

COST

Domain Committee " ISCH"

COST Action TD0902

Start Date: 1 November 2009

*Submerged Prehistoric Archaeology and Landscapes of
the Continental Shelf
SPLASHCOS*

MONITORING PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting Period: 1 November 2009 to 30 April 2010

This Report is presented to the relevant Domain Committee.
It contains three parts:

- I. Management Report prepared by the COST Office/Grant Holder***
- II. Scientific Report prepared by the Chair of the Management Committee of the Action***
- III. Previous versions of the Scientific Report; i.e., part II of past reporting periods***

The report is a "cumulative" report, i.e. it is updated annually and covers the entire period of the Action.

Confidentiality: the documents will be made available to the public via the COST Action web page except for chapter *II.D. Self evaluation*.

Based on the monitoring results, the COST Office will decide on the following year's budget allocation.

Executive summary (max.250 words):

This Action is only 6 months old at this time, and therefore we are still at the stage of developing ideas and plans, rather than realising specific achievements. The principal outcomes so far are:

- (1) A plenary meeting of the SPLASHCOS membership held in March 2010 that provided, for the first time, an overview of the problems and issues relating to investigation of the submerged landscape across the whole of coastal Europe (see Annex 1 Scientific Report)
- (2) Meetings of the four Working Groups and the establishment by them of working methods and specific objectives for the immediate future
- (3) Involvement of a think-tank of some 40 ESRs, most of whom participated in the plenary meeting and WG discussions
- (4) Applications for 6 STSMs (which, subject to MC approval, will take place in June of this year)
- (5) Submission for publication by an academic publisher of a collected volume of papers co-edited by Action members, with a financial contribution from the Action
- (6) A website that will provide a forum for internal discussion and wider dissemination
- (7) Preliminary links via invited experts with two wider research networks addressing related themes, in the North Sea and Black Sea respectively, and with the UK offshore industrial sector
- (8) A major grant application by the Action Chair to the ERC with involvement of other members;
- (9) Creation of a small planning group (the Deukalion group), with a brief to lobby Brussels decision makers, and to produce draft research proposals for a major interdisciplinary and international project suitable for FP7 or FP8 funding



I.A. COST Action Fact Sheet

• **COST Action TD0902** – *Submerged Prehistoric Archaeology and Landscapes of the Continental Shelf*

• **Domain** ISCH

• **Action details:**

CSO Approval: 26/05/2009

End date: 3/11/2013

Entry into force: 11/07/2009

Extension: None

• **Objectives** *The main objective of the Action is to promote research on the archaeology, climate and environment of the drowned landscapes of the continental shelf, created during periods of lower sea level, which form a major part of the European cultural heritage. For most of human history on the European continent over the past one million years, sea levels have persisted at levels lower than present by as much as 130m, creating extensive coastal and lowland landscapes attractive to human settlement. Between 16,000 and 6000 years, most of this territory was drowned by rapid sea level rise from -130m, following the last Ice Age, transforming the geographical and environmental context of human development with consequences that persisted into the modern era. This drowned landscape preserves valuable sedimentary archives of long-term environmental and climatic changes, and an increasing number of archaeological remains have been found, documenting human response and adaptation to this rapidly changing environment. With intensification of commercial activity on the seabed and improved research technology, the quantity of evidence is increasing rapidly. So too are the threats of destruction of this cultural heritage. This Action will improve knowledge on the location, preservation conditions, investigation methods, interpretation and management of underwater archaeological, geological and palaeoenvironmental evidence of prehistoric human activity, create a structure for the development of new interdisciplinary and international research collaboration, provide guidance for archaeologists, heritage professionals, scientists, government agencies, commercial organisations, policy makers and a wider public.*

• **Parties:** *list of countries and date of acceptance*

Austria -	Greece 04/08/2009	Poland 10/07/2009
Belgium 31/07/2009	Hungary -	Portugal 29/07/2009
Bulgaria -	Iceland -	Romania 10/09/2009
Croatia 15/03/2009	Ireland 10/07/2009	Serbia -
Cyprus -	Israel 23/11/2009	Slovakia -
Czech Rep. -	Italy 26/01/2010	Slovenia -
Denmark 03/12/2009	Latvia 10/07/2009	Spain 11/07/2009
Estonia 28/10/2009	Lithuania 07/01/2010	Sweden -
Finland -	Luxembourg -	Switzerland -
FYR of Macedonia -	Malta -	Turkey -
France 08/09/2009	Netherlands 25/03/2010	United Kingdom 11/07/2009
Germany 10/07/2009	Norway 08/09/2009	

