



## **A Meta-Directory of Coastal Research Activities in North-West Europe**

*Compiled as part of the Corepoint Project*

April 2008

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Preferred reference:

Carlisle, M.A. & Green, D.R. & Ritchie W., (2008). A Meta-Directory of Coastal Research Activities in North West Europe. *University of Aberdeen*

<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/cmcm/about.htm>. & *COREPOINT* April 2008, pp16.



## 1. Introduction

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The following text provides a meta-directory of coastal research activity, looking at:

Research projects & programmes

Research organisations

Research data

The first section briefly summarizes 47 online directories incorporating one or more of the above three research items (projects, organisations & data) – as such it provides a directory of directories, i.e. is a meta-directory.

The second section gives a brief overview of Science Shops, an alternative approach for coastal managers wishing to find out about research activity in their area.



## 2. Directories

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Mainstream on-line directories are the first port of call for coastal zone users wishing to identify large-scale research i.e. research programmes involving more than one person and generally involving substantial amounts of funding (100,000 euros or more). Such research programmes are funded internationally (UN or EU) or nationally (research council, national government department, national charities etc.). A small number of such projects are funded regionally (local authority). Table 1 describes 47 of these directories, noting their characteristics according to a number of categories, these being:

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Size:               | Large – more than 1000 entries/records<br>Medium 100-1000<br>Small <100  |
| 2. Coastal or wider?   | Coastal only<br>Coastal & Ocean<br>Wide range including coastal  |
| 3. Type of research    | Social issues<br>Environmental issues<br>Own research only<br>Non-research also  |
| 4. Geographical scope: | Global<br>European<br>National<br>Regional/Local/Thematic  |
| 5. Database details    | Contact details<br>Brief description of project<br>Detailed description of project<br>Direct link to webpage<br>Interrogate via field<br>Interrogate via map<br>Downloadable papers/data |



**Table 1: List of directories of coastal research activities**

**Table 1 Page 1 (Global & European)**

Large >1000	Medium 100 - 1000	Small <100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data
X			X			X	X		X		X			X	X			X		
<p><b>Encora</b> <a href="http://www.encora.eu/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=blogcategory&amp;id=1&amp;Itemid=82">http://www.encora.eu/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=blogcategory&amp;id=1&amp;Itemid=82</a>                      The coastal portal includes the coastal wiki (approx. 800 pages of information), the contact database (2033 persons, 1095 institutes &amp; 417 projects) a websearch page (links to other coastal websites – only 2 are research organizations) and the CoastWeb (also accessible via CoastNet, and described in further detail below).</p>																				
			X	X		X	X		X		X	X						X		
<p><b>CoastNet</b> <a href="http://www.coastnet.org.uk/">http://www.coastnet.org.uk/</a> The links page on CoastNet has links to many organizations including 17 Universities and Marine Research Institutes. At the foot of each CoastNet page is a link to CoastWeb</p>																				
		X		X		X	X		X		X							X		X
<p><b>CoastWeb</b> <a href="http://www.coastweb.info/">http://www.coastweb.info/</a> The subject search allows the user to look through the ontology of the online library – well designed and easy to use. Good range of data types – news items, conference powerpoints, data, digital images etc. There are 111 articles in under the title Research. Most of these are conference or workshop items. One of the few sites that gives access to such non-peer reviewed resources –still useful for identifying research activity, particularly small-scale research activity. Only downside – if contact details are not in download, then no way for reader to contact authors. Needs many more contributions to become really useful – very UK oriented at the moment.</p>																				
		X		X		X	X				X			X	X		X	X		X
<p><b>EUCC</b> <a href="http://databases.eucc-d.de/en/">http://databases.eucc-d.de/en/</a> hosted by EUCC Germany. This offers five thematic coastal databases for projects and organizations: Projects &amp; Case Studies (170 &amp; 158 entries, respectively); Meetings &amp; Conferences (52); Training &amp; Education (32); Coastal Pictures (numerous) and; Documents (480). The first and last databases are of particular interest re. research activity.                      The first database contains 168 projects and 158 case studies. Interrogation by field is very basic – search term and keywords. More international than CoastWeb, but more biased to large-scale EU projects. Does have some relevant Local Authority projects also.                      The last database contains documents, mostly peer-reviewed literature, some ‘grey’ literature (e.g. NGO or LA reports). The vast majority of documents seem to be from the Journal of Coastal Conservation, probably due to copyright issues. Many, though not all, of the Documents are downloadable. Again, interrogation by field is very basic – search term only.                      Most of the databases can also be accessed at <a href="http://www.coastalguide.org/projects/index.html">http://www.coastalguide.org/projects/index.html</a>, the main webpage for EUCC – however it should be noted that only the first four databases listed above are offered at this web address – for Documents it is necessary to go to the EUCC Germany webpage.</p>																				



