

3rd WSF Newsletter, 01 October 2009

A. WSF Plenum & Working Groups



(Photo from presentation ISL, Bremen)

1. Shipping

The working group shipping emphasized on its last meeting on 31 August shipping safety issues with a focus on container shipping.

A presentation about all relevant issues of container shipping was given by the Institute of Shipping Economics and Logistics, Bremen. Main topics were:

- Development of container handling
- Development of TEU handling of selected North-range port
- Development of port calls in German seaports
- Current fleet structure
- Lost container survey

The presentation is available on the WSF website as pdf file.

http://www.waddensea-forum.org/WGs/Ship/WG_Ship_Studies.html

2. ICZM

Reflecting the results and recommendations of the international workshop on ICZM on 11 June 2009 in Hamburg, some new developments regarding ICZM in Germany have taken place.

A German project about a transboundary ICZM cooperation process discussed the implementation of an ICZM secretariat/bureau on national level, which was also a recommendation of the workshop.

According to the advisory body of the project, the ICZM secretariat will be called "Küsten-Kontor" and its activities will be laid on local and regional levels. The objectives are announced as information exchange and cooperation among the regional actors. It is envisaged to apply

for EU-funds to realize the continuation of the project and the implementation of the "Küsten-Kontor". Further decisions will be taken at the next advisory board meeting on 14 October in Hamburg.

In the view of the WSF ICZM workshop, this would be a step back, as emphasis will be laid on coordination of the regional level instead of implementing a staff position at a high national level for further international coordination.

3. Energy – Industry – Infrastructure



Renewable energy production in Schleswig-Holstein (Photo: Manfred Vollmer)

Off-shore wind:

The first German real off-shore wind park Alpha Ventus has accomplished its testing phase with 6 already installed Areva Multibrid M5000 turbines.

Recently, the most powerful floating crane in the world is helping with the completion of the wind farm Alpha Ventus, some 45 kilometers North of Borkum. The construction vessel is placing six steel foundations 30 meters deep on the seabed of the North Sea. Using these so-called 'jacket' foundations, the consortium of EWE, E.ON and Vattenfall will shortly erect six REpower 5M wind power turbines, each with a height of 155 meters above sea level. At completion, the Alpha Ventus wind farm will be comprised of a total of twelve wind power turbines.

Horns Rev, the world's biggest wind farm so far

17th of September this year HRH Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark inaugurated Horn's Rev 2 off the coast of Esbjerg with a total area of 55 km². The wind farm comprises 91 2.3 MW turbines bringing the overall production capacity to 209 MW – sufficient power to supply approximately 200.000 average households yearly. The total height of the turbines are 114.5 meters above sea level with an additional 30-40 meters below sea level.

It is foreseen that the wind mill industry as such will provide employment for as many as 9000 people in the Danish Wadden Sea Region. Furthermore, it is under investigation whether the foundations for the turbines can serve

as a habitat for mussels and oysters and provide a basis for fishing.

Already now the Wind Farm serves as a tourist attraction with a new visitor's center on land in connection with the Lighthouse at Blaavand and the first successful mini-cruises with a ferry have also taken place.



(Further information:

<http://www.dongenergy.com/Hornsrev2/EN/Pages/index.aspx>)

One of the 91 new wind turbines on Horns Rev (picture from www.dongenergy.com)

Harbour development Jade Weser Port:



The construction of the Jade-Weser-Port in Wilhelmshaven is in progress. Sand nourishments still continue to reclaim the area for the terminals and the logistic zones. A gap between the northern and southern embankments was finally closed on 1 July, which will make work in this area considerably easier as working periods will no longer be affected by the tides.

