

Towards a better protection of the Channel marine environment through the networking of Marine Protected Areas and actors.

Vers une meilleure protection de l'environnement marin de la Manche par la mise en réseau des aires marines protégées et des acteurs.

#### **EDITORIAL**

We -marine environment stakeholders-, how well do we know each other?

The Interreg programmes have now been fostering cooperation between European territories and regions for over twenty years.

Today, a new period of cooperation is taking shape for 2014-2020, guided by the European Union's ambitious strategy to become «a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy», scalable according to the priorities defined in the various Interreg zones. However, the die is not cast! The general public and the stakeholders involved are invited to voice their opinions, as part of the negotiations on these priorities with the European Commission. Nonetheless, there are already plans for the fifth generation Interreg programmes to focus on the marine environment. The «2 Seas» programme, at the interface of the Channel and the North Sea, will encourage the development of innovative low-carbon technologies, particularly renewable marine energies. The programmes respectively dedicated to the Channel and the North-West of Europe should further integrate the promotion of natural and cultural heritage and/or biodiversity conservation by ecosystem services. And why not rely on the governance tool that marine protected areas represent for biodiversity and marine environment protection?

But do we actually understand each other better?

Through our various meetings, workshops and discussions, we gradually get the measure of public policies introduced in each country to implement European directives and the way that stakeholders, institutions, professionals, scientists and NGOs are organised out in the field. In the Channel, the PANACHE project for the MPA network and the VALMER project for the development of ecosystem services are joining forces to drive marine environment stakeholder awareness, knowledge and their involvement in sustainably managing the area they share. PPEGASEAS -a capitalisation project- is creating an important partnership to clearly outline priorities for effective governance of the Channel ecosystem.

Far from creating divide, these common denominators enable us to shape together the rich marine environment that France and the UK share.

A bientôt!

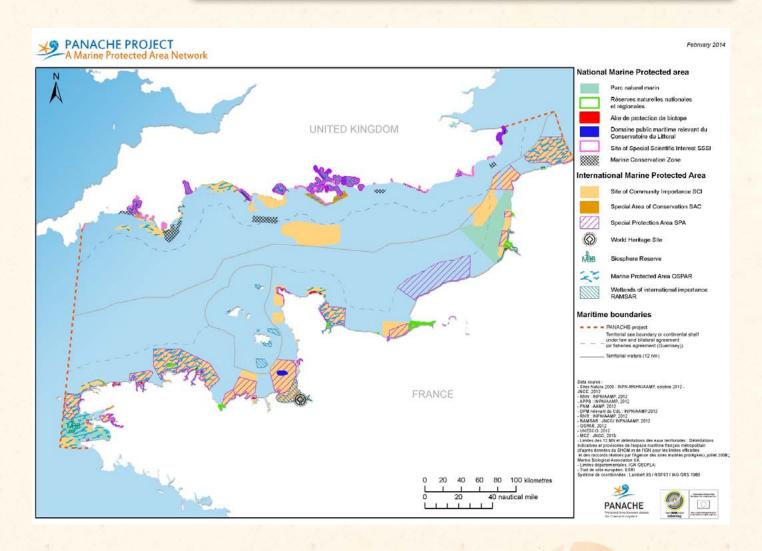
Phénia Marras – Aït Razouk PANACHE coordination team

## FOCUS ON 4 PANACHE PARTNERS

#### > MARINE INSTITUTE



The Marine Institute is based in Plymouth University, in south west England, and supports a pool of world-leading experts in the area of marine resource sustainability. Staff at the MI are leading on Work Package 1 (assessing ecological coherence of the MPA network) and Work Package 2 (developing a coherent approach to MPA monitoring), and bring expertise in the planning, management and monitoring of MPAs.



«A marine protected area (MPA) network is a group of MPAs that when connected together helps protect the habitats and species found within them to a greater degree than single MPAs. There are over 220 MPAs within the PANACHE study area, covering over 17,000 km2 and incorporating over 10 different MPA designation categories.

One of our aims is to assess the ecological coherence of the MPA network in our study area, the English Channel (Le Manche). Ecological coherence is a way of assessing how effective the network of MPAs is at conserving biodiversity in the long-term. We will look at a number of factors that will help to inform us how well the MPA network is functioning. These will include information on the different habitats and species found within the network (representativity), how many times each habitat and species occurs within the network (replication), how big each MPA is (adequacy), if populations in each MPA are big enough (viability), if species move among the MPAs (connectivity), and how well the MPAs are managed (level of protection).

We look forward to presenting our very first results at the end of this newsletter!»

