



CO-EVOLVE

Promoting the co-evolution of human activities and natural systems for the development of sustainable coastal and maritime tourism

FACTSHEET #8

Review and analysis of coastal protection planning and management in touristic areas

SUMMARY:

One of the tasks of CO-EVOLVE's testing phase was devoted to the identification and analysis of coastal protection planning and management practices in touristic areas throughout the Mediterranean basin. The Institute of Marine Sciences of the National Research Council (CNR-ISMAR, Italy), which was responsible for its elaboration, put together the available information from different sources and framed it into a comprehensive overview of successes and failures of the different approaches.

The Mediterranean coastline spans approximately 45000 km (including islands), with a strong variability in terms of landscape morphology, wave and tide regime, exposure to sea level rise and anthropic pressure. 58% of the Mediterranean coasts are characterised by low-lying, sandy beaches, 34% are characterised by high cliffs and rocky shores, and the remaining 8% is constituted by transitional environments such as coastal wetlands and tidal lagoons. More than 25% of the Mediterranean coasts are undergoing erosional processes, and only less than 5% are actually accreting.

On hard and soft rock coasts, the erosion rate is generally small and mainly caused by wave attack, whereas erosion in sandy coasts is more



severe and often directly or indirectly related to human activities. Therefore, coastal protection and planning involve social, environmental, economic, technical and urban aspects.

The legislative background developed in the past and adopted by the different

Mediterranean Countries at national and local scales are very different, therefore the management policies of this complex area result very dissimilar. In its review, the CNR-ISMAR produced a synthetic overview of the existing plans adopted by Mediterranean Countries for coastal planning and management, organising the available information on the implemented regional policies at NUTS2 levels, except for basin plans on River Management and Flood Risk, implemented at district scales for the majority of the Countries.

The study highlights the efforts made by the Member States to implement EU directives in the Mediterranean basin, although it remains a slow long-term process with varied interpretations and applications. The implementation of ICZM is still an on-going process stage in the Mediterranean Sea, with France, Croatia and Greece developed an equivalent ICZM strategy or coastal management plans, while in the other Countries, the process is still under development. The lack of a coherent responsibility chain at national and local scale delays the advances in ICZM implementation.

The need to improve coordination and cooperation among Authorities/Countries was been identified as a key enabling factor for the definition and implementation of plans for coastal protection as well as in the monitoring and assessment of their outcomes, due to lack in data sources, non-standardised procedures and formats for data collection, and analysis techniques.

Country	Mediterranean regions	Regional plan	Coastal defense plan	ICZM plan
Croatia		National Law on coastal planning (1994)		
France	Languedoc-Roussillon	Sediment management plan (2011)	Coastal sustainable development plan (2003)	
	PACA			
	Corse			
Italy	Liguria	Territorial plan for coastal coordination	2004	
	Veneto	Technical Directive for sand nourishment (2010)	Guidelines (2016)	2013
	Friuli-Venezia			
	Emilia-Romagna	Littoral State (2000, 2007, 2012)	Coast Plan (1981, 1996)	Guidelines for ICZM (2005)
	Toscana	Hydrogeological structure ICZM plan	2004	
	Marche		2005 and updates in 2015	ICZM plan (2004)
	Lazio	Plan for nourishment	Guidelines	Monitoring ICZM Centre
	Abruzzo	Plans for vulnerable area risk (2006) and nourishment (2006)	2003	
	Molise	Coast Safety Plan (2011)		
	Campania	Erosion plan		
	Puglia	Territorial landscape plan (2010)	Coast Plan (2011)	
	Basilicata		Coast Plan (2016)	
	Calabria	Integrated management plan	2005	2006
	Sicilia	Hydrogeological structure plan	2004	
	Sardegna	Regional landscape plan (2006, 2013)	Plan Action Coast (2013)	Guidelines (2013)
Malta		National Storm Water Project (2010)	Coastal Management plan (2005)	
Spain	Cataluña	Landscape Protection, Management and Planning Law (2005)		2004
	Valencia	Spatial Planning and Landscape Protection Law (2004)		Check date?
	Balearic Islands	Strategic T Decree regulating minimum safety and protection measures for beaches (2005) Tourism Plan (2015)		Strategy for ICZM (2004)
	Andalucia	Territorial Plan (2011)		2007
	Murcia	Strategic Tourism Plan (2015)		Strategy for ICZM (2016)



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