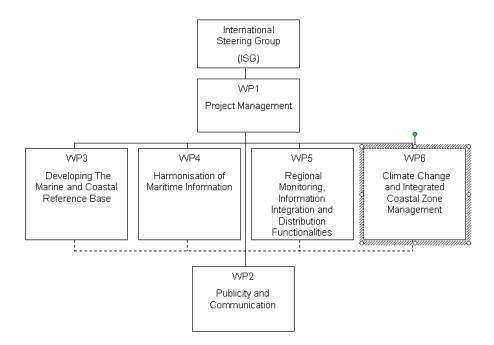
NSHC <sup>29th</sup> Conference Brest September 2010 Explanatory Note Item F 4 Norway

## The Interreg IVB project BLAST – Bringing Land And Sea Together.

BLAST was proposed in the Explanatory Note Item D5.3, Denmark at the NHSC 28<sup>th</sup> conference in April 2008. The proposal was followed up by several preparatory efforts ending up in a well-written application posted for the 4<sup>th</sup> Interreg IVB program call.

BLAST was approved by the Interreg IVB Steering Committee in April 2009 as a 3 year project to be finished by Dec.2012 with a budget of approx. 5.9 mill. euro. At this stage 16 partners from 6 countries formed the consortium, with the Norwegian Hydrographic Service as Lead Partner. In April 2010 an extended application was compiled to the Interreg IVB programme 5<sup>th</sup> call. The extended application was approved by the Interreg IVB Steering Committee in June 2010. The project now comprise 17 partners from the seven North Sea Region countries and the budget was extended to approx 6.3 mill.euro.

The work is organized as follows:



The International Steering Group acts as the general assembly meeting once a year. The professional work is performed in the four workpackages titled WP3 – WP6.

BLAST has a strong focus on networking and cooperation. Relations have already been established with other projects such as SUSCOD, C-Scope and STIRES. The work will also be performed in close connection with INSPIRE, IHO and EMSA.

At the first reporting to EU in march 2010 the following major deliverables were reported:

- An ENC checker(shortly available as download from the BLAST website)
- State of the Art Maritime Information Management. Report. (shortly available as download from the BLAST website)
- Maritime Data Collection System (MDCS) requirements Specification. High level.
- The BLAST website

More information about the BLAST project can be found at the project website <u>www.blast-project.eu</u>