**Table 1 Page 2 (Global & European)**

Large >1000	Medium 100 – 1000	Small <100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data
X			X			X	X			X				X	X		X	X		X
<p><b>CoPraNet</b> <a href="http://www.coastalpractice.net/">http://www.coastalpractice.net/</a>                      ICZM/Coastal practice database takes you to the EUCC Projects &amp; Case Studies database, although with a different user interface.</p>																				
X			X			X	X			X	X							X		X
<p><b>SPICOSA</b> Science and Policy Integration for Coastal System Assessment  <a href="http://www.spicosa.eu/index.htm">http://www.spicosa.eu/index.htm</a> Online data portal <a href="http://www.spicosa.eu/dataportal/index.htm">http://www.spicosa.eu/dataportal/index.htm</a> Simple search for word anywhere in data description; 'Coast' gives 115 hits. However the first 9 pages are from the same authors at List Hausstrand – these data are in fact a set of time-series data for this one area. The last 3 pages are a set of time series data from List Reede area. Using 'sea' as the keyword gives 9439 hits. Again, many of the datasets are very localized and species specific. This academic orientation means that it is useful if one is knows what one is looking for – not so useful for someone wanting some general research around a theme. Most of the data are for Europe, but some are from outwith Europe – hence global range. All datasets available via PANGAEA (Publishing Network for Geoscientific &amp; Environmental Data).</p>																				
			X			X	X	X	X		X			X		X	X	X	X	X
<p><b>Cordis</b> <a href="http://cordis.europa.eu/">http://cordis.europa.eu/</a> The database for the EU research funding programme for 2007 to 2013. It therefore has <u>all</u> the EU funded projects – but <u>only</u> EU funded projects. Good interrogation via map (best of all the international websites) – can interrogate on a country &amp; regional basis.</p>																				
			X			X	X	X	X		X			X	X			X	X	
<p><b>Interreg</b> <a href="http://www.nweurope.org/page/onglet.php?p=22&amp;Measures=4">http://www.nweurope.org/page/onglet.php?p=22&amp;Measures=4</a> &amp; <a href="http://www.nweurope.org/page/onglet.php?p=31&amp;Measures=4">http://www.nweurope.org/page/onglet.php?p=31&amp;Measures=4</a> The EU programme for North-West Europe. It therefore has a geographically stratified subset of the Cordis database. Possible to access the 'project ideas' and the 'ongoing projects' databases separately. Can also look at projects on a country or regional basis. As with Cordis, the reports (and sometimes the data) produced from these projects are not directly downloadable here, but often are downloadable via the link to an individual project's webpage.</p>																				
X			X			X				X	X	X	X	X	X					X
<p><b>VLIZ-IMIS Flanders Marine Institute –Integrated Marine Information System</b>  <a href="http://www.vliz.be/vmdcdata/imis2/imis.php?module=dataset&amp;c=data_centre">http://www.vliz.be/vmdcdata/imis2/imis.php?module=dataset&amp;c=data_centre</a> Theme: Marine science. An open and service-minded centre where data and information from a wide range of marine sources are archived and made easily accessible, paying special attention to data exchange in Belgium and abroad. Good list of links telling you where you can find data (eco, geo, taxonomical etc. – mostly environmental). Online data available. Inventory of 8288 people, 4285 institutes, 1804 projects and 1055 datasets. Internationally oriented – lists 480 UK researchers in the contacts, for example.</p>																				



