

# IMCORE

## Climate Change and Coastal Adaptation in NE Scotland

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Between November 2<sup>nd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> 2010, the City of Aberdeen hosted the quarterly progress meeting of IMCORE (Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coastal Resource). Involving 15 partners from around NW Europe. IMCORE is a 6m Euro EU Interreg IVB funded project led by University College Cork in Ireland and runs until the end of 2011.

Delegates met at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre (AECC) for two days and spent one day touring environmental and heritage sites along the North East coast to examine some of the potential impacts of climate change and adaptation on coastal areas and communities. At each site visit a number of local coastal experts were invited to discuss climate change in the context of the Aberdeen coastline. The IMCORE project recognises the need to increase our capacity to respond to the ecological, social and economic impacts of climate on the viability of coastal sectors such as fisheries and aquaculture, ports and shipping, marine recreation, and the defence of coastal communities from flooding and erosion. Development of a unified approach is required to identify the adaptation measures that need to be applied to future coastal use and management. IMCORE will promote a trans-national, innovative and sustainable approach to reducing the impacts of climate change on the coastal resources of North West Europe.



Part of the project work undertaken involves a local partnership initiative between the University of Aberdeen and Aberdeen City Council. Through a number of workshop and educational activities the so-called Expert Couplet Node (ECN) seeks to engage local coastal stakeholders in the impacts of climate change at the coast culminating in the development of a local coastal adaptation strategy. Further information about the activities of this ECN can be obtained from the IMCORE website:

<http://imcore.wordpress.com/partners/aberdeen/>  
As part of this local initiative, a new website - the *Aberdeen Climate Change Forum: Climate Change and Your Community* <http://www.aberdeenclimatechange.net/> - has also been launched to provide an online resource and a means of communication to share data, information, views and resources about climate change issues in relation to the City of Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire.



David R. Green of the University of Aberdeen (Project Leader Aberdeen) said *"IMCORE is an excellent opportunity for local scientists, policy makers, educators, and stakeholders to engage in dialogue, to share expertise, tools and technology, and to influence and shape how coastal communities will respond to the potential impacts of climate change in the future"*.

Gordon McIntosh, Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure at the City Council added: *"The close collaboration between the City Council, the University of Aberdeen and our multi sector partners will continue to bring benefits for years to come. The important focus on Climate Challenges will help us to attract European attention to the North East coastline, and the need to both conserve and enhance it. Surprising - South Aberdeen is a great way to express our magnificent coastline within the North East coast and the project work that is now taking shape"*.

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