

NEWSLETTER
2007/01

**Special issue on
CAPACITY BUILDING
AND OUTREACH**



**Establishing North West Europe as an Internationally
Recognised Region of Excellence in Coastal
Management**



<http://corepoint.ucc.ie>

Photo: Hester Whyte

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Special issue on CAPACITY BUILDING AND OUTREACH

This issue of the COREPOINT newsletter features the capacity building and outreach activities of the COREPOINT project partners. Capacity Building is one of the main goals of the project. Through different type of activities the project wishes to share the partners' experience concerning Coastal Research and the link to Policy & Coastal Management in the North West of Europe. The following articles are examples of activities carried out by COREPOINT partners.

PROJECT & PARTNER ACTIVITIES

Cork Harbour reaping the benefits of COREPOINT initiative *Coastal and Marine Resources Centre (CMRC)*

The outreach and capacity building activities of COREPOINT are already having an influence on how Cork Harbour is viewed in terms of its value as a natural resource, and how it can benefit from a forward looking integrated planning approach. A key objective for COREPOINT in Cork Harbour was to provide targeted practical advice to policy makers and managers by focusing research on the issues and policies that influence coastal management at regional, national and local level. On the ground this translated into:

Building local capacity to implement integrated coastal management programmes

Promoting social and political responsibility for the Cork Harbour

Developing integrated coastal information management systems to improve awareness and aid the management of the Harbour.

Examples of some of the uses and issues in Cork Harbour

Photos: Jeremy Gault

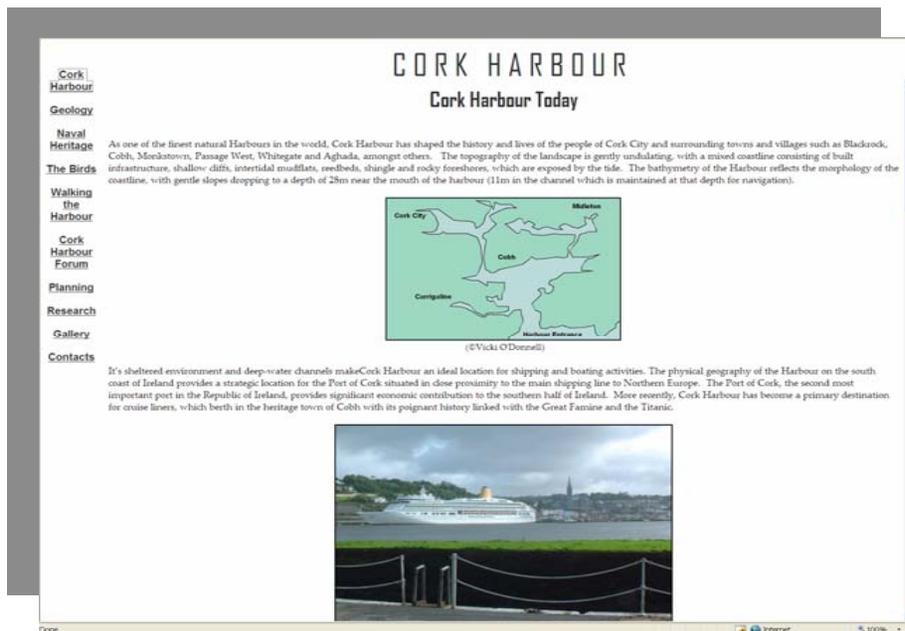


Housing demand (left) versus need for infrastructure and (right) access for recreational usage **Employment / Industry: Port Operations (left) and one (right) of over 100 pharmaceutical around Cork Harbour**

COREPOINT has already facilitated a multi-stakeholder meeting focusing on Cork Harbour (Harbour Surgery – to promote awareness) and provided as an ICZM training course (build ICZM Capacity) in Cork in February 2005 (see previous newsletter). At the start of 2006, the CMRC and Cork County Council initiated steps towards the development of a forum for Cork Harbour – a multi-stakeholder grouping comprising representatives from public and private sectors with an interest in Cork Harbour. ▶

PROJECT & PARTNER ACTIVITIES

The Cork Harbour Forum concept received overwhelming support and has benefited from high levels of participation by people working and living in the harbour area. To date the Forum has convened for a number of meetings and two workshops. The workshops, facilitated by COREPOINT partners, were held for the purposes of identifying issues, and corresponding actions, relevant to Cork Harbour.