**Table 1 Page 3 (Global & European)**

Large >1000	Medium 100 – 1000	Small <100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data
X			X			X				X	X			X				X		
<p><b>Sea Search</b> <a href="http://www.sea-search.net/mrp/welcome.html">http://www.sea-search.net/mrp/welcome.html</a> Two databases: Firstly, <b>EDMERP</b>, which has 1250 research projects from a wide range of disciplines, from over 300 research institutes from 30 countries across Europe. No project description, just project titles. Secondly, <b>EDMO</b>, the European directory of marine organizations. No link to project webpages, but links to organization webpages. Stricly environmental rather than social science research.</p>																				
X			X			X				X			X		X		X			
<p><b>OceanPortal</b> <a href="http://www.iode.org/oceanportal/">http://www.iode.org/oceanportal/</a> The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO's International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) was established in 1961 to enhance marine research, exploitation and development by facilitating the exchange of oceanographic data and information between participating Member States and by meeting the needs of users for data and information products. Links to 1107 information resources, 1237 data resources (not downloadable) and 1182 agencies/institutes/foundations.</p>																				
X			X		X	X				X			X				X			X
<p><b>eSeFDde</b> <a href="http://www.dvz.be/Portal/main.htm">http://www.dvz.be/Portal/main.htm</a> Broadly thematic – marine sciences – includes coast issues. The eSeFDde Marine Science Portal is the continuation of the former links pages of the Sea Fisheries Dept (CLO-SFD, Ostende, Belgium). The portal site is offered as a free service to the marine scientific community, to managers &amp; decision makers. It has links to: the websites of approx. 1000 international organizations, management bodies, research institutes, information and data centres etc; taxonomical, biogeographical and searchable species databases; major oceanography &amp; marine science portals. No descriptions, just links straight through icons. A great many of them, split into 21 groups – international, management, fisheries, taxonomical, maritime law, coastal zone, data centres etc.</p>																				
	X		X			X				X			X		X				X	
<p><b>EurOcean</b> <a href="http://www.eurocean.org/contents.php?id=391">http://www.eurocean.org/contents.php?id=391</a> A European centre for information on marine science. Linked to European Council for Research, rather than directly to EU. Has both EU funded and nationally funded marine projects. Has info often missing from other databases –small projects funded by Research Councils, for e.g. No contact details or links to webpages, however. Has a policy &amp; socio-economics field, but no entries in it – thematic around marine physical sciences. 7 databases altogether: 3 on research vessels, underwater vehicles &amp; instruments; 3 on EU projects, organizations &amp; acronyms and; 1 on nationally funded projects. This last has 233 UK projects, 17 French, 40 Belgian and 30 Irish.</p>																				
	X		X			X	X			X										X
<p><b>EuroSION</b> <a href="http://www.euroSION.org/">http://www.euroSION.org/</a> &amp; <b>EEA</b> <a href="http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/dataservice/">http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/dataservice/</a> The overall objective of EUROSION is to provide the European Commission with a package of recommendations for policy-making and information management practices to address coastal erosion in Europe, Most of the data layers of information are freely accessible and may be downloadable from the European Environment Agency website. No direct listing of programmes, projects or people. However good access to data via the EEA website – 106 data records available</p>																				



**Table 1 Page 4 (Global & European)**

Large >1000	Medium 100 – 1000	Small <100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data
X			X					X		X			X	X	X		X	X		X
<p><b>MarBEF</b> <a href="http://www.marbef.org/modules.php?name=moa">http://www.marbef.org/modules.php?name=moa</a> MarBEF open archive &amp; <a href="http://www.marbef.org/modules.php?name=People">http://www.marbef.org/modules.php?name=People</a> Register of resources &amp; <a href="http://www.marbef.org/modules.php?name=Responsive_Mode">http://www.marbef.org/modules.php?name=Responsive_Mode</a> Research projects. MarBEF is a network of excellence funded by the EU and consisting of 94 European marine institutes. Specialist theme is marine biodiversity. Open archive contains digital version of published works of MarBEF – i.e. at least one author is a network member &amp; MarBEF is acknowledged – so MarBEF only publications, but there are a great many of them (317). The register of resources allows database searching for MarBEF people, datasets, literature, institutes &amp; projects. The projects page lists the 16 main MarBEF projects.</p>																				
	X			X		X		X		X			X	X			X			
<p><b>Inspire</b> <a href="http://www.ec-gis.org/inspire/ir/index.cfm">http://www.ec-gis.org/inspire/ir/index.cfm</a> &amp; <a href="http://www.inspire.jrc.it">www.inspire.jrc.it</a> Inspire is the 2007 EU project Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community, therefore strongly thematic around spatial information. Only has 33 projects. 221 registered SDICs (spatial data internet community members), which include trade associations and businesses as well as research organizations. Can only search via word in organization name therefore not true interrogation by field.</p>																				
	X	X				X	X		X	X							X			
<p><b>Eurocoast</b> <a href="http://www.eurocoast.org/index.html">http://www.eurocoast.org/index.html</a> Eurocoast was established in 1989 as an association of scientists, engineers and decision makers within the European community. Short list of links – only 20.</p>																				
	X		X					X		X							X	X		
<p><b>Loicz</b> <a href="http://kopc01.gkss.de:7777/loiczdb/faces/app/Welcome.jspx">http://kopc01.gkss.de:7777/loiczdb/faces/app/Welcome.jspx</a> Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone. 58 projects. Interrogation by LOICZ theme, rather than by a standard field. LOICZ affiliated research only.</p>																				
X			X			X				X			X	X	X		X			
<p><b>BODC</b> <a href="http://www.bodc.ac.uk/data/portals_and_links/links/data_and_information.html">http://www.bodc.ac.uk/data/portals_and_links/links/data_and_information.html</a> British Oceanographic Data Centre. 9 links pages (c. 500 altogether) – associates &amp; societies, conferences, data centres, data &amp; information resources, institutes, journals, libraries, products &amp; services, and projects. Oceanographic theme.</p>																				



