

Center for Ocean and Society (CeOS)

Background information

- Inter-faculty center of the Kiel Marine Science (KMS) priority research area at Kiel University (CAU).
- Participating disciplines: i.a. Economics, Geosciences, Oceanography, Fisheries Biology
- Founded in 2019
- Headed by Prof. Dr. Marie-Catherine Riekhof, director of CeOS and Professor of Political Economy of Resource Management with a focus on marine and coastal resources at the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences at Kiel University
- 20 staff members (including 9 scientists, 7 technical-administrative staff, and 4 research assistants, as of November 2020)
- Budget per year: €400,000 (base budget), plus €600,000 project funding (as of 2020)

Research Goals

The Center for Ocean and Society (CeOS) conducts interdisciplinary research on oceans and coasts and involves societal actors in transdisciplinary projects. Research at the Center for Ocean and Society is based on the understanding of oceans and coasts as social-ecological systems. Through the interaction of actors from research, politics, economy and civil society, solutions for the protection and sustainable use of marine resources are to be developed. These solutions should be economically feasible, socially accepted and politically implementable. Thus, the overarching goal of the research is a science-based and independent contribution to the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Focus areas

Marine and Coastal Resource Economy

Researchers are investigating how economic and policy decisions affect the use of natural marine and coastal resources, e.g., in the area of fisheries, and the role of different technologies in the use of natural resources. Projects focusing on marine carbon uptake are also planned.

Marine and Coastal Geohazards

Researchers are focusing on studying the geological triggers of marine natural hazards, such as submarine earthquakes, landslides, and possible resulting tsunamis, and how they affect society, especially residents in coastal regions. Furthermore, knowledge from the geological and historical past is used to develop possible adaptation strategies in dealing with marine natural disasters.

Marine Food Security

Researchers are investigating how food from the sea can contribute to global food security. Small-scale coastal fisheries in poorer coastal regions play an important role here, as does sustainable use of new technologies, e.g., in aquaculture.

Selected projects

CeOS researchers are working on projects at local, regional and global level.

Germany/Baltic Sea

balt_ADAPT - Adaptation of the Western Baltic Coastal Fishery to Climate Change

The project investigates how fisheries in the region are affected by climate change and how they can be made sustainable through the development of ecosystem-based tools for fisheries management, but also through possible adaptations in the socio-economic sphere. This will be done in close cooperation with fishermen and other relevant population groups.

Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Duration: 2020 to 2023

Europe/Sicily

Multi-dimensional Ocean Hazard Risk Assessment

In this inter- and transdisciplinary project, researchers are working on a comprehensive view of marine natural hazards and their impacts on society in the example region of southern Italy. The research is designed so that findings and results can be scaled and transferred to other regions.

Funded by Future Ocean Network, Duration: until 2022

Global/Peru

Humboldt Tipping

Investigation of socio-ecological tipping points in the northern Humboldt Current upwelling system, ecological effects and governance strategies

Based on different modeling approaches and in dialogue with local people, researchers are investigating how to respond to climatic variability of the northern Humboldt Current and stabilize the economy of coastal communities, especially in relation to fisheries.

Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Duration: 2019 to 2022,

www.humboldt-tipping.org

Selected Network Activities

Kieler Marktplatz

The 'Kieler Marktplatz' event series supports networking between science and economy and provides a forum for the targeted exchange of information. The format is organized jointly with the Future Ocean Network, the Wissenschaftszentrum Kiel and the Maritime Cluster Northern Germany.

www.futureocean.org/en/technologietransfer/05_kieler_marktplatz.php

German Marine Research Alliance (DAM)

CeOS works closely with the relevant DAM working groups in the area of transfer. DAM links leading German marine research institutions with the aim of strengthening the sustainable use of coasts, seas and oceans through research, data management and digitization, infrastructures and transfer.

www.allianz-meeresforschung.de

Contact

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