

## **Regional Geography**



**HIE Area** 



Distance from Inverness to Lerwick

800 km north to south

Lower population density than Norway&

Sweden

Declining population in many areas

Low earnings

No university and poor access to tertiary education except in large centres of population





# Regional Development Strategy for the Highlands and Islands



A growing population in every part of the area

A more diverse employment base

Higher incomes in real terms

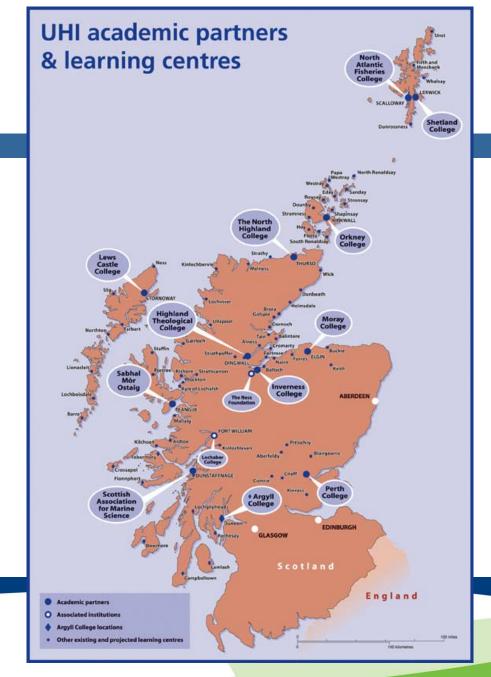
Dynamic businesses and stronger communities

Successful region requires ideas, investment and people





- Thirteen academic partners
  - Further education colleges
  - Specialist colleges
  - Research institutions
- Over fifty outreach learning centres
- Using technology to link *real* people in *real* places





# University of the Highlands and Islands - a focus for social and economic development

- •Scotland's newest university Titled February 2012
- •13 academic partners and research institutes including SAMS
- •Investment in areas of competitive advantage:
  - Marine Science SAMS
  - Sabhal Mor Ostaig Gaelic
  - Centre for Energy and Environment
  - Centre for Health Science Life Sciences
- •UHI designated as "Strategic Delivery Body" to use ERDF / ESF funding. Investment in infrastructure, research capacity and course development. Overall investment c.£50m (£22m EU funding)



## HIE Investment in the Knowledge Infrastructure

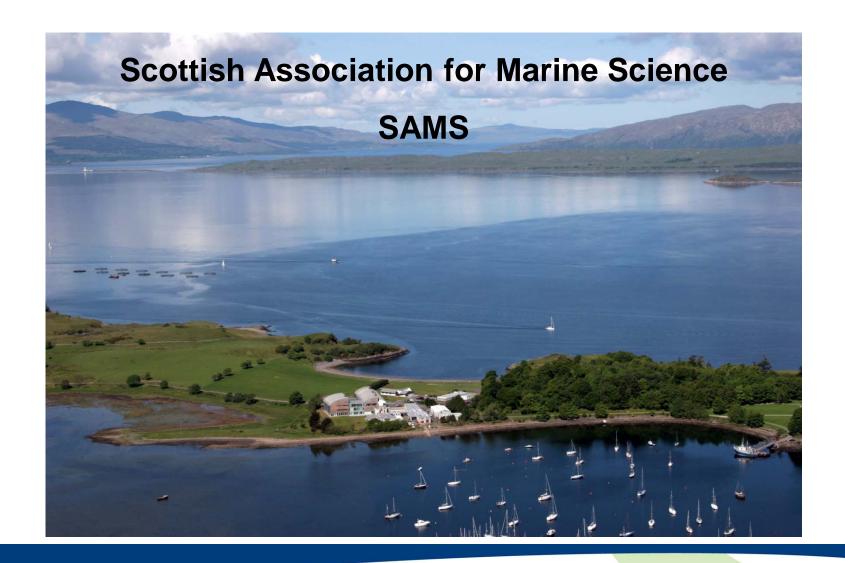
- Over £50m invested in the last 10 years in Higher Education and research
- Over £15m has been specifically spent on research capacity building
- Investment has been in facilities, infrastructure and research / dissemination activity
- EU Structural Funds supporting:
  - research facilities, building on existing knowledge / expertise or natural / cultural assets;
  - •enabling infrastructure, eg. high speed broadband
  - •Collaboration between academia and business; business innovation



## Marine Science in the Highlands and Islands

- Coastal advantages from our region tidal, wave energy
- •Complimenting the growing Life Sciences agenda natural products from the sea
- •Renewables possibly the primary European geography for renewable energy developments
- •EU Structural Funds focus on renewable energy, eg European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) in Orkney and Marine Bioscience, eg European Marine Science Park (EMSP) in Argyll