**Table 1 Page 5 (National & Thematic)**

Large >1000	Medium 100 - 1000	Small <100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data
		X		X			X	X		X		X	X	X	X		X			
<p><b>Ifremer</b> <a href="http://www.ifremer.fr">www.ifremer.fr</a>                      The portal of the French research institute on the sea. It presents all the research projects of the institute, the links to the laboratories and contact details. Its research falls into five categories: Coastal, Aquaculture, Fisheries, Ocean floors, Oceanography &amp; Equipment. Of particular interest here is its section on Coastal seas, found at <a href="http://www.ifremer.fr/francais/program/progc.htm">http://www.ifremer.fr/francais/program/progc.htm</a> (English version available). Has direct access to websites dedicated to this topic – gives a list of 19 research projects, with direct links to the project websites and brief descriptions. Very strongly dominated by environmental research – the only project found with a social science perspective was the 2003 conference for the European Association of Fisheries Economists. Institute research global &amp; thematic in application, though research activity itself is national (French).  <a href="http://www.ifremer.fr/envlit/documentation/dossiers/miliquetus/usages.html">http://www.ifremer.fr/envlit/documentation/dossiers/miliquetus/usages.html</a> is a specific link to the section on the uses and the quality on the coast line.</p>																				
		X		X		X	X	X		X		X		X	X		X			
<p><b>Institut Universitaire Européen de la Mer</b> (European Institute of Marine Studies) <a href="http://www.univ-brest.fr/IUEM/">http://www.univ-brest.fr/IUEM/</a>.                      Institute dealing with research on the sea in social and natural sciences. The web site presents the activities of the different laboratories of the institute (8 under La Recherche and 4 under Les Observatoires – each has its own list of research and researchers ) and provides information on the research directly managed by the Institute (4 under Les Projets and 4 under Les Actions – of particular interest is EUR-OCEANS European Network of excellence for Ocean Ecosystems Analysis) and research contacts. Descriptions only for the 8 project/actions directly managed by the institute - for specific laboratory research the links have to be searched. Institute research global in scope, and across several themes, however research activity itself is national (French).</p>																				
		X		X		X					X						X			X
<p><b>Belgian federal marine datacenter</b> <a href="http://www.mumm.ac.be/datacentre">http://www.mumm.ac.be/datacentre</a>                      The Management Unit of the North Sea Mathematical Models and the Scheldt estuary, abbreviated to MUMM, is a department of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS), a federal scientific establishment that comes under the Federal Science Policy (previously known as OSTC). There are three categories of data available: Databases &amp; tools (parameter-based inventory, project-based inventory, documentation, spatial analysis, statistical analysis); Catalogues &amp; Geographic data layers (EU Datasets, EU Research projects, Campaigns), and; Products &amp; Reports (Thematic reports, Temperature Maps, Salinity Maps, Near-real time data, partnerships Belgian Science Policy, SeaDataNet, IOC-IODE, ICES, ICES-MDM). Unable to estimate size without registering, so have assumed it is in the medium range. Links to other websites such as EDMERP and Sea-Search, though not a large number of links to other projects – most useful as a link to Belgian data.</p>																				



**Table 1 Page 6 (National & Thematic)**

Large >1000	Medium 100 - 1000	Small <100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data
X				X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X		
<p><b>BELSPo</b> <a href="http://www.belspo.be/">http://www.belspo.be/</a>                      BELSPo Belgian Science Policy are the sponsors of marine, coastal and Antarctic fundamental and policy research in Belgium. They have a project data bank &amp; output (mostly reports) of research sponsored by BELSPo (9 research programmes).                      The FEDRA section (<a href="http://www.belspo.be/belspo/fedra/search.asp?l=en">http://www.belspo.be/belspo/fedra/search.asp?l=en</a>) is a database of research actions funded by the Federal Office. It is aimed at a broad user audience: scientists, policy-makers, social partners, companies, etc. FEDRA offers various options for consulting the database. Information searches are possible on the basis of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a word or an expression</li> <li>• the name of the specific research partner or institution</li> <li>• the name of the research action</li> <li>• the theme of the research action</li> <li>• the industrial innovation sector, the academic discipline or the area of Federal Policy competence where the action takes place</li> </ul> <p>Can interrogate FEDRA by text – putting in ‘coast’ as a keyword gives 16 reports.</p> <p>As part of the competencies of the federal authorities, the Federal Science Policy is creating a permanent inventory of scientific potential in the Belgian public institutions. To make the information contained in this inventory available, with the main goal of establishing partnerships between researchers and/or industry, the Federal Science Policy has developed a database, “INVENT”, and a search tool. INVENT offers three consultation possibilities: data searches can be made on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the <a href="#">research projects</a></li> <li>• the <a href="#">research units</a></li> <li>• the <a href="#">research personnel</a></li> </ul> <p>148 projects and 26 units under ‘coast’. Also personnel (unable to determine database size).</p>																				
X			X			X					X	X	X	X			X	X	X	
<p><b>Marine Institute (Ireland)</b> <a href="http://www.marine.ie/home/publicationsdata/data/MarineDataOnline.htm">http://www.marine.ie/home/publicationsdata/data/MarineDataOnline.htm</a>                      Marine Data Online is a metadata service that provides quick and easy access to summary information on data and project archives of the Marine Institute and other marine research organisations in Ireland. It acts as the one-stop shop for researchers and scientists interested in trawling what datasets may be available in their specified geographic and thematic area of interest. Interrogate by map offered – data mostly Ireland specific, but some European (e.g. deepwater database). Interrogation by theme also offered. Mostly environmental data. Thematic re. marine research. Data not downloadable – have to request from project contact person.</p>																				



