

TIDE | project activities

SCIENCE: TIDE improves knowledge about estuary functioning. For the first time, the resilience quantification method allows for inter-estuarine comparisons. This knowledge reduces the risk of one-issue actions resulting from isolated concerns.

GOVERNANCE: TIDE improves the effectiveness of policy mechanisms and instruments in each region. Operating via regional working groups bringing together various stakeholders, it realises integrated management and governance in each region.

MEASURES: TIDE compares, assesses and plans mitigation and compensation measures (i.e. sediment traps, new dredging methods, restoration of river shores). It also jointly develops new, solution-oriented mitigation methods.

INFORMATION: TIDE raises awareness of the issues at stake among the different target groups, ranging from EU policy makers to estuary residents. On this basis, it increases understanding and acceptance of necessary changes.

TRANSNATIONAL: TIDE brings together the best available knowledge and practices from within the TIDE regions and beyond. This is ensured through jointly agreed work plans and methodologies resulting from continuous exchange of experience and knowledge among TIDE partners.

DOCUMENTATION: TIDE experience is synthesized in a joint TIDE toolbox documenting

- assessment tools with a new resilience quantification approach,
- a governance box with a roadmap to integrated estuarine management planning, and
- a measure box showing pre-conditions and results of various measures

EXPERIENCE TRANSFER: The TIDE toolbox is presented to other planners, managers and decision-makers of other estuaries and related ecosystems in "TIDE on Tour" seminars.

TIDE | partners

TIDE brings together experts, scientists, policy-makers and managers representing the various economic, social and environmental interests in the estuaries:

Elbe | Germany

Hamburg Port Authority

www.hamburg-port-authority.de, www.tideelbe.de

Lower Saxony Water Management, Coastal Defence and Nature Conservation Agency, www.nlwkn.de

Weser | Germany

Lower Saxony Water Management, Coastal Defence and Nature Conservation Agency, www.nlwkn.de

Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, www.wuh.bremen.de, www.umwelt-bremen.de

University of Bremen, www.uni-bremen.de



Humber | United Kingdom

Institute of Estuarine & Coastal Studies, Hull

www.hull.ac.uk/iecs

Environment Agency, www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Scheldt | Belgium/Netherlands

Rijkswaterstaat, www.rijkswaterstaat.nl

Flemish Authorities, Department of Mobility and Public Works, Maritime Access Division, www.maritiemetoegang.be

Antwerp Port Authority, www.portofantwerp.be

University of Antwerp, www.ua.ac.be/ecobe

TIDE

Tidal River Development

TIDE | contact

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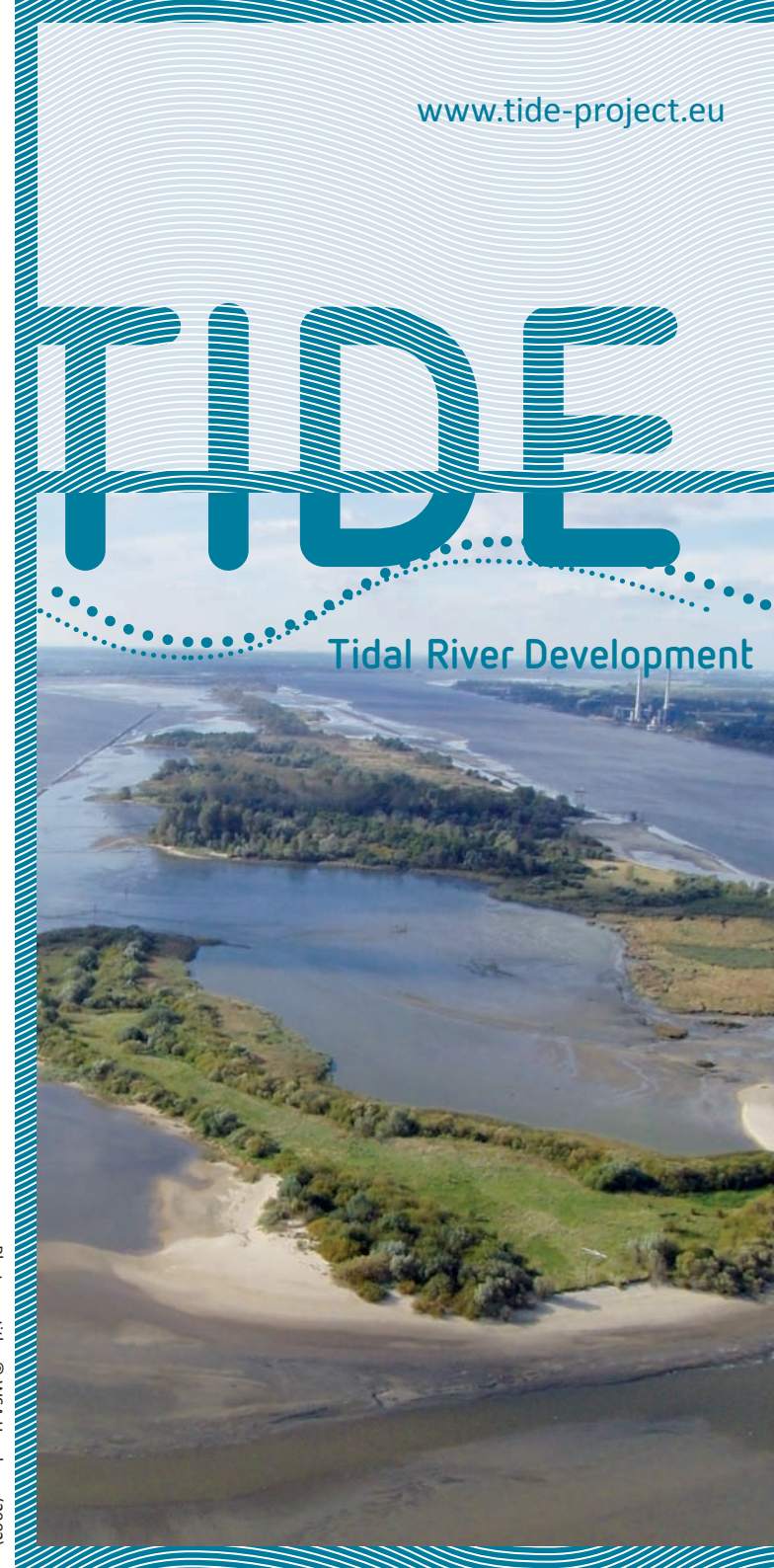
European Union  The European Regional Development Fund

