

Local sites application

The applicability of the management concepts and models developed during the project will be tested in 6 sites. These pilot field sites are selected to represent the most common European coastal types: sand, gravel/shingle and cliffed coasts; high-energy open coasts (Atlantic coasts), medium-energy coasts (North Sea coasts, English Channel coasts) and low-energy coasts (Mediterranean coasts, Baltic Sea coast, Black Sea coasts).

Partners

A European consortium under the lead of Deltares, The Netherlands, is implementing the CONSCIENCE project. Other project partners are, International Centre for Coastal Resources Research (CIIRC), Spain, ECCC Mediterranean Centre, Spain, National Institute for Marine Geology and Geoecology - GeoEcoMar of Romania, HR Wallingford, United Kingdom, Institute of Hydroengineering of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IBW PAN), Poland, National University of Ireland, Cork (NUIC) and UNEP - Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC of UNEP), Croatia.

CONSCIENCE

CONCEPTS AND SCIENCE FOR COASTAL EROSION MANAGEMENT

How to get involved

If you want to be updated on project progress visit our website at www.conscience-eu.net. Here you will find project related information, links to the project partners and information about the End-users Advisory Group. This group will be formed to guarantee optimal communication between the scientists working in the project and the end users of the project results.

Your interest in our project is very much appreciated so please don't hesitate to get in contact with us!

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SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

A specific targeted research project under the EU's 6th Framework Programme for Research (FP6)



Coastal Erosion - is there a need for action?

Europe's coast is under growing threat from erosion, despite the development of a wide range of measures to prevent the coastlines from retreating. A fifth of the enlarged EU's coastline is already severely affected, with coastlines retreating by between 0.5 and 2 metres per year, and in a few dramatic cases even by 15 metres. These are some of the findings of the most comprehensive study on the problem of human-induced erosion ever done, "Living with Coastal Erosion in Europe: Sediment and Space for Sustainability (results from the EUROSION project)," which was commissioned by the European Commission between 2002-2004.

Coastal erosion management - a matter of CONSCIENCE

The CONSCIENCE project is an EU Specific Targeted Research Project that aims to develop and test concepts, guidelines and tools for the sustainable management of erosion along the European coastline, based on best available scientific knowledge and on existing practical experience. The project started in March 2007 and will be completed in three years.

Key science for coastal erosion management

CONSCIENCE will provide a scientific contribution to the implementation of a common European coastal erosion management policy. The project will produce:

- * common criteria to apply coastal sediment management concepts, thereby enhancing effective cross-border cooperation and regulation throughout the EU
- * a general procedure to implement coastal sediment policy and management applicable for all European coasts
- * guidelines to apply a common methodology for monitoring requirements and evaluation of coastal erosion
- * guidance to facilitate coastal actors to integrate the methodology into multi-risk management of the coastal zones, planning and environmental assessment.

Key concepts for policy making

In order to reach its aim, CONSCIENCE will define and validate, through pilot applications, a methodology to support the implementation of the key concepts for policy making for the European coasts, formulated by the EUROSION project.



www.euroSION.org

A European initiative for sustainable coastal erosion management.

(EC, DG Environment, 2002-2004)

Key research questions and research approach

Central to the project is the notion that coastal erosion is a result of a sediment imbalance occurring in a coastal cell.

Important questions that will be addressed are amongst others:

- * how can we measure and model the sediment balance?
- * can we formulate a favourable sediment status?
- * where to find strategic sediment reservoirs?
- * how can scientific knowledge on the coastal behaviour be made available to the management and decision making process?
- * how should erosion management be incorporated in the general concept of ICZM?