Key Outcome from Cork Harbour Forum: Development of Cork Harbour Website

Two key recommendations to emerge from the Forum workshops were: 1) the necessity of raising awareness, of the harbour's attributes; and, 2) the need to promote integrated planning for the harbour. COREPOINT has already taken steps in raising awareness of the harbour through the launch of <http://www.corkharbour.ie> – a web resource wholly dedicated to Cork Harbour. The Forum will continue to work towards the goal of implementing an integrated planning for Cork Harbour. ■

CoastNet's new guide and new network for Marine Education



CoastNet has recently published: 'Dive Straight In! - a dip-in resource guide for engaging the public in marine issues'.

This is the latest output of the networks on-going strategy to support coastal and marine education and public engagement. The guide is downloadable from the CoastWeb website. The direct link is: <http://library.coastweb.info/956/>

This is one of the first steps the organisation has taken to establish a Coastal and Marine Education Network. At a series of workshops around the UK on these issues last year, CoastNet raised the question of the value of a coastal and marine education network. Having received a very positive response they are now taking this new and exciting initiative forward.

Perhaps more than in any other coastal/marine issue, there is a need for educators and others to work together with common values towards common goals. CoastNet is looking forward to work with all interested stakeholders. ■

ICZM presentations of the COREPOINT experience

Sefton Borough Council

Presentations have been given, by Graham Lymbery from Sefton Borough Council, to undergraduates and post graduates in 3 UK universities (Liverpool, Cardiff and Edge Hill) on the subject of ICZM making use of the experience gained from the project. Specifically experience gained from the COREPOINT schools in terms of how to communicate ICZM principles, the approach of getting participants to 'discover' the principals for themselves was very useful although this could only be used where there were limited numbers. A presentation was also made at a UK conference on sustainable management (*Coastal Development & Risk Management-strategies for managing evolving UK coastlines, 29 March. London*) to give a brief overview of ICZM in the UK. The main lesson learnt is this is very difficult to achieve in 10 minutes and there appeared to be a low awareness and understanding of the principles amongst the audience (mainly engineers). As outreach it has raised awareness with approximately 200 practitioners and students to varying degrees of the need for and approaches to ICZM. ■

PROJECT & PARTNER ACTIVITIES

Launch of the Maritime Heritage Education Resource Pack "Stories of the Severn Sea"

*Marine and Coastal Environment Group,
Cardiff University*



Display of "Stories of the Severn Sea"

The Maritime Heritage Education Resource Pack, developed with COREPOINT funding was formally

launched at the Severn Estuary forum on 7th June 2007. The launch was well attended, and was followed by cheese and wine on Clevedon Pier, accompanied by a lively jazz band.

The bilingual pack was compiled with support from local schools and museums and is aimed at teachers and students of Key Stage 3 (11-14 year olds) History in England and Wales.

It focuses on local examples from the Severn Estuary and covers topics such as shipwrecks, smuggling, piracy, immigration and port development.



Launch of "Stories of the Severn Sea"
on Clevedon Pier

The pack is divided into a number of sections, each with National Curriculum information for teachers, definitions, local case studies, student activities and web links. It is also supported by a CD Rom and website. (see end of this page)

Copies of the pack are to be distributed to all secondary schools surrounding the Estuary. ■

Supporting website for "Stories of the Severn Estuary" pack:

<http://www.earth.cf.ac.uk/research/mace/corepointheritage/>



Coastal forum for Belgium?

Maritime Institute, University of Ghent

In response to a question forwarded by the Belgian coordination centre for ICZM (BCCI) two students of the Van Hall institute researched the possible structures and needs for a Belgian coastal forum on ICZM. This study was a part of their coastal management studies and was supported by the (BCCI) and the Maritime Institute where scientific support was concerned. In the winter of 2006, the students interviewed over 40 stakeholders and received 23 written reports.

In the spring of 2007 these students presented their results to the Belgian task force on ICZM. Their overall conclusion was that a coastal forum was needed but that a large number of the respondents doubted the feasibility of the forum. Most respondents stated that there were already too many meetings, but having these integrated into an overarching structure was highlighted as a feasible result. Where a possible structure was concerned most respondents found that an advisory body consisting of users, officials and politicians would cover most needs. A large part of the respondents identified the province as the ideal level to carry this coastal forum, and saw in the governor the best and most capable chairman.



