

BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY TO DEVELOP ADAPTATION STRATEGIES TO CLIMATE CHANGE – THE IMCORE PROJECT

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There are a number of challenges in developing effective local adaptation strategies to climate change ranging from lack of public awareness of potential impacts through to lack of capacity and resources in local authorities. IMCORE (Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coastal Resource), (INTERREG IVB), which ended in April 2012 applied various techniques to overcome these challenges at nine sites across North West Europe.

This entailed identifying the potential impacts of a range of climate change scenarios on coastal sectors (e.g. fisheries and aquaculture, ports and shipping, marine recreation and coastal protection) and subsequently developing an effective response in the form of adaptive management strategies at each site.

The Project actively promoted partnership working between research centres and local authorities and utilized an Expert Couplet Node approach to develop strategies to address local issues in order to avoid the disconnect that can exist between the scientific output and the needs of local government.

The presentation will provide an overview of the project, present reasons why adaptation is necessary and highlight the key challenges encountered whilst developing strategies at the case-study sites. It will showcase some of the innovative techniques employed to overcome these difficulties and the freely available resources generated by the project which are of benefit to all involved in coastal management.