



Land Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone

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Jean-Pierre Gattuso

Geesthacht 27 March 2007

Endorsement: EPOCA Initiative

Dear Dr. Gattuso,

We are pleased to officially endorse your impressive project proposal. Please find below the endorsement text indicating our support for this research effort. LOICZ looks forward to the submission of the proposal and a future cooperation with your consortium.

Ocean acidification is receiving growing scientific attention in the context of Global Change research since it is expected to have major implications for the Earth System in general and bears consequences also for coastal system functioning (e.g. cold water corals) in particular. Timely in the context of the beginning next decade of interdisciplinary Earth System Sciences the EU call and, moreover, the proposal for the European Project on Ocean Acidification (EPOCA) expands exactly on the "Impact of Environmental Change and Coastal Ecosystems" which has also been identified as one guiding framework question in the global LOICZ research project for the next decade. Therefore LOICZ, at the onset of its second decade with the mandate to look at coastal change in a truly interdisciplinary fashion strongly endorses the work reflected in this proposal.

Several of the designed work packages directly follow up on successful work conducted during the first phase of LOICZ in the core projects on BioGeoChemistry and Typology and will in addition integrate the activities of the current IGBP-PAGES/SCOR Fast Track Initiative on Ocean Acidification LOICZ was strongly engaged in. Additionally, most of the contributing partners are already engaged in other projects within the LOICZ portfolio and therefore the proposed project would create synergies between projects and partners that will generate extra benefit for Coastal Research within Europe. In the portfolio of affiliated projects to LOICZ EPOCA will constitute a critical element that reaches out not only into the classical coastal domain but includes the shelf systems which are currently in focus of the upcoming joint IMBER/LOICZ continental margins Open Science Meeting to be held in Shanghai 17-21 September 07.

Please feel free to contact us in case of additional support needed from the LOICZ core project. Obviously you are strongly encouraged to use the existing web-based or printed LOICZ outreach and dissemination channels to promote the activity in the global scientific community.

Best regards and the best wishes for a successful project

Jozef Pacyna
(Chair LOICZ SSC)

Hartwig Kremer
(CEO LOICZ IPO)