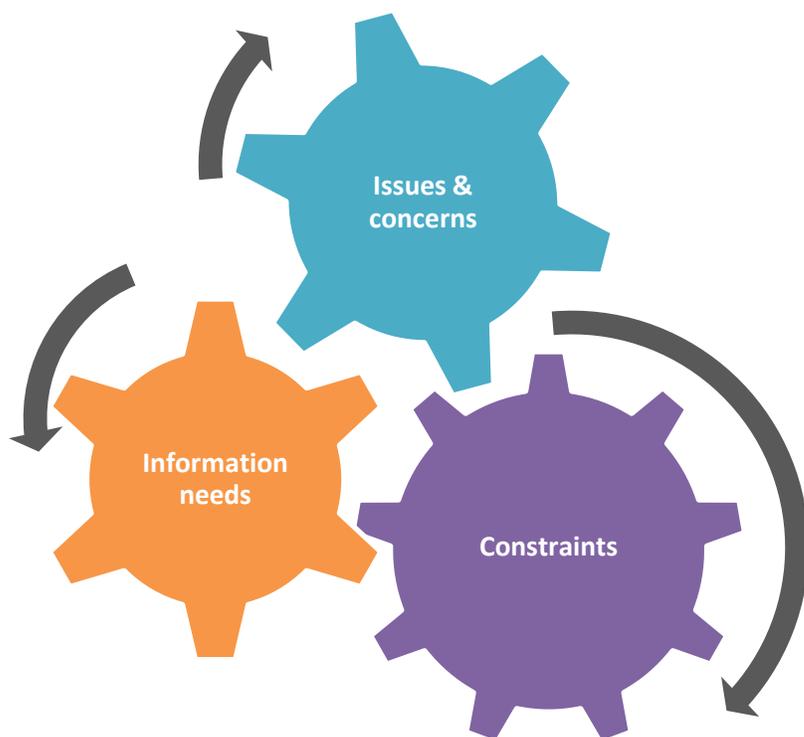


NORTH EAST'S ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP

Innovative Management for Europe's' Changing Coastal Resource

24th April 2009, COUNTY HALL, DURHAM



IMCORE has been launched in the North East of England as part of a collaboration within the region between all the different organisations and interest groups to better understand the way we look at **Climate Change**, what we already know, what we still need to learn and most of all how best to **adapt** to the reality of **Climate Change**. The workshop held in April was not only to bring together the different 'stakeholders' in the region but also to determine what is the best way forward. Introductory presentations were given on the context and purpose of the **IMCORE** project and on Regional **Climate Change** activities and actions. Through an active workshop the main **issues & concerns** in the region were identified, the way **information** is being communicated was reviewed, as well as which information is available and **needed** to better understand **Climate Change** and its impacts. Also the **constraints** this region has to overcome in order to best adapt to **Climate Change** were reviewed. The results from the workshop have been summarised and visualised in to a small poster to showcase local views in the region. Our region has a lot to offer in terms of skilful people and organisations all wanting to keep the North East of England healthy & viable in environmental, social, political and economical sense. **Climate Change** is happening and we can all work together to best **adapt to Climate Change** in the North East of England now and in the future!

ISSUES & CONCERNS

Lack of joined up thinking or coordination



Contradictory Messages

Coastal Flooding

Measures too short term

Information on climate change needs to be better



Understand the facts

Real policy needed from Government



Coastal Pollution

ISSUES & CONCERNS – policies need to be clear, well-balanced and for the long term.

INFORMATION NEEDS

Change perceptions and tackle consumer power

Direction needs to come from National Government or EU

Using different techniques for different audiences



‘Our area is a positive, special place to live in and conserve’

As pointed out by one of the workshop participants

Promotion of issues through popular media

Specify targets and change approach to suit



Single source information point – can IMCORE provide this?

INFORMATION NEEDS - Getting the right information, in the right format to the right audience.

CONSTRAINTS

Transport system not integrated



MONEY!
Deprivation – skills, training, lack of technology

Too complacent in the North East



Short term thinking

It feels like nobody is in control



Intense localism – creates conflict and no co-operation

Community capacity – is there enough?



Community Generate optimism – opportunities available – it’s not just a disaster

CONSTRAINTS – getting people & (local) authorities the right set of skills and in the right frame of mind.



In terms of **ISSUES** – the dominant theme is **institutional**, with **social** and **environmental** issues coming in joint second and **economical** issues last.



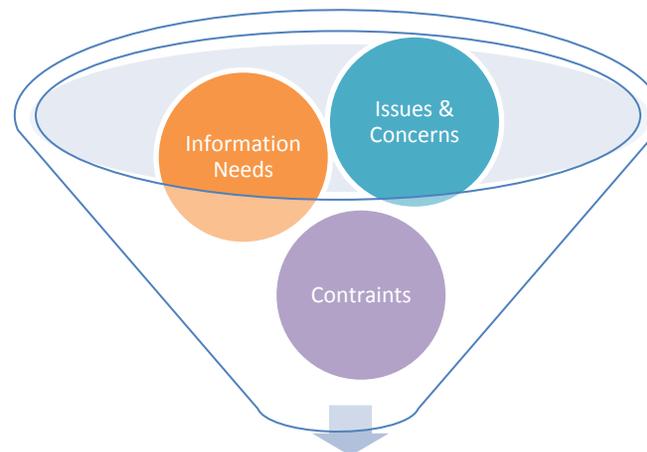
In terms of **INFORMATION NEEDS** – the dominant theme is **presentation and collation of material**, with the overall **approach**, development of **linkages for communication** and **technical** issues running up behind.



In terms of **CONSTRAINTS** – then **people's skills and attitudes** and **institutional** issues were top, with **policy & strategies** and **money** less commonly noted.

The **Durham Heritage Coast** and **Envision** are planning a case study in the North East region looking at how Climate Change is currently viewed upon and dealt with. They will be using tools and methods developed within the **IMCORE** project and implementing them into this local study area aiming to find innovative ways of adapting to Climate Change.

Besides project updates and news we will be keeping you informed on the process, development and results of the case study through the IMCORE website –www.imcore.eu and also through the **North East Climate Change Partnership eZine** (please contact Jennifer.robson@northeastcouncils.gov.uk to subscribe to this electronic newsletter if you have not already done so) or visit their recently launched new website: www.climatenortheast.com



Way forward - Local communities, local authorities and local organisations and NGO's working together.