

EU policy on Coastal Management



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DG Environment
Unit Marine Environment
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Coastal Challenges

Coastal regions among the most populated and productive

- 40 % of EU citizens live in coastal areas
- High economic and ecologic value
- Increasing competition for maritime and coastal space
- Increasing pressures on coastal/marine resources

This leads to specific problems

- Inefficient/unbalanced use of space
- Conflicting claims on space
- Non optimal use of economic potential
- Degradation of coastal/marine ecosystems
(8% of coastal habitats and 11% of coastal species in favourable conditions)

Coastal Challenges

Coastal areas are extremely vulnerable to climate change impacts. Risks include:

- Increased frequency of floods, storms, droughts, heat waves
- Sea level rise, erosion, salt water intrusion
 - 13 million of people are threatened with displacement if sea level rises by 1 metre
 - Coastal erosion is the main driver of observed losses of biodiversity

IZCM/MSP are process tools aiming to support sustainable development and sustainable use of resources



Exposure of European regions to coastal erosion

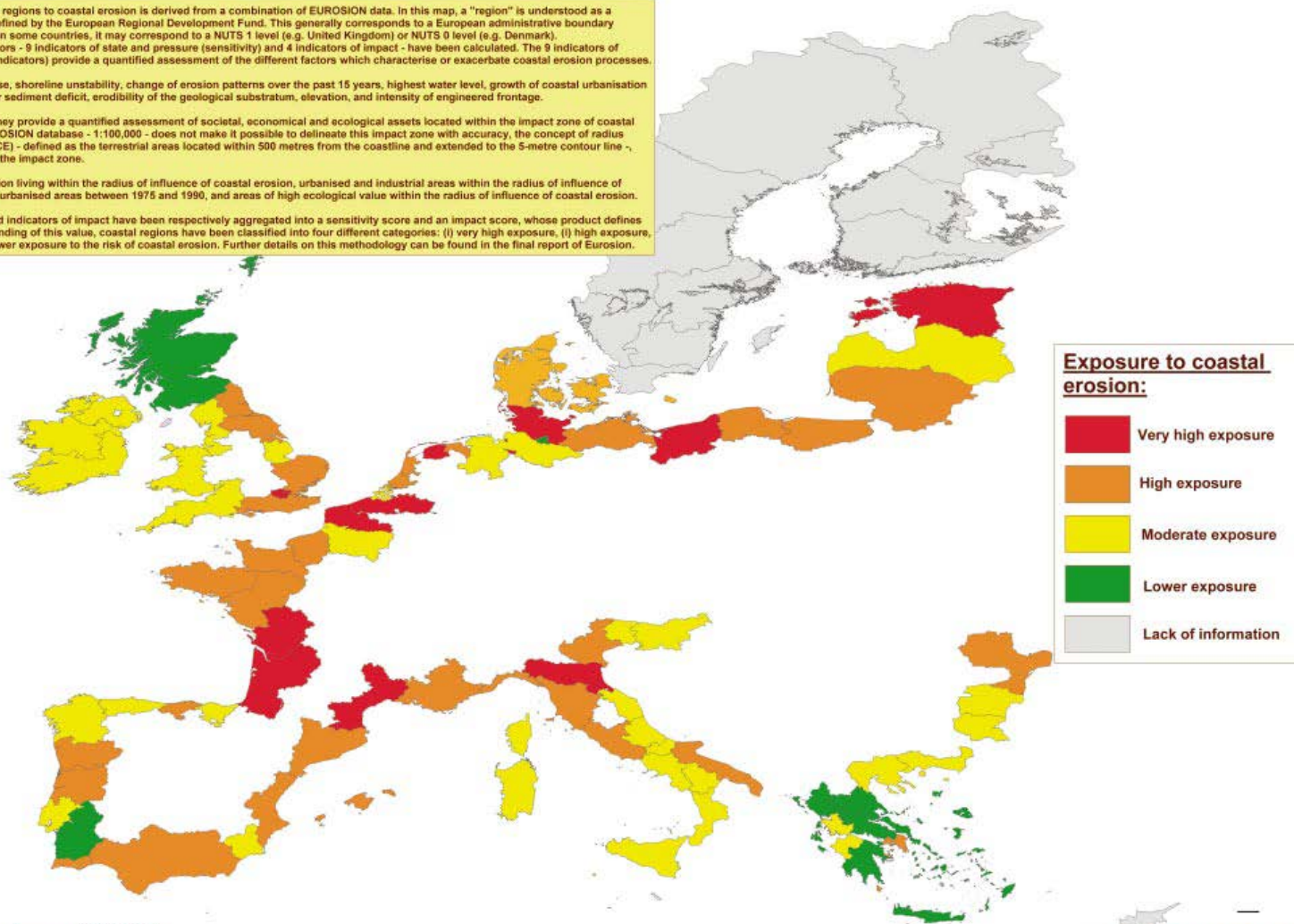
This map of exposure of European regions to coastal erosion is derived from a combination of EUROSION data. In this map, a "region" is understood as a regional administrative entity as defined by the European Regional Development Fund. This generally corresponds to a European administrative boundary of level 2 (NUTS2 level). However, in some countries, it may correspond to a NUTS 1 level (e.g. United Kingdom) or NUTS 0 level (e.g. Denmark). For each region, a set of 13 indicators - 9 indicators of state and pressure (sensitivity) and 4 indicators of impact - have been calculated. The 9 indicators of state and pressure (or sensitivity indicators) provide a quantified assessment of the different factors which characterise or exacerbate coastal erosion processes.

