



EUCC Coastal & Marine-News

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EUCC Coastal & Marine-News is the international newsletter of the Coastal & Marine Union (EUCC) for its members and for the press. We have ca. 4000 readers.

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Contributions to the next issue due to: 15 September 2009. Please send to news@eucc.net

- CONTENTS -

- EUCC NEWS -

1. QualityCoast Awards for eleven coastal towns and islands
2. Registration for QualityCoast Award 2010 now open!
3. MOSSELWAD: € six million for mussel bed recovery
4. EUCC support to EU Maritime Day
5. KnowSeas: an ecosystem-approach to management
6. EUCC Marine Team members attend over 20 meetings
7. ECNC and EUCC sign Memorandum of Cooperation
8. New EUCC vacancy in the Netherlands: Senior Ecologist

- CLIMATE CHANGE -

9. Record turnout for Green Week conference on climate change
10. Climate change turning seas acid, academies warn
11. Adapting to Coastal Climate Change - A Guidebook for Development Planners
12. Climate Change Information for Effective Adaptation: A Practitioner's Manual

- BIODIVERSITY -

13. Dolphins and whales seriously threatened by climate change
14. Loss of world's sea grass beds seen accelerating
15. Analysis of the 2008 IUCN Red List Species

- FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE -

16. European over-fishing began 1,000 years ago
17. Net injury 'disables' Minke whale
18. Whale watching 'worth billions'

- COASTAL MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH -

19. SPICOSA brief news: ICZM-SPICOSA International Forum – 2nd Edition
20. IMCORE project moves ahead
21. EC: many of Europe's most vulnerable species and habitats under threat
22. Bathing water quality improving in the EU
23. Satellites can spot tsunamis
24. COASTAL WIKI – latest updates

- MARITIME POLICY AND SPATIAL PLANNING -

25. C-SCOPE: Combining Sea and Coastal Planning in Europe
26. UNESCO Guide to Marine Spatial Planning
27. EC strategy to boost development of Baltic Sea Region

- EVENTS AGENDA -

- COLOPHON -

- EUCC NEWS –

1. QualityCoast Awards for eleven coastal towns and islands

Eleven coastal towns and islands from five European countries have received the QualityCoast Award 2009-'10. In this way, the European QualityCoast Jury has recognised the award winners for the remarkable efforts they have made in sustainable development; the fields of environment, nature and landscape, cultural heritage; and their own identity. The QualityCoast Award is the first European quality label for coastal communities that is providing transparent information on aspects of sustainability to visitors and on their plans for future improvements. QualityCoast is stimulating coastal communities to base their development – also for tourism - upon the inherent values of their town or villages and of their surroundings. The entire municipality is assessed by a European Jury, making use of 20 criteria in the field of nature and landscape, environment, cultural heritage, local identity and safety. The Jury is also looking at efforts with regard to more specific eco-labels, especially the Blue Flag (for beaches) and the Green Key (for hotels and camp sites). "QualityCoast covers the entire coastal territory and its contributions towards sustainability", said Albert Salman, director general of the Coastal & Marine Union (EUCC): "The unique value of QualityCoast is that it enables everybody to see, for 20 important aspects, where the destination is strong and less strong. Visitors can take this information into account in choosing their holiday destinations. QualityCoast helps to make natural and cultural heritage and identity becoming essential elements of local policies."

The awarded municipalities are: Kouklia (Afrodite Coast, Cyprus); Noto (Sicily, Italy); Ameland, Goedereede, Katwijk, Noordwijk, Schouwen-Duiveland (The Netherlands); Aveiro, Torres Vedras (Portugal); Calvià (Mallorca) and Fuerteventura (Spain).

More details about the QualityCoast Destinations 2009-'10 can be found in www.qualitycoast.info.

2. Registration for QualityCoast Award 2010 now open!

The QualityCoast team has just finalised the new application package for the Awards 2010-'11. There have been some changes in the programme, the main ones are:

- world wide registration is now possible,
- upon registration, applicants are asked to endorse the UN Human Rights Declaration,
- the information required for each of the 20 criteria has been largely quantified,
- filling in the application form has become much easier and more straightforward,
- small municipalities pay a smaller fee than large towns,
- there will be four opportunities for registration each year: 1 February, 1 May, 1 August and 1 November.

