ECO_2 - Sub-seabed CO_2 Storage: Impact on Marine Ecosystems

The ECO_2 project sets out to assess the risks associated with storage of CO_2 below the seabed. Carbon dioxide Capture and Storage (CCS) is regarded as a key technology for the reduction of CO_2 emissions from power plants and other industrial sources at the European and international level. The EU will hence support a selected portfolio of demonstration projects to promote, at industrial scale, the implementation of CCS in Europe. Several of these projects aim to store CO_2 below the seabed. However, little is known about the short-term and long-term impacts of CO_2 storage on marine ecosystems even though CO_2 has been stored sub-seabed in the North Sea (Sleipner) for over 14 years and for two year in the Barents Sea (Snøhvit). State-of-the art monitoring techniques will be applied to detect and quantify the fluxes of formation fluids, natural gas, and CO_2 from storage sites.

Project duration: 4 years (May 2011 – April 2015)

Budget: EU contribution: 6 M€ FP7

28 Partners (including 6 institutes currently in the CO_2GeoNet Association)

Objectives: to evaluate the likelihood, ecological impact, economic and legal consequences of leakage from sub-seabed CO_2 storage sites.

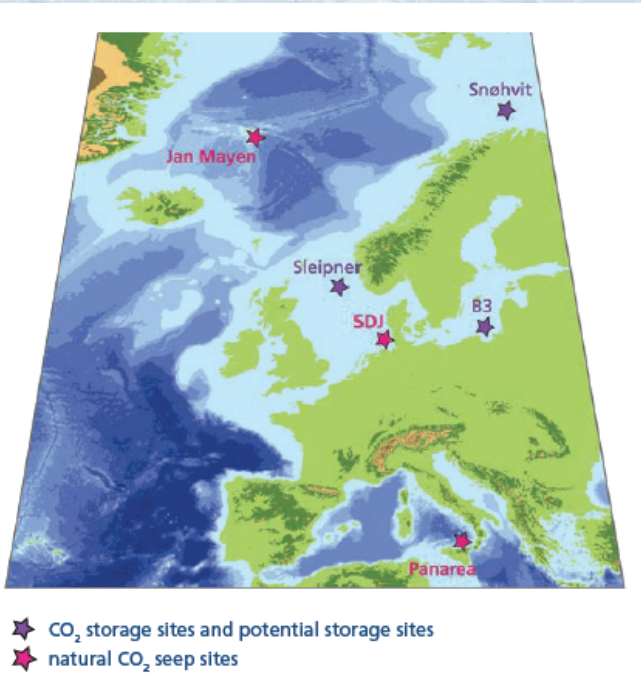
-To investigate the likelihood of leakage from sub-seabed storage sites

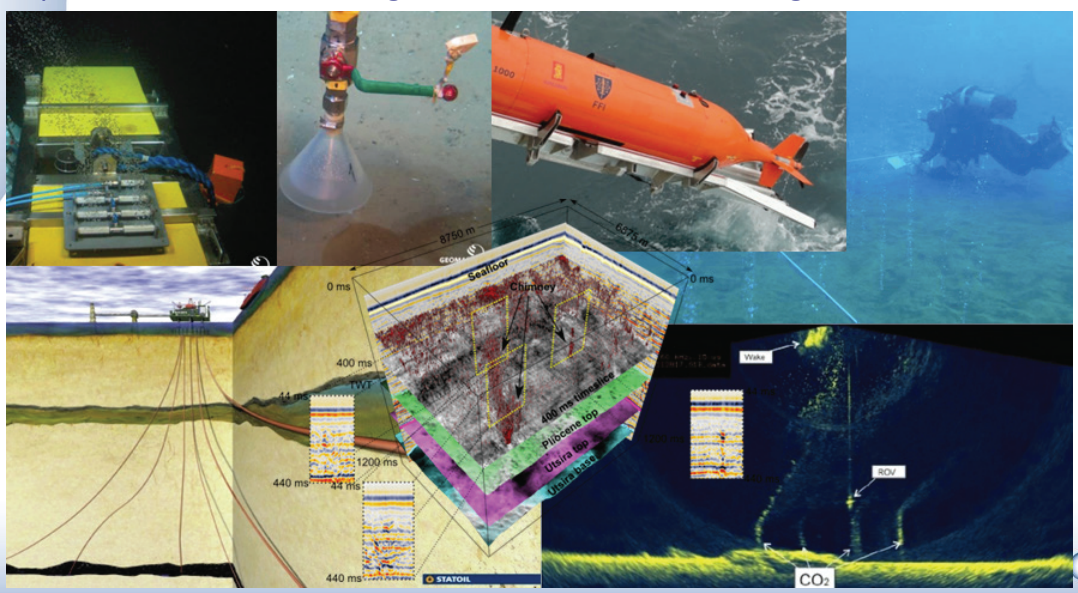
-To study the potential effects of leakage on benthic organisms and the marine ecosystems

-To assess the risks of sub-seabed carbon storage

-To develop a comprehensive monitoring strategy

-To define guidelines for best environmental practices in implementation and management of sub-seabed storage





http://www.eco2-project.eu/