

There are several EU funds available to help site managers to finance their projects. One of these funds is the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). This fund has three objectives; one of them is European Territorial Cooperation, better known as INTERREG. Eurosité's European Facilitation Service has explored the funding possibilities of this objective for site managers and presents several project examples. In each example a member from the Eurosité network illustrates a project, funded by Interreg, in which they were involved. More project examples and more information on Interreg can be found on www.eurosite.org.

CoPraNet

Coastal Practice Network

Basic information about the project

EU Programme

Interreg IIIIC/ West programme

Duration

24 months

Project period

01.01.2004 – 31.12.2006

Budget

Total budget: € 1 855 740 / ERDF contribution: € 1 151 205 (62%)

Partnership

1. EUCC - The Coastal Union (Lead partner; the Netherlands)
2. Storstrøm County (Denmark)
3. Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council (United Kingdom)
4. Municipality of Zandvoort (the Netherlands)
5. Municipality of Samothraki (Greece)
6. Down District Council (United Kingdom)
7. Stepnica Local Community (Poland)
8. Municipality of Cálvia (Spain)
9. Ministry of the Interior of the State Schleswig-Holstein (Germany)
10. CCDR-C – Regional Authority of Central Portugal (Portugal)
11. Institute of Marine Sciences of the Canary Islands (Spain)
12. National Institute for Coastal & Marine Management – RIKZ (the Netherlands)
13. UNESCO-IHE (the Netherlands)
14. University College Cork (Ireland)
15. The University of Aberdeen (United Kingdom)
16. Coastal Management Research Centre – COMREC (Sweden)
17. Institute of Hydraulics and Water Resources – IHRH (Portugal)
18. University of Littoral (France)
19. Mediterranean SOS Network (Greece)
20. WL – Delft Hydraulics (the Netherlands)
21. Rivages de France (France)

Link to Eurosité

Kazimierz Rabski was involved in the CoPraNet project as a consultant and project manager on behalf of Stepnica Local Community in close cooperation with EUCC-Poland, especially for nature aspects. EUCC-Poland is a Eurosité member

Project focus

Develop a network of coastal stakeholders to exchange information and examples of best practice on sustainable coastal management



Project example Interreg IIIC: CoPraNet

Overall objective

CoPraNet had two primary objectives:

- To develop a network of coastal stakeholders to exchange information and examples of best practice, that will support local and regional efforts for an integrated planning of coastal areas. This network must bridge the gap between planners, managers and the research community throughout Europe.
- To support interregional exchange of best practice information on sustainable tourism and coastal erosion and beach management through an integrated approach.

Project summary

CoPraNet, the Coastal Practice Network, developed and established a **network** of coastal stakeholders to;

- a) exchange information and best practice for improving **coastal management and planning**,
- b) support the sharing of knowledge on **tourism quality** in the coastal zone and
- c) identify best practice in operational plans on **erosion and flood risk**.

The challenges of the network were to establish an “open source” Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) platform and to integrate ICZM-projects, national and international networks so they can stimulate rather than compete with each other. The platform also intended to make coastal practitioners the main drivers of ICZM community and to promote the exchange of experiences in several languages.

Project activities, outputs and results

- Two conferences, 12 workshops (including exchange study visits) and 6 other events;
- Five newsletters, a brochure on intergraded coastal management and a final report;
- Best practice database;
- Multilingual website (10 languages);
- Beach Management Guide.

Relation between project and site management issues

A better understanding of the existing and potential relationships between nature management and sustainable coastal development.

Project initiative

Stepnica Local Community received an invitation from the Lead partner; EUCC-The Coastal Union.



Project example Interreg IIIC: CoPraNet

Gain for own organisation

1. Creating incentive and gaining knowledge of possibilities for sustainable coastal (tourism) development in valuable (N2000) nature areas within the community;
2. Experience of how knowledge and best practice can be exchanged in a small local coastal community;
3. Creation of a practical, “living” platform for information exchange.

Lessons learnt

- Participation in this Interreg IIIC project allowed locals (farmers, politicians etc) to present their point of view in an official setting;
- For Stepnica Local Community this was the first time to join an EU project, and the exchange of experience and knowledge and the sharing of best solutions was very beneficial. It provided the Stepnica Local Community with insight in how to use nature for sustainable development and how to incorporate sensitive nature areas into spatial planning.

Follow-up

The CoPraNet partnership, in cooperation with new partner organisations, prepared a continuation for the CoPraNet project and they submitted a proposal under the Interreg IVc programme titled: QualityCoast – The future face of integrated management for coastal sustainability. The key objective of the QualityCoast programme is to have in place, at the end of three years, a fully implementable policy tool, applicable for all 22 coastal states of the EU, which will ensure that the integrated management of specific coastal issues will be sustainable. There will be a focus on coastal tourism.

For more information

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