

# EUCC - Germany

## Annual Report 2017

### Strategies and Projects

In 2017, EUCC-D was involved in five national projects and ten European projects, studies and campaigns in the field of sustainable development of the seas and coasts.

#### Focus on Marine Waste

The international environmental theatre project **Parliament of the Fish** (DBU, 2016-2018) made another stop in May in Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Three primary schools participated in a workshop, guided by EUCC-D, where the children prepared an environmental play whilst deepening their knowledge about the topic of marine litter. After stops in Montenegro, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Parliament of the Fish celebrated the finals in September 2017 with two theatre performances in Berlin. The start of the project implementation was a five-day environmental theatre workshop, conceived and led by EUCC-D, during which the problem of water pollution and the challenge of sustainable water protection were thematized. <http://www.eucc-d.de/aktuelle-projekte/articles/Das-Parlament-der-Fische.html>

The campaign **Ostsee-Ascher**, was started in summer 2016 by the EUCC-D in cooperation with the tourist centre Rostock-Warnemünde. This campaign, to reduce cigarette butts on the beach of Warnemünde and to draw attention to the problem of cigarette waste, was continued in 2017. EUCC-D evaluated the visibility of the collection boxes and the acceptance and motivation of smokers by means of regular collections and surveys of smokers on the beach. A QR code on the Ostsee-Ascher boxes refers users to the information platform [www.meeresmuell.de](http://www.meeresmuell.de), a service provided by the EUCC-D with financial support through the program for the promotion of measures for environmental education, information as well as for environmental projects of the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Consumer Protection MV since 2016. The website presents projects and stakeholders as well as information about the topic of marine waste. It is intended

to serve as a central point of information and contact for awareness development and exchange between actors and interested parties in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

EUCC-D used different events to inform about the topic of marine litter and to introduce the information platform, including the „Boot“ fair in Düsseldorf, the final event of the coastal cleaning project of the South east Rügen Biosphere Reserve, the day of protection of species in Rostock Zoo and the open day of the youth hostel in Warnemünde. Furthermore, EUCC-D co-organised the work-shop "Müll im Meer – Neue Handlungsfelder" (Garbage in the Seas – New Fields of Action), which was also organised by the county teaching facility of the LUNG and took place on 8 September. On 16 September, EUCC-D organised together with other participants the nationwide day of action against marine waste for a second time.

EUCC-D supports the project **The Universal Sea: Pure or Plastic?!** (EU Creative Europe, 2017-2019) as a scientific partner with scientific knowledge and with the travelling exhibition "Mensch • Müll • Meer" (Man • Litter • Sea).

Outside of the projects, EUCC-D is conducting regular drift line monitoring in Warnemünde, Hohe Düne and Kägdsdorf and passing on the collected data to the LUNG M-V.

#### Focus on Education for Sustainable Development

The Schleswig-Holstein-wide media competition **Spiel mal Meer!** (BINGO!, MELUR-SH, 2016-2017), under the patronage of Minister Dr. Robert Habeck, started in February with education courses for teachers. The learning method which is applied in the project was introduced, and hints were given on how to establish this competition in lessons. The award ceremony took place on 18 July in the "Kunsthalle zu Kiel" (art hall in Kiel), where the winners of a total of 250 participants were

awarded prizes by a professional jury and the project partners.

The **OstseeKiste** (NUE/KSS 2014-2016), developed by EUCC-D, can be booked at selected DJH Lvb MV youth hostels along exposed coastal locations. The offer specifically addresses school classes that want to explore the habitat of the Baltic Sea whilst on site. The EUCC-D presented the "OstseeKiste" to teachers, environmental educators and those interested at the nationwide advanced training series, "Winterakademie 2017" of the IQMV, in February in Rostock and at the fair "WASSERLEBEN" in March in Berlin.

With the help of EUCC-D, a certificate course for prospective teachers on the subject of education for sustainable development was held at the University of Rostock in November.

As a partner of the 17th edition of the pupil competition "Schüler staunen" from the Governmental Department of Agriculture and Environment MV (StALU MM), EUCC-D has been involved in the theme 'Unsere Ostseeküste' (Our Baltic Sea) since autumn 2016 and is mentoring work on the topics of "marine waste" and "beach wrack".

### Focus on Sustainable Tourism

Within the project **KliWaKom** (Climate Change in Communities and Communication) (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Construction and Reactor Safety, 2015-2018), a guest survey was carried out together with the association Mecklenburgische Ostseebäder e.V., to investigate tourists' perceptions of climate change and adaption options along the Baltic Sea Coast of Mecklenburg.

