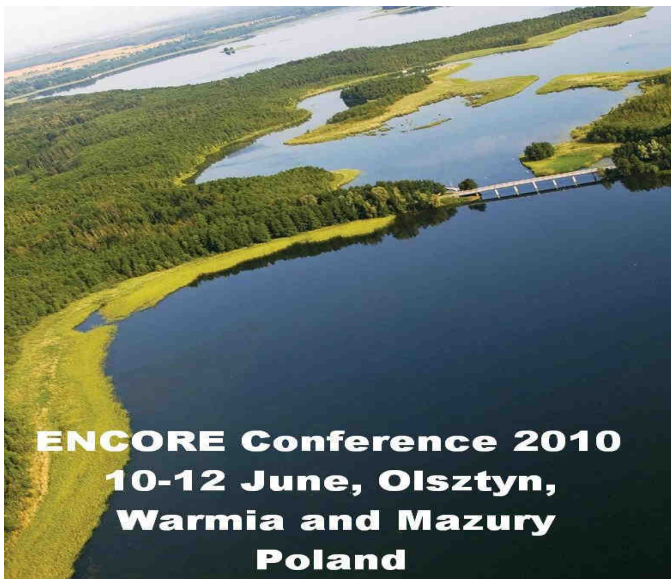


Environmental Conference of the Regions of Europe



Monitoring Report – Olsztyn Action Plan

Monitoring the Olsztyn Action Plan



Introduction

ENCORE is the unique political forum where the Environment Ministers and other relevant political leaders of the regions of Europe discuss EU policy, exchange points of view, establish common positions towards EU legislation and set regional cooperation.

In the past two years our network achieved a significant growth on a political stage of Europe and the world. We have developed contacts with the European Commission effecting in the will of cooperation with the European Commissioner for the Environment Janez Potočnik and the European Commissioner for Climate Change Action Connie Hedegaard as well as established good relations with other organizations and networks like UNFCCC, nrg4SD or Cittaslow.

The Monitoring Report refers to each of commitments of the network contained in the Olsztyn Action Plan and describes how each action has been implemented. I hope that the Monitoring Report of the Olsztyn Action Plan reflects well the ENCORE activities during these past two years and shows what important environmental challenges European regions had to face.

Jarosław Słoma
Vice-Marshal of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship
Co-President of ENCORE

The following strategy was adopted by the participating Regions:

- to strengthen international political cooperation among the Regions of Europe by organising meetings of political leaders and Ministers;
- to strengthen the environment and sustainable development throughout Europe by promoting Agenda 21 at regional level in co-operation with citizens, organisations, enterprises, other governmental levels and other social and economic partners;
- to work in partnership with businesses at regional level and to involve educational and research institutions in this co-operation in order to acquire new environmental research and knowledge - and to implement this in both enterprises and public institutions;
- to co-operate with the European Commission in implementing the renewed Lisbon and Sustainable Development Strategies as well as the 6th Environmental Action Programme and to ensure that the practical experience of the Regions in implementing EU law is reflected in the future work of the Commission;
- to implement the EU 2020 strategy;
- to recognise the value of ecosystem services as referred to in the study on The Economics of Ecosystems & Biodiversity (TEEB);
- to coordinate sustainable development policies between the regional, the national and the international level.

To implement this strategy, the Regions will work on selected themes.

ENCORE priorities 2010-2012

The Conference agreed to the following priority themes for ENCORE for the period 2010-2012:

- Climate Change and Nature
 - Climate change – threats and opportunities for regional development
 - Mitigating against climate change
 - Adapting to climate change
 - Working towards sustainable development
- Biodiversity - managing the effects of a changing environment
 - Strategies for nature conservation
 - Biodiversity - the responsibility of the regions
 - Involvement of regional authorities
- Natural Food
 - National and European food quality systems
 - Development of local and regional natural food



Seven areas of work were indentified

1. Contacts with other networks, European institutions and the European headquarters of other international organisations like the UN
2. Implementation and monitoring of ENCORE decisions
3. Promoting the ENCORE Valencia Charter
4. Seminars, workshops, partnerships with other networks, research and exchange of best practice
5. Partnerships between "old" and "new" EU Regions
6. Working Groups
7. Preparation of ENCORE 2012



Declaration of the ENCORE Regions on Combating Biodiversity Loss 2010

The European Regions must act together in the fight against biodiversity loss.

European Regional members of the ENCORE network declare that the political leaders of all EU countries should support the halting of biodiversity loss across the world, in both developed and developing countries, in this year 2010, the International Year of Biodiversity.

The representatives of the regions of the ENCORE network are aware that human activities have caused and will continue to cause a loss in biodiversity due to, among other things, changes in the soil use and cover, pollution and degradation of soil, water and air pollution. According to the IPCC-2002 report, the current rate of biodiversity loss is higher than that of natural extinction.

Climate change adds additional pressure and is affecting biodiversity. The increases in atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases since preindustrial times, are due to human activities, particularly the use of fossil fuels and the changes in soil cover.

Biodiversity is essential for maintaining the conditions for the existence of humans on Earth. All citizens have the right to have a healthy and sustainable environment – this requires the preservation of biodiversity.

Efforts to date, to avoid the loss of biodiversity at global and European level, have been inadequate. Today's biodiversity loss continues to grow at an unacceptable rate with predictable ecological, economic and social consequences.

The recent study on The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) estimated that by 2050 the cost of doing nothing about terrestrial biodiversity loss would amount to about 7% of the global consumption. The ENCORE network underlines the importance of this study and the essential work to put a price tag on biodiversity. Halting the loss of biodiversity is an economic, ecological and ethical obligation and is in line with the EC communication about the loss of biodiversity.

We need to act quickly and effectively to avoid going beyond the limits of the nature.

Therefore, the European Regional members of the ENCORE network **believe that:**

take urgent action to preserve its biodiversity, a responsibility to demonstrate the preservation of achieve a high level of sustainable economic

mit themselves to support global efforts to prevent

ition of being able to take forward substantive ity, largely due to their enhanced proximity to the

plementing two thirds of EC directives and "7-up" policies to improve biodiversity and

g jointly and coordinating efforts to promote sity loss, promoting sustainable economic nmental well-being of the planet.

ing in international forums, strengthening ll of its knowledge and experience in the

vital role that regional Governments play is to be considered during this important

ENCORE Network, 2010, International Year of Biodiversity
ENCORE Conference, Olsztyn, 10th and 11th June 2010.

1. Contacts with other networks, European institutions and the European headquarters of other international organisations like the UN

What the OLAP says:

The Conference welcomed the active role that the Minister for the Environment of Aragon and Co-President of ENCORE, Mr. Alfredo Boné Pueyo, together with the Member of the Board of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship and Co-President of ENCORE, Mr. Jarosław Słoma, have played in EU events, such as ENCORE UNFCCC-COP15 side event: "Taking Action Now! A European Regional Perspective", during which they promoted ENCORE and the role of the Regions in the field of Environment. The Conference encouraged the host of the next ENCORE Conference, to continue Mr. Boné's and Mr. Słoma's work in these fora.

What has been done:

Despite the change in the position of the Minister for the Environment of Aragon and of competences, Aragon Region as ENCORE Permanent Secretariat plays key role in integrating ENCORE regions and leading international activities. New Co-Chair Drenthe established many new contacts with the representatives of European organisations and networks and were supported by Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship.

What the OLAP says:

The Regions of Europe should continue seeking dialogue and co-operation with the EU institutions in the preparation of policies, plans and indicators in the field of environment and sustainable development. The Steering Group was asked to pursue these matters with the relevant European institutions.

What has been done:

- 29th September 2010:

Meeting between the European Commissioner for the Environment, Mr. Janez Potočnik, and a delegation of ENCORE Ministers (Roseanna Cunningham, Minister for Environment and Climate Change attended to represent the Scottish Government; Jarosław Słoma, Co-President of ENCORE and Vice-Marshal of Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship; Wouter de Jong, Vice-Governor of the Utrecht Province; with officials from Drenthe and Basque Country) in Brussels opening the further opportunities of cooperation between ENCORE and DG Environment



- February 2011:

Roseanna Cunningham, Minister for Environment and Climate Change for the Scottish Government, met with Commissioner Hedegaard to press the case for the EU to move to 30% target within the EU ETS.

- 11th October 2011:

Meeting between the European Commissioner for the Environment, Mr. Janez Potočnik, and a delegation of ENCORE Ministers in Brussels took place, opening further opportunities of cooperation between ENCORE and DG Environment; Mr. Potočnik agreed to come to the Conference (ENCORE delegation consisted of among others Tanja Klip-Martin - Drenthe, Jarosław Słoma – Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship, Stewart Stevenson – Scotland, Beate Prettner – Carinthia, Pilar Unzalu Pérez de Eulate – Basque Country)

- 23rd February 2012:

Meeting between the European Commissioner for Climate Change Action, Ms. Connie Hedegaard and a delegation of ENCORE Ministers in Brussels took place. Ms. Hedegaard acknowledged the intention to cooperate with ENCORE in implementing European Policy (ENCORE delegation consisted of among others Tanja Klip-Martin - Drenthe, Jarosław Słoma – Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship, Gert Schou – Midtjylland, Michael Theben – North Rhine-Westphalia)



Between ENCORE Conferences, regional ministers and political leaders meet to discuss current political events. Co-Presidents of ENCORE convene an annual meeting of the Ministers of the Regions (Steering Committee) which are represented in the ENCORE Steering Group.

- Steering Committee Meeting was organized during the ENCORE 2010 conference in Olsztyn, 10th-12th June
- Steering Committee Meeting took place on the 11th of October 2011 in Brussels (House of Dutch provinces)

What the OLAP says:

Contacts with other networks, European institutions and the European headquarters of other international organisations like the UN

What has been done:

Contacts with UNFCCC:

- Co-Chairs and Secretary General at the meeting in Zaragoza (February 2011) signed the „Statement of Co-Presidents and Secretary General of ENCORE – in the framework of Climate Change Conference COP16 Cancun, Mexico 2010”; it has been sent to Ms. Christiana Figueres (Secretary General of UNFCCC)
- Communication between ENCORE Secretariat and UNFCCC Secretary General Cabinet was developed along 2011 as a result of which a meeting was held on 7th September 2011 between an ENCORE delegation (Drenthe, North Rhine-Westphalia) and Christiana Figueres staff at the UNFCCC headquarters in Bonn. Possibility of receiving observer status for ENCORE was discussed during the meeting.



