SharIn@SEA

Sharing Innovation for Sea and Littoral by an e-learning portal

United Nations forecasted in 2017 that 80% of world population will live in a 75 km wide band of littoral by 2050. West Africa is facing this challenge more than other countries.
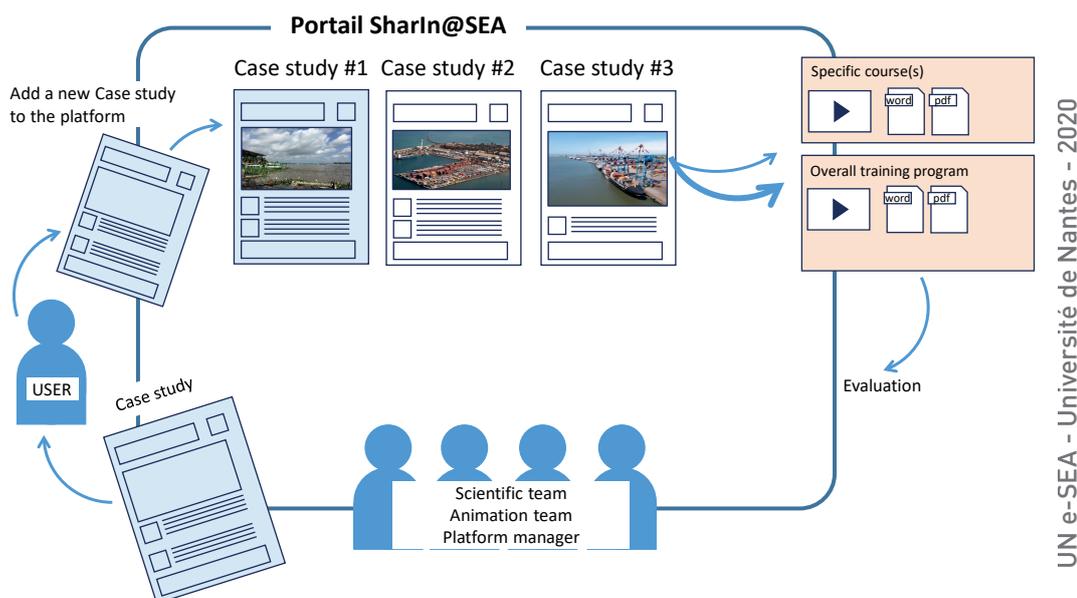
Littoral areas in West Africa are facing contradictory challenges: increase tourism capacity, develop housing constructions and increase port installations capacity to support the economic development. Good practices are required for limiting reducing pollution, limit the pollution due to new infrastructures and limit the use of natural wild areas.

These constraints need for an interdisciplinary view and analysis: spatial planning, infrastructure management, logistic and economics, bio-chemical analysis and legal issues. For instance, increase port installations capacity requires an optimization of maintenance and an adaptation of existing structures and building infrastructures knowing that that have to be flexible to face evolution of trade and impact of climate change (sea level rise).

In this context, the objective of **SharIn@SEA** is to share interdisciplinary good practices towards an international community of specialists by providing case studies based on real situations, and analyzed through a common foundation of interdisciplinary knowledge.

The project aims at developing **a collaborative e-learning portal funded on four pillars:**
- Offer **a series of existing good practices and a method to create, evaluate, and transfer new ones.**
- Teach people on an existing e-learning platform UN-e-SEA **how to understand the interdisciplinary context.**
- **Guide experts through individual programs** based on individual past experience and the assessment of cases transferability.
- **Propose interactive tools** in order to increase professional interactions towards the users community.

SharIN@SEA expect to provide <u>several levels of online contents and learning pathways,</u> from free resources to mentoring trainings.

The <u>interdisciplinary common core of knowledge</u> will be structured through three topics: The harbour zone and its environment, Coastal risks, and Forward-looking indicators to evaluate climate change's impacts on harbour zones and coastal zones. It will be based on a systemic approach of harbour environment, and focused on the concepts of risks, and land-sea continuum. It will pay attention to properly identify key concepts and build a common language. It should especially clearly differentiate the concept of *coastal erosion management* requiring soft solutions from *coastline management*, which most widely pushes towards hard solutions.

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