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CERTO

Copernicus Evolution – Research for harmonised and Transitional water Observation

CERTO will provide easy to use maps and indicators to better monitor the water quality status across all water types and benefit the community in Europe, supporting more efficient planning decisions at a lower cost.

www.certo-project.org

About the Project

Transitional, inland and near shore waters, are challenging for satellite-based Earth Observation because of the heterogeneity and variety of water conditions, impact of nearby land, and water body bottom visibility.

Satellites offer a cost-effective solution to monitor water quality at a global scale. A variety of methods and approaches are currently used for different water bodies such as oceans and lakes.

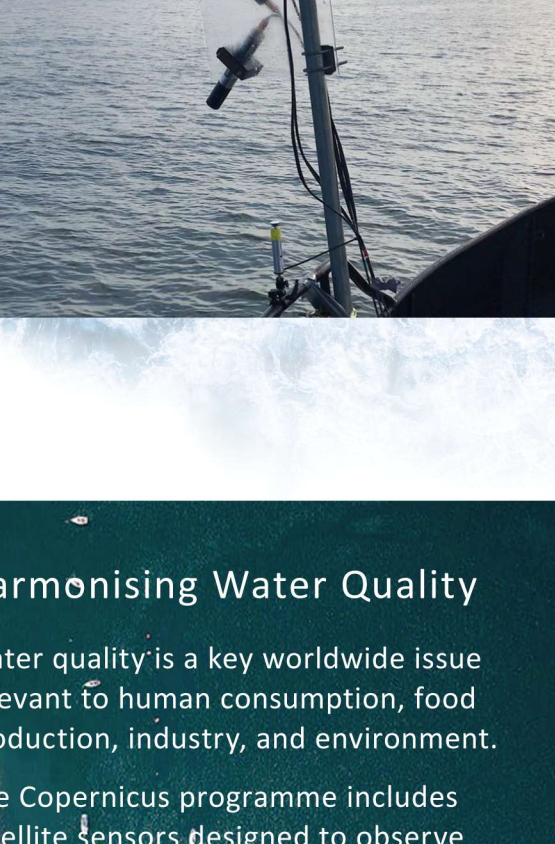
CERTO provides a harmonised capability to monitor water quality from lakes, deltas, coastal waters and to the open ocean.

Case Study Areas

The project has six European case-study regions which will be used as test sites for the CERTO prototype.

- Elbe estuary, Germany
- Curonian lagoon, Russia Lithuania
- Tamar estuary, UK
- Razelm-Sinoe lagoon, Romania
- Tagus estuary, Portugal
- Venice lagoon, Italy

In situ sampling is ongoing at the six CERTO Case study areas.

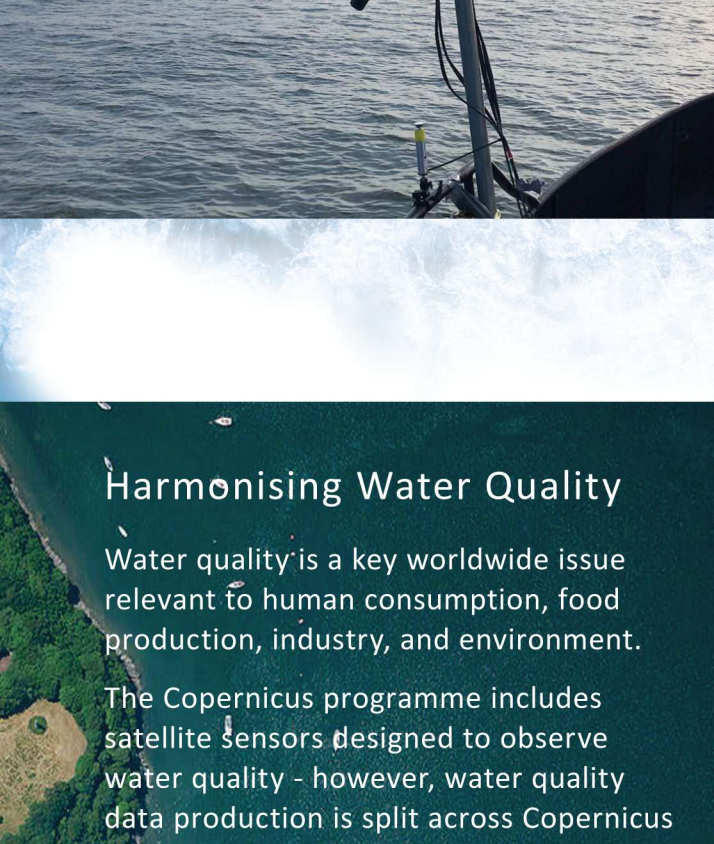


Objectives

- Harmonise between the different Copernicus services approach.
- Develop indicators relevant to management, policy and science users operating in transitional waters.
- Develop specific in-water and atmospheric correction methods for water quality in transitional waters.
- Interact and consult with commercial, industrial, scientific, policy and monitoring stakeholders.
- Provide a prototype system for use by the Copernicus Services.