These factors include: sea level rise, shoreline instability, change of erosion patterns over the past 15 years, highest water level, growth of coastal urbanisation areas between 1975 and 1990, river sediment deficit, erodibility of the geological substratum, elevation, and intensity of engineered frontage.

As for the 4 indicators of impact, they provide a quantified assessment of societal, economical and ecological assets located within the impact zone of coastal erosion. Because the scale of EUROSION database - 1:100,000 - does not make it possible to delineate this impact zone with accuracy, the concept of radius of influence of coastal erosion (RICE) - defined as the terrestrial areas located within 500 metres from the coastline and extended to the 5-metre contour line -, has been introduced as a proxy of the impact zone.

Impact indicators include: population living within the radius of influence of coastal erosion, urbanised and industrial areas within the radius of influence of coastal erosion, growth of coastal urbanised areas between 1975 and 1990, and areas of high ecological value within the radius of influence of coastal erosion.

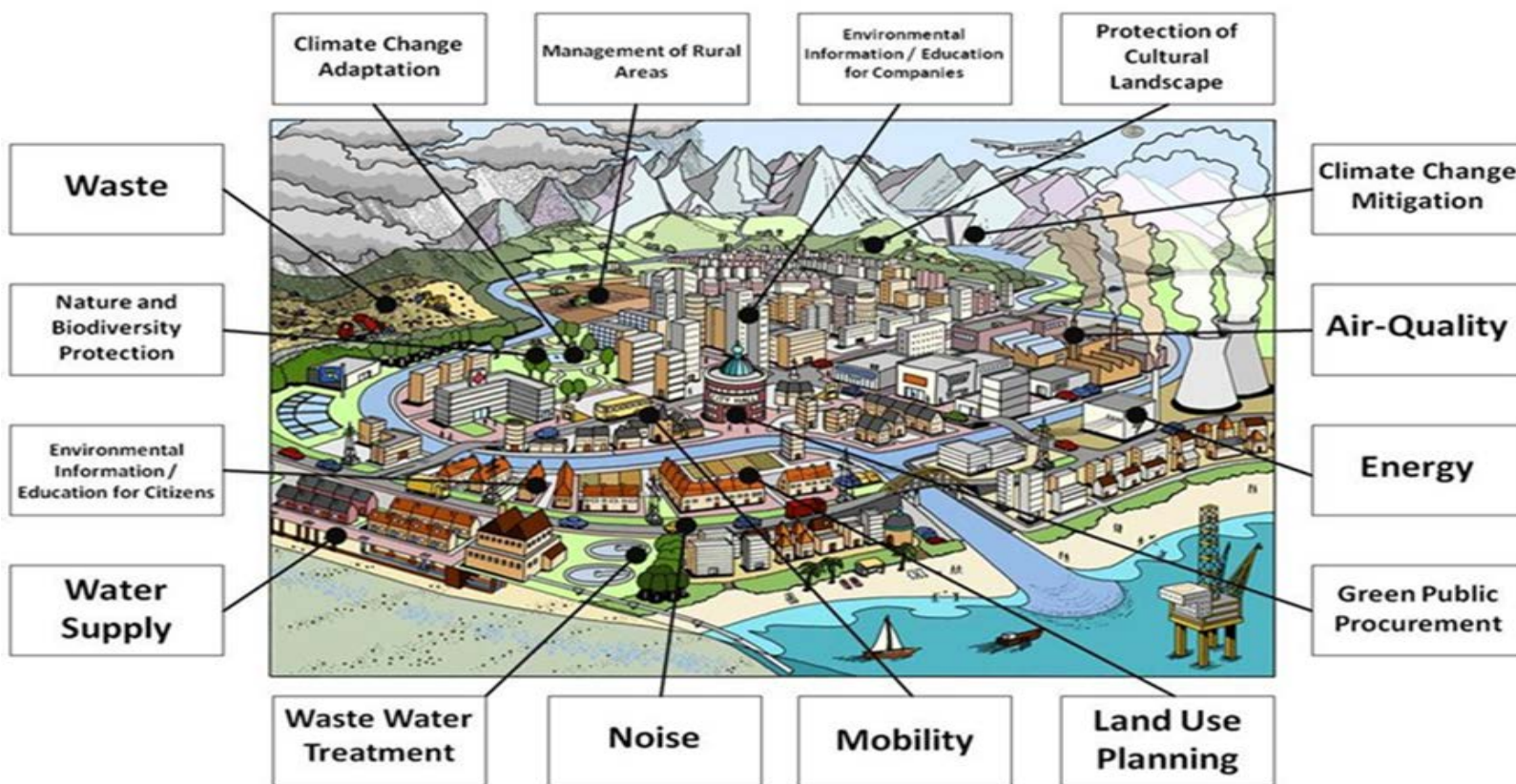
In turn, indicators of sensitivity and indicators of impact have been respectively aggregated into a sensitivity score and an impact score, whose product defines the "risk of coastal erosion". Depending of this value, coastal regions have been classified into four different categories: (i) very high exposure, (ii) high exposure, (iii) moderate exposure, and (iv) lower exposure to the risk of coastal erosion. Further details on this methodology can be found in the final report of EuroSION.



EU policy framework

- *Integrated Coastal Zone Management*
- *Maritime Spatial Planning*
- *Joint EU initiative on MSP/ICZM*
- *Links to*
 - *Integrated Maritime Policy*
 - *Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)*

Integrated Coastal Zone Management



ICZM Recommendation

- Promotes a **strategic approach** to coastal zone management and planning for **sustainable development**
- Identifies **general principles** for this approach ensuring good coastal zone management
- Promotes the development of **national strategies** to implement the principles for ICZM
- These strategies should be based on **national stocktaking** identifying the relevant actors, laws and institutions
- Encourages **transboundary cooperation**

ICZM Protocol

- *Protocol contents:*
 - Common framework for ICZM in the Mediterranean
 - Principles and objectives for ICZM
 - Requires comprehensive strategies, series of tools to be used in coherent 'mix'
 - Specific stipulations for certain coastal uses and/or values to be protected
 - Geographic scope includes both the land as sea part of coastal areas (as defined in the protocol)

