

Welcome to DiPol!

The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme – Project “DiPol” has been launched at the beginning of 2009. With this first Newsletter we would like to inform you about the background, goals and the people behind the project.

DiPol deals with the impact of climate change on water quality rather than quantity. These effects will be investigated and documented. In a further step countermeasures will be elaborated and implemented, based on a simulation and demonstration tool.

Coordinated by the Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH), Institute of Environmental Technology and Energy Economics, DiPol consolidates 19 partners from 5 countries including 2 Schools in Norway and Germany. That’s definitely a transnational and transregional approach and, at the same time, a great opportunity and challenge for the next three years to come.

Let’s get it on – for a sustainable and competitive region!

Kick-Off-Meeting in Hamburg

The first general assembly was held in Hamburg on 17.–18. March 2009. Attended by 26 participants from 5 countries, whereof some of them never met before, one of the major aims of the meeting was to get acquainted with each other.

The project comprises Interreg-experienced partners and “newcomers”, thus learning from each other was and will be an important aspect towards a successful implementation of DiPol. Guided by the projects lead beneficiary TUHH contents, overall and specific tasks as well as expected outcomes have been discussed among the partners in a pleasant and amicable working atmosphere. The 4 case sites were introduced and first ideas and visions about the prospective investigations have been developed. Administrative issues such as regulations and reporting obligations were further topics of the discussion.



DiPol-Consortium during the Kick-Off-Meeting in Hamburg



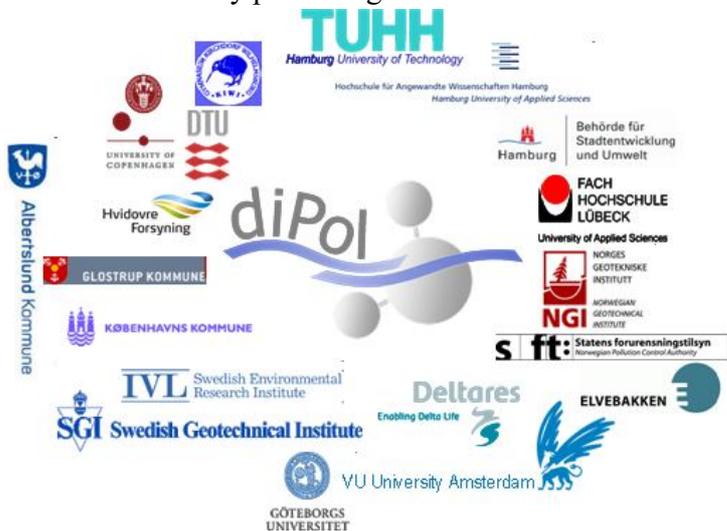
Analysing water quality at the case site Hamburg-Wilhelmsburg

During the second day of the meeting the consortium visited one out of four case sites which have been selected for detailed investigations. In Hamburg, the River Island Wilhelmsburg was chosen as an example for urban areas influenced more by large rivers than by marine waters. Here the major challenges regarding the impact of Climate Change are urban water run off, river floods, storm surges and rising groundwater level. Pupils from the local secondary school Kirchdorf-Wilhelmsburg are actively involved in the site investigations through conducting sampling campaigns and elaborating documentary media.

Summing up: The Kick-Off-Meeting proceeded very effectual and the whole consortium was looking forward to start the work – as part of the Interreg family.

DiPol - Consortium

DiPol comprises Universities, Research Institutes, Secondary Schools, Municipalities, Authorities and non-profit organisations in a consortium of 19 partners. As variable the partners institutions are – as different are the backgrounds of the team members: Engineers, chemists, administrative officers, teachers, biologists and so forth. A heterogeneity which is challenging on one hand, but at the same time extremely promising!

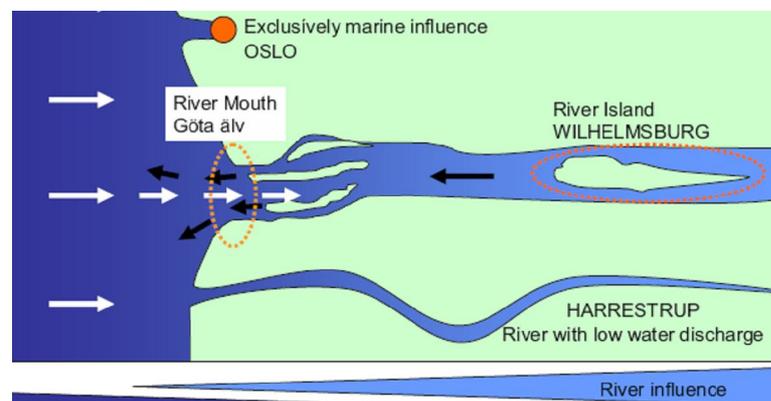


DiPol-Partner (for further information please refer to the DiPol-Website)

Work Program

The project work comprises of 5 work packages and 5 work groups. The constitution of both WPs and WGs reflects the strong transnational cooperation in the DiPol-Project.

Research and investigation activities are carried out at 4 case sites which are located at different locations of the river-coast continuum. The identification of key processes and accordingly the transfer of observations from the study sites to other similar locations will be investigated. The working groups will be active at the sites according to predominant challenges. Project results will be published via the WEB based knowledge platform and integrated into the demonstration and evaluation tool SIMACLIM. Please visit the DiPol-Website for more and detailed information.



Strategic location of case studies within the river-coast continuum

DiPol goes Online

Since July 2009 you might visit the DiPol-Project online. Under the URL www.interreg-dipol.de all relevant project information can be found.

The webpage contains background information on the project goals, the designated work-plan and the implementation of the results. A “News”-Section informs you about the latest and upcoming events and you might download project related documents like e.g. leaflets, posters or presentations in a special download area. Results of the ongoing investigations, a database and the simulation tool will be available as the project proceeds. The Newsletter on hand as well as following editions will be available for download from the “News”-Section.

If you would like to contact individual partners or get in touch with the projects management for general information, the Website offers you all these details on the projects consortium. Links to related projects within the Priority 2 “The sustainable management of our environment” are available under the “Links”-Section.

Just go and try it out!

More information on DiPol are available on the informative Website of the German Advisory Network [in German, www.interreg-nordsee.de] as well as on the Website of the Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme under the Projects-Section [www.northsearegion.eu].

Coming up

- The **second Consortium Meeting in Copenhagen** is scheduled 21. to 23. September 2009. The meeting will address the current status of project activities as well as contractual and financial issues. In addition a visit to the Danish case site “Harrestrup Stream, Copenhagen Harbour” is foreseen on Monday, September 21st. For a detailed agenda please refer to the DiPol-Website.
- **Informative Meeting on German project participations in the Interreg IVB NSRP.** 4. November 2009, Bremerhaven [www.interreg-nordsee.de]. The DiPol-Project will be introduced by means of posters and leaflets.
- Intern. Conference and Exhibition on Consequences of Climate Change and Flood Protection – **acqua alta 2009**; 10 –12 November '09 [www.acqua-alta.net]. DiPol will be presented at the Programme’s Exhibition Stand.
- The **next Newsletter (Vol. 2)** will be available in December 2009

This Newsletter is an output of the Interreg IVB NSRP-Project „DiPol“. It is biannually published and available in printed or PDF format [www.interreg-dipol.de]
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The DiPol-Project is partly funded by the European Regional Development Fund.