

CoastAdapt

The Sea as Our Neighbour: Adapting to Climate Change by
Coastal Communities and Habitats on Europe's Northern
Periphery

Conference

27-29 March 2012, Daliburgh, South Uist

Conference Handbook



Innovatively investing
in Europe's Northern
Periphery for a sustainable
and prosperous future



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Vík í Mýrdal, Mýrdalshreppur Municipality



Mýrdalshreppur

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Árborg Municipality



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On behalf of the project partners I would like to extend you a warm welcome to the CoastAdapt Conference, The Sea as Our Neighbour: Adapting to Climate Change by Coastal Communities and Habitats on Europe's Northern Periphery.

The Conference is the culmination of three years of work by project partners and local people from coastal communities situated in southern Iceland, northern Norway, west of Ireland, and the Outer Hebrides. What people from these regions have in common is that they live and work coastal environments that are fragile yet energetic and always dynamic. Our coasts provide space and resources for the competing uses and values of industry, habitation, and recreation. Coastlines are under constant change and the influence of human intervention can have unintended consequences. Sea level is rising due to melting glaciers and ice caps as well as the expansion effect of warming seas. Storms can cause rapid erosion of soft coasts over short periods of time and heavy wave action can cause undercutting of dune systems.

The aforementioned impacts are well documented. The question is; how will we cope with the changes that are taking place at the coast both now and in the future? Finding the answers to this question, not necessarily in terms of specific solutions, but by exploring and demonstrating the methods which can be put into practice by local people is the focus of CoastAdapt.

The Conference aims to provide the opportunity for people, whether local residents, from the local authority and other agency staff, or from national government, to gain knowledge and an understanding of the options available for making assessments of how vulnerable communities are to change, their ability to adapt and cope, and how they can increase their resilience to climate and other risks presented by change.

The conference venue is in the village of Daliburgh in the south of the island of South Uist. Villages in the Outer Hebrides are seldom far from the shore and Daliburgh is no exception. Miles and miles of silver sand beaches lie to the west of Daliburgh and I hope the weather is kind and you have the chance to visit them and you enjoy your visit to South Uist.

David Muir
CoastAdapt Project Manager

General Information

Accommodation in the Daliburgh Area

Nearby hotels and other accommodation include:

Borrodale Hotel http://www.isleshotelgroup.co.uk/borrodale_hotel.htm (probably full)

Uist Travel Lodge www.uistbunkhouse.co.uk (5 mins walking from Southend Hall)

Lochboisdale Hotel <http://www.lochboisdale.com/> (about 2 miles away)

Polochar Inn <http://www.polocharinn.com/> (about 3 miles away)

Lochside Cottage B&B (1 mile away)

Lochboisdale
Isle of South Uist
Outer Hebrides
HS8 5TH
loch-side_cottage@tiscali.co.uk
01878 700 472
www.lochside-cottage.co.uk

Kilvale B&B (½ mile away)

Margaret Steele
240 Garryhellie
Isle of South Uist
Western Isles
HS8 5SX
maggie_steele@hotmail.com
01878 700 394
07851 190 928

Heron Point B&B (1½ miles away)

Andy and Jan Biddles
452 Lochboisdale
Isle of South Uist,
Western Isles
HS8 5TN
info@heronpoint.co.uk
01878 700 073
www.heronpoint.co.uk

Ard Na Mara B&B (about 2 miles away)

Kilphedar
Isle of South Uist,
Western Isles
HS8 5TB
rosemaryrobinson334@btinternet.com
01878700452

Presenter Information

All speakers are reminded that the conference programme is packed, so in the interest of giving everyone time to speak, talks will be kept strictly to schedule.

Presenters are asked to upload their PowerPoint files from a memory stick to the conference computer at least by the break before the start of their session. This computer will be available from early each morning for those who wish to do a trial run though on the screen. No personal computers will be able to be connected to the conference system.

Presenters are also asked to provide a small PDF file of their slides for archiving on the CoastAdapt website. Please remove any copyright sensitive material before making your PDF and save the slides at a resolution appropriate to make a file size less than 4 MB and for web viewing.

Conference Dinner

One of the highlights of the conference is the dinner. This will be a buffet dinner and will be held at Grogarry Lodge, Stilligarry, South Uist on Tuesday, 27 March 2012 starting at 7.30 pm. The bus will depart from Borrodale Hotel in Daliburgh at 7.00 pm or attendees may choose to find their own transportation to Grogarry Lodge.