• **Intentions to accept:** None

• **Other participants:** None

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Administrative Officer: Felicitas
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- **Action Web site:** <http://php.york.ac.uk/projects/splashcos/>
- **Grant Holder Representative:** Cynthianne Debono Spiteri, splash.cost@gmail.com

- **Working Groups** (list of WGs and names and affiliations of participants)



Members invited to March 2010 meeting but unable to attend

The participant list includes the ESRs who attended the March meeting. Because of the numbers of them interested in this project, some will continue as formal WG members, others will be active 'corresponding' members

WG1: Archaeological Data and Interpretations				
First name	Family name	Institutional Affiliation	Country	WG
Pablo	Arias	Universidad de Cantabria, Instituto Internacional de Investigaciones Prehistóricas	Spain	WG1
Jonathan	Benjamin	School of History, Classics, and Archaeology, University of Edinburgh	UK	WG1
Valdis	Berzins	Latvian Institute of History	Latvia	WG1
Nuno	Bicho	Universidade do Algarve, Department of History, Archaeology and Heritage	Portugal	WG1
Aikaterini	Dellaporta	Greek Ministry of Culture	Greece	WG1
Anders	Fischer	Heritage Agency of Denmark	Denmark	WG1 Chair
Ehud	Galili	Israel Antiquities Authority	Israel	WG1
Algirdas	Girininkas	Klaipėda University, Institute of Baltic Sea Region History and Archaeology	Lithuania	WG1
Hauke	Joens	Lower Saxony Institute for Historical Coastal Research	Germany	WG1
Morten	Johansen	The Viking Ship Museum	Denmark	WG1
Przemyslaw	Krajewski	Department of Archaeology, Szczecin University	Poland	WG1
Aivar	Kriiska	University of Tartu, Department of Archaeology	Estonia	WG1
Friedrich	Lueth	Römisch-Germanische Kommission des Deutschen	Germany	WG1
Paul	Montgomery		Ireland	WG1
Marcel	Otte	Université de Liège, Centre de recherches archéologiques	Belgium	WG1
Hans	Peeters	University of Groningen, Institute of Archaeology	Netherlands	WG1
Gytis	Piliciauskas	Lithuanian Institute of History	Lithuania	WG1
Irena	Radic Rossi	University of Zadar, Department of Archaeological Heritage	Croatia	WG1
Avraham	Ronen	University of Haifa, Department of Archaeology	Israel	WG1
Otto	Uldum	Øhavsmuseet, Langelands Museum	Denmark	WG1
Konstantina	Vafeiadou	Department of Underwater Antiquities, Greece	Greece	WG1
Vladas	Zulkus	Klaipėda University	Lithuania	WG1
WG2: Environmental Data and Reconstructions				
Peter	Astrup	University of Arhus	Denmark	WG2
Karolina	Brozowska	Szczecin University	Poland	WG2
Miquel	Canals	Universitat de Barcelona, CRG Geociències Marines	Spain	WG2

