

THE UPSHOT is the North Sea Region Programme's newsletter for project results of the 2007 - 2013 Programme. THE UPSHOT 2 sums up the results of StratMoS and Aquarius.

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The North Sea Region Programme

THE UPSHOT

Your news update on project closures



Dear North Sea Region Programme Stakeholder

This second edition of our newsletter THE UPSHOT presents you with the results of the StratMoS and Aquarius projects in text, images and words from those directly involved.

While StratMoS aimed at making sea-based transport more competitive, Aquarius presented farmers with water risk management practices to reduce the consequences of flooding, droughts, water shortage and nutrient transport.

Happy reading!

Best regards

The North Sea Region Programme Secretariat

StratMoS

Motorways of the Seas Strategic Demonstration Project



From StratMoS demonstration project 3b: Activities in optimising feeder and short sea operations in ports.

The competitive edge of sea-based transport

Increased traffic causes congested roads throughout the North Sea Region, an inefficient road freight sector and pollution. While sea freight is more sustainable, it has remained an uncompetitive alternative for European businesses so far.

The StratMoS project aimed at promoting and facilitating the shift from road to sea-based transport. Through five transnational demonstration projects carried out in Norway, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and the United Kingdom, StratMoS tested and implemented initiatives, which aimed at making sea-based freight more environmentally friendly, quicker, more reliable, more affordable and safer.

See photos from the projects [here](#).

Highlights

StratMoS' 5th demonstration project developed a new and highly innovative maritime logistics concept known as the Floating Container Storage & Transshipment Terminal, or FCSTT. The concept was developed through cooperation between logistics experts in different countries as well as in a transnational partner workshop. The FCSTT is a large barge (two connected) where ships can berth on both sides and cranes move the container from the one to the other ship. The operating costs of the FCSTT is estimated at around one-third that of a land-based terminal.

Following these very positive results, the Scottish Government has included development of a container transshipment terminal at Scapa Flow as a strategic project of national importance within its National Planning Framework.

Stories from the project

Demonstration project 3b analysed port and terminal operations concerning feeder and short sea ships in Northern European hub ports. Project partner Port of Hamburg was actively involved in the project. With the expansion of their new Feeder Logistik Zentrale for feederships, Hamburg based port operators Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG and EUROGATE are further strengthening the position of Hamburg as a Northern European hub.

After its successful start-up with Unifeeder as its first customer, Feeder Logistik Zentrale as a joint venture intends to continue investing and growing their client base.

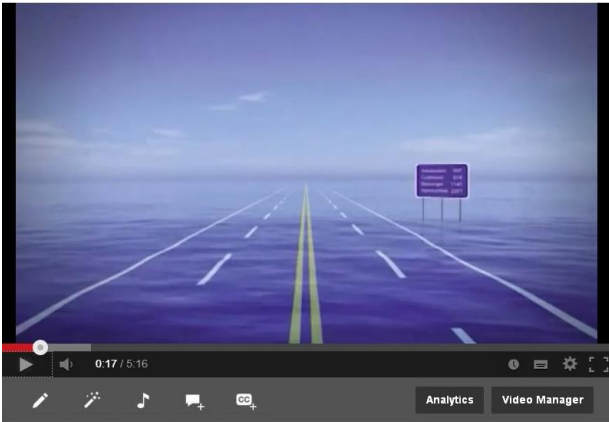
Other key achievements

The Northern Maritime Corridor concept was promoted through a series of workshops and conferences both in Russia and in StratMoS partner countries. Some of the events were arranged by StratMoS while others were external events arranged by either the Russian government at national and regional level, other Interreg projects, the North Sea Commission or the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe.

The concept received strong support from the North Sea Commission as well as the European Commission.

StratMoS was also part of the [MTC Cluster](#).

StratMoS on video



This short [video](#) sums up the aims and achievements of the StratMoS project.

Word of mouth



Gunnar Eiterjord, Chair of StratMoS project

We are proud that the project has made a lot of achievements and good results that may be taken forward by individual partners, by the logistics industry themselves and through other projects and initiatives that have been taken and likely will be taken in the future.



Alfred Baird, Edinburgh Napier University

The Edinburgh Dryport conference was hailed as a great success by both delegates and speakers. From the shop-floor perspective to econometric modelling, the discussions on dry ports in five continents revealed the relevance of understanding government policy and planning, the role of the private sector and the institutional relationships between these two spheres.