### > NAUSICAA

NAUSICAA, the French National Sea Centre, is much more than a mere aquarium. Entertaining, educational and scientific, NAUSICAA is a unique centre for learning about the marine environment, focusing mainly on the relationship between Man and the Sea. With 36,000 animals, its giant aquariums, 5,000 sq of exhibition, underwater exploration, and the very latest technology used to create the most magical of settings, it has everything needed to fire the imagination. NAUSICAA's specific explanations, its specialised multimedia library, films, temporary exhibitions, conferences, educational programmes, are designed to improve our understanding. Indeed, NAUSICAA's mission is to raise public awareness about the need to manage the oceans and their resources in a sustainable way. That's the reason why the French National Sea Experience Centre was recognised as the first Centre of Excellence in 1999 by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.



From July 2013, visitors to NAUSICAA can find a new area **dedicated to biodiversity and protected marine areas**. The public can thus gain a clearer understanding of the importance of these protected areas, which play a key role in marine balance and the preservation of biodiversity. NAUSICAA refers particularly to the setting-up of the Picardie's estuaries and Opal Sea Marine Nature Park.



As an active partner of the PANACHE programme, Nausicaá organizes forums for young French and British people. By meeting experts with differing points of view, the youngsters are then able to get a practical idea of setting up a marine park and become involved themselves in introducing positive concerted actions. As part of the project, NAUSICAA is responsible for raising awareness of experts, stakeholders, young people and educative partners as well as the public, particularly through participative science.

Within the framework of the PANACHE project, Nausicaá invited the partners of the World Ocean Network in Nord-Pas de Calais to a **training session on the "Marine Biodiversity Kit"** on Thursday, 12 December. This educational kit on regional biodiversity and conservation has been provided to the educational units for use in their organisations; the session helped them get to grips with the educational games and data sheets that make up the kit.





## > DUNKERQUE PORT



www.dunkerque-port.fr

facebook.com/dunkerqueport
witter.com/DunkerquePort

Located in the North Sea, on the world's busiest seaway, Dunkerque-Port is France's third largest port, and the manager and developer of the 9,000-hectare maritime-industrial zone under its control. In addition to these activities, in 2010 Dunkerque-Port was appointed main operator of the "Bancs des Flandres" Natura 2000 site's objectives documents – a unique situation in the European harbour landscape. Dunkerque-Port is involved in PANACHE as a marine protected area manager, to ensure the coherence of its action with its neighbours. Its contributions to PANACHE include establishing protocols for monitoring the seabed or socio-economic activities, conducting suitable management measures, and creating tools to raise awareness of issues affecting MPAs.

### Zoom sur une aire marine protégée

The Bancs des Flandres Natura 2000 site is France's most northern marine protected area. This entirely marine site is located in the North Sea, off the shores of Dunkirk. It represents an area of over 110,000 hectares (271,815 acres), at the borders of Belgian and English territorial waters.

The site is named after the submarine sandy shoals that are home to many species of seabirds and marine mammals. It was designated under the European Habitats and Birds Directives: seals and harbour porpoises as well as terns, plovers and grebes make this site a real biodiversity hotspot.

This marine protected area also boasts a rich cultural and maritime heritage with vestiges of the two World Wars, a world-class industrial harbour and famous seaside resorts generating extensive activity.

As a result of this great ecological and socio-economic diversity, the Bancs des Flandres Natura 2000 site is a territory facing multiple challenges.









#### > DORSET WILDLIFE TRUST

Dorset Wildlife Trust is one of a partnership of 47 UK Wildlife Trusts and was one of the first to take an interest in conserving marine wildlife, establishing the Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve in 1978. After decades of the Trust collecting information on local marine species and habitats and campaigning for greater protection, Dorset now has a number of Marine Protected Areas (including three new Marine Conservation Zones since PANACHE started), with the hope of additional sites in the next two or three years.



Through PANACHE, the Trust's Living Seas Team are **mobilising volunteer shore-walkers and divers** to help monitor how effective Dorset's MPAs are and provide evidence in support of good management measures. «We are also running a programme of public events and using our **visitor centres** at Kimmeridge Bay and Chesil Beach to highlight the issues affecting the marine environment.»



