

CoPraNet Newsletter

Issue 2, Autumn 2004

After six months CoPraNet is making excellent progress

After six months of operation some of the initial CoPraNet tasks, such as the development of Tourism Quality Milestones (TQMs) for sustainable coastal tourism, are ahead of schedule.

As planned from the start, the CoPraNet partners should learn from one another, not only through communication via various media, but also through sharing practical experiences. To facilitate this several workshops and conferences are organized throughout the year. During the past months, such practical exchange has taken place in Northern Ireland, England and Scotland.

At these encounters, and through our constantly on-going communication, the CoPraNet partners have produced an overview of existing benchmarking programmes and quality labels in their home countries. The next step, which is currently underway, is to use the best parts of the existing quality labels and

benchmarking programmes to develop TQMs adapted to the needs of today. These will be designed to be applicable Europe-wide.

Alongside sustainable tourism issues two other areas of interest for CoPraNet are erosion and beach management. All of these areas of interest will be incorporated into the clearinghouse. An important part of the clearinghouse is the CoPraNet web page, www.coastalpractice.net. There you can find additional information about CoPraNet in English and eight other languages. Furthermore, there is a help-desk setup for anyone who has questions regarding ICZM and a portal for all CoPraNet partner websites. What will be added to this web page during the project is

- An ICZM project data-base
- Best practice experiences
- An ICZM glossary
- An internal search engine

In addition, the clearinghouse consists of this newsletter that is published in ten languages. While this English version consists of the progress of the entire CoPraNet project, the translated versions will also include good practice examples based on local/regional experience.

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In focus: Sustainable tourism, erosion and beach management

The promotion and exchange of information regarding integrated approaches to coastal management and planning has started. The first such exchange occurred in Down in Northern Ireland.

That is where the first in a series of workshops took place between 24th and 25th of August. The workshop, consisting of presentations and fieldtrips, focused on coastal erosion, its causes and remedies and sustainable tourist development, particularly within the context of a National Park. The programme included presentations such as Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Northern Ireland, Coastal Erosion difficulties in Down, Establishment of an Irish Beach Operators Forum and the Green Coast Award.

The idea with the CoPraNet workshops is that they should target the CoPraNet partners, but also attract other interested stakeholders. Therefore the Down-workshop was not only open to CoPranet partners but also to politicians, central and local government representatives and coastal practitioners. The workshop was attended by interested parties from Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, England, Denmark, the Netherlands and Portugal.

At the workshop local politicians were able to explore coastal practice issues with a number of experts and other interested parties. The workshop organizers could clearly see that a seed was planted for the future. Margaret Quinn, project development manager at Down County Council, said "The discussions held will greatly assist in the process of raising political awareness of ICZM in Northern

Ireland. Another positive aspect of involving local politicians is that it will assist to facilitate a greater involvement in European projects and further highlight the benefits to be achieved from networks such as CoPraNet."



Reservoir in Silent Valley, Northern Ireland.
Photo: Mourne Heritage Trust

Margaret Quinn is also responsible for coordinating the information being gathered to develop the transparent European-wide Tourism Quality Milestones (TQMs) for sustainable tourism destinations, which will be consistent with existing labeling schemes, e.g. blue flag, Green Coast Award and Seaside Award, and reflect the achievements of the partners. Key factors of sustainable coastal tourism for consideration in the planned TQMs include safety, environmental standards, nature and landscape, cultural values and tourism service level.

An important goal is to ensure that the milestones currently being developed by CoPraNet are relevant, measurable and comparable across space and time. The TQMs should also cover the three

dimensions of sustainability - social, economic and environmental. Later on, once this stage of the process has been completed, they will be published on the CoPraNet web site and also in the CoPraNet Newsletter.

The second CoPraNet workshop was recently held in Sefton, England. The workshop organizer was Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, which is the local government body for Sefton District. This workshop concerned sustainable tourism and its purposes were to

- Examine the “regional park” concept being developed in England’s North West Region.
- Assess how the concept could help to promote sustainable tourism along the coast
- Review its possible wider application, or similar actions, in partner areas.



A CoPraNet partner exchanging ideas with an attendant at Littoral 2004. Photo: Heidi

Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, is responsible for coordinating the erosion theme. Currently CoPraNet is aiming to get an overview, within the geographical areas that the CoPraNet partners cover, of coastlines affected by erosion. Depending on the results questions such as; what kind of

regional coastal erosion mitigation policies exist; are the coastal erosion mitigation policies are satisfactory etc., arises.



