



**Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2023!**

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the Interreg France (Channel) England Programme newsletter.

As 2022 comes to a close, we reflect on the past year and set our sights on 2023.

There have been many highlights this year such as TIGER's instrumental role in securing guaranteed funding for Tidal Stream Energy under the UK government's Contract for Difference scheme and project FLOWER winning the Design, Furniture & Home category at the prestigious global JEC Innovation Awards.

Other highlights include the immersion of project MARINEFF's new moorings on the BecFer site in Dinard and INDIGO project being presented to the French Minister for Higher Education and Research in October.

This year has also seen the successful completion of 9 projects leaving 42 active projects all of which will be finishing during 2023.

It has been a very fruitful year and we wish all our projects a healthy and prosperous Christmas and New Year!

In this newsletter, we will share with you some of the highlights of recent months with a focus on the progress being made by **REVERT** project and activity from **PPP**, **ReConSoil** and **Experience**.

## Interreg FCE Annual Event 2023

With the Programme end fast approaching, we have been focused on the organisation of our final **Annual Event 2023**, which will be an opportunity to celebrate our projects and their achievements. This will take place on **Thursday 16 March** at the Eden Project, Cornwall. The event is open to all Interreg FCE projects.

This will be an **in-person event only** and registrations are now open for guest attendance. If you would also like to present your project at an exhibitor stand then please register your interest via our website [here](#).

Thank you to everyone that was involved in our Annual Event 2022. We appreciate your understanding that the event had to be adapted to online only at short notice due to external factors. The event video and project videos that were presented, will be uploaded onto our website soon.



*Project Reversible dementia: launch of a new multidisciplinary clinic at Addenbrooke's Hospital (UK), June 14<sup>th</sup>*

## **Reversible dementia project launches multidisciplinary clinic at Addenbrooke's Hospital (UK)**

A one-stop, multidisciplinary clinic at Addenbrooke's Hospital to help identify and treat people with normal pressure hydrocephalus (NPH) and other cerebrospinal fluid disorders, has been launched by the Reversible dementia (REVERT) project.

The clinic, which launched in June, provides patients with an initial assessment by a specialist multidisciplinary team, consisting of consultant neurosurgeon Mr Alexis

Joannides, clinical neuropsychologist Dr Lisa Healy, specialist physiotherapist Toby Meek, and advanced nurse specialist Indu Lawes.

The assessment includes a medical consultation, a cognitive evaluation (memory test) and a gait assessment (walking test). Where NPH is identified as a possibility, the patient will undergo further advanced diagnostics including a lumbar infusion study.

Mr Alexis Joannides, Clinical Lead, was interviewed about the clinic on BBC News Look East and ITV Anglia. The crew also spoke to one of Alexis' patients, Jackie. Read the interviews in these articles from the [BBC](#) and [ITV Anglia News](#) (includes the video interview).

Read more on our website [here](#).

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### **EXPERIENCE project launches BeNorfolk tourism website**

EXPERIENCE (Experiential Tourism to Extend the Visitor Season) project recently launched its BeNorfolk website ([www.benorfolk.co.uk](http://www.benorfolk.co.uk)). The website showcases the many possibilities that Norfolk has to offer throughout the year with the primary aim of encouraging off-season tourism with both free and paid-for experiences.

The website provides the potential visitor with various suggested itineraries and has received very positive feedback with articles in the local press, on local media platforms and even from the MP for North-West Norfolk, James Wild, who has written about the new website on his [blog](#).

Launched in July 2019 and closing at the end of June 2023, EXPERIENCE is one of the FCE's largest projects with an overall budget of €23,28 million (€16,06 ERDF). The aim of the projects is to harness the experiential tourism trend to extend the season to October to March, generating new visitors delivering sustainable economic growth.



## **ReCon Soil & CobBauge make the case for protecting and reusing soil at COP27**

In November, ReCon Soil project attended COP27 (the United Nations Climate Change Conference), as part of a delegation organised by University of Plymouth.

