

COASTAL & MARINE

Young Professionals Coastal Community edition

2024



PREPARING TO ADAPT

*Sharing YPCC experiences from the
EUCC conference LITTORAL 2024
Constanta, Romania*

STATEMENTS

André Dijkstra

YPCC Coordinator & Lecturer Coastal and Marine Management at University of Applied Sciences VHL, the Netherlands.

It is my great pleasure to write a few words introducing this short booklet. The present young generation of professionals will be part of decisive decision making in the next decades regarding the future of the our coasts, it's biodiversity, and it's inhabitants.

For students to be able to learn from the generation that came before as well as contribute to the current knowledge base is valuable and a great personal experience for the students. By forming a Young Professionals Coastal Community we aim to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and give young adults the experience of presenting their findings in front of an international audience of experts during the Littoral conferences.



"As lecturer Coastal and Marine Management I see the value the YPCC can bring to a student's personal and professional development. By having students work on their own coast case study they contribute to the existing knowledge base and work towards a sustainable future." - by André Dijkstra

"YPCC and EUCC Littoral conferences provide excellent platforms to assist the execution of adaptive measures. An urgent task for future coastal managers and scientists, as serious impacts of climate change will stay with us for many decades to come."

- by Robbert Misdorp



Robbert Misdorp

YPCC founder & EUCC Board advisor

As founding father of YPCC & concerned grandfather, I wish students much courage and success putting coastal adaptation into practice. The impacts of climate change will be stay with us for many decades. Mitigation is progressing slow and tipping points for self-sustaining and reinforcing processes are approaching. Adaptation to respond to the impacts of climate change particularly in the vulnerable coastal regions and nations is of paramount importance. During the last decades, coastal adaptation, directed at integrated management and sustainable development, are gaining track in the whole world.

Intergenerational exchange and the increase of knowledge about the coastal processes are essential to take well balanced decisions and adaptive measures. YPCC provides a platform facilitates exchange of knowledge necessary for the integrated coastal adaptation and sustainable development.

Young Professionals Coastal Community @ Littoral Conferences

During Littoral conferences multiple Universities present their analyses of the impacts of future coastal changes and adaptive, sustainable solutions for 'their' coastal stretch. This booklet illustrates their enthusiastic efforts.

In future years we aim to expand the YPCC network by incorporating more universities. This will ensure an ever growing network of young professionals is engaged with the many challenges of our time in and around the coastal zone.

For more information check out our website <https://ypcc.eu/>

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



Ovidius University of Constanta

"A very interesting event, during which we learned new things, we developed our team work and also our language skills, not to forget that, in the end, we overcame even our fear of speaking in public. There were some beautiful moments spent together and it would be our great pleasure to participate again in the near future!"

- Teodora Stepan and Radu Niculescu

Ovidius University of Constanta, Romania
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences



University of Applied Sciences VHL



"Participating as YPCC students at Littoral24 in Romania showed us how diverse the opportunities and challenges within this field—and possibly other fields—are. It turned out to be incredibly varied, which we had not expected at all. What we initially viewed superficially turned out to be highly complex, which we only realized at that moment."

- Nika van Asselt, Maxime Hendrix, Anne Smulders, Anke Visser

University of Applied Sciences VHL
BSc. Coastal and Marine Management & BSc. Environmental Sciences



NOVA University of Lisbon

"Participating in the YPCC as a student at the Littoral24 conference in Constanta was a truly enriching experience. Being part of a community focused on coastal challenges allowed me to broaden my understanding of how different regions approach environmental and social issues in coastal zones. The opportunity to interact with professionals, researchers, and fellow students from diverse backgrounds provided invaluable networking and knowledge-sharing moments."

- Luisa Jordão

NOVA University Lisbon
Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering
MSc. Environmental Engineering

