

Building Local Capacity to Develop Adaptation Strategies to Climate Change –

The IMCORE Project

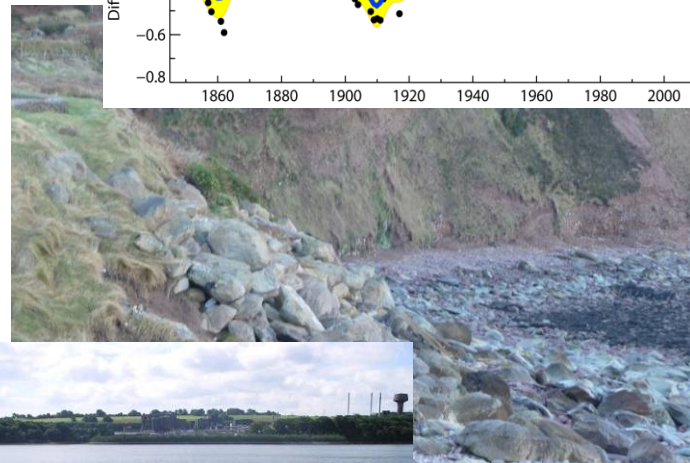
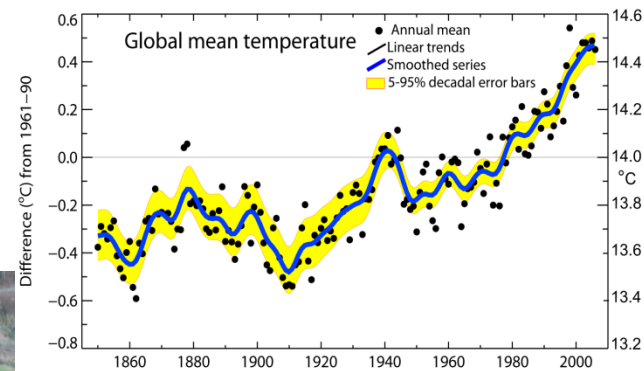
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Coastal and Marine Research Centre

Littoral 2012, Oostende – 27th November



Content

- What was IMCORE – Brief Outline
- The IMCORE Approach and Process
- Lessons Learned
- IMCORE Outputs



IMCORE – Introduction

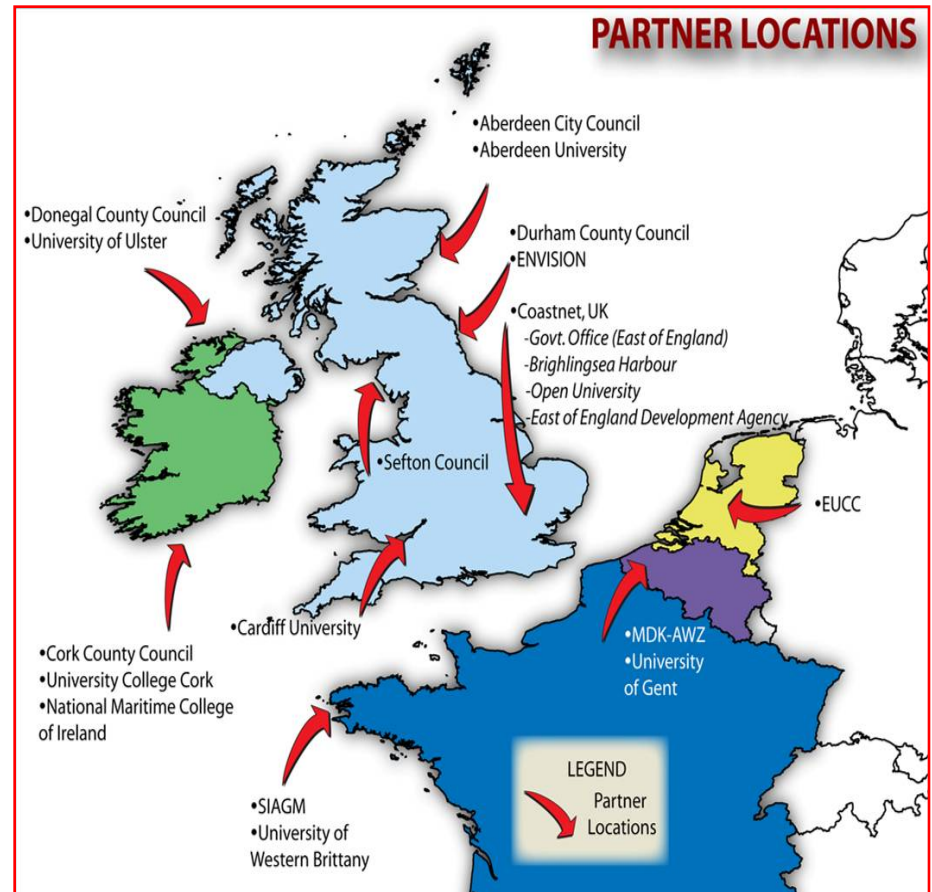
Title: Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coastal Resource (IMCORE) – part-funded through the INTERREG IVB Programme.