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

Contacts with nrg4SD:

- February 2011:

Co-Chairs and Secretary General at the meeting in Zaragoza agreed to establish a Memorandum of Understanding between ENCORE and nrg4SD network

- ENCORE Secretariat has worked with nrg4SD Secretariat to achieve the mentioned MoU



Contacts with Cittaslow network:

- Co-Chairs and Secretary General agreed to establish a Memorandum of Understanding between ENCORE and Cittaslow network at the meeting in Zaragoza (February 2011)
- ENCORE Secretariat along with Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship has worked with Cittaslow to achieve the mentioned MoU



Contacts with Euroregion Baltic:

- Link to ENCORE web page on Euroregion Baltic website



Contacts with the Climate Group:

- Links in respective websites and exploring possibilities of common actions.
- Various written communications with the Climate Group were made.
- Jim Mather, Minister for Energy and Tourism for the Scottish Government, attended the Climate Group event in Cancun in December 2010.

THE CLIMATE GROUP

Contacts with UNEP:

- 13th May 2011:

Meeting between UNEP, Drenthe and representatives of the WG on biodiversity took place to see if regions from the UNEP initiative on REGAIN and the WG could be linked. Agreements of a follow-up were made.

- Aragon established contacts with promoters of European Learning Network for Regions and Biodiversity.
- 4th June 2012:

ENCORE took active part in the new launching of the REGAIN network in Brussels 4th June 2012 and will work with UNEP for the preparations of a biodiversity conference later this year.



Contacts with UNDP:

- ENCORE Secretariat explored the TACC (Territorial Approach to Climate Change) project.



Contacts with WWC:

- Participation of Aragon in the European Regional Process within the World Water Forum 2012, Marseille (France).



Contacts with EPRO:

- During the SG in March 2011 it was agreed not to pursue the contact any further since European Platform for Regional Offices is not very active.

Contacts with CPMR:

- 29th-30th September 2010:

Attendance of the Aragon region to the 38th General Assembly of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe network in Aberdeen



Contacts with FOGAR:

- 19th July 2010:

Representation of ENCORE before the General Assembly of FOGAR (Forum of Global Associations of Regions) in Montecristi, Ecuador. Participation at the Conference with a speech on the role of regional networks in environment: a case study of ENCORE.

2. Implementation and monitoring of ENCORE decisions

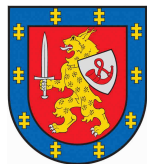
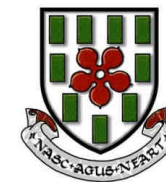
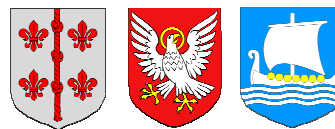
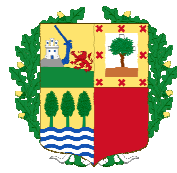
What the OLAP says:

The ENCORE 2010 Conference asked the Regions of Europe to contribute actively to the monitoring of ENCORE activities carried out by the Regions in the period 2010-2012. The Steering Group was asked to work together with the Warmia-Mazury Region on the Monitoring Report of the Olsztyn Action Plan that will be presented at ENCORE 2012.

The Conference accepted the work of Aragón on the ARAP Monitoring Report. The Report includes a description and analysis of the ENCORE activities that took place in the period in between the ENCORE 2008 and the ENCORE 2010 Conferences.

What has been done:

ENCORE SG member regions actively cooperated with Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship on preparation of the OLAP Monitoring Report.



3. Promoting the ENCORE Valencia Charter

What the OLAP says:

The ENCORE Secretariat will from now on be the depository of the ENCORE Valencia Charter. The Secretariat will contact the other Regions and invite them to sign the Charter.

What has been done:

Signing of the Valencia Charter by two new regions during the IX ENCORE Conference in Olsztyn, 10-12 June 2010 (Pilsen Region – Czech Republic, Taurage County – Lithuania).

- Polish regions were officially contacted (June 2011) and were asked to join ENCORE and to sign the Valencia Charter
- Mazowieckie and Wielkopolskie Voivodeship informed of their will to sign the Valencia Charter during ENCORE 2012 Conference.
- South West Regional Authority (Ireland) showed willingness to sign the Charter.



4. Seminars, workshops, partnerships with other networks, research and exchange of best practice

Seminars, workshops

What the OLAP says:

The Regions are invited to present to the ENCORE Steering Group initiatives that they would like to develop under the ENCORE umbrella, in particular in relation to the implementation of the ENCORE Valencia Charter and to the priority themes listed in Article 13. So far, the following activities have been announced:

Climate Change and Nature:

- *IV International Meeting of Water Experts: Water Quality, Climate Change and Biodiversity. Renowned Water Experts from Worldwide will gather in Aragon to discuss about the effects of climate change on water quality and water quality in relation to biodiversity issues. This will be the fourth time that well known International Experts gather in Aragon to discuss water related issues.*

Date and place: Zaragoza, November 2010

- *ENCORE Minister's event at COP 16-UNFCCC Mexico. A side-event of ENCORE Minister's attending Mexico dealing with "Climate Change and Biodiversity: EU Regions Taking Action Now!" (the title is only provisional, have to confirm it with the SG).*

Sustainable Development:

- *Drenthe and Aragon will organize a bi-regional symposium on the theme 'Sport and sustainable development'. Aspects like sport and environment, climate change, water management and sustainable energy shall be topics to be addressed. The symposium aims to attract participants from the regional governments and from the private sector.*

What has been done:

- Bi-regional symposium of Drenthe and Aragon on the theme "Sport and sustainable development" has been cancelled due to financial circumstances.

- 12th October 2010:

Creating regional SD-Indicators Workshop organized by Finnish national environment programme network of regional authorities: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economics and Employment, Statistics Finland, Regional Councils of Bothnia

- 22nd-24th November 2010:

Landscape and Tourism Conference. Gothenburg, Västra Götaland (Sweden)

- 29th November 2010:

Sustainable Marine Litter Management. Conference and Exhibition. County Administrative Board of Västra Götalands län, Region Västra Götaland, West Sweden, Tillväxt Bohuslän, Committee of the Regions, Brussels

Overall goal: To bring to the attention of policy-makers the work being implemented at local/regional level by authorities and stakeholders in order to develop strategic principles for sustainable marine litter management and beach cleaning. The EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive is a guide to proper management to protect more effectively the marine environment across Europe. It aims to achieve good environmental status of the EU's marine waters by 2020 and to protect the resource base upon which marine-related economic and social activities depend. The Marine Strategy Framework Directive constitutes the vital environmental component of the Union's future maritime policy, designed to achieve the full economic potential of oceans and seas in harmony with the marine environment.

- 28th February – 2nd March 2011:

IV International Experts' Meeting on Water Management and Climate Change: Dealing with Uncertainties. Zaragoza, Aragon (Spain)

- 16th-20th May 2011:

25th ICID European Regional Conference "Integrated water management for multiple land use in flat coastal areas". Groningen (Netherlands)

- 26th May 2011:

INTERREG IVC FRESH project 3rd International Seminar. Lahti, Päijät-Häme (Finland)

- 29th May – 3rd June 2011:

ICOLD (International Commission On Large Dams) 79th Annual Meeting in Luzern with the participation of Häme. Kainuu has a participant in ICOLD Tailing dams and waste lagoons Committee.

- 14th-15th June 2011:

Regional Development Conference. Östersund, Jämtland (Sweden)

- 21st June 2011:

Northern Netherlands Event (contribution to the EU2020 ambitions). Brussels

- 23rd-26th June 2011:

International Assembly Cittaslow Association. Lidzbark Warmiński, Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship (Poland)

- 6th-8th September 2011:

European dam safety authorities unofficial network (promotes best practices; the exchange of experiences, offers platform for discussions and aims to improve dam safety) meeting in Rovaniemi, organized by Häme, Finland

- 10th-13th October 2011

OPEN DAYS 2011

Workshop: “Alliance for Clean Mobility”; partnership: Region Västra Götaland (SE) (lead partner ENCORE SG member), Castilla y Leon (ES), Basque Country (ES), Bretagne (FR), Gothenburg (SE), Nord-Pas de Calais (FR), Norte Portugal (PT), Oslo (NO), Picardie (FR), Steiermark (AT), Dunkerque (FR).

Workshop: “E-Vehicle and Industrial Policy: the way to succeed”; partnership: Region Västra Götaland (SE), Castilla y León (ES, lead partner), City of Gothenburg (SE), Steiermark Region (AT), Basque Country (ES), General Electric, Galicia Region (ES), East of England (GB) and Oslo Region (NO).



- 9th November 2011:

Ecodesign Meeting 2011. Bilbao, Basque Country (Spain).

- 23rd November 2011:

SURF-Nature project dissemination event: Brussels European Meeting. Regional Office of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship in Brussels

- 24th-25th November 2011:

International Conference on Natural and Traditional Foods. Lidzbark Warmiński, Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship (Poland)

- 8th-10th February 2012:

Congress on Freshwater Ecology in Protected Natural Spaces. Irún, Basque Country (Spain)

- 14th March 2012:

A panel discussion was organized by Lake Vesijärvi Foundation from Päijät-Häme at 6th World Water Forum in Marseille – „Lake Restoration at Lake Vesijärvi” Häme, Finland

- 15th March 2012:

The WATER CoRe project: A marketplace of good practices in water scarcity and drought – side event at 6th World Water Forum in Marseille

- 20th-22nd March 2012:

Local meeting on water management and urban development. Experiences in small and medium-sized European cities. Vitoria-Gasteiz, Basque Country (Spain).

