

6th WSF Newsletter, 24 June 2010

A. WSF meetings and Working Groups

1. WSF 16 meeting on 19-20 May 2010 in Heide

The 16th meeting of the Wadden Sea Forum took place on 19-20 May 2009 in Heide, Schleswig-Holstein. An excursion to the Steinzeitpark Albersdorf and a presentation about the importance of dikes for the development of the Wadden Sea coastal landscape introduced the cultural history and heritage of the region. A further presentation "Sustainable coastal protection in the Wadden Sea under a changing climate" led to a vivid discussion about adaptation to climate change. Besides a number of topical issues, the meeting emphasized Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) with a focus on related developments in the countries and the need for sound cross-border cooperation.



The meeting welcomed the introduction of the sustainability indicator tool, which has been improved due to functionality and consistency. Furthermore, a documentation and manual of the tool has been elaborated. The instrument clearly indicates the development of the three dimensions over years. An analysis of the changes will label the reasons and following, necessary actions can be taken.

Additionally, revised Rules of Procedure were adopted and the WSF advisors for the Trilateral Wadden Sea Board (WSB) were nominated.

2. Steering Committee-9 Meeting

The 9th meeting of the WSF Steering Committee took place on 29 April 2010 in Hamburg. Main topics were the finalization of the WSF report "Without Frontiers" and of the recommendation and guidance document for the development of a goose management plan, which were both introduced at the Governmental Conference on Sylt in March 2010. In addition the Committee was informed about a survey of the WSF website visits and the results.

3. ICZM

At the ICZM-10 meeting in April 2010, which was a joint meeting with the working group shipping, it was agreed to put further emphasis on Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) to meet the increasing economic uses and developments in the EEZs. Firstly, an information basis regarding off-shore and coastal activities, policies and management plans will be implemented. This would also serve for knowledge enhancement, information exchange and as decision basis for WSF activities. Due to the huge amount of available information of various organizations and national/regional authorities it was agreed to establish a GIS-based information tool with data about economic uses, nature protection sites, spatial planning as well as policies in the southern North Sea EEZs of Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands. A cooperation with EUCC-D would provide the necessary support to deliver the information on multi-layer maps.

4. Energy, Industry and Infrastructure (EII)

The working group recently discussed future work topics and activities. An emphasis will also be laid on harbour and infrastructure issues. Harbour and energy developments will very much effect social and economic developments in the Wadden Sea Region. In conclusion, the working group will focus on the following topics:

- harbour development
 - container handling in harbours
 - off-shore wind industry (support, facilitation, transport)
 - harbour related infrastructure
 - harbour concept, cooperation
- electric grid development, on and off-shore
- energy production on local level, e.g. zero emission concept on islands
- CCS (further debate and knowledge exchange about developments; ad hoc decisions on activities)



5. Shipping

The working group shipping discussed in its February meeting the most relevant work topics for the future. For this, the shipping group would need more support from experts to succeed. Therefore, it was agreed to make further efforts to cover attractive themes and to get the necessary support from the relevant organizations and industries. The work topics were defined in the field of:

- shipping safety, including traffic controls systems
- traffic management
- infrastructure measures (e.g. deepening river and estuary Ems)
- container shipping and handling
- MSP, in cooperation with working group ICZM and other organizations

6. Agriculture

The working group agriculture is still focusing on goose management. The report of the Goose Management Group got positive response at the TGC-11 on Sylt and the elaboration of a trilateral goose management plan with a spatial approach was envisaged. This would contain the definition of go and no-go areas for geese. There was good commitment for a continuation of the work and representatives of the Trilateral Cooperation announced further input and support.

B. Topical Issues

1. Membership EUCC

In May 2010, the Wadden Sea Forum has become an official member of the coastal union EUCC. It is envisaged to intensify the cooperation between the two organizations, particularly in the field of ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning, MSP.

2. Insel- und Halligkonferenz

The Insel- und Halligkonferenz (IHKo) is the cluster of all 27 communities on the Islands and Halligen in the Wadden Sea of Schleswig-Holstein, including the High Seas island Helgoland.

IHKo was founded 15 years ago with the aim to deal together with common problems and developments of Islands and Halligen. The smallest community is "Hallig Gröde" with 16 inhabitants, and the largest „Gemeinde Sylt“ with about 15.400 inhabitants.

Since now 10 years the common office "Regionalbüro Uthlande" is coordinating the work in fields of coastal development and protection, safety at sea, project work on regional and international level and of course is keeping a close network between members and partners.

IHKo keeps close contact to the communities on the Wadden Sea Islands of Lower Saxony and is member of Euregio the Wadden, the cluster of all European Wadden Sea Islands.

Since May 2010 now IHKo is member of the WSF with the aim to get more engaged in the Wadden Sea tasks and topics.

3. Michael Otto Stiftung "Zukunftsbild für eine klimasichere Wattenmeerregion"

The Michael Otto Foundation for Environmental Protection has finalized the project "Naturschutzforderungen bei alternativen Klimawandelszenarien für das Wattenmeer im Rahmen von Integriertem Küstenzonenmanagement (IKZM)". The project, also called Wadden Sea dialogue, was financially supported by the Federal Agency for Nature Protection, which is an agency of the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety.