**=> 15 parties signed the Protocol, 9 have ratified including the EU
=> the Protocol entered into force in March 2011**

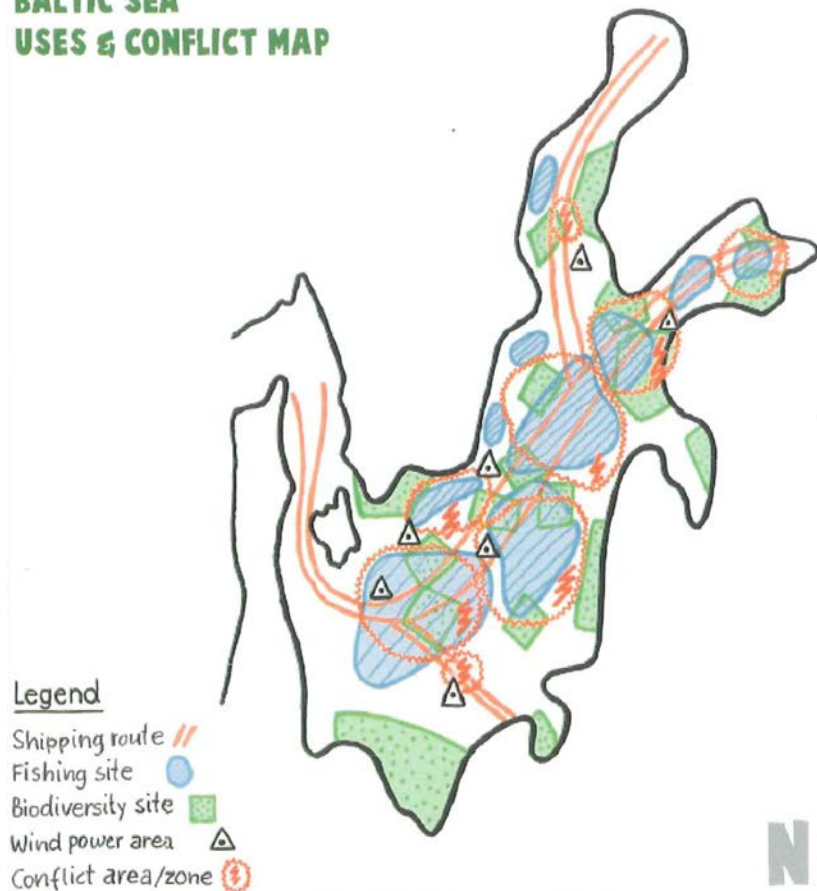
ICZM in practice

- *Exchange of experiences and best practices
=> database of about 350 cases*
- *Key themes include:*
 - Adaptation to coastal risks and climate change
 - Planning and land management instruments
 - Institutional coordination mechanisms
 - Information and communication
- *Project ended in February 2012 –new project will start soon to continue and integrate in wider web platform*