- 20th-22nd May 2012

European Maritime Day 2012, Gothenburg

The Maritime Day Conference and Stakeholder Workshops highlighted blue growth indicating how the Integrated Maritime Policy is benefiting Europe's maritime and coastal communities as well as that the European maritime economy should keep and strengthen its innovative and competitive edge. All the growth opportunities presented during the Conference should start emerging everywhere in Europe. We need that Blue Growth potential to create employment now. The conclusion of the fruitful debates is that the maritime economy can make a strong contribution to the Europe 2020 agenda for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

Partners: European Commission, DG MARE; Ministry of Infrastructure of Sweden; Region Västra Götaland (ENCORE SG member); City of Gothenburg.

<http://www.emd2012.se/> ; http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/maritimeday/index_en.htm



- 2nd-8th June 2012:

ICOLD (International Commission On Large Dams) 80th Annual Meeting and 24th ICOLD Congress in Kioto.

Häme (Finland) has a participant in ICOLD Dam Safety Committee. In congress ICOLD, IHA, IWRA and ICID approved world declaration: "Water Storage for Sustainable Development".

Partnerships with other networks

- Aragon has been the Northern Co-Chair of nrg4SD until mid-2011;
- Warمیńsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship supports development of the Polish national Cittaslow network;
- Aragon is a member of the Committee of Work of the Pyrenees – a transboundary network with French and Spanish regions

Research and exchange of best practice

What the OLAP says:

SURF-Nature - Sustainable Use of Regional Funds for Nature under the Interreg IVC programme

The project is a partnership of 14 authorities and public bodies (or bodies under public law) working together to optimise regional policies and practices with regard to promotion and preservation of natural heritage, biodiversity, and nature conservation through improving opportunities for and the impacts of financing these measures from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). SURF-Nature partnership will carry out a series of activities aimed at the identification, analysis and dissemination of experience and good practice with using ERDF funds for nature conservation. Partners will analyse existing ERDF funding programmes (OPs) to identify how nature

conservation is integrated into the process. A data base of 60 good practice investment projects will be created. The partnership will conduct a series of interregional workshops on specific funding themes and a series of training sessions within partner regions. Based on the results, partners will produce guidance documents covering specific funding themes, investment project development, and the next generation of funding programmes. Start: beginning of 01.2010 end 12 2012.

WATER CoRe -Water scarcity and droughts; coordinated actions in European regions


Approved. Lead partner of the project is Hessen Involved among others: Emilia Romagna, Aragon. Water CoRe intends to provide an exchange platform for water scarcity and drought issues on regional and local level for all European regions.



Manev - Evaluation of manure management and treatment technology for environmental protection and sustainable livestock farming in Europe under the programme Life +.




The project will be implemented in the following Countries: Spain, Italy, Denmark and Poland. Administrative region(s): Aragon, Midjytland, Lombardy, Emilia Romagna, Catalonia, Castilla y León, Murcia and Warmia-Mazury. Start date: 01/01/2011. Expected end date: 31/12/2014. MANEV is based on the know-how of different




European countries regarding the management and treatment of the livestock manure, with the participation of different actors implied in the livestock sector (regional and local governments, Universities, research centres, and farms unions). This project wants to demonstrate that both the use of treatment technology and an environmental correct management scheme contribute to a reduction of GHG emissions.



What has been done:



Name of the project and logo	Short description	Project Partners	Website link
<p>Activating the alps - new ways for diversity</p>  <p>INTERREG IVA Bavaria-Austria</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is the ecological oriented activating of the alps and useful animals in the area at the border between Bavaria and Salzburg. Strengthening of the regional agro-biodiversity and the embedding in the circles of the regional economy is a main task. Management plans and recommended actions need to be developed.</p>	<p>Bavarian Academy for Nature Conservation and Landscape Management (ANL) (DE); Amt der Salzburger Landesregierung, Abteilung 13, Naturschutzrecht und Förderung (AT)</p>	<p>www.almenvielfalt.com</p>


<p>AdaptAlp Adaptation to Climate Change in the Alpine Space</p>  <p>Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013</p>	<p>AdaptAlp will improve information on impacts of climate change especially on regional level (e.g. high resolution modeling, design events) and evaluate different methods of risk assessment, hazard mapping and risk management in the Alpine Space. The activities concentrate on the identification of best methods and the transfer of best practice experiences into adaptation measures in model regions. Risk reduction by raising the awareness of local stakeholders is a further issue in AdaptAlp. The know-how generated in AdaptAlp will be synthesised and integrated into practice of technical authorities. Recommendations will be given to policy makers and local stakeholders.</p>	<p>Bavarian State Ministry of Environment and Public Health (DE); Bavarian Environment Agency (DE); Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (AT); Regional Government of Carinthia Department for Water Management (AT); Regional Government of Tyrol, Department of Water Economy (AT); Federal Office for Environment (FOEN) (CH); CIPRA Deutschland e. V. / Deutsche Vertretung der int. Alpenschutzkommission e.V. (DE); Federal Institute of Hydrology, Department for Water Balance, Forecasting and Prediction (DE); Agricultural and Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Hydrology and Hydraulics research Unit (FR); Grenoble Institute of Research and Study for Prevention of Natural Hazards (FR); Autonomous Province of Bolzano - South Tyrol, Department of Hydraulic Engineering (IT); EURAC Research (IT); Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea - Department for Environmental Research and Development (IT); Piemonte Regional Agency for Environmental Protection, Geology and Geologic Hazard Unit (IT); Autonomus Region Valle d'Aosta - Regional Administrations Committee for Territory, Environment and Public Works - Department of Territory, Environment and Water Resources, Section Environment (IT); Geological Survey of Slovenia (SI)</p>	<p>www.adaptalp.org</p>
<p>Alp Water Scarce Water Management Strategies against Water Scarcity in the Alps</p>  <p>Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013</p>	<p>The main challenges of the project are to create local Early Warning Systems against Water Scarcity in the Alps. This system is based on sound and long-term monitoring and modelling and anchored strongly and actively within a Stakeholder Forum linked across comparative and contrasting regions across the Alps. The objectives are to improve water management at the short term (annual scale) and long term (using future scenarios) based on modelling and application of climate change and anthropogenic scenarios. Innovative measures of mitigation and adaptation should predict and prevent future water shortages.</p>	<p>University of Savoy (FR, Lead Partner); Society of Alpine Economics of Upper Savoy (FR); Local Government of Savoy (FR); Regional Government of Carinthia, Department 8 (AT); Regional Government of Styria (AT); Paris-Lodron University Salzburg (AT); Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics (AT); LAG Appennino Genovese (IT); Province of Alessandria (IT); Autonomous Province of Trento (IT); UNCEM Piemonte Delegation (IT); Regional Agency for Prevention and Protection of the Environment of Veneto (IT); Geological Survey of Slovenia (SI); National Institute of Biology (SI); Slovene Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry (SI); EAWAG - Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (CH); BAFU - Federal Office for the Environment (CH)</p>	<p>www.alpwaterscarce.eu</p>



<p>BECOSI Benchmarking on contaminated sites</p>  <p>INTERREG IVA Central Baltic</p>	<p>Countless areas in the Central Baltic countries are contaminated by chemicals and waste. The impacts of these contaminated areas are a threat to human health and environment. Spatial planning has met new challenges when towns and cities have become more compact and centrally located industrial sites or military sites have been taken into reuse. In cases where a liable party exists who is able to finance the remediation of an area it demands high quality supervision and enforcement by public authorities.</p> <p>The BECOSI project decreases the environmental, health and economic risks caused by contaminated areas. Together the project partners develop more efficient supervision and risk management on contaminated sites. A broad range of activities are carried out and leads to a more developed and structured way to deal with spatial planning and contaminated sites. A third focus area deals with developing methods on how to inform and communicate about contaminated sites.</p>	<p>County Administrative Board of Östergötland (CAB), Östergötlands län, Sweden (Lead Partner); Tallinn City Government Environment Department (TED), Põhja-Eesti, Estonia; Environmental Board (KKA), Põhja-Eesti, Estonia; Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), Itä-Uusimaa, Finland; Häme Centre for Economic development, transport and the environment, Häme ELY-centre (ELY), Häme, Finland; Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre (LEGMC), Riga,, Latvia; Vidzeme Planning Region (VPR), Vidzenie, Latvia; Motala Municipality (MM), Östergötlands län, Sweden</p>	<p>www.becosi.se</p>
<p>BIO-EN-AREA Improve regional policies for bio-energy and territorial development</p>  <p>INTERREG IVC</p>	<p>Exchange and transfer of experience among partners on bio-energy in relation to regional policies and territorial development, in order to increase the capacities of partners to promote and develop the use of bio-energy in their regions</p>	<p>Autonomous Region of Castilla Y Leon (ES), Region of Western Macedonia (GR), Autonomous Province of Trento (IT), Kosice Self-Governing Region (SK), South-East Regional Authority (IE), Energy Agency of South-East Sweden (SE), Tartu Science Park (EE)</p>	<p>www.bioenarea.eu</p>
<p>Biologic@</p>  <p>INTERREG IIIC SUD</p>	<p>The purpose of the Biologic@ project was to exchange methods, to transfer knowledge and to promote best practice in organic farming. The South-East Regional Authority is responsible for the marketing and promotion component of the project.</p>	<p>Póva de Lanhoso (PT); Draedm (PT); Baronia (IT); El Hierro (ES); Entlebuch (CH)</p>	



