

CASE STUDY

Marine Institute showcases Irish marine science and leadership, and advances ocean literacy, at European Maritime Day 2025





The Marine Institute played a central role in 2025 European Maritime Day (EMD), which took place in Cork city on 22 and 23 May. The annual event gathers Europe's ocean leaders to meet, discuss and outline joint action on maritime affairs and a sustainable Blue Economy.





The Institute was involved in the high-level conference, conference expo, and organised networking events aboard the *RV Tom Crean*, and the public-facing festival, showcasing Ireland's leadership in marine science, innovation and outreach.





More than **12,000 visitors** attended the European Maritime Days to Play Festival and more than **4,500 people** availed of the rare opportunity to tour Ireland's state-of-the-art marine research vessel *RV Tom Crean* and learn more about its role in advancing ocean research.





Two high-level networking events, hosted on board the vessel, provided an opportunity for policy makers, scientists and industry leaders from across Europe to discuss shared marine challenges and the importance of international collaboration in advancing sustainable ocean governance.





The Wild Atlantic Expo had displays on fisheries, marine spatial planning, seabed mapping, ocean climate research and biodiversity, alongside interactive exhibits and activities from the Explorers Education Programme.





More than **1,200 delegates**, including EU officials, policymakers, researchers and industry professionals, participated in the European Maritime Day conference. Marine Institute staff led, coordinated and participated in numerous main sessions, panels and workshops.





The Marine Institute's leadership in outreach, coordination and content delivery made a distinct contribution to the success of EMD 2025. The integration of scientific expertise with public engagement demonstrated a model for impactful marine outreach aligned with the UN Ocean Decade and EU Mission to Restore Our Ocean and Waters by 2030.





As the 2025 event came to a close, the collaboration and exchange of ideas in Cork city left an indelible impression on participants, inspiring them to continue to focus on the future of our ocean and our maritime sector.





While the core activities occurred during the event week in May 2025, media and social engagement extended into June. Impacts were made both nationally and across Europe, with local engagement in Cork and strategic visibility across EU maritime networks.



Want to learn more about
the impact of this event?



Read the Marine Institute's
Annual Impact Report to see how we are
inspiring our stakeholders and society.