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Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Policy Review



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 642317.

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With thanks to:

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Project coordination and editing provided by Ecologic Institute.

Acknowledgments & Disclaimer

This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 642317.

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Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Policy Review
Name/Type of the Legal Act or Policy
<p>ICZM Recommendations</p> <p>Recommendations of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2002 concerning the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe.</p> <p>Other legal texts relevant for the Legal Act and Policy:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Water Framework Directive; Drinking Water Directive; Habitats and Birds Directives; Floods Directive; Urban Waste Water Directive; Bathing Water Directive; Discharge of Dangerous Substances; Directive on technical specifications for chemical analysis and monitoring of water status; EU action on water scarcity and drought; Integrated Maritime Policy; Maritime Spatial Planning Directive; Marine Strategy Framework Directive; Common Fisheries Policy and European Maritime and Fisheries Fund; Soils Thematic Strategy; Common Agricultural Policy; Waste Framework Directive</p> <p>Action plans and regulations related to waters, biodiversity, climate change, agriculture, drought and water scarcity, desertification, tourism and blue economy.</p>
Entry into force
<p>May 2002</p>
Departments/Units in charge
<p>DG ENV (Coordination) EEA, ETCs and Member States (In charge of the implementation).</p> <p>Ms. Birgit Snoeren, DG ENV</p> <p>Mr. Andrus Meiner, EEA</p>
Common Implementation strategy (CIS processes)
<p>WG ICZM – The EU ICZM Expert group facilitates the implementation of the EU ICZM Recommendation. The expert group consists of Commission, Member States, Candidate countries and relevant European coastal interest or stakeholder groups. The working group on indicators and data established 2 sets of indicators, one aimed to measure progress in ICZM, the other one measuring sustainability on the coast. Progress in this work has been reported to the expert group at each meeting. The reports of the working group can be seen below, for discussion and orientations for further work given by the expert group, please refer to the minutes of expert group meetings. The EU ICZM Recommendation requested national reports on the implementation of the ICZM Recommendation by February 2006 (Chap. VI(1)). National reporting by the Member States (reports 2002–2006 and 2006–2010). See Member State 2006–2010 reports.</p>

<p>Administrative body handling implementation in MS</p>
<p>Belgium: Federal Ministry of Environment with the support of the Government of Flanders Bulgaria: Ministry of Environment France: Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development Germany: Federal Ministry of Environment in coordination with the federal states. Italy: Ministry of Environment and Environmental Protection Institute Latvia: Ministry of Environment Lithuania: Ministry of Environment Poland: Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Transportation Portugal: Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy Romania: Ministry of Environment Slovenia: Ministry of Environment and Planning Spain: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Public Works in coordination with the autonomous communities Sweden: Ministry of Environment in coordination with the local authorities United Kingdom: Department of Environment, National Environment Agency</p>
<p>Main Objective</p>
<p>A European Parliament and Council Recommendation concerning the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe was adopted on 30 May 2002 (2002/413/EC). It lists eight principles defining the essential characteristics of ICZM. Integration across sectors and levels of governance, as well as a participatory and knowledge-based approach, are hallmarks of ICZM. Based on these principles, the Recommendation outlines steps which the Member States should take to develop national strategies for ICZM. Given the cross-border nature of many coastal processes, coordination and cooperation with neighbouring countries and in a regional sea context are also encouraged.</p>
<p>Principles included in the legal text</p>
<p>From chapter II: In formulating national strategies and measures based on these strategies, Member States should follow the principles of integrated coastal zone management to ensure good coastal zone management, taking into account the good practices identified, inter alia, in the Commission's demonstration programme on integrated coastal zone management. In particular, coastal zone management should be based on: (a) a broad overall perspective (thematic and geographic) which will take into account the interdependence and disparity of natural systems and human activities with an impact on coastal areas; (b) a long-term perspective which will take into account the precautionary principle and the needs of present and future generations; (c) adaptive management during a gradual process which will</p>

facilitate adjustment as problems and knowledge develop. This implies the need for a sound scientific basis concerning the evolution of the coastal zone; (d) local specificity and the great diversity of European coastal zones, which will make it possible to respond to their practical needs with specific solutions and flexible measures; (e) working with natural processes and respecting the carrying capacity of ecosystems, which will make human activities more environmentally friendly, socially responsible and economically sound in the long run; (f) involving all the parties concerned (economic and social partners, the organisations representing coastal zone residents, non-governmental organisations and the business sector) in the management process, for example by means of agreements and based on shared responsibility; (g) support and involvement of relevant administrative bodies at national, regional and local level between which appropriate links should be established or maintained with the aim of improved coordination of the various existing policies. Partnership with and between regional and local authorities should apply when appropriate; (h) use of a combination of instruments designed to facilitate coherence between sectoral policy objectives and coherence between planning and management.

