UC | Universidad de Cantabria

STUDY GUIDE

Financial tools to support estuaries restoration and conservation projects

Organised by

- University of Cantabria (UC)

Originally developed in the context of

Creative Commons education materials created by the LIFE ADAPTA BLUES project (LIFE18 CCA/ES/001160, “Adaptation to climate change through management and restoration of European estuarine ecosystems”.), coordinated by the Environmental Hydraulic Institute of the Universidad de Cantabria (IHCantabria-UC).

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1. IDENTIFYING DATA	
Course Name.	Financial tools to support estuaries restoration and conservation projects
Coordinating University.	University of Cantabria (UC)
Course Field(s).	Climate change / Sustainability
Related Study Programme.	Course included in the *University Microcredential in Adaptation Pathways through Management and Restoration of Estuarine Ecosystems (ADAPTABLUES)*
ISCED Code.	• 051101. Biology • 053201. Marine sciences • 071201. Environmental engineering • 073202. Civil engineering
Sustainable Development Goals	• SDG 04. Quality education • SDG 13. Climate action • SDG 14. Life below water
Study Level.	MECU 7 (Master or 240 ECTS Degree)
Number of ECTS credits allocated.	2 ECTS
Mode of Delivery.	Online self-study
Language of Instruction.	English, with subtitles in Spanish, German and Portuguese
Course Dates.	15.01. 2025 – 15.04.2025
Schedule of the course.	The course can be attended from mid-January until the mid-April at any time. Course materials and assessment forms are fully online and can be checked at any point. Lectures are asynchronous and can be reviewed at any time
Key Words.	Climate change, Ecosystem services, Nature-based Solutions, Financial services
Motivational Phrase.	
Prerequisites and co-requisites.	No previous requirements established

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Number of EUNICE students that can attend the Course.	50
Course inscription procedure(s).	Requires registration on the *ADAPTABLUES University Microcredential*: https://web.unican.es/admision/acceso-a-titulos-propios/acceso-a-estudios-propios
2. CONTACT DETAILS	
Department.	Environmental Hydraulics Institute (IHCantabria)
Name of Lecturer.	• Prof. José A Juanes (Coordinator) • Dr. María Recio (Director)
E-mail.	juanesj@unican.es reciom@unican.es
Other Lecturers.	Academic staff from UC-IHCantabria in charge of this course: • Dr. Saúl Torres • Dr. Pedro Díaz-Simal • Prof. Íñigo Losada International advisors from AdaptaBlues project: • Prof. Laura Airoldi (University of Bolognia) • Max Ricker (The Nature Conservancy) • Dr. Borja G. Reguero (University of California) External contributors from the AdaptaBlues project: • Dr. Mike Beck (University of California)
3. COURSE CONTENT	
Teaching materials of this MOOC were co-created, under creative commons licence, in the *AdaptaBlues project "Adaptation to climate change through management and restoration of European estuarine ecosystems", funded by the EU LIFE programme (LIFE18 CC/ES/001160)* and developed through the collaboration of academics and researchers from the Institute of Environmental Hydraulics of the University of Cantabria, coordinator of the project, and the University of Coimbra. The course delves into financial tools to support estuarine restoration and conservation. One of the main barriers we have to face is trying to find out what are the sources of funding associated with conservation and restoration when we relate them to adaptation in coastal areas. This course will cover a series of essential topics to overcome these barriers.	

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4. LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will learn about types of adaptation and their limitations and barriers.
- Students will be introduced to the different strategies to climate change adaptation, and how is possible to link conservation of coastal areas with adaptation goals.
- Students will be introduced to the methods of valuation of the economic value of ecosystem services.
- Students will understand how to incentivize and fund the implementation of Nature-based solutions.
- Students will discover the value of the insurance products in restoring and maintaining estuarine ecosystem services.

5. OBJECTIVES

This course aims to analyse the financing of conservation and restoration in the context of adaptation in coastal areas.

6. COURSE ORGANISATION

UNITS

1.	Strategies to climate change adaptation through conservation
2.	Economic value of ecosystem services
3.	Incentivizing, financing and governing Nature-based Solutions
4.	Types of financial services: Insurances

LEARNING RESOURCES AND TOOLS

The learning resources and assessment tools of the course are available at the UC Moodle Platform.

PLANNED LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND TEACHING METHODS

Students will have access to video materials, written course contents, and automatic online evaluation tests in UC Moodle online environment. Students can review the materials and do the assessments at their own pace during the period of course delivery since. The course is asynchronous and can be reviewed at any time. Students' activity in UC Moodle is expected to consist of the following:

- Watching the video materials available on the course site.
- Reading and familiarization with the text materials available on the course site.
- Taking the evaluation tests that measure students' knowledge and skills in content areas.

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The course is completed by independently working and by taking the exams which consists of multiple-choice questions covering the course topics. The course is graded “passed” or “failed”.

As an additional optional activity, each sub-topic will have a forum for students to share their questions, discussions or doubts. It will be moderated by the UC Office, with input from professors when necessary. All students are free to participate and post their queries.

7. ASSESSMENT METHODS, CRITERIA AND PERIOD

To complete the course, you must:

- View the materials in each Module, going through all Sub-Topics.
- Correctly answer at least 90% of each of the Automatic Online Assessments.
- Complete the post-survey of the course. This will take approximately 3 minutes.

OBSERVATIONS

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND TEACHING MATERIALS

Teaching materials are available on the course at the dedicated UC Moodle platform. Literature recommendations are also outlined in the course contents.

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