**Table 1 Page 7 (National & Thematic)**

Large >1000	Medium 100 - 1000	Small <100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data
X			X			X					X			X		X	X	X		X
<p><b>MIDA</b> <a href="http://mida.ucc.ie/">http://mida.ucc.ie/</a> A multimedia resource for coastal and marine data in Ireland. 137 records altogether. Interrogation by theme. Principally environmental data. Some data is downloadable e.g. shapefiles for coastline of Ireland. Other data needs request from project contact person (details available in Metadata/Discovery).</p>																				
X			X	X		X					X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
<p><b>MarLIN</b> <a href="http://www.marlin.ac.uk/">http://www.marlin.ac.uk/</a> &amp; <b>National Biodiversity Network</b> <a href="http://www.nbn.org.uk/">http://www.nbn.org.uk/</a>. The Marine Life Information Network for Britain and Ireland (<i>MarLIN</i>) provides information for marine environmental management, protection and education. Very strongly thematic around marine biology – have to search by species, location or survey. Description of data, but not downloadable here, but at the NBN. The National Biodiversity Network allows you to view distribution maps and download UK wildlife data by using a variety of interactive tools. Environmental data only. NBN has poor interrogation by field (species or location only) but excellent interrogation by map. Data often not downloadable as such, but is displayed geographically very well, showing the presence of a species within a minimum of 10km grid squares, and often at 1km and 100m grid squares as well. NBN species data is collated from many data providers and research projects; There are currently <b>27,920,319</b> species records available on the NBN Gateway from <b>229</b> different datasets. The <b>82</b> dataset providers are detailed at: <a href="http://www.searchnbn.net/organisation/organisationList.jsp">http://www.searchnbn.net/organisation/organisationList.jsp</a></p>																				
X				X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X				X		
<p><b>CNRS</b> <a href="http://web-ast.dsi.cnrs.fr/l3c/owa/activite.frame_recherche?annu=ok">http://web-ast.dsi.cnrs.fr/l3c/owa/activite.frame_recherche?annu=ok</a>                      Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (National Scientific Research Centre) - France                      The centre deals with a large variety of topics and research from local to international level, but the research activity (organisation &amp; personnel) is at the national level. Can be interrogated by field and by region (in France). The theme field (Indexation thématique contient) offers an extensive list of scientific terms for selection – unfortunately neither coastal (côtière) nor ocean are among them. Using côte in the Intitulé français contient field (Title) gives 2 hits, côtière gives 7, mer gives 8, océan only 1. So although the whole database is very large, it does not appear to contain a large number of research related to coastal issues – or not in a way that is easy to find. Results give a brief description of the project, plus contact details in the Unité link.</p>																				
X				X		X					X	X						X	X	
<p><b>GEOPORTAIL</b> <a href="http://www.geoportail.fr/">http://www.geoportail.fr/</a>                      It is a national and governmental data base on geographical information. It includes 2d and 3d information (including 3d on marine sea bottom). Spatial data. Some basic administrative information – roads etc . Not downloadable as GIS data, but could be downloaded as images, which could then be scanned and geo-referenced into a GIS. This sort of data is likely to be much more easily available elsewhere, however. 3d models very pretty, not downloadable in the sense of being able to incorporate into one's own GIS, but potentially useful visualisation tool for coastal managers.</p>																				