Furthermore, the annual QualityCoast Award ceremony will be combined with a workshop to enable all interested towns to exchange best practices. The annual QualityCoast brochure highlighting all award winners will be more widely disseminated e.g. at tourism events and fairs.

The application package is now available at www.qualitycoast.net.

For any questions please e-mail admin@eucc.net

3. MOSSELWAD: € six million for mussel bed recovery

The Coastal & Marine Union (EUCC) has been granted €6 million for the recovery of mussel beds in the Dutch Wadden Sea. This was announced on 30 May by Environment Minister Mrs. Jacqueline Cramer. Most of the money comes from the Dutch Waddenfonds, whilst 10% comes from the Directorate-General for Public Works and Water Management (Rijkswaterstaat) and the provinces Friesland and North Holland. EUCC will implement this project together with IMARES (Wageningen UR), NIOZ and SOVON (both Texel), NIOO-CEME (Yerseke) and Utrecht University. The project is named MOSSELWAD and ends in 2014. Within the MOSSELWAD project new experimental mussel beds will be constructed and the development of recovering mussel beds will be followed during a four year period. The project will look at stability, biodiversity, sediment transport and the importance of wading birds.

In this framework, EUCC will actively seek co-operation with other projects and research activities in the Wadden Sea. More information available in Dutch at www.kustenzee.nl

4. EUCC support to EU Maritime Day

The Coastal & Marine Union supported the celebration of EU Maritime Day 2009, in particular by supporting the Maritime Stakeholders Conference, 18-20 May in Rome. This conference was a prime opportunity for EUCC to promote its work and projects (e.g. SPICOSA) but most of all to discuss more broadly the Venice Platform with stakeholders. A special workshop was held on an all embracing Maritime Stakeholders Platform under the lead of EUCC's President Prof. Johan Vande Lanotte.

Discussions on the platform will continue in September. The reports of the conference and the workshop are now online: <http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/maritimeday/>

A video interview with Prof. Vande Lanotte is available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/maritimeday/video_5_en.html

EUCC and the Venice Platform will continue their support to the next Maritime Day, 20 May 2010; the main event will then be in Gijon, hosted by Spain in the framework of their EU-presidency.

5. KnowSeas: an ecosystem-approach to management

May 12-13 marked the start of the KnowSeas project– Knowledge-based sustainable management for Europe's seas. It is funded by the European Commission's 7th Framework Programme for Research, led by the Scottish Association for Marine Science and involves 30 partners from 15 European countries, including the Coastal & Marine Union (EUCC).

For the next 4 years, a large group of natural and social scientists, and other experts with extensive experience in the marine environment will work together to address the issue of marine sustainability in the Regional Seas within Europe – the Baltic and Black Seas, the North East Atlantic and the Mediterranean. Under the new Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) the application of an ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities is required. KnowSeas aims to strengthen the science base, to develop and test practical tools to help clarify and support this ecosystem-based approach - a concept unclear, complex and difficult to operationalise to most policy and decision-makers. This project expects to involve the European Commission and governing bodies such as OSPAR and HELCOM throughout its progress, to allow high level penetration of the outcomes of the works.

EUCC will be involved in the designing of the policy framework for the project and in the development of Ecosystem Approach Guidelines – one of the several outcomes of KnowSeas.

[Scottish Association for Marine Science](#)

For further information please contact Joana Veiga at j.veiga@eucc.net

6. EUCC Marine Team members attend over 20 meetings

Since its informal start last February, the initial members of the new EUCC Marine Team attended, between them, over 20 meetings. Team members are committed to a mutual exchange of experiences and aim to keep each other up-to-date on major developments and initiatives through participation in events throughout Europe. The members of the Marine Team will make use of a new website and content management system in: <http://marine-team.eucc-d.de>.

The Team is open for EUCC Professional members and staff of EUCC Member Organisations; but also to non-members who are committed to be actively participating in the exchanges. Experts interested to join the EUCC Marine Team are encouraged to e-mail to Marijke Kooijman at EUCC International in Leiden (NL), e-mail: m.kooijman@eucc.net.