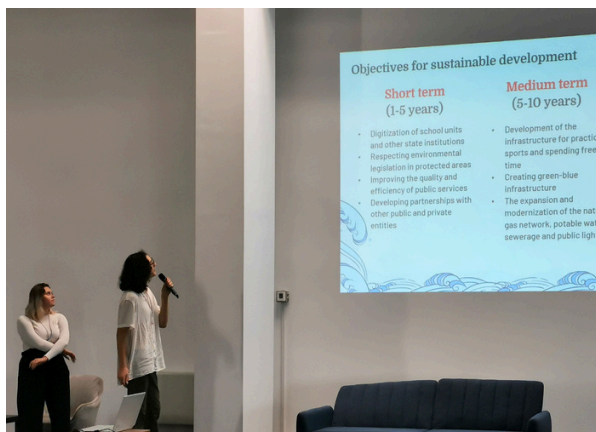
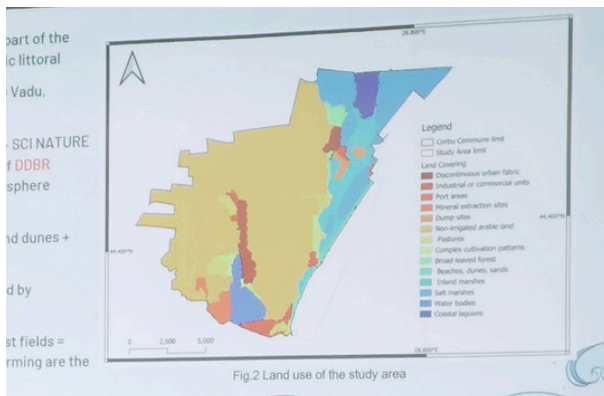


SUMMARY OF STUDENT WORK - ROMANIA

Ovidius University of Constanta



Ovidius University of Constanța, established in 1961, is the largest European university on the Black Sea. Located in Constanța, Romania, it offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs across 16 faculties, including Medicine, Engineering, and Arts. The university serves over 15,000 students, of which about 1200 are international.



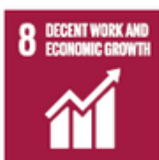
The impact of tourism on coastal protected areas. Case study: Corbu Romania

by Radu-Florin Niculescu and Stepan Maria Teodora

Abstract

The impact of tourism on coastal protected areas. Case study: Corbu (Romania). Tourism is an increasingly practiced activity in protected coastal areas all around the world, and its negative effects are a priority for the current environmental policies. The purpose of this analysis is to study the impact that tourism generates in the protected area of the Corbu commune. The methodology of the study included the application of a questionnaire with a number of 23 respondents, regarding the impact which hospitality industry has according to the opinion of visitors, but also the scenario-type analysis of possible future development directions. The results of the study highlighted the dysfunctions which appear in the analyzed area as a result of the ineffective regulation of the pressure generated by human activities. The conclusions of the analysis emphasize the need for a sustainable development of the Corbu commune through a participatory governance process.

Link to full report: ypcc.eu/downloads/



SUMMARY OF STUDENT WORK - THE NETHERLANDS

Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences



Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences (VHL) is a leading Dutch institution specializing in sustainable education and research. With campuses in Velp and Leeuwarden, VHL offers bachelor's and master's programs in fields such as agriculture, water management, and environmental sciences. The university emphasizes practical learning and international collaboration, preparing students to address global sustainability challenges.

Mitigating Climate Change Impacts on Terschelling by 2100

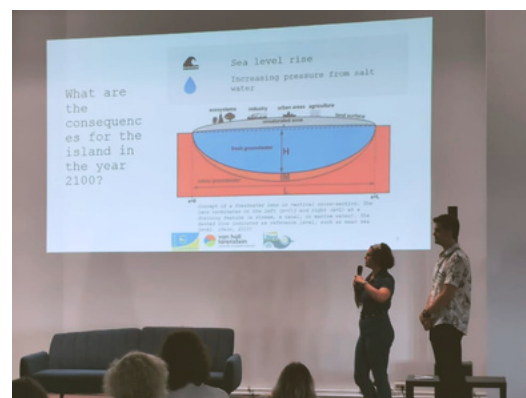
by Nika van Asselt, Maxime Hendrix, Anne Smulders & Anke Visser - University of Applied Sciences VHL, the Netherlands

Abstract

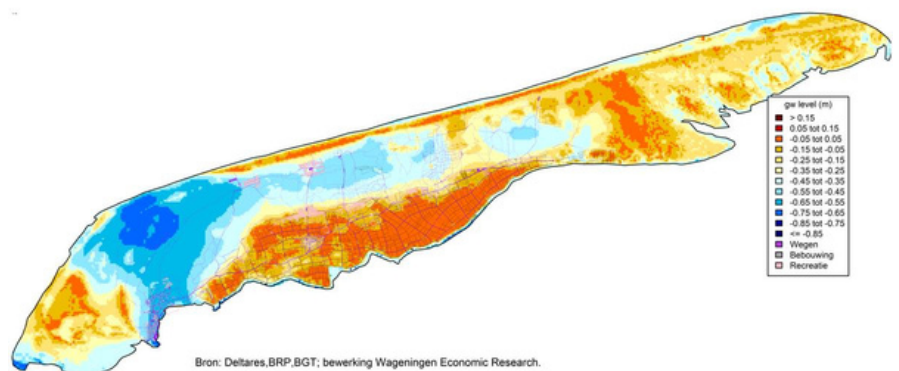
Terschelling, one of the Dutch Wadden Sea islands is facing significant freshwater challenges due to climate change, threatening its limited water supply with salinization and depletion. Rising sea levels, shifting precipitation patterns, and extreme weather events exacerbate risks to the island's water management, agriculture, and ecosystems. The island's dependence on mainland water supplies, highlights the need for Terschelling to achieve greater self-sufficiency. Particularly dairy farming is jeopardized, while wetter winters and drier summers necessitate new water retention and discharge policies.