**Table 1 Page 8 (National & Thematic)**

Large >1000	Medium 100 - 1000	Small <100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data	
X					X		X					X	X							X	X
<p><b>French Data Reference Centre for Water</b> <a href="http://sandre.eaufrance.fr/">http://sandre.eaufrance.fr/</a>                      Spatial data. Lots of useful data for coastal managers – marine water quality monitoring stations, marine protected areas etc. Not downloadable as GIS data, but as a pdf, at the scale of your choice – would therefore be possible to map into user’s own GIS ‘by eye’ or via scanning in a paper copy &amp; geo-referencing.</p>																					
X					X		X					X	X							X	X
<p><b>Quality of coastal water for shellfish farming</b> <a href="http://www.zones-conchylicoles.eaufrance.fr/">http://www.zones-conchylicoles.eaufrance.fr/</a>                      Spatial data, water quality zones A to D and N(non-classified). Again Not downloadable as GIS data, but as a pdf, at the scale of your choice – would therefore be possible to map into user’s own GIS ‘by eye’ or via scanning in a paper copy &amp; geo-referencing</p>																					
X					X		X					X	X							X	X
<p><b>MAGIC</b> – the UK coastal and marine resource atlas <a href="http://www.magic.gov.uk/camra.html">http://www.magic.gov.uk/camra.html</a>                      The Coastal and Marine Resource Atlas was commissioned in recognition of the need to update the 1990 Government and Industry sponsored coastal sensitivity maps produced by the Nature Conservancy Council. The Atlas contains environmental and other resource datasets covering the Great Britain coastline and marine areas of the UK Continental Shelf. The Atlas is designed as a web based tool to access a wide range of information on coastal and marine resources. Good interactive map. Many data layers, including intertidal substrates, protected areas etc. Not downloadable as GIS data, but can save copy of map in GIF format, at the scale of your choice – would therefore be possible to map into user’s own GIS ‘by eye’ or via scanning in a paper copy &amp; geo-referencing.</p>																					
			X	X					X		X	X								X	
<p><b>Bencore (BE)</b> <a href="http://www.bencore.be/index.php?page=link_show&amp;mid=33">http://www.bencore.be/index.php?page=link_show&amp;mid=33</a> The Belgium part of ENCORA. Has links to 12 affiliated coastal networks, including those listed above (CoastNet, Loicz, CoPraNet), also to the other ENCORA national networks. Other than that, no research directory as such.</p>																					
			X	X			X				X									X	
<p><b>CoZone (UK)</b> <a href="http://cozone.org.uk/">http://cozone.org.uk/</a> UK part of ENCORA. Good set of links (c. 160) to other organizations, predominantly UK. Research page has links to current beach processes research (11 orgs, multiple projects) and to current coastal waters research (11 orgs, multiple projects). All environmental rather than social research. No project descriptions, just titles.</p>																					
			X	X				X			X									X	
<p><b>NCK (NL)</b> <a href="http://www.nck-web.org/">http://www.nck-web.org/</a> Netherlands part of ENCORA. Looks hopeful at first. Research page, subdivided into Seabed &amp; Shelf, Beach barrier, Coast etc. Each sub-heading has participants and resources – but nothing has yet been input! Therefore not very useful. Has only 12 links on its links page.</p>																					



**Table 1 Page 9 (National & Thematic)**

Large >1000	Medium 100 - 1000	Small <100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data
		X	X			X	X					X		X	X		X			
<p><b>RFRC (FR)</b> <a href="http://www.cetmef.equipement.gouv.fr/projets/transversaux/rfrc/visu_theme_tous.php">http://www.cetmef.equipement.gouv.fr/projets/transversaux/rfrc/visu_theme_tous.php</a> &amp; <a href="http://www.cetmef.equipement.gouv.fr/projets/transversaux/rfrc/visu_projet_tous.php">http://www.cetmef.equipement.gouv.fr/projets/transversaux/rfrc/visu_projet_tous.php</a> Réseau Français de Recherche Côtière – France part of ENCORA. Under 'projets' has 15 projects. Under 'liste de tous les themes de recherche' has 40 projects, both social and environmental research. Brief description of each theme, with direct links to relevant University pages, contact details, list of researchers, webpage, projects within the theme.</p>																				
			X									X								
<p><b>ICONET (IR)</b> <a href="http://iconet.ucc.ie/">http://iconet.ucc.ie/</a> Ireland part of ENCORA. No list of projects or contacts. Only info on ICONET activities via bulletins.</p>																				
		X	X			X	X					X				X				
<p><b>NetCoast (NL)</b> <a href="http://www.netcoast.nl/">http://www.netcoast.nl/</a> &amp; <a href="http://www.netcoast.nl/netcoast/netcoast/index_search.htm">http://www.netcoast.nl/netcoast/netcoast/index_search.htm</a> Website of the CZMC – the Coastal Zone Management Centre, located at the Dutch Ministry of Transport, Public Works &amp; Water Management, and supported by 6 other Dutch ministries. Only has CMRC projects, 10 in all – good descriptions. Does have facility to search for persons (331 altogether) within those 10 projects.</p>																				
		X	X					X			X	X					X			
<p><b>SCF (UK)</b> <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Scottish-Coastal-Forum">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Scottish-Coastal-Forum</a> Very good links page – UK government, Scottish &amp; UK agencies &amp; public bodies, local coastal partnerships &amp; interest groups – 75 altogether. Under publications has list of 10 research projects produced by SCF – 4 downloadable, others available via email.</p>																				
		X			X	X					X				X		X			
<p>Access to all the French law <a href="http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/">http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/</a> Specifically, <a href="http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/html/sites/universites.htm">http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/html/sites/universites.htm</a> lists 20 Universities/Research institutes which undertake research into the law.</p>																				
		X	X			X	X				X	X			X		X			
<p>French national policy on ICZM <a href="http://www.territoires-littoraux.com/">http://www.territoires-littoraux.com/</a> Link to the national policy on ICZM and the ICZM projects funded in 2005 in order to implement the ICZM recommendation. Includes a centre of resources, containing links to 8 European projects &amp; 10 French projects. However, many of the links are now out of date.</p>																				
		X			X		X					X					X			X
<p><a href="http://www.bretagne-environnement.org/rubrique/le-suivi-de-la-mer-et-du-littoral">http://www.bretagne-environnement.org/rubrique/le-suivi-de-la-mer-et-du-littoral</a> Information network on the environment in Brittany. Includes a part devoted to the coastal zones. This section does not have a list of formal research, but does have: Côté net (200); A lire (274); Articles du portail (38); Annuaire des acteurs (51); Cartothèque (printable maps and graph data) (56); Portfolio (51); and Multimédia (11).</p>																				