Other objectives/Key concepts/key elements of the legislation

From chapter III: Member States conduct or update an overall stocktaking to analyse which major actors, laws and institutions influence the management of their coastal zone. This stocktaking should: (a) consider (but not be limited to) the following sectors and areas: fisheries and aquaculture, transport, energy, resource management, species and habitat protection, cultural heritage, employment, regional development in both rural and urban areas, tourism and recreation, industry and mining, waste management, agriculture and education; (b) cover all administrative levels; (c) analyse the interests, role and concerns of citizens, non-governmental organisations, and the business sector; (d) identify relevant inter-regional organisations and cooperation structures, and (e) take stock of the applicable policy and legislative measures.

Types of management measures

From chapter I: Member States take into account the sustainable development strategy and the Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the sixth Community environment action programme(7), and take a strategic approach to the management of their coastal zones, based on: (a) protection of the coastal environment, based on an ecosystem approach preserving its integrity and functioning, and sustainable management of the natural resources of both the marine and terrestrial components of the coastal zone; (b) recognition of the threat to coastal zones posed by climate change and of the dangers entailed by the rise in sea level and the increasing frequency and violence of storms; (c) appropriate and ecologically responsible coastal protection measures, including protection of coastal settlements and their cultural heritage; (d) sustainable economic opportunities and employment options; (e) a functioning social and cultural system in local communities; (f) adequate accessible land for the public, both for recreational purposes and aesthetic reasons; (g) in the case of remote coastal communities, maintenance or promotion of their cohesion; (h) improved coordination of the actions taken by all the authorities concerned both at sea and on land, in managing the sea-land interaction.

Spatial coverage
All member states, including landlocked countries.
Reporting units – what are the specific transposition requirements
Linked with the WFD, MSFD and Bathing Waters Directive, coastal zone is identified as the land sea interface from inland to the external limit of 1nm from the coastline. It is not specifically mentioned in the ICZM Recommendation but in the WFD and MSFD.
Management unit
The coastal area as defined by the WFD and MSFD directives which limits will be established by each member state depending on the distribution of coastal management competences.
Key planning steps
<p>National strategies and national reports were expected following Chapter IV and Chapter VI of the Recommendation document:</p> <p>a) The national strategies: 1. Based on the result of the stocktaking, each Member State concerned, in partnership with the regional authorities and inter-regional organisations, as appropriate, should develop a national strategy or, where appropriate, several strategies, to implement the principles for integrated management of the coastal zone. 2. These strategies might be specific to the coastal zone, or might be part of a geographically broader strategy or programme for promoting integrated management of a larger area. 3. These strategies should: identify the roles of the different administrative actors within the country or region whose competence includes activities or resources related to the coastal zone, as well as mechanisms for their coordination. This identification of roles should allow an adequate control, and an appropriate strategy and consistency of actions; identify the appropriate mix of instruments for implementation of the principles outlined in Chapter II, within the national, regional or local legal and administrative context. In developing these strategies, the Member States should consider the appropriateness of developing national strategic plans for the coast to promote integrated management ensuring, inter alia, the control of additional urbanisation and of the exploitation of non-urban areas while respecting natural features of the coastal environment; land purchase mechanisms and declarations of public domain to ensure public access for recreational purposes without prejudice to the protection of sensitive areas; developing contractual or voluntary agreements with coastal zone users, including environmental agreements with industry; harnessing economic and fiscal incentives, and working through regional development mechanisms; develop or maintain national and, where appropriate, regional or local legislation or policies and programmes which address both the marine and terrestrial areas of coastal zones together; particularly, identify measures to promote bottom-up initiatives and public participation in integrated management of the coastal zone and its resources; identify sources of durable financing for integrated coastal zone management initiatives where needed, and examine how to make the best use of existing financing mechanisms both at Community</p>

and at national level; identify mechanisms to ensure full and coordinated implementation and application of Community legislation and policies that have an impact on coastal areas, including when reviewing Community policies; include adequate systems for monitoring and disseminating information to the public about their coastal zone. These systems should collect and provide information in appropriate and compatible formats to decision makers at national, regional and local levels to facilitate integrated management. The work of the European Environment Agency can serve inter alia as a basis for this purpose. These data should be publicly available in accordance with relevant Community legislation, in particular with the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on public access to environmental information and repealing Council Directive 90/313/EEC(8); determine how appropriate national training and education programmes can support implementation of integrated management principles in the coastal zone.