<p>BioM Cultivation for bio energy, aquatic environment and soil conservation</p>  <p>INTERREG IVA Öresund – Kattegat – Skagerrak</p>	<p>In Scandinavia, national efforts, experiences and expertise differ in the field of biogas production. The BioM project will therefore work to structurally unite the region by compiling existing knowledge and jointly documenting environmental effects in conjunction with biogas production. This project is meant to promote the development, optimization, demonstration and implementation of economic models and models of environmental consideration in order to create extensive and far-reaching biogas production in the Kattegat/Skagerrak region.</p>	<p>AgroTeck A/S (Lead Partner); Bioforsk (Norwegian Project owner); Partners: Agroväst AB; Länsstyrelsen i Västra Götalands län (ENCORE SG member); Århus Universitet; Dansk Landbrugsrådgivning; Vestjysk Landboforening; LandboMidØst</p>	
<p>BIPS</p>  <p>INTERREG IVA France/Wallonie/Vlaanderen</p>	<p>Cross-border platform for exchange, demonstration and evaluation of methods for ecological management and organization of natural and agricultural areas in the outskirts. The results of the project to evaluate, develop a geographic information system BIPS of biodiversity can be measured against criteria for sustainable development. The project also encourages contacts between individuals and agencies active in environmental education and proposes new, bilingual (French / Dutch) sensitizing products available Finally BIPS organizes a number of concrete actions in the field to biodiversity in the vicinity of the cities actually improve.</p>	<p>The Province of West Flanders (BE), Flemish Regional Landscape West Hills (BE), Hainaut Développement (BE), the local Komen (BE), Estaimpuis (BE), Mouscron (Leadpartner/BE), Espace Naturel Lille Métropole (FR)</p>	www.bipsweb.eu
<p>Build with CaRe Mainstreaming Energy efficiency in the built environment</p>  <p>INTERREG IVB North Sea Region</p>	<p>The aim of the Build with Care project is to mainstream energy-efficient building design by raising the awareness and increasing the knowledge of the potential of energy savings. In collaboration with the building sector, a transnational strategy for increasing energy efficiency in buildings will be developed. Within the project, an education and information programme will be carried out to change behaviour in the complete building chain (from consumer to planner, from carpenter to architect); this will aid in setting up a transnational knowledge and information network.</p>	<p>Västra Götalandsregionen Miljösekretariatet (lead partner, ENCORE SG member, SE), Provincie Oost Vlaanderen (BE), Innovationsstiftung Schleswig-Holstein (DE), AZB Ausbildungszentrum Bau in Hamburg GmbH (DE), Technische Universität Hamburg-Harburg (TUHH) (DE), Staatliche Gewerbeschule für Bautechnik (G19) (DE), Internationale Bauausstellung IBA Hamburg GmbH (DE), ZEBAU Zentrum für Energie, Bauen, Architektur und Umwelt (DE), Bremer Energie-Konsens GmbH (DE), Stadt Oldenburg (DE), Aberdeen City Council (GB), Dundee College (GB), Southend-on-Sea Borough Council (GB), University of East Anglia (GB), West Suffolk College (GB), Gemeente Groningen ; Provincie Groningen (NL), Gemeente Noord-Beveland (NL)</p>	



<p>C3-Alps Capitalising Climate Change Knowledge for Adaptation in the Alpine Space</p>  <p>Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013</p>	<p>The capitalisation approach of the project aims at a) generating new and directly usable forms of state-of-the-art synthesis adaptation knowledge in the Alps, harmonised across sectors and useful to adaptation decision-makers, b) its effective and tailor-made communication and transfer to target groups, c) enhancing effectiveness of adaptation policy and governance frameworks, and d) initiating, supporting and pioneering tailored and cross-cutting adaptation processes, strategies, action plans and decision support in pilot regions and municipalities. By supporting bottom-up action, C3-Alps will contribute to implementation of national adaptation policies on regional and municipal levels and to advancement of national adaptation strategies.</p>	<p>Environment Agency Austria, Department Environmental Impact Assessment & Climate Change (AT); Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Public Health, Department 78 - Climate Protection (DE); Forest Research Institute of Baden-Wuerttemberg (DE); Chamber of Trade and Crafts for Munich and Upper Bavaria, Department of Education Centres (DE); Lower Austrian Regional Government Office - Department of Environmental Economics (RU3) (AT); Carinthian Regional Government, Department 8 (Competence Center for Environment, Water and Nature protection) (AT); Paris-Lodron University Salzburg (PLUS), Centre for Geoinformatics (Z_GIS) (AT); UNEP REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE - Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention (AT); Regional Agency for the Prevention and Protection of the Veneto Region - Regional Department for the Safety of the Territory (IT); Regional Agency for Environmental Protection of Piedmont - Forecasting Department (IT); Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change, Climate Impacts and Policies Division (IT); European Academy Bolzano (IT); University of Savoie, Laboratory EDYTEM - UMR 5204 (FR); Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (SI); Federal Office for Spatial Development, Section Rural Areas and Landscape (CH); Federal Office for the Environment, Climate Reporting and Adaptation Section (CH); Principality of Liechtenstein, Office of Forests, Nature and Land Management (LI)</p>	<p>www.c3alps.eu</p>
<p>CLIMATLANTIC Local and Regional action for carbon footprint reduction</p>  <p>INTERREG IVC Atlantic Area Transnational Programme</p>	<p>Develop strategy(s) that will achieve, through regional and local level interventions, reductions in the carbon footprint in the European Atlantic Area with consequent increasing of cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development.</p>	<p>Eixo Atlantico do Noroeste Peninsular (PT/ES); Agencia Portuguesa do Ambiente (PTortugal); Communauté d'Agglomération de Grand Angouleme (FR); Xunta de Galicia (ES); Diputacion Provincial de Ourense (ES); South-East Regional Authority (IE); Merseytravel (GB); Quimper Communaute (FR)</p>	<p>www.climatlanticproject.eu</p>




<p>CLIWAT Climate and groundwater</p>  <p>INTERREG IVB North Sea Region</p>	<p>The CLIWAT project is especially concerned with the effects of climate change on groundwater systems. Most of its investigations have been performed in coastal areas. Within the project, we have identified present and future challenges caused by the changed groundwater levels and developed climate scenarios focusing on shallow groundwater and deep groundwater, as well as the impact on water management.</p>	<p>Central Denmark Region; Aarhus University (DK); GEUS (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland) (DK); Danish Ministry of the Environment Nature Agency (DK); Municipality of Horsens; Region of Southern Denmark (DK); Deltares (NL); Wetterskip Fryslân (NL); Provincie Fryslân (NL); Vitens (NL); Ghent University (BE); LIAG (Leibniz Institute for Applied Geophysics) (DE); BGR (Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources) (DE); LLUR (State Agency for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas) (DE); SeeConsult GmbH (DE)</p>	www.cliwat.eu
<p>COME The way to Energy efficiency in municipalities</p> <p>INTERREG IVA Austria - Italy</p>	<p>Energy Efficiency for municipalities - to develop the "COME method", which is an adaptive, structured and standardized method for communities. The goal is to get an overview on energy activities in the municipality to elaborate concepts for new energy related projects.</p>	<p>Province of Udine (IT); APE Energy Agency of FVG (IT); Regional Government of Carinthia, Department 8 (AT); Energy Tyrol (AT); Eco Institute South Tyrol (AT); Autonomous Province of Bolzano (IT); Autonomous Region of FVG (IT);</p>	
<p>DRYPORT</p>  <p>INTERREG IVB North Sea Region</p>	<p>The project aims to develop, design and set effective Hinterland inter-modal freight transport nodes - dryports - which are fully integrated with the Gateway freight handling systems, to adapt a public concept to a private sector model, and to integrated dryports into the EU Motorways of the Sea concept.</p> <p>The project includes the identification of suitable dryport land sites in the North Sea Region, to start a planning process that will support the increased number of logistics hubs, to assess the environmental and socio-economic impact of improved inter-modality, to develop a business model blueprint and to develop and start-up a IT system.</p>	<p>Transport Research Institute (GB), SEStran (GB), Essex County Council for Haven Gateway (GB), Babergh District Council (GB), Region Västra Götaland, Regionutvecklingssekretariatet (lead partner, ENCORE SG member, SE), Falköping Kommun (SE), Port of Göteborg (SE), Banverket Region Västra Sverige (SE), Vägverket Region Väst (SE), Port of Zeebrugge (BE), Kamer van Koophandel West Vlaanderen (BE), Gemeente Emmen (NL), Provincie Friesland (NL), Institut Arbeit und Wirtschaft, Universität Bremen (DE)</p>	



<p>Econnect Improving Ecological Connectivity in the Alps</p>  <p>Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013</p>	<p>ECONNECT aims at the enhancement of ecological connectivity in the Alpine Space. Protection of biodiversity and natural heritage – a central necessity to cope with the challenges of climate change – requires an integrated approach which beyond protected areas considers high biodiversity areas and corridors as linking elements of an Alpine ecological network. To overcome legal and administrative constraints policy recommendations are presented ensuring effective cross-border cooperation and procedural harmonisation.</p>	<p>University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna; Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology (AT); Committee of the National Park Hohe Tauern (AT); Federal Environment Agency Ltd., Landuse & Biosafety (AT); National Park Gesäuse Ltd. (AT); University of Innsbruck, Institute of Ecology (AT); Swiss National Park (CH); Berchtesgaden Nationalpark Administration (DE); Cemagref Grenoble Regional Centre unit research mountain ecosystems (FR); Council of Department of Isere (FR); Task Force Protected Areas - Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention (FR); CIPRA - International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (LI); Alpi Marittime Nature Parc (IT); Autonomus Region of Valle d'Aosta - Department of agriculture and natural resources (IT); European Academy of Bozen/Bolzano (IT); Italian Ministry for the Environment (IT); WWF Italy (IT)</p>	<p>www.econnectproject.eu</p>
<p>Eco-support Activity Working together for a better environment</p>  <p>INTERREG IVA Central Baltic</p>	<p>The Eco-Support Activity project fills the gap between practical everyday actions and the environmental policies of the project partner organisations. Environmental responsibility is increased by implementing “eco-support activity” in the participating municipalities. The activity is integrated into environmental management and focuses on environmentally friendly practical actions in waste management and recycling, energy and water, green procurement and mobility and decreasing paper consumption.</p>	<p>City of Helsinki, (Lead Partner, Helsinki, FI); Services for Children and Adolescents, City of Kotka (Kymenlaakso, FI); Research and Development Services, City of Hämeenlinna (Kanta-Häme, FI); Tallinn city government Environment Department (Põhja-Eesti, EE); Tartu city government (EE); Rakvere city government (Põhja-Eesti, EE)</p>	<p>www.eco-support.net</p>
<p>CLUSTER: EVNSR</p>  <p>Energy Vision North Sea Region</p>	<p>The EVNSR Project is clustering the INTERREG IVB renewable energy projects. EVNSR is drawing on the value and strengths identified in the individual projects in order to increase the deployment rate of renewable energy in the NSR. EVNSR will interconnect the different individual results and will amplify the successes in order to build an Renewable Energy Strategy. The project consists of three parts: 1. Create a stakeholder platform in the field of renewable energy; 2. Identification of impact factors by analyzing projects 3. Defining an interregional renewable energy NSR strategy.</p>	<p>Central Denmark Region (DK); Alexanderson Institutet (SE); Basildon Borough Council; Dundee College (GB); Energy Valley Foundation; Municipality of Groningen (NL); Noorderpoort College; Province of Drenthe (NL); Province of Groningen (NL); IZET Innovation Centre (DE); POM West Flanders (BE); Port of Oostende (BE); Powerlink (BE)</p>	<p>www.energyvision.info</p>




