

Local implementation of ICZM in Ferrara's territorial co-ordination plan - IT

1. Policy Objective & Theme

- SUSTAINABLE USE OF RESOURCES: Preserving coastal environment (its functioning and integrity) to share space
- SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH: Balancing economic, social, cultural development whilst enhancing environment

2. Key Approaches

- Integration
- Knowledge-based

3. Experiences that can be exchanged

Innovative methodology employed to study and analyse pressures and interactions on natural and anthropogenic systems, implementing mitigation solutions, trend inversions or problem-solving, in order to meet spatial planning requirements and improving the vulnerability assessment of environmental threats in the coastal zone.

4. Overview of the case

According to the objectives of the EU Recommendation on ICZM (2002/413/EC), the Council of the Emilia Romagna Region adopted ICZM Guidelines, by Act n.645 of 20 January 2005. These guidelines address activities affecting the physical coastal system towards an economic, social and environmental sustainability. They promote an integrated interaction between planning and other coastal themes, providing a framework for planning processes and assessment procedures.

5. Context and Objectives

a) Context

The Ferrara coastal area lies in the Po delta plain and is characterized by low topography with large areas below sea level, intense morpho-dynamic evolution, but at the same time an extremely high human pressure and intensive tourist exploitation of the coast.

b) Objectives

The objectives are to define a Cognitive Frame for the Ferrara coastal area in order to identify and evaluate coastal vulnerability and to define criteria and objectives of territorial programming and planning. The project concerns the design of the Co-ordinated Territorial Plan (PTCP) for the province of Ferrara and, more specifically, for the 5 coastal municipalities of Codigoro, Comacchio, Goro, Ligosanto and Mesola. The aim is to implement ICZM guidelines within the Ferrara territorial plan and at the same time to strengthen the role of spatial planning in the ICZM implementation process of Emilia Romagna Region.

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

a) Management

The main players involved in the activity are the Emilia Romagna Region and the Province of Ferrara, through the following offices:

- offices of Emilia Romagna Region: Servizio Tutela e Risanamento Risorsa Acqua, Servizio Geologico, Sismico e dei Suoli, Servizio Coordinamento e promozione della pianificazione urbanistica.
- Offices of Province of Ferrara: Ufficio di Piano.

b) ICZM tools

In order to promote the implementation of ICZM Guidelines at a local level, the Emilia Romagna Region set up a methodology to study the vulnerability of the coastal area and to support territorial and urban planning. The innovative methodology allows a correct analysis of data related to principle sectors involved in coastal vulnerability; assessing whether the factors which interact with planning features actually increase or decrease the level of risk associated with natural or anthropogenic systems, population settlements and infrastructures. Several thematic maps, based on a GIS system, have been developed in order to represent vulnerability classification relative to specific factors and to show the most critical zone of the coast. The interaction matrix, developed to represent the pressures and the mitigation solutions, enable an initial global interpretation of the various levels of criticality for areas subject to territorial policies and definition of proposals and criteria for territorial and urban planning. A pilot project concerning the Ferrara coastal area has been carried out concerning the design of a Coordinated Territorial Plan (PTCP) for the Province of Ferrara and the 5 coastal municipalities of: Codigoro, Comacchio, Goro, Lidosanto and Mesola.

The pilot was used to analyse the sector-specific themes contained in the ICZM Guidelines of Emilia Romagna Region:

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 aquaculture;
7. Energy policies;
8. Urban settlement system and infrastructures (service and mobility);

This was followed by an inter-sector analysis in order to verify the coherence between the various planning choices and the state of the territory.

Therefore, the process comprises the following stages:

- drafting a Cognitive Frame on the state of infrastructures, territorial and environmental resources on the territorial plan's sensitive topics and synthesis of existent and potential criticality. This Cognitive Frame is a constitutive element of the plan and it is necessary to define the objectives and content of the plan as well as to assess environmental and territorial sustainability of the effects of its implementation.
- Identification and evaluation of current and potential criticality for the various sensitive topics. Once the Cognitive Frame had been drawn up, the different areas of actual or potential criticality were identified for the different topics. It has been carried out as a first level analysis of criticality present in those areas where territorial policies and transformative actions will be implemented by the provincial plan. The process is represented through some interaction matrixes which enable a global interpretation of the various levels of criticality of areas subject to territorial policies and urban transformation projects. This enabled the Region to configure planning alternatives in line with ICZM guidelines and to provide their integration into territorial and urban planning processes.

7. Cost and resources

The Emilia-Romagna budget was €106.000, financed for 75% with ERDF funds and for 25% by the Italian Government.

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

The establishment of an accurate vulnerability analysis procedure, in order to identify the constraints and imperatives for spatial and regional planning, represents a very important achievement. The objectives were achieved in time. The period available and the budget made it possible to test the methodology only in the Ferrara Province, but it could be extended in future to all the regional coastal areas.

9. Success and Fail factors

Data available are adequate to support coastal planning and future marine spatial planning. A lot of time has been necessary to accurately set-up data obtained by different organisations and regional departments.

10. Unforeseen outcomes

None.

11. Prepared by

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13. Sources

- Regione Emilia-Romagna (2005) - Linee Guida per la Gestione Integrata delle Zone Costiere (Deliberazione Consiglio Regionale 20 gennaio 2005 n. 645).
- Regione Emilia-Romagna (Luisa Perini, Lorenzo Calabrese, Samantha Lorito, Paolo Luciani, Fabio Molinari, Maria Romani, Barbara Nerozzi, Maurizio Maria Sani, Katia Raffaelli, Veronica Dal Buono), Provincia di Ferrara (Moreno Po) - 2008 - Applicazione delle Linee Guida per la "Gestione Integrata delle Zone Costiere" (G.I.Z.C.) a scala provinciale - Area di studio: "la costa del ferrarese" - Progetto Interreg IIIB CADSES PlanCoast
- www.PlanCoast.eu



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