Did you know that...

- High volume road freight causes congestion, pollution and other logistics-related problems.
- The EU developed concept of “Motorways of the Sea” (MoS) aims at reducing road congestion and improving access to peripheral and island regions by concentrating freight flows on sea-based logistical routes. These transport chains are more sustainable and commercially more efficient compared to road-only transport.
- Motorways of the Sea services are helping to improve access to markets throughout Europe and bring relief to intensive European road systems.
- Actors in maritime transport need better solutions to gain competitive advantages. The solutions have to be environmentally friendly, quicker, more reliable, economically more attractive and safer in order to be competitive.

From the StratMoS report [The Dry Port - Concepts and perspectives](#).



Project facts

Project started 1 April, 2008 (42 months duration)
Total budget was 5,820,212 €
Lead beneficiary was Rogaland County Council, Norway
Lead beneficiary contact is Gottfried Heinzerling
(gottfried.heinzerling@rogfk.no)
Project homepage is www.stratmos.com
[Read more](#)

Our [ANSWERS Transport Magazine](#) offers a collection of articles related to transport and accessibility in the North Sea Region.

Transnational partnership

Norway

Rogaland County Council
Vest-Agder County Council
Telemark County Council
Møre and Romsdal County Council
Møregruppen
The Norwegian Barents Secretariat
Finnmark County Council
Troms County Council
Norwegian Coastal Authorities
Logit Systems
Port of Narvik
Hordaland County Council
Marlo

Denmark

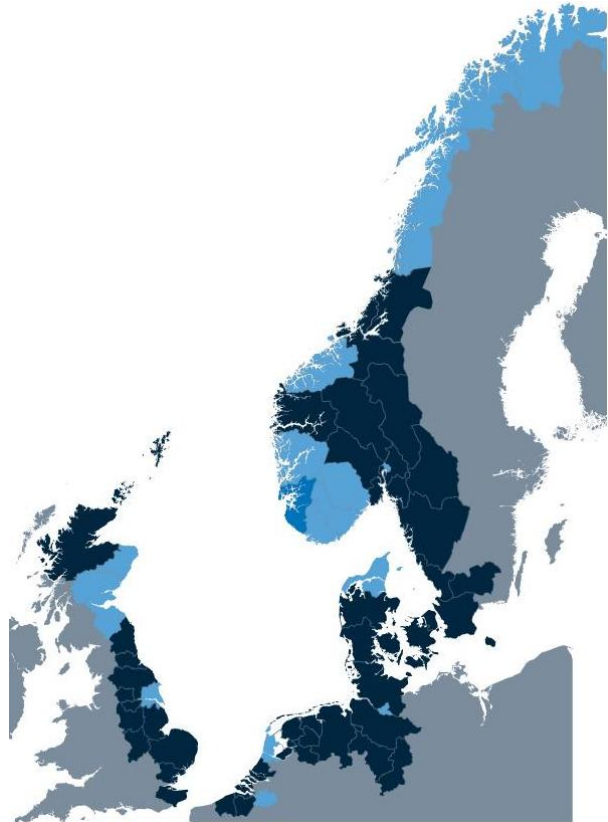
FDT - Association of Danish Transport Centres

Germany

Hamburg Ministry for Economic and Labour Affairs
Hafen Hamburg Marketing e.V.
Hamburg University of Technology

The Netherlands

Port of Amsterdam



Related transnational projects

[LO-PINOD](#)
[Food Port](#)
[GreCOR](#)
[Cluster: MTC](#)
[Cluster: EVNSR](#)
[CARE-North+](#)

StratMoS is a priority 3 project and thus worked for the overall goal of improving the accessibility of places in the North Sea Region. Its area of intervention was 3.2: Promoting the development of multi-modal and transnational transport corridors.

Aquarius

The farmer as water manager under changing climatic conditions



As part of the Aquarius project, local authorities, agricultural advisors, farmers and research scientists joined forces to improve water quality in Lake Vansjø in Norway. As a result, swimming in the lake is now safe again. More photos from Aquarius [here](#).

