

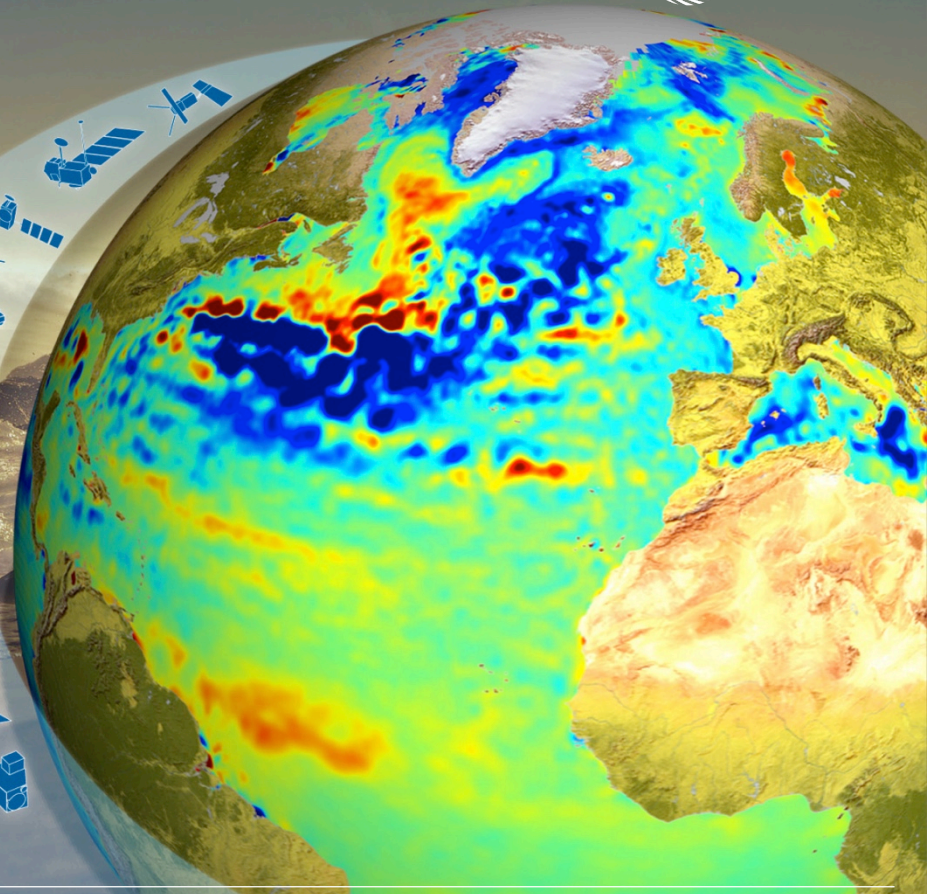
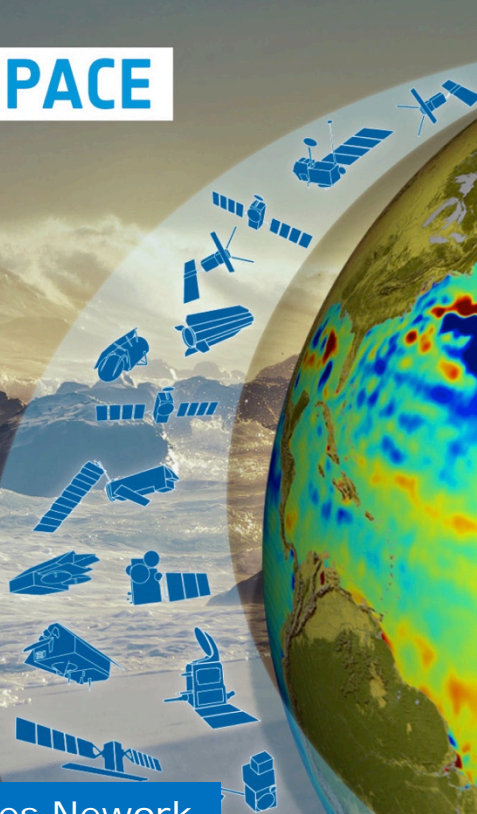
→ ATLANTIC FROM SPACE WORKSHOP

23–25 January 2019
National Oceanography Centre
Southampton, UK

Atlantic Cities: Looking
back to the Sea

Tamara Espiñeira

Secretary General – Atlantic Cities Network



1. Some common challenges
2. Interesting points
3. Looking back to the Sea
4. Increasing the scale...
5. And connecting...
6. ...people
7. Conclusions
8. Recommendations



The Atlantic cause must be, before anything else, a voluntary action to transform a geography, the geography of Western Europe, in an economic unit and a human set

Xavier Gizard

- a) Climate change in the Atlantic context – acidification, floods, explosive storms, accountability
- b) A changing demography altering balance : Jobs, tourism, mobility, ageing
- c) A complex geographical position between the blue banana and the rest of the world
- d) A lack of contactability (star design of transport systems)

Interesting points



- a) Frequently awardees of EU prizes for cities or similar
- b) Entrepreneurial attitude, no matter the size
- c) Serial Networkers
- d) The Ways of Saint James as backbones
- e) Celtic, but not only

As from the late 70's and the 80's, Atlantic Cities have been working to recover their waterfronts and make them the pillars of their renewed development strategies.

Some cases: Bilbao and Liverpool, but also Saint Nazaire, Porto, Lisbon, Brest, Avilés and more recently A Coruña, Las Palmas or Viana do Castelo.

The key idea is to overcome the “grey image” of a “dirty” port, through a blue sustainable strategy.

Defending and creating structured cooperation through EU instruments

- 1) The INTERREG ATLANTIC AREA (late nineties)
- 2) The Maritime Atlantic Strategy (2009 onwards)
- 3) An Atlantic “full” macro-region

- 1) “Cities for Cooperation” platform
- 2) Expert position before EU institutions
- 3) The prospective study on post 2020 for Atlantic Cities
- 4) The proposal for a consistent Atlantic corridor TEN T

(as per the corridor)



Several initiatives intend to enhance participation and ownership

- 1) She4Sea
- 2) Atlantic Futures
- 3) ATBrand
- 4) AYCH
- (...)

- 1) Cities in constant evolution before a complex context
- 2) “Port” condition evolved from an obstacle to a strength
- 3) The Atlantic is a cooperative environment where
- 4) Citizens are at the center

- 1) The particular issues around Atlantic Cities must be part of any strategy (80% of population expected to live in cities)
- 2) Their port condition is not the only factor : the key word is connexion
- 3) Scale and synergies are major lever
- 4) Success depends on how well citizens are involved

Thank you

Tamara Espiñeira
@TamaraEspineira
sg@atlanticcities.eu

Atlantic Cities
@arcatl
headquarters@atlanticcities.eu