Glicherie	Caraivan	National Institute of Marine Geology and Geocology, Constanta Branch	Romania	WG2
Laurent	Carozza	Université Toulouse le Mirail, Laboratoire de GEODE (Géographie de L'Environnement)	France	WG2
Helen	Farr	Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton	UK	WG2
Nicholas	Flemming	National Oceanography Centre, Southampton	UK	WG2
Ana	Gomes	CIMA - Universidade do Algarve	Portugal	WG2
Jan	Harff	Leibniz-Institute for Baltic Sea Research	Germany	WG2 Chair
Jean-Pierre	Hermand	Université Libre de Bruxelles, Environmental Hydroacoustics Laboratory	Belgium	WG2
Tomas Albaek	Hunniche	Øhavsmuseet, Langelands Museum	Denmark	WG2
Eneko	Iriarte	Archaeology & Anthropology Department Institución Milà i Fontanals	Spain	WG2
Laimdota	Kalnina	University of Latvia, Faculty of Geography and Earth Sciences	Latvia	WG2
Michael	Kenzler	Department of Geography and Geology, University of Greifswald	Germany	WG2
Gilles	Lericolais	Centre de Brest, Géosciences marines, Laboratoire Environnements Sedimentaires	France	WG2
Frank	McDermott	University College Dublin, School of Geological Sciences	Ireland	WG2
Delminda	Moura	Universidade do Algarve, Faculty of Marine Sciences and Environment	Portugal	WG2
Hanna	Raig	Department of Geology, University of Tartu	Estonia	WG2
Alar	Rosentau	University of Tartu, Institute of Geology	Estonia	WG2
Szymon	Uscinowicz	Polish Geological Institute – National Research Institute, Branch of Marine Geology	Poland	WG2
Henk	Weerts	State Service for Archeology, Cultural Landscapes and Built Heritage	Netherlands	WG2
Kieran	Westley	Centre for Maritime Archaeology, University of Ulster	UK	WG2
Andrzej	Witkowski	University of Szczecin, Institute of Marine Sciences	Poland	WG2
Valentina	Yanko-Hombach	Avalon Institute of Applied Science, Charleswood Technology Center	Canada/ Ukraine	WG2
WG3: Technology, Technical Resources and Training				
Sorin	Anghel	National Institute of Geology and Geocology Marine-GeoEcoMar	Romania	WG3
Dragos	Ene	National Institute of R&D for Optoelectronics INOE 2000	Romania	WG3
Frederick	Feulner	University of York	UK	WG3
Selma	Gabriel	CIMA - Universidade do Algarve	Portugal	WG3
Ole	Grøn	Langelands Museum	Denmark	WG3 Chair
Jostein	Gundersen	Norwegian Maritime Museum, Oslo	Norway	WG3
Margarita	Iatrou	Department of Geology, University of Patras, Greece	Greece	WG3
Leandro	Infantini	Faculdade de Ciências Humanas e Naturais, Universidade do Algarve	Portugal	WG3
Joao	Marreiros	Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia e Universidade do Algarve	Portugal	WG3
Grazyna	Miotk-Szpiganowicz	Polish Geological Institute	Poland	WG3

Tine	Missiaen	University of Ghent, Renard Centre of Marine Geology	Belgium	WG3
Dumitrel	Pandrea	National Institute of Research and Development for Optoelectronics	Romania	WG3
Ruth	Plets	Centre for Maritime Archaeology, University of Ulster	UK	WG3
Rory	Quinn	University of Ulster, Centre for Maritime Archaeology	UK	WG3
Dimitris	Sakellariou	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research	Greece	WG3
Achim	Wehrmann	Senckenberg Institute, Department of Marine Science	Germany	WG3
WG4: Commercial Collaboration and Outreach				
Geoffrey	Bailey	University of York, Department of Archaeology	UK	WG4
Vince	Gaffney	University of Birmingham, Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity	UK	WG4
Hakon	Glorstad	Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo	Norway	WG4
Christine	Husum	Rambol Group Engineering Consultanc, Denmark	Denmark	WG4
Sorna	Kahkzad	Katolieke Universiteit Leuven	Belgium	WG4
Thijs	Maarleveld	Syddansk Universitet, Centre for Maritime and Regional Studies	Denmark	WG4
Garry	Momber	Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology	UK	WG4
Julie	Satchell	Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology	UK	WG4 Chair
Caroline	Wickham-Jones	University of Aberdeen, Department of Archaeology	UK	WG4
Dov	Zviely	The Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies, University of Haifa	Israel	WG4

I.B. Management Committee member list

<i>Name</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
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I.C. Overview activities and expenditure

Action TD0902 - budget 2010

27-juil-2010

Total Action Budget

69000,00

Remaining Action Commitment

434,94

Meetings

Meeting Type	Date	Place	Paid part	Cost	Status	Total
Kick-off	4-nov-09	Brussels (BE)		20 13315,06	Paid	
						13315,06

STSM

Beneficiary	Date	From	To	Cost	Status	Total
						0

Workshops

Title	Date	Place		Cost	Status	Total
						0

General Support Grants

Title	Date			Cost	Status	Total
						0

Schools

Type	Date	Place	title	Cost	Status	Total
						0

Honoraria

Title	Date	Expert		Cost	Status	Total
						0

Grant

Grant Holder	Date			Cost	Status	Total
University of York	01-janv-2010			55.250	Paid	
						55.250

