

Dr Jean-Pierre Gattuso
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France

Athens, April 4, 2007

Subject: Letter of support to EPOCA proposal

Dear Dr Gattuso,

The relevance of the proposed European Project on Ocean Acidification (EPOCA) integrated project to the call "Ocean acidification and its consequences" [FP7 Cooperation Work Programme: Theme 6 – Environment - Sub-activity 6.1.1: Pressures on environment and climate - ENV.2007.1.1.3.1], is clear. The structure of the Consortium and the themes proposed to be covered will address key issues such as the impact of acidification on the biochemistry of the oceans and on the ecosystem in general, in an interdisciplinary and well-coordinated manner.

The scope of EPOCA is related to the objectives of SESAME IP (Southern European Seas: Assessment and Modelling Ecosystem Changes) supported by the European Commission (Thematic Priority: 6.3 Global Change and Ecosystems, Contract no 036949) and I hope that will cover some of the specific aspects dealt within our Project. I am sure that a collaboration between the two IPs on themes of common interest would be mutual beneficial and provide added value to the projects.

I therefore would like to express my support to the EPOCA proposal. I sincerely hope that this letter of support may be of some use to you and I look forward to possible collaboration with you and your team in the near future.

Yours sincerely,



Dr E. Papathanassiou
Coordinator of SESAME IP