

ENCORA - Theme

ICZM Participation and Implementation

initiative for a **Coordination Action** within the European coastal research **and** practitioners community

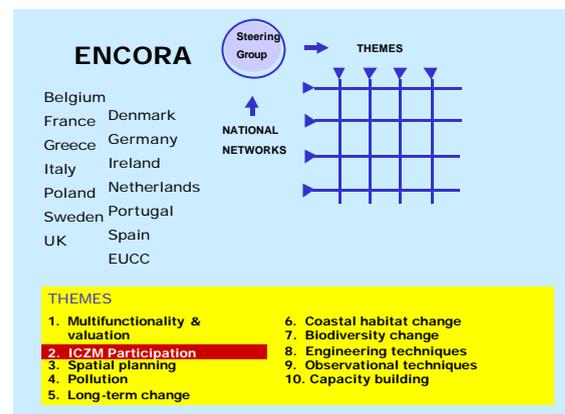
WHY ?

It is particularly important in ICZM that there be participation of all stakeholders, political/policy, economic and environmental stakeholders (both horizontally and vertically) as well as the public in the implementation of ICZM. As a consequence of poor participatory methods, the design of most investment projects hardly captures the expectations of the public at large or does not benefit from opportunities brought by local knowledge. In other cases, poor support from the public has forced local and national authorities to withdraw projects including those that would have contributed to restore the long-term resilience of coastal areas

Furthermore, in order to be able to determine how well, or efficiently, ICZM is being implemented - especially in relation to the *integration* of stakeholder participation - the recently approved EU Progress Indicator set for ICZM needs to be used systematically. Employing a harmonised methodology with the capacity to share in the collection, interpretation, transformation and dissemination of information will add value immeasurably to the efforts of individual localities, regions and countries and help promote a collective and mutually supportive approach to tackling the challenges posed by coastal and marine issues.

➔ The theme programme will be directed to the following issues:

- Determining the level of implementation of stakeholder participation;
- Determining what are the bottle-necks towards progress in stakeholder participation;
- Developing examples of best European practice to improve stakeholder participation;
- Encouraging national, regional and local authorities to introduce new methods for stakeholder participation



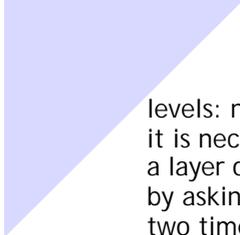
The theme integrates national research programmes on coastal and marine planning in the different countries.

WHAT ?

➔ Using the agreed methodology of the EU ICZM Progress Indicator Set to determine - **and improve** - the level of participation of all necessary stakeholders in ICZM decisions:

HOW ?

Small one-two day workshops will be held in selected countries involving national, regional and local ICZM authority representatives. The participants will use the Progress Indicator to report their level of implementation. Initially, answering simply "yes" or "no" to whether a particular coastal management mechanism is being used will enable an authority to determine how far along the ICZM path it has travelled. It should also help in identifying impediments to further progress. Against each action a simple 'yes' or 'no' will be entered for three spatial



levels: national, regional and local. But because it is necessary to identify a trend through time, a layer of complexity will be added at each level by asking respondents to consider the action in two time periods. Particular emphasis will be put on Levels 14-18 of the EU Progress Indicator Set which deals with stakeholder involvement and participation.

Each test - in which different stakeholders in a given national, regional or local context fill in the progress indicator - will also help to clarify the language used in the table. This process will, therefore, also lead to a further refinement of the Indicator Set with respect to stakeholder involvement and participation.

A report will be drawn up at the end of the project, drawing the points of view together to produce a report by the States taking part.



WHO?

Theme lead

EUCC - The Coastal Union