On 13 December 2017, the first meeting of a newly established working group on the subject of beach wrack took place in the context of KliWaKom, which is dedicated to the joint development of strategies and projects.

<http://www.eucc-d.de/aktuelle-projekte/articles/kliwakom.html>

For project **CATCH** (Coastal Angling Tourism – a development chance for the South Baltic Region, EU South Baltic Programme, 2016-2019), EUCC-D is responsible for stakeholder work in four case studies and is develop-

ing criteria and guidelines for more sustainability in coastal angling tourism. The first German stakeholder workshop, which was initiated by the EUCC-D, took place on 29 March. On 7 November, EUCC-D organised the first transnational stakeholder workshop at the angling camp in Peenemünde. At the midterm conference, on 8 November, intermediate results and successful angling tourism concepts were presented.

<http://www.catch-southbaltic.eu/>

The project **DUNC** (Development of UNESCO Natural and Cultural Assets, EU South Baltic Programme, 2017-2020) started in 2017, which aims to promote the Southern Baltic Sea Region by developing sustainable tourism strategies for the UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The project will support the networking and bundling of tourism operators, create high-quality tourism offers that will help to extend the tourist season, promote economic growth and connect tourism with the heritage of the Baltic Sea. Within the project, EUCC-D is responsible for the field of communication and dissemination of results. The project kick off was held at the beginning of November in Nida, Lithuania.

### Focus on ICZM

In the project BONUS **BaltCoast** (EU BONUS, 2015-2018), EUCC-D is responsible for the distribution of the project results to different target groups. For the "Blaue Sofa" series, four interviews with experts and case study representatives were organized. At the beginning of 2017, an international jury selected the 20 best pictures for a touring exhibition from the photo competition "Me and my Baltic Coast", which was held in 2016. The photo exhibition "Me and My Baltic Coast" was officially presented during the anniversary event "10 Jahre Bonus" on 3 May in Helsinki and has been touring the Baltic Sea region ever since.

On 12 June, main project results from the case studies were presented in Schwerin to representatives of the Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development and the Maritime Navigation Office Gdynia and were subsequently presented at the Baltic Sea Science Congress in Warnemünde.

On 6 September EUCC-D, together with the IOW, organized the second stakeholder meeting of the Stettiner Haff case study, where project results, potentials and problems of mussel cultures for improving water quality were discussed.

Since 2017, EUCC-D has been involved in the study **Economic Benefits of MPAs** financed by the European Commission. It surveyed coastal participants and stakeholders from blue economic sectors as well as nature conservation organisations from across Europe on the impact of marine protected areas on industries such as fisheries and tourism. The aim of the study is to make the management of protected areas more sustainable.

### Focus on Water Management

In March, within the project **Baltic Blue Growth – Initiating full scale mussel farming in the Baltic Sea** (EU Baltic Sea Region Programme, 2016-2019), EUCC-D together with the Ministry of Energy Transition, Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas (MELUR), organised the first stakeholder workshop on blue mussel aquaculture in the Kiel Fjord. Baltic Blue Growth is devoted to the idea and feasibility of testing mussel farms for the purpose of producing fish feed and as a nutrient reduction measure in the Baltic Sea. In addition, EUCC-D carried out various expert surveys at the conference "Better off Blue" to analyze the awareness and the acceptance of shellfish breeding facilities to improve water quality.

In the project **LiveLagoons** (EU South Baltic Programme, 2017-2020), floating mats with plant growth (macrophyte islands) are being developed and implemented for nutrient removal and associated improvement of water quality in eutrophic Lagoons of the southern Baltic Sea.

Also in 2017, the project **Morpheus** (Model Areas for Removal of Pharmaceutical Substances in the South Baltic, EU South Baltic Programme, 2017-2019) started, which aims to improve water quality in the southern Baltic Sea area by reducing the entry of pharmaceutical trace substances that reach the Baltic Sea via wastewater treatment plants. Within the project, EUCC-D is responsible for communication and the distribution of project

results. The Kick Off took place in March in Gdansk (Poland). MORPHEUS is part of a flagship project of the European Strategy for the Baltic Sea, the Baltic Sea Pharma Platform, which was officially introduced in November in Riga.