Transnational cooperation paves way for more efficient farming

Flooded lands, droughts, water shortages and poor water quality are some of the consequences of climate change which have a direct impact on farming in the North Sea Region.

Through seven pilot projects, Aquarius aimed at finding new ways for farmers to manage these challenges without compromising farming viability. The project provided innovative solutions by bringing together 15 partners from different sectors across Sweden, Norway, Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

Highlights

Situated on the eastern side of the Lüneburger Heide, the German pilot area suffered from drought. As a consequence, farmers spent time and money on pumping up deep groundwater and running their irrigation machines. To meet this challenge, German scientists and farmers applied the so-called “rain harvesting” method.

The method, according to which high-water and drainage water is retained instead of flowing out into the sea, was invented following a visit to the pilot project in Sweden. After the study visit, the German project partners were able to build upon Swedish knowledge and reach an innovative solution they would not have without their transnational partner network.

Stories from the project

The Norwegian pilot was focused around the Vansjø catchment in South East Norway. The western part of lake Vansjø suffered from poor water quality, mainly because of the high amount of phosphorus fertilizer used by farmers in the area. The water quality of the lake was of great concern to the local public who earlier had enjoyed swimming in the lake.

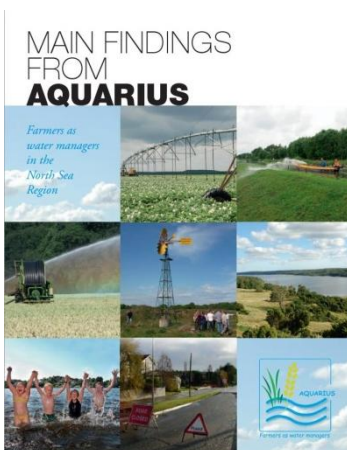
A cooperation between local authorities, agricultural advisors, farmers and research scientists encouraged farmers in the area to commit to using less phosphorus fertilizer than the national recommended level, to not cultivate in autumn, to establish eight-meter wide buffer zones along the lake and to establish grassed waterways where there is a large risk of erosion.

The majority of farmers backed up the initiative, and as a result the water quality in the lake has improved substantially, and swimming is again safe.

Other key achievements

The Aquarius partnership provided [recommendations](#) on future land and water management. The focus was on understanding the key role of participatory partnerships in order to secure sustainable solutions.

Aquarius was also represented in the cluster project [WaterCAP](#).



The [main findings](#) of the Aquarius project have been compiled in a magazine, which also describes the findings from each of the seven pilot areas in more detail.

Project on video



Aquarius offered a transnational approach to the climate change challenges of the North Sea Region. [This video](#) presents some of the findings from the seven pilot projects.

Word of mouth



Irene Wiborg, Aquarius Project Manager

Cooperation across borders creates and spreads expert knowledge that is beneficial for the environment, farmers and society in general. In order to find optimal win-win solutions beneficial to the climate, the environment and production, it is crucial that the right incentives are present along with the necessary technological expertise. That means both before and during, but certainly also after, a pilot project is launched.



Peter Argyle, Chairman of Aberdeenshire Council's Infrastructure Services Committee

A lot of work has gone into this project and we are close to identifying a demonstration flood storage area which could help us understand how to work more closely with land managers to reduce the risk of flooding to communities.



A. Van den Berg, Executive Board Member of Delfland Water Board and organic farmer in Delfland

The pilot areas have different ways of looking on similar problems and it gave me, both as an organic farmer and as a representative of our local water board, a lot of new and useful knowledge to build on.

Did you know that...

- Across large areas of rural Europe there is an increase in extreme flows and droughts.
- Intense rainfall increases erosion and the amount of nutrients and pathogens to water.
- Low flows in drier summers means waters dilute less contamination, which damages the ecosystem.
- These climatic changes are an additional challenge for meeting or maintaining good ecological status for water bodies in the North Sea Region as described in the Water Framework Directive (WFD).



