



**CoastBase**  
The European Virtual Environmental  
Data Warehouse



**FZI** 2000-05-11 & 12, Tönning

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## Contents

- Introduction
- Partners
- Objectives
- Architecture
- Scenarios
- Conclusions



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2

## Introduction

- The Virtual European Coastal & Marine Data Warehouse
- An open system architecture for integrated, distributed coastal and marine information search and access.



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3



- 5th Framework, IST Programme
- 11 European partners
- 2 Years (2000 & 2001)
- RIKZ Project Management



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4

## CostBase Consortium (1)

- National Institutes:
  - RIKZ (NL) National Institute for Coastal & Marine Management
  - ENEA (IT) Leader Topic Centre (ETC/MCE)
  - IMR (NO) Institute on Marine Research
  - PETA (GR) Represent Greek TC partners and IT cons.
- International Institutes:
  - ICES (Int) International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
  - JRC (EU) Joint Research Centre, Space Application Institute
  - EUCC (Int) European network for Regional MCE Management
  - ETC/CDS European Topic Centre, Catalogue of Data Sources

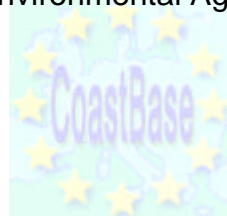


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5

## CostBase Consortium (2)

- East European Partners:
  - MIG (PL) Marine Institute Gdansk
- IT Development:
  - FZI (GE) Computer Science Research Institute
  - MATRA (FR) IT Developer for GEO-information
- Supported by the European Environmental Agency



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6

## Coastbase Goal

- CoastBase aims to improve the European information flow for the policy making process regarding the sustainable use of marine and coastal areas.



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7

## Marine and Coastal Environment

- In Coastal and Marine management access to different information sources is essential.
- Information from different level institutes e.g. local to European.
- Information from different sectors e.g. Environment to Tourism and Industry.
- Difficulties in finding, having access to and interpretation of information at European level.



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8

## Barriers in information access

- Knowledge, policy level, willingness (scientific, policy)
- Electronic connections, metadata, type of databases,
- Communication with information sources for correct interpretation, contents (methodology, reference levels, co-ordinates etc.)

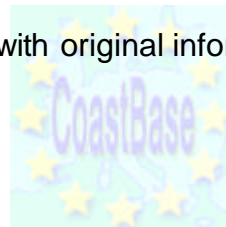


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9

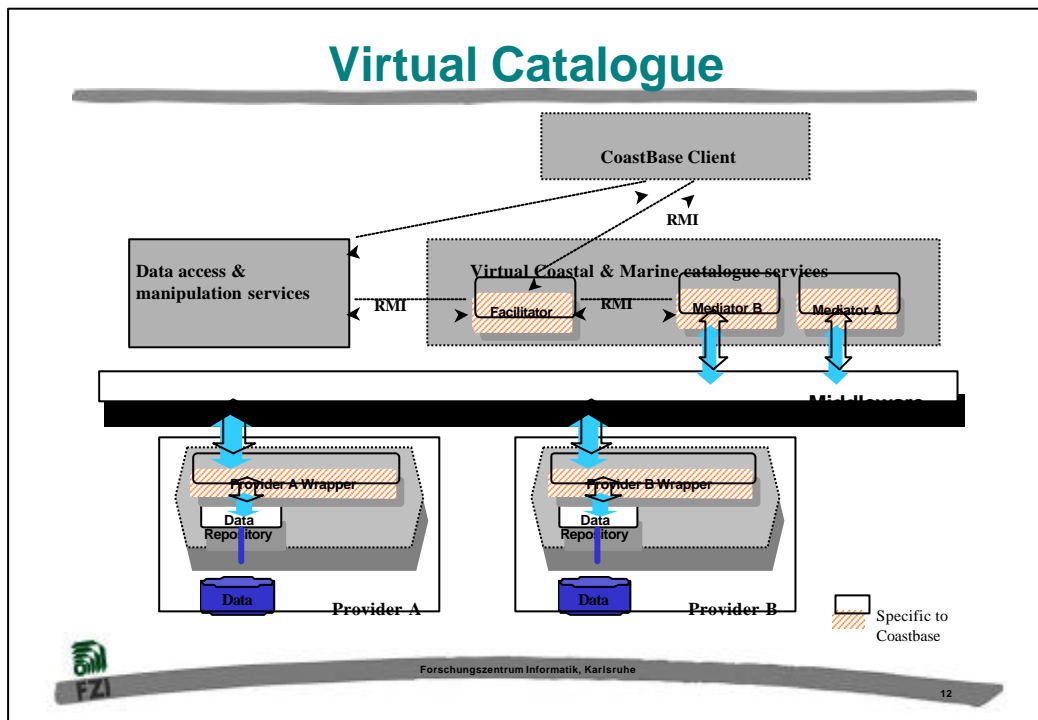
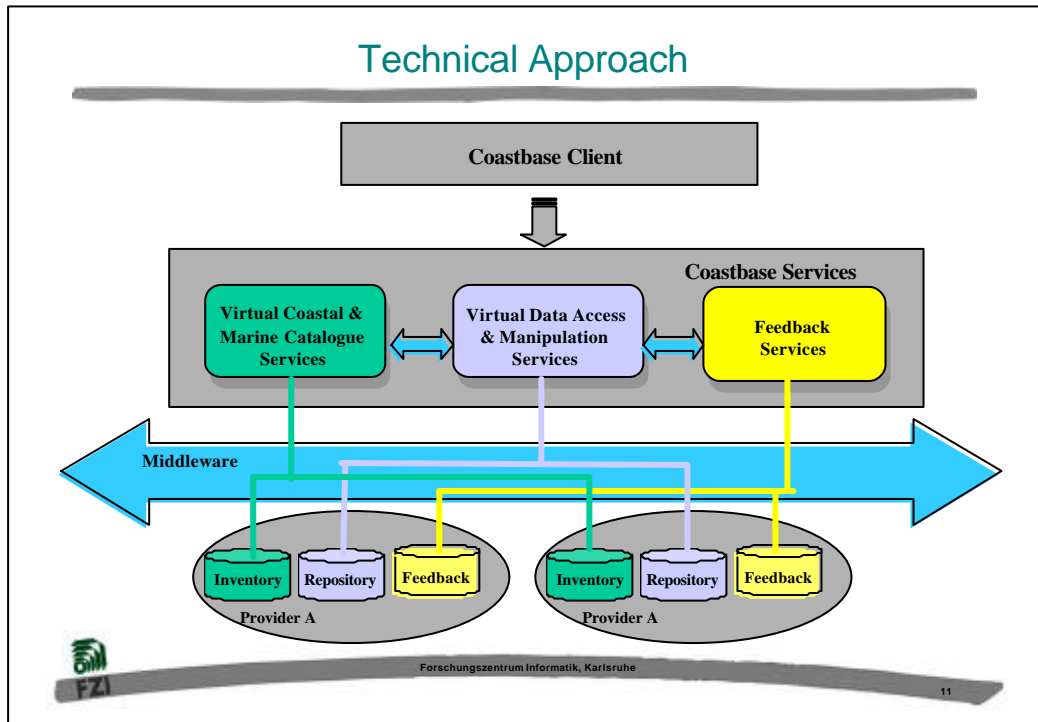
## Specific Objectives