We will be launching the web-based CoastAdapt Information Resource after dinner and speakers will provide an insight to the islands.



Conference Fieldtrips

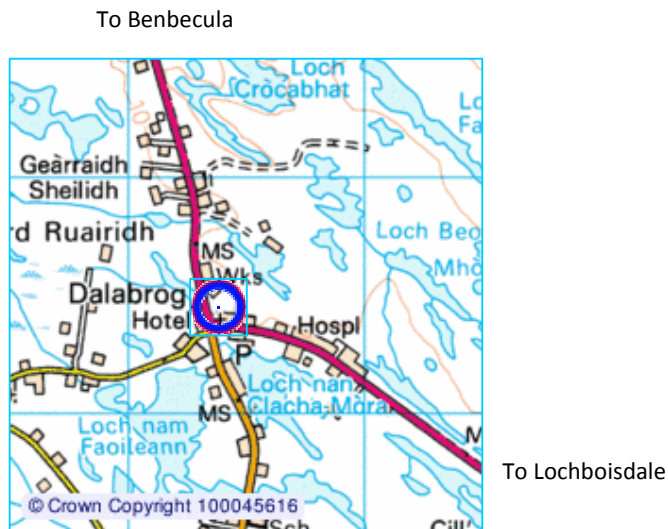
Please prepare for all weather conditions. Warm waterproof clothing and footwear is essential as weather in the Hebrides can change in an instant. The fieldtrips will require only a limited amount of walking.

Venue

With the exception of the conference dinner, which will be held at Grogarry Lodge, Stilligarry, South Uist; all talks will be held in the Southend Community Hall where lunches, morning and afternoon teas will also be served.

Southend Community Hall is located on the A865 in Daliburgh just north of the Borrodale Hotel.

Map of Daliburgh and surrounding area



Travel

Benbecula Airport is 25 miles to the north of Daliburgh and daily flights from Glasgow, Barra, Stornoway and Inverness are operated by www.flybe.com.

www.calmac.co.uk run car ferries from Oban to Lochboisdale; Uig, Skye to Lochmaddy; Leverburgh, Harris to Berneray, North Uist; and Barra to Eriskay, South Uist.

Car hire can be arranged by www.askcarhire.com and www.laingmotors.co.uk.

Local taxis in Benbecula include: DJ's Taxis, Tel: 07879 221 414
Buchanan's Taxis, Tel: 01870 602 277
MacVicars Taxis, Tel: 01870 603 197 and 01870 602 307

And in South Uist: Lindsay's Taxis, Tel: 01878 700 206
Aitkens Island Travel, Tel: 01878 710 333

Conference Programme

(Conference programme correct as at 22nd March 2012)

Conference venue: Southend Community Hall,
Daliburgh, South Uist HS8 5SS

Monday 26 March to Friday 30 March 2012



**Northern
Periphery
Programme**
2007–2013

Innovatively investing
in Europe's Northern
Periphery for a sustainable
and prosperous future



European Union
European Regional Development Fund

Monday 26 March 2012

5.00 pm Registration opens at Borrodale Hotel

7.00 pm Bar meal for partners at Borrodale Hotel

Tuesday 27 March 2012

Delegates arrive throughout morning

9.00 am Meet at Borrodale Hotel, Daliburgh, South Uist

9.30 to 11.30 am Pre-conference fieldtrip to coastal protection sites in South Uist leaving from Borrodale Hotel

11.30 am Registration at Southend Community Hall

12.00 noon Buffet lunch at Southend Community Hall

1.30 pm Welcome and conference opening by Rev. Fr Calum MacLellan

2.00 pm Keynote speaker: Prof. William Ritchie on *Putting Climatic Changes into Perspective*

2.15 – 3.30 pm Session 1: Adaptation to Change at the Coast Chaired by Dr Gudrun Pétursdóttir

2.15–2.30 pm	Coastal change – global examples	Andrew Cooper
2.30–2.45 pm	Coastal change in the Outer Hebrides	David Muir
2.45–3.00 pm	How Hammerfest is making use of its coastal and marine assets	Tom Eirik Ness
3.00–3.15 pm	Question and answer session with panel	

