

Proceedings of the 1st BeachMed-e 3.2 ICZM-MED Meeting
Alexandroupolis 9/11/2006
Alexander Beach Hotel Convention Centre

During the conference of the BeachMed-e project that was held in Alexandroupolis from 9 to 11 November 2006, a meeting between the partners of the sub-measure 3.2 ICZM-MED took place.

The participants of the meeting were Dr. Manos Koutrakis (Chef de file) and Argyrios Sapounidis from N.AG.RE.F. – F.R.I. (Partner 1), Luca Martinelli on behalf of Silva Marzetti from DISTART (Partner 2), Simone Martino from DECOS (Partner 4), Prof. Mauro Fabiano for DIP.TER.IS. (Partner 5), Sebastien Roussel representing Université de Montpellier 1 CEP/LASER (Partner 7), Frank Bellet from BRL (Partner 8) and finally Daria Povh representing PAP/RAC. Mrs Povh was invited in order to seek possible collaboration between the ICZM-MED sub-project with the Regional Activity Centre for the Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC).

After a short introduction from Dr. Koutrakis and the acquaintance of the participants, each partner presented the future activities and the methodology that each partner has set for the next phases of the project.

The first presentation was from Luca Martinelli on behalf of Silva Marzetti (P2). The aim of their work is to find out if the beach visitors and sunbathing establishment managers are willing to voluntarily contribute for the artificial defense of a sandy beach in order to preserve its indirect use value, option value, bequest value and existence value. Here, direct beach use value is not considered. In particular the Riccione beach is chosen as case-study. This beach is under erosion, and it is visited by tourists and day-visitors. Tourists are people who stay on the site at least one night, while day-visitors return home at the end of the day-visit. In order to achieve this aim, two Contingent Valuation surveys will be carried out, one for beach visitors and the other for sunbathing establishment managers. Visitors will be asked if they are willing to make a monetary donation per year to a non-profit agency; sunbathing establishment managers will be asked if they are willing to contribute through voluntary works for beach maintenance. During Phase B a pilot survey will be carried out in order to test the questionnaires wording; while the main surveys will be carried out during July-September 2007 (Phase C). During the presentation Sebastien Roussel suggested that voluntary donation can also be done by indirect payment such as “car parking payment”.

The presentation about the aims, the methodology and the future activities of the University of Montpellier (P7) was made by Sebastien Roussel. He talked about the Use

Value of a beach. The Use value of a beach can be obtained if we take into consideration the direct use (fisheries, recreation) and the indirect use (Environmental value and Economic value) of the beach. Also he suggested that the questionnaire must focus on the peoples' perception on the coastal zone and the coastal erosion. According to the framework that University of Montpellier 1, there are two questionnaires, one with two parts, one for the managers of private beaches and one for the public and a second questionnaire for the decision makers, which will be carried out in January. Moreover, he suggested that the indicators that are going to be used during the project could be already existing, new or even both existing and new indicators could be created. Finally he said that at the end of the Beachmed-e project we should be able to suggest some Guidelines for a national strategy

Then a presentation about the BRL (P8) activities was done by Frank Bellet. The main goal for BRL is to create an information system, where all relevant data for ICZM for the whole Region of Languedoc-Roussillon will be available. Also they will develop a database, an Atlas and indicators as tool for the economic evaluation of the beaches. The work will be done in collaboration with Partner 7. The work will be applied in the whole region.

As concerns DIP.TER.IS. (P5), Prof. Fabiano talked about the methodology that they are going to use in order to evaluate the beach. He described the Holistic indicators, which includes thermodynamic principles. These indicators include the Emergy Analysis, Ecological footprint and CO₂ balance. The term "Emergy" includes "All the energy used to produce work". He also talked about the survey that was carried out last summer and 600 questionnaires were filled in. The final goal of their work is to produce an indicator for the Coastal Zone that will integrate Environmental and socio-economic aspects.

Simone Martino on behalf of DECOS (P4) presented the activities done and he described the principles and some results of the beach nourishment that took place in Tarquinia beach and also he talked about the Cost Benefit Analysis, which is based on the "Willingness To Pay" analysis.

Then Dr. Manos Koutrakis presented to the partners the activities of P1 in the Nestos Delta pilot site, which is the only site that have also a strong environmental value, apart from the tourist activities. These activities are related to the understanding of the coastal zone and defense systems perception by visitors and stakeholders, the training of managers and the mapping of land uses in the pilot site. Finally Dr Koutrakis described the ICZM-Med Phase A presentation, that would be done the next day, so as the partners to check the information shown.

After the presentations from different partners, there was a greeting by Daria Povh, who described the state of art in the ICZM in the Mediterranean and the current activities of PAP/RAC related to the protocol for integrated management of Mediterranean coastal areas and she hoped that this project will be a motive for a better exploitation of ICZM in Mediterranean. Daria Povh presented the possibilities of collaboration with PAP/RAC. Because not all the partners were present there wasn't a final decision and because of that all partners should express their opinion on the aspect of collaborating with PAP/RAC. Moreover, Mrs Povh expressed the opinion that the project focus on the Beach management, which is a only part of ICZM, and that the local level of management is very important for the protocol. Finally, there was a common opinion that the questionnaires that each partner will use, should have common questions in order to have comparable results.

Finally there was a briefing from Dr. Aftias, who represented the Region of East Macedonia and Thrace, about the needs of the Region and he pointed out that common principles should be used by the partners. As a result a new table was prepared to be presented to the Beachmed Conference, where all common activities were summarized.

At the end of the meeting Mr. Argyrios Sapounidis made a PowerPoint presentation concerning the BeachMed ICZM-Med internet site and its possible uses. Also there was a briefing on the *ftp area*, which will be a useful tool for the collaboration of the partners. Finally there was a discussion on the logo of the sub-project and description of the principles used to create it.

The conclusion of the meeting was that questionnaires with common points should be prepared. For this reason it was decided that the questionnaires or better the questions that every partner think that should be included in the final questionnaire, will be uploaded in the ftp area. The same procedure will be used also for the indicators. Moreover it should be decided what the requirements for making the questionnaire survey will be, i.e. who is going to make the interviews, if he/she had to be trained on surveys etc. Also there must be a reference by each partner to what nourishment activities have been done in each pilot site.

Finally it was decided to held a meeting in Genova in December 2006 or January 2007 in order to elaborate the questionnaires and find common points, and as far as it concerns the PAP/RAC Daria Povh will see the procedure that is necessary to follow for the preparation of contracts.