Littoral 2004 – Delivering sustainable coasts: connecting science and policy

Another recent activity was the international symposium “Littoral 2004” that took place between the 20th and 22nd of September. The conference theme was “Delivering sustainable coasts”. According to the organizers, EUCC - the Coastal Union and EUROCOAST, connecting science and policy is of vital importance to the communities

Albert Salman, chairman of the CoPraNet steering group committee, at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre. Photo: Heidi Pintamo-Kenttälä

of the coastal researcher and practitioner as a means to strengthen cooperation and coherence, both within and amongst these communities, and also to strengthen existing networks, develop new alliances, and to foster better channels of communication.

This view mirrored that of CoPraNet who attended the "Littoral 2004" conference. It provided not only an opportunity to learn more about sustainable tourism, erosion and beach management, it was also an

opportunity to introduce the aims and objectives of CoPraNet to a worldwide audience.

Therefore CoPraNet had its own symposium where aims and objectives could be presented. Additional topics presented at the symposium were "Knowledge, information and experiences throughout Europe on Coastline management – Lessons learned." and "Managing information in integrated coastal zone management: EUROSION, Initiative of local information system."

The Clearinghouse

The CoPraNet web page

This is the heart of CoPraNet where all of the information being produced is gathered. The intention is that its different components will be used widely in a free exchange so we can learn from one another. Who has time and money to do again and again re-invent the wheel? Therefore the CoPraNet website has been created to facilitate the exchange of ideas and best practice. When the web site is further developed both practitioners and researchers will be able to find information on ICZM, erosion and sustainable tourism.

The website will include two databases, one concentrating on coastal erosion issues and the other on issues relating to sustainable tourism and beach management. These databases will also contain examples of best practice. The general approach of CoPraNet will be to present the best practice experiences in the original language of the case study country in order to make the information as accessible as possible to local stakeholders. However, all non-English best

practice examples will also have summaries in English. Another CoPraNet task included in the clearinghouse is to develop an English ICZM glossary. The clearinghouse also includes a search engine that will facilitate searches within the CoPraNet website.

The Newsletter

Another part of the clearinghouse is what you are reading right now - the CoPraNet web-based Newsletter. The aim of this biannual Newsletter is to inform researchers and practitioners within the region of project achievements. The Newsletters the various CoPraNet partners publish will also include local case studies. Hence all of you, who have been involved in ICZM projects in the CoPraNet geographical areas of interest, are welcome to contact the CoPraNet partners if you would like to contribute to this exchange of ideas by writing a short case study article.

See the list on the following page to find out which partners publish Newsletters, which language the newsletters are written in and what area of focus they have.

"Well done is better than well said."

- Benjamin Franklin

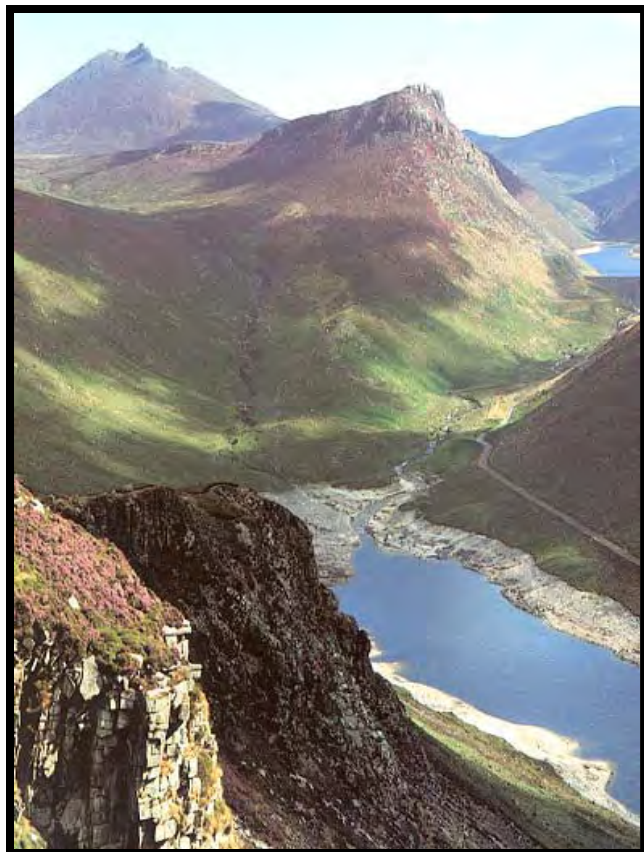
Partner	Language	Area of focus	Contact
MEDSOS	Greek	Greece, Cyprus	medsos@medsos.gr
Schleswig-Holstein	German	Mainly the region	Astrid.Dickow@im.landsh.de
IHRH	Portuguese	Portugal	fpinto@fe.up.pt
Down & CMRC	English	Ireland	Margaret.Quinn@downdc.gov.uk
ICCM	Spanish	Spain	yaizafv@iccm.rcanaria.es
EUCC	Dutch	Netherlands and Belgium (Flanders)	e.devilee@eucc.net
Storstrøm	Danish	Mainly the region	kis@npk.stam.dk
Stepnica	Polish	Mainly the region	krabski@wp.pl
COMREC	Swedish	The Baltic coast of Sweden and Finland	comrec@sh.se
Gironde	French	France	Jy.boutet@cg33.fr

