

WHY IS PACCo IMPORTANT?

- Climate change including sea level rise threatens coastal areas and adaptation will be necessary for many communities.
- Adaptation of coastal regions is possible and presents an opportunity to bring long-term social, environmental and economic benefits.
- Early adaptation to climate change will be more cost-effective and provide better value for money for society than late or no action, when evaluated over the medium and long term.
- The PACCo model can be used to ascertain whether adaptation is right for a coastal area and, if so, provides guidance on how to proceed.

LONG TERM PACCo OUTCOMES

- A society that better understands the risks of climate change.
- Coastal communities that are more prepared for climate change.
- A greater understanding of the socio-economic benefits of adaptation.
- More coastal communities adapted to climate change in the long term.
- Better engagement and funding for adaptation from politicians, at a local, national and European level.

Scène Valley, France
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PROMOTING ADAPTATION TO CHANGING COASTS



PACCo: PROMOTING ADAPTATION TO CHANGING COASTS

THE VISION

The PACCo project will show that it is possible for many estuaries and coasts to adapt to climate change. We will create a transferable model of how this can be done, informed by our experiences at two sites where such adaptation has taken place: **the Saâne Valley on the north coast of France (Normandy) and the Otter Valley on the south coast of England (Devon).**



HOW WILL THE VISION BE DELIVERED?

PACCo is supported by the European Union's Interreg V A France Channel England programme. It has a total value of €26m, with €17.8m coming from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

An international team, led by the Environment Agency, will co-ordinate the work of six project partners in adapting the Saâne and Otter Valleys to future climate change. The approach and lessons learnt will be made available to policy makers, government agencies and those responsible for the management of coastal communities in northern France and southern England through promotion of the PACCo model.

The model will highlight successful approaches to climate change adaptation and help impacted communities assess whether adaptation is right for them and, if so, how they might best proceed to address the issues they face.



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Otter Valley

WHAT WILL PACCo DO?

PACCo aims to demonstrate that the success of climate change adaptation is dependent on government, businesses, NGOs and communities working in partnership to identify, assess, accept and address climate risks.

- The Environment Agency will lead and co-ordinate the activities of the partners and be ultimately responsible for delivering the project.
- Key objectives include: showing how climate change adaptation can protect and enhance the environment, biodiversity, food webs and commercial fish species and protect against pollution; providing proof that adaptation can deliver more effective and cost-effective management of coastal water ecosystems; demonstrating the long-term economic and public benefits that can be derived from adaptive management.
- The primary project output will be the PACCo model. It will incorporate the tools, techniques, protocols, reports, analyses, methodologies, frameworks and lessons learnt from the two pilot sites. The model will support other coastal communities to adapt to climate change; more than 70 communities could benefit.
- PACCo will ensure a high impact of its new cross-border methodologies, tools and techniques by widely communicating project messages and the PACCo model. Key messages will be delivered to varied audiences and stakeholders at local, regional and national events, workshops, and at the final conferences.

SUITABLE ADAPTATIONS FOR ANY GIVEN COASTAL COMMUNITY WILL BE DEPENDENT ON LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES.



In the Otter Valley, actions will include:

- Breaching existing flood embankments to better reconnect the river to its floodplain
- Restoring lost inter-tidal habitat
- Relocating a cricket club away from the floodplain
- Safeguarding a highway and public footpaths
- Protecting a former landfill site



In the Saâne valley, the following actions will be implemented:

- Moving a campsite to a flood-free location
- Improving sewage treatment facilities for several communities thereby reducing environmental risk
- Restoring inter-tidal habitats in place of the former campsite
- Restoring the connectivity of the River Saâne to the sea through a bridge, instead of a pipe
- Safeguarding a road between two communities
- Restoring wetlands and natural water flows by reconnecting the Saâne to its floodplain



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