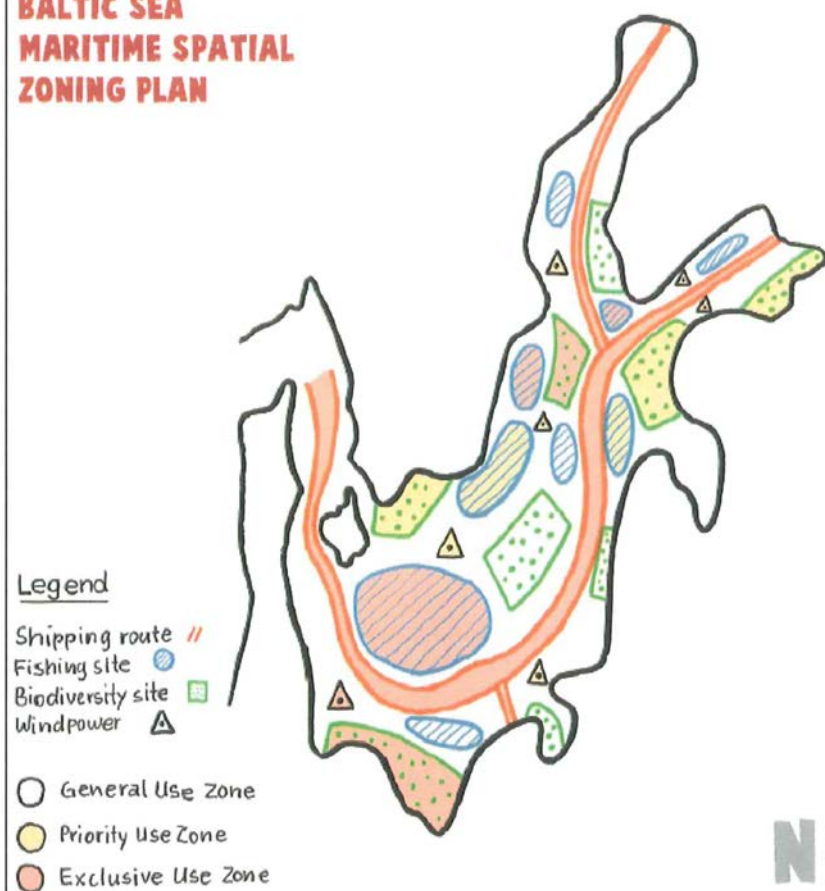
<http://ec.europa.eu/ourcoast>

Maritime Spatial Planning

**BALTIC SEA
USES & CONFLICT MAP**



**BALTIC SEA
MARITIME SPATIAL
ZONING PLAN**



Maritime Spatial Planning

Scope:

- *Planning and regulating human uses of the sea, while protecting marine ecosystems*
- *Focuses on marine waters under national jurisdiction*
- *It does not cover management of coastal zones or spatial planning of sea land interface*

Objectives:

To balance frequently competing sector-based interests, so that:

- *Marine space and resources are used sustainably and efficiently*
- *Decision-making is based on sound data and in-depth knowledge*
- *Investors have greater legal certainty, encouraging economic development*

Policy: identified in the 'bluebook' (2007) and elaborated in 2 communications (2008/2010)

! MSP is a Member State responsibility. But minimum standards should be met and plans for shared seas should be compatible to avoid conflicts and support cross border cooperation!

MSP/ICZM joint initiative

- *The EC is currently preparing a joint initiative on MSP/ICZM:*
 - = > *Number of similarities between MSP/ICZM*
 - Both address the use of coastal and maritime space and management of human activities
 - Both are support tools for a more integrated decision making process, coordinating potentially competing sector policies
 - Both tools are multi-sector oriented
 - Rely on similar key principles
 - Applied jointly they will improve sea-land interface planning/management
- *Aim to support sustainable development and use of coastal/marine resources by*
 - Establishing a process-based framework for MSP/ICZM on MS level
 - Establishing appropriate cross-border cooperation for MSP/ICZM
- *But:*
 - Full respect of subsidiarity and MS competence for town and country planning => Leave MS flexibility to adapt MSP/ICZM to local conditions
 - Avoid that MS with MSP/ICZM policies in place must change practices

Important 'procedural steps'

- *Stakeholder consultation*
- *Preparation of the Impact Assessment*
- *Preparation of the draft initiative on 'service level'*
- *Adoption of the proposed initiative by the College*
- *Debate in the Council and European Parliament
(co-decision procedure)*
- *Final adoption of the proposal and publication*

Stakeholder consultation – Impact Assessment

- Stakeholder consultation
 - Spring 2011, report published in June 2011
 - About 230 reponses (stakeholders, MS, Industry, NGO's, citizens, etc)
 - ICZM/MSP useful policy tools: better understanding stakeholders, improved governance, more efficient use of resources, transparant planning
 - Similar tools => future joint EU initiative appropriate
- Impact Assessment
 - Problem definition + objectives of the initiative
 - Analysis of subsidiarity and EU added value
 - Analysis of different policy options (non-binding <-> binding)
 - Effectiveness
 - Impact assessment (social, environmental, economic) + implementation costs

