreaks and suboptimal management. Developing aquaculture, resistant strains and recovering natural stocks, optimizing management and upskilling stakeholders will aid recovering resources, increase the understanding of ecosystem services; contribute to the Good Environmental Status and boost coastal economies of AA.



### PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE

Improving the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services.



### PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

**Programme**  
ATLANTIC AREA

**Execution Dates**  
2017.10.01 – 2020.09.30

**Project Coordinator**  
Rosa Fernández, Spain

**Proponent Institution**  
Centro Tecnológico del Mar, Fundación CETMAR · ES

**Funding Entity**  
European Union

**Total Funding**  
3,613,017.54 €

#### Participating Institutions

##### Full Partners

- Centro de Investigacións Mariñas / Consellería do Mar, Xunta de Galicia · ES
- Universidade de Santiago de Compostela | ACUIGEN · ES
- Université de Bordeaux · FR
- University College Cork · IE
- Bangor University · UK
- NERC Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Bangor · UK
- Université de Caen Normandie · FR
- Groupe d'Etude des Milieux Estuariens et Littoraux · FR
- Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera, I.P. · PT
- Universidade de Aveiro · PT
- Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa / MARE · PT

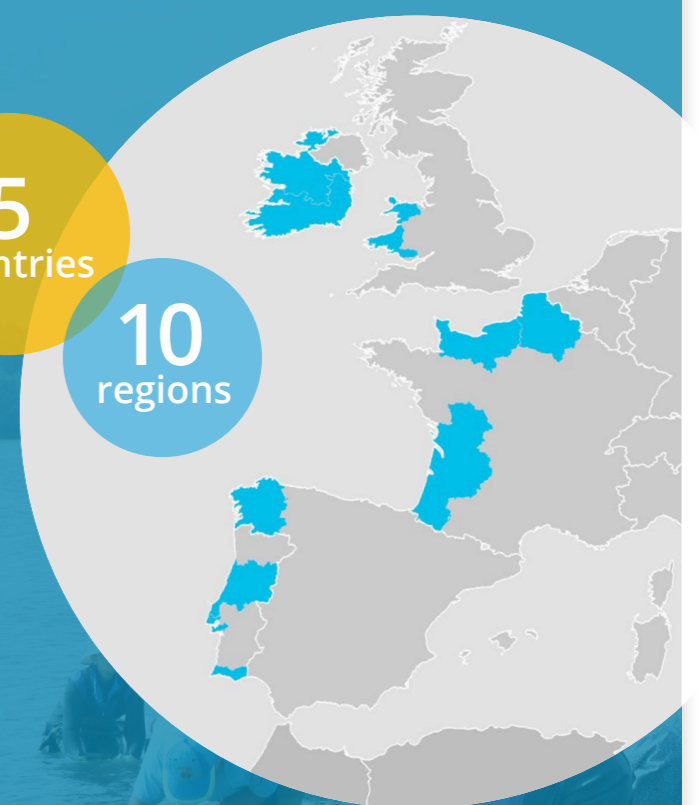
##### Associated Partners

- Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru · UK
- Marine Institute Ireland · IE
- Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer · FR
- Fédération des Sociétés pour l'Etude, la Protection, et l'Aménagement de la Nature dans le Sud-Ouest · FR
- Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique Délégation Aquitaine · FR
- Confraría de Pescadores San Antonio de Cambados · ES
- Secretaría Xeral de Calidade e Avaliación Ambiental – Xunta de Galicia · ES
- Instituto Tecnológico para o Control do Medio Mariño de Galicia · ES
- Formosa, Cooperativa de Viveiristas da Ria Formosa, C.R.L. · PT
- Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas · PT

LEAD PARTNER

5 countries

10 regions



### OVERALL OBJECTIVE

Cockles provide meaningful environmental, societal, cultural as well as economic benefits to coastal communities in ES, PT, FR, IE, and UK, but are threatened by disease and sub-optimal management. This project will restore and increase cockle production and the services it provides in the Atlantic Area, using the following objectives:

» To provide new techniques for cockle management by developing new technology and procedures for cockle bed restoration, hatchery technology for seed production, selective breeding programmes to produce disease-resistant and fast growing strains, and conservation of genetic structure/diversity;

» To assess the health, diversity and interrelationships of cockle populations across the AA by characterising population dynamics, genetic diversity and larval transport, threats from disease, pollution, invasive species and climate;

» To provide guidance on best practice for producers, administrations, environmental agencies, and NGOs, by evaluating and sharing best practice across the AA and optimizing management through mutual learning. This will result in improved cockle production, a strong, viable and sustainable industry, with recognised societal and biodiversity benefits.

» To quantify the wider economic, societal and cultural benefits from ecosystem services provided by cockles (fishery, aquaculture, biodiversity, food for birds, tourism, cultural services), by surveys, interviews and socio-economic analysis;

#### FULL PARTNERS



#### ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

