

4th WSF Newsletter, 17 December 2009

A. WSF Plenum & Working Groups

1. WSF-15 meeting

The 15th meeting of the Wadden Sea Forum took place on 24-25 November 2009 in Aurich, Lower Saxony. Experts highlighted the meeting with presentations about the port cooperation Unterelbe, the developments of Groningen Seaports and related shipping safety measures in the Ems estuary. The presentations will be available on the web site soon.

The meeting discussed a number of topical issues like goose management, harbor development, Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) and a KIMO resolution on container shipping. The WSF has adopted the KIMO resolution, supported the recommendations and will take further actions to the political level. MSP was stated as an important instrument for the implementation of maritime policies and the Forum will enhance the work on this issue in the future, also with regard to the fact that besides Germany, The Netherlands will implement a spatial plan for the EEZ too.

With regard to the revision of the Wadden Sea Plan (WSP) of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation, the WSF agreed on a document with advice and comments on the WSP. The document was forwarded to the TWSC by 1 December 2009.



As a side event, an excursion to cloister Ihlow was undertaken. The cloister was founded as Cistercian Abbey in 1228. Within a project, the abbey silhouettes was rebuilt to get an imagination about the size of this huge historical site.

A museum underneath informs about the history and the context of the abbey. The exhibition is very well represented and attracts many visitors.

picture from web site <http://klosterihlow.web.omg.de/>

2. ICZM

The working group had a meeting on 28 October and discussed the importance of MSP for the WSF and the trilateral conservation area and made some essential conclusions for the future work. The key principles of MSP were stated as very useful, particularly

- Defining objectives to guide MSP
- Stakeholder participation
- Cross-border cooperation and consultation
- Achieving coherence between terrestrial and maritime spatial planning

The meeting also concluded that EU guidelines would support a cross-border cooperation in Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) and MSP.

A second emphasis was the sustainability indicator tool. The indicator set is a tool for the WSF in being able to communicate the developments in sustainability with so-called indexes to the Forum members for discussing the developments, for politicians and decision-makers in the Wadden Sea area regions and municipalities to know about the sustainability development trends. The tool will be tested in the first half of 2010.

3. Shipping

The shipping group is actively involved in the PSSA evaluation and has observer status in the Evaluation Steering Group. The WG shipping supports the recommendations to

- include the inner traffic separation scheme in the PSSA
- extend cooperation and collaboration between responsible and expert bodies
- elaborate a more cohesive and effective monitoring program
- to raising the level of awareness and education of the PSSA
- to develop a northern TSS west of Schleswig-Holstein and Denmark



4. Energy – Industry – Infrastructure

The WSF working group Energy, Industry and Infrastructure has elaborated an inventory about energy and harbour related activities along the coast. The inventory provides information about running and planned projects in the Wadden Sea Region and is based on public available information. The table is maintained by the WSF secretariat and proved by the working group. Currently, the inventory encompasses about 150 entries. Further information is very welcomed. The inventory is available on the web site:

www.waddensea-forum.org/Specialissues/Inventory/Inventory_Waddensea_2009-10.pdf

B. Topical Issues

1. Goose Management

The Goose Management Group (GMG) is currently working on the final report. A summary has already been delivered to the TSWC and entails some draft recommendations. The Goose Management Group recommends

- to continue the work of the goose management group in collaboration with the TWSC by implementing a joint project to elaborate a common goose management plan;
- to make use of the recommendation and guidance document as a basis for the implementing of the joint project;
- to develop compensation schemes to minimize the conflicts with the agricultural sector, who has a share of the natural beauty and assets of the Wadden Sea;
- to agree on an ICZM and spatial approach to combine all efforts to improve goose conservation as well as agricultural and other society interests jointly;
- to encourage an open dialogue and to strive for good concertation (horizontal interaction) with the farmers in the Wadden Sea Region.



2. Energy Symposium

The last newsletter announced the implementation of an international energy symposium. The energy symposium was held on 26 November 2009 in Bremerhaven to provide more information and insights about topical energy issues, to support knowledge building across the sectors and stakeholders, to encourage the stakeholders to participate in an open dialogue and, to identify future work areas for the Wadden Sea Forum. The following topical issues were discussed and analyzed:

- Status and development of energy production and distribution in the Wadden Sea Region
- EU energy market and EU policies as legal basis and framework for developments Electricity production in the Wadden Sea Region
 - by fossil energy
 - by wind energy
 - by other renewables and CHP
- Electric grid on- and off-shore: current status, obstacles and new developments
- CO₂ emissions and Carbon Capture & Storage, CCS

In conclusion, the symposium was an excellent forum for an expert knowledge exchange and an open dialogue about the development of the energy market in the Wadden Sea Region. The WSF will participate actively in further energy activities, aiming at a well-balanced development. The presentations can be found on the WSF web site:

www.waddensea-forum.org/WGs/EII/WG EII Symposium.html

3. Spatial Planning EEZ

After the adoption of a spatial plan for the German EEZ by the German Federal Cabinet in September 2009, also the Netherlands are close to the finalization of such a plan for the Dutch EEZ. Meanwhile, a draft Spatial Plan for the Dutch EEZ (Pre-policy document on the North Sea) is available and will come into force probably early 2010.