Aim: To promote a transnational, innovative and sustainable approach to reducing the Ecological Social and Economic impacts of climate change on the coastal resources of NWE.

Partnership: Local government, research and education organisations and NGOs from: Ireland; UK; France; Belgium; and, the Netherlands.

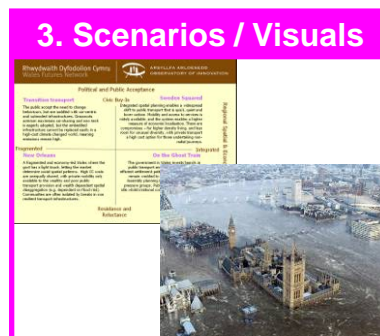
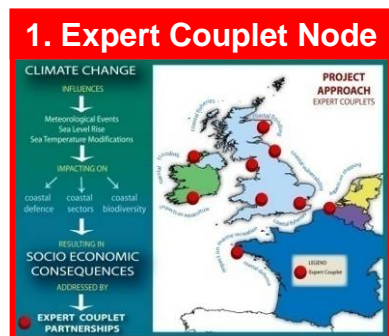
Themes: Climate Adaptation, Coastal Management, Stakeholder Engagement, Visualisation, Scenarios, Science-Policy Interaction.

Outputs: Tools and processes to aid capacity building at the local level supporting development of adaptation strategies.



IMCORE – Approach

- Key element of the IMCORE Approach was the **Expert Couplet Node** – a new model of partnership and collaboration between research centres / academia and local government / regulatory bodies.
- ECNs were established at each of the nine IMCORE study sites - Severn Estuary, NW England, NE England, E England, Aberdeen Coast (all UK); Lough Swilly and Cork Harbour (Ireland); Golfe du Morbihan (France); and Belgian Coast.
- At each study site, the ECN developed and trialled a number of tools and methods in the context of climate change adaptation – incorporated within a five step process.



Expert Couplet Nodes

- Some partners involved in ECNs were building on existing working relationships – others were coming into the process with no prior experience – accept differing levels of **ECN maturity**.
- Design your ECN with the **primary issue(s)** in mind - get the right organisations involved. Assess your capacity as a couplet. Be aware of the knowledge and skills that will be required to achieve your goals.
- Build on **existing relationships**. Consider building on previous experiences with specific academic or practitioner partners.
- **Shared goals**. Be aware that there are differences in motivations and time-frames between academics and practitioners. Collaboration should be focused on what you want to learn and achieve as a couplet – use formal / informal arrangements as appropriate.
- A **two way process**. Bear in mind that both parts need to benefit from and contribute to this relationship.

Issue Identification Workshops:

Severn Estuary – Strain on emergency services.

Aberdeen – Damage to port and harbour.

Gent – Loss of beach / dunes.

Golfe du Morbihan – Erosion.

East of England – Cost of coastal defences.

Sefton – Impact on conservation sites.

