



The MyCOAST e-Newsletter – Issue 4

Welcome to the fourth issue of the e-newsletter of the MyCOAST project. On this issue, we provide a brief summary of project progress and activities from January until July 2020.

Brief project summary reminder

We normally start each newsletter with a brief project summary. A longer version is available 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. At the time of writing this, the project is due to end on 31 Dec. 2020, following an extension from the original 15 Jun. end date, but we have agreed to a further 6 months automatic extension to INTERREG AA projects due to Covid-19 (to the end of June 2021) although this still needs to be officially confirmed.

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 and workshops

The 3rd Progress Meeting was scheduled to take place on 23-24 March 2020 in Santiago de Compostela (Galicia, Spain), to be followed by the 2020 IBIROOS Annual Meeting (25 March) and the 3rd Regional Workshop (26 March). Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic all these meetings had to be cancelled/postponed, although a successful “virtual” annual Progress Meeting took place on 23-24 March with a slightly compressed agenda.

The IV Hackathon on Big Data & Analytics, organised by DXC Technology (Hewlett Packard Enterprise) with the collaboration of MyCOAST partners MeteGalicia and Intecmar, was focused on MyCOAST outcomes this year. The challenge was to develop add-value products from ocean and coastal observatories data. It took place in Santiago de Compostela on 6-7th March 2020. Due to Covid-19, the award of prizes to the winning teams had to be postponed and took place online on 18 June. For more information check out <http://hackathon-cein.com/>.



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.
- A new “end-of-project” brochure is being finalised, with the highlights of the project so far. Once it is finished, it will be translated to the official AA languages and available for distribution and download. Watch this space.

WP4 – Development of coastal systems:

- *Analysis and improvement of HF Radar wave data*: Publication by Basañez *et al.* (2020) Quality Assessment and Practical Interpretation of the Wave Parameters Estimated by HF Radars in NW Spain. *Remote Sensing*. 12 (4), 598; <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs12040598>
- The *Santander Atlantic Time Series* (SATS) data are available for the first time on the OceanSITES Global Data Assembly Center (GDAC; <http://www.oceansites.org/data/>). Since 1991, MyCOAST project partner IEO have been sampling a hydrographical transect off Santander to a depth of 2,000 m. At each monthly sampling, hydrographic and biogeochemical parameters such as temperature, salinity, chlorophyll and oxygen are measured by CTD and water samples are taken for calibration. An oceanographic buoy, the *Augusto Gonzalez de Linares* buoy (AGL; <http://www.ieo.es/en/boya-agl>) was moored in 2007 by the IEO at 2,800 m depth in the Southern Bay of Biscay (43.8° N, 3.8° W) and, since then, it provides hourly data of atmospheric, oceanographic and biogeochemical parameters: air pressure & temperature, relative humidity, wind direction & speed, sea surface temperature & salinity, and dissolved oxygen & chlorophyll at 3 m. The hydrographic station associated with the AGL buoy has been sampled since 1994.



- ADCP deployment on L4 station: On 2 June 2020 MyCOAST partner Plymouth Marine Laboratory deployed from their vessel RV Quest a profiling current meter at their L4 coastal monitoring station (<https://www.westernchannelobservatory.org.uk/buoys.php>), which will be kept for two months.



WP5 – Downscaling:

- Special issue on ocean modelling: A Special Issue of the Journal of Marine Science and Engineering on “Ocean Modelling in Support of Operational Ocean and Coastal Services” is being edited by a Marcos G. Sotillo, of MyCOAST partner Puertos del Estado.
- Article on operational modelling capability: The publication “Operational Modeling Capacity in European Seas—An EuroGOOS Perspective and Recommendations for Improvement” has been published in Front. Mar. Sci. 7:129. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2020.00129, acknowledging the MyCOAST contribution.

WP6 – Data:

- Model output standards: NCML homogenization of THREDDS (based on NetCDF, CF1.6, OceanSites) is the format being tested on WP7 coastal risk tools (see below).

WP7 –Tool Development:

The following **coastal risk tools** have been developed

- FloodTool (Coastal flooding). Contact pablo.enrique.carracedo.garcia@xunta.gal
- MyCoastLCS (Litter). Contact rito@pml.ac.uk
- ADRIFT (Search and rescue). Contact tomasz.dabrowski@marine.ie
- LI4MOHID (HNS and oil spill forecast). Contact pmontero@intecmar.gal
- Weather Window Tool (Maritime health and safety). Contact joe.mcGovern@marine.ie

And finally ...

MyCOAST has been identified as a Use Case by the Copernicus Marine Service. Our project is a relevant example of how CMEMS data are used by intermediate users for coastal monitoring, marine policy, science and climate. Visit the site at <https://marine.copernicus.eu/usecases/mycoast-coordination-coastal-observatories/>

What next?

Covid-19 has had an impact on project activities, in particular meetings and workshops that were going to be held in person. The timing of remaining Regional Workshops is being reviewed in the light of the current situation. Developments from all project workpackages continue in the background and will be reported soon, in particular the pilot implementation of the WP7 Coastal Risk Tools in WP8. We aim to be pro-active in announcing any relevant project activities, in particular those open to potential end-users and stakeholders so, until the next newsletter in approximately 6 months' time, please keep an eye on the website *News* and *Activities* pages.

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

