



COASTAL ACTION PLANS

THEME 9

Assessment of Field Observation Techniques

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Ranking criteria

- Scientific excellence, breakthrough in this field
- Link to EU directives, Aberdeen declaration, need for EU context
- Social demand (quality of life, safety, economic benefit, leisure, education)
- Risk and efficiency (over 6 years), SWOT, feasibility
- Application, usefulness, added value (uptake by community)

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THEME 9 Assessment of Field Observation Techniques

TITLE	To establish a network of European coastal observatories
WHY	To set up a firm and trans-national observational basis for sustainable ICZM by a network comprising detailed and coherent spatial and temporal measurements of ecological and oceanographic parameters.
WHAT	To enhance our capabilities to observe state and processes in European shelf seas. This supports an 'ecosystem approach' for managing European coastal waters.) ¹
HOW	Development of new monitoring techniques and sampling strategies, cooperation between national operational coastal and oceanographic agencies, intercalibration and standardization

¹: Methods which should be improved are: e.g. biological parameter estimates, underwater light attenuation, turbulence measurements, flux estimates, habitat classification, remote sensing applications for coastal waters.

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TITLE	Improved interfacing between observations and integrated modelling in order to provide long term, and real-time information services on coastal systems.
WHY	There is a separation of the modelling and the monitoring activities, including remote sensing, both of which provide valuable, but sometimes different information to national and international policy makers regarding the status of our coastal waters ('ecosystem approach').
WHAT	Better coordination and cooperation between the monitoring and the modelling communities including data assimilation should provide improved validated models needed for understanding and managing coastal areas.
HOW	Disseminate and compare results of both activities, develop data assimilation for integrated models, calibration and validation,