Ostend coastline

These results were just indicative and no concrete action has been undertaken to create a coastal forum, but the political cogwheels have started turning and a Belgian coastal forum is creeping around the corner. ■

To download Dive Straight In go to the online library on:

<http://coastweb.info>

To express interest in becoming part of the CoastNET network please go to:

<http://coastnet.org.uk>

Severn Estuary Partnership website:

<http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/publications/workshopreports.html>

Activities in 2007

European symposium on Marine Protected Areas, 25-28 September, Murcia, Spain

ICZM Welsh School, 9 & 10 October, North Pembrokeshire, UK

COREPOINT Progress Meeting, 22 & 23 October 2007, Brest, France

International conference on Coastal Management, 31 October- 2 November, Cardiff, UK

Testing the EU ICZM Progress Indicator

EUCC – The Coastal Union

A series of one day workshops have been organised in Wales, NE England, NW England, Belgium and NW France in order to test the EU ICZM Progress Indicator. The tests were conducted in the local language by 5 – 25 coastal and marine practitioners from different administrations, organisations, agencies and interest groups. The test in Wales was done in July 2005 and used the original Progress Indicator but, thereafter, all workshops have used the revised Progress Indicator.

The respondents contributed with some critical feedback although there was a consistent feeling that the process itself was of enormous benefit in bringing together different stakeholders who do not often have the opportunity to discuss ICZM issues with persons from other departments or fields of work. ►

EUCC



► It was also considered an easy methodology to use. The COREPOINT tests all confirm that the Progress Indicator is able to distinguish between different implementation levels at national, regional and local levels throughout the different areas of Europe where it is being used. The results from the COREPOINT project have proven very useful and will be further discussed in the next Working Group on Indicators and Data to determine whether further modifications are needed for the Progress Indicator. ■



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Beach cleaning action in Belgium

Coastal Division of the Flemish Agency for Maritime and Coastal Services in cooperation with the University of Ghent

Every year, the Coordination Centre for ICZM in Belgium organizes a beach cleaning activity called «Lenteprikkel». This year an impressive total of 2,380 kg of non-natural waste was collected. The main message during this event is that a manually cleaned beach, as opposed to mechanical cleaning, does not have to be a 'dirty' beach.

Natural 'waste' such as seaweed or shells are a rich source of food for plants, insects and birds and stimulate the growth of embryonic dunes (which has a contribution to coastal defence). The promotion of more ecologically sound beach management methods has resulted in a new approach by the coastal municipalities towards their beaches.

Together with the Lenteprikkel, the educational game «Flessenpost» («Message in a bottle») was launched, which aims at raising children's awareness for natural materials that are washed up on the beaches.

Furthermore, at different locations along the Belgian coast, information panels on ecological beach cleaning are permanently in place informing passers-by about natural materials and manually cleaned beach zones. ■



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Further developments of the Media Information Resource Service and the Coastal Zone Youth Club

University of Aberdeen

Aberdeen's COREPOINT team are working to develop the Media Information Resource Service (MIRS) and the Coastal Zone Youth Club (CZYC). At the recent ECO-IMAGINE GIS and ICZM geospatial workshop in Aberdeen in July 23rd-28th 2007 (see picture), Aberdeen successfully trialled and tested some of the Aberdeen-led COREPOINT work including the VR (Virtual Reality) template and the User Conflict Mapping work, focusing on a marine spatial planning exercise examining the potential siting and visualisation of the proposed Aberdeen offshore wind farm. The feedback obtained from a questionnaire will lead to finalisation of this work. In addition, detailed feedback was obtained on the MIRS and CZYC components of COREPOINT following circulation of a questionnaire. Work on the water carrying capacity study is also now complete, and together with North Cornwall District Council (NCDC) (one of Aberdeen's expert couplets) and the RNLI, the approach to determining optimum numbers on surfing beaches is now being practically trialled this season. The next stage will focus on interviewing journalists and schools to obtain further feedback and input to the interface and content of MIRS and the CZYC. This work will contribute to the NW Europe Coastal Resource Centre. ■

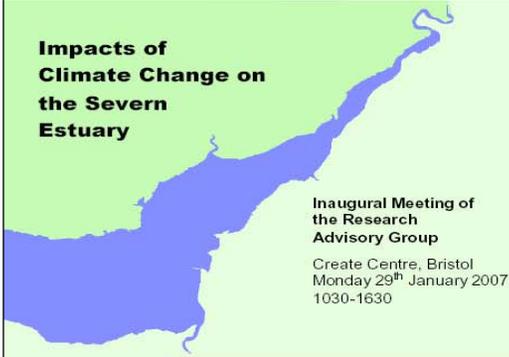


Linking Scientists and the Community to tackle Climate Change Issues on the Severn Estuary