**Table 1 Page 10 (Various)**

Large > 1000	Medium 100 - 1000	Small < 100	Coastal only	Coastal & Ocean	Wide range inc. coastal	Social research	Environmental research	Own research only	Non-research also	Global	European	National	Regional/Local/Thematic	Contact details	Brief description of project	Detailed description	Direct link to webpage	Interrogate via field	Interrogate via map	Downloadable papers/data
		X	X			X	X		X	X					X		X			
<p><b>Newcastle Uni</b> <a href="http://www.ncl.ac.uk/tcmweb/tcm/czmlinks.htm">http://www.ncl.ac.uk/tcmweb/tcm/czmlinks.htm</a> Circa 45 links to projects – a ‘selection of particularly useful web sites focusing on coastal management or of potential interest to coastal managers’</p>																				
	X				X	X	X		X	X							X			
<p><b>Uni of Brussels</b> <a href="http://www.ulb.ac.be/ceese/meta/cds.html">http://www.ulb.ac.be/ceese/meta/cds.html</a> ‘Best environmental directory’ – a meta-directory of 600 links to various databases, encyclopedia, data – no descriptions apart from these labels.</p>																				
		X		X			X						X				X			
<p><b>Medag</b> <a href="http://www.oceannet.org/medag/links/organisations/odr_uni_depts.htm">http://www.oceannet.org/medag/links/organisations/odr_uni_depts.htm</a> Marine Environmental Data Action Group – co-ordinating accessibility and availability of UK marine environmental data. Lists 16 University Depts that currently undertake marine related research. Has link to Sea-Search’s EDMO database. Thematic re. marine research.</p>																				
		X	X			X	X	X					X		X					
<p>Scottish Aquaculture Research Forum <a href="http://www.sarf.org.uk/research.html">http://www.sarf.org.uk/research.html</a>. The Scottish Aquaculture Research Forum is an independent company whose main aim is to support research into aquaculture and related areas. Has a full list of projects supported by SARF, 46 altogether. Strongly thematic.</p>																				
		X		X		X	X		X	X					X		X			
<p><b>Google</b>  <a href="http://www.google.com/Top/Science/Earth_Sciences/Oceanography/Data_and_Information_Resources/">http://www.google.com/Top/Science/Earth_Sciences/Oceanography/Data_and_Information_Resources/</a>                      44 links to other databases, some already discussed above (EUCC, MEDAG).</p>																				
		X			X			X						X						
<p><b>UNEP</b> <a href="http://www.unep.org/publications/">http://www.unep.org/publications/</a> &amp; <a href="http://www.unep.org/regionalseas/default.asp">http://www.unep.org/regionalseas/default.asp</a> Does not have a directory of ongoing UNEP research as such, but does have a list of publications (&amp;, in the Regional Seas section, contact details for specific sea areas)</p>																				
		X			X		X						X				X			
<p><b>Invasive species in Belgium</b> <a href="http://ias.biodiversity.be/ias/resources">http://ias.biodiversity.be/ias/resources</a> Very specialized thematically, as would be expected from the name. Has links to 4 specialist working groups and 8 database and information networks – international, not just Belgium.</p>																				



### 3. Science Shops

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For users interested in finding out about existing research on a particular theme - say on a particular species such as bottle-nose dolphins – then the directories listed in Section 2 should be useful. For users interested in finding out about small scale research in their local area these large-scale databases are less useful. For such users the recommended initial actions should be contacting their local authority and their local coastal forum and checking the research pages of their nearest University.

Finally, there will be a group of coastal zone users who wish to commission, as it were, research into their local area or into a particular theme. Obviously there is a long-established tradition in the business community of doing this via consultancy. For community groups or small local charities this option will be too expensive. There is an alternative, however: Science Shops.

The following description is taken from the Glamorgan University Science Shop website <http://case.glam.ac.uk/CASE/Projects/SS.html> :

“A Science Shop is a link between a university and the community that can put community groups in touch with scientists and students who might be able to work with them.