(Photo from the Jade-Weser-Port website)

Handling of Sea freight in German Seaports

(Source: ZDS Monitor Nr. 57/09)

Cutbacks were noted in all areas of goods: in Mio. tons

Commodity	1. Half-year		Change %
	2009	2008	
Agricultural goods	9,9	10,2	-2,8
Other food and feeding stuff	10,9	13,0	-15,9
Solid mineral fuels	6,5	7,1	-8,6
Mineral-oil products	27,7	29,9	-7,4
Ores, metal rejects	6,4	12,2	-47,6
Iron, non-iron metals	4,8	7,6	-36,7
Rocks and soil	6,4	8,0	-20,9
Fertilizers	2,2	2,7	-18,5
Chemical products	10,1	12,5	-19,2
Other semi-finished and finished products	44,5	59,2	-24,7

As per preliminary results of the Federal Statistical Office the handling of Sea freight in the German Seaports dropped by a total of 20,3% or by 33 Mio. t to 129,4 Mio. t compared with the same period last year.

During the first half of 2009 handling of containers dropped by a total of 25,7% or by 2Mio. TEU to 5,8 Mio. TEU.

Despite this negative development Brunsbüttel Ports GmbH was able to increase the handling figures consistently. From January to August 2009 the amount of freight handled was increased by 3,5% up to a total of 6,7 Mio. T compared with the same period in 2008.

4. Fisheries

Latest developments of coastal fisheries:

In total, the shrimp fishery fleet counts approximately 500 vessels from Denmark, the Netherlands and Germany. The total landings of shrimps added up to 30.000 tons per year and remained constant throughout the past ten years. Within this period, the activities of the fishery sector have moved from the Wadden Sea to the open sea. The sector does not have problems with stock developments, but have severe problems with decreasing producer prices. In all three countries, the shrimp fisheries undergo a certification process with regard to the principles of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). In this process, the Dutch and Danish fishery sector compose one group and the German fleet a second group, but both groups have commissioned the same certifier. With the certification, the sector would like to underline their sustainable merchandise.

Within the mussel fisheries, strenuous efforts are made to organize the seed mussel supply more continuously with the help of seed mussel collectors. In the view of the fisheries sector, this way of seed fishery would require higher producer prices to guarantee operating efficiency; therefore, seed mussel fishing from wild stocks is seen as a stringent necessity.

MSC's fishery certification in NL:

In the Netherlands, the MSC's fishery certification program has made further steps. The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) is the world's leading certification and eco-labeling program for sustainable seafood. In NL, the shrimp fisheries have received funds to speed their MSC-process along (the money is e.g. for alternative gears) and the shellfish fisheries have entered the MSC pre-assessment and is hoping to receive additional funds to enter the full-assessment.

The ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality has drafted the new policy for spat collectors (Mosselzaadinvang, MZI's). Next year, the first step in increasing the amount of MZI's will take place.

B. Topical Issues

1. Goose Management

A third meeting of the Goose Management Group (GMG) took place on 28-29 September in Bremen. The group elaborated on the first draft of the recommendation and guidance document for the development of a common goose management plan. The document is covering the following contents:

- background and formal setup
- visions, aims and objectives
- rationale (increasing goose population, shared resources, shared responsibilities, cross-border implications)
- inventory of the current situation
- a common management – aims, benefits and perspectives
- management recommendations
- tool boxes

The recommendation and guidance document, to be delivered to the Trilateral Governmental Conference in March 2010, will provide an excellent basis for a further joint venture between the Trilateral Cooperation and the WSF to elaborate a common goose management plan.

2. Energy Symposium

The preparation of the energy symposium on 26 November is in progress. The venue will be the Climate House in Bremerhaven and the symposium starts with a guided tour through the exhibition in the late afternoon of 25 November, followed by a joint dinner.

