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KIMO Good Practice Guide Published: Mitigating Eutrophication – A Manual for Municipalities

February 2011 saw the completion of the latest publication in the Good Practice Guide Series. This is a comprehensive guide on how municipalities can reduce nutrient inputs from areas that they influence. It is also accompanied by a checklist to assist the implementation of nutrient reduction strategies.

The over-enrichment of coastal waters with nutrients causes increased primary production (eutrophication) of phytoplankton resulting in algal blooms which sometimes produce toxic species. When phytoplankton die, they sink to the bottom and their decomposition by bacteria depletes the water of oxygen. This can cause problems for marine life. Unsightly algal blooms also impact on the recreational use of the area. Two important sources of nutrients to coastal waters are domestic wastewater (sewage) and agriculture.

There are large scale national and international strategies and directives in place to help try and mitigate eutrophication. This guide is published to show how municipalities can take action at the local level and contribute effectively to national efforts, which in the worst affected areas are not enough on their own. This six month research project, undertaken by Craig Baxter KIMO Graduate Researcher, involved an extensive literature review on eutrophication and focused on small-scale wastewater treatments, riparian buffers and natural wetland restoration.

[Click here to read the Good Practice Guide](#)

[Click here to read the Checklist](#)



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Message from KIMO President Albert de Hoop



The last few months have been a busy period for KIMO we have been involved with consortium of NGO's in both Europe and Canada to oppose shipments of radioactive waste from Canada to Sweden for decontamination. Our work on raising the issue of lost containers at the national and EU level has resulted a debate in the European Parliament and the issue being raised at the IMO and preparations have begun for the AGM and Conference in October.

This will be my last AGM as President and I would just like to say I have had a fantastic time in my role, it has been a privilege to work with the KIMO team. I would like to thank everyone for their help and trust over the last 3 years and I look forward to seeing you all at Aberdeen.

Fishing For Litter



Fishing for Litter Scotland and Fishing for Litter Southwest have both recently been successful in securing funding for the next three years, allowing the project to continue and to increase the number of boats taking part. During this period KIMO also intends to increase the educational element of the scheme both with Fishermen and Local Schools.

Recently a new phase of the project was launched in the Scottish Harbour of the Isle of Whithorn (see picture), where six local vessels signed up to the initiative.



KIMO UK

KIMO UK is delighted that following a long campaign that the Coastguard stations on Stornoway and Lerwick will be retained on 24 hour service. However cuts are still planned to the service and KIMO UK continues to submit evidence to the consultation process.

KIMO Denmark

A marine litter study by KIMO Denmark has recorded the quantities of marine litter that 11 municipalities on the west coast of Denmark collected from 2007 to 2009. The results are disturbing and show that the amount of garbage collected in this 3 year period is the same amount as in similar studies from 2002 and 2004.

There is some variation between the municipalities; however on average they collected around 1000 tonnes of marine litter per year. The average amount of waste collected is 2.5 tonnes of waste per kilometre but the most polluted area collected 8 tons of waste per kilometre of beach each year.



This shows that there is still massive pollution of the marine environment, which in the North Sea is estimated at more than 20,000 tons of waste each year. KIMO therefore concludes, the North Sea continues to be used as dumping ground as the amount of waste dumped in the sea has remained constant.

On average the municipalities in this study have spent no less than € 7.15 million per year to clean up the west coast of Denmark. Compared with data from 2002 and 2004, this is an expense that has increased by more than 60% in the span of 7-8 years. The amount is a low estimate and less than the actual costs would be, as there are over 3.000 volunteers that have given time and energy through clean up events.

KIMO Faroe

KIMO Faroe have expressed concerns about the shipments of nuclear material passing through the Faroe region and have been campaigning to increase Emergency Towage Vessel coverage in the region. KIMO Faroe have also highlighting their support for marine renewable energy, the potential for which is currently being investigated in Faroe which has a huge potential for tidal power.



Analysis of the Gulf of Mexico Oil Disaster 2010: A summary of key reports and response efforts

A KIMO review has been undertaken, looking at the outcomes of key reports into the Gulf of Mexico Oil Disaster. This includes findings from the BP Accident Investigation Report, US Oil Spill Commission Report and UK Select Committee Report as well as examining the US Government's response in the Gulf of Mexico.

The main findings are:

The US response capacity was strong as they are a single country with a discrete set of arrangements. In the event of a spill on a European scale the response arrangements are more disjointed and focus on mainly on tanker accidents.

Limitations in the US regulations and complacency led to the Deepwater Horizon disaster. The UK regulations are stronger with an emphasis on operators demonstrating safety management is in place through a detailed document.



There is doubt however over the physical capacity to clean up an oil spill to the west of Shetland due to a lack of vessels and technology, despite the robust UK arrangements.

Existing European liability and compensation legislation is also identified as being grossly inadequate, as was previously highlighted in KIMO resolution 1/10. [Read review here](#)

Current Research

Currently a six-month project is being undertaken to produce a report on the Transport of nuclear fuel cycle materials by sea in the North East Atlantic and Baltic Sea. Radioactive materials from the civil nuclear fuel industry are being regularly transported through our waters, often without us knowing; shipments are kept low key for security reasons.



