The MyCOAST e-Newsletter – Issue 3

Welcome to the third issue of the e-newsletter of the MyCOAST project. On this issue, we provide a brief summary of project progress and activities from July until Dec. 2019.

Brief project summary reminder

A project summary was given on Issue 1 (http://mycoast-project.org/images/newsletters/Newsletter_1.pdf) and the *About* page of our website (http://www.mycoast-project.org/about/) so we will not repeat it here. However, just a reminder that MyCOAST is a project of 15 partners (and 7 associated partners) funded by the INTERREG Atlantic Area European transnational cooperation programme. The project is due to end in Jul. 2020, although we are requesting an extension to Dec. 2020. The overall aim of MyCOAST is to enhance the capability of risk management systems in the Atlantic region by improving co-operation between national and regional observational and forecasting systems, and end users (citizens, public administrations, etc.), building *a coordinated Atlantic Coastal Operational Observatory* in the Atlantic area.

Meetings

The 2nd Progress Meeting (preceded by the 2019 IBIROOS Annual Meeting) took place on 4 –5 April 2019 at the Plymouth Marine Laboratory (Plymouth, UK), as reported in the previous newsletter. The 3rd Progress Meeting will take place in Santiago de Compostela (Galicia, Spain) from 23 to 24 March 2020 and will be followed by the 2020 IBIROOS Annual Meeting (25 March) and the 3rd Regional Workshop (26 March). See below for more information about the Regional Workshops already held.

MyCOAST Regional Workshops

1st MyCOAST Regional Workshop

On 11-13 November 2019, the 1st Regional Workshop of the MyCOAST project was held in the Kursaal in Donostia/San Sebastian. On the first day, a session was dedicated to the cross boundary observatory in the southeast of the Bay of Biscay, gathering French and Spanish operators and end-users. The key MyCOAST project outputs were presented in the context of a long-term transnational collaboration around common societal issues and key scientific challenges. For project partners, all relevant material is available on the MyCOAST Sharepoint site.

The second part of the event was focused on the use of the High Frequency Radar systems in the coastal observatories. The session was chaired by the HF Radar Task Team of EuroGOOS, associated partner of MyCOAST. The agenda covered all the key work lines of the HF Radar community: Networking, Operations, Data Management, Applications and Governance.

2nd MyCOAST Regional Workshop

The 2nd MyCOAST Regional Workshop was held on 10 December 2019 in Lisbon. In this workshop, the main aim was to give the first steps for setting up a coastal observatory including the Tagus and Sado estuaries. Participants from several Portuguese institutions presented their relevant monitoring and modelling in the area and lessons learned were presented by MyCOAST partners (AZTI, INTECMAR, METEOGALICIA and USC).

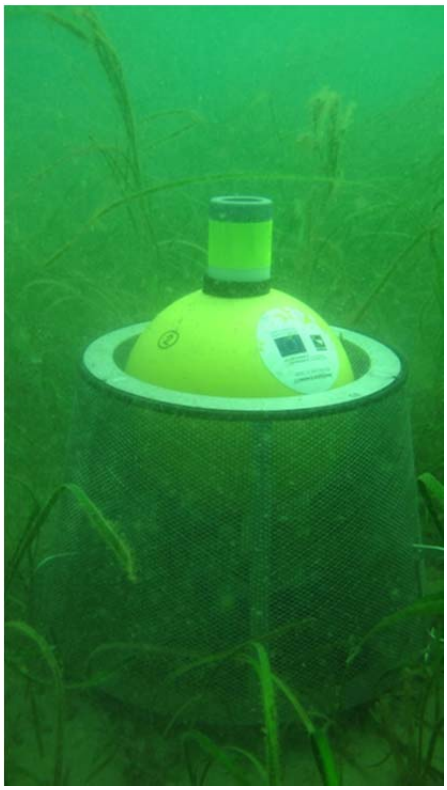
MyCOAST Workpackage highlights

WP 2 – Project Communications:

- In addition to these regular newsletters, the project website (www.mycoast-project.org) remains the primary means of general dissemination. Please check Project *News* and *Activities*, as well as relevant dissemination outputs (posters, presentations) available for download.

