

Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund

Supporting impactful projects through strategic investment

marinescotland  Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

 **Crown Estate
Scotland**
Oighreachd a' Chrùin Alba

 **NatureScot**
Scotland's Nature Agency
Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba

Enabling investment in tangible, effective marine and coastal restoration projects in Scotland

A unique fund

- SMEEF is an opportunity for anyone who uses the sea for business or leisure to voluntarily reinvest in the health of our oceans.
- Our grants will enhance biodiversity, support green jobs and help coastal communities deal with climate change.
- Founded by a partnership of Scottish Government Marine Scotland Directorate, Crown Estate Scotland and NatureScot, our unique structure ensures credibility and transparency.

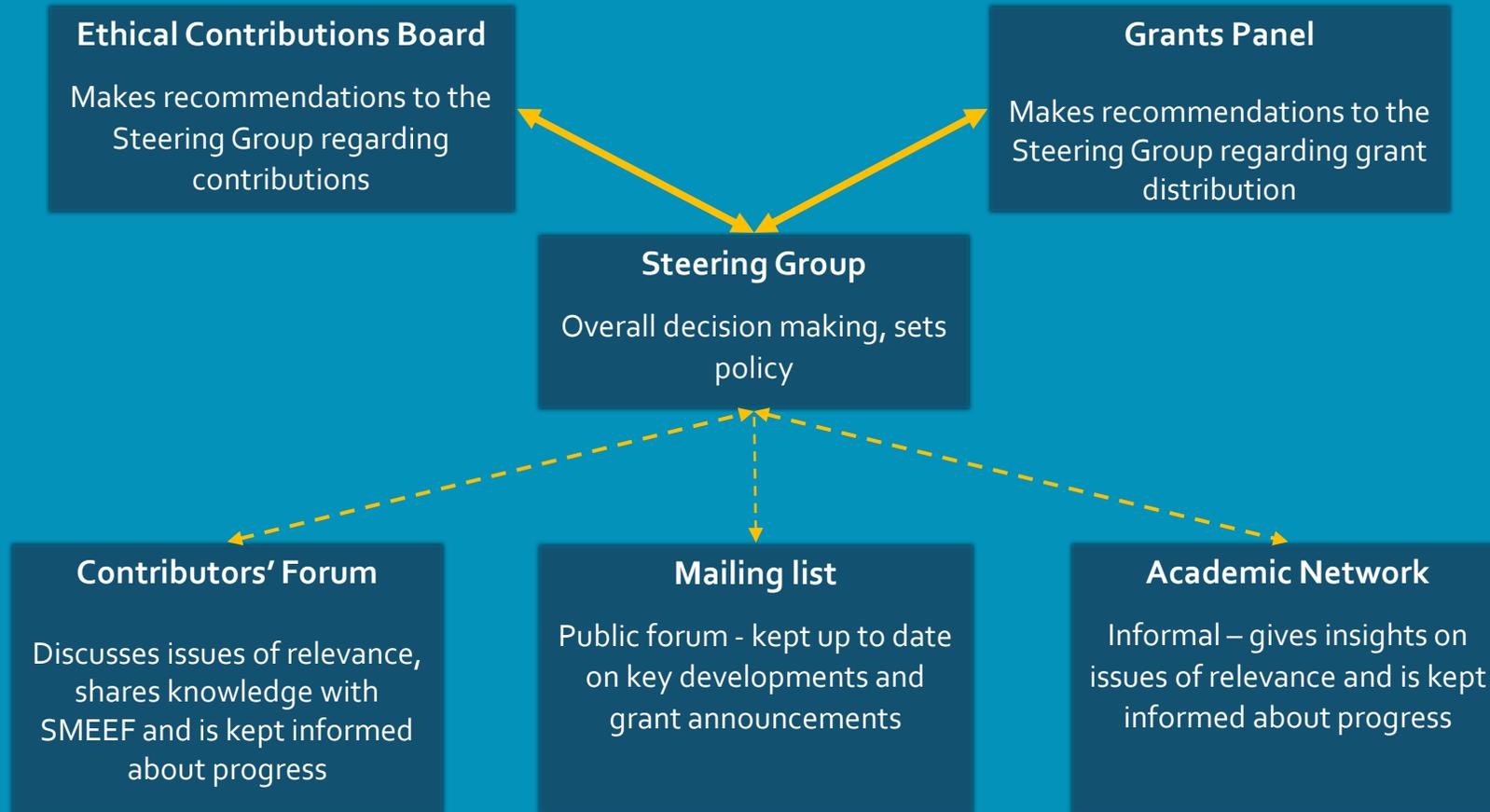
Already benefiting from core funding from the public sector and contributions from offshore wind energy companies, SMEEF is seeking new partners to build our funding pot.