Dissemination

Title	Date			Cost	Status	Total
						0

Action Total 68565,06

II. Scientific Report

II.A. Innovative networking

- *Innovative knowledge resulting from COST networking through the Action. (Specific examples of Results vs. Objectives)*

We have already brought into communication a large group of participants from different countries and different disciplines, who have not previously had the opportunity to communicate, specifically archaeologists interested in prehistoric coastal and underwater archaeology; geophysicists working with state of the art remote sensing techniques for underwater survey; and marine geologists working on seabed geology and palaeoclimate. The simple act of providing a forum of ongoing communication is already changing the framework of knowledge within which we are all operating.

- *Significant scientific breakthroughs as part of the COST Action. (Specific examples)*

It is too early to claim tangible scientific breakthroughs

- *Tangible medium term socio-economic impacts achieved or expected. (Specific examples)*

We invited to our March meeting one of the consultants who has been employed by the UK offshore wind farm industry to specify the underwater research that will be required to mitigate environmental and cultural impact in advance of major offshore construction work. We expect to have some influence on the way in such work is designed. Otherwise, it is too early to point to tangible impacts

- *Spin off of new EC RTD Framework Programme proposals/projects. (List)*

a. DEUKALION (currently in the drafting stage as a Large Integrated Project) for FP7 or FP8

b. DISPERSE (Dynamic Landscapes, Marine Environments and Human Dispersals), submitted by the Action Chair in the 2010 competition as an ERC Advanced Grant for frontier research to Panel SH6 ('The Study of the Human Past').

- *Spin off of new National Programme proposals/projects. (List)*

None as yet

II.B. Inter-disciplinary networking

- *Additional knowledge obtained from working with other disciplines within the COST framework. (Specific examples)*

It is too early to give specific examples. However, the presentations given during the plenary session of the March meeting ranged widely across issues relating to submerged landscapes and archaeology, geophysical survey, industrial cooperation, and issues of underwater management and heritage, and provided a comparative overview across the whole of coastal Europe about ongoing research and future prospects. This was extremely informative for everyone, and gave the opportunity to researchers from different disciplines to exchange ideas, develop a sense of collaborative possibilities, and foster synergy between the different scientific fields

- *Evaluation of whether the level of inter-disciplinarity is sufficient to potentially provide scientific impacts. (Specific examples)*

It is too early to give specific examples, but we believe that there is a high level of inter-disciplinarity embedded in the very nature of our Action that will generate scientific impacts

- *Evaluation of whether the level of inter-disciplinarity is sufficient to potentially provide socio-economic impacts. (Specific examples)*

It is too early to give specific examples, but we believe that there is a high level of inter-disciplinarity and public engagement embedded in the very nature of our Action that will generate socio-economic impacts

II.C. New networking

- *Additional new members joining the Action during its life.*

The number of COST countries in the Action has grown from 9 at the kick-off meeting in November 2009 to 19

- *Total number of individual participants involved in the Action work. (Number of participants. Give % of female and of Early Stage Researcher participants)*

There are a current maximum of 80 participants in total. Of these 19 are female, and 38 are ESRs

The percentage of ESRs is 48%.

The percentage of females is 24%; this rises to 50% for the ESR category

- *Involvement of Early Stage Researchers in the Action, in particular with respect to STSMs, networking activities, and Training Schools. In addition, justification should be provided if less than 4 STSMs were carried out during the year.*

The ESRs have taken an active role in the first (March 2010) meeting, and have been instrumental in coming up with ideas and contributions to the Action, including participation in the WGs and contribution of ideas about training.