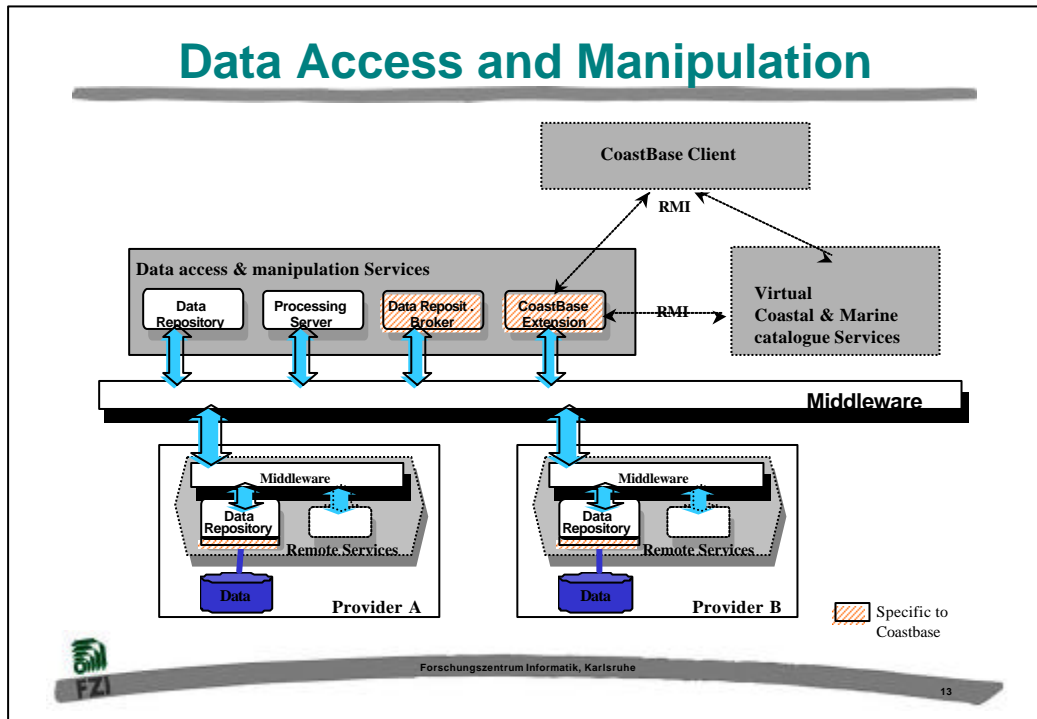
- Realisation of an innovative architecture into a functional prototype
- Central point of access to search, retrieve and access aggregated information
- Automatical data conversions
- Communication and Feedback with original information sources



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10





## 2 scenarios

Eutrophication

- Different level integration
- Indicator development on Eutrophication
- National, Convention and European information
- Focussing on the North sea

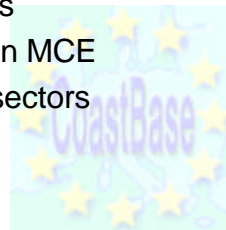
Spatial planning

- Cross sector ICZM information access
- Focus on planning and stakeholders information access
- Pilot area in the mediteranean
- Show broad applicability CoastBase

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## CoastBase planned Achievements

- A functioning prototype of CoastBase, a technical distributed architecture, connecting a representative number of institutes, showing the functionality.
- Coherent search & access through internet to different level MCE information
- Including the required modules
- Pan-European collaboration on MCE
- Results transferable to other sectors



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15

## Conclusions

- Goal is better interaction between European environmental monitoring and policy making
- Technological Means to Search and Access information is necessary
- Communication, Commitment and Co-operation Needed for Functioning



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16