

## Nautisme Espace Atlantique 2

*A new transnational cooperation project which aims for the sustainable development of the marine leisure and watersports industries of the European Atlantic Regions.*

The NEA Project which ran from November 2004 to November 2007, involved 11 partners from 7 regions (Mid-West Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, Brittany, La Manche, Galicia, Norte Portugal) and 5 countries. Its aim was to achieve coordinated development of marine leisure activities, in particular, marine leisure tourism in the Atlantic Area. This first project created a strong partnership who achieved concrete results for the sector. It was these results that led to the development of a much more ambitious project to focus on the marine leisure and watersports industry and its sustainable development.

NEA 2 is the follow-on project with 23 partners from 8 regions : Ireland, South-West UK, Basse-Normandie, Brittany, Pays de la Loire, Galicia, Portugal, Andalucía. Nautisme Espace Atlantique 2 (NEA 2) partners are working together to promote sustainable and coordinated development of the whole marine leisure sector (inland and coastal activities on or in the water, small harbours and marinas, manufacturing and service industry, training and labour supply and promotion of wet activities) in the Atlantic Area. The NEA 2 project is part-funded by the Interreg IVb Transnational Cooperation (Atlantic Area) Programme (<http://atlanticarea.inescporto.pt/>) and will run from January 2009 to January 2011.

Coordinated by the Conseil Régional de Bretagne as lead partner, supported by four other partners coordinating the Economy, Environment, Social Inclusion and Cross-Cutting Themes; the project will carry out 17 actions, split into 4 groups including:

- 14 thematic actions:
  - 5 Actions under: Marine leisure and economic development
  - 5 Actions under: Marine leisure and environmental conservation
  - 4 Actions under: Marine leisure and social inclusion
- Plus:
- 3 cross-cutting themes including the organisation of an Atlantic European conference on sustainable Marine Leisure in 2011, the development and promotion of the Atlantic Watersports Games and marketing and publicity actions for the whole project.

The partners have already made progress in implementing actions for the project. 3 partner meetings have already taken place:

- The Project Launch in Rennes on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2009
- The 1st Thematic Working Group meeting in Cambados, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March 2009
- The 2nd Thematic Working Group meeting in Dublin, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June 2009

The 3rd Thematic Working Group meeting will take place on the 2nd to 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at the Maison de la Bretagne in Paris.

### What will NEA 2 achieve?

- There are 20 common transnational actions, each one involves a collaboration between several partners on different issues common to their regions:
  - A study of the state of marine leisure business research and innovation in the Atlantic Area and barriers to growth
  - A conference on Innovation in the Marine Leisure sector
  - Compilation of the Atlantic Area marine leisure sector 'observatory'
  - Creation of a range of inland water activity packages
  - Compilation of an inventory of traditional boats in the Atlantic Area
  - Development of a range of coastal water activity packages selected according to a set of sustainable quality criteria
  - Energy and environmental improvements to key watersports buildings in the regions
  - Development and delivery of training materials on marine leisure and the environment for supervisors of marine leisure activities
  - Development and delivery of a sustainable watersports event management guide
  - A common event on Marine Leisure and the Environment
  - Development and delivery of a pre-professional training module specifically to encourage socially excluded people to enter jobs in the marine leisure sector
  - Development and delivery of a training module for supervisors of disabled water activities
  - Exchanges of young people in the Atlantic Area through marine leisure activities
  - A drive to achieve social inclusion in watersports in the Atlantic Area through a series of participation initiatives
- Each partner will also carry out a range of related and complementary local actions which will stimulate further innovation and information exchange within the project and beyond.



Partners' Working Group meeting in Dublin, June 2009

## Nautisme Espace Atlantique 2

## The Partners of the Project Nautisme Espace Atlantique 2



### Irlande du Nord:

- Ards Borough Council

### République d'Irlande:

- Mid-West Regional Authority
- Irish Canoe Union

### Southwest:

- North Devon Plus
- Cornwall Council

### Basse-Normandie:

- Conseil Régional de Basse-Normandie
- Conseil Général de la Manche

### Bretagne:

- Conseil Régional de Bretagne
- Conseil Général du Finistère
- Nautisme en Bretagne
- Nautisme en Finistère
- Association des Ports de Plaisance de Bretagne

### Pays de la Loire:

- Conseil Régional des Pays de la Loire

### Galice:

- Xunta de Galicia—Consellería do Mar
- Diputación Pontevedra
- Diputación A Coruña
- Ayuntamiento de Cambados
- Portos de Galicia
- AGAN

### Norte Portugal:

- Intercéltica
- Valimar

### Centro Portugal:

- AD ELO

### Andalousie:

- Diputación de Huelva

## Nautisme Espace Atlantique 2

## Focus on a new partner: North Devon +

*New partners have joined Nautisme Espace Atlantique 2, following the success of the previous project NEA. In this edition, we focus on North Devon +.*



North Devon +, a not-for-profit membership organisation, is the economic development company for the northern Devon peninsula. This area covers the local authority districts of Torridge and North Devon with a population of 157 000 inhabitants (2007 figure) and covers an area of 2071km<sup>2</sup>. The partner involved in the NEA 2 Project, is a non-profit organisation aiming to the economic and touristic development of the district. North Devon + is the economic development company for the northern Devon peninsula. This area covers the local authority districts of Torridge and North Devon, and North Devon + also operates across the Exmoor National Park Area. North Devon's engagement in the Nautisme Espace Atlantique 2 (NEA2) project is a key part of the strategy to bring the marine and leisure sector to the forefront of the local economy. By taking part in this project, North Devon + intends to benchmark the industry and work alongside other European partners to learn from, and share economic and environmental good practice.