<p>Food Port Connecting Food Port Regions - Between and Beyond</p>  <p>INTERREG IVB North Sea Region</p>	<p>Food Port aims to develop the North Sea Region (NSR) as the best food cluster and hub in Europe for food products delivered via efficient and sustainable transport systems e.g. 'green transport corridors'. Food Port brings together local authorities, knowledge organisations, food industries and ports from 5 countries to find practical solutions to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of the food supply chains.</p> <p>The project will investigate and develop green transport corridors for food products between regions around the North Sea. This will lead to concrete modal shift pilots along the identified green transport corridors and to the development of (new) food platforms or hubs. In order to improve the food-logistic chains, new technological solutions will be incorporated, such as a technical support platform.</p>	<p>POM West-Vlaanderen (Lead partner, BE); VOKA Chamber of Commerce West-Flanders (BE); Port of Oostende (BE); Port of Zeebrugge (BE); South East Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran) (GB); University of Hull Logistics Technology Group (GB); Forth Ports PLC (GB); University of Southern Denmark (DK); Port of Odense (DK); The Development Council of South Jutland (DK); Port of Esbjerg (DK); Magistrat der Stadt Bremerhaven (DE); Deutsche See GmbH (DE); Hochschule Bremerhaven (DE); Port of Kristiansund and Nordmøre IMC (NO); Region Västra Götaland (ENCORE SG Member, SE); Port of Göteborg AB (SE); Chalmers University of Technology (SE)</p>	
<p>Future of waters</p>  <p>INTERREG IV A Bavaria - Austria</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is to get an overview about the measures needed to achieve a good ecological situation of waters and to decrease nutrient contamination in the cultural landscape at the foothills of the alps in Bavaria and Upper Austria.</p>	<p>Water Management Office Traunstein (DE); Agency for Food, Agriculture and Forestry Traunstein (DE); Bundesamt für Wasserwirtschaft, Institut für Kulturtechnik und Bodenwasserhaushalt (AT); Landwirtschaftskammer für Oberösterreich (AT)</p>	<p>www.gewaesser-zukunft.eu</p>



<p>Geomol Subsurface potentials of the Alpine Foreland Basins for sustainable planning and use of natural resources</p> <p>Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is to provide consistent 3-dimensional subsurface information based on coherent evaluation methods and commonly developed criteria and guidelines in order to meet the EU's ambitious targets for carbon emission reduction, renewable energy reduction. Therefore, the natural subsurface resources (geo-potentials) like the deep 'Molasse' basins at the fringe of the Alpine mountain range which offer an abundant geothermal potential and storage capacity for weather-dependent wind and solar energy, as well as space for underground storage of gas or CO₂, shall be exploited.</p>	<p>Bavarian Environment Agency, Department 10: Geological Survey (DE); Geological Survey of Austria, Department of Mineral Resources, Department of Hydrogeology (AT); Regionalverband Bodensee-Oberschwaben (DE); State Authority for Geology, Mineral Resources and Mining - Regierungspräsidium Freiburg – Dept. 9 (DE); Emilia-Romagna Region - Geological, Seismic and Soil Survey (IT); Technische Universität Bergakademie Freiberg - Department of Geophysics and Geoinformatics (DE); Office of the State Government of Upper Austria - Directorate Environment and Water Management - Department of Ground Water and Drinking Water Management (DE); Institute for Environmental Protection and Research - Italian Geological Survey (IT); Regione Lombardia - Territorial and Urban Planning, Directorate General (IT); Geological Survey of Slovenia (SI); Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE - Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (CH); Federal Office of Topography - Swiss Geological Survey (CH); State of Geneva, Department of Security, Police and Environment Environmental Office (CH)</p>	
<p>GRACE Grazing and Restoration of Archipelago and Coastal Environments</p>  <p>LIFE+</p>	<p>The Life Project GRACE rescues rare habitats and species in the Swedish Archipelago. Overgrown semi-natural habitats will be restored within the GRACE project. The project covers 39 islands and 2 peninsulas in 23 different Natura 2000 sites. The sites are situated in the archipelagos in the four Counties of Västra Götaland, Halland, Blekinge and Stockholm.</p>	<p>County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland (Lead Partner, SE); County Administrative Board of Blekinge (SE); County Administrative Board of Halland (SE); County Administrative Board of Stockholm (SE); Archipelago Foundation in Stockholm County (SE)</p>	<p>www.graceprojektet.se</p>
<p>Green Sustainable Airports</p>  <p>INTERREG IVB North Sea Region</p>	<p>Green Sustainable Airports (GSA), formerly known as <i>Sustainable Airport Solutions (SAS)</i>, is an international cooperation project focusing on accelerating the process of 'greening' airport operations.</p>	<p>Province of Drenthe (NL); Groningen Airport Eelde (NL)</p>	<p>provincie.drenthe.nl/gsa</p>




<p>Impacts of acidification on soil and water</p> <p>INTERREG IVA Bavaria - Czech Republic</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is an integrative and final evaluation of the regions at the Bavarian-Bohemian border which are highly affected by acidification. Therefore, data on the current and the future buffering capacity and the element outflow into soil and groundwater shall be collected.</p>	<p>Bavarian Environment Agency (DE); Výzkumný ústav rostlinné výroby, v. v. i. (CZ)</p>	
<p>Improving the visitors services in the national parks Bavarian Forest and Šumava</p> <p>INTERREG IVA Bavaria - Czech Republic</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is to improve the visitors services in the national parks Bavarian Forest and Šumava. Since the Czech Republic has been joining the Schengen agreement, the number of visitors in both parks has been increased and will increase further. Therefore, comprehensive information systems in both languages need to be established.</p>	<p>National Park Bavarian Forest (DE); Nationalpark Šumava - Správa Národního parku a chránené krajinné oblasti Šumava (CZ)</p>	
<p>Investigation of the ecology of the lynx and the deer in the ecosystem of the mountain forest</p> <p>INTERREG IVA Bavaria - Czech Republic</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is to investigate the causes of the decline of the local population of the lynx. Therefore, the ecology of the lynx and the deer as its favorite prey animal need to be investigated. The results of the project will be prepared for the developing of the management and for supporting the public acceptance of the lynx.</p>	<p>National Park Bavarian Forest (DE); Nationalpark Šumava - Správa Národního parku a chránené krajinné oblasti Šumava (CZ)</p>	
<p>Kosterhavet and Ytre Hvaler National Parks – Our Common Heritage</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>INTERREG Sweden-Norway</p>	<p>The project strengthens the long term co-operation between the Swedish Marine National Park Kosterhavet and the Norwegian Marine National Park Ytre Hvaler, which are sharing the Swedish-Norwegian Border in Skagerrak.</p> <p>Main parts of the project are 1) Common official opening of the parks in 2009 2) Common information about nature and culture values 3) Common nature management strategies and 4) Strengthening of sustainable tourism in the area.</p>	<p>County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland (Lead partner, SE); County Governor of Østfold (Lead partner, NO); Municipality of Strömstad (SE); Municipality of Tanum (SE); Municipality of Fredrikstad (NO); Municipality of Hvaler (NO); Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SE); Ministry of Environment, Directorate for Nature Management (NO)</p>	<p>www.kosterhavet.se</p>
<p>Land use of the bats and developing of a monitoring system</p> <p>INTERREG IVA Bavaria - Czech Republic</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is to develop a common monitoring system for bats in both parks. With the help of modern equipment, the “batcorder”, investigations shall be carried out in order to get better knowledge about the living of bats in the national parks.</p>	<p>National Park Bavarian Forest (DE); Nationalpark Šumava - Správa Národního parku a chránené krajinné oblasti Šumava (CZ)</p>	



<p>Lifescape Implementing European Landscape Convention in the South Baltic Region</p>  <p>South Baltic Programme</p>	<p>LIFEScape project will join the forces of landscape planners - experts and practitioners from Poland, Lithuania, Sweden and Denmark to share their experience and work-out innovative managerial solutions best suited for each region.</p> <p>Participative approach seems to be the most effective means of landscape protection. Local stakeholders: inhabitants, authorities, entrepreneurs, developers, NGOs and young people will be empowered to actively take part in the current spatial planning processes of their community. Their awareness of landscape problems and acceptance of the regulations will increase, thus improving the effectiveness of protection measures.</p> <p>International exchange and cooperation: Each of the participating countries has a different level of compliance to the European Landscape Convention implementation.</p>	<p>Elbląg High-Plain Landscape Park (Lead Partner, PL); Tolkmicko Municipality (PL); Žemajtija National Park (LT); Klaipeda University (LT); Lund Municipality (SE); Sjöbo Municipality (SE); Linnaeus University (SE); Slagelse Municipality (DK)</p>	<p>www.lifescape.eu</p>
<p>LoCaRe Low Carbon Economy Regions</p>  <p>INTERREG IVC</p>	<p>Six European regions have joined forces in a common initiative to reduce CO2 emissions regionally and locally. The objective is to develop low carbon solutions at regional and local level and at the same time contribute to economic growth. LoCaRe is a "mini programme", thus enabling partners to distribute funding for 6 "sub projects" where a.o. local authorities can improve their work to reduce GHG emissions.</p>	<p>Region Syddanmark (Lead partner, DK); Region Västra Götaland (ENCORE SG Member, SE); Principado de Asturias (ES); Regione Emilia-Romagna (IT); Gorenjska (SI); Province of Zeeland (NL)</p>	
<p>MANEV Evaluation of manure management and treatment technology for environmental protection and sustainable livestock farming in Europe</p>  <p>LIFE+</p>	<p>Improvement of environmental protection and sustainability of livestock promoting the use of treatment technologies in different saturated or surplus areas in the production of livestock manure across Europe.</p>	<p>Office of the Marshal of Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship (PL, ENCORE SG Member); Sociedad de Desarrollo Medio Ambiental de Aragón (SODEMASA) (ES, Lead Partner); Aarhus University (DK); University of Milan (IT); CRPA Research Centre on Animal Production (IT); Gestio Integral de Residuos Organics Centre Tecnologic (GIRO) (ES); ITACyL - Agrarian Technological Institute of Castilla-Leon (ES); Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas (CSIC) (ES)</p>	<p>www.lifemanev.eu</p>