The preliminary program is as follows:

- Opening session
- Scientific view on status and development of energy production and distribution in the Wadden Sea Region: *Bremer Energie Institut*
- EU energy market and EU policies as legal basis and framework for developments: *Clingedael, Netherlands Institute of International Relations*
- Electricity production in the Wadden Sea Region
 - Fossil energy: *Electrabel, tbc*
 - Wind energy: *Dong Energy, Prokon/Bard, tbc*
 - Other renewables, CHP: *EWE*
- Electric grid on- and off-shore: current status, obstacles and new developments
Transpower, tbc
- CO₂ emissions and Carbon Capture & Storage, CCS: *NAM, RWE Dea AG*
- Statements & Recommendations by
 - Political level
 - NGO's
- Final Discussion

3. Spatial Planning EEZ

In Germany, spatial planning in the EEZ took a further step with a second copy of a spatial plan, integrating the comments of the public hearing in October 2008. A major change was made due to the implementation of off-shore wind parks. In the revised version, applications for wind farms could also be made outside the priority areas, which is a reinforcement for wind energy.

On 16 September 2009 the German Federal Cabinet agreed on this second spatial plan as a new decree for spatial use in the German EEZ. The new law, signed by Federal Minister of Transport, Buildings and Urban Affairs, Mr. Wolfgang Tiefensee, was promoted as regulations for economic use and the protection of the marine environment.

In the same breath, the Minister promoted the construction of about new 30 wind parks, of which 25 are already approved, in the North Sea until 2020. This would create 30.000 new jobs in the region.

4. Maritime Spatial Planning

On 10 October 2007, the European Commission adopted the Blue Paper proposing an Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) for the EU, and a detailed Action Plan. The European Council endorsed the IMP and the Action Plan on 14 December 2007. Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is a key instrument for the IMP. It helps public authorities and stakeholders to coordinate their action and optimizes the use of marine space to benefit economic development and the marine environment. This Communication aims to facilitate the development of MSP by Member States and encourage its implementation at national and EU level. It sets out key principles for MSP and seeks, by way of debate, to encourage the development of a common approach among Member States.

Maritime Spatial Planning is a topic of increasing attention within the EU maritime area. The European Commission's communication (COM 2008-791) notes that the *"increased activity on Europe's seas leads to competition between sectoral interests, such as shipping and maritime transport, offshore energy, ports development, fisheries and aquaculture and environmental concerns"*.

The EU Commission encourages the member states to increase their efforts in cross-border cooperation and stakeholder participation with regard to MSP. In this context, a 4th workshop on MSP will be held on 2 October 2009 in Stockholm to discuss stakeholder involvement and international cooperation.

The Wadden Sea Forum will have a stake in the EU process of MSP and the secretariat represents the WSF in this business. The Wadden Sea Forum has a stake in the EU process of MSP and the WSF-secretariat represents the WSF in meetings on cross-border and EU level to further develop MSP.

5. Gastronomy Award

With regard to the International Gastronomy Award, some further actions have been taken. The Danish colleagues have had meetings with the new coordinator for Vadehavsprodukter, Mr. Ib Skjærlund. The date for Gastronomy Award 2010 is planned to take place from the 21st of September till 23rd of September. It is envisaged, to arrange a meeting of all partners with the new coordinator later this year.

6. A new Trilateral Wadden Sea Plan

At the 10th Wadden Sea Conference (Schiermonnikoog, 2005) it was decided to further develop the Wadden Sea Plan as a management plan in accordance with, in particular, the Birds, Habitats and Water Framework Directives.

A first draft consultation version of the new WSP is now available for public consultation.

The 1997 WSP has been amended and updated to the extent possible, in accordance with relevant political developments, in particular the coming into effect of the EU Habitats, Birds and Water Framework Directives and the designation of part of the Wadden Sea as World Heritage Site.

In addition, proposals and recommendations of relevant trilateral expert groups, the QSR 2009 and the 2009 Scientific Symposium have been taken into consideration.

The amendment process has resulted in new chapters on Integrated Management, Overarching issues (climate change, alien species, shipping), as well as an additional Target chapter on fish. Furthermore, some of the Targets have been amended in accordance with relevant N2000 Conservation Objectives.

The WSP policies have been amended in accordance with the above outlined changes.

Projects and Measures have not been included but will be contained in a separate document.

