

→ EDITORIAL

INVOLVEMENT IN ENCORA FOLLOW-UP

The EU funding of ENCORA ends in 2009. But the coastal networks and the different services created by ENCORA will remain, at least in countries where they are supported by coastal and marine-related institutions. The ENCORA services facilitate sharing of knowledge and experience and are based on the principle of self-maintenance: they are continuously improved and kept up to date by contributions of the users themselves. But a limited coordination and management effort remains indispensable. A [strategy and action plan](#) to secure continuity is now under discussion among the ENCORA partners responsible for the networks and services. This plan proposes i.a. to explore:

- the interest of institutes to contribute to maintaining the different ENCORA web-based services, i.e. the [Coastal and Marine Wikipedia](#) , the European [Coastal and Marine Contact Database](#), the [Coastweb Archive](#), the Coastal [Websearch Facility](#), the [Coastal Event List](#). The integration of these portal services with other existing web-based coastal and marine information and data services will also be considered.

- opportunities to strengthen the institutional basis of the national networks. For maintaining a national contact function, for sharing knowledge and experience among coastal and marine professionals, a national consortium of institutions should be established providing financial or in kind support. These national contact points communicate through the Coastal Portal to facilitate international exchanges. Integration of the national coastal networks with other existing networks will also be considered.

The National Coordination Offices will carry out these explorations during the next months. Do you feel that your institute should be involved in the ENCORA follow-up? Then please send a message to info@encora.eu or to the [NCO officer of your country](#), indicating the most appropriate institute contact for your NCO. Your help is greatly appreciated!

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→ INTERREG IVc

On 21 September the new [Interreg IVc](#) programme was launched; deadline for the first call for proposals is 15 January 2008. Interreg IVc is an important European interregional cooperation mechanism for practitioners organisations represented in the national coastal networks. The [programme](#) is divided into several topics; one topic is Environment and Risk Prevention / Water Management, with Coastal Management as an important subtopic. Interreg projects are preferably coordinated by local or regional practitioners organisations. Universities, knowledge and research institutes and other public organisations in the field of environment and risk prevention are welcome to participate in project consortia. The projects generally aim at the establishment of good practice guidelines.

One of the lessons of previous Interreg programmes is that, some time after ending of the project, the access to project results often becomes difficult, because they are published in brochures and websites that are not permanently maintained. The information is not updated and results may soon become obsolete. This can be avoided by publication of the major results in the [Coastal and Marine Wikipedia](#) and by uploading project documents in the [Coastweb Archive](#). Consortia preparing proposals for the new Interreg programme therefore are encouraged to consider these ENCORA dissemination facilities. The role of ENCORA as European mechanism for sharing knowledge and experience is mentioned in the [evaluation report on ICZM](#) submitted recently by the European Commission to the European Parliament.



→ INTERIM EVALUATION OF ENCORA PROMOTION AND DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

The [interim evaluation](#) of ENCORA promotion and dissemination activities summarises the findings of team discussions and two evaluation reports and is meant to help the ENCORA team in improving dissemination and promotion activities during the second half of the project. Many points for improvement are identified and several response actions are planned or already ongoing. What is your opinion about the ENCORA services? Do you have any remarks or suggestions? We will be grateful if you drop a line at info@encora.eu. It will help us to better serve you!



→ SPICOSA CONTACT SEARCH

[SPICOSA](#), the FP6 Integrated Project "Science-Policy Integration for Coastal System Assessment" aims at providing a conceptual and practical system analysis framework (SAF) for dealing with coastal policy issues. This generic SAF will be developed in concert with 18 case studies in different European coastal zones.

SPICOSA task leaders and study site leaders have currently launched [several contact searches](#) for the SPICOSA work tasks and case studies, to connect them with relevant experience elsewhere and with similar studies ongoing in other projects around the European coastal zones. This procedure is facilitated by the ENCORA Contact Search Service, which responds to requests from members for identifying and contacting experts and practitioners from different countries to share knowledge and to work together on problems with a common denominator. The service is operated by the officers of the national coastal networks in 13 European countries (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Ireland, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, UK) and in 5 non-EU countries (Algeria, Morocco, Russia, Tunisia, Ukraine). You can download the SPICOSA search requests from our [website](#).

You may reply to these SPICOSA search requests using [our reply form](#) if you are interested in cooperating with the corresponding SPICOSA task leaders and study site leaders to share knowledge and experience and to explore possible cooperation opportunities. Please fill in the attached form and send it to info@encora.eu or to the [NCO officer of your country](#) until 19/10/2007



CALL FOR PROPOSAL EUROPEAN MARITIME POLICY STUDY

Eurostat has recently launched a [call for proposals](#) for a study in the field of maritime policy. This study consists of two lots, (1) Architecture and elaboration of an integrated socio-economic database, and (2) Analysis and preparation of a publication of the results available aiming at describing the coastal and sea area by country.

The estimated costs are EUR 400 000 and EUR 100 000 respectively. The closure date for tender submission is 5 November 2007.



ELECTRONIC CONFERENCE: "LIFE ON THE BLUE PLANET: BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH AND THE NEW EUROPEAN MARINE POLICIES"

The organisers of the Portuguese meeting of the European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRs) and the BioStrat project coordinators invite you to participate in the electronic conference "Life on the blue planet: Biodiversity research and the new European Marine Policies" which will run from the 1st to the 19th October 2007. The results of this electronic conference will be presented at the EPBRs delegates meeting in Porto, Portugal from the 7th to the 9th November 2007.

The E-conference preceding the Portuguese EPBRs meeting will focus on the three following issues:

- Session I (chairman Stephen Hawkins): Interactions between global change and marine biodiversity: what is already known and what do we urgently need to know to allow for a more efficient protection of marine biodiversity and of the sustainable use of the marine environment.
- Session II (chairman Stephen Hawkins): Effects of the different measures of mitigation and adaptation to climate change (e.g. coastal defences, renewable energies, algal biofuels, CO2 storage in the ocean) on marine biodiversity and the role of marine and coastal ecosystems in the mitigation to climate change effects.
- Session III(chairman Ricardo Serrão Santos): Stopping marine biodiversity loss – key scientific issues in the design, management and policy development related with MPAs, integration of biodiversity concerns in the different marine sectors and attaining a good environmental status in the marine environment.

You are kindly invited to subscribe to the electronic conference by filling the [subscription form](#).



FOR YOUR AGENDA

[LIST OF YPEP EVENTS](#)
[UPCOMING COASTAL EVENTS](#)



Colophon

The ENCORA objective is to facilitate and create new opportunities for sharing knowledge and experience on coastal issues in Europe. This electronic newsletter will inform you frequently about the activities and achievements of the network. Every issue will contain a section with news about your national network or ICZM related topics in your country.

This electronic newsletter may be forwarded freely to others working in the ICZM fields. If you would like to receive the ENCORA Newsletter directly, please contact your national coordinator or subscribe to www.encora.org. News-items for publication can be send to encore@rikz.rws.minvenw.nl.