4. ICZM Germany

The EUCC Germany reported that the ICZM position "Küsten-Kontor" would be in place now. The emphasis in the pilot phase would be on coastal protection due to climate change as well as tourism along the coast. Further information about the background of the position as well as about tasks and offers can be found soon on the web site www.kuesten-kontor.de.

5. Maritime Spatial Planning

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 was held on 2 October 2009 in Stockholm to discuss stakeholder involvement and international cooperation. The event was the last in a series of four workshops on Maritime Spatial Planning organised in 2009, it concluded the debate on the practical implementation of the key principles of the Communication "Roadmap for Maritime Spatial Planning: Achieving Common Principles in the EU".

Program and presentations are placed on the web site:

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/msp/conference_021009_en.html

6. Cooperation with Korea

In the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Wadden Sea – Korea, also the Wadden Sea Forum as stakeholder organization was invited to participate in a workshop and fieldtrips on 17 – 23 October 2009. The workshop took place on 19 – 20 October in Mokpo at the south-west coast of Korea and was attended by 100 participants. In the next days, a 4-day field trip to the tidal flats at the Korean west coast was organized by the Korean colleagues. In total, the Wadden Sea delegation consisted of 12 persons from ministries and agencies, research institutes, visitor centres, tourism organization, the IWSS and the WSF.

It was a great experience to visit the coastal area, the tidal flats as well as Seoul, one of the biggest agglomeration in the world. Also the food was an experience.

For the WSF it was worthwhile to get knowledge about a different coastal management regime and nature protection policies.



7. Coastal Futures

Zukunft Küste – Coastal Futures, "Offshore-Windkraft in der deutschen Nordsee"
(Marcus Lange, GKSS)

The brochure is presenting preliminary results of the German project cluster and affiliated LOICZ project *Zukunft Küste – Coastal Futures* (2004-2010). The project outlines patterns of marine and sea use changes which are largely driven by a number of drivers such as economic growth and increasing human demands for coastal resources and space.

To understand complex system behaviour and human-environmental interactions the scientists linked a series of existing concepts and methods (DPSIR- and Ecosystem Services Approach, scenario techniques, modelling etc.). The special focus of the project is upon the developments for offshore wind farming in the German North Sea.



The first part of the report focuses on changes in coastal and marine areas in general. It points out the need for adaptation to marine challenges, e. g. climate change. Afterwards the use of offshore wind power as a response to challenges and a driving force to reduce CO2 emissions is being introduced. The second part describes the Coastal Futures approach and the applied concepts and methods. As part of an integrated impact analysis the third part outlines the main results by showing risks and opportunities associated with offshore wind energy. Possible responses are discussed as part of an integrated management approach and new forms of governance (e. g. ICZM and participatory approaches).

The brochure is published in German with a foreword in "Fering", a Frisian dialect which is spoken in the focus area. It will be available online free of costs:

Links:

<http://iczm.ecology.uni-kiel.de/servlet/is/6371/Zukunft-Kueste-GAIA-spezial.pdf?command=downloadContent&filename=Zukunft-Kueste-GAIA-spezial.pdf>

<http://www.oekom.de/broschueren/nachhaltigkeitsforschung/nachhaltigkeitsforschung/broschuere/64.html>

8. Greetings 2010

The staff of the WSF-secretariat wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and, a fruitful and enjoyable collaboration in 2010.

C. WSF Meetings

13 January 2010, Hamburg
Working Group ICZM, 9th meeting

13 January 2010, Hamburg
World Heritage Tourism Strategy Group

19 – 20 January 2010, Bremen
Goose Management Group, 4th meeting

21 January 2010, Hamburg
SC-8 meeting, proposed

February 2010, Bremen
Working Group Shipping, 8th meeting

19 – 20 May 2010, Heide
WSF-16 meeting

D. Symposia & Events

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

04 March 2010, Hamburg
2010: Wissenschaftliche Perspektiven: Zukunft Küste - Coastal Futures (Final Conference)

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

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