Regarding the further procedure, the consultation draft WSP will be discussed at the TWG09-3 meeting (18-19 November) and all material submitted before the end of October will be used for the discussion. Final comments must be submitted by the end of November and will be discussed at the SO33 meeting (10 December) after which a final draft WSP will be prepared.

Important input to the consultation draft is expected from the so-called high level review study into the requirements of key EC Directives, the outcome of the PSSA study, the recommendations on sustainable development of the Wadden Sea Forum, as well as the outcome of the national public consultation processes.

7. Euregio



New direction for Euregio the Wadden

On the 9th and 10th of September representatives from the Wadden Sea Island municipalities met on the Danish Wadden Sea island Rømø. As a result of the meeting a new set of draft regulations were developed and it was agreed that the Euregio the Wadden will strengthen its role as a platform for exchange of specific knowledge and experience exchange between the Wadden Sea island municipalities with a special focus on 5 specific topics, which were:

- Consequences of climate change for the islands and possible mitigation measures
- Coastal protection
- Tourism and recreation including the importance of the World Heritage (NL and D) and National Park (DK) nominations
- Traffic, transport and other infrastructure
- Environment and nature

As part of the coming work the secretariat has been charged with the task to strengthen the organization's communication including developing a new web site and facilitating study tours, exchange visits and workshops.

On trilateral and overall matters Euregio the Wadden will furthermore strengthen its cooperation with the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation and the Wadden Sea Forum as well as KIMO.

As new Chairman Mayor Erik Nørreby from Fanøe was elected. As of January 2009 the secretariat of the organization lies with the Danish Wadden Sea Municipal Secretariat in Esbjerg.

8. World Heritage and Tourism Strategy

On 26th June 2009 the Dutch-German Wadden Sea was inscribed on the World Heritage List by the World Heritage Committee at its 33rd Session in Seville, Spain. The Committee in its decision also requests the State Parties of Germany and the Netherlands to prepare and implement an overall Tourism Development Strategy for the property that fully considers the integrity and ecological requirements of the property and that provides a consistent approach to tourism operations in the property.

At the Communication and Marketing Stakeholder Workshop on 28 August 2009 it was agreed to establish a joint Tourism Strategy Group to discuss and develop a common marketing strategy for Wadden Sea World Heritage Site within a sustainable tourism approach.

As the development of sustainable tourism in the Wadden Sea Region is an important task of the WSF, also agreed in the MoU between the TC and the WSF, the Forum will strengthen the cooperation in this respect.



C. WSF Meetings

27 October 2009, Hamburg
SC-7 meeting at RWE Dea AG

28 October 2009, Hamburg
WG ICZM-8 meeting at RWE Dea AG

2nd half of November 2009
WG Shipping-7 meeting in Bremen

24 - 25 November 2009, Aurich
WSF-15 meeting

30 November 2009
Stakeholder Workshop on
Wadden Sea World Heritage Communication and Marketing Strategy

D. Symposia & Events

2 October 2009, Stockholm, Sweden
EU Conference Marine Spatial Planning

19 – 20 October, Portland, Dorset, UK
C-Scope : Marine Spatial Planning Conference

19 - 23 October 2009, Getbol, Korea
The 1st Joint Workshop-Memorandum of Understanding Wadden Sea-Korea

21 October 2009, Brussels, Belgium
Seas at Risk conference "Towards sustainable European fisheries - The double challenge of restructuring and reducing the fishing fleet"

2 - 6 November 2009, Stralsund, Germany
2nd International Conference "Progress in Marine Conservation in Europe 2009"

3 – 6 November 2009, Warnemünde/Rostock, Germany
ICES Symposium on Rebuilding Depleted Fish Stocks –
Biology, Ecology, Social Science and Management Strategies

25 - 26 November 2009, Bremerhaven
International Energy Symposium at Climate House

7 - 18 December 2009, Copenhagen, Denmark
COP15: United Nations climate change conference 2009

17 - 19 March 2010, Westerland on Sylt
Trilateral Governmental Conference

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