Workshops and conferences coming up soon

The third workshop will be held on Fuerteventura, Canary Islands. The theme of the workshop is sustainable tourism and Marine Protected Areas. Some of the presentations and discussions occurring during the workshop cover the topics Sustainable Development in Natura 2000 Areas versus Anthropic Pressure, Information and Indicators for ICZM in Tourist Areas and Quality Ecolabel for tourism destinations. The host for the workshop will be Instituto Canario de Ciencias Marinas (ICCM) which is a public research institute dependent on the Regional Government of the Canary Islands (Spain). The programme for the fourth workshop in Zandvoort, the Netherlands, is yet to be finalized.

The second conference where CoPraNet will participate is in Algarve, Portugal. The ICCCM2005, International Conference on Coastal Conservation and Management in the Atlantic and Mediterranean, is a multi-

disciplinary conference that is convened as a forum for scientists, engineers, planners and managers to discuss recent or new advances in scientific, technical, and socio-economic understanding of



The Mourne, Down County.
Photo: Mourn Heritage

environmental issues related to coastal processes.

The objective of the conference is to promote international exchange of knowledge between researchers, managers and technicians, as well as professionals working in coastal zones conservation and management. Another aim of the conference is to share experiences and promote new working relations.

The CoPraNet partner involved in the organization of this conference is The Hydraulics and Water Resources Institute

(IHRH), which is a non-profit private association that provides advisory, consultancy and project services in the domains of hydraulic, coastal and environmental engineering, between the University of Porto (through the Faculty of Engineering) and other public or private institutions.

If you are interested in attending the workshops or conferences and getting more information about them you are most welcome to contact the workshop/conference organizers.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Workshops

ICCM, Canary Islands	February 1 st – 5 th , 2005	Sustainable tourism and Marine Protected Areas cristinapa@iccm.rcanaria.es
Zandvoort, Holland	March, 2005	Beach Management m.demmers@zandvoort.nl

Conferences

Algarve, Portugal	April 17 th - 20 th , 2005	ICCCM2005 http://icccm2005.no.sapo.pt/
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The partners within CoPraNet are:

- AICSM, The University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom
Web: <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/aicsm/>
- Atlantic Andalusian District Office of the National Coastal Authority, Spain
Web: <http://www.mma.es/costas/htm/actua/infor>
- CCDR-C, Portugal
Web: <http://www.dra-centro.pt>
- CMRC, Coastal and Marine Resources Centre, University College Cork, Ireland
Web: <http://www.cmrc.ucc.ie>
- COMREC, Coastal Management Research Centre, Sweden
Web: <http://www.sh.se/comrec>
- Down District Council, Ireland
Web: <http://www.downdc.gov.uk>
- EUCC The Coastal Union, the Netherlands
Web: <http://www.eucc.nl>
- Gironde County Council Estuariales, France
Web: <http://www.cg33.fr>
- ICCM, Institute of Marine Sciences Canary Islands, Spain
Web: <http://www.gobiernodecanarias.org/iccm>
- IHE Delft, the Netherlands
Web: <http://www.ihe.nl>
- IHRH, Hydraulics and Water Resources Institute, Portugal
Web: <http://www.fe.up.pt/ihrh>
- Mediterranean SOS Network, Greece
Web: <http://www.medsos.gr>
- Ministry of the Interior of the State of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany
Web: <http://www.landesplanung.schleswigholstein.de>
- Municipality of Calvia, Spain
Web: <http://www.calvia.net>
- Municipality of Samothraki, Greece
Web: <http://www.samothraki.gr>
- Municipality of Zandvoort, the Netherlands
Web: <http://www.zandvoort.nl>
- RIKZ, National Institute for Coastal and Marine Management, the Netherlands
Web: <http://www.rikz.nl>
- Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, United Kingdom
Web: <http://www.sefton.gov.uk>, <http://www.nwcoastalforum.co.uk>
- Storstrøm County, Denmark
Web: <http://www.stam.dk>
- Stepnica Local Community, Poland
Web: <http://www.stepnica.pl>
- WL Delft, the Netherlands
Web: <http://www.wldelft.nl>

The CoPraNet Newsletter

The CoPraNet Newsletter has been produced by COMREC, Sweden, in cooperation with the other partners of the network. Please contact comrec@sh.se for further information.