WP4 – Development of coastal systems:

- Partner IFREMER and colleagues presented a poster of the High Frequency Radar network at OceanObs 19 (16-20 Sep 2019) with introduction of links with MyCOAST: “National observation infrastructures in a European framework: COAST-HF: A fixed-platform network along French coasts”.
- A national workshop on turbidity measurement was organised on 26-27 November 2019 in Brest with support from MyCOAST. The aim of the workshop was to harmonize turbidity measurement in French observing networks (COAST-HF network, river observing networks: Seine, Loire, Gironde, Shom turbidity monitoring). The workshop discussed relevant subjects such as reference units, reference samples and problems collecting turbidity measurements by autonomous system and to compare different stations.
- Although not directly developed with MyCOAST funding but relevant to technological developments for coastal observatories, a new low cost platform to observe bottom oxygen has been co-developed between IFREMER and the company Neotek company; see picture below.



- Ferrybox developments in Portugal: As part of MyCOAST, the UNDERSEE_water instrument (see http://periscope-network.eu/spotlight/undersee-multi-sensor-fusion-system-water-quality-monitoring-0) was installed on a ferry boat from TransTejo connecting Lisbon with Cacilhas to collect water quality of the Tagus Estuary. The ferrybox system is currently being tested. See also “UNDERSEE: a tool for monitoring the ocean” (http://www.ipma.pt/pt/media/noticias/news.detail.jsp?f=/pt/media/noticias/textos/noticiaundersee.htm - in Portuguese).
- Project partners Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML) have submitted two abstracts to the Estuarine and Coastal Sciences Association (ECSA; https://ecsa.international/) Focus Meeting (“From

catchment to coast with an emphasis on the estuaries and coastal waters of southwest England") (https://pml.ac.uk/News_and_media/Events/ECSA_Focus_Meeting_2020_Abstract_Submissions_ope). The meeting will be held on 31 March- 2 April 2020 in Plymouth.

- PML deployed in December their ADCP at the L4 coastal station. The ADCP will be in the water recording currents and waves until mid-February.
- PML presented the operational Tamar model of MyCOAST in the Tamar Catchment Partnership meeting (2 December) and published a chapter (Uncles, R.J., Clark, J.R., Bedington, M., Torres, R., 2020. *Chapter 31 - On sediment dispersal in the Whitsand Bay Marine Conservation Zone: Neighbour to a closed dredge-spoil disposal site*, in: Humphreys, J., Clark, R.W.E. (Eds.), Marine Protected Areas. Elsevier, pp. 599–629. https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-08-102698-4.00031-9) with acknowledgement of MyCOAST contributions.
- Marine Scotland Science are in the process of commissioning a new coastal oceanographic buoy to replace their current oceanographic mooring in Loch Ewe, west coast of Scotland, which is one of their monitoring stations within the Scottish Coastal Observatory (SCObs). The new oceanographic buoy, supported by the INTERREG VA project COMPASS, will provide metocean data in near-real time – a significant improvement on the current delayed-mode setup.

WP5 – Downscaling:

Meteogalicia and Inctemar contributed a presentation (with proceedings) at ICCS2019, "An Integrated Perspective of the Operational Forecasting System in Rías Baixas (Galicia, Spain) with Observational Data and End-Users" (Venancio et al., (2019) https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007%2F978-3-030-22747-0_18).
WP5 also contributed to the 2 Regional Workshops held so far.

What next?

New activities such as the remaining Regional Workshops will be taking place in the next few months, and developments from the other project workpackages are underway and will be reported soon. We aim to be pro-active in announcing any relevant project activities, in particular those open to potential end-users and stakeholders. Until the next newsletter in approximately 6 months' time, please keep an eye on the website *News* page.

For more information feel free to contact Julien Mader (MyCOAST coordinator, AZTI) at jmader@azti.es or Alejandro Gallego (WP2 - Communications workpackage leader, Marine Scotland Science; a.gallego@marlab.ac.uk).

Best Wishes,

The MyCOAST partnership:
Project Partners: AZTI (Lead Partner), IEO, INTECMAR, IMI, USC, SHOM, PdE, IFREMER, CEFAS, IST, PML, MSS, DXCACC-METEOGALICIA, IH and QUALITAS
Associated partners: DAEM, APAC, Guardacostas Galicia, EuroGOOS AISBL, SEPA, GPMB and CML

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