In the past KIMO have campaigned against individual nuclear shipments which they believed to be hazardous to the marine environment in the event of a shipping accident, either by damage from a physical release of radioactive material or harm to the reputation of an area's coastline and produce.

This report will provide an overview of the sea shipments which are through the North East Atlantic and Baltic Sea, looking at the materials being carried and the risks they pose, the routes chosen and ports used, the transport companies, the types of ships and containers being used and the numbers of shipments occurring and when available, the quantities being transported. It will highlight to KIMO member municipalities what nuclear materials are passing their coastlines.

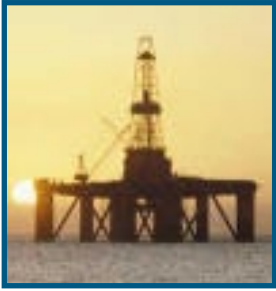
Upcoming Research

Two further six-month projects are planned next year. The first will be to develop a communications plan for KIMO, including increasing our utilisation of social media, to relay our actions, lobbying results and project outcomes to our members and the wider public and produce a new KIMO International Monthly Newsletter. The second project will be to assist the secretariat in the development of the project applications for European Funding. During this six month project, a review into the impact of endocrine disrupting substances on the marine environment will also be undertaken.

International News & Events

21st KIMO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year the KIMO AGM and International Conference will be held in Aberdeen from the 7th – 9th October. The conference will focus on deep sea oil spills, microplastics and radioactive marine pollution with presentations from the UK Coastguard, Department for Energy and Climate change and the European Commission, university of London and Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA).



The event is being jointly hosted by Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City Councils. The venues will be Aberdeenshires headquarters Woodhill house and Aberdeen Citys newly refurbished Marsihal College and Town House. Accommodation for delegates will be the Ardeo House Hotel and Spa on the outskirts of Aberdeen.



KIMO objects to Canadian Steam Generator Shipment

KIMO International has been working with Canadian organisations to campaign against the shipment of 16 steam generators from Canada to Sweden. The generators, owned by Bruce Power are too large to be packaged and exceed the IAEA radioactivity limits for that of surface contaminated objects transported on a single ship. KIMO has written to the Swedish Government asking them not to grant permission for the shipments to occur. KIMO believes the shipments are totally unnecessary and present an avoidable risk as Bruce Power already has plans to store this radioactive waste. In Studsvik Sweden, the generators would be “decontaminated” with the metal being returned to the market and waste shipped back to Canada.

KIMO’s three concerns are:

- 1 The Steam Generators exceed the maximum allowed on a vessel unpackaged.
2. Decontamination and recycling of the metal would result in additional emissions to the Baltic, already the most radioactive sea in the world.
3. Shipments pass many coastal communities; any accident could threaten public health and the perception of a pristine environment that tourism in these communities relies on.



The Swedish Government replied stating that they are satisfied with the “Special Arrangement” transport provisions for this shipment and have granted approval, as they have done with other shipments of large components previously. Currently a resolution is being developed that KIMO Municipalities can ratify and forward to thier governments and the press, opposing the shipments, to keep the pressure on decision makers to reverse the decision .

Secretariat’s View

As some KIMO members may already know I will be leaving KIMO this October after 8 years to take up a role as a Deputy Secretary with the OSPAR Commission. It has been a fantastic experience working for KIMO all these years and I have had the chance to meet and work with some great people. It will be difficult leaving KIMO and I just want to thank all the people who have contributed so much to the organisation during my time here.



The KIMO AGM and Conference this year will be may last meeting for KIMO and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Aberdeen. With regards to the future the recruitment process for my replacement has been started and we hope to have a person in post as soon as possible to minimise any disruption in the intervening period.

International News & Events

KIMO concerns raised in EU and IMO

As mentioned in the previous edition of our newsletter, lobbying by the KIMO president resulted in the Dutch Government undertaking a review into Container ship lashings at Rotterdam Harbour. The findings showed 43% of vessels surveyed did not comply with lashing guidelines. Following on from that report and as a result of our lobbying a debate on containership safety was held in the EU parliament late last year. This resulted in a clear signal being given to the commission that the current situation is not acceptable. *(Click here to see video)*



KIMO has also written to all transport ministers highlighting the report and it's findings. As a result of these efforts the issue is being raised at IMO level by the Dutch government and individual countries are increasing the monitoring container lashings during regular ship inspections.

Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)

KIMO has been participating in the EU Marine Litter Expert Group which has been formed to develop monitoring strategies and target setting for member states to use in helping to reduce marine litter, as part of the MSFD.

This expert group has been formed as currently how to measure and improve the quantities of marine litter is not widely known and the group will provide advice to member states.



The KIMO secretariat's role in this group is to lead the development of advice on sources of litter, which is fundamental in the efforts to reduce it. This is a further success of the lobbying efforts of KIMO on marine litter over the past decade which saw marine litter being included in the MSFD and now this work will aid the development of practical solutions to

the problem. A report by the group will be completed in November 2011.

KIMO networks will be lobbying for a 40% reduction in marine litter as member states being to set their targets for good environmental status over the next few months.



KIMO International now on Twitter

KIMO International are now on twitter! We will use this to provide updates, links to our website and KIMO news. To find us go to twitter.com and search for @KIMOInt or click here