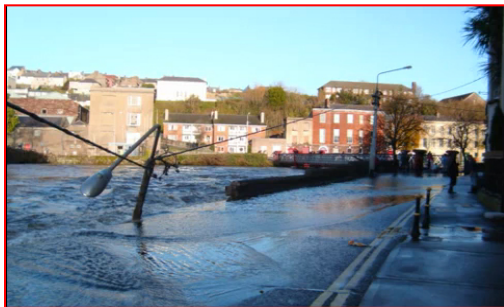
Durham – Loss of habitats.

Donegal – Impacts on aquaculture.

Cork.....



Issue Identification Workshops:



Issue Identification Workshops:

- Engage **appropriate stakeholders** - those with a level of influence in order to help implement any adaptation strategy recommended.
- **Clear messaging** – avoid situation of being an advocate of climate change.
- **Remove confusion** – why should we adapt, and what is adaptation (versus mitigation)?
- Provide **aids and explanatory guides** / information to assist participants.
- **Secure buy-in** for remainder of strategy development process – explain point of exercise in overall approach.



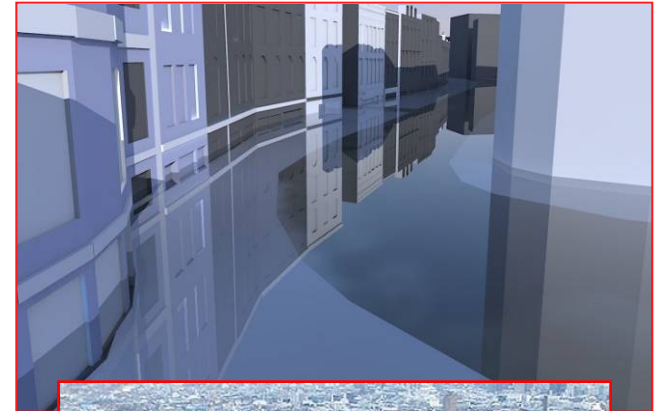
IMCORE ECONOMIC DRIVER MATRIX

Driver	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
LESS RISKY AVAILABLE TO REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT								8		
COSTS OF FLOOD DAMAGE TO INCREASE								9		
COST OF RISK TO INCREASE DUE TO FLOODING (ADAPTATION)					6					
LOSS OF LAND AVAILABLE TO INFLUENCE CITY COURSE				4						
CAUTION IN REPLYING RISK - RISK REMAINS UNDEVELOPED				5						
SHORT RISK TO BE USED UP IN ADAPTATION				5						



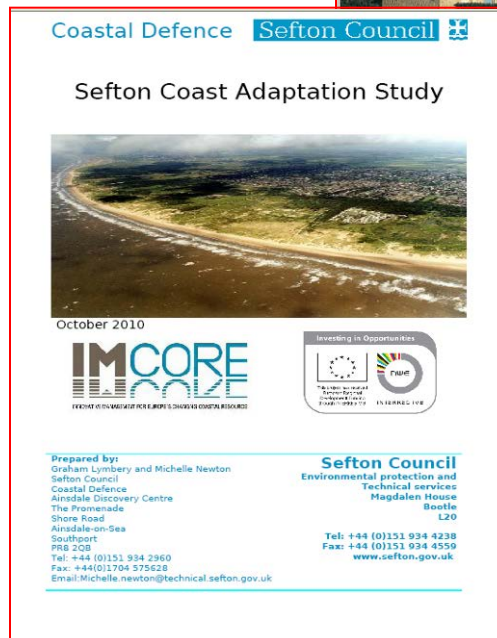
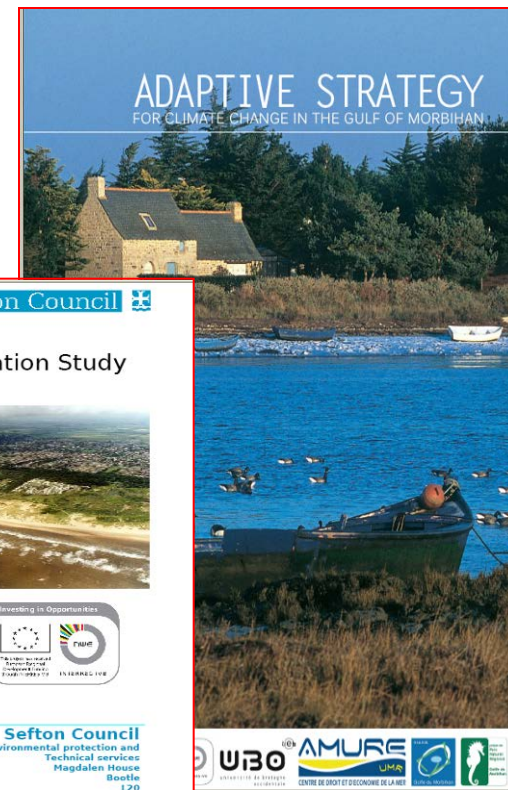
Scenarios and Visualisation:

