



## CO-EVOLVE

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

# FACTSHEET #22

## KAŠTELA PILOT AREA

### SUMMARY:

*The City of Kaštela is characterised as the coastal area with high tourist potential, where the urban development is lacking (such as undeveloped urban drainage system), causes strong pressures on natural resources and cultural heritage. Urban areas, historical buildings and sea promenade are exposed to coastal erosion and flooding along the 20 km of coastline. Therefore, the coastal action plan promotes sustainable forms of tourism-driven development with focus on coastal protection measures as a key factor for preserving coastal zone.*

The City of Kaštela is located in Kaštela bay, low coastal area is urbanised and natural hilly area is stretching inland. Today, sea level rises up to 80 cm during storms. Extreme precipitation in short period causes extreme volumes of water in urbanised coastal zone because the drainage system is not developed and torrents are coming from hilly inland areas. When these two impacts coincide, all the rainwater from hilly and urban areas together with sea and underground waters are causing flooding of the lowest urbanised zone. In future, occurrences of such events will increase.

Therefore, the vulnerability assessment started with mapping of the lowest coastal zones. GIS analysis has shown that area of 28 ha lays in zone up to 1 m above sea level (Zone 1) already exposed to sea flooding. Zone 1 is the area of historic centres (containing 12 ha of protected culture heritage areas) and

densely populated (containing 613 housing units covering 5 ha), also an important tourism resource with sea sidewalks, beaches and parks.



*Fig 1. Flooding zones: Zone 1 (0-1m) in red colour, Zone 2 (2-3m) in orange, Zone 3 (2-3m) in yellow*

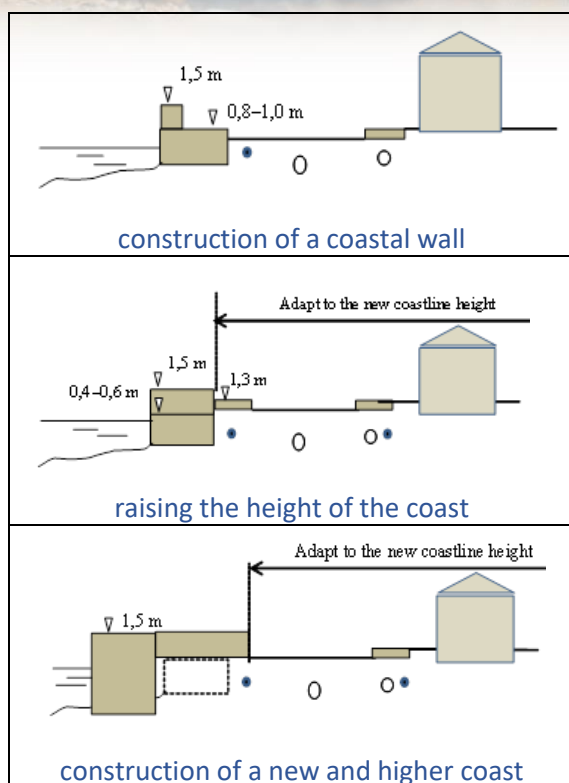


Fig 2. Coastal reinforcement –typical solutions for the urban zone with a sea promenade

### The Action Plan for Sustainable Tourism of the City of Kaštela

The Action Plan aims to promote sustainable forms of tourism-driven development with focus on coastal protection measures as a key factor for preserving coastal zone, increasingly endangered due to the effects of climate change, particularly rising sea levels and floods.

The expert team has undertaken the comprehensive diagnostic analysis including findings from the stakeholders. The four workshops are organized to gather additional information and set a future vision of development. On the one hand, knowing the present situation and problems, and on the

other hand, defining the anticipated future state of the area, the priorities and measures have been defined that will bring the area from the present to the future state.

The three main goals are:

- Implementation of an integral approach to managing the coastal area of Kaštela in the context of climate change;
- Preservation and improvement of the state of the natural and the built environment;
- Development of sustainable tourism tailored to the specifics of coastal historic cities.

Typical solutions are proposed for the reinforcement of the coastal line, drainage system and spatial planning. New concepts of “sponge city” and “green infrastructure” are introduced for the development of sustainable drainage system. Regarding tourism, priority is given to the preservation of balance between the supporting capacity and the demand what should be achieved by introducing planning in the tourism development and also by the specific marketing approach for the cultural tourism.



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