Reporting and review:

- a) Member States report to the Commission on the experience in implementation of this Recommendation 45 months after its adoption.
- b) These [reports](#) are available to the public and include, in particular, information concerning:
 - i. the results of the national stocktaking exercise;
 - ii. the strategy or strategies proposed at the national level for implementation of integrated coastal zone management;
 - iii. a summary of actions taken, or to be taken, to implement the national strategy or strategies;
 - iv. an evaluation of the expected impact of the strategy or strategies on the status of the coastal zone;
 - v. an evaluation of the implementation and application of Community legislation and policies that have an impact on coastal areas.

Of the 20 coastal EU MS, 14 submitted their official national reports representing 65% of the coastal area and 70% of the coastline of Europe. The reports covered very different situations: newly developed national strategies, a new phase in a longer on-going national process of implementing ICZM, the results of stocktaking exercises and initial proposals for a coastal strategy. Research indicates that all coastal EU Member States regulate coastal use and development in some form. Steps were taken during 2000–2005 towards a more integrated planning and management approach, but a mature and well-functioning ICZM involving all relevant levels of governance is still rarely observed. A key achievement of the EU ICZM Recommendation has been to codify a common set of principles that should underlie sound coastal planning and management. While the evaluation confirms the relevance of these ICZM principles, the implementation of the EU ICZM Recommendation also reveals varying interpretations and understanding of ICZM across Europe. To foster a more coherent and effective implementation of ICZM, the principles need to be made more operational and better communicated. The diversity of coasts, along with the different administrative systems between and within Member States, implies though that there are no readily available, one-

<p>size-fits-all solutions. Rather there is a need for a more systematic comparative analysis and increased exchange of experiences in Europe.</p>
<p>Timelines</p>
<p>The Commission reviewed this Recommendation in 2007, as referred within 55 months following the date of its adoption and submit to the European Parliament and the Council an evaluation report accompanied if appropriate by a proposal for further Community action. The review output was integrated in the Communication from the Commission – Report to the European Parliament and the Council: an evaluation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Europe (COM/2007/0308 final).</p>
<p>Integration/coordination issues with other related pieces of legislation</p>
<p>Coordination as cooperation is mentioned in Chapter V: a) Member States should encourage, enter into or maintain dialogue and implement existing conventions with neighbouring countries, including non-Member States in the same regional sea, to establish mechanisms for better coordination of responses to cross-border issues. b) Member States also work actively with the Community institutions and other coastal stakeholders to facilitate progress towards a common approach to integrated coastal zone management, examining the need for a European coastal stakeholder’s forum. In this process, ways of using existing institutions and conventions should be explored. c) In this context, cooperation with the accession countries is maintained and enhanced.</p>
<p>Coordination issues with the EU Biodiversity Strategy</p>
<p>The coordination issues are not directly specified in the recommendation text, but the priorities strategically involve the combination of policies and instruments to consider the interdependence and disparity of natural systems and human activities with an impact (on the biodiversity) on coastal areas. In addition to the natural processes and the capacity of ecosystems, the recommendation emphasizes the need of an environmentally friendly, socially responsible and economically sound approach in the long term.</p>
<p>Relevance to ecosystems/habitats?</p>
<p>The coastal area is addressed. All land and water ecosystems within the limits of the coastal area, which could include the full extent of a river basin district (terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems) and the transitional and coastal waters. Links to aquatic ecosystems/biodiversity : as referred in the sections above, the recommendations requested Member states to take into account the sustainable development strategy and the decisions of the European Parliament and the Council to develop a strategic approach to the management of the coastal zones in Europe, attending the principles of protection of the coastal environment based on an ecosystem approach by preserving its integrity and functioning. This is mentioned in the strategic approach of the recommendation and the principles (Chapters I and II). The ecosystem-based management is a framework to preserve the integrity and functioning of the ecosystems when providing services to humans, including both terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity.</p>