They are requested to indicate the field(s) in which they work:

- Natura 2000 at sea;
- the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD);
- the emerging Integrated Maritime Policy;
- the development Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP);
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

7. ECNC and EUCC sign Memorandum of Cooperation

The presidents and directors of ECNC and the Coastal & Marine Union signed a Memorandum of Cooperation in order to create a common organisation, serving as an umbrella for both organisations: a European expert centre for sustainability and biodiversity. After a joint meeting on June 9th at the JNCC Headquarters in Peterborough (UK), ECNC's President Sir Brian Unwin and EUCC's Director General Albert Salman welcomed the progress made in the process leading towards an 'ECNC new-style' as well as the interest of some other organisations to join. The EECNET Action Fund (EAF) has already decided to join and EuroNatur will be an observer to the process. The meeting also adopted a common vision and mission.

8. New EUCC vacancy in the Netherlands: Senior Ecologist

For a number of projects in the Netherlands (including MOSSELWAD), EUCC is looking for a Senior Ecologist. Applications will be welcome until the end of August.

For information please check: <http://www.eucc.net/nl/vacatures/index.htm>

[Back to: CONTENTS –](#)

- CLIMATE CHANGE -

9. Record turnout for Green Week conference on climate change

More than 4,000 participants from Europe and beyond attended Green Week 2009 from 23-26 June – the highest ever turnout in the event's nine-year history. With a new international climate agreement due to be finalised in Copenhagen in December, climate change was the natural focus for this year's conference. Under the slogan 'act and adapt', Green Week, the biggest annual conference devoted to European environment policy, examined the multi-faceted challenges of reducing EU and global greenhouse gas emissions and of adapting to the climate change that is already under way. Eight of the 36 sessions were dedicated to establishing a realistic vision of how a low-carbon world in 2050 would look. European Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas spoke at the high-level opening session, as well as at the closing session focusing on 'The Road to Copenhagen', where Commission President José Manuel Barroso gave the keynote address.

[Green Week 2009 - videos and speeches](#)

10. Climate change turning seas acid, academies warn

Climate change is turning the oceans more acid in a trend that could endanger everything from clams to coral and be irreversible for thousands of years, national science academies said on June 1. Seventy academies from around the world urged governments meeting in Bonn for climate talks from June 1-12 to take more account of risks to the oceans in a new UN treaty for fighting global warming due to be agreed in Copenhagen in December. The academies said rising amounts of carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas emitted mainly by human use of fossil fuels, were being absorbed by the oceans and making it harder for creatures to build protective body parts. The shift disrupts ocean chemistry and attacks the "building blocks needed by many marine organisms, such as corals and shellfish, to produce their skeletons, shells and other hard structures", it said. On some projections, levels of acidification in 80% of Arctic seas would be corrosive to clams that are vital to the food web by 2060, it said.

And "coral reefs may be dissolving globally," it said, if atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide were to rise to 550 parts per million (ppm) from a current 387 ppm. Corals are home to many species of fish. The warning was issued by the Inter-Academy Panel, representing science academies of countries from Albania to Zimbabwe and including those of Australia, Britain, France, Japan and the United States.

[Planet Ark World Environment News, June 1 2009](#)

11. Adapting to Coastal Climate Change - A Guidebook for Development Planners

Adapting to Coastal Climate Change - A Guidebook for Development Planners was published by the Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island and USAID. It can be downloaded from the [Coastal Resources Center website](#)

12. Climate Change Information for Effective Adaptation: A Practitioner's Manual

The management of climate change information is a difficult task for many adaptation and development practitioners. The Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit* (GTZ) on behalf of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) have therefore published the following support material that can be downloaded from the [Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research website](#)

[Back to: CONTENTS –](#)

- BIODIVERSITY -

13. Dolphins and whales seriously threatened by climate change

More dolphins, porpoises and whales could be at risk from the effects of climate change than was previously thought, a new study has claimed. An Aberdeen University scientist said rising sea temperatures could affect 88% of areas where cetaceans are found. Dr Colin MacLeod said areas of suitable habitat for many were likely to shrink, meaning fewer animals. And he warned a decline in habitat could be so dramatic that it could increase the extinction risk for some. Future work planned by Dr MacLeod will use computer modelling aimed at providing a more detailed picture of how different species are likely to react to future changes in climate, to help assess how best to conserve whales, dolphins and porpoises around the world. The study appears in the journal *Endangered Species Research*.