Marine and Coastal Environment Group, Cardiff University

Studies on the impacts of climate change are high on the headlines, but many of the responses to the predicted changes will require local coordination, so under COREPOINT a *Climate Change Research Advisory Group (RAG)* is being established for the Severn Estuary. ▶

Impacts of Climate Change on the Severn Estuary



Inaugural Meeting of the Research Advisory Group
Create Centre, Bristol
Monday 29th January 2007
1030-1630

Benefits

Scientists

- Develop collaborative partnerships with other researchers
- Explore joint bids with government
- Public communication of science

Practitioners

- Get up-to-date information on Climate Change in the Estuary to use in plans and policies
- Explore the implications of climate change with experts

Goals

Raise Awareness, Network Scientists & Professionals, Improve Climate Change Planning

Aims

This FREE workshop will aim to identify research priorities for the impacts of climate change on the Severn Estuary. It will explore how research activity on the estuary can be better integrated and related to the needs of government and public, and disseminated as part of an ongoing Research Advisory Group. The workshop will be an opportunity for networking, getting better informed and a chance to input your views.

Co-ordination of information and research, and the need for sound science for Estuary management
Results of research conducted on the Estuary and information collected may not be generally available to those who need it. In order to make informed decisions managers and planners need to make use of the best information available. There is a need to identify gaps in the scientific advice and information

Severn Estuary Strategy (2001) Policy M7b
Promote collaboration between researchers and managers to provide co-ordinated, accessible and accurate data based on sound science that informs management

1030

The Vision of a Research Advisory Group on the Severn
Cardiff University and Severn Estuary Partnership
Thames Estuary Partnership Research Forum
Tim Reader, Thames Estuary Research Forum
Planning and Management for Climate Change
Leurie Newton, UKCIP; Roger Wade, Environment Agency
Scientific Research and Impacts of Climate Change on the Severn Estuary
Ted Bryant, University of Walsingham & Simon Haslett, Bath Spa

1245

Lunch

1330

Interactive Sessions:

- Applied Science and Collaborative Research Bids
- Evidence-based Policymaking
- Becoming a member of the Research Advisory Group
- Linking Research with Planning and Management Goals

Organised by Cardiff University in conjunction with the COREPOINT research project and supported by the Severn Estuary Partnership








PROJECT & PARTNER ACTIVITIES

▶ Cardiff University, in collaboration with the Severn Estuary Partnership, hosted the inaugural workshop at the Create Centre in Bristol in January 2007 to bring together technical officers, scientists and community representatives. About 12 Universities around the estuary have departments with an interest coastal issues. Coupled with this, there is an interest from a number of UK Universities with expertise in Climate Change Adaptation. The impacts for the estuary range across a great variety topics; from accelerated sea level rise, and changes in storminess and flooding incidents, to changes in marine recreation during hot summers and impacts on human activities, including impacts on infrastructure. A further consideration is the increasing amount of proposals for windfarms around the estuary on both the wet and dry sides of the coastal zone, which form part of the move to renewable energies to mitigate human induced climate change. ▶

Severn Estuary

▶ Many agencies of government are seeking to inform their decision with greater evidence base, not least local authorities, for whom implications of sea level rise in the coastal zone are important for development and services. The RAG will seek to provide opportunities for collaboration between scientists and policymakers, and to begin to tackle the challenges of working across the science-policy interface. Representatives from the meeting appeared on a special issue of the BBC West politics show to explore the potential impacts for those living and working around the estuary. ■

Capacity building through ICZM Training Courses

Envision

The COREPOINT project has run four training courses in ICZM entitled “**NW Europe Course in Excellence in Integrated Coastal Zone Management.**” The training courses aimed to build capacity for coastal management in NW Europe by educating decision makers and strengthening links between local authorities and university research centres. The courses targeted Politicians, Local Authority employees and coastal practitioners to increase their knowledge of the benefits of ICZM. The purpose of the training courses was in support of the project aim to “Attain excellence in ICZM for Northwest Europe.” Within Northwest Europe coastal regions support a wide range of interest groups who often share a lack of trust and an absence of communication between themselves; Engagement and communication between these different interest groups are pre-requisites to realising balanced and sustainable development. ▶



Figure 1: Illustrating field visit and classroom discussions during the Colerain and Cardiff courses respectively

PROJECT & PARTNER ACTIVITIES

► The training courses were focused on the key outcomes of the EU ICZM recommendations and delivered not as a teaching exercise, but to discuss and share experiences between the COREPOINT team with local practitioners involved in some aspect of management of coasts (Figure 1). During the course of the project the structure of the training courses has evolved in response to feedback from participants. The organization of the course (figure 2) illustrates the sequential and mutually reinforcing structure that seeks to raise awareness of the process of ICZM at local authority level.