On 31 May 2010, the foundation introduced together with an expert group scenarios about the future of a climate friendly Wadden Sea Region. The innovative scenarios and solutions for flexible and sustainable coastal protection measures are summarized in a nice brochure. The approach was to integrate the different interests of the people living in the historic landscape, the view of the stakeholders as well as nature protection goals. Also considered was the integrative approach to link measures off-shore and the hinterland. The brochure and further information are available on the internet: www.michaelottostiftung.de/.

4. JadeWeserPort: The deep water port will be opened in 2012

The JadeWeserPort will first be opened in August 2012. This event was envisaged already for November 2011. The bad economic situation and the decrease in container shipping resulted in the postponement and new time schedule.



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5. NL Policy Document



After the completion of a spatial plan for the German EEZ, the Dutch government recently published a "Policy Document on the North Sea 2009-2015", which describes the economic activities and policy targets. The aim of the North Sea Policy Document is to provide transparency about the central government's North Sea policy choices in the National Water Plan. This involves e.g. insight into the considerations underlying these choices, giving direction to policy implementation

and specifications of the relationship with adjoining policy domains.

www.verkeerenwaterstaat.nl/english/Images/North_Sea_tcm249-274705.pdf

6. Open Ship – Institute for Coastal Research, Helmholtz Research Centre GKSS

From 12th to 16th July, the research ship "Ludwig Prandtl" calls at four cities along the East Frisian North Sea Coast for the event "Forschung vor Anker". Starting in Wilhelmshaven, the journey takes the Ludwig Prandtl to Norderney, Delfzijl and Leer. Within the framework of an "Open Ship" the Institute for Coastal Research, Helmholtz Research Centre GKSS in Geesthacht, introduces their work to the public. This is a welcoming opportunity for the local population to get informed about current research projects - on the sea, the coast and climate change - or just to experience the research ship.

Together with the local partner Common Wadden Sea Secretariat CWSS, the evening offers the possibility to attend two presentations on the Wadden Sea and the German North Sea Coast. Jens Enemark, Head of the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat, will speak on the "Wadden Sea World Heritage – chances and challenges". Beate Ratter, GKSS and University of Hamburg, will present research results on regional identity, environment and risk on the German North Sea Coast.



The tour "Forschung vor Anker" starts on Monday 12th in Wilhelmshaven.

Open Ship 15:00 – 18:00h, **Landing at** ICBM in the Helgolandkai

Public Lectures 19:00 – 21:00h, Wattenmeerhaus, Südstrand 110b

The public is warmly welcomed, admission free.

Further Programme:

13-14 July 2010 Norderney, 13 July evening event, 14 July Open Ship

15 July 2010 Delfzijl (The Netherlands), Open Ship and evening event

16 July 2010 Leer, Open Ship and evening event

C. WSF Meetings

12 August 2010	WG EII 10, Brunsbüttel
16 September 2010	WG ICZM 11, Hamburg
27 September 2010	WG Shipping 8, Delfzijl, NL
08 October 2010,	Steering Committee 10, Wilhelmshaven
17-18 November 2010	WSF 17, Vårde, DK

D. Symposia & Events

28 – 30 June 2010 Nouakchott, Mauretania

PRCM Conference

www.prcmarine.mr/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=128&Itemid=397

26 August 2010, Wilhelmshaven, Germany

5th Wadden Sea Day, Annual trilateral Wadden Sea conference

13 - 17 September 2010, Hamburg, Germany

Storm Surges Congress (organized by LOICZ and GKSS):

Risk and Management of current and future Storm Surges

http://www.loicz.org/imperia/md/content/loicz/news/storm_surges_congress_2010.pdf

21 - 23 September, London, Great Britain

Littoral 2010 – an international conference for researchers and practitioners

"Adapting to global change at the coast: Leadership, Innovation, and Investment"

www.coastnet.org.uk/Littoral2010

29 September - 01 October 2010, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Deltas in Times of Climate Change

www.climatedeltaconference.org

06 – 07 October, Hamburg, Germany

Symposium Geoinformationen für die Küstenzone

<http://www.gis-kueste.de/2010/symp10.html>

17 – 19 November 2010, Hamburg, Germany,

Öl im Meer - Risiken, Vorsorge, Bekämpfung. Symposium

<http://www.coastdat.de/oel/index.html>

23 - 24 November, Berlin, Germany

Grids, the backbone of Europe's energy future

The event will explore the financial, technical, policy and regulatory issues that will shape the development of a grid that meets Europe's energy, consumer and climate needs.

<http://www.ewea.org/grids2010>

24 - 26 November Texel, The Netherlands

International seminar about bridging the gap between science and coastal management

It will provide an insight on the innovative and knowledge-based approaches and tools being developed under the project IMCORE (Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coastal Resources) and the first-hand results of the Dutch project MOSSELWAD (Restoration and Sustainable Management of Mussel beds in the Wadden Sea).

<http://www.eucc.net/texel2010/>

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