
COLUMBUS



European Parliament Event

Accelerating Blue Growth through
Marine and Maritime Knowledge Transfer

DEVOTES – Innovative Tools to Support Quality Environmental Impact Assessments in Marine Environments


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Why am I here today?



Human activities produce pressures resulting in impacts at sea, which need monitoring and assessment, and ultimately reverting them...

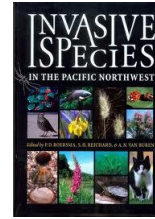
DEVOTES aims at contributing to achieve this

Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)

DEVelopment **O**f innovative **T**ools
 for understanding marine
 biodiversity and assessing good
Environmental **S**tatus
 EU FP7 project 'Ocean of
 Tomorrow' www.devotes-project.eu



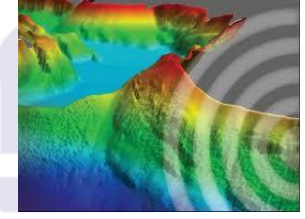
Biodiversity



Alien



Foodwebs

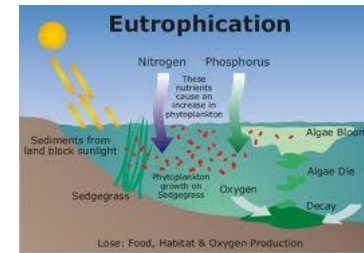


Seafloor integrity

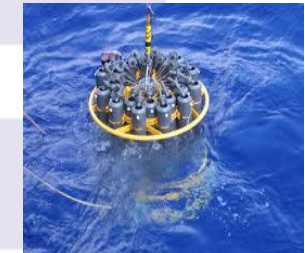
- Understand relationships between human activities and impacts at sea
- Define Good Environmental Status
- Develop indicators, modelling and innovative monitoring tools
- Develop integrative assessment tools, to be used by Member States



Fishing



Eutrophication



Hydrography



Pollution



Litter

MARINE MAMMAL POPULATIONS AND OCEAN NOISE

DETERMINING WHEN NOISE CAUSES HAZARDOUS IMPACTS ON WHALES

Cooperation of Oceanography, Biological, Fisheries, and Marine Mammal Sciences

Overseas Institute of Oceanography

Division of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL ON OCEANOGRAPHY

Noise

A great solution!

NEAT (Nested Environmental status Assessment Tool)

- A flexible free software to assess the status of marine systems
- Real implementation of the MSFD and beyond
- All Member States can use it, customizing if necessary
- Performs assessment at Regional Sea, sub-region, national and local scales



Knowledge Output Pathway (looking for new applications and environments)

TARGET USER	DIRECT IMPACT	ACTION
Performers of marine EIA (government, consultancies, Research institutes)	Testing the tool, confirmation of applicability to impact studies and potential for improvement	Organization of a Knowledge Transfer Workshop
EU project ATLAS: to assess the status of deep-sea systems in the Atlantic	Application to new environments and testing the tool	Organization of a Knowledge Transfer Workshop and further support to the project
Tool to complement AquaNIS portal	Application to new ecosystem components and pressures	Organization of a Knowledge Transfer Workshop

EVENTUAL IMPACT: End-users awareness and validation of NEAT tool and its applicability for EIA & SEA, deep-sea environments and alien species

Conclusions

- This Knowledge Transfer allowed DEVOTES to spread and test NEAT to new applications, once the project was finalized.
- This has been achieved because the COLUMBUS approach was timely and effective to bring new actors and end-users to NEAT
- Merging our own Dissemination Plan with COLUMBUS Knowledge Transfer approach:
 - DEVOTES obtained visibility and other actors approached us, spreading the application globally, with presentations outside of Europe, in Canada and Mexico
 - DEVOTES has found new applications (bathing waters) and we have tested NEAT in new geographical areas (Caspian, Arabian Gulf) and is expected to be applied in many other locations in Europe and beyond