

# Proyecto SIMPYC Newsletter



February 2007

EN Issue 11



## Outstanding figures:

- LIFE project
- Leader: Autoridad Portuaria de Valencia
- Budget: 1.720.049 €
- EU funding: 830.026 €
- Duration: 42 months (August 2004 - January 2008)

## In this issue:

Introduction	1
Current situation analysis	2
Indicators System	2
Awareness and participation	2
Dissemination of the project	3
Environmental Action Plan	3
Technical and management meeting	4
Simpyc: next appointments	4

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## SIMPYC System for Port-City Environmental Integration



SIMPYC published in July 2006 its first newsletter, which contained an overview of the project and showed its objectives, expected results, partners and dissemination activities.

In this second issue, SIMPYC presents the outcomes of the project through all the actions in which the project is divided, highlighting the results so far and what it is expected in the future.

## The project in brief

SIMPYC Project aims at finding solutions to some of the problems arising from port-city relations by co-ordinating the actions between ports and city councils. The project has been carried out in three European cities with industrial and commercial ports: Valencia (Spain), Toulon (France) and Livorno (Italy).

The project also aims at providing solutions to the environmental management of fishing and leisure ports located in small municipalities.

In this view, SIMPYC aims at establishing an implementation standard for environmental management systems in this type of port facilities, so that the environmental management of ports easily integrates local environmental management. The fishing and leisure ports of Denia and Villajoyosa (Alicante, Spain) participate as pilot ports in this field of the project.



Toulon (FR)



Livorno (IT)



Valencia (ES)



## Current situation analysis



Toulon

SIMPYC has carried out the technical diagnosis of each port-city involved in the project. The diagnosis shows that Livorno is developing, along the port-city interface, a plan to manage traffic in order to solve the problematic points of the area. As part of the objectives set by Livorno, there is also the selective collection of 55% of the residues produced by the city and the port.

The port of Toulon, whose main activity is the traffic of passengers, is adopting measures to store and treat water coming from the vessels. However, in Valencia there is a greater concern about the environmental aspects originated by the traffic along the port-city interface, pointing out the noise and the emission of gases. The ports of Denia and Villajoyosa, characterised by its commercial, fishing and recreational character, suffer from wastes coming from the maintenance of the fishing boats.

### Qualitative diagnosis

After conducting 900 questionnaires with regard to the qualitative diagnosis, some of the data coming from Livorno is noteworthy. The data states that the surveyed population and port workers know about some initiatives such as EMAS (eco-management and audit scheme). Citizens, in general, consider the port extremely positive for the economic activity of the area. However, they are worried about the traffic intensity, bad smells and the production of dangerous wastes in the interface area.

The Valencian citizens consider that their port is the engine of the Valencian economy. The major concerns detected are the intensity of traffic, the contamination of the soil, the deterioration of the landscape and the potentially dangerous activities carried out within the port area. Nevertheless, in Toulon they are still gathering the outcomes of the questionnaire.



## Environmental indicators system

At the moment, the environmental indicators of the different cities and ports are being defined. The indicators will be integrated into the "Balanced Scorecard", whose target is to design and implement a system of specific indicators for port environments. This system will allow monitoring the environmental evolution of the relation port-city.

## Social awareness and participation programme

The awareness plan has taken into consideration the results of the qualitative diagnoses. It considers 3 fields: the port and youth; the port and citizens; and the port and its community. The plan will develop actions aimed at these target populations.



## Project dissemination

SIMPYC has been disseminated by partners during all the technical and management meetings carried out in these cities. In addition, some brochures with information of the project, as well as promotional material (pen drives, rollers and banners) have been prepared to support the dissemination activities.

In the end, SIMPYC has been object of dissemination at international level. Among these activities, it is worth highlighting its dissemination in many events at European level such as the Open Days of the Committee of the Regions, the Valencian Region Week in Brussels and the Europe Innova Conference 2006, which was organised by the European Commission and gathered more than 800 experts in innovation from all the European Union.



*Europe INNOVA conference, Valencia (ES)*



## SIMPYC introduces an Environmental Action Plan

With the aim of introducing the environmental action plan, SIMPYC assesses the situation of three aspects. Firstly, the project will design a air pollution monitoring and tracking system existing in the cities involved. On the other hand, the partners of Livorno, Toulon and Valencia have done a report on the existing equipment in each area and, they are currently gathering the meteorological data and activities which affect the air quality in order to establish the most suitable location for the monitoring equipment.

Secondly, a tool for the noise pollution control has been designed. This way, the most relevant noise sources have been identified in the area of study, bearing in mind the different uses and/or activities taking place there and the noise maps of the ports and municipalities participating in the project have been also elaborated.

Currently, SIMPYC has carried out a study on the eventual visual impact on the interface area to obtain the necessary information to improve the visual integration of the coast waterfront, adopting some environmental, functional and esthetic measures.

### Environmental management in fishing and leisure ports

In Denia and Villajoyosa, the expected environmental management systems are being implemented. Moreover, the elaboration of a guide supporting the implementation of this system in other fishing and leisure ports interested in this project has been almost finished.





## Toulon hosts the 3<sup>rd</sup> Technical and Management Meeting

The 3<sup>rd</sup> SIMPYC Project Technical and Management Meeting took place in the French city of Toulon on 14 and 15 December 2006.

During the first session, SIMPYC presented the results from the qualitative and technical diagnoses elaborated and finished in the last months. The outcomes have offered a diagnosis of the current status in every port and municipality taking part in the project. These results are vital in order to plan the later actions to be done in the frame of the project development.

On the other hand, other topics such as the design and implementation of the environmental action plan were tackled, in particular, the methodological aspects and the current state of the studies regarding the 3 variables object of observation: air and noise pollution, and finally, the visual impact.

During the second session of the meeting, the Regional Ministry for Infrastructures and Transport of the Valencian Regional Government analysed the implementation works of the Environmental Management System in the fishing and leisure ports of the Valencian Region, in particular in Denia and Villajoyosa. The consortium expects to be able to copy this management system model and apply it to other interested European ports.

The meeting permitted the partners to reach a consensus with regard to the development of an environmental indicators system. Finally, other topics such as the designing of an awareness plan, the presentation of the dissemination activities and some other management aspects of the project were discussed.

At the end of the meeting, the participants made a visit by boat to the Port of Toulon, where its different sections and main activities were explained. Moreover, environmental actions were also discussed.



*Technical and Management Meeting in Toulon (FR)*



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### Next appointments

- 4<sup>th</sup> SIMPYC Technical and Management Meeting, Valencia (Spain), June 2007
- Open Days and IV Valencian Region Week, Brussels (Belgium), October 2007
- International meeting on port-city relations from an environmental perspective organised by EPPE (The Public Entity State Ports)