[BBC Science & Environment News, June 1 2009](#)

[Endangered Species Research, 14 May 2009. MacLeod's article \(pdf\)](#)

14. Loss of world's sea grass beds seen accelerating

The world's sea grass meadows, a critical habitat for marine life and profit-maker for the fishing industry, are in decline due to coastal development and the losses are accelerating, according to a new study by a team of scientists from the United States, Australia and Spain. Billed as the first comprehensive global assessment of sea grass losses, the study found 58% of sea grass meadows are declining and the rate of annual loss has accelerated from about 1% per year before 1940 to 7% per year since 1990. Published early July in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, the study, based on more than 200 surveys and 1,800 observations dating back to 1879, found that sea grasses are disappearing at rates similar to coral reefs and tropical rainforests. The study, found that 29% of known sea grass meadows have disappeared since 1879. Over the entire 130-year period, sea grass was lost at a rate of 1.5% per year. Scientists say sea grass processes waste dumped into the sea, helps stabilize ocean-bottom sediments in coastal areas to reduce erosion, provide nurseries for fish and shellfish and feeding grounds for larger marine creatures, including those that live in coral reefs. But the grasses can be damaged by polluted water from coastal development, decreasing water clarity, and by dredging and filling of meadows. Sea grass meadows are important food fisheries and host game fish like tarpon, permit and bonefish.

[Planet Ark world Environment News, July 3 2009](#)

15. Analysis of the 2008 IUCN Red List Species

A report of IUCN "Wildlife in a Changing World" gives some alarming figures on global biodiversity loss. Just some examples here for the marine. One quarter of marine mammal species are threatened. Major threats include entanglement in fishing gear, directed harvesting, the effects of noise pollution from military and seismic sonar, and boat strikes. In many regions, marine mammals are also threatened by water pollution, habitat loss from coastal development, loss of prey or other food sources due to poor fisheries management, and intensive hunting both historically and in place today. Two marine mammals have gone extinct in the past 50 years, the Japanese Sea Lion *Zalophus japonicus*, and the Caribbean Monk Seal *Monachus tropicalis*, both primarily due to intensive persecution.

More than 27% of all seabirds species are threatened. Major threats to seabirds include mortality in long-line fisheries and gill-nets, oil spills, and the impact of invasive alien species (in particular predation by rodents and cats) at the breeding colonies.

Six of the seven species of marine turtle are threatened. Marine turtles lay their eggs on beaches, which are subject to threats such as coastal development and sand mining. The eggs and hatchlings are threatened by pollution and predation by introduced predators such as pigs and dogs, and eggs are collected by humans for food in many parts of the world. Once at sea, marine turtles are faced with threats from targeted capture in small-scale subsistence fisheries, bycatch largely by long-line and trawling activities, entanglement in marine debris, and boat strikes.

And finally, the report concludes that a significant proportion of species that are not yet threatened are susceptible to climate change, including 51% of corals.

[IUCN Red List Analysis \(pdf\). Status marine species from p.55.](#)

[Back to: CONTENTS -](#)

- FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE -

16. European over-fishing began 1,000 years ago

Europeans started over-exploiting freshwater fish at least 1,000 years ago, according to historical studies that could help manage depleted modern fish stocks worldwide. Records reconstructed from everything from Russian monastery purchases to US schooner logs indicate that over-fishing has been happening in many parts of the world for centuries and that fish used to be more abundant, and bigger, than now, according to a History of Marine Animals Project (HMAP) brochure. The findings, part of a 10-year Census of Marine Life due for completion in 2010, have widened from a few local anecdotes about fish abundance in past centuries. In Europe, a shift to eating marine fish species from locally caught freshwater fish happened about 1,000 years ago. New fishing boats in the 16th century made it possible to fish in deeper seas and a "real revolution" came in the mid-17th century when pairs of boats started dragging much bigger nets. Blue whales, orcas and dolphins used to be common off Cornwall in southwest England. Examination of records including log books of whalers indicated that populations of the southern right whale off New Zealand totalled 22,000 to 32,000 in the early 19th century. They now total perhaps 1,000 after over-hunting. Poul Holm, professor at Trinity College in Dublin and global chair of HMAP, said that the history of stocks could help work out recovery plans. New threats such as climate change are also emerging.