3.15–3.30 pm Afternoon tea (show of video clips from pilot sites)

3.30 – 5.00 pm Session 2: What do we mean by vulnerability and adaptive capacity? Chaired by Prof. John McClatchey

3.30–3.45 pm	Global climate change	Robert Devoy
3.45–4.00 pm	Local examples of vulnerability from Ireland	Cathal O'Mahony
4.00–4.15 pm	Concept of vulnerability and adaptive capacity	Alexandre Gagnon
4.15–4.30 pm	The Great Storm of January 2005	Stewart Angus
4.30–4.45 pm	Adaptation or reaction to change on the coast?	Andrew Cooper & David Muir
4.45–5.00 pm	Question and answer session with panel	
5.00–5.15 pm	Close of day's sessions	

Tuesday evening

7.30 pm Conference Dinner at Grogarry Lodge, South Uist
(Bus departs from Borrodale Hotel at **7.00 pm**, or make your own way there – see directions in the programme notes)

Wednesday 28 March 2012

08.30 am onwards Registration at Southend Hall

09.10 am Welcome to today's programme

09.15 am Keynote speaker Joseph Hagg, Adaptation Scotland on *Adapting to Scotland's Changing Coast*

9.30 – 11.00 am Session 3: The approach taken by CoastAdapt Chaired by Prof. Andrew Cooper

9.30–9.45 am	The CoastAdapt project and pilot sites	David Muir
9.45–9.55 am	The importance of the interdisciplinary approach in partnership working	Gudrun Pétursdóttir
9.55–10.10 am	What makes CoastAdapt different from other climate related projects?	Cathal O'Mahony
10.10–10.20 am	The workshop approach, questionnaires and interviews	Alexandre Gagnon
10.20–10.30 am	How was it done in Ireland?	Cathal O'Mahony
10.30–10.45 am	How was it done in Iceland?	Gudrun Pétursdóttir
10.45–11.00 am	Hammerfest workshops and related Norwegian projects	Elisabeth Angell & Knut Bjorn Stokke
11.00–11.15 am	Question and answer session with panel	

11.15–11.30 am Morning coffee (show of video clips from pilot sites)

11.30 – 12.45 am Session 4: Results of the CoastAdapt project Chaired by Johanne Ferguson

11.30–11.45 am	What did the project set out to do and how have we done?	Alexandre Gagnon
11.45–11.55 pm	How the results will be used?	tbc
11.55–12.15 pm	How changes in environment can indicate climatic change	Stewart Angus
12.15–12.30 pm	Coastal archaeology as a tourism resource	Deborah Anderson
12.30–12.45 pm	Question and answer session with panel	

12.45 – 2.00 pm **Buffet lunch**

**2.00 – 3.30 pm Session 5: Hazard management and disaster recovery
Chaired by tbc**

2.00–2.15 pm	Legislation and regulation	John McClatchey
2.15–2.30 pm	Civil protection and long-term disaster recovery planning in Iceland	Gudrun Pétursdóttir
2.30–2.45 pm	Flood Risk Management – implications for the Outer Hebrides	David Muir
2.45–3.00 pm	Emergency planning in the Outer Hebrides	Andy MacDonald
3.00–3.15 pm	How Scotland is approaching climate change	Joseph Hagg
3.15–3.30 pm	Question and answer session with panel	

3.30–3.45 pm Afternoon tea (show of video clips from pilot sites)

**3.45 – 5.15 pm Session 6: The CoastAdapt information resource
Chaired by Prof. William Ritchie**

3.45–4.00 pm	Overview of the information resource	Andrew Cooper
4.15–4.30 pm	Demonstration of the website	Jeremy Pile
4.30–4.45 pm	The adaptation handbook	John McClatchey
4.45–5.00 pm	Question and answer session with panel	
5.00–5.15 pm	Close of Conference	

Wednesday evening

7.30 pm Dinner at Borrodale Hotel

Thursday 29 March 2012

9.30–12.30 pm Morning fieldtrip leaving from Borrodale Hotel

12.30–2.00 pm Lunch

2.00–5.30 pm Afternoon fieldtrip leaving from Lochmaddy Hotel, North Uist

5.30 pm Return to Borrodale Hotel

7.30 Partner Dinner at tbc

Friday 30 March 2012

9.00 am Return to airport by bus leaving Borrodale Hotel at 9.00 am

