

Coastal Guide ICZM Information System

1. Key data

Project title:	An integrated management strategy for an open coast
Country:	the United Kingdom
Project phase:	prep. / study / planning / implementation / no progress
Launch:	1997
National funding:	[periods, in euros]
EC-funding:	[periods, in euros]
EC project references:	LIFE-Environment 96/UK/401/PAZ
Lead partner:	Dorset County Council
Project contact:	Mr Malcolm Turnbull Dorset County Council Environment Services County Hall, Colliton Park Dorchester, Dorset-DT1 1XJ UK Tel.: +44-1305-224132 or 225132 Fax: +44-1305-224835 or 224875 Email: m.turnbull@dorset-cc.gov.uk Dorset.coast@dorset-cc.gov.uk Latest information on the strategy: www.dorset-cc.gov.uk/DCF www.dorsetcoast.com
Project website:	
Project area:	Dorset's population is concentrated in the harbour towns and holiday resorts. The majority of the coastline is such a rich natural and scenic resource that it is a prospective World Heritage Site.
Area size (land):	The County of Dorset has an area of 2 652,74 km ² and a coastal length of 146 km.
(water):	[in hectare, or yes/no]
Population size:	647 245
Policy background:	Dorset County Council and its partners are very experienced in integrated management of complex zones including natural, urban and industrialised environments. The Dorset Coast Forum (90 members) was set up in 1995.
Important sectors in the project set-up:	Tourism, Public health, Transport & Accessibility, Ports & Marine industry, Landscapes, Coastal Fishing, Public Access, Second Homes, Dredging & Aggregate Extraction, Pollution, Habitats & Biodiversity, Coastal erosion.
Main aim:	
Expected results:	Integration of land and sea in the work of the Dorset Coast Forum and identification of the level at which integrated coastal zone management can be developed. Consideration of the external influences on the project area. Preparation of a detailed comprehensive integrated management strategy for an area of open coast. Discussion of results at European level. Technical principles for formulating detailed plans. Establishment of a co-operation-management process and approach for an area of exceptional natural interest.

2. Collaboration & integration

Objectives re collaboration & integration:

Ministries formally involved*:

Agencies involved: Interdepartmental Group on Coastal Policy, National Coastal
Fora

Regions (county, province) formally involved*: [names]

Municipalities (towns) formally involved*: [names]

Problems encountered:

Main achievements: Collaboration between neighbouring authorities (Devon and Cornwall, Isle of Wight) has been established through an informal/ voluntary mechanism: **The Western Approaches Group**, which helps achieve co-ordination along the south coast of England.

3. Participation

Objectives re participation:

Environment stakeholders formally involved*: yes,
Dorset Coast Forum (1995) assembles all stakeholders to discuss and confirm recommendations for strategy prepared by topic groups.

Economic development stakeholders formally involved*: yes

Public hearings: [number]

Public access to project data: yes,
see information. Coastlines – Newsletter, Information Leaflet, Minutes of Forum Meeting, Topic Papers, Strategy Documents.
<http://www.dorset-cc.gov.uk/dcf%20web%20site/forum%20publications.htm>

Main achievements: The distribution of a Draft Coastal Strategy in Dorset has stimulated additional organisations to join their Forum. The Dorset Coast Forum brings together representatives from all the coastal districts in Dorset County, as well as representatives from neighbouring coastal countries. The members of Dorset Coast Forum, can be seen at web site: <http://www.dorset-cc.gov.uk/dcf%20web%20site/membership.htm>.

The Forum has been supported by a Steering Group of representatives of 15 organisations including statutory agencies, local authorities, major economic and non-economic offshore interests, and the university.

Dorset considers that an independent chairman is vital to achieve consensus.

The Forum has generated sufficient funding to establish a new post of Marine Conservation Officer – an action recommended in the draft Strategy

The Main Coastal strategy exists of 4 parts, which are vision, principles, priorities and actions.

Problems encountered:

4. Information

Objectives re environment: The project is now working to develop 3-dimensional images (based on bathymetric surveys) to allow full representation of both the land and water segments of the coastal zone.

Main achievements: For Dorset an early decision to use simply “off the shelf” hardware and software packages to provide the necessary technological solutions appears to have paid off. The Dorset

project has successfully used a GIS to produce maps for “topic papers”, and to illustrate the nine priorities described in their Draft Coastal Strategy.

In Dorset a number of multidisciplinary topic groups have been responsible for assembling information, defining issues and circulating consultation documents. Topic Reports including questionnaires have been circulated. These groups have give way to a more integrated approach to look at management options. Their topics are: archaeology, pollution & water quality, recreation, the joint dorset marine and tourism.

Discussion framework to deal with detailed issue description and integrated analysis

Problems encountered:

5. Policy aspects, relevance and success:

Legal Jurisdictional issues:

Project objectives:

Main achievements:

Problems encountered: Because the functions of public authorities are defined by legislation, they may be legally prevented from co-operating with others in the coastal zone if their statutory powers and duties are expressed in narrow sectoral terms. Before 1992, most harbour authorities in the UK, which were established to serve the interests of commercial navigation, had no statutory powers or responsibilities to promote nature conservation in their harbours, even if they wished to do so. Sea fishery committees, which were established to conserve commercial fish stocks, were arguably subject to a similar limitation, which would restrict their legal ability to make bylaws protecting marine nature reserves.

Environment:

Project objectives: The Draft Coastal Strategy for Dorset proposes that the rural coast be recognised as an integral part of the tourist economy. A partnership is currently being formed by Forum members to create a new post of Sustainable Tourism Office.

Main achievements:

Problems encountered:

Biodiversity conservation:

Project objectives:

Main achievements:

Problems encountered:

Economic development:

Project objectives:

Main achievements:

Problems encountered: Departure of military with related employment problems is a problem in Dorset.

Spatial planning & zoning:

Project objectives:

Main achievements:

Problems encountered:

Coastal defence:

Project objectives:

Main achievements:

Problems encountered:

6. Progress & Continuity

Follow-up:

No progress since: [month, year]

Main reason for lack of progress:

7. Sources

Project Report online: [attached in MS word or PDF]

*) formally involved means: as a project partner or represented in a project committee.

Bibliography:

CD rom, *The Dorset Coast, Today and Tomorrow*, 2000

Project web site, if available

European Commission, *Better management of coastal resources*, A European programme for integrated coastal zone management, 1997

European Commission, *Lessons from the European Commission's demonstration programme on integrated coastal zone management*, 1999

European Commission, *Towards a European Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy: General Principles and Policy Options*, 1999

Thematic Study A, *Legal and Regulatory Bodies: Appropriateness to ICZM*, 1999

Thematic Study B, *Participation in the ICZM Processes: Mechanisms and Procedures Needed*, 1999

Thematic Study C, *Role and use of Technology in Relation to ICZM*, 1999

Thematic Study D, *Planning and Management Processes: Sectoral and Territorial Co-operation*, 1999

Thematic Study F, *Information required for Integrated Coastal Zone Management*, 1999