In-situ data collection

Tagus estuary



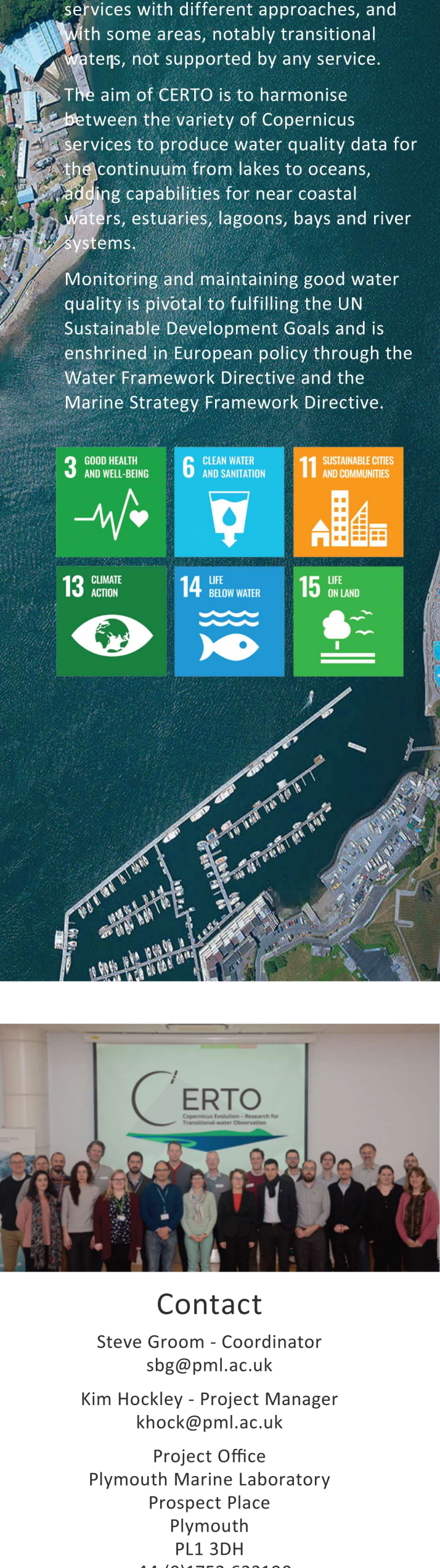
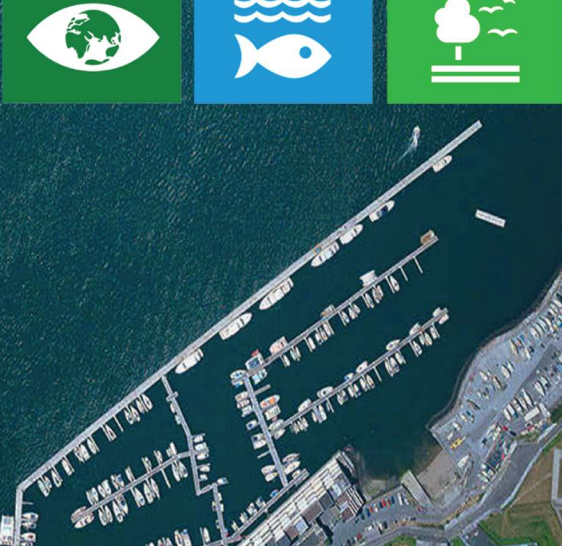
Harmonising Water Quality

Water quality is a key worldwide issue relevant to human consumption, food production, industry, and environment.

The Copernicus programme includes satellite sensors designed to observe water quality - however, water quality data production is split across Copernicus services with different approaches, and with some areas, notably transitional waters, not supported by any service.

The aim of CERTO is to harmonise between the variety of Copernicus services to produce water quality data for the continuum from lakes to oceans, adding capabilities for near coastal waters, estuaries, lagoons, bays and river systems.

Monitoring and maintaining good water quality is pivotal to fulfilling the UN Sustainable Development Goals and is enshrined in European policy through the Water Framework Directive and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.



Contact

Steve Groom - Coordinator
sbg@pml.ac.uk

Kim Hockley - Project Manager
khock@pml.ac.uk

Project Office
Plymouth Marine Laboratory
Prospect Place
Plymouth
PL1 3DH
+44 (0)1752 633100

comms.certo@pml.ac.uk
www.certo-project.org

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