

Coastal Guide ICZM Information System

1. Key data

Project title:	Coastlink Storstrøm
Country:	Denmark
Project phase:	preparation
Launch:	1997
National funding:	[periods, in euros]
EC-funding:	[periods, in euros]
EC project references:	TERRA network no.13 COASTLINK
Lead partner:	Storstrøm Amt
Project contact:	Ms Kitty Sommer Storstrøm Amt Department of Technology and the Environment Parkvej 37 4800 Nykøbing F Denmark Tel.: +45-54-823232 Fax: +45-54-855684 Email: kis@npk.stam.dk
Project website:	[URL]
Project area:	Storstrøm County is part of the Southern Danish Archipelago, a region of saltmarsh, shallow water, traditional habitats, small fishing harbours, sailing ports, abundant wildlife, green tourism and organic agriculture.
Area size (land):	[in hectare]
(water):	[in hectare, or yes/no]
Population size:	260,000
Policy background:	
Important sectors in the project set-up:	Tourism, particularly in the low season, is seen as the key to the region's future prosperity, helping to compensate for declining employment in fishing, agriculture, industry and - to some extent - shipping. Alternative Energies sector, Landscapes & Cultural Heritage, Public Access, Second Homes and Habitats & Biodiversity.
Main aim:	
Expected results:	

2. Collaboration & integration

Objectives re collaboration & integration:

Storstrom County is elaborating coastal planning at local levels under the overall control of the regional plan. Although detailed, the regional plan is not considered adequate to address the complexity of coastal issues and sustainability assessments in a given local situation, nor to deal with the concerns of the community that conservation initiatives may curtail their economic activities.

The project is based on the principle of framework control. Municipal and local plans must not contradict regional plans, which must in turn implement the national planning directives issued by the Minister for Environment and Energy.

Ministries formally involved*: the Ministry of Environment and Energy, which was established in 1994, is the national government department responsible for environmental and planning policy. The Ministry is supported by specialist agencies, including the Danish Environmental Protection Agency.

Regions (county, province) formally involved*:

Municipalities (towns) formally involved*:

[names]

Problems encountered: Development Perspectives for the Southern Danish Archipelago, written in 1995 as the result of co-operation between Storstrøm County and Fyns County, concludes that only sustainable tourism should be encouraged. For the coastal zone, which really approximates to the whole region, this means that all new tourist developments will be subject to a rigorous sustainability assessment before planning permission is granted. A series of participative exercises, based on the approach of Local Agenda 21, is proposed to encourage coastal communities to support and take responsibility for the process.

Main achievements: In Storstrøm County, there are voluntary agreements with the tourism sector, through the regional and local tourism organisations and with the trade itself. The agreements concern information diffusion, protection of nature and the environment, and green tourism initiatives. The tourist sector co-operates because it is very aware of the necessity of a clean environment and an unspoiled coast to keep and develop tourist visits.

Storstrøm County is collaborating with authorities in the neighbouring area of Rostock (Germany), particularly with respect to regional planning and local Agenda 21 work in the coastal area and the development of compatible strategies for tourism.

3. Participation

Objectives re participation: The Storstrøm County project involves extension of the regional planning procedures on a non-statutory basis and thus depends on local government will and on public participation. The project would like to see the sustainability assessment a statutory part of the regional plan.

Environment stakeholders formally involved*: yes / no

Economic development stakeholders formally involved*: yes / no

Public hearings: [number]

Public access to project data:

Storstrom County project has adopted a completely open data provision, which has the advantage of encouraging participants to give data in the hope that they are likely to have access to much more than they provide. This has gone as far as publishing the locations of rare and endangered species, something that is anathema to many conservationists. Storstrom County has also made a decision to enable all users to share information through adopting common protocols for information exchange. This has become an important part of their data strategy.

Main achievements: In Storstrøm, there are local concerns, mainly among landowners, that national conservation objectives expressed in

the new 300m-protection zone (coastal planning zone, which extends 3 kilometres inland from the coast, Danish Planning Act) may check or limit local economic opportunities, especially tourism. Agriculture-environment conflicts are also noted. One way of handling these conflicts is through the new system for water management planning, by giving subsidies to farmers, for example for making new wetlands.

Storstrøm together with Ipiros, Kent, Devon, Cornwall, Down and ANAS are involved in the TERRA COASTLINK network. The 7 projects emphasise the significant advantage of networking to learn from the experience from other ICZM projects. This learning process is also called Capacity Building.

Problems encountered:

4. Information

Objectives re environment:

Main achievements:

The Storstrøm project has a good strategic approach to data and information management using a Geographic Information System for land use planning.

Problems encountered:

The cost of acquiring base maps, derived from publicly funded programmes, was high. This because of respect for the intellectual property rights of the data holders. Efforts should be made to seek to influence a change in policy in relation to the use of data products (including maps) which are derivatives of publicly-funded data collection programmes.

5. Policy aspects, relevance and success:

Legal Jurisdictional issues:

Project objectives:

Main achievements:

Problems encountered:

One source of enforcement problems is where law or regulations works against the interests of the local administration, either politically or financially. Although Denmark has very good legislation for cleaning wastewater, many coastal municipalities with less than 5,000 inhabitants do not adequately clean their wastewater, due mainly to a lack of human and financial resources.

Environment:

Project objectives:

Main achievements:

In Denmark, Windmill building is now restricted to non- pristine areas (near roads etc) and should follow regular patterns to minimise visual disturbance!

Problems encountered:

The Danish ministry of Environment and Natural Resources has proposed to build an windmill park in an offshore area which Storstrøm County feels is inappropriate (migratory bird flyways, opposite areas of natural coast, just outside a special protection influencing area, etc.) The County has proposed that farms be located in less sensitive areas bordering dyked coasts, and there is an ongoing dialogue with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.

Biodiversity conservation:

Project objectives:

Main achievements:

Problems encountered:

Economic development:

Project objectives:

Main achievements: The Danish Ministry of Environment and Energy is developing a system to restore wetlands, river functions and other public services on “reclaimed” agricultural lands through “economic rents, as an alternative to land acquisition. Ownership would remain with the farmers who would receive these payments for allowing the rehabilitation of former wetlands, flood plains and coastal marshes.

Problems encountered:

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:

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