www.smeef.scot



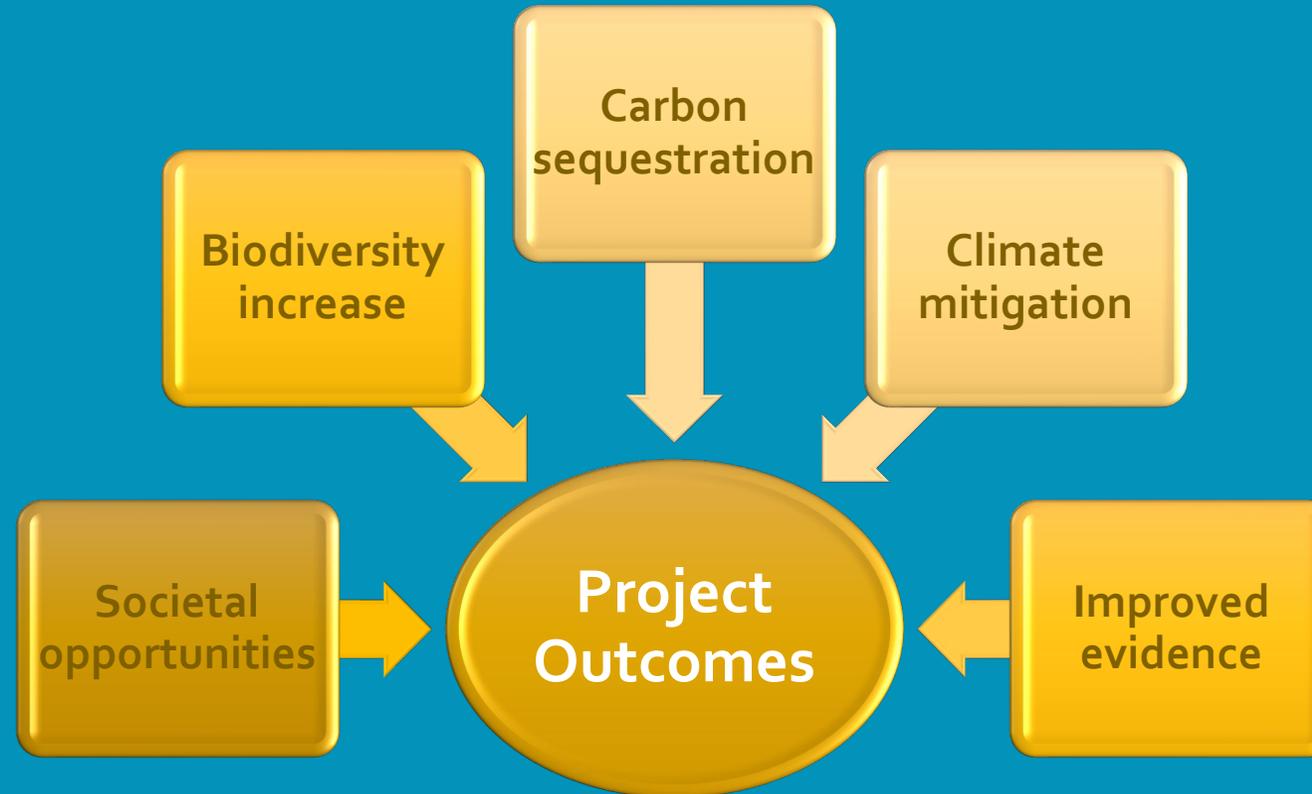
Marine Ecosystem Services

SMEEF Decision Making Structure