The NEA 2 Project will be a stepping stone to forging a long lasting European partnership working in the Atlantic Area, thus assisting to develop the sector sustainably.

As far as the economy aspect is concerned, the project will facilitate and support the development of a strategy and action plan to develop the watersports economy, for which North Devon is well placed, leading to new business and employment opportunities in an area which is lagging economically.

As for the environment, North Devon + wishes to focus, thanks to the project, on the sustainable development of the sector,

to plot a 'wise growth' path for development which recognises and respects the environmental qualities of the area. Key initiatives in subsequent years are likely to include support for businesses to better understand the environmental impact of their operations, to seek resource efficiencies and to encourage low impact tourism and increase environmental awareness amongst visitors.

Through the NEA2 project North Devon' envisaged outcomes are:

- A strategic action plan for sustainable watersports development
- Recognition of dependency upon, and industry agreed protection of key environmental assets
- A range of implementation projects arising from the sustainable watersports strategy
- Increased participation in the Atlantic and Interceltic watersports Games
- Increased awareness and understanding of watersports tourism and recreation in North Devon
- Increased cohesion and collaboration within the sector Increased skills and capacity resources within the sector
- Strategic links established with European partners



**Appledore Quay**

**More Information on North Devon +  
North Devon +**

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## The 2009 Atlantic Watersports Games in Viana do Castelo, North Portugal

*The 2009 Atlantic Watersports Games, showcase of the Project Nautisme Espace Atlantique 2, took place from August, 1st to 6th 2009 in Viana do Castelo, In North Portugal. A success.*



The Atlantic Watersports Games, 1st to 6<sup>th</sup> August in Viana do Castelo, North Portugal, were a great success, with around 320 athletes and high level competition.

Organised by Intercéltica, an NEA 2 partner and the city of Viana do Castelo, the 2009 At-

lantic Watersports Games was co-funded and supported by Valimar, also an NEA2 partner, the Metropolitan Area of Oporto, associate NEA 2 partner, the Watersports Clubs of Viana do Castelo and the National Portuguese Federations of Watersports.

This year, a guest region, Catalunya, won the Atlantic Watersports Games. North Portugal reached second the place, followed by Brittany who came third. The Competition was tight with the three teams on the podium winning the same number of gold medals (13 each). The winner was based on the number of silver medals won by each.

The quality of competitors was exceptional this year; national and international champions raised the game with a high level of competition. We saw world champions in diving and in sea rowing, European champions in surfing and bodyboarding, national champions in junior Olympic rowing, Optimist, 2.4, and Laser dinghy sailing, as well as the

national Irish Kayak Polo team.

The 2010 Atlantic Watersports Games will be hosted by Galicia, world-renowned for its fine boat rowing. No doubt the current progress of the Atlantic Watersports Games will keep increasing, on the organisation quality or on the level of the participating sports teams.

*The results and photos of the Games are available on the Interceltic and Atlantic Watersports Games International Committee website: [www.jniea.eu](http://www.jniea.eu).*



### Podium 2009 Atlantic Watersports Games

**1st:** Catalunya, 13 gold medals, 14 silver medals

**2nd:** North Portugal, 13 gold medals, 11 silver medals

**3rd:** Brittany, 13 gold medals, 9 silver medals

#### Contacts

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#### Regional Coordinations:

**Ireland:** Irish Canoe Union : [www.canoe.ie](http://www.canoe.ie)

**Southwest:** Cornwall Council:  
[www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk)

**Brittany:** Nautisme en Bretagne :  
[www.nautisembretagne.fr](http://www.nautisembretagne.fr)

**Basse-Normandie:** Conseil Régional de Basse Normandie : [www.cr-basse-normandie.fr](http://www.cr-basse-normandie.fr)

**Pays de la Loire:** Conseil Régional des Pays de la Loire : [www.paysdelaloire.fr](http://www.paysdelaloire.fr)

**Galicia:** AGAN: [www.agan.info](http://www.agan.info)

**Portugal:** Intercéltica: [www.interceltica.org](http://www.interceltica.org)

**Andalucia:** Diputación de Huelva:  
[www.diphuelva.es](http://www.diphuelva.es)

#### Atlantic Watersports Games

International Committee of the Interceltic and Atlantic Watersports Games: [www.jniea.eu](http://www.jniea.eu)

**Project NEA2 :** [www.nea2.eu](http://www.nea2.eu)

**Programme Interreg Espace Atlantique:**

<http://atlanticarea.inescporto.pt>

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