

PROJECT IDEA

IDÉE DE PROJET

The Project Idea Form is a public document, if you wish to keep it private at between the JS and your partnership at this stage, please advise your Facilitator / *Le Document Idée de Projet est un document public, si vous souhaitez qu'il reste privé entre le SC et votre partenariat pour le moment, merci d'en informer votre coordinateur de l'animation.*

Project Name / *Nom du projet* : Promoting Adaptation to Changing Coasts / Promouvoir l'Adaptation aux Changements Côtiers (PACCo)

Contact / *Contact* :

Name / *Nom* : Colin Youngs

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Specific Objective / *Objectif spécifique* :

3.2 - Enhance and protect coastal and transitional water ecosystems

3.2 - *Améliorer et protéger les écosystèmes côtiers et les eaux de transition*

Summary description of the project idea (1 page max.) / *Description synthétique du projet (1 page max.)*:

Scientific evidence on climate change predicts significant changes for coasts and estuaries (transitional waters); sea levels will rise, wind speeds and wave heights will increase, the frequency, severity and duration of storms will increase, peak river flows and rainfall intensity will increase. This leads to increased demand for more and better coastal defences, threatening the availability of space for coastal and transitional water habitats. Estuaries are particularly vulnerable to these impacts because of their position between tidal and river forces. Furthermore historic human activity has modified and reclaimed many estuary environments, restricting them and disconnecting them from their floodplains. This has reduced their resilience to predicted climate change impacts, where a 20% increase in peak river flows are expected by 2050 and where an increased frequency of storms will lead to more river / tidal flooding events. The effective management of these risks will require step change in the way we manage modified estuaries.

Examples of concrete actions / Exemples d'actions concrètes :

We will select estuaries in France and England with a history of anthropogenic modification and which experience regular flooding. We will demonstrate new innovative techniques estuary management systems that work with nature to deliver more natural flood management techniques. This will involve the controlled breaching or removal of existing coastal defences to re-connect estuaries to historic flood plains. This process will create space for water and new transitional waters / intertidal habitats.

Changes that the project will contribute to / Changements auxquels le projet contribuera :

This project will provide a method for raising awareness and engaging coastal communities. It will help them to be proactive in adapting estuaries to raise resilience in anticipation of climate change impacts.

Re-connected flood plains will provide more capacity along the channel coast to absorb to tidal surges and flooding from rivers, reducing the impact of the anticipated effects of climate change.

Increasing the resilience of modified estuaries to climate change will support the achievement of 'good ecological potential' status in line with the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).

Cross border added value / Valeur ajoutée transfrontalière :

This project will help to address the decline in transitional water habitats and the biodiversity that depends on them in Interreg FCE programme area. This will be achieved through the development of a replicable model of management for modified estuaries. This will increase resilience to climate change along the French and English coasts and in other coastal regions of Europe. Outputs from the project will demonstrate techniques for adapting historic sea defences in estuaries. In addition we will provide a replicable method for working with coastal communities to raise the resilience of FCE estuaries in the face of climate change.

Capitalisation on previous initiatives/ Capitalisation sur de précédentes initiatives:

To name but a few... We will build on coastal community engagement work developed on the previous Interreg FCE & TWO SEAS projects LiCCo and CC2150. We will review the Environment Agency Medmerry Project which involved controlled breaching old coastal defences. We will review the Working with Natural Processes Project led by Defra with research by Newcastle and Lancaster Universities.

Sustainability/Durabilité :

The estuary pilot site management examples and techniques we will be develop on this project are designed to provide a sustainable future for modified estuaries that

have experienced environmental degradation helping them to achieve WFD 'good ecological potential' status.

Partners (with their geographical areas) already involved in the project idea / *Partenaires (en précisant leur zone géographique) déjà impliquées à ce stade d'idée de projet*

Environment Agency
East Devon Pebblebed Heath Conservation Trust
Conservatoire du Littoral
DREAL Nord Pas-de-Calais Picardie

Potential partners sought (skills wanted) / *Partenaires potentiels recherchés (compétences recherchées) France / France :*

We are searching for a French partner who is involved in the management of estuaries.

Start date and end date of the project / *Dates de début et de fin du projet:*

January 2018 – December 2020

Estimated project cost / *Coût estimé du projet:*

€3 – 5M

Other comments / *Autres commentaires :*

Has a programme facilitator from the InterregVA FCE Joint Technical Secretariat provided advice to the project applicant? / *Un coordinateur de l'animation du Secrétariat Technique Conjoint FMA a-t-il conseillé le porteur du projet ?*

If yes, facilitator's name / *Si oui, quel est le nom du coordinateur de l'animation ?*

Name / *Nom:* Julie Becel