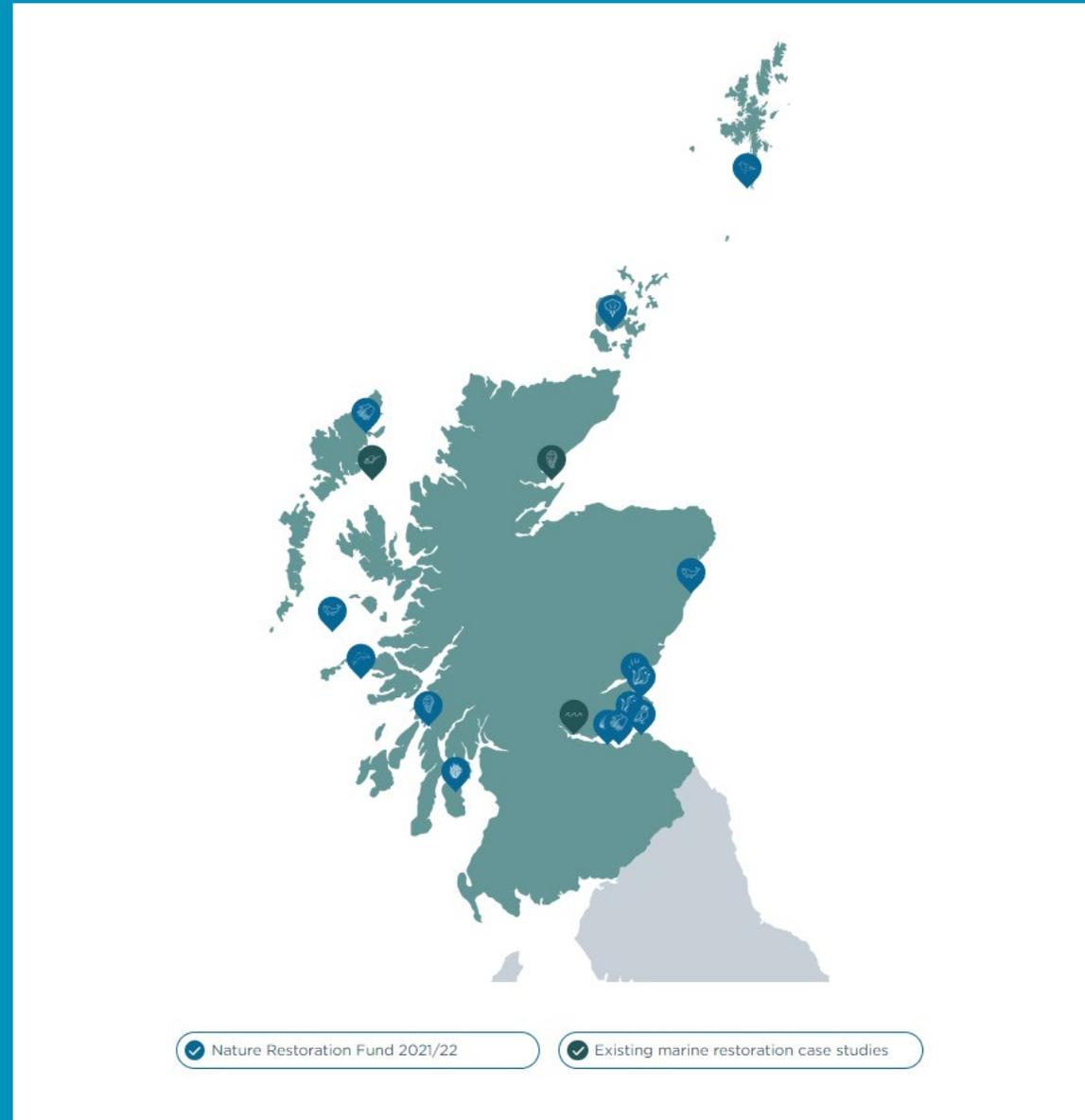
Impactful Projects

- What does positive impact look like for a SMEEF funded project?