## ... discover 4 more PANACHE partners in the next newsletter!









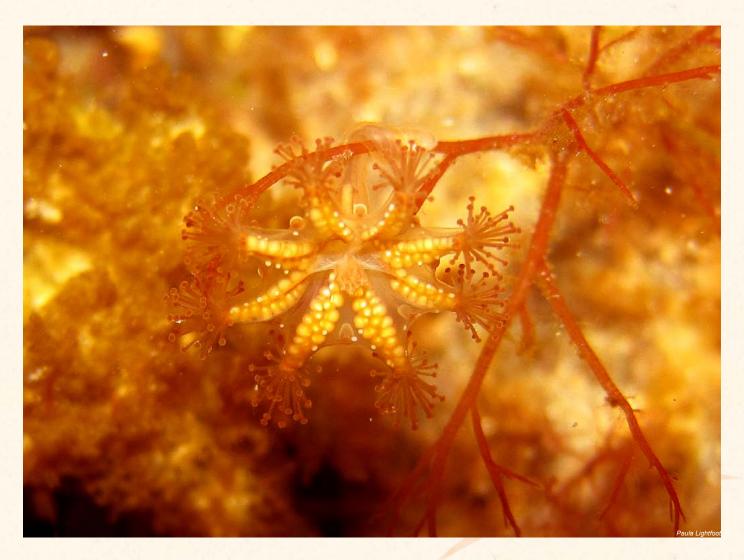
### THE PROJECT'S NEWS

From 26 to 28 March, the twelve partners in the PANACHE project met in Kent for a fourth milestone review. On the agenda: joint work on each of the project's five focus areas, definition of new actions, pooling and consolidation!

The highlight of the meeting was the drafting of the conclusions for the first work package, resulting in an assessment of the ecological coherence of the Channel MPA network.

The final report, which will be officially submitted at the end of April, shows that the MPA network's coverage is significant and truly accounts for species and habitats, particularly with respect to European obligations: the Natura 2000 network accounts for a substantial portion of all marine protected areas in the Channel. However, disparities do exist on either side on the border. The marine protected areas are more frequently located near the coasts, to the detriment of offshore areas and their ecosystems, especially in the western Channel. In addition, areas varying greatly in size have the same protection status from one country to another. This lack of MPA homogeneity thus impacts the way ecological processes are taken into account. Lastly, knowledge of marine ecosystems is still incomplete, and assessment is therefore tricky at times.

Nonetheless, the work done as part of PANACHE forms a **benchmark** for studies into MPA network development in the Channel. It provides a state of play at a time «t», a vital starting point for further studies that will be carried out recurrently and on different scales (national and European). And it will also contribute to adequate management of these marine protected areas. Because, the ultimate conclusion that we can draw from these first results is that cross-border cooperation is particularly **relevant to study protection of the shared marine space**, whose biological frontiers are not the same as our administrative boundaries.



# CITIZEN SCIENCES CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## **Intertidal surveys**

### These events are free of charge

Cornwall Wild	dlife Trust (Contact - Matt Slater: matt.slater@	Ocornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk)		
18/04/14	Intertidal survey	Newquay, Cornwall		
29/03/14	Intertidal training and survey	Marazion, Cornwall		
16/04/14	Public event and intertidal survey	Marazion, Cornwall		
17/04/14	Intertidal survey	Porthgwrarra, Cornwall		
27/04/14	Public event and intertidal survey	Cawsand, Cornwall		
15/05/14	Intertidal survey	Stackhouse Cove, Cornwall		
16/05/14	Intertidal survey	St. Ives Bay, Cornwall		
15/06/14	Public event and intertidal survey	Battery Rocks, Cornwall		
16/06/14	Intertidal survey	TBC		
12/07/14	Public event and intertidal survey	Mounts Bay, Cornwall		
12/07/14	Night rockpooling survey	Marazion, Cornwall		
13/07/14	Public event and intertidal survey	Helford Passage, Cornwall		
10/08/14	Intertidal survey	Swanpool beach, Cornwall		
17/08/14	Intertidal survey	Swanpool beach, Cornwall		
28/08/14	Public event and intertidal survey	Par Beach, Cornwall		
08/09/14	VMCA intertidal survey	St. Agnes, Cornwall		
09/09/14	VMCA intertidal survey	Polzeath, Cornwall		
10/09/14	VMCA intertidal survey	Fowey, Cornwall		
11/09/14	VMCA intertidal survey	Helford, Cornwall		
12/09/14				
12/09/14	VMCA intertidal survey	Looe, Cornwall		
	e Trust (Contact - Julie Hatcher: Kimmeridge			
29/03/14	Intertidal training day and survey	FF Marine Centre Kimmeridge, Dorset		
26/04/14	Seaweed ID course	Swanage, Dorset		
03/05/14	Intertidal surveys at fossil festival	Lyme Regis, Dorset		
04/05/14	Intertidal surveys at fossil festival	Lyme Regis, Dorset		
16/05/14	Intertidal survey	FF Marine Centre Kimmeridge, Dorset		
29/05/14	Intertidal survey	FF Chesil Beach Centre, Dorset		
14/06/14	Non-Natives training day	FF Marine Centre Kimmeridge, Dorset		
11/07/14	Intertidal survey	Portland Bill, Dorset		
11/09/14	Intertidal survey	Eype, Dorset		
	-TBC Intertidal survey	Hengistbury Head, Dorset		
3				
Hampshire at	nd Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (Contact - Abbi	i Scott: Abbi Scott@hiwwt org.uk)		
29/03/14	Intertidal training day and survey	Lepe Country Park, Hampshire		
30/03/14	Intertidal survey	Calshot, Hampshire		
17/04/14	Intertidal survey	Hillhead, Hampshire		
30/04/14	Intertidal survey	Ryde, Hampshire		
11/05/14	Intertidal training day and survey	Lepe Country Park, Hampshire		
15/05/14	Intertidal survey	St. Helens, Isle of Wight		
12/06/14	Intertidal survey	Lepe Country Park, Hampshire		
14/06/14	Intertidal survey	Freshwater, Isle of Wight		
12/07/14	Intertidal survey	Colwell Bay, Isle of Wight		
13/07/14	Intertidal survey	Royal Victoria, Hampshire		
09/08/14	Intertidal survey	Compton, Isle of Wight		
14/08/14	Intertidal survey	Thorness B <mark>a</mark> y, Isle <mark>of Wight</mark>		
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## Seasearch events

