



MERIKA

Marine Energy Research Innovation
and Knowledge Accelerator

UHI Breakfast Showcase SR Marine Conference September 2015

merikafp7.eu

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The MERIKA Project has received funding from the European Union Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° 315925.



University of the
Highlands and Islands
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agus nan Eilean

Project Summary

- Marine Energy Research Innovation and Knowledge Accelerator (**MERIKA**)
- An EU FP7 funded project at the University of the Highlands and Islands
- **€3.95m** from the EU over 3 years from February 2014 to July 2017
- Objective: Create a leading Marine Energy research and innovation hub at UHI.



“research where the resource is”



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Key Features

- 12 new scientists to build and extend knowledge capacity



- Bilateral Exchange Programme with 7 European institutions
- €750k Equipment Upgrade to strengthen physical infrastructure



Bi-lateral Exchange Programme

Building Strategic Partnerships

- Research Staff exchange programme
- 49 total secondments
- Secondments ranging from 1 week to 1 month
- Knowledge Exchange as primary activity

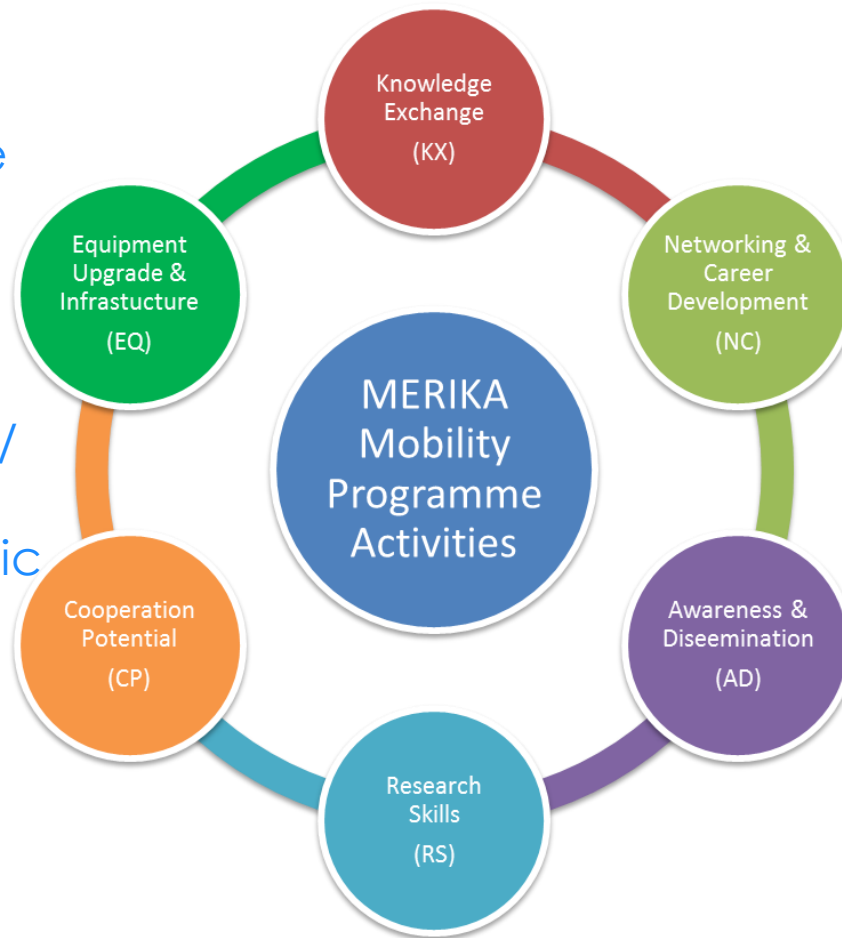


Bi-lateral Exchange Programme

Fostering Collaboration Networks

Activities

- Facility/ Field Site Tours
- Equipment Training
- Seminars
- Data Exchanges/ Sampling
- Funding/ Strategic Discussions
- Public Engagement sessions



Outputs

- Research Collaborations
- Project Consortia
- Joint Papers
- Joint PhD Supervisions
- Project Groups
- Seminars

Bi-lateral Exchange Programme

Science Focus



University of the
Highlands and Islands
Lews Castle College

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- Benthic environment and marine renewables
- Bio-fouling of marine renewables
- Non-native species
- Migratory fish ecology and marine renewables

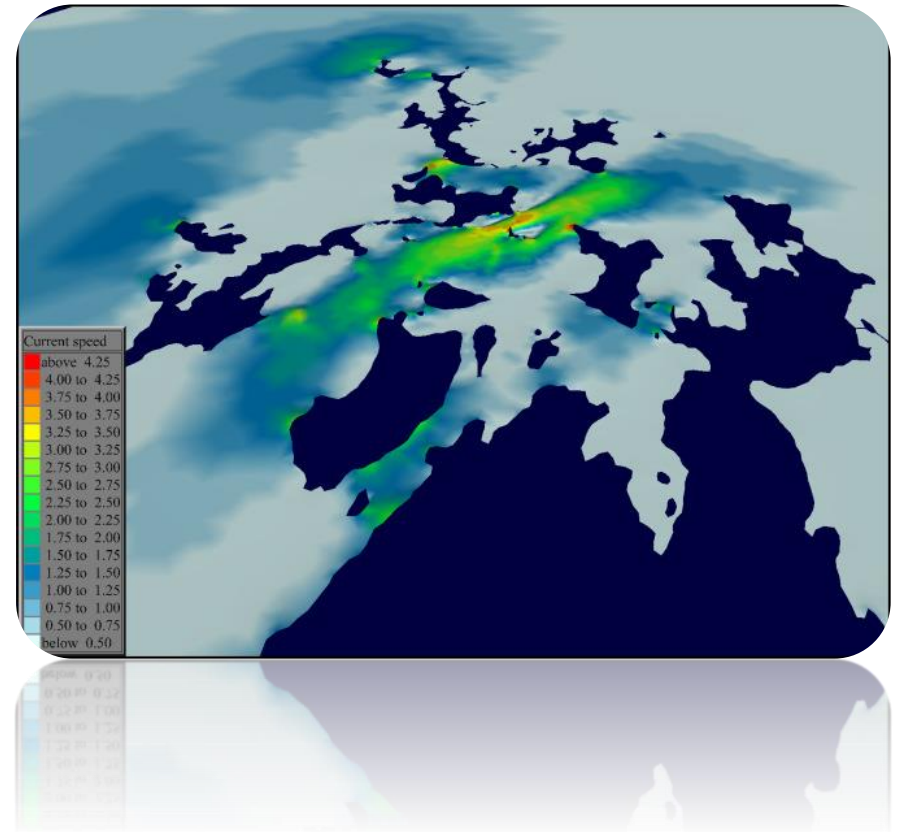
- Wave and current monitoring
- Wave Statistics
- Extrema in wave data
- Wave Prediction
- Hydro dynamics

- Marine Spatial Planning
- Ecosystem Services
- Environmental Monitoring
- Marine Communities
- Evaluating Energy Policies

Equipment Upgrade

Key Systems (including software):

- X-Band Radars
- Acoustic Sensors/
Hydrophones
- Fish & Sea Bird Trackers
- Wave and Current Sensors /
Profilers
- Wave Measurement Buoys
- Remote Piloted Aircraft
System
- Micro-sensor Package



Opportunities with the sector

Building on Strategic Partnerships

Consortia for project initiatives – Industry and Academia

European; H2020, Territorial Co-operation, Research Alliances / Programmes e.g. OCEANERA-NET, Energy Research Alliances

National; Funding Councils, ORE Catapult, WES