The project **BONUS OPTIMUS** (EU BONUS EEIG, 2017-2020) is dealing with the scientific potential of mussel farms in the Baltic Sea and is investigating the ecological impact, as well as their economic potential for use as animal feed. The project is able to make an important contribution to the fight against eutrophication in coastal areas. EUCC-D is responsible for the identification and participation of stakeholders in the case studies and also for PR work.

### **Membership and Collaboration**

By the end of 2017, the association had 84 members. One 'member information letter' which included protocols, information about projects, developments and internal activities of the organisation, was sent via e-mail to the members and can be viewed in the member area of the homepage. The association also regularly reports on social networks, in particular Facebook and Twitter.

All association activities were coordinated in Warnemünde. Ten employees were involved in the implementation of the association's activities and projects. In addition, two participants of the voluntary ecological year, interns and volunteers supported the organisation's work.

Furthermore, the association has a seven-member expert advisory board which provides expertise and experience. The annual members' meeting took place on 21 April under the context of the 35th anniversary of the working group "Geography of the Seas and Coasts" in Kiel.

### **Newsletter & Data Bank**

In 2017, 6 issues of the electronic coastal newsletters were sent to approximately 1200 subscribers and offered for download. The databases have been expanded and updated.

### **Exhibitions**

The photo exhibition "Fishing & Aquaculture" created in the project AQUAFIMA was shown in 2017 in the library of the University of Rostock and in the Land Office for Environment,

Nature Conservation and Geology MV (LUNG).

The travelling exhibition "Mensch • Müll • Meer" (Man • Garbage • Sea) was a guest at the National Park House Föhr, at the interactive public viewing show WASSERLEBEN in Berlin, in Reden (Schiffweiler/Saarland) and in the House of Nature and Environment in Berlin in 2017.

The traveling exhibition "Me and My Baltic Coast", created in the project BONUS BaltCoast could be seen in 2017 in Helsinki, Finland, in the Klaipeda Science and Technology Park (Lithuania), in the Lithuanian Ministry of the Environment in Vilnius (Lithuania), at the University of Riga (Latvia) and at the University of Tallinn (Estonia).

<http://www.eucc-d.de/ausstellung.html>

**Publikationen und Artikel**

- Meer & Küste (6):  
EUCC - Die Küsten Union Deutschland e.V., Rostock Warnemünde, 2017
- Berthold et al. (2017): Potential export of soluble reactive phosphorus from a coastal wetland in a cold-temperate lagoon system: Buffer capacities of macrophytes and impact on phyto-plankton, Science of The Total Environment, 616-617, 46-57.
- Collaboration EUCC-D/ A. Vorlauf in „Meer – Verantwortung übernehmen“, Biologie 5–10, No. 20/2017

**Vorstand**

- Holger Janßen – President, Maritime Spatial Planning (Ministry of Energy, Infrastructure and Digitization M-V)
- Maike Isermann – Vice-President, Terrestrial Coastal Ecology, nature conservation management (Bremen University)
- Gerald Schernewski – Vice-President, Baltic ICZM & Water Management (Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde)
- Peter Fröhle – Board Member, Coastal Protection and Engineering (TU Hamburg-Harburg)
- Bastian Schuchardt – Board Member, Coastal Risk Management & ICZM (Bio-Consult Schuchardt & Scholle GbR)
- Heide Schulz-Vogt – Board Member, Marine Microbiology (Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde)

**Mitarbeiter**

- Nardine Stybel Executive Director, Senior Project Manager "Aquaculture and Eutrophication"
- Steffen Bock (Webmaster, Databases)
- Leoni Herhaus (Project Manager "Climate Change and Tourism")
- Jane Hofmann (Project Manager "Sustainable Tourism")
- Theresa Horn (Project Manager "Sustainable Tourism/Angling")
- Svenja Karstens (Project Manager "Water Management")
- Kathrin Podehl (Finance and Membership Administration)
- Melanie Rixen (Student Assistant)
- Franziska Stoll (Franziska Stoll (Project Administration, Project Manager "Water Management")
- Anke Vorlauf (Project Manager "Environmental and Sustainable Development Education")
- Julia Wickenhäuser/ Ulrike Retzlaff (Volunteer Ecological Year)

**How can you support us?**

Advantages of becoming a member:

- Member of one of the largest coastal networks in Europe.
- Additional information and various possibilities to get involved with EUCC-D activities.
- Subscription to the international EUCC magazine "Coastal & Marine" and to the German magazine "Meer & Küste" (Sea & Coast).
- Access to the EUCC-D media to disseminate your own research and project results.

You can also support the EUCC-D activities by making a donation.

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