Newsletter N°6

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iseca
INFORMATION SYSTEM ON THE EUTROPHICATION OF OUR COASTAL AREAS

"Investing in your future"
Crossborder cooperation programme
2007-2013 Part-financed by the European Union
(European Regional Development Fund)

www.ISECA.eu

A cross-discipline and cross-border integrated project on coastal eutrophication offering information, education and science to stakeholders and the public at large in the INTERREG IVa 2 Seas Zone (Belgium, England, France and the Netherlands).

Feedback

From Monday 30th June to Tuesday 1st July 2014: Final Event of the ISECA project at NAUSICAA, Boulogne-sur-Mer, France.

The event focused on coastal water quality (mainly in the Channel and the North Sea areas) in relationship with eutrophication and presented the important ISECA project outcomes. Plenary sessions addressed eutrophication: definition, causes, consequences, means of detection and monitoring, legislation, public perception, solutions and perspectives.

On the second day, two specialized workshops were organized: one concerning the functionalities and use of the Web Application Server (WAS) that has been developed during the project and one dealing with the ISECA information and education activities to raise awareness on the subject. Field Trips closed the event (Nausicaá exhibition, Ifremer laboratory with a presentation of Marel-Carnot high frequency instrumented station, the local water-treatment plant Séliane).

The event aimed at policy makers, scientists, environmental educators and the general public. 64 persons participated and presented real interest in the subject (many discussions and questions). Participants considered that provided information on ISECA and eutrophication was clear and adequate.

In addition to the ISECA project partners, scientific experts including Francis GOHIN -IFREMER (France), Stephen MALCOLM and Rodney FORSTER -CEFAS (UK), Andris ANDRUSAITIS -BONUS Programme (Finland), Jacco KROMKAMP -NIOZ (Netherlands), Christiane LANCELOT -ULB (Belgium) were invited. They enriched the conference giving a presentation on their expertise. Those eminent scientists' speakers played the game of "simplifying" communication towards stakeholders thanks to the help of professional convenor David LEFORT and Alain LEFEBVRE from IFREMER.

All plenary sessions were translated in direct (French-English).

For more details on this event and ISECA results, please visit our website http://www.iseca.eu/en/







Picture 1: Eutrophication in Baltic Sea. Presentation by A. Andrusaitis (BONUS) / Picture 2 (from left to right): question time and round-the-table with D.Lefort; A.Lefebvre; A. Andrusaitis; J. Kromkamp; C. Lancelot / Picture 3: questions from the audience

Zoom

VLIZ

The Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ) is the coordination and information platform for marine scientific research in Flanders. VLIZ is a focal point for marine and coastal-related research and serves as an international contact point. VLIZ signs cooperation agreements with Flemish research groups and administrations and furthermore integrates its activities in national and international networks. The VLIZ Data Centre provides assistance, technologies and tools to scientists and policymakers to support marine data management. Within international networks VLIZ participates in the development of data infrastructures and promotes the flow of marine data from Belgium. The VLIZ Library is a public marine scientific information centre for marine information for scientists, policymakers and the public at large. The Communication division aims to share knowledge with people fascinated by the sea by disclosing high-quality marine information to diverse target groups. The VLIZ Research Infrastructure division provides logistical support to marine researchers by ensuring the management, maintenance and operational support of the research facilities and equipment such as the multidisciplinary coastal research vessel 'Simon Stevin'**,** which is operational in the Belgian part of the North Sea, the Western Scheldt estuary and by extension in the Southern Bight of the North Sea and the eastern part of the English Channel. Within ISECA, VLIZ is responsible for the design and management of the project website and the Information Search Tool.

NAUSICAA

Nausicaá's aims are to raise awareness and educate the public on new behaviors regarding the ocean, a better management of resources and to encourage people to act in favor of the preservation of Mankind's future. This includes several steps:

. To stir emotion and fill the public with wonder through constantly renewed exhibitions, aquariums and a spectacular museum.

. To initiate information and public awareness programs to inspire changing in behavior around different themes: responsible consumption of seafood, navigation and safety at sea, protection of biodiversity, water quality…

. Encourage the public to act for the preservation of the oceans, our children's legacy.

From the source to the sea, everything goes to the sea. Even if we live far from the sea, our behaviours have an impact on the seawater quality. As partner in ISECA's project, Nausicaá is mainly responsible of the whole project communication. Nausicaá is also in charge of determining the targeted publics, defining the public's perception of eutrophication and their willingness to act and provides French translation and inputs to the ISECA website.

Communication Tools

.THE WEB INFORMATION SERVER (WIS)

Within the ISECA project one of the challenges was to build a trilingual portal (French, English and Dutch) which responds to the needs of two important target groups: scientists and the public at large. This was done by creating two different menu-items: science for experts which contains scientific publications and science for the public where the overall eutrophication phenomenon is shortly explained. The portal gives visitors access to the most important project results and deliverables (e.g. Information Search Tool, Web based Application Server (WAS)), official project reports, publications but also different communication tools. The WIS will be maintained and regularly updated even after the ISECA project closure (end of 2014).

. **FOCUS ON EDUCATIONAL TOOLS**

Educational tools (Guidelines and activities) were created by PML, VLIZ and NAUSICAA during the project for information multipliers who can relay information, raise awareness and educate the public at large. NAUSICAA also compiled all of them in an Educational Kit CD-ROM. These tools deliver information on coastal water quality and eutrophication, its effects and issues at stake. They were disseminated all along the project as well as the other communication tools created (questionnaires, newsletters, videos, leaflet, website…etc.). They are all available on the ISECA website, "Communication and Education" section.







Picture.1: Presentation of the ISECA Education Kit CD-Rom / Picture.2: PML Ocean Colour activity /Picture.3: "Why does the sea foam?" activity (short version)

With the participation of :

ADRINORD · University of Portsmouth · CEMARE · Nausicaá · PML Plymouth Marine Laboratory · University of Greenwich · vito vision on technology · VLIZ