<p>Drivers</p>
<p>The recommendation itself recognize the coastal zone as an important environmental, economic, social, cultural and recreational ecosystem which possess a unique biodiversity in terms of flora and fauna.</p> <p>The Agenda 21 (Chapter 17), the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio 1992 and the evaluation reports on the coast made by the European Environment Agency and EIONET can be considered the main drivers.</p> <p>National assessment should analyse the interests, role and concerns of citizens, non-governmental organizations and business sector. This assessment should also consider the following sectors: fisheries and aquaculture, transport, energy, resource management, species and habitat protection, cultural heritage, employment, regional development in both rural and urban areas, tourism and recreation, industry and mining, waste management, agriculture and education; The indicators were defined by the working group on indicators and data with the support of the European Environment Agency and the European Topic Centre on Terrestrial Environment (ETC-TE/ETC-LUSI/ETC-SIA). The indicators guidelines provide the list of indicators and guidance on how to select the most suitable indicators for each coastal zone, including type/unit/indicator used for the assessment/definitions and how to quantify them. The Working Group on Indicators and Data developed and tested a list of indicators in parallel with the INTERREG Project DEDUCE: see link.</p>
<p>Pressures</p>
<p>Recommendations do not include any section dedicated to definitions. Pressures which the legal act/policy address: Climate change, sea level rise, increase of frequency and strength of storms and increased coastal erosion and flooding. The majority of indicators developed after the recommendation entered into force are not available anymore. The EEA has not maintained them in the EEA Data Service.</p>
<p>Assessment of Environmental State</p>
<p>The recommendation includes a request to Member states to define adequate monitoring and information systems as part of the strategy to report on the state of the environment of the coasts in Europe, as well as a dissemination tool for the public. The terms and parameters were defined by Member states and through the INTERREG Project DEDUCE which published in 2007 the Indicators Guidelines to adopt an indicators-based approach to evaluate coastal sustainable development.</p>
<p>Assessment of Status</p>
<p>The Recommendation text does not address the environmental status, thus no term or parameter was indicated. The Communication COM(2007)308 final, developed the linkages in between the ICZM Recommendations and the coastal and marine policy framework, for example In October 2005, the Commission adopted its Thematic Strategy on the Protection and the Conservation of the Marine Environment, including the later approved MSFD. By proposing a legislative framework to achieve a good environmental status of the marine</p>

environment, the institutional strategy enhanced the existing body of EU policies and legislation available for the terrestrial part of the coastal zone, (e.g. WFD including transitional and coastal waters' ecological status) supporting the implementation on Integrated Coastal Zone Management.

The MSFD and the EU Integrated Coastal Zone Management policy are considered in the broader framework of the EU Maritime Policy from 2006 to present time. Integrated Coastal Zone Management has a role to play in current marine and maritime policy framework, moreover, given the particular exposure of coastal zones to the possible impacts of climate change, the European Climate Change Programme, in particular its part on impacts and adaptation are also of key importance to Europe's coastal zones.

Data

DEDUCE provided the indicators and the MS reported using the available information. The EEA has not maintained the data and information provided by Member states in their data and information service in web and during the production of the latest state of the coastal environment report, the data and information provided by the countries in between 2002 and 2010 were not used. The website of the DEDUCE project led by the Government of the Spanish Region of Catalonia is not operative anymore. However, the [EEA portal](#) provides a variety of data and maps related to this issue. The COM (2007) 308 final aims to support the implementation of ICZM, more investment will be needed in the capacity to gather information, analyse it and inform the relevant decision-makers and the public at large. The recently adopted INSPIRE Directive provides the legal framework for a more effective infrastructure for the use and dissemination of spatial information. The Shared Environmental Information System which is being developed by the Commission, the European Environment Agency and the Member States in the context of INSPIRE should assist in making coastal zone information more readily available.

Funding

None. Data was generated by using funds from different funding sources, e.g. National funds, LIFE, as such it is difficult to point out specific data sources.

Other issues to be aware of relevant for AQUACROSS?

Several countries cooperated in transboundary issues. DG ENV used the limited resources to analyse the impacts of the Recommendations in the development of coastal and marine information systems.

About AQUACROSS

Knowledge, Assessment, and Management for AQUATIC Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services across EU policies (AQUACROSS) aims to support EU efforts to protect aquatic biodiversity and ensure the provision of aquatic ecosystem services. Funded by Europe's Horizon 2020 research programme, AQUACROSS seeks to advance knowledge and application of ecosystem-based management (EBM) for aquatic ecosystems to support the timely achievement of the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy targets.

Aquatic ecosystems are rich in biodiversity and home to a diverse array of species and habitats, providing numerous economic and societal benefits to Europe. Many of these valuable ecosystems are at risk of being irreversibly damaged by human activities and pressures, including pollution, contamination, invasive species, overfishing and climate change. These pressures threaten the sustainability of these ecosystems, their provision of ecosystem services and ultimately human well-being.

AQUACROSS responds to pressing societal and economic needs, tackling policy challenges from an integrated perspective and adding value to the use of available knowledge. Through advancing science and knowledge; connecting science, policy and business; and supporting the achievement of EU and international biodiversity targets, AQUACROSS aims to improve ecosystem-based management of aquatic ecosystems across Europe.

The project consortium is made up of sixteen partners from across Europe and led by Ecologic Institute in Berlin, Germany.

AQUACROSS PARTNERS

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