# EU Structural Funds & Regional Investment at SAMS

- 2003 c.£2.6 m for construction of ECMB as part of SAMS buildings redevelopment
- 2005 c.£0.5m for fit-out of ECMB
- 2006 c.£2.3m as contribution to UHI ARC Programme to build UHI research capacity – infrastructure and research staff
- 2008 c.£0.35m as contribution to refurbishment of SAMS research aquarium
- 2009 c.£4.6m for construction of new teaching facilities
- 2010SUPERGEN £0.43m for R&D potential of marine biomass to UK energy
- 2010 MARIE c.£1.05m -R&D on marine renewable energy and the environment



## Using SAMS Science and Facilities for the benefit of the Scottish Highlands & Islands















## The European Centre for Marine Biotechnology A business incubator for marine biotechnology



CCAP – Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa – NERC main funder – second largest collection in the world

Aquapharm Bio-Discovery Ltd. – Personal care products - Growth from 2 staff in 2004 to 20 in 2008, valued at £5M.

Glycomar Ltd. – Pharmaceuticals – six staff

Developed with funding support from the European Regional Development Fund and Highlands and Islands Enterprise





### The European Marine Science Park

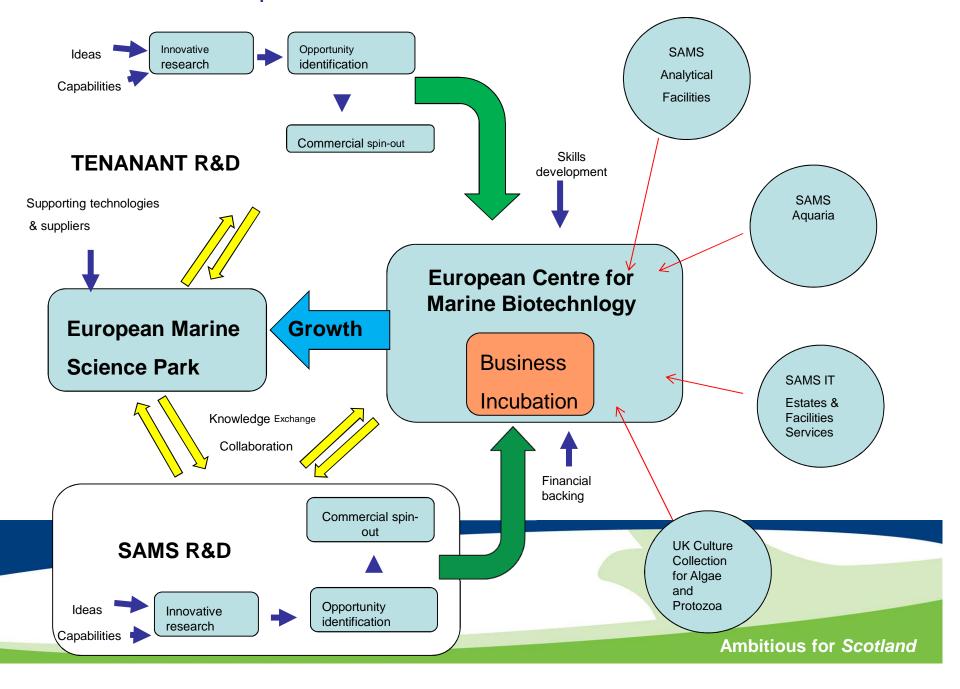


- The European Marine Science Park in Argyll is a major infrastructure investment incorporating marine science, research and development, education and commercial activity.
- The project aims to create an international centre of excellence clustered around the SAMS campus.
- It will provide high quality laboratory and office space in an entrepreneurial community for new, expanding and inward investing companies with a focus on marine science, marine energy and related support.
- The Science Park offers co-location with one of the world's leading marine science institutes, the <u>Scottish Association for Marine Science</u>



(SAIVIS)

## **Enterprise at SAMS**



25 August 2010 Last updated at 13:26



## Marine park boost to science jobs

A European marine science park is to be created in Argyll in a bid to encourage new businesses in Scotland's growing life sciences sector.

Highlands and Islands Enterprise is backing phase one of the development, near Oban, with a £7.5m grant.

The park will be built next to the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) laboratories at Dunstaffnage.



The marine science park could support up to 119 jobs

Construction on the development, which could support up to 119 jobs, is scheduled to start in October.

The aim is to create a new laboratory and office building capable of hosting three marine science businesses.

Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) will contribute £4.5m of its own grant-in-aid budget from the Scottish government.

#### 'Sustain momentum'

It has attracted the remaining £3m from the European Regional Development Fund.