Science shops stand at the junction where science meets society. These grassroots research organisations deal with practical scientific problems at the local community level. Although they cater for the community, science shops are not really 'shops' in the traditional sense of the word. They carry out scientific research in a wide range of disciplines – usually free of charge – on behalf of citizens and local civil society. Science shops provide independent, participatory research support to community groups on a demand driven and affordable basis, and promote and support public access to, and public influence on, science, research and technology.



The first Science Shops were set up in Dutch universities in the 1960's, and they are now an established part of universities all over Europe.”

The Living Knowledge website (<http://www.scienceshops.org/>), run by the University of Utrecht, has a Europe-wide Science Shop database. However, it is not a complete database. While it lists 4 Dutch universities with Science Shops, it only lists 1 in Belgium and 1 in the UK, and none at all in Ireland or France.

Flemish Belgium has in fact several Science Shops, which can be accessed via the national Science Shop website at <http://www.scienceshops.be/belgium.html>. The following description is taken from that website:

“The Flemish network of Science Shops consists of a central contact point, and 5 regional Science Shops: one at the Universiteit Antwerpen, one at the Universiteit Gent, one at the Universiteit Hasselt, one at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and the Brussels science shop, which is managed by both the Brussels universities: Vrije Universiteit Brussel en Katholieke Universiteit Brussel.

The contact point **Wetenschapswinkel.be** - managed by the Vrije Universiteit Brussel - collects the questions of the non-profit organizations that are situated in Flanders and sends these to the regional science shops. All research topics are put into an online database in which students of the different universities can search. The main benefit of working with a central unit is that with a minimum of costs we try to give a maximum service to the non-profit organizations and to our new coming science shops.

The Flemish network was established on the 1st of January 2003 with the support of the Flemish Government. At that moment there were only 2 regional science shops (Universiteit Antwerpen and Vrije Universiteit Brussel). From the 1st of January 2006 the network was expanded. Now each university has its own regional science shop.”

Science shops are also well-established in Northern Ireland, with the Northern Ireland Science Shop providing a link between the universities (University of Ulster <http://www.ulster.ac.uk/scienceshop/> and Queen's University Belfast



<http://researchservices1.qub.ac.uk/Scishop/scisho/Scienceshop//default.html>) and the community.

There are no national Science Shop websites for Wales, England or Scotland, but the following list gives the web addresses of the 6 UK universities which could be identified as having a Science Shop.

Glamorgan (<http://case.glam.ac.uk/CASE/Projects/SS.html> & <http://case.glam.ac.uk/sewsn/whatis.htm>)

Liverpool (<http://www.liv.ac.uk/ssp/interchange/>)

Brighton (<http://www.brighton.ac.uk/cupp/>)

Edinburgh (<http://www.studentvolunteer.org.uk/actionconnection/>)

Warwick (<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/sociology/research/fkuc/>)

Brunel (<http://www.brunel.ac.uk/news/pressoffice/pressreleases/press2003/cdata/november/buss141103>)

Many universities which do not have science shops have departments which encourage research activities termed “service learning” and “action research”.

“Service learning, an active-learning pedagogical approach, offers the unique advantage of dynamically engaging students in the personal application of newly acquired knowledge about a subject to real world problems” (<http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol4/Beej-4-4.pdf> )

“Goals of service learning: To enhance student learning by joining theory with experience and thought with action; To fill unmet needs in the community through direct service which is meaningful and necessary” (<http://www.fiu.edu/%7Etime4chg/Library/goals.html> )

“Action Research is a process by which practitioners investigate their own actions and the consequences of their actions, and through making changes to their practices, and evaluating those changes, improve the environment in which they work

Some core values of relevance to action research include:

- a commitment to professional development and support for practitioners in taking ownership of the experience of professional development



- a commitment to collaboration and democratic relations (action research is not something done *to* others but something done *with* others)
- a commitment to social justice - that everybody has the entitlement to an enabling life experience and support for self-actualisation”  
(<http://edu.projects.uwe.ac.uk/trainingschool/methodology/action-research.htm> )

Not surprisingly, where Science Shops tend to be dominated by physical science issues, those University departments interested in working with the community on service-learning or action research principles tend to be social science and teaching departments. The following websites are 5 such departments in the UK.

University of West England UWE (Bristol) (<http://www.uwe.ac.uk/solar/>)

UWE (Bristol) (<http://edu.projects.uwe.ac.uk/trainingschool/methodology/action-research.htm>)

Bath (<http://www.bath.ac.uk/carpp/>)

LSE (London School of Economics) (<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/NGPA/>)

Reading (<http://www.rdg.ac.uk/arl/>).

#### 4. Conclusion

This short report provides a summary directory of existing research activity directories for coastal zone issues in North-West Europe, as well as for existing Science Shops in the region. It is therefore a meta-directory of:

Research projects & programmes; Research organisations; and Research data.