- Enable identification of future major changes and potential problems along with possible options for response.
- In the case of scenarios and visualisations – *neither should be considered realities*.
- Scenario development is / should be a highly *participative process*.
- Process brings together multiple disciplines and facilitates better understanding across sectors / backgrounds – move towards a *common language / understanding*.
- Extremely *effective at exploring all aspects of a particular issue* – but can be a challenging process – expect a degree of difficulty with people *suspending disbelief*, adjusting to *time horizons that may be unfamiliar*, and removing themselves from the “day job”.



Strategy Formation:

- Mainstreaming is important – different avenues / approaches – climate strategies in place, incorporate into local and regional planning.
- Legal and regulatory settings will have a bearing on progress and implementation.
- Tailored to institutional arrangements within individual case study sites.
- Adaptation is a process – strategy development shouldn't be considered as endpoint.
- Adaptation is a process that is unlikely to succeed with a single organisation driving implementation.



IMCORE Outputs:

Learning from each step of the IMCORE approach, from all study sites, was encapsulated into single repository for practitioners and policy-makers.

- Details of ECN working
- Guidelines on how to setup a ECN

- Issues Workshop Reports
- Guidelines in how to run a Workshop

- Scenarios workshop reports
- Details of scenarios & visualisation techniques

- Strategy Formation workshop report (Training of Trainers)
- Guidelines / material required to develop strategies



coastaladaptation.eu presents huge body of information in accessible and digestible formats – ideal for those seeking to build capacity – “how do I...?”

IMCORE Messages:

- ECNs work as a model for partnership working – and create a healthy environment for capacity-building at the local level. Mature partnerships in position to advise potential new ECNs.
- Can be difficult to make headway in isolation when tackling issues surrounding climate change and coastal management – approaches often require input from various stakeholders. ECN is bottom up with institutional support.
- IMCORE has trialled and tested a range of tools of methods within it's five step approach - different tools and methods can be applied to common problems in different locations with equal effect – trans-national collaboration works.
- Communicating the value of adaptation is greatly assisted by use of practice-based examples and learning – foster a “*can do*” attitude.

IMCORE Messages:

- The IMCORE model is also transferable and not restricted to coastal applications, so it should be of interest to managers and practitioners from other sectors.
- *But* within coastal areas, IMCORE jointly addressed two contemporary challenges – coastal management and climate adaptation – exploring synergies between these two processes yields added value from efforts to build local capacity within coastal regions.