[BBC Science & Environment News, May 24 2009](#)

[HMAP website, May 2009](#)

17. Net injury 'disables' Minke whale

An injured minke whale has provided a unique insight into the dangers posed to marine animals by fishing gear. The minke whale was spotted off the coast of Quebec, Canada, with a huge scar around its throat thought to be caused by floating rope. What's more, it fed in a way never before recorded for minke whales, probably in response to its injury. The sighting is one of the first to detail the handicaps that can be caused to animals that become entangled. Spotted off the coast of Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan, Quebec, in the Gulf of St Lawrence, the minke whale had a deep laceration running the circumference of its feeding pouch, from near its throat up both sides of its head close to each eye. The cut ran through the whale's skin and into its blubber, in parts exposing the muscle underneath.



The scar around the whale's feeding pouch is clearly visible

[BBC Science & Environment News, June 12 2009](#)

18. Whale watching 'worth billions'

Whale watching generates far more money than whale hunting, according to a report released at the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting in Madeira in the week of June 21. Worldwide, the industry now generates about 2.1 billion US dollar per year, it says. The group commissioning the report, the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), says whaling countries would gain from a switch to whale watching. However, Iceland's delegate here said the two industries were compatible and could grow together. The report follows on the heels of an analysis commissioned by another organisation opposed to whaling, WWF, which suggested that the Japanese and Norwegian hunts were a net cost to their governments. The IFAW-commissioned report, compiled by the Australian organisation Economists at Large, found that income from whale watching had doubled over the last decade, with the fastest growth seen in Asia.

[BBC Science & Environment News, June 23 2009](#)

- COASTAL MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH -

19. SPICOSA brief news: ICZM-SPICOSA International Forum – 2nd Edition

Two and a half years after the kick-off of the SPICOSA project, Rome has hosted again a SPICOSA event, this time the 2nd edition of the ICZM-SPICOSA Forum: Prospects for Systems Science Assessments in support of ICZM at the occasion of the 4th System Approach Workshop (SAF) and project meeting at the Italian National Research Council (CNR) Headquarters. This event provided a great opportunity for the partners to meet but even greater opportunity for policy and public involvement and to present and discuss various policy experiences relative to the project and to Italy, the host country. More than 100 participants gathered at this occasion.



Please visit www.spicosa.eu and access the full ICZM-SPICOSA Forum programme, panellists presentations and videos of the event!

SPICOSA Training workshop announcement: Improving ICZM Using a Systems Approach - a training workshop will be held on Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th November 2009 in Stockholm, Sweden. More information at SETNET.

The next issue of SPICOSA E-News will be distributed autumn 2009.

20. IMCORE project moves ahead

The IMCORE partnership gathered in Ghent, mid May, after one year of activities to jointly discuss the progress and the partner scenario methodology workshop. This successful event has been organized by the Belgium partners of the Maritime Institute, University of Ghent and Ministry of Flemish Community – Coastal Division (AWZ) in cooperation with international partners. During the two-day meeting the latest developments at the expert couplets – local partnerships in Belgium, UK, Ireland and France have been presented, as well as, reports on the status of the international framework of Adaptation for Climate Change. The second day was devoted to a field trip to Ostend including visits and presentations from key coastal players, such as the Maritime Rescue and Co-ordination Centre of Ostend and various aspects of coastal management of the area.

More information about the project at www.imcore.eu

21. EC: many of Europe's most vulnerable species and habitats under threat

On July 13 the European Commission published a *Composite Report on the Conservation Status of Habitat Types and Species as required under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive* on the conservation status of over 1150 species and 200 habitat types protected under EU law. Only a small proportion of these vulnerable habitats and species have achieved good conservation status and Member States will need to strengthen their efforts if this situation is to improve. The report, which covers 2001-2006 and is the most comprehensive survey of EU biodiversity ever undertaken, provides an invaluable reference point for measuring future trends. Grasslands, wetlands and coastal habitats face the greatest threats, mainly due to the decline of traditional patterns of agriculture, tourist development and climate change. The picture is not uniformly gloomy, however, and some larger, emblematic species such as the wolf, Eurasian lynx, beaver and otter are beginning to re-colonize parts of their traditional range. Many

Member States invested heavily to carry out the detailed monitoring, and despite a number of gaps, the reporting has been a great success.

