**TASK GROUP**

**World Heritage**

**TG-WH 33**

**8 – 9 June 2021**

**Virtual Meeting**



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**Agenda Item:** 3

**Subject:** Announcements CWSS

**Document No.** TG-WH 32/3/1

**Date:** 7 June 2021

**Submitted by:** CWSS

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Attached are announcements from the CWSS.

**Proposal**

The meeting is proposed to note the announcements.

**Announcements CWSS**

**Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative**

The official letter of approval of the concept note ‘Climate Resilience for Critical Sites for Migratory Birds and People along the East Atlantic Flyway’ (Short Title: Climate Resilient East Atlantic Flyway), submitted by the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative (WSFI) in 2020, was sent out by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) secretariat in February 2021. The IKI project consortium has now entered the first steps of the preparatory phase. After an initial Kick-Off meeting with delegates from the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, the IKI secretariat and the project consortium in the middle of April, the project consortium has now entered the next preparatory phase, developing a proposal for the 6-month preparation phase which is going to start at the beginning of 2022. It is foreseen that the actual project will start in the first quarter 2023, given funding is granted.

**Preparation Thematic Reports for the QSR**

Due to the activities on the revision and activation of TMAP during the German presidency (2018-2022), a full QSR cycle was not considered as feasible. As an alternative concept, the members of the coordinating Task Group Monitoring & Assessment (TG-MA), together with CWSS and the organizers of the International Wadden Sea Symposium (ISWSS), jointly developed the approach of mainly linking the selection of to-be-updated Thematic Reports to the headlines of the ISWSS. The symposium is considered as the ideal platform to discuss topic related findings or (if available) the reports. Further reports were commissioned considering the key topics of the Single Integrated Management Plan (SIMP), which is currently under development for the Wadden Sea World Heritage. The final reports are scheduled to be ready for online publication in the second half of 2021.

**Webinar towards a trilateral sediment solutions Community of Understanding**

On 19 March, a second trilateral webinar Sediment Solutions was held with participation of 62 persons from the three countries. The Wadden Academy presented a report “Where mud matters” on mud supply, transport and deposition. In further two sessions, mud management in Wadden Sea harbours and sediment dynamics of the German Wadden Sea was discussed.

The third webinar on sediment solution is scheduled on 18 June 2021. Further information and downloads: <https://rijkewaddenzee.nl/en/sedimentsolutions/webinar-19-march-2021/>

The events are organized by the Programme Towards A Rich Wadden Sea with involvement of Deltares, the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat, Rijkswaterstaat and other persons and organization interested in the process establishing a Community of Understanding.

**Extension of PROWAD Link**

The PROWAD Link project has been extended for another 6 months and will now officially end on 31 August 2022 with the submission of the final report.

In March 2021, the project took the opportunity to apply for new, additional project activities as part of the last call of the running Interreg VB North Sea Region Programme (with an additional project budget of € 1.1 Mio). A decision on the application will be taken by the Interreg Steering Committee on 15 June 2021. If positive, the new activities will start this year with a new project end date of 31 December 2022.

**Staff changes at CWSS**

Because Annika Bostelmann is on parental leave from March to November, CWSS is joined by a new colleague, Ditte Hviid, to take over as temporary Communications and Outreach Officer. Ditte has been working for the Danish Wadden Sea National Park (Nationalpark Vadehavet) for the past five years and in her position, she was a member of the trilateral Networking Group Education.

Marine Perrin, who interned at CWSS in fall 2020, has returned in January as short-term project assistant to support the development of the single integrated management plan with the development of legal framework databases for shipping, fisheries, energy, coastal protection and tourism.

CWSS is supported by an intern in the conservation unit on GIS topics until June 2021. Lars Weber is a student of Coastal and Marine Management in the Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands.

In August 2021, CWSS will be joined by a volunteer Amelie Banke (Freiwilliges Ökologisches Jahr), thanks to the generous appointment by the National Park Authority “Hamburgisches Wattenmeer”. The volunteer will be with CWSS for 14 months and support the communication and event planning, particularly for German presidency events in 2022.