

CLANCY

Improve habitat quality and climate-adaptivity of freshwater ecosystems through management of alien invasive aquatic invertebrates

Motivation

The Chinese Mitten Crab (*Eriocheir sinensis*), native to rivers, estuaries, and coastal habitats of East Asia, was introduced into the North Sea region around the turn of the century. Due to its invasive behaviour, this alien species can significantly alter the biocenosis and even the hydro-morphodynamic characteristics of coastal and inland waters. Therefore, guidelines for the management of the Chinese mitten crab in the North Sea region and beyond are to be developed within the framework of an international and interdisciplinary research cooperation.

Objectives

- Establish a comprehensive database on the distribution of Chinese Mitten Crabs in the investigation area (Belgium, Germany, France, and Sweden)
- Set up traps in participating countries, tailored to local conditions, for effective population monitoring and management.
- Conduct genetic analysis to understand the genetic traits and population connectivity of the species
- Investigate the rheotactic behaviour of the species to identify their migration patterns and hydraulic barriers for the crabs
- Develop management guidelines based on collaborative findings to facilitate the cross-border application of management strategies.



Juvenile Chinese Mitten Crab (Photo: T. Heyer)

Project partners

Belgium

FLANDERS ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Flanders State of the Art

Universiteit Antwerpen

Province of East-Flanders

Germany TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DRESDEN

AWI ALFRED-WEGENER-INSTITUT HELMHOLTZ-ZENTRUM FÜR POLAR- UND MEERESFORSCHUNG

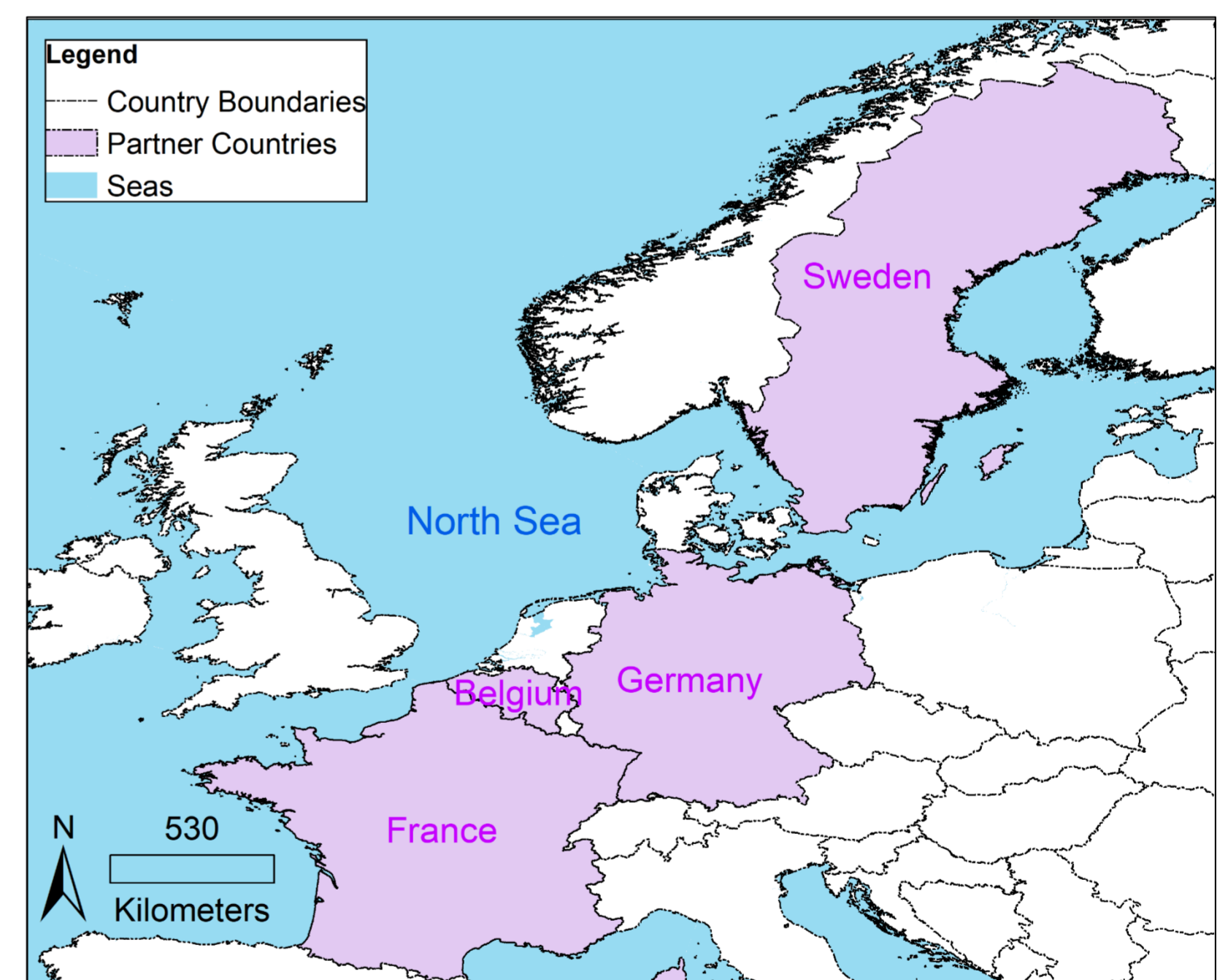
France CELLULE DE SUIVI DU LITTORAL NORMAND

GEMEL

Sweden

UNIVERSITY OF SKÖVDE

Study areas



Countries participating in the project (S. Thepphachanh)

Contact persons

Dr.-Ing. Torsten Heyer (Project manager)

Email: torsten.heyer@tu-dresden.de

Phone: +49-(0)351 463-33874

Sengdavanh Thepphachanh, M.Sc. (Project staff)

Email: sengdavanh.thepphachanh@tu-dresden.de

Phone: +49-(0)351 463-36705

Further information

∞ <https://www.interregnorthsea.eu/clancy>

∞ <https://tud.link/cpcw>



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