The university also showcased CobBauge highlighting a range of projects being undertaken to tackle climate change and develop low carbon technologies.

Both ReCon Soil and CobBauge used the opportunity at COP27 to put forward a case to embed legislation and action to protect and reuse soils appropriately globally. Links with other countries including Mauritius, Japan; Egypt, Saudi and several African countries have already been formed as a result of the attendance at CoP and both projects have been recognised internationally as a way of providing real solutions for major climate issues.

The stand was visited by representatives from approx. 120 countries (business card count), that's over half the countries in the world. Representatives from organisations such as the World Health Organisation, Global Council for Science and the Environment, United Nations Climate Change Global Innovation Hub, OPEC, Small Island Development States and many others visited the stand and were interested in linking with both projects.

Of specific interest was The International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) who were particularly interested as they are hugely concerned about conservation losses from mangrove, peatlands and prairie areas that are critical to their way of life. Both projects provide real solutions to help alleviate pressure on valuable resources at source by reusing soils appropriately.

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### **Preventing Plastic Pollution launches its Christmas plastics challenge**

Preventing Plastic Pollution has launched its 12 days of Christmas Plastics and Carbon Challenge, to help reduce carbon and plastic waste over the festive period.

Participants can use their festive stocking calendar where each day a new action, video link or fact will be revealed to promote behaviour change.

The challenges are just one of a number of initiatives launched by the project to reduce plastic pollution. Over the summer, the project ran outreach exercises as part of World Ocean Day, including a 'kids' conference' at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard and litter picking challenge with more than 100 residents in Dorset.

More news from PPP is available on their [website](#).

### **Upcoming project events:**

**EXPERIENCE** - closing event on the 31st of January 2023, find out more information [here](#).

**FISH INTEL** - end of project conference on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2023, find out more [here](#).

**BLUEPRINT** - end of project event on the 2nd of March 2023, more information on this can be found [here](#).

**PACCO** - project closing event from the 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2023. Follow the website for updates [here](#).

**Preventing Plastic Pollution** - closing event on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2023. Follow the website for updates [here](#).



**Project recognitions:**

- **CobBauge** won the “Field and Laboratory Research” category at the Research, Innovation, Sustainability and Enterprise (RISE) Awards 2022 in September 2022.
- **INDIGO** – an in-depth article in the Guardian newspaper about the dangers of marine plastic originating from fishing gear provided a direct link to the project’s website. You can read the full article [here](#).
- **REVERT** project participated in the Hydrocephalus2022 event in September 2022. More information can be found [here](#).



### In the news:

- **CIRCLE's** launch of a cycle path made of scallops in the North of France was featured in [ACTU.fr](https://actu.fr).
- **PREVENTING PLASTIC POLLUTION's** initiatives in Devon and Plymouth made news in [Devon Live](https://www.devonlive.com) and [Plymouth Live](https://www.plymouthlive.com).
- **RANTRANS'** recent activities were covered by ITV News Meridian, BBC South Today TV, and Online News, as well as Wave 105 radio. More information can be found [there](#).
- **REVERT's** launch of a multidisciplinary clinic at Addenbrooke's Hospital (UK) was covered by [BBC](https://www.bbc.com) and [ITV Anglia News](https://www.itv.com).
- European Commission's Directorate-General for Urban Policy published an article about **TIGER** in the [Interreg Newsletter-Summer 2022](https://www.interreg.eu).
- The latest about Lower Otter Restoration Project, part of the **PACCO** project, made news in [East Devon News](https://www.eastdevonnews.com).
- **ABCD's** initiatives in Finistère (France) were covered by [Ouest France](https://www.ouestfrance.fr).
- **EXPERIENCE's** celebration of the upgrade of the Bure Valley Path made news in the [Eastern Daily Press](https://www.eastern-daily-press.com).