Project facts

Started on 1 January, 2009 (43 months duration)

Total budget was 5,819,690 €

Lead beneficiary was The Danish Agricultural Advisory Service, National Centre, Denmark

Lead beneficiary contact is Irene Asta Wiborg (iaw@landscentret.dk)

Project homepage is <http://www.aquarius-nsr.eu/Aquarius.htm>

[Read more](#)

Transnational partnership

Denmark

The Danish Agricultural Advisory Service,
National Centre
Danish Ministry of the Environment, Nature
Agency Aalborg

The Netherlands

Hoogheemraadschap van Delfland
Provincie Drenthe
Waterschap Hunze en Aa's

Germany

Landwirtschaftskammer Niedersachsen
Von-Thuenen-Institute

Norway

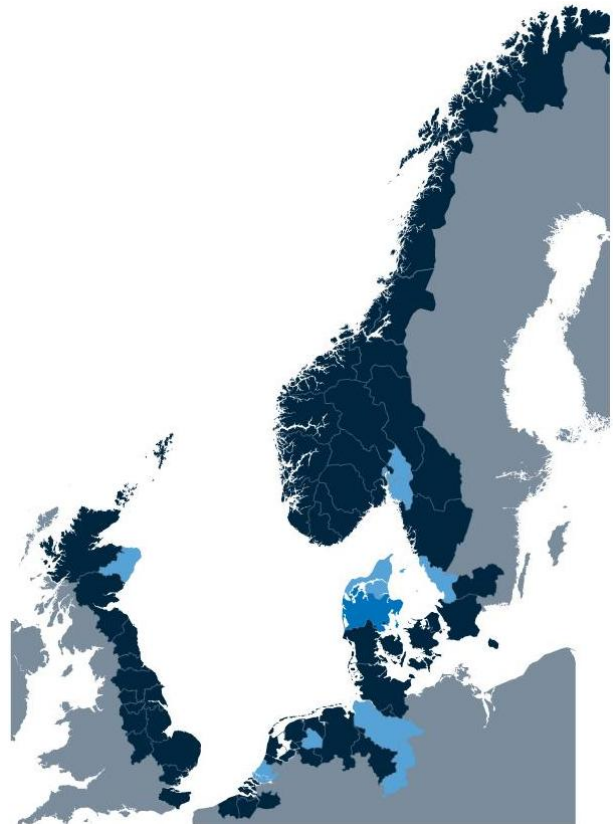
County Governor of Østfold
Bioforsk Institute

United Kingdom

Aberdeenshire Council
James Hutton Institute

Sweden

Halmstad University
Rural Economy and Agricultural Society of
Halland
Municipality of Laholm
Regional Development Council
County administration of Halland



Related transnational projects

[CPA](#)
[CLIWAT](#)
[SAWA](#)
[DiPol](#)
[MARE](#)
[Biochar](#)
[Cluster: WaterCAP](#)

Aquarius was a priority 2 project and thus worked with the overall goal of promoting the sustainable management of our environment. The project was placed under the area of intervention 2.3, which focuses on adapting to and reducing risks posed to society and nature by a changing climate.

Web links

THE UPSHOT is first and foremost an online newsletter intended to be read as an email, in your browser or as a pdf on your screen. This is why we have used embedded links throughout. Should you wish to print this newsletter, the general web links referred to in our newsletter are:

All project information	http://www.northsearegion.eu/ivb/projects/
All videos	http://www.youtube.com/user/NSRProgramme
All photos	http://www.flickr.com/photos/northsearegion/sets
The North Sea Region Programme website	http://www.northsearegion.eu/ivb/home/
The North Sea Region Programme on facebook	https://www.facebook.com/NorthSeaRegionProgramme
The North Sea Region Programme on twitter	https://twitter.com/NorthSeaRegion
The North Sea Region Programme papers (including the ANSWERS magazine)	http://northseapapers.northsearegion.eu/

The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme

*Investing in the future by working together
for a sustainable and competitive region*



About the programme

The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme runs from 2007 - 2013. Bringing together regions around the North Sea from seven states, namely Denmark, Sweden, Norway, The United Kingdom, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany, the programme has approved 71 projects in total, including five cluster projects and seven future perspectives projects and involving more than 850 beneficiaries.

Learn more on our [website](#), our [YouTube channel](#) and [flickr](#) and get the latest buzz on [facebook](#) and [twitter](#).

European Union



The European Regional Development Fund

Our mailing address is:

Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme Secretariat
Jernbanegade 22
8800 Viborg, DENMARK

Please contact newsletter editor Rikke Sørensen at rikke.soerensen@northsearegion.eu if you have questions, comments or wish to subscribe to the newsletter via email.