Integrated Maritime Policy-Marine Directive

- *IMP aims (1) to provide a coherent approach to maritime issues and (2) to increase coordination between policies as to stimulate sustainable 'blue growth'.*
- *The Marine Strategy Framework Directive is the environmental pillar of the IMP*

IMP / Blue Growth

economic

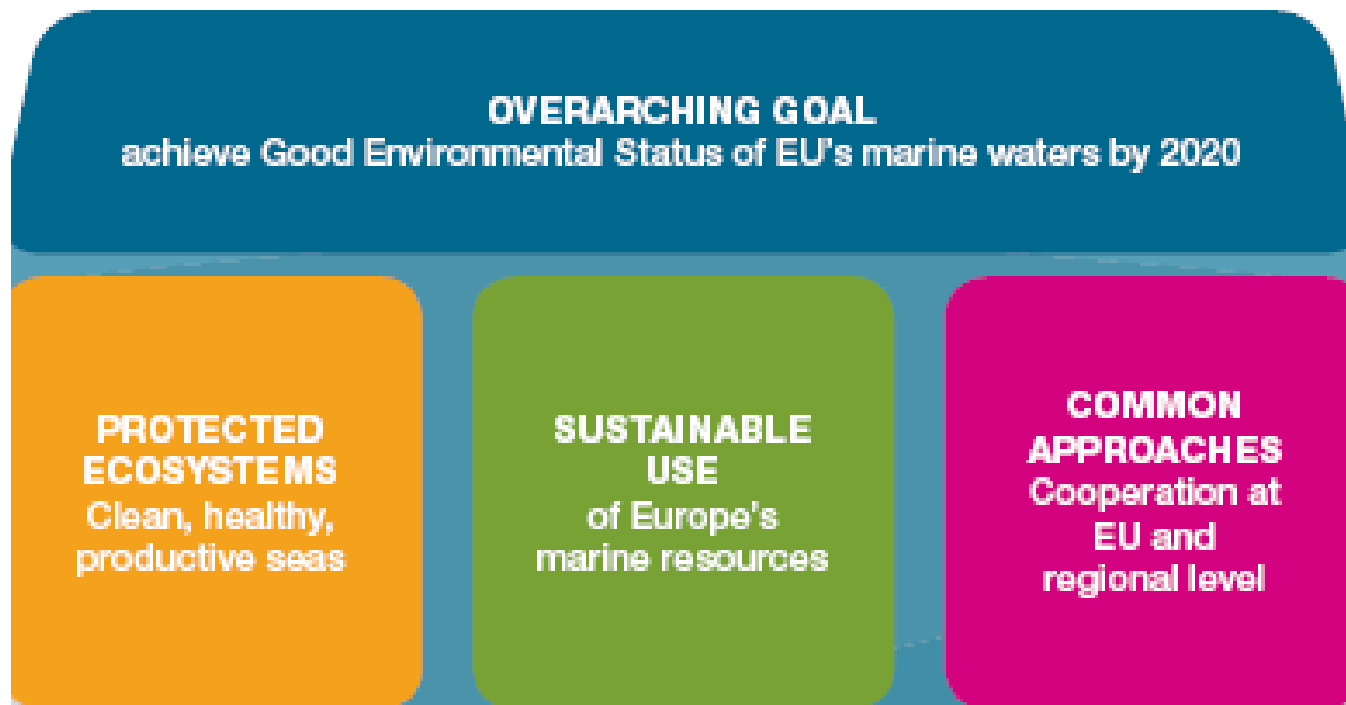
social

environmental
(MSFD)

Tools (CISE, MSP/ICZM, Marine Knowledge)

The Marine Directive

EU's legal instrument for the protection of our seas



Ecosystem-based, adaptive and integrated approach to the management of all human activities which have an impact on the marine environment.



THANK YOU

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