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European Regional Development Fund

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Tackling climate change related threats with Vertipools

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ESITC CAEN Ecole Supérieure d'Ingénieurs des Travaux de la Construction
Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle
PNA Ports Normands Associés Caen-Ouistreham Cherbourg
TPC
VINCI Construction Maritime et Fluvial
University of Southampton
Bournemouth University
University of Exeter
UNICAEN Université Caen Normandie

- Multidisciplinary EU Interreg Project 2018- 2022;

- Aims: Design, Implement/Deploy and Monitor

Biomimetic Marine Infrastructure

(ecological enhancement)

- Leader Partner ESITC (University of Caen in France)

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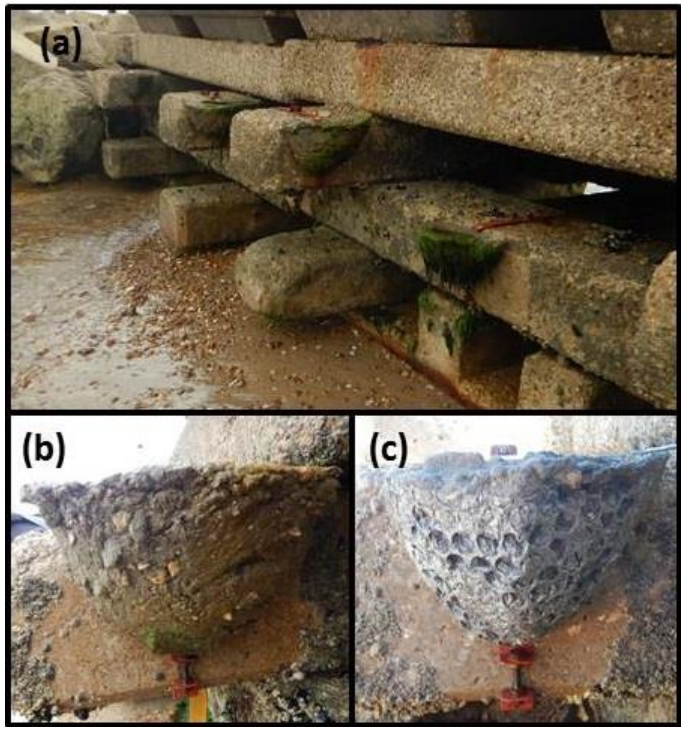
One such example within the Marineff Project are Vertipools (artificial rockpools)

Natural lime-based concrete cast in moulds with textures such as bubble wrap to create cracks and crevices. Vertipool cement formula requires less firing and therefore less energy to produce.



Provides cool, shaded and damp habitat during low tide, important climate refugia

Increases habitat availability on a smooth, plain wall

Increases biodiversity

Increases surface area of intertidal zone, addressing issues of coastal squeeze

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Vertipools will create ‘hotspots’ of biodiversity which will enhance wider populations of marine species by providing nursery areas, feeding opportunities, and increasing larval supply

Increased biodiversity and healthier ecosystems are more resilient to climate change stressors

Where more sea defences are put in place to mitigate sea level rise and natural habitat is lost, ecological enhancement will be necessary to ensure no net loss of biodiversity

Sea slug *Elysia viridis*

Sea spider

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Socio-economic benefits include providing public engagement opportunities (rockpooling activities, Bioblitzs etc) and improving public's perception of nature, fostering a sense of stewardship

Increases wildlife spotting opportunities in more urban and developed areas

Any questions?

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