<p>MARKIS Maritime Competence and Innovation Cooperation in the Skagerrak & Kattegat</p>  <p>Maritime Competence and Innovation Skagerrak & Kattegat</p> <p>INTERREG IVA Öresund – Kattegat – Skagerrak</p>	<p>The project Maritime Competence and Innovation Cooperation in the Skagerrak & Kattegat, MARKIS focuses on development and innovation within maritime environmental technologies and safety and on how innovative solutions to maritime climate and environmental challenges can become new business opportunities and competence advantages in the global market.</p> <p>MARKIS is expected to result in a number of innovative projects, products and business ideas that contribute to viable and competitive maritime businesses in Skagerrak & Kattegat. These cooperations, networks, new methods and products will contribute to more efficient transport systems with reduced harmful emissions.</p>	<p>Region Västra Götaland (Lead Partner, SE, ENCORE SG Member); Norwegian Project owner: Høgskolen i Vestfold (NO); Partners: Region Nordjylland (DK), Aalborg Universitet (DK), Frederikshavns kommune/Maritime Network Frederikshavn (DK), Frederikshavns Erhvervsråd (DK), Maritime Training and Education Center (MARTEC) (DK), Vestfold fylkeskommune (NO), Telemark fylkeskommune (NO), Aust-Agder fylkeskommune (NO), Maritimt Forum Sørøst-Norge (NO), Oslo Maritime Nettverk (NO), Innovasjon Norge (NO). Chalmers Tekniska Högskola (SE), Svenskt Marintekniskt Forum (SE), Uddevalla kommun/Högskolecentrum Bohuslän (SE)</p>	<p>www.markis.eu</p>
<p>Measures for threatened species</p> <p>INTERREG IVA Bavaria - Czech Republic</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is to improve the public perception of species like wolfe, lynx, moose, red deer and otter. Appropriate institutions shall be constructed, reconstructed and enlarged in order to present the own being, the behavior and the demand of these species for the public.</p>	<p>National Park Bavarian Forest (DE); Nationalpark Šumava -Správa Národního parku a chránené krajinné oblasti Šumava (CZ)</p>	
<p>Mercury in the inflow to the dammed lake Skalka, monitoring and corrective suggestions</p> <p>INTERREG IVA Bavaria - Czech Republic</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is to suggest measures for the disposal and the minimization of mercury and mercurial sediments in the dammed lake Skalka (located at the border between Germany and Czech Republic). Therefore, the project aims at the collection of data about the origin and the concentration of mercury and the time and regional distribution of mercurial suspended sediments in the reservoir Skalka.</p>	<p>Water Management Office Hof (DE); Povodí Ohre, státní podnik (CZ)</p>	
<p>MOMENT Modern Water Management in the South Baltic Sea Area</p>  <p>South Baltic Programme</p>	<p>Improved management with water and local/regional preparedness for implementation of the EU WFD and HELCOM BSAP aiming at decreasing the pollution, as a prerequisite for a sustainable development.</p>	<p>Office of the Marshal of Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship (PL, ENCORE SG Member); Regional Council in Kalmar County (SE, Lead Partner); Region Blekinge (SE); Regional Council in South Småland (SE); Kalmar Municipality (SE); Torsås Municipality (SE); Mönsterås Municipality (SE); Nybro Municipality (SE); Ronneby Municipality (SE); Swedish Forest Agency, Region East (SE); Blekinge County Administration Board (SE); Kalmar Water (SE); Regional Water Management Board in Gdansk (PL); Institute of Meteorology and Water Management (PL); Coastal Reserach and Planning Institute of the Klaipeda University (LT); Klaipeda District Municipality (LT)</p>	<p>www.momentproject.eu</p>


<p>Move FOR ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY</p>  <p>INTERREG IV A Austria – Slovenia</p>	<p>Development of regional energy concepts for renewable energy and to assure the sustainability.</p>	<p>E-Zavod (SI, Lead Partner); Energy Agency KSENA (SI); LEA Pomurje Local Energy Agency (SI); ENERESS (SI); Energy Agency LEB Styria (AT); Holzcluster Steiermark GMBH (AT); Regional Government of Carinthia Department 8 (AT); TOB Technologieoffensive Burgenland (AT)</p>	<p>www.move.si</p>
<p>North Pest Clean</p>  <p>LIFE+</p>	<p>The primary objectives of the NorthPestClean project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To demonstrate in a large-scale pilot experiment the efficiency of a novel remediation method that uses in situ alkaline hydrolysis to treat pesticide contaminated soil and groundwater. 2. To demonstrate, in side-by-side pilot experiments, the performance and usability of different "enhancement" technologies (i.e., technologies for improving in situ alkaline hydrolysis by enhancing the delivery of hydroxide solution to the target treatment zone and in situ mixing with target contaminants). 	<p>Central Denmark Region (DK)</p>	<p>www.northpestclean.dk</p>
<p>North Sea Sustainable Energy Planning</p>  <p>INTERREG IVB North Sea Region</p>	<p>The idea of this project is to focus on the specific problems municipalities and counties faced in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency.</p> <p>North Sea Sustainable Energy Planning is considering main points of relevant strategic EU policies, such as the ESDP (fostering e.g. Indigenous Development, Diverse and Productive Rural Areas), the Lisbon and Gothenburg Strategy (creating a dynamic economic environment and ensuring sustainable development) and translating it to the field of alternative energies and energy efficiency (RES -directive).</p>	<p>Province of Drenthe (NL); Municipality of Tynaarlo (NL)</p>	<p>www.northseasep.eu</p>



<p>PermaNet Permafrost Long-Term Monitoring Network</p>  <p>Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is the joint development of a common strategy for dealing with permafrost and related hazards under changing climatic conditions and the creation of an Alpine-wide monitoring network. Outputs are an Alpine-wide permafrost monitoring network, a permafrost map for the entire Alpine Space and guidelines for the consideration of permafrost in risk and water resources management. The project wants to arise the awareness of decision-makers and responsible authorities to this topic and provides Alpine-wide decision bases and strategies.</p>	<p>Autonomous Province of Bolzano - South Tyrol, Office for Geology and Building Materials Testing (AT); Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Forest Department (AT); Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics, Customer Service Salzburg and Oberösterreich (AT); University of Graz, Institute of Geography and Regional Science (AT); University of Innsbruck, Institute of Geography (AT); Federal Office for the Environment FOEN (CH); Bavarian Environment Agency, Department Geological Survey, Economic Geology, Soil Protection (DE); Grenoble Institute of Technology (FR); National Center for Scientific Research - EDYTEM Laboratory (FR); University Joseph Fourier; Institute of Alpine Geography (FR); Aosta Valley Autonomous Region, Regional Administrations Committee for Territory, the Environment and Public Works, Department for the Territory, environment and Water Resources (IT); Autonomous Province of Trento - Civil and Territory Protection Department, Geological Survey (IT); Regional Agency for Environmental Protection of Piemonte, Regional centre for geological researches (IT); Region of Veneto, Directorate of Geology and Georesources, Geological Service (IT);</p>	<p>www.permanet-alpinespace.eu</p>
<p>Preventing global warming with local acts in the Lahti Region</p>  <p>ERDF Southern Finland, Päijät-Häme</p>	<p>The aim of the Preventing Global Warming with Local Acts project (IMMU) was to find locally feasible means to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and thus mitigate climate change in the Lahti Region. The project focused on activities which the city and the municipalities can execute through their own decisions, operations or guidance</p>	<p>The Lahti University of Applied Sciences (coordination, FI); Technical and environmental services of the City of Lahti (FI); Municipalities of Nastola and Hollola (FI); Päijät-Häme Waste Disposal Ltd (FI); Lahti Region Procurement (FI); Lahti Energia Ltd (FI)</p>	<p>www.immu-hanke.fi</p>
<p>Problems of nutrients and cyanobacteria in the reservoir Skalka</p> <p>INTERREG IVA Bavaria - Czech Republic</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is to improve the ecosystems of the reservoir Skalka and the river basin Eger. Therefore the project aims at the identification of nutrient contamination as well as the elaboration of suggestions to reduce contamination in the reservoir Skalka. Additionally the project wants to develop a method against the dissemination of cyanobacteria.</p>	<p>Water Management Office Hof (DE); Povodí Ohre, státní podnik (CZ)</p>	