The local host institutions organized field visits to illustrate relevant issues in the region. The delivery of the school was designed to promote discussion on approaches towards shared issues/problems successfully builds awareness and appreciation of coastal management challenges between practitioners. The case studies were drawn from Bantry Bay and Clew Bay, Republic of Ireland, Donegal beaches and Strangford Lough, Northern Island, Chichester harbour, UK, Ceredigion Marine Heritage site, Wales and the Belgium coastline. ■

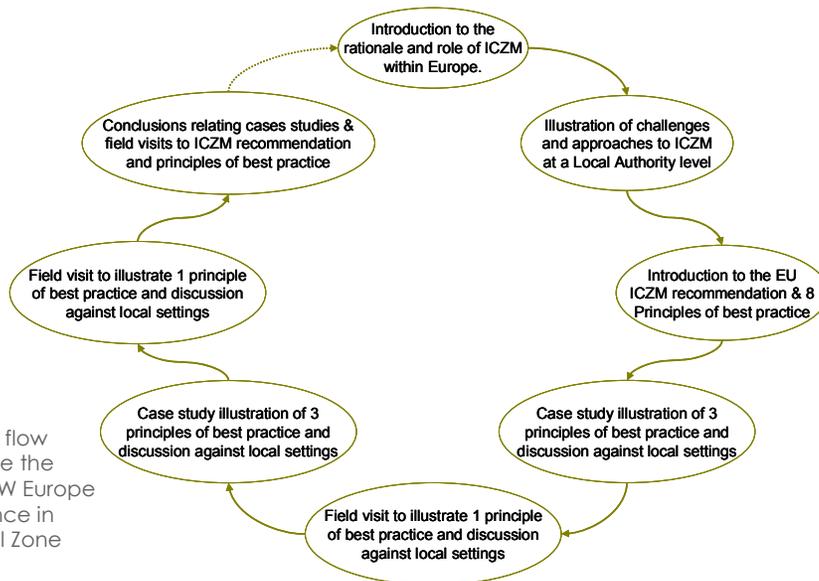


Figure 2 showing a flow diagram to illustrate the structure of the "NW Europe Courses in Excellence in Integrated Coastal Zone Management".

The COREPOINT project is a European project which aims to build capacity for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) at a number of levels. The project brings together geographers, economists, planners, engineers, natural scientists, lawyers and resource managers to undertake a unique analysis of contemporary European coastal policy.

This European Union project is funded through the Interreg IIIB programme and 12 partners from 5 countries (Ireland, UK, France, Belgium & The Netherlands)



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<http://corepoint.ucc.ie>

Information for next COREPOINT newsletter can be sent to:
h.whyte@envision.uk.com
Deadline 12 October 2007

PROJECT PARTNERS

The COREPOINT project is a partnership of 12 research groups and local authorities across North West Europe



Coastal and Marine Resources Centre (UCC)

<http://cmrc.ucc.ie>



Centre for Coastal and Marine Research (UUC)

www.science.ulster.ac.uk/ccmr



Aberdeen Institute for Coastal Science & Management

www.abdn.ac.uk/aicsm



Marine and Coastal Environment Group (Cardiff University)

www.severnestuary.net



Maritiem Instituut (University of Ghent)

www.maritieminstituut.be



University of Western Brittany (+ IFREMER)

www.univ-brest.fr



CoastNET - The Coastal Network

Championing sustainable coasts and seas

www.coastnet.org.uk



Marine Law and Ocean Policy Centre (NUIG)

<http://mri.nuigalway.ie/marinelaw/>



Cork County Council Planning Department

www.corkcoco.com



EUCC - The Coastal Union

www.eucc.nl



www.envision.uk.com

ENVISION

Envision - Mapping and Environmental Management

www.sefton.gov.uk

Sefton Council

Sefton Borough Council

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