Integrated Coastal [Zone] Management

AND

Adaptation to Climate Change



- Provide Societal Challenges
- Capacity Issues
- Pressing Need for Action
- Effective Response Tied to Better Governance
- Key Common Constituents / Stakeholders
- Opportunity to Innovate

IMCORE Online:

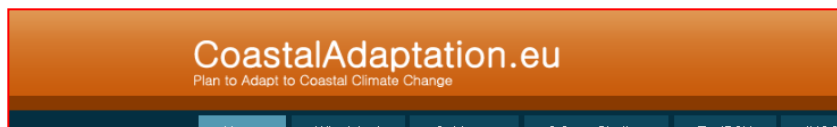
- Guidance Documents
- Explanatory Notes
- Teaching Aids
- Videos – Real life Testimonies
- Case Studies
- Policy Information
- Tools Explained
- Lessons Learned
- Make Contact with Other Practitioners




The screenshot shows the CoastalAdaptation.eu website. The header includes the site name and tagline 'Plan to Adapt to Coastal Climate Change', along with logos for the European Union, IMCORE, and the Coastal & Marine Research Centre. The navigation bar has links for Home, Why Adapt, Guidance, 9 Case Studies, ToolBOX, and IMCORE, plus a search function. The main content area features a section titled 'Follow our guidance for developing a coastal adaptation' with a three-step process: 1. Identifying the issues, 2. Developing future scenarios, and 3. Designing the adaptation strategy. Below this is a map of Europe with callouts to various case studies: Lough Swilly, Aberdeen, North East England, Sefton, East of England, Severn Estuary, Gulf of Morbihan, and Belgium. Each callout provides a brief description of the project. On the right side, there is a section for 'strategy scenarios developing adaptation issues climate stakeholders capacity case change', a link to an 'e-learning course', and a 'VIDEO' section with a play button icon. At the bottom right, there is a 'ToolBOX' section with a box icon and a 'Linked in' section with a join button. The footer includes a 'Top 10 lessons' section and a link to 'Practical tips for following the IMCORE'.

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A step-by-step guide through the theory, process and practise of stakeholder engagement



What you should know

PART A

Use what you know

PART B

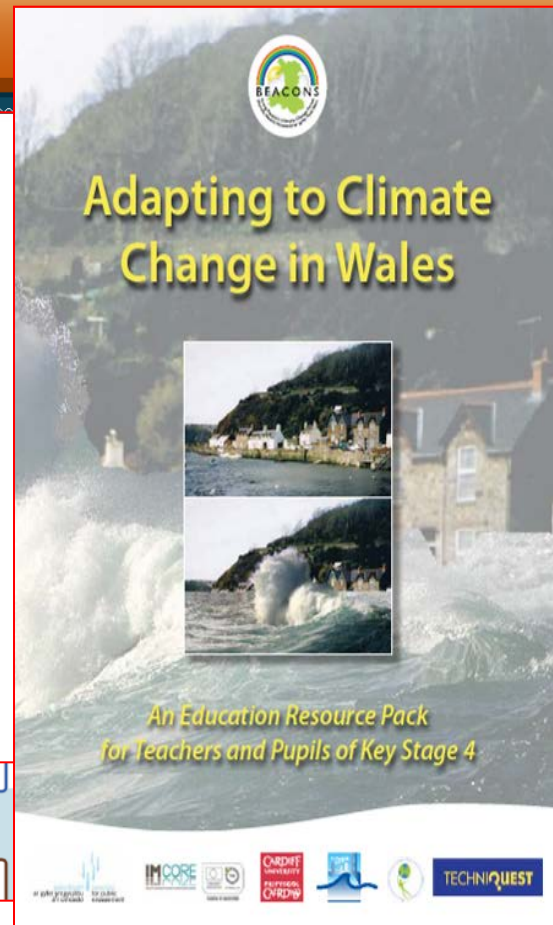
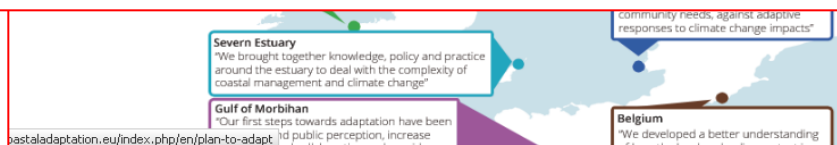
Learn by doing

PART C

Choose wisely

PART D

{ ENTER GUIDE }





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Coastal & Marine Research Centre
Ionad Taighde Cósta is Mara



Thank You

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Location:

