

Irish Coastal Network Bulletin No. 2 - August 2006



Dear all,

Welcome to the second bulletin of the Irish Coastal Network (I-CoNet). In this bulletin we have information on events, publications and initiatives of interest to Ireland's coastal and marine community. This issue also contains more information on **how you can get involved with the European Network for Coastal Research Co-ordination Action (ENCORA)**. As always, if you have a news item, big or small, that fits any of the bulletin categories and you wish to circulate to an audience of over 550 network users (and growing!), please send it in. To find out more about I-CoNet please visit <http://iconet.ucc.ie/> - the homepage of the network.

EVENTS:

August 19th: **Bull Island Clean Up**. For further details please contact Aidan Gray, An Taisce (Tel: 087 682 6934; Email: gcawards@eircom.net).

August 31st: **Coastal and Marine Working Group Sessions - Royal Geographical Society Annual Conference** will take place at RGS headquarters in central London. There are three sessions each examining an aspect of contemporary coastal and/or marine policy or management. To view the detailed programme and register for the conference, please visit the general page <http://www.rgs.org/AC2006> or go directly to the secure on-line registration page at <https://ac2006.rgs.org>.

September 4th – 8th: The 41st **European Marine Biology Symposium** will be held in University College Cork. The symposium will examine challenges to marine ecosystems and topics to be covered include: Global climate change and marine ecosystems; Genetics and resilience of marine organisms; Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture; and Marine protected areas. For further information please visit the event website - <http://www.EMBS41.ucc.ie> or contact EMBS41@ucc.ie.

August 26th – September 3rd: **Heritage Week** will take place during these dates with Saturday 2nd September identified as **Water Heritage Day**. For further information on the events and activities taking place as part of Heritage Week and Water Heritage Day please visit <http://heritageweek.ie> or contact 1850 200 878 / events@heritagecouncil.com.

September 7th – 8th: The North West Coastal Forum (UK) is holding its 3rd biennial coastal conference entitled **In the Zone - Integrated Coastal Management in North West England**. The event is aimed at all those with an interest, professional or personal, in the coast and the adjacent marine environment. Although the focus will be chiefly on work taking place within the North West of England, people from other regions should also find it of value. For further information please contact Caroline Salthouse at Caroline.Salthouse@nwra.gov.uk or visit <http://www.nwcoastalforum.co.uk>.

September 18th – 20th: The 8th International Conference – **Littoral 2006: Coastal Innovations and Initiatives** will take place in Gdansk University of Technology, Gdansk, Poland. For full programme and further details please visit <http://www.littoral2006.gda.pl>.

September 27th: The MESH (Mapping European Seabed Habitats) project will host a workshop entitled **Uses of Habitat Maps for Spatial Planning and Environmental Management**. The location for the event is the Marine Institute, Galway. A major function of the MESH project is to demonstrate the value of marine habitat maps for regional/spatial/environmental planning. This workshop will provide an ideal opportunity to bring together those who develop habitat/marine resource maps and those who use them for environmental

and spatial management. For further information please contact Pauline Ni Fhlatharta at pauline.flaherty@marine.ie / +353 (0)91 387200 or visit <http://www.searchmesh.net>.

September 26th -28th: The **3rd International Symposium on Integrated Water Resources Management** will take place in Bochum, Germany. For further information please visit <http://www.conventus.de/water> or contact the symposium organisers via telephone +49 3641 35 33 221 or e-mail water@conventus.de.

Spring 2007: Ireland's first national coastal conference will take place, the working title for the conference is **Towards the Sustainable Development of Ireland's Coast** and the proposed objectives are to: take stock of the strengths and weakness of current approaches to coastal management in Ireland; consider the implication of new European policies concerned with the coastal and marine environment; and reflect on the challenges of sustainable development in relation to Ireland's coastal zone. Further details on location, programme and registration will be included in future bulletins.

REPORTS:

The EU Green Paper: **Towards a Future Maritime Policy for the Union - A European Vision for the Oceans and Seas** – is now available to view at <http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs>. The Green Paper has generated much interest amongst stakeholders and intends to launch a broad debate on the development of an overall maritime policy which combines an integrated, cross-sector analysis with effective policy co-ordination and common action where appropriate.

Mercer M, Meade C and O'Sullivan G (2006) **Directory of Irish Marine Successes in the EU Regional Development INTERREG III Programme 2000-2006**. Marine Institute, pp. 43. This publication provides useful information (description, contact details, etc.) on the range of INTERREG projects involving Irish organisations. The directory includes projects that focus on themes such as aquaculture, oceanography, tourism and integrated coastal zone management. Copies can be obtained from the Marine Institute, Harcourt Street, Dublin, Tel: 01 4766500 / institute.mail@marine.ie.

Proceedings of the recent ECO IMAGINE Conference - **Building Coastal Knowledge and Geographical Information** are now available from <http://www.gisig.it/eco%2Dimagine/>. The four-day conference included thematic sessions examining the use of GI in the Water Framework Directive, for Inshore Seabed Mapping and Marine Spatial Planning.

Following its official launch on July 25th, the **Marine Irish Digital Atlas (MIDA)** is now online at <http://mida.ucc.ie>. MIDA is a web-based resource for coastal and marine information for the island of Ireland. It contains a diverse range of marine and coastal data and information on thematic areas such as natural heritage, infrastructure, human activities, physical environment and biology among others. The database currently contains over 110 data layers from over 30 Republic, Northern Ireland and international organisations, which can be viewed using the interactive map.

ICZM INITIATIVES:

Cork Harbour Forum – Following its initial meeting in March, the Cork Harbour Forum convened for a second time on the 9th June at the National Maritime College of Ireland. Following feedback from participants at the first meeting it was decided to establish four working groups – 1) Industry, Transport and Development; 2) Natural Environment; 3) Tourism, Recreation and Culture; 4) Management, Spatial Planning and Integration – to identify recommendations for addressing issues, and potential action plans for Cork Harbour. The outputs of these discussions may be included in the next County Development Plan or eventually in an agreed management plan for Cork Harbour itself. For further information on the activities of the Cork Harbour Forum, please contact Val Cummins, Coastal and Marine Resources Centre (Tel: 021 4703100; Email: v.cummins@ucc.ie).

VACANCIES:

Please send in details for any position (temporary, full time, and voluntary) that you wish to advertise here.

CONTACTS SOUGHT:

Please send in requests for information, expertise or collaboration and we will post them here.

ENCORA NEWS:

ENCORA - European Network for Coastal Research Co-ordination Action - is a European funded initiative that essentially acts as a "network of networks", linking national coastal networks across Europe. I-CoNet is the Irish component of ENCORA and through I-CoNet you can look for partners within Ireland and abroad, to share knowledge and experience on scientific, practical and political issues, which are relevant to your organisation.

Additionally, you may participate in thematic networks and use thematic email lists to exchange information with your colleagues. Please let us know if you are interested in obtaining information on any of the following themes: ***coastal and marine spatial planning; ICZM participation and implementation, pollution prevention and mitigation; social and economic aspects of ICZM; geomorphologic change and climate impacts; assessment of biodiversity change; effect of development and use on eco-morphology and coastal habitats; sustainable coastal engineering techniques; assessment of field observation techniques; and capacity building, education and training.***

By signing up to the ENCORA thematic areas you are not committing to any work task, you are simply registering your interest in this area. Please find attached a list of European contacts that have signed up to the ENCORA themes, for further information visit <http://www.encora.org> or contact iconet@ucc.ie.

Attention researchers and post graduates!!! ENCORA is currently developing a programme of exchange-visits between coastal institutes throughout Europe for young researchers, post graduates and practitioners. This programme provides opportunities to gain valuable experience elsewhere in Europe, attend conferences to present your research and interact with specialists in your area of interest. Please contact iconet@ucc.ie if you are interested in finding out more about the opportunities provided by ENCORA.

The Irish Coastal Network is administered through the [Coastal and Marine Resources Centre](#), supported by an advisory committee comprising representatives from the [Marine Institute](#), [Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources](#), [Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government](#), [Heritage Council](#), [Enterprise Ireland](#), [NUI Galway](#) and [University of Ulster, Coleraine](#). While every effort is made to ensure the information contained in the I-CoNet Bulletin is correct, we cannot accept any responsibility for factual errors. Please inform us if you experience any difficulties with the I-CoNet Bulletin or if you wish to amend your contact details.

To remove your details from I-CoNet please contact Cathal O'Mahony at iconet@ucc.ie

best regards,

Cathal

On behalf of the I-CoNet team,

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