

“We would definitely host another intern, the quality of work was excellent and helped us meet a key deadline.” – Trevor



Ulysse at a coastal network meeting

“Understanding the strategy behind the database taught me the need for better systems to share information and how important that is as coastal management shifts towards more holistic and adaptive planning.” – Ulysse

Trevor Tolhurst, *Marine Knowledge Exchange Network*

We had a small project to create a marine knowledge database, but no one in place to do the work searching for relevant information and entering it into the database, so a 3 month internship was perfect to kick-start this process. Our intern was excellent, working largely unsupervised and to a high standard. We also included our intern in a project management meeting, so they could get a feel for the wider project and how it is organised and they were part of the project team at the conference where we launched the database. Our intern gained experience of working as part of a team to deliver a product to a deadline (for the conference) and working independently on a specific task, including liaising with partner organisations.

Ulysse Pasquier, Intern

The main appeal for this internship was to create ties with MKEN who work on topics that are relevant to my own research interests. I was able to improve my organisational skills, keeping track of items and users on the database. I was also included in the MKEN team, participating in their meetings and getting input from individual members. I learned about outreach and stakeholder engagement, notably participating in a workshop for the Marine Management Organisation. Finally, I practised my communication skills by presenting a demo of the database at the 2017 EnvExpo as well as writing a blog post about it on the MKEN website.

Understanding the strategy behind the database taught me the need for better systems to share information and how important that is as coastal management shifts towards more holistic and adaptive planning. Moreover, compiling resources was useful to evaluate the available state-of-the-art research on the marine environment. The report I wrote with recommendations will offer some guidance on potential improvements and directions to take, as the database opens up to a wider audience.