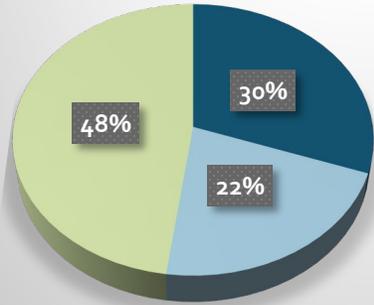
Strategic Investment

- Main habitat types
 - Saltmarsh
 - Seagrass
 - Sand dunes
 - Seagrass
- Main project types
 - Invasive species removal
 - Population restoration/enhancement
 - Feasibility/baseline
 - Strategic capital projects



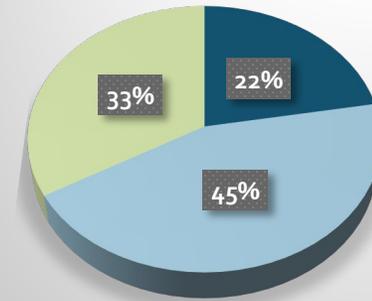
Role of Data

Number of Grants – NRF 1 Marine 21/22



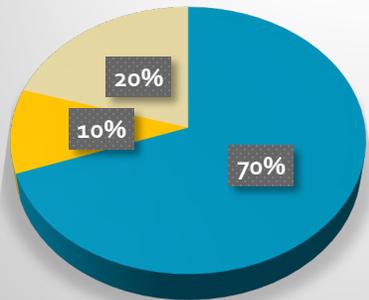
- Strategic Support - funding of benefit to a range groups/areas/issues
- Research including data collection and baseline survey
- Hands on physical restoration, recovery or enhancement work

Number of Grants - SMEEF 22/23



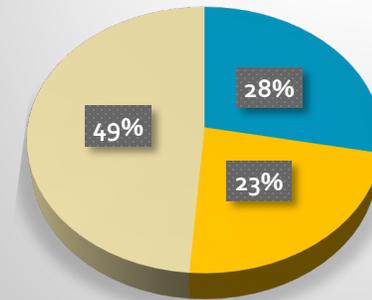
- Strategic Support - funding of benefit to a range groups/areas/issues
- Research including data collection and baseline survey
- Hands on physical restoration, recovery or enhancement work

Value of Grants - NRF 1 Marine 21/22



- Strategic Support - funding of benefit to a range groups/areas/issues
- Research including data collection and baseline survey
- Hands on physical restoration, recovery or enhancement work

Value of Grants - SMEEF 22/23



- Strategic Support - funding of benefit to a range groups/areas/issues
- Research including data collection and baseline survey
- Hands on physical restoration, recovery or enhancement work

Case Study – St Andrews Links Recharge

The dune ridge had been impacted significantly by flood events in 2010 and 2013.