[EC Press Release, July 13, 2009](#)

[The Report \(pdf\)](#) at the Europa website

22. Bathing water quality improving in the EU

The annual bathing water report presented June 11 by the European Commission and the European Environment Agency reveals that the large majority of bathing sites across the European Union met EU hygiene standards in 2008. During that bathing season some 96% of coastal bathing areas and 92% of bathing sites in rivers and lakes complied with minimum standards. The report provides useful water quality information for the millions of people who visit Europe's beaches every summer. In 2008 the number of bathing waters monitored increased by some 75 sites. Of the 21,400 bathing areas monitored throughout the European Union in 2008 two thirds were on the coast and the rest were along rivers and lakes. The largest number of coastal bathing waters can be found in Italy, Greece, France, Spain and Denmark. The overall quality of bathing waters in the EU has markedly improved since 1990.

Compliance with mandatory values (minimum quality requirements) increased over the 1990 to 2008 period from 80% to 96% and from 52% to 92% in coastal and inland waters respectively.

[EC press release, June 11 2009](#)

[EEA Report Quality of Bathing Water - 2008 Bathing Season \(pdf\)](#)

23. Satellites can spot tsunamis

The leading edge of a tsunami can be spotted by satellites , U.S. government researchers said on 15 July in a study in the journal Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences that might lead to better ways of detecting the giant waves and get people out of their way. They went back and looked at satellite images in the Indian Ocean as the December 2004 tsunami raced across to destroy coastlines in Thailand, Sri Lanka and elsewhere. They found clear patterns in the water and thereby found that roughness of the surface water provides a good measure of the true strength of the tsunami along its entire leading edge, according to Oleg Godin of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Boulder, Colorado. Tsunamis can only usually be seen when they enter shallow water. In the depths of an ocean, the water they displace barely shows - although this tiny movement can be detected by satellites. The satellites that can do this, however, do not cover all the world's seas. Godin's team found that tsunamis crossing the open ocean stir up and darken the surface waters along the leading edge of the wave. Many ordinary satellites can detect the dark pattern.

[Planet Ark World Environment News, July 17 2009](#)

[Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences, July 16 2009, Complete Article \(pdf\)](#)

24. COASTAL WIKI – latest updates

The Coastal Wiki - short name for Coastal and Marine Wikipedia - is an Internet encyclopaedia providing up-to-date high quality information for coastal professionals, which is continuously improved, complemented and updated by expert users. The Coastal Wiki is an excellent place to share your ideas and learn from others. Need to find specific coastal and marine related information? If you want to learn about the most recent additions to the Wiki, please check "This month's featured article" at

www.coastalwiki.org/

[Back to: CONTENTS –](#)

- MARITIME POLICY AND SPATIAL PLANNING –

25.C-SCOPE: Combining Sea and Coastal Planning in Europe

Over seventy participants gathered in Ostend end of April to celebrate the official launch of C-SCOPE, a €1.8 million project half-funded by the European 2 Seas programme. Partners from the Coordination Centre for Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Belgium, and 15 representatives from the Dorset Coast Forum in south-west England spent an informative two days learning more about each other's organisations and building new friendships; activities included workshops, site visits and more formal presentations to a wider audience.

C-SCOPE aims to achieve a seamless, integrated approach to land and sea planning and management. It consists of three elements which will link together to provide a comprehensive plan and information resource to underpin sustainable coastal management.

Firstly, the partners will produce a framework for integrating terrestrial and marine planning by developing marine plans at different spatial scales using effective and proven stakeholder engagement. Secondly, an innovative and unique planning tool will be developed, which will inform decision-making and help to achieve sustainable coastal economies and environments. Finally, an Interactive information tool will be put in place, which will provide open access to a wealth of coastal information, and will encourage sustainable use of the coast.

