

Coastal Guide ICZM Information System

1. Key data

Project title:	Program for integrated coastal zone management. The case of Cyclades (P.I.C.A.M.CY)
Country:	Greece
Project phase:	The project has been completed (December 2000)
Launch:	1997
National funding:	291.340,79 ECU(1997-1999) Ministry of the Aegean
EC-funding:	279.105,14 ECU (1997-2000) Life Program (Co-financed)
EC project references:	LIFE-Environment 96/GR/537/PAZ
Lead partner:	University of the Aegean- Department of Environmental Studies, Laboratory of Environmental Planning
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Project website:	http://www.aegean.gr/ENPL/newpage.118.htm
Project area:	PICAMCY studies an island complex consisting of the following islands: <i>Anafi, Donousa, Thira (Community of Oia), Ios, Kimolos, Koufonissia, Milos, Paros, Serifos and Sifnos</i> . The island complex is situated in the Aegean Sea and belongs administratively to the Prefecture of Cyclades, Region of Southern Aegean. These islands are characterised by small surface area, limited natural resources, rich cultural heritage, a natural and built environment of unique value, limited administrative and organizational capacity and intense tourism development which threatens the fragile balance between economy, society and the environment.
Area size (land):	790 km ²
(water):	sea area of 773 008 km ²
Population size:	population of 29,658 inhabitants (1991).
Policy background:	Tourism in the Cyclades is growing very fast and affecting both the natural and built-up environment. The existing organisational structures and institutional context are not adapted to the needs of integrated management. The project intends to promote cooperation between the various island communities on matters of immediate concern (water resources, waste management, regional and environmental planning, conservation of nature and the countryside, sustainable tourism and rural development).
Important sectors in the project set-up:	Tourism, Agriculture, Transport & Accessibility, Landscapes & Cultural heritage, Pollution, Habitats & Biodiversity, Water and Waste management

Main aim: This programme aims at developing concerted actions between selected islands of the Cyclades, in order to meet the common problems of protection and management of the coastal environment.

Expected results: Development of co-operation structures (Island Network); Guidance and technical support to help find solutions to common and specific environmental problems; Establishment of a network of representatives of the groups concerned in the island community to implement the integrated management process; Demonstration of models for implementing sustainable development in the archipelago; Increased awareness of the issues among local actors and the local communities; Solutions for specific development-environmental problems; Dissemination and discussion of the results.

The consolidation and further establishment of a mechanism for the collaboration among the network members on coastal management;
Broadening of the Network in order to include more islands;
Increase of awareness on issues concerning sustainability and exploring adequate strategies; Elaboration of Action Plans.

PHASE 1: Organization of Island Network
PHASE 2: Assessment of environment – development issues in the islands of the Network
PHASE 3: Elaboration of Strategies for integrated coastal zone management in the Island Network
PHASE 4: Elaboration of specific actions for integrated coastal zone management in the Island Network

2. Collaboration & integration

Objectives re collaboration & integration:

Establishment of Island Network
Involving private sector in iczm initiatives

Ministries formally involved*:

Ministry of the Aegean, Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works

University involved:

University of the Aegean-
Department of Environmental Studies, Laboratory of Environmental Planning

(The role of the university will diminish as local capacity for management develops)

Regions (county, province) formally involved*:

County of Paros, County of Milos, Region of South Aegean, Prefecture of Cyclades

Municipalities formally involved*:

Ten islands (Island Network): Milos, Kimolos, Sifnos, Serifos, Thira (The community of Oia), Ios, Paros (Municipality of Paros), Donousa, Koufonissia, Anafi.

Problems encountered:

Sectoral co-operation: There are conflicts between tourism and the extraction industries and between tourism and traditional activities mainly agriculture and the environment.

Main approach:

the municipalities of the ten islands, have been subdivided into five working groups on the basis of common issues. Co-

operation has been sought on the basis of common issues/problems (i.e. small islands Anafi, Donoussa and Koufonissia had formulated the sub group of small islands since these islands are characterized by extremely limited natural resources and therefore by a rather fragile balance between the economy, the society and the environment

3. Participation

Objectives re participation: Participation strategy of Cyclades is set within an overall planning framework. Their project plan includes a flow diagram showing five key tasks interspersed with opportunities for involvement. The need for information dissemination is also highlighted.

Consultation as a use for collaboration is an important part of the participation process

Environment stakeholders formally involved*: yes

Economic development stakeholders formally involved*: yes

Public hearings: 3 Workshops (meetings of the Island Network) had been realised as well as a number of subgroup meetings. In most of these cases several actors and even the local community had been encourage to participate

Public access to project data: yes

Main achievements: Consultation has been practiced in a very good and effective way in Cyclades

Problems encountered: Weak articulation of sectoral concerns constrained effective participation/promotion of concerted actions, Lack of an institutional context to enforce implementation of Strategic plans (the new law for "*Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development*" provides the framework for the elaboration of a *Directive for Coastal Areas*, which is expected to boost ICZM initiatives), Weak organisational and administrative capacity had inhibited effective participation, Strong emphasis on day-to day problems –development of infrastructure-, constrains in certain cases long term concerns, Strong pressure for land development inhibits efforts towards a long term economic sustainable development (concern for short term profits prevail).