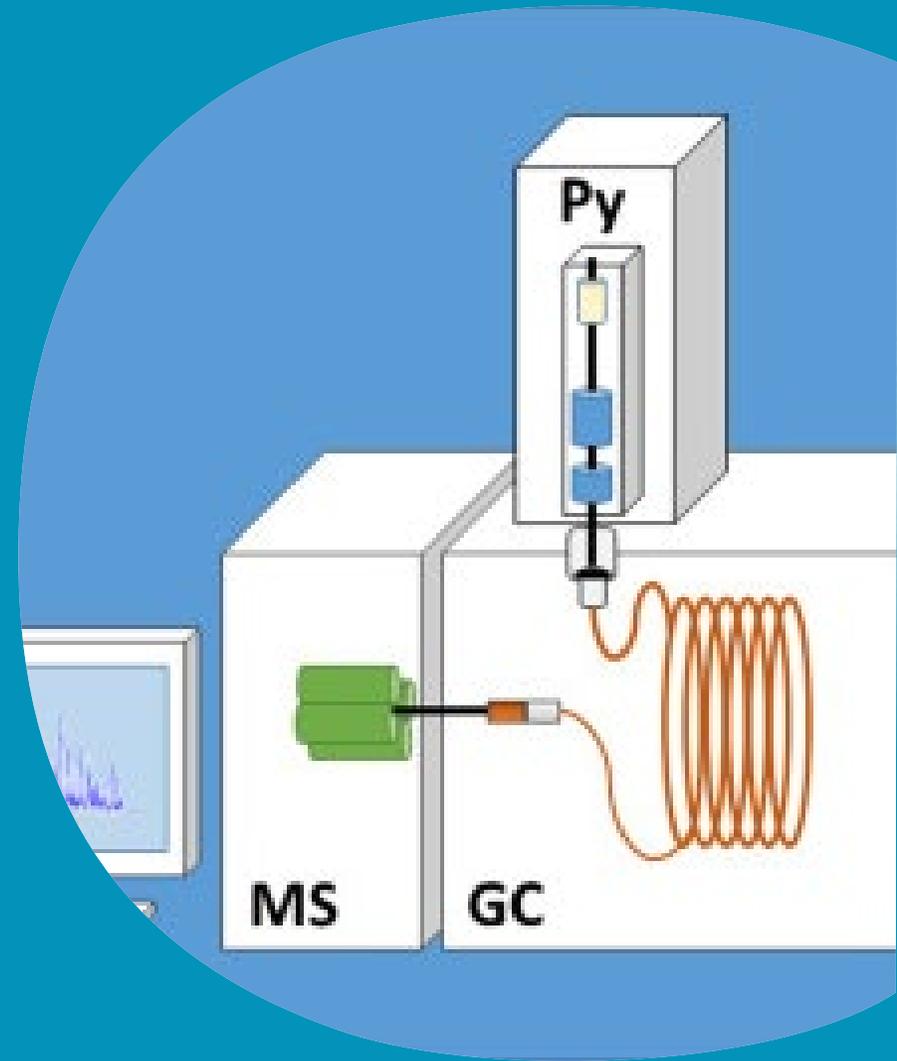
The £80,000 project has delivered on raising the dune height at crucial points highlighted through the Dynamic Coast and local monitoring programmes.



Case Study - Blue Caron Research Centre

New equipment to meet the needs of the recently established Blue Carbon Research Centre at the Scottish Ocean Institute.

Investment of £250,000 in Pyrolysis gas chromatography mass spectrometry and an integrated EA -IRMS system which can run N and C isotopes with S and O as an option will significantly support the work of the Scottish Blue Carbon Forum and the new equipment will be available for other members of the MASTS community.



Case Study – Innovative Seabird Monitoring

The aim of the project was to purchase equipment to enable new methodological advances in automating the monitoring of seabirds. Funding through SMEEF of £52,000 allowed the purchase of:

- Kittiwake Monitoring Cameras
- Puffin burrow sensors
- Storm petrel audio monitoring

Allowing for a world-first new design of long-range automated seabird monitoring camera, based on time-lapse technology.

This camera is doing its bit for seabird conservation...

Every 10 minutes it takes a photo of the seabird colony on the cliff opposite.

The photo is uploaded to Zooniverse Seabird Watch, an online citizen science project where anyone can help us spot seabirds in the photos.

The photos are used to monitor how well seabirds are doing and how successful they are at raising their chicks so that we can better conserve them.

...scan here to take part:

Please do not touch this equipment

NatureScot **SEABIRD WATCH** **Hideaway Studios Time-Lapse Systems** **rspb**

This project is supported by the NatureScot Nature Restoration Fund and Hideaway Studios Time-Lapse Systems. To report a fault please speak to local staff or call 0131 317 4100



Case Study - Seagrass

Seagrass restoration is an emerging science and SMEEF was happy to support the much needed evidence base with this £120,000 grant.

Seabed cores were taken from within seagrass meadows in Orkney and Loch Craignish in Argyll, providing site specific data relating to the amount of carbon stored in the seagrass meadow sediments. Further cores were taken from outside the seagrass meadows to provide a baseline for comparison.



Next Steps

- SMEEF is open for enquiries and contributions.
- We are actively seeking contributors to the fund.
- The next SMEEF grants round will open this autumn with projects funded by spring.
- More information on the website – www.smeef.scot

Contact Sarah Brown, manager@smeef.scot, 07717 571762