

The Belgian part of the North Sea covers an area of 3600 km², has a coastline of 65 kilometers, represents less than 1 percent of the whole North Sea and about 0.002 percent of ‘Old Europe’s’ coastline. An inventory shows that despite this small area more than 100 research institutes, 40 companies and NGO’s and about 16 administrations are involved or have responsibilities for coastal and marine management and research. However at present the links existing between and within the communities of coastal science, policy and practice are weak and suffer from fragmentation.

Therefore BeNCoRe, the Belgian Network for Coastal Research aims at initiating and facilitating knowledge sharing and cooperation between these Belgian marine institutes. The main task of BeNCoRe is to ensure, stimulate and facilitate the process of knowledge exchange and cooperation between network participants.

BeNCoRE in a European context: the thematic networks

The Belgian Network for Coastal Research is part of ENCORA, the European Platform for Coastal Research. This European network is built on 13 national coastal networks and 10 thematic networks. BeNCoRe allows and facilitates partners to participate in the thematic networks. As a theme participant:

- You will be invited to participate in a thematic information exchange group; you can address and answer questions to the theme members and make use of the thematic email list to exchange information with your colleagues.
- You will be invited to participate in a workshop on the state-of-the-art in the thematic field; participants may receive a travel grant depending on age and expertise.

Thematic network	Coordination Institute	Coordinator	Contact
Theme 1: Social and economic aspects of ICZM; Multi-functionality and Valuation	CORILA (Italy)	Carlo Carraro	encore@feem.it
Theme 2: ICZM Participation and Implementation	EUCC (Netherlands)	Alan Pickaver	a.pickaver@eucc.net
Theme 3: Coastal and marine spatial planning	Univ. of Thessaly (Hellas)	Harry Coccossis	hkok@prd.uth.gr
Theme 4: Pollution, prevention, detection and mitigation	CETMEF (France)	Philippe Sergent	philippe.sergent@equipement.gouv.fr
Theme 5: Long term coastal geo-morphological change	Plymouth University (UK)	Andrew Chadwick	a.chadwick@plymouth.ac.uk
Theme 6: Effect of Development and Use on Eco-morphology and Coastal Habitats	DHI Water & Environment (Denmark)	Ida BrØker & Karen Edelvang	ibh@dhi.dk
Theme 7: Restoration and preservation of coastal biodiversity	Ghent University (Belgium)	Magda Vincx & Steven Degraer	steven.degraer@ugent.be
Theme 8: Sustainable coastal engineering techniques	Delft Technical University (Netherlands)	Jan van de Graaf	j.vandegraaff@citg.tudelft.nl
Theme 9: Assessment of field observation techniques	GKSS (Germany)	Franciscus Colijn	franciscus.colijn@gkss.de
Theme 10: Capacity building, training and education in ICZM	Cantabria University (Spain)	Inigo Losada	losadai@unican.es

BeNCoRe in a nutshell

Central for the Belgian Network for Coastal Research is the web-directory: **www.bencore.be**. This website will become the most important tool for disseminating information and should become the virtual link within the network.

Join BeNCoRe: Not yet BeNCoRe partner? Working on Coastal Research or Integrated Coastal Zone Management? Just join BeNCoRe and make use of the network to broaden your national and international contacts. The BeNCoRe network is open to the coastal community in general, and more in particular to:

- Coastal scientists
- Coastal engineers, planners and expert consultants
- Coastal practitioners, managers and policymakers

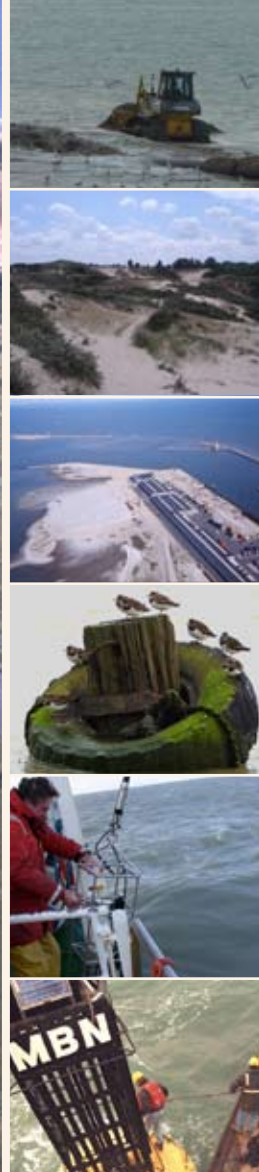
Looking for additional funding to attend a meeting, a workshop, an event or a conference related to Coastal Research or ICZM? Join the BeNCoRe network and apply for a **BeNCoRe Grant**.

Need assistance at the development of information campaigns, searching for information of Belgian partners or European partners, looking for proposals, looking for a workshop or conference in Belgium or throughout Europe? Become partner and make use the of the **BeNCoRe facilities**.

Networking activities of BeNCoRe are facilitated through a National Coordination Office and will be managed by the **BeNCoRe Bureau** with representatives from both regions from the scientific community and policymakers.



www.bencore.be



Contact at: info@bencore.be
National Coordination Office BeNCoRe
Wandelaarkaai 7
B-8400 OOSTENDE, Belgium
Phone: +32-(0)59-34 01 59
Fax: +32-(0)59-34 21 31

Coordinator: Jean Berlamont



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