The project will run for three years and it is hoped that it will become an example for marine spatial planning in Europe. For more information, please visit: www.cscope.eu

26. UNESCO Guide to Marine Spatial Planning

Over the last decade, marine spatial planning (MSP) has been the focus of considerable interest throughout the world. It has gained interest particularly as a practical way to advance an ecosystem approach to the management of marine areas. MSP offers countries an operational framework to maintain the value of their biodiversity and protect ecosystem integrity, while at the same time allowing sustainable use of the economic potential of their oceans. Since early 2006, UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) have been working to move MSP beyond the conceptual level. In addition to hosting the first international workshop on MSP (November 2006) and publishing a UNESCO technical report, *Visions for a Sea Change* (2007), the principal investigators co-edited the first peer-reviewed special issue of the international journal *Marine Policy* (September 2008) devoted to MSP. The latest output of the IOC-MAB initiative is a UNESCO guide *Marine Spatial Planning: a step-by-step approach toward ecosystem-based management* (June 2009). The guide provides a comprehensive overview of MSP and focuses on describing a logical sequence of steps required to achieve desired goals and objectives in marine areas, typically set through a political process. The guide uses a straightforward language to define MSP and is primarily intended for professionals responsible for planning and management of marine areas and their resources. More information and other publications are available at <http://ioc3.unesco.org/marinesp> or by contacting the principal investigators at charles.ehler@mac.com or f.douvere@unesco.org

27. EC strategy to boost development of Baltic Sea Region

The European Commission has presented June 10 a proposal for an EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. Five years on from enlargement, the region is facing pressing challenges including the deteriorating state of the Baltic Sea, poor transport links, barriers to trade and energy supply concerns. These problems have been exacerbated by a lack of effective coordination. The Strategy, presented by Danuta Hübner, Commissioner for Regional Policy, above all aims to maximise the development potential of the Member States and regions in the Baltic Sea area, which is home to nearly 100 million people. The Baltic Sea is surrounded by eight EU Member States and Russia. Many reports and action plans have been produced in the past, but with limited effect. There is a strong need for better coordination of the numerous bodies involved. The strategy takes the form of a communication and an action plan with a list of 80 flagship projects, some of which have already been launched. This is the first time that the EU has developed such a comprehensive strategy at the level of a 'macro-region'. It could inspire similar approaches in areas such as the Mediterranean or Danube basin. In particular, it constitutes a first step towards the regional implementation of the EU integrated Maritime Policy. Between 2007 and 2013, the Baltic Sea Region will benefit from more than EUR 50 billion of investment support under the Cohesion Policy and other EU funding, including EUR 27 billion for improved accessibility, nearly EUR 10 billion for the environment, EUR 6.7 billion for competitiveness and EUR 697 million for security and risk prevention.

[EU Business.com, June 10 2009](http://eu.business.com)

[Back to: CONTENTS –](#)

– EVENTS AGENDA –

CORRECTION: 2nd International Conference on Progress in Marine Conservation in Europe 2009

Please note that this conference, previously announced for August, has been rescheduled to 2nd – 6th November 2009. <http://www.habitatmare.de/de/aktuelles-progress-in-marine-conservation-in-europe-2009.php>

September 14th –18th, 2009 FEUP, Porto, Portugal CoastLab Teaching School

The 3rd Edition of the CoastLab Teaching School series of events will take place in September 2009 in Porto – Portugal. This series of events is promoted by CoastLab Network, the network for small and medium coastal engineering laboratories with support of PoCoast - Portuguese Coastal Network, and IAHR - the International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research, through its Maritime Hydraulics Section (MHS).

CoastLab Teaching School is designed as a hands-on application-oriented training. It will provide the students with the knowledge necessary to set up physical coastal models. The school covers a wide range of issues from wave generation to wave-structure interactions. As far as possible, students will also learn to use laboratory instrumentation.

Applications procedure and other relevant information at <http://webpages.fe.up.pt/ihrh/coastlab/>

September 24th –25th, 2009, Palma de Mallorca, Spain**CONFERENCE ECOMEDITERRÁNEA: Towards A Sustainable Management of Mediterranean Sea,**

This conference is organized by Conselleria of Environment of the Illes Balears, will address key topics related to Mediterranean Sea such as the management of the sea and the coastal areas, the water, the residuals, the tourism and the urban development, the energy, the climatic change, governance, among others. Organization contacts: Instituto para la Sostenibilidad de los Recursos (ISR)
e-mail: secretaria.actos@isrcer.org; internet: www.isrcer.org

October 6th – 8th, 2009, Parc Expo in Lorient, South Brittany, France**1st European Coastline Fair**

The European Coastline Fair is the only fair of its kind devoted to coastline economics and development, and is targeting decision makers and professionals working in development, equipment, technology and services relating to the economy of the coastline. programme of conferences, round tables, meetings and exhibitions to present, collect and compare the latest expertise and achievements related to the economic development, planning, management and protection of coastal regions.

www.sel-expo.com/english/home.html

October 15th -16th, 2009, Molène island, Brittany, France**EUCC – France workshop,**

Les prochaines journées d'EUCC-France au coeur du Parc Naturel Marin d'Iroise.