Stakeholders, including local authorities, water managers, farmers, and conservationists, must collaborate to address these challenges. The Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute's (KNMI) climate scenarios for 2050 and 2100 emphasize the need for flexible adaptation strategies.

Proposed solutions include innovative water management, salinity-tolerant crops, and improved infrastructure. By fostering cooperation and strategic planning, Terschelling can ensure a sustainable freshwater future, balancing the needs of residents, agriculture, and natural habitats.



Grondwater Winter diff 2100-Ref (meter)



Link to full report: ypcc.eu/downloads/

SUMMARY OF STUDENT WORK - PORTUGAL 1/2

NOVA University of Lisbon



NOVA University Lisbon, established in 1973, is a leading Portuguese institution offering diverse bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs across various fields. It emphasizes research excellence and quality teaching, contributing significantly to cultural, artistic, academic, and technological advancements. The university is internationally recognized, ranking #388 in the QS World University Rankings 2025



Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones under pressure - From praia de Santo António to Nova Praia

by Maria Espinha, Maria Francisca Matos and Sophie Pedrinazzi

Abstract

As climate change continues to affect coastal areas, building resilience and reducing vulnerability are critical for protecting both the environment and local communities. This project examines how the adoption of a sustainability approach grounded in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) can address key challenges faced by coastal areas. Focusing on Fonte da Telha, Portugal, the study aims to evaluate how ICZM strategies can improve environmental, social, and economic resilience. To achieve this aim literature was reviewed, a SWOT analysis was made, and a questionnaire has been conducted amongst stakeholders.

The following recommendations followed from this approach: Distrust between stakeholders and authorities needs to be addressed, effective communication should be implemented to foster commitment from the population, transparency in planning implementation and monitoring is crucial. Adopting these recommendations will promote a more sustainable future for Fonte da Telha.

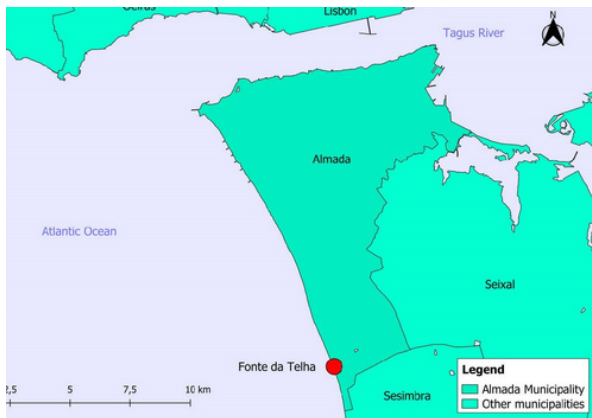
Link to full report: ypcc.eu/downloads/

SUMMARY OF STUDENT WORK - PORTUGAL 2/2

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Fonte da Telha Sustainable Management of coastal zones

by Luisa Jordão

Abstract

Climate change increasingly affects coastal areas, making sustainable management crucial for protecting natural resources and local communities. This study focuses on developing sustainable management strategies for Costa da Caparica, Portugal, emphasizing dune system rehabilitation, anthropogenic infrastructure requalification, and environmental literacy promotion.

To achieve these goals, a SWOT analysis was conducted, supported by a literature review and the development of specific measures, including nature-based solutions (NBS) and environmental education initiatives.

The proposed recommendations include restoring dune ecosystems, relocating vulnerable infrastructure, and implementing community-driven awareness programs. These actions are essential to achieving a sustainable balance between human activities and natural ecosystems, offering a resilient and integrated coastal management model for Costa da Caparica.

Link to full report: ypcc.eu/downloads/

Want to know more?

Are you interested in the YPCC program and wish to know more after reading the student work? Feel free to contact us through the information below or find out more by going to our website <https://ypcc.eu/>

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LITTORAL24
Organized by:

Ovidius University of Constanta



"PREPARING TO ADAPT"

A big thanks to all participants as well as all of you readers. We are looking forward to seeing you at LITTORAL26!

The Young Professionals Coastal Community