



Examples of ICZM practices in Europe

From a NGO point of view

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Indicator of good ecosystem health:

White-tailed Eagle fishing in a lagoon of the Oder Delta, indicating a good water quality and habitat. (photo: Reint Jakob Schut)

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Summary

The role of NGOs, such as the Coastal & Marine Union - EUCC, in the process of ICZM is clear: stimulating and initiating ICZM programming at different levels, ensuring stakeholder participation, disseminating experience in sustainable coastal development and day-to-day management of coastal areas. These efforts have helped implementation of successful ICZM programmes in many parts of Europe. EUCC has been instrumental in the development of the 'ICZM Indicator Set' to monitor the progress that is being made in the implementation of ICZM in Member States.

To ensure measurability a linking programme targeting specific ICZM elements for sustainability was set-up: QualityCoast connecting coastal towns and small islands.

Some examples of EUCC's involvement in management and development of deltas are highlighted, specifically in the Baltic. Two examples: the Nemunas delta (Baltic States and Russia) and the Oder Delta Nature Park (Poland) illustrate the effective involvement of a NGO in daily management of coastal areas. This took place in close cooperation with local stakeholders and government officials. Successful cooperation leads to sound economic development and facilitates nature conservation.

The cooperation within and between the EU coastal states, coastal towns and islands helps instil confidence at all levels, which provides a good basis for sustainable resource development.



QualityCoast programme: linking a growing number of coastal towns, regions and islands in improving their performance of sustainability and tourism quality. (www.qualitycoast.info)



Hoisting the QualityCoast flags: a recognition for sustainable development. (photo: Carlo della Libera)



NGO participation in Baltic Sea region: EUCC supports the daily management of specific coastal areas in the Nemunas delta (Lithuania and Russia) and Oder Delta Nature Park (Poland). (photo: Oder Delta Nature Park, Poland).