More information available at www.eucc.net/fr, and email contact to

info.euccfrance@gmail.com

November 9th – December 11th, 2009, Malta**Training Programme on Regional Ocean Governance for Mediterranean and Eastern European Countries**

The theme of the international IOI Malta course on regional ocean governance draws upon the conduct of maritime affairs in line with the Lisbon Strategy, targeting the Millennium Development Goals and building upon a holistic and integrated maritime policy following the principles enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. www.capemalta.net/ioimoc/course2009/

December 2nd – 4th, 2009, Hammamet, Tunisia**1st Coastal & Maritime Mediterranean Conference**

This special conference is a follow up of the Journées Nationales de Génie Côtier – Génie Civil planned by the Centre Français du Littoral, but with a stress on corporation activity and intended for both French-speaking and non French speaking Mediterranean countries.

www.paralia.fr/tempor/Hammamet2009-n1-english.pdf (in English)

www.paralia.fr/conference_mediterraneenne_cotiere_et_maritime_828.htm (in French)

April 11th – 17th, 2010, Estoril, Cascais, Portugal**ICCCM'10 International Conference on Coastal Conservation and Management in the Atlantic and Mediterranean**

The New University of Lisbon, the Cascais Municipality, the Cascais Energy Agency, the Cascais Atlantic Agency and the Organizing Committee, are pleased to announce the International Conference on Coastal Conservation and Management in the Atlantic and Mediterranean (ICCCM 2010). The Coastal & Marine Union (EUCC) supports the organization of the conference.

Please find more information at <http://icccm.dcea.fct.unl.pt>

>>> **Reduced registration fee for EUCC – members** <<<

Important dates:

Pre-registration is open

25th September 2009 - Abstract submission deadline

30th November 2009- Acceptance notification

15th January 2010 - End of reduced fee for registration

26th February 2010 - Submission of papers for publication in the Journal of Coastal Conservation, Planning and Management.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the organizing committee at:

icccm@cascaisenergia.org

April 27th – 30th, 2010, St. Petersburg, RUSSIA
International Conference 50 Years of Education and Awareness Raising for Shaping the Future of the Oceans and Coasts

This international conference will be held in St. Petersburg, Russia, under the auspices of the Russian State Hydrometeorological University (RSHU). The 2010 Conference is expected to be a landmark event for the capacity development and a valuable contribution to the 50th anniversary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). The prospects for effective capacity development through education and training will be considered and proposals made for putting into practice new ideas, methods, institutions and measures of implementation.

More details available at [RSHU IOC50 website](#)

September 29th - October 1st, 2010, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Deltas in Times of Climate Change

Two Dutch research programmes on climate change and spatial planning, Climate changes Spatial Planning and Knowledge for Climate, the city of Rotterdam and the Co-operative Programme on Water and Climate invite scientists, politicians, policymakers and practitioners to share their experience and knowledge in a major international conference. The overall scope of the conference is planning and investments in times of climate change.

Themes to be discussed include: subsidence, climate change and spatial planning, flood risk management, salt water intrusion and fresh water supply, salt water aquaculture and brackish agriculture, urban heat island effect, governance and innovative policy instruments.

An important event during the conference is the launching of the Delta Alliance: an international alliance promoting effective cooperation among deltas in their efforts to manage existing and new challenges.

For further information, see www.climatedeltaconference.org/

EVENTS UPDATE - for a complete list of the planned events and conferences please visit:

www.coastalguide.org/meetings If you have news, announcements and events of interest for the coastal & marine community do not hesitate to contact us!

[Back to: CONTENTS –](#)

– COLOPHON –

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Established in 1989, the Coastal & Marine Union (EUCC) is an association involving the largest coastal and marine network in Europe with more than 3000 members and member organisations in 40 countries. For more information please contact EUCC International, P.O. Box 11232, NL-2301 EE Leiden, the Netherlands, Tel.: +31-71-5122900, Internet: www.eucc.net