<p>REGBIE+ Regional Initiatives Increasing the Market for Biomass Heating in Europe</p>  <p>Intelligent Energy Europe</p>	<p>The project aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support and to strengthen local and regional actors to increase the market penetration of bio-energy heating systems, - Remove market barriers and stimulate the market for bio mass heating systems, - Support regional and local bio-energy initiatives in partner regions, - Provide information, raise awareness of the uses of bio-energy sources, - Stimulate investments in bio-energy heating systems, - Involve key market actors for cooperation and market implementation, - Support the implementation of EU Biomass Action Plan 	<p>Bałtycka Agencja Poszanowania Energii S.A. (BAPE) (PL); BIOMASA (SK); Energy Agency of Southeast Sweden (ESS) (SE); Energy Centre Ceske Budejovice (ECCB) (CZ); Fundacion Asturiana de la Energia (FAEN) (ES); Gävle Dala Energikontor (SE); Institut Technique Européen du Bois Energie (ITEBE) (FR); Lithuanian Energy Institute (LEI) (LT); O.Ö. Energiesparverband (ESV) (AT); Ökoinstitut Südtirol / Alto Adige (ÖKI) (IT); South-East Regional Authority (SERA) (IE); target GmbH (DE); University of Applied Science & Arts Hildesheim (HAWK) (DE)</p>	<p>www.regbieplus.eu</p>
<p>REGIONET Strategies for Regional Sustainable Development (RSD), An Integrated Approach beyond Best Practice</p>  <p>EU Thematic Network</p>	<p>The project aims to provide an integrated approach to support the implementation of sustainable development in regions across Europe.</p>	<p>Interdisciplinary Centre for Comparative Research in the Social Sciences (AT); Manchester University (GB); Institute for Ecological Economy Research (DE); Programme for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society (NO); Szent Istvan University of applied Sciences (HU); Polish Academy of Sciences (PL); Univ. of Tours (FR); Govt. of Catalonia (ES); Univ. of Trento (IT); Univ. of the Aegean (GR); Bulgarian Academy of sciences (BG); Graz Univ. of Technology (AT); Le Centre Interdisciplinaire pour la Recherche Comparative en Sciences Sociales (FR); Univ. of Prague (CZ); Univ. of Lisbon (PT); South East Regional Authority (IE)</p>	<p>www.iccr-international.org/regionet</p>
<p>REGIOWOOD</p>  <p>INTERREG IV Greater Region</p>	<p>Cross-border partnership in favor of a forest-based sector performance. This program allows the industry as a whole, to consider its development and future competitiveness, within a wide area representative of the pole forest-west Europe.</p> <p>Auctions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mobilize forest owners; <p>Combine economic efficiency and sustainable forest management;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make the tender offer and the demand for wood to the right balance; - Facilitate dialogue and exchange of knowledge; - Improve the competitiveness of the timber industry; - Disseminate and share everything related to wood in the Greater Region. 	<p>Asbl RND (Valbois RN) (Leadpartner BE); SRFB Royal Forestry Society of Belgium (BE); FNS National federation of sawmills (BE); FEREF Fund Recsearch and studies for logging (BE); Bois&Habitat (BE); HOUTINFOIS (BE); Gipeblor Interprofessional Group for promotion of economy of Lorraine wood (FR); CRPF Lorraine Alsace, Central Regional Forest Property in alsace-Lorraine (FR); ONF (FR); Lëtzebuenger privatbësch (LU); Landesforsten Rheinland-Pfalz (DE); Universität Trier (DE); FCBA Forest Cellulose Woos Furniture Construction (FR); PLAB Pole Lorrain's Furniture wood (FR); Directors of the Nature and forest (LU); COBELPA Manufacturers Association of Pulp (BE); FEDUSTRIA Belgian federation of textile Industry (BE); GEPROFOR Group for the study, use and Promotion of forestry and forest Productions (BE); DNF Department of Nature and Forest Walloon Region (BE)</p>	<p>www.regiowood.eu</p>

<p>SAWA Strategic Alliance for Integrated Water Management Actions</p>  <p>INTERREG IVB North Sea Region</p>	<p>The project will develop a strategy which will adhere to the European Water Framework Directive and also will meet the requirements of the Flood Directive. This will enable us to act flexibly on challenges arising from climate change issues. The project focuses on water quantity aspects of flood risks as well as good water quality. It's necessary to deal with both aspects although conflict of interests might occur. We need to develop an adaptive strategy for water management.</p>	<p>Ministry of Urban Development and Environment, Agency of Roads, Bridges and Waters (Lead partner, DE); Province of Flevoland (NL); Waterschap Zuiderzeeland (NL); Waterschap Hunze en Aa's (NL); Waterschap Noorderzijlvest (NL); Waterboard of Delfland (NL); Waterschap Zuiderzeeland (NL); Agricultural Chamber of Lower Saxony, District Office Uelzen (DE); University of Technology Hamburg-Harburg, Department of River and Coastal Engineering (DE); Hafencity University Hamburg, Department of Civil Engineering (DE); University Leuphana, Faculty of Environment and Technology (DE); Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NO); Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NO); Fact sheet NVU – Green Roof (NO); Municipality of Melhus (NO); Norwegian Meteorological Institute (NO); County Administrative Board of Värmland (SE); County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland (SE); City of Karlstad (SE); University of Karlstad (SE); Swedish Geotechnical Institute (SE); Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SE); Heriot-Watt University; Sustainable Water Management Research Group, School of the Built Environment (GB); Institute for Infrastructure and Environment, School of Engineering and Electronics, The University of Edinburgh (GB)</p>	
<p>Sea meets Land</p>  <p>INTERREG IVA Öresund – Kattegat – Skagerrak</p>	<p>The project “Sea meets Land” brings together 26 municipalities, regions, universities and governmental agencies from Sweden, Norway and Denmark. Focus on climate change, water management/environmental monitoring and coastal/marine spatial planning for the Kattegat and Skagerrak region, based on EU conventions and strategies governing the management of seas, coasts and activities on land. The results are useful for decision makers, planners, researchers and managers of natural resources.</p>	<p>County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland (Lead partner, SE); Østfold County Council (Project owner, NO); Swedish Species Information Centre (SE); Aust-Agder County Council (NO); Buskerud County Council (NO); Municipality of Falkenberg (SE); County Governor in Aust-Agder (NO); County Governor in Buskerud (NO); County Governor in Telemark (NO); County Governor in Vestfold (NO); County Governor in Østfold (NO); University of Gothenburg (SE); Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SE); Municipality of Kungsbacka (SE); Municipality of Larvik (NO); Municipality of Lysekil (SE); County Administrative Board of Halland (SE); Municipality of Nøtterøy (NOR); Municipality of Orust (SE) and Project “8 fjordar”; Region of Halland (SE); Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SE); Municipality of Sotenäs (SE); Telemark County Council (NO); Vestfold County Council (NO); Region Västra Götaland (SE); Aarhus University (DK)</p>	<p>www.havmoterland.se</p>
<p>SEEDS Stimulating Enterprising Environments for Development and Sustainability</p> <p>INTERREG IV B North Sea Region</p>	<p>SEEDS focuses on the stimulating of temporary use of 'empty' space and buildings in cities.</p>	<p>South Yorkshire Forest Partnership UK (Lead partner, GB); Regio Assen-Groningen (NL); Municipality of Noordenveld (NL); Municipality of Leek (NL); Municipality of Assen (NL)</p>	

<p>SedAlp Sediment management in Alpine basins: integrating sediment continuum, risk mitigation and hydropower</p> <p>Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013</p>	<p>The project contributes to integrated management of sediment transport in Alpine basins directed to an effective reduction of sediment-related risk while promoting the enhancement of riverine ecosystems and reducing the impacts of hydropower plants (balancing the implementation of EU Directives e.g. RES, Floods and WFD). The project includes piloting actions in various representative Alpine river basins of all involved countries and contributes to monitor sediment and wood transfer in a large set of Alpine catchments to understand spatial and temporal variability of processes and to provide planning, warning and predictive tools but also sediment and wood management recommendations for protecting people.</p>	<p>Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Dep. IV/5 Torrent and Avalanche Control Service (AT); Autonomous Province of Bolzano (IT); Regional Agency for Environmental Protection and Prevention of Veneto - Regional Land Safety Department (IT); University of Padova-Department Land, environment, Agriculture and Forestry (IT); National Research Council - Research Institute for Geo-Hydrological Protection (IT); Piedmont Region (IT); Bavarian Environment Agency - Unit 61: Flood Protection and Alpine Natural Disasters (DE); Irstea, Grenoble regional center, Snow avalanche engineering and torrent control research unit (FR); National Center of Scientific Research (FR); University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering (SI); Amt der Tiroler Landesregierung, Sachgebiet - Schutzwasserwirtschaft und Gewässerökologie (AT); University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna, Institute for Water Management, Hydrology and Hydraulic Engineering, Dep. Water-Atmosphere-Environment (AT); Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia (SI); Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung, Abteilung 8, Kompetenzzentrum Umwelt, Wasser und Naturschutz (AT)</p>	
<p>SILMAS Sustainable Instruments for Lakes Management in the Alpine Space</p>  <p>Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013</p>	<p>Investigations on the effects of climate change on the Alpine lakes and resolving conflicts between the different uses of the lakes. Educating the public in sustainable development as it relates to the Alpine lakes.</p>	<p>Region Rhône-Alpes (FR, Lead Partner); Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur regional Council (FR); Syndicat Mixte du Lac d'Annecy (FR) ; Comité intersyndical pour l'assainissement du lac du Bourget (FR) ; Regional Agency for Environmental Protection of Piemonte (IT); Tourist District of Lake Piemonte (IT); Regione Lombardia (IT); Environmental Protection Agency of Trento (IT); IREALP (IT); National Institute of Biology (SI); University of Nova Gorica (SI); Regional Government of Carinthia, Department 8 (AT); University of Salzburg (AT); Joanneum Research Forschungsgesellschaft mbH (AT); Institute for Lake Research (DE)</p>	<p>www.silmas.eu</p>