Cornwall Wild 12/04/14 13/04/14 24/04/14 03/05/14 04/05/14 24/05/14 28/05/14 07/06/14 14/06/14 15/06/14 06/07/14 12/07/14 19/07/14 30/08/14	Observer course survey shore dive Survey evening dive Survey oive day Survey dive day Survey dive day Survey evening dive Divefest dive Fish ID course Fish ID course shore dive Survey dive day Survey dive day Survey dive day Survey shore dive	erine.wilding@cornwallwildlifetrust.or Cornwall Cornwall Falmouth Bay, Cornwall Cornwall The Manacles, Cornwall Lands end pMCZ, Cornwall Falmouth Bay, Cornwall Kernow, Cornwall Cornwall Cornwall Cornwall Lands end pMCZ, Cornwall Mounts Bay, Cornwall St Ives Bay, Cornwall Durgan Beach, Cornwall Lizard Peninsular, Cornwall	g.uk) Cost TBC Free of charge Cost TBC Cost TBC Cost TBC £42 £15 £25 £42 Free of charge £42 Free of charge Cost TBC Free of charge Cost TBC Free of charge
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#### Public events on the shore

#### Nausicaá – Centre National de la Mer (contact : education@nausicaa.fr)

The World Ocean Network in Nord - Pas de Calais was created at the instigation of Nausicaá:

"We are a group of stakeholders leading different protection and awareness raising activities on the marine and intertidal biodiversity in the region Nord – Pas de Calais.

We represent different types of organisations gathered around a keynote event: the World Oceans Day (June 8).

We also organize events throughout the year.

We want to spread the ideas and good experiences to encourage and create knowledge of marine biodiversity promotion activities.

Website: worldoceannetwork-npdc.blogspot.fr

2014 partners program of activities: www.worldoceannetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/agenda2014-pages.pdf

#### **RSPB**

Summer 2014: Come and see the sea bird colony at the Oyster Beds on Hayling Island. Find out more on the website: www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/l/langstoneharbour











Protected Area Network Across the Channel Ecosystem

PANACHE is a Franco-British project funded by European programme INTERREG IV. The project aims for better protection of the Channel marine environment by establishing a network among existing marine protected areas.

There are five main project goals:

- Assess ecological coherence across the marine protected area network:
- Pool and share experience in monitoring these areas;
- Strengthen coherence and foster interaction for improved marine protected area management;
- Heighten awareness of marine protected areas: create a sense of ownership and shared expectations through citizen science programmes;
- Establish a public GIS database.

France and Great Britain are facing similar challenges to protect the marine biodiversity in their shared marine territory: PANACHE aims at providing a common, coherent and efficient reaction.

PANACHE est un projet franco-britannique, visant à une meilleure protection de l'environnement marin de la Manche par la mise en réseau des aires marines protégées existantes.

Les cinq objectifs du projet :

- Étudier la cohérence écologique du réseau des aires marines protégées;
- Mutualiser les acquis en matière de suivi de ces espaces, partager les expériences positives;
- Consolider la cohérence et encourager la concertation pour une meilleure gestion des aires marines protégées;
- Accroître la sensibilisation générale aux aires marines protégées : instaurer un sentiment d'appartenance et des attentes communes en développant des programmes de sciences participatives;
- Instaurer une base de données SIG publique.

France et Royaume-Uni sont confrontés à des défis analogues pour protéger la biodiversité marine de l'espace marin qu'ils partagent : PANACHE vise à apporter une réponse commune, cohérente et efficace.

www.panache.eu.com -





PANACHE Project partners / Partenaires du projet PANACHE

























