

Sea Freight

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Submission date: 26-Feb-2019 09:4 1PM (UTC+0000)

Submission ID: 101273227

File name: 1009_Elimar_Larupay_Sea_Freight_149368_1544812807.pptx (48.25K)

Word count: 824

Character count: 5139

The Commercial and Environmental Impacts of Sea Freight in the UK

This presentation will focus on the sea freight and its Commercial & Environmental Impacts.

The topics this presentation will cover are as follows

Ports

And it's Commercial & Environmental Impacts

Sea Freight

And it's Commercial & Environmental Impacts

Shipping Ports & Harbour

According to a report by *worldatlas*, the busiest shipping port in the UK is Grimsby and Immingham. The port is located on the south bank of Humber in between Immingham and Grimsby. The port handles the loading and unloading and estimated 59 million tons of cargo every year. In the early 1900s the port predominantly only exported coal, however today the port receives materials like oil, iron ore and coal. (Mwaniki, 2018)

Examples of Shipping Ports & Harbour Environmental Impacts

- Shipping ports are generally located at the seaside, for easy loading and offloading of goods. There are many short-term and long-term environmental factors are affected by their location.
- Natural Coastal Habitats – Natural habitats of for example, birds. Their habitats could be destroyed to make way for construction of the port
- Sewage build up in the port could lead to leakage of waste or harmful substances from ships or the goods they carry could spill.
- Human and marine animals can be affected by waste being discharged from a nearby urban area.
- Air pollutants and noise caused by vehicles or machines in the port can cause complications to humans and animals. (Gupta *et al*, 2005)

Shipping Ports & Harbour Commercial Impact

Shipping ports also bring positive opportunities to the UK economy. The Belfast Harbour in Northern Ireland leads the UK with developing Offshore renewable energy sources. (Gov, 2013)

In 2013 the Belfast harbour they finished developing their offshore wind terminal. According to a report by the *Belfasttelegraph*. Just one of these turbines can produce 192 MWh in just a 24-hour working period. The same amount of energy that can be produced by using 22.600 litres of oil. (Stewart, 2016)

This also brings job opportunities an article by the *Belfastharbour*, the development of their wind farm has created an opportunity to open 300 jobs. They job opportunities range from welders, engineering's and electricians. (belfastharbour, 2017)

Sea Freight

Sea freight is the main mode of transport to get logistics across to different countries. One ship is estimated to produce the same amount of Co₂ as 50 million cars in its lifetime. '*Ocean going vessels are also responsible for around 17% of total emissions of NO_x.*' (McKinnon *et al*, 2015).

Environmental Campaigners are doing their best to persuade the shipping industry to reduce carbon emissions by 50% in by the next 30 years.

However, because of growing demands caused by the increase of population and economic growth the industries are finding it difficult to achieve that target. (Piesing, 2018)

Example of Sea Freight Environmental Impacts

- Oil spills – Very dangerous to maritime creatures, for example, fish. The oil can accumulate into their gills this eventually kills them. There is also the chance that it could transfer to a different animal like a bird that hunts fish. As well as the human consumption of an oil contaminated fish. If this occurs this could lead to health problems in the respiratory system or in some cases, death. (Hook *et al*, 2016)

Future for the environment

According to a report by *shiptechnology*. The UK's Transport Secretary Chris Grayling stated that the UK's shipping industry is almost at a break through to make shipping much more environmentally friendly. The secretary has stated that the government has allocated over 6 Million pounds for technologies and fuels to reduce maritime pollution. (Grey, 2018)

Freight Cargo Commercial Impact

In February 2019, British ship building company Cammell Laird, have launched a new RO/RO vessel that will work between Southampton and Isle of Wight. It is designed to carry cargo such as semi-trailers, trucks or rail road cars. During the effort to build the vessel the shipping company employed 200 workers, 200 contractors and 10 apprentices. (Ashmore, 2019)

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