<p>SUN Sustainable Urban Neighbourhoods</p>  <p>Interreg IVA Euregio Meuse-Rhine</p>	<p>The objective of the SUN project is to engage seven urban neighbourhoods of the Meuse-Rhine Euregio in a sustainable development dynamics. These neighbourhoods, with their industrial era legacies, are characterised not only by important challenges to be faced, but also by many assets, if sustainable development is not limited to its energy dimension, and also economic and societal dimensions are considered. Around these seven pilot districts and their 65,000 residents, seven cities, five academic partners, and many players of the associative and economic world are involved.</p>	<p>LEMA-Ulg (Leadpartner, BE) ; University of Maastricht, ICIS (International Centre for Integrated Assessment and Sustainable Development (NL), COS Limburg (BE); University of Hasselt (BE); Asbl ECO'Hom (BE); Cities of Genk, Verviers, Liège, Eupen (BE); City of Heerlen (NL), University of Aachen (DE); Province of Limburg, Centre for sustainable construction (BE).</p>	<p>www.sun-euregio.eu</p>
<p>SURF-Nature Sustainable Use of Regional Funds –For Nature</p>  <p>INTERREG IVC</p>	<p>The overall objective of the project is to improve regional policies and practices for nature conservation and biodiversity by increasing the opportunities for financing these measures from the ERDF, whilst giving them a greater impact.</p>	<p>Office of the Marshal of Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship (PL, ENCORE SG Member); Environment Agency Austria (AT, Lead Partner); Giurgiu County Council (RO); Province of Rieti (IT); Municipal Enterprise For Planning & Development of Patras S.A. (GR); Prefecture Preveza (GR); Direction General for Nature Environment & Biodiversity of the Region of Murcia (ES); Forest Sciences Center of Catalonia (ES); Environment Agency Wales (GB); University Olomouc (CZ); Austrian Federal Forests (AT); Donau-Auen National Park (AT); Development Agency Savinja (SI); Côte d'Armor General Council (FR)</p>	<p>www.surf-nature.eu</p>
<p>Vanajavesi Centre Project</p> 	<p>The project aims at establishing a permanent centre (Vanajavesi Centre), which works on improving the status of lakes and rivers in the Vanajavesi watershed area (located in Häme, Southern Finland), ultimately aiming at improving the general appeal of the region.</p>	<p>Regional Council of Häme (FI) and the 11 municipalities located in Vanajavesi watershed area finance the project. In addition, the project has a vast array of local, regional and national actors in its wide network, including several highly experienced and influential people (ministers, a MEP and the like).</p>	<p>www.vanajavesi.fi</p>
<p>WaterCAP Water Climate Adapt Promote</p>  <p>INTERREG IVB North Sea Region</p>	<p>WaterCAP is a cluster project on water management and climate change in the North Sea Region. It connects six INTERREG IVB funded projects focused on water quantity and quality issues, climate change impacts and regional adaptation strategies. WaterCAP communicates these as a substantive block of evidence to inform policy makers.</p>	<p>Central Denmark Region; Aarhus University (DK); GEUS (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland) (DK); KCA (Knowledge center for Agriculture) (DK); Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management (NL); Provincie Zeeland (NL); Provincie Drenthe (NL); Deltares (NL); Ghent University (BE); SeeConsult GmbH; Hafencity University (DE); University of Oldenburg (DE); OOWV (Water board of Oldenburg and East Frisia) (DE); James Hutton Institute (GB)</p>	<p>www.watercap.eu</p>

<p>WATER CoRe Water scarcity and droughts: coordinated actions in European regions</p>  <p>INTERREG IVC</p>	<p>This project provides an exchange platform for water scarcity and drought issues on regional and local level for all European regions. Policies and practical experiences related to management of water scarcity and droughts already exist in Europe. Water CoRe will compile this knowledge and make it accessible for all regional and local actors in the EU in order to create their own tailor-made approaches.</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment, Energy, Agriculture and Consumer Protection of Hessen (DE); Agency of Environment and Geology of Hessen (DE); Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Environment of Aragon (ES); Aragonese Water Institute (ES); Emilia-Romagna Region (IT); Environmental Agency of Emilia-Romagna – Hydro-Meteo-Climate Service (IT); Ministry of Rural Development (HU); Directorate for Environmental Protection and Water Management of Lower Tisza District (HU); Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) (HU); Ministry of Environment and Forests (RO); National Meteorological Administration (NMA) (RO); Environmental Protection Agency Covasna (RO); Province of North-Brabant (NL); General Council of Hérault (FR)</p>	<p>www.watercore.eu</p>
<p>ZECOS Development and Introduction of the Communal Zero CO₂ Emission Certification System as a Tool for Sustainable Communities and Regions</p>  <p>INTERREG IVB North-West Europe</p>	<p>The project aims at developing a Zero CO₂ Emission Awarding System acknowledging communities which set themselves CO₂ reduction goals that are far beyond the regular compliance. Eight ZECOS communities have alongside started their way to Zero CO₂ Emissions by identifying full local energy efficiency and renewable energy potentials, setting them up into management plans, implementing local emission reducing projects and many more.</p>	<p>Agency for economic redeployment of the Silesian basin (BE); Catholic University College Ghent (BE); Institute for Applied Material Flow Management (Leadpartner) (DE); TÜV Rheinland Energy and Environment GmbH (DE); Community of Morbach (DE); Energy Agency for the region of Trier (DE); University of Limerick (IE); MosArt Ltd (IE); European Academy of Renewable Energy (GB); Peterborough City Council (GB); Northamptonshire County Council (GB).</p>	<p>www.zecos.eu</p>

5. Partnerships between “old” and “new” EU Regions

What the OLAP says:

The Conference asked all Regions to continue improving contacts, and to start partnerships with Regions from the new Member States, and recognized that the enlargement of the Steering Group will facilitate this process.

What has been done:

- New members of the SG: Pilsen Region (Czech Republic), Central Denmark (Denmark)
- Potential new ENCORE members: Mazowieckie, Wielkopolskie (Poland)
- The representative of Mazowieckie Voivodeship participated as an observer in the Steering Group meeting in Elbląg (Poland) on 19th-20th April 2012



6. Working Groups

What the OLAP says:

The Conference recognized the importance of the ENCORE Working Groups that guarantee continuity and visibility of ENCORE activities. The three existing Working Groups will continue their activities during the next two years and a new Working Group on Renewable Energy will be established. The establishment of a new Working Group on Soil Protection will be considered.

What the OLAP says:

Working Group on Climate Change

Leading region: North Rhine Westphalia, Germany

Objective: to present Regional activities in the field of Climate Change (adaptation and mitigation measures); to provide a platform of communication between Regional experts and decision makers; to extend and intensify networking and co-operation between Regions; to share best practice; to develop and refine Regional strategies.

Olsztyn Action Plan (OLAP)

Activities: maintenance of the website of the working group launched in 2007 (www.regional-climate.eu); sharing information on best practice; identifying projects with a common interest, organizing conferences.

What has been done:

Working Group has changed its name to the **Working Group on Climate Change and Renewable Energies**

- 7th September 2011:

Meeting with UNFCCC Secretariat in Bonn, Germany

- 12th October 2011:

WG Leaders Meeting, Brussels

- Outline Concept/Work Plan 2011/2012

Start of revision of the website www.regional-climate.eu

What the OLAP says:

Working Group on Biodiversity

Leading region: Tuscany, Italy

Objectives:

- *analyze the implementation of the Birds and Habitats directives, developing the priority themes defined in them and completing the previous activities of the Working Group.*

Activities:

- *analysis of regional strategies and good practices by web contacts and technical meetings;*

- *sharing information on good practices;*
- *identifying possible projects with a common interest;*
- *presenting to European Commission the identified regional strategies and good practices as a contribution to the EU policy for the common task of reducing the loss of biodiversity in Europe.*

What has been done:

New Leading Region: Basque Country, Spain

- 13th October 2010:

ENCORE Working Group meeting, Bilbao, Basque Country (Spain);

- 16th December 2010:

ENCORE Working Group meeting, Brussels, Belgium.

- 12th October 2011:

WG Leaders Meeting, Brussels

- Some developments have occurred in the relationship between ENCORE Biodiversity WG and UNEP. ENCORE took active part in the new launching of the REGAIN network in Brussels 4th June 2012 and agreed to work with UNEP for the preparations of a biodiversity conference later that year.
- Basque Country has taken over the leadership of the WG after Tuscany.

What the OLAP says:

Working Group on Water

Leading Region: Aragón, Spain

Objectives:

To promote regional awareness and co-operation in the fields of

- *Integrated River Basin Management*
- *Water Quality Management*
- *Application of the Water Framework Directive*
- *Application of the Flood Directive*
- *Water Scarcity and Drought management*

Activities:

- *Continuing the previous activities of the Working Group by sharing information on good practices and by identifying and implementing possible projects of common interest.*

What has been done:

New Leading Region: Aragón and Basque Country (Spain)

- 13th October 2010:

ENCORE Working Group meeting, Bilbao, Basque Country (Spain). ENCORE WG on Water members focused on selecting new themes to be developed during period 2010-2012;

- 12th October 2011:

WG Leaders Meeting, Brussels

- WG on Water (Basque Country) asked to take part in the two studies on environmental training and invasive species, whose results will be disseminated in Drenthe ENCORE Conference as well as among EU related units and organisms.
- Basque Country has taken over the leadership of the WG after Aragon.

What the OLAP says:

Working Group on Renewable Energy

Leading Region: Västra Götaland, Sweden

What has been done:

The topic of renewable energies has been added to the Working Group on Climate Change creating Working Group on Climate Change and Renewable Energies led by North Rhine Westphalia, Germany

What the OLAP says:

Working Group on Soil Protection

Leading Region: Drenthe, Netherlands

What has been done:

Creation of the Working Group on Soil Protection has not yet been decided.



7. ENCORE Permanent Secretariat

What the OLAP says:

The Conference welcomed the offer of Aragon to run the ENCORE Permanent Secretariat which task is to support Co-Presidents in administration issues.

What has been done:

- Aragon runs the ENCORE Permanent Secretariat supporting Co-Presidents, arranging contacts with other networks and administrating the network

ENCORE Planning Strategy:

- Draft of a modern strategy to design ENCORE as a network was prepared by the Secretariat

8. Preparation of ENCORE 2012

What the OLAP says:

The Conference welcomed the offer of Drenthe to host the next ENCORE Conference in 2012 and asked the ENCORE Steering Group to work with Drenthe to organize a successful conference.

After closure of the ENCORE 2010 Conference, the Co-Presidency of ENCORE is in the hands of Warmia-Mazury and Drenthe.

The Conference thanked Aragón for its commitment to ENCORE as Co-President during the last 4 years.

What has been done:

- Early draft including points of the agenda, time and place of the conference was prepared by Drenthe and presented during SG Meeting in Bilbao (Spain), 14th-16th October 2010;
- New approach and vision of the conference was presented at the Co-chair-Secretariat meeting in Zaragoza, 18th February 2011, and at the Steering Group meeting in Plzen (Czech Republic), 17th & 18th March 2011;
- More details and a revision of the programme was presented at the Steering Group meeting in Elbląg (Poland), 19th-20th April 2012;
- An early idea of organizing additional ENCORE Youth conference was cancelled due to financial reasons however the vision of working groups for ministers remained; the draft agenda has been provided and the registration platform has been established;
- A website with all important information has been created (<http://www.provincie.drenthe.nl/encore>)
- The conference takes place on 20th-22nd September 2012 in Assen / Paterswolde / Groningen

provincie **Drenthe**