

A Guide to Implementing a Management System for ICZM - ES

1. Policy Objective & Theme

- **SUSTAINABLE USE OF RESOURCES:** Sound use of resources and promotion of less resource intensive processes/products
- **SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH:** Developing Europe's regional seas sustainably
- **SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH:** Balancing economic, social, cultural development whilst enhancing environment

2. Key Approaches

- Integration
- Participation
- Knowledge-based
- Ecosystems based approach
- Socio-economic
- Technical

3. Experiences that can be exchanged

The implementation of a Management System in a specific Management unit (municipal or regional coastal stretch, a singular area, a delta or a bay, a marine reserve) implies the elaboration of the system's documentation and the operative management procedures, as well as the creation of management agencies (director committee and processes committee). This information and the related activities can be directly extrapolated to any coastal region.

4. Overview of the case

This initiative is a management tool for ICZM standardization. It is a guide or a protocol, developed by a group of Spanish experts, for environmental management systems or quality management systems.

5. Context and Objectives

a) Context

The problems and issues for which this Guide has been developed are related to the lack of uniformity in coastal management and the confusion in the use of the different existing tools (sets of indicators, planning techniques, objectives definition, terminology, etc.). The guide has been designed to be implemented in any type of coast, any coastal stretch, and at the regional, national, European and international level. It has been developed through a European project (IMASPS) in 2006-07, and by means of a Spanish Working Group composed of more than 20 members from several institutions in 2008-09.

b) Objectives

The main objectives of the guide are the following: 1) to be easily disseminated and applied to any region and any coastal or marine environment, in order to harmonize the coastal management (the same language for everyone); 2) to energize the coastal regions by integrating at least 5 sectors or processes: land-use management and planning, port and industrial

management, fisheries, nautical tourism, and natural and cultural heritage.

The specific objectives to be achieved with the ICZM approach were: 1) to implement this management system for a specific coastal stretch as a demonstration model; 2) spread the management system at the coastal municipalities level (bottom-up) or from the central government to the coastal municipalities (top-down approach), by means of conferences, seminars, leafleting, etc.; 3) Voluntary implementation; 4) Mandatory implementation.

6. Implementation of the ICZM Approach (i.e. management, tools, resources)

The implementation of the Guide ensures that all the organisations: institutions and coastal managers are involved through the Director Committee, and all the stakeholders by means of the Processes Committees. The Director Committees can involve international, European, national, regional and local entities.

The Guide is basically an ICZM planning and institutional co-ordination tool. It aims to implement standardised management systems, as the ISO quality systems. It allows every region, coastal stretch or coastal singular area, to implement the same management rules, facilitating and promoting synergies and increasing the dynamics of the coastal zones and marine areas.

Within the framework of the “Continuous Improvement Cycle”:

- The Policy phase includes the strategic objectives of the management unit in which the system will be implemented.
- The Planning phase is structured into three basic tools: stocktaking of the legal requirements, revision of the operative processes, and the Annual Management Programme.
- The Implementation phase requires capacity Building, communication and the processes Operational Control.
- The Monitoring phase includes three basic tools: the set of indicators, registration of non-conformities, and the Audit Plan.
- The Revision phase entails the assessment of the objectives, the planning and implementation phases, and the elaboration of the Sustainability Annual Report.

The 7 key issues this Guide deals with are the following:

- It facilitates Governance through the creation of a Director Committee.
- It facilitates participation through the Processes Committees.
- It offers an organisational structure based on the above-mentioned Committees.
- It considers the territorial scale, as it adapts to any management unit (from regions to specific singular areas or marine reserves).
- It is oriented to “processes management” instead of “competences management”.
- It is a “second generation” Management System as it includes land and marine area management.
- It answers the “Continuous Improvement Cycle” (policy, planning, implementation, monitoring and revision phases).

The timescale associated to the implementation and achievement of the goals is the following:

- System Implementation in a specific coastal stretch (1 year)
- Dissemination (1 year)
- Voluntary implementation (1 year)
- Mandatory implementation (1 year)

7. Cost and resources

The only budget required for the implementation of this tool (Management Systems in ICZM) is dedicated to the dissemination task in all the coastal municipalities and regions. The Guide has been developed through a European project (IMASPS) in 2006-07, and by means of a Spanish Working Group composed of more than 20 members from several institutions in 2008-09.

8. Effectiveness (i.e. were the foreseen goals/objectives of the work reached?)

All the foreseen specified objectives were achieved in the timescale defined.

9. Success and Fail factors

The interest of the coastal municipalities in their economic, environmental and social (employment creation) development can be mentioned among the main factors that were helpful in achieving the objective. Also, the future Integrated Maritime Policy which would support the creation of these new management models

The main obstacles achieving the objective were the current “competences” approach of some regional administrations representatives, against the proposed “processes” approach which aims to integrate the different Administrations.

10. Unforeseen outcomes

There were no unforeseen outcomes.

11. Prepared by

Raúl Medina / Pino González-Riancho, Environmental Hydraulics Institute IH Cantabria, Spain.

12. Verified by

Juan Luis Domenech Quesada (Gijón Ports Authority, Spain) and Francisco Javier Sanz (Coastal Observatory, University of A Coruña, Spain)

13. Sources

- Estudios sobre la ordenación, planificación y gestión del litoral: hacia un modelo integrado y sostenible (2009). Sanz Larruga, F.J. y García Pérez, M. Observatorio del Litoral y Fundación Pedro Barrié de la Maza, A Coruña.
- Gestión integrada de zonas costeras (2009). Doménech J. L. Sardá, R., Carballo, A., Villasante, C; Barragán, J. M., Borja, A., Rodríguez, M.J., Colina, A., Juanes, J. A., AENOR Ediciones. Madrid.
- Guía para la implementación de un sistema de gestión integrada de zonas costeras (2009). Juan Luis Doménech y F. Javier Sanz, Observatorio del Litoral de la Universidad de A Coruña