**The Interreg IVB
North Sea Region
Programme**

*Investing in the future by working together
for a sustainable and competitive region*



Photo on title: © WSA Hamburg (2002)



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TIDE

Tidal River Development

TIDE | four estuaries

TIDE focuses on the estuaries of the Elbe (DE), Humber (UK), Scheldt (BE/NL) and Weser (DE) rivers.

These four estuaries have some characteristics in common:

- They are used as shipping channels leading to large ports.
- They have a strong tidal influence.
- They transport large quantities of sediment.
- Most estuarine areas are designated NATURA 2000 sites.



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TIDE | general objective

TIDE makes integrated management and planning a reality in the estuaries of the Elbe, Scheldt, Humber and Weser rivers.

TIDE | similar challenges

Sediment transport is steadily increasing.

- > In order to keep the ports operating, increased maintenance dredging and improved sediment management is necessary.

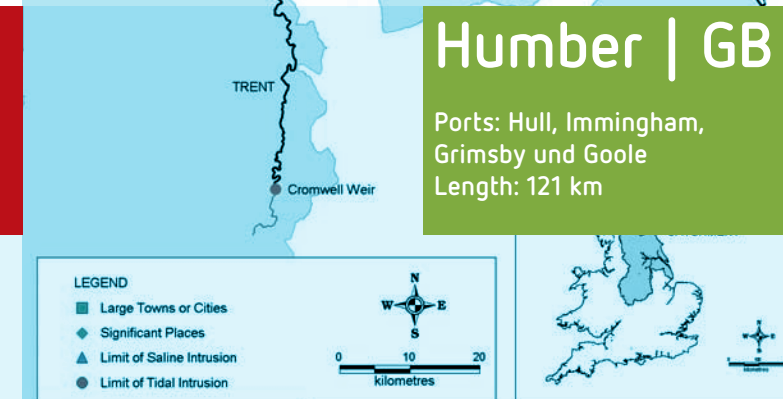
Estuarine ecosystem functions are endangered.

- > Important ecosystem services - like flood regulation, coastal protection and water purification – and plant and animal habitats are threatened.

Decision-makers are faced with an increasingly challenging legal and global economic framework.

- > EU Directives such as the Birds and Habitats or the Water Framework Directives need to be properly implemented.
- > In order to maintain their competitive position and thus ensure the economic prosperity of the region, the large ports need to be further developed.

Climate change is likely to exacerbate these problems in the future, unless appropriate compensation and mitigation measures are found.



TIDE | approach

TIDE takes into account the ecological, economical and societal needs of the regions involved, and inter-links the multiple processes and large scale efforts taking place in the estuaries.

TIDE integrates the knowledge and solutions generated in previous projects like HARBASINS, SedNet, New!Delta (e.g. optimised sediment management strategies, revitalisation schemes of side river arms).

TIDE also draws from the numerous management plans that have been or are being prepared as a response to urgent issues like flood prevention or sediment increase, and/or in compliance with EU directives.

TIDE looks for effective integration of the substantial investments that are realised or in the planning process in these estuaries.

