

ICZM pilot actions in the coastal area of Ferrara, Ravenna, Forlì-Cesena & Rimini - IT

1. Policy Objective & Theme

- ADAPTATION TO RISK: Integrating coherent strategies covering the risk-dimension (prevention to response) into planning and investment
- SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH: Balancing economic, social, cultural development whilst enhancing environment

2. Key Approaches

- Integration
- Knowledge-based

3. Experiences that can be exchanged

An integrated and cross-sectoral approach to define principles for all coastal activities and positively address factors affecting coastal areas, considering both the land and sea side.

4. Overview of the case

According to the objectives of the EU Recommendation on ICZM, the Council of the Emilia Romagna Region adopted ICZM Guidelines by Act n.645 of 20 January 2005. These Guidelines aim to address the activities affecting the physical coastal system towards economic, social and environmental sustainability. To this end the Regional Council approved 18 pilot projects, presented by the following provinces: Ferrara, Forlì-Cesena, Ravenna and Rimini.

5. Context and Objectives

a) Context

The Emilia Romagna coastline measures about 130 km in length from the mouth of the Tavollo stream to the mouth of the Po di Goro, and is characterised by several sandy and low beaches. The coastal dynamics are strictly related to the complex interaction among different factors such as sea level rise, meteo-climatic changes, fluvial sediment supply, subsidence, and strong human activities. It is a very important area both from a socio-economic and an environmental point of view.

The fragmentation and low co-ordination between planning instruments and territorial competences is a relevant problem to solve, especially regarding the coastal and marine areas. The integrated and cross-sector approach refers to the horizontal relationship between diversified sectors, and to governance carried out at different level of territorial competences (local, regional, national).

b) Objectives

The main objective of the regional guidelines for ICZM is to promote a sustainable development of coastal and marine areas, including their specific ecological, economic and social features. The guidelines indicate the main fields of activity and the type of actions that should be realised from the various institutions and stakeholders. The pilot projects aim to adopt and deepen the ICZM guidelines within the provinces of Ferrara, Forlì-Cesena, Ravenna and Rimini.

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

a) Management

Regional and local public authorities are primary players in implementing ICZM Guidelines. An Institutional Committee, composed by local territorial representatives (regions, provinces and municipalities), was created in 2002 in order to establish the guidelines for the future coastal management. In 2005 the Regional Government published the Guidelines for ICZM (Law No. 645, 20/01/2005). The implementation of the first public investments according to those Guidelines started in 2006 when the Council of the Emilia Romagna Region approved 18 pilot projects proposed by the province of Ferrara, Rimini, Forlì-Cesena and Ravenna. The Provinces are responsible for the implementation of these pilots.

b) ICZM tools

Once the Regional Council adopted the Guidelines, the institutional phase was completed and the implementation by regional authorities, provinces and municipalities began. The resolution of the Regional Council states that “coastal towns and provinces acting as part of the Institutional Committee for Integrated Coastal Zone Management should adopt and approve the guidelines and their own institutional organs should put them into practice”.

The regional authority is working, together with provinces and coastal municipalities, to develop a region-wide ICZM process. The parties have together developed the ICZM Guidelines for Emilia Romagna Region. These Guidelines face the coastal issues through an integrated and cross-sectoral approach, aiming to define principles for all coastal activities and recommending mitigation and alternative options for both the land and sea side. The issues involved in this integrated approach are articulated in nine thematic topics:

1. Physical coastal system, risk factors and defence strategies;
2. Pollution, water resource management and monitoring;
3. Ports, ship wastage and sea transport risk;
4. Habitat, biodiversity and landscape;
5. Tourism;
6. Fishing and aquiculture;
7. Energy policies;
8. Urban settlement system and infrastructures (service and mobility).

Each thematic area in the ICZM Guidelines contains a list of items combined to produce a single reference document to be applied in the integrated management of the regional territory. Provinces and municipalities committed themselves to use these guidelines in defining and assessing different plans involving the coastal areas. Into this context, a series of pilot projects have been approved in order to experimentally apply the guidelines at provincial scale. The provinces of Ferrara, Rimini, Ravenna and Forlì-Cesena, selected 18 pilot projects, which have been approved by the Council of the Emilia Romagna. Work activities in the pilot projects are related to different sensitive sectors: coastal defence, water pollution, biodiversity and landscape conservation, fishing and aquaculture activities, energy production and transport sustainability. To go into more details: 4 pilot projects are related to the coastal area of the province of Ferrara; 9 actions are foreseen in the coastal area of Cesena-Forlì; 3 pilot projects in the province of Ravenna; and finally 2 pilot projects in the coastal area of Rimini.

7. Cost and resources

COST				
Province	Number of projects	Total Budget (€)	Regional contribution (€)	Co-finance (€)
Ferrara	4	1,910,738	1,433,053	477,684
Forlì-Cesena	9	1,829,960	796,111	1,033,848
Ravenna	3	2,210,000	1,527,303	682,696
Rimini	2	1,920,000	1,259,448	660,551

Total	18	7,870,698	5,015,917	2,854,781
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8. Effectiveness (i.e. were the foreseen goals/objectives of the work reached?)

All projects are characterised by an innovative, multi-disciplinary and integrated approach. They fully respect the remit of the ICZM Guidelines and represent a first step towards their concrete implementation. The objectives have been achieved over a long period. Some pilot actions, due to their complexity, are still in progress.

9. Success and Fail factors

Local authorities involvement has been a successful element for the whole programme. In fact, their participation guaranteed an integrated overview of the implementation of ICZM guidelines. On the other hand, the integrated approach is a long-term activity which has implications, in some cases prolonging the reaching of the goals established.

10. Unforeseen outcomes

None.

11. Prepared by

Marianna Morelli, Simona Dalla Riva, CORILA, Italy


12. Verified by

Katia Raffaelli, Regione Emilia Romagna- Direzione Generale Ambiente e Difesa del Suolo e della Costa Servizio Tutela e Risanamento Risorsa Acqua, Italy

13. Sources

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- Regione Emilia-Romagna - Delibera di Giunta Regionale .n. 1246 del 11/9/2006 "Approvazione Programma Azioni Sperimentali GIZC. Assegnazione contributo alle Province.
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