The project is working with elected representatives on each island, to build capacity. Constraints in the communication between the participating islands either due to inadequate sea transport or unfavorable weather conditions

4. Information

Objectives re environment: Improvement of data accessibility to promote the sharing of existing data held by stakeholders.

Main achievements: Inhabitants of the different Islands have contributed to carrying out community mapping with local knowledge in defining island resources and key issues.

The establishment of thematic groups, on the basis of the common characteristics and problems of the islands in environmental development-protection and geographical proximity matters, is essential for a better organisation and operation of the Island Network .

A periodical Newsletter bearing the title "Sustainable cycle" is used for the communication and dissemination of the results. The preparation of thematic maps based on information and data derived from various sources, in situ visits and special questionnaires has been accomplished. The maps were prepared in co-operation with the Ministry of Aegean. The Greek version of the Cyclades iczm site hosts an on-line discussion page where members of the Island Network can send, search, comment on articles, look for information, etc. Establishment of Public meetings, Workshops and a Forum

Problems encountered: Lack of data; lack of technological means (email, access to Internet, etc)

5. Policy aspects, relevance and success:

Legal Jurisdictional issues:

Project objectives: provide an integrated framework for planning and assessing the impacts of various human activities

Main achievements: provide an integrated assessment of development – environment interface, elaborate integrated solutions to confront some of the critical problems

Problems encountered: Lack of an institutional context to enforce implementation of Strategic plans.

Within the context of the forthcoming 3rd Community Support Framework several projects related to infrastructure development like road networks, port and airport facilities, marinas, etc are expected to be constructed in most of the islands of the Region. However these projects reflect a more reactive approach to increased demands and pressures due to tourism development, while a strategic assessment of environmental impacts is still lacking.

Environmental protection is still inadequate due to several reasons among other insufficient institutional context, lack of resources, lack of monitoring and control mechanisms, etc. Efforts are mainly targeted to the protection of the areas with high ecological value, which are part of the *Natura 2000 Network*. Coastal ecosystems, landscape quality, environmental resources are under severe threat. However the main issue remains the lack of integration of environmental concerns in regional and local development and spatial plans. Furthermore planning responsibilities are spread among national, regional and local level, causing severe problems of gaps and overlaps of authority accounting for the inefficiency of the administrative system to respond to problems. The planning system is not flexible, often oriented towards the remedy of past problems, unable to foresee future needs and problems. Co-ordination among different sectors along with the dissemination of information, implementation, monitoring and control mechanisms are yet to be fully

Environment:

Project objectives: Identify and assess environmental problems and issues, provide integrated solutions

Main achievements: Provide an analysis of the main environmental problems (water, waste, soil, loss of agricultural land, loss of habitat, etc) and

	elaborate concrete actions (Action plans) to confront several of the problems that had been identified.
Problems encountered:	lack of data
Biodiversity conservation:	
Project objectives:	To identify areas that have a local ecological significance and are not adequately protected, assess problems and threats, elaborate concrete proposals
Main achievements:	Reporting on the state of biodiversity (characteristics, threats). Elaborate an Action Plan for biodiversity conservation
Problems encountered:	lack of sufficient data
Economic development:	
Project objectives:	to provide an integrated framework for planning of economic development
Main achievements:	formulation of integrated actions for tourism and rural development
Problems encountered:	There are conflicts between tourism and the extraction industries; tourism has also led to a decline in the traditional labour-intensive agricultural techniques, in turn presenting problems relating to freshwater recharge and soil erosion.
	Tourism operators are organised at the island but not inter-island level. The lack of articulation of sectoral concerns inhibited the development of concerted actions
Spatial planning & zoning:	
Project objectives:	to link spatial concerns with environmental and development concerns, to promote a vision-Strategy for each island.
Main achievements:	
Problems encountered:	<i>Special Spatial Studies</i> - represent the only type of spatial planning which has been carried out on a systematic way, for several of the islands of Cyclades. These Studies had been financed by European Union Funds. Their main aim was the definition of land uses, the delimitation of zones and building/construction conditions/limits. SSS can not provide for satisfactory integration of environmental management issues. Most of these studies have not yet been implemented. Outside assistance is needed to reduce isolation of year-round inhabitants in areas such as the Greek archipelagos.
Coastal defence:	
Project objectives:	
Main achievements:	
Problems encountered:	

6. Progress & Continuity

Follow-up:	The project was completed in December 2000
No progress since:	
Main reason for lack of progress:	the operation of the Island Network after the completion of the Program is highly questionable due to the following constraints:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of specialized personnel supporting the operation of the Island Network both organizationally and scientifically. Specifically, local government – especially of the very small islands – does not employ adequate administrative personnel. Furthermore, regional administration suffers from similar insufficiencies in administrative and scientific staff. • Inadequate financial resources ensuring the operation of the Network in respect to personnel remuneration, purchase of equipment, expenditures, transport costs, etc.

- Constraints in the communication between the participating islands either due to inadequate sea transport or unfavorable weather conditions.

As a follow up activity the Laboratory of Environmental Planning is currently undertaking another study in Cyclades as part of the project ADVISOR (Integrated Evaluation for Sustainable River Basin Governance) which aims to assist local decision makers in an integrated evaluation of project related to water management.

7. Sources

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

Please find attached the Layman's report prepared as requested by the European Commission. Unfortunately the reports for the area (assessing the development-environment interface and the action plans) have been prepared in Greek

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

Bibliography:

Project Web site, if available

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