



## **‘New Wave’**

A new ICZM protocol for the North Sea Region

## The trouble with ICZM.....

- Implementation of ICZM has been *ad hoc*
- The ICZM Principles have little meaning unless applied to an issue
- Many actors have trouble defining ICZM
- Most examples of successful ICZM are local in scale

But....

- EU Maritime Policy
- Marine Spatial Planning

.....we have to make ICZM work

## The solution.....?

- A **second generation** of ICZM protocol is necessary, to enable actors to meet these challenges.
- to augment the original principles,
- To give *substance* to ICZM, which is otherwise abstract
- To provide common themes for integration at regional and higher levels

## The project.....

- Will provide a **clear sense of direction** as to the principle challenges for sustainable management of the coast through the process of ICZM.
- Initial work has identified the following priority issues:
  - the integration of marine spatial planning,
  - improving practice in stakeholder engagement,
  - resolving institutional and other barriers to implementation, and
  - examining the role of business in ICZM.

# The project.....

To these *process* issues can be added sectoral/technical issues:

- **Water management**, through a whole catchment approach – pollution, flooding, sediment supply (from rivers)
- **Sediment transport** (the ‘engine of coastal processes’) – erosion (and its terrestrial impacts), coastal defence, beach recharge, dredging, coastal habitat creation, coastal ecosystems
- **Transport of goods** (road, rail, ports, shipping)
- **Energy generation** (renewables, nuclear, connections to grid, cables, oil and gas, carbon capture and storage)

These four encompass the majority of **large-scale** coastal management issues operating at a regional sea scale – two natural systems, two human systems

## In detail.....

The project will

- Select **two sector issues** for detailed analysis through case studies
- Focus on **boundary issues** for marine planning: coast and international boundaries at sea
- Stakeholder engagement must be taken to a new level, recognising Social contract, Public Trust Doctrine principles etc, and the **rights of citizens** to understand and to play a meaningful role in policy. Possibly through joint working between **existing regional networks**
- There is much good practice regarding ICZM. Why is everyone not doing it? More needs to be understood regarding **organisational barriers** to integration and how they can be overcome – structures for integration, internal and external
- **Business** is only marginally involved in the ICZM process. How can this be addressed?

## Project outcomes.....

- a better and shared understanding of **pressures and trends** for change in coastal regions of the North Sea
- the application of a new approach to implementation of ICZM in delivering sustainable development against a background of economic growth, in the form of an **ICZM Protocol**. Giving actors clear guidance on **priorities** for integration at Regional Sea and Regional scales.
- a better ability to **adapt** policies, programmes, and actions, towards **common sustainable development goals** at transnational, regional and local scales and to meet the challenges of the EU Growth and Jobs, and Sustainable Development Strategies, and of the Maritime Policy.
- better and more integrated working between **regional ICZM initiatives** leading to more efficient territorial planning and, therefore, a more conducive environment to economic growth.

## Progress to date.....

- A generally positive pre-assessment was received, especially regarding transnationality
- However, the timing was not right and some partners have withdrawn
- Opportunity now to reassess and find new partners