We have had 5 applications from ESRs for STSMs, of which 3 have been approved so far, and we expect the other 2 to be approved shortly, once the assessment and related paperwork has been completed

- *Involvement of researchers from outside of COST Countries. (Number of participants from non-COST Countries approved by the CSO. Give % of such participants from countries with reciprocal agreements. Specify their contribution)*

We have been approached by institutions from Egypt and Ukraine to participate in the Action, and paperwork and applications are in hand. We have also had some interest from Australia

We have established relationships with the research community of the following international network projects:

1. INQUA (International Union for Quaternary Research) 501 "Caspian-Black Sea-Mediterranean Corridor during the last 30 ky: Sea level change and human adaptive strategies" (participants from COST and non-COST countries adjoining the Black Sea);
2. IGCP (International Geological Correlation Programme) 521 "Black Sea- Mediterranean Corridor during the last 30 ky: sea level change and human adaptation (participants as above);
3. (NSPRMF) North Sea Prehistory Research and Management Framework (participants from COST countries).

We are in touch with Australian colleagues who are engaged in similar research.

- *Advancement and promotion of scientific knowledge through publications and other outreach activities. (Number of publications and other outreach activities that resulted from COST networking through the Action. Complete list should be given in an annex)*

One publication is currently in production that includes work of some Action members and will help to showcase the nature of the Action to the wider scientific and archaeological community. See Annex 2.

The Deukalion planning group has secured an invitation, courtesy of Iain Shepherd of DG Mare, to make a presentation on our research to a lunchtime meeting in Brussels on 28 June, 2010, to an audience of MEPs and other decision makers.

One Special Session on "Underwater Geo-Archaeology: an interdisciplinary field bridging marine geosciences and underwater archaeology" convened by the Action Vice Chair and one MC member will take place at the 19th Congress of the Carpathian Balkan Geological Association (CBGA), Thessaloniki, 23-26 September 2010

- *Activities and projects with COST network colleagues.*

Nothing specific to report at this early stage

- *The capacity of the Action members to raise research funds.*

There is considerable potential to raise European funding, as detailed elsewhere in this report, and an incentive to raise funding at European or national level to develop some of the immediate Action objectives.

SPLASHCOS
Submerged Prehistoric Archaeology and Landscapes of the Continental Shelf

Scientific Report on the Meeting of 10–11 March 2010

Aims

This was the first major meeting of SPLASHCOS since the kick-off meeting in November 2009, and this meeting thus had four principal aims, to:

1. Organise a plenary day-session of presentations by Members from each of the participating States about the current state of knowledge and problems relating to submerged landscape research in their region
2. Convene members of all four Working Groups, and facilitate discussions within and between the WGs about the key issues and the best way of progressing WG objectives
3. Invite a group of Early Stage Researchers to take part in the meeting as a 'think-tank' with a view to involving them in the work and discussions of the WGs, and to solicit their ideas about the work of the Action, especially STSMs and Training Schools
4. Provide a forum for a Management Committee meeting, including many of the new members of the Action who had joined since November 2009

Organisation

The meeting took place over two days (the Program is attached as Annex 1). Day One was wholly given over to a plenary session with 20 presentations, including three invited experts with specific expertise on, respectively, the Black Sea, the North Sea, and environmental impact assessments for the proposed expansion of the UK offshore wind farm industry. Day Two comprised meetings of the WGs in the morning, followed by a plenary discussion session, and a meeting of the Management Committee in the afternoon.

Results

The plenary presentations ranged widely across issues relating to submerged landscapes and archaeology, geophysical survey, industrial cooperation, and issues of underwater management and heritage, and provided a comparative overview across the whole of coastal Europe about ongoing research and future prospects. This was extremely informative for everyone, and the PowerPoints of the presentations will be placed on the members-only area of the Action website for further reference.

The WGs established their working practices including nomination of key roles such as Vice Chairs and individuals to liaise between WGs. They identified practical targets for the acquisition and co-ordination of information that will lay the basis for work over the next six months, leading up to the next proposed meeting in October. These include compilation of existing information, published and grey literature, laboratories with relevant training and equipment, commercial companies operating on the seabed, identification of target regions for more detailed investigation, and development of ideas about training, collaborative grant applications, publications, wider dissemination, and recruitment of new members.

The Early Stage Researchers took an active and positive part in the WG discussions and proposed a number of ideas about training and other issues. Some of them have agreed to take on key roles as ongoing members of the WGs.

APC TD0902 Annex 2

Publication:

Benjamin, J.* , Bonsall, C., Pickard, C. and Fischer, A.* (eds.). *Underwater Archaeology and the Submerged Prehistory of Europe*.

To be published by Oxbow, Oxford

*SPLASHCOS members