



The Sound Coast Control Programme – DK/SE

1. Policy Objective & Theme

- ADAPTATION TO RISK: Preventing and managing natural hazards and technological (human-made) hazards; Integrating coherent strategies covering the risk-dimension (prevention to response) into planning and investment

2. Key approaches

- Participation
- Knowledge based
- Ecosystems based
- Technical

3. Experiences that can be exchanged

The coast control program initiated by a coastal municipality in co-operation with the counterparts in the neighboring country, has shown that elementary knowledge about the local marine environment is essential to be able to evaluate how the marine environment is affected by local polluters and also which measures would be adequate to use in order to mitigate the pollution. The program has in this sense, through various samples taken, given knowledge about what could be seen as natural conditions and what can be considered as heavily affected by external factors. It has in other words created a base line with data from which comparisons could be made with future test results. Moreover, investigations carried out within the program show several clear connections between local pollution and levels of toxins in sediments. The discovery of two significant points of emissions of organic pollution has resulted in additional clean-up measures in the industry, both related to release of contaminants to water and air. As a result, the levels of contamination in sediments and mussels in the Sound have decreased.

4. Overview of the case

Joint efforts for the entire Sound is important for its marine environment but local knowledge of polluters and actions against these are also of crucial importance for the sound. Municipality of Helsingborg has developed an ambitious marine program, called Coast Control Program, in order to get a better knowledge of the marine environment in its waters. Various areas are being examined, some in cooperation with its counterpart in Denmark, Helsingör and the University of Copenhagen, some by the municipality alone. However Sound at the level of Helsingborg and Helsingör is at its most narrow point, separating the two countries/cities by only 3,7km of water which has created a close cooperation across the water on many different subjects, including the marine environment in Sound. When it comes to pollutants the coast control program has noted that these pollutants often come from local sources and also frequently have a direct local impact on the marine ecology, despite the strong current in the Sound. These sources of pollution are therefore treated locally, but for the benefit of the entire sound. A decrease of deepwater species such as crustaceans and mussels is however a concern that is shared by actors from both sides of the sound and consequently also addressed in a common way. This case study aims to examine the coast control program of municipality of Helsingborg and, within the program, the close cooperation between Helsingborg (SE) and Helsingör (DK).

5. Context and Objectives

a) Context

The coast control program of Helsingborg is one of the most ambitious marine control programs undertaken by a municipality in Sweden. One of its primary goals has been to investigate if it is possible to identify effects of local sources of pollution in the Sound despite the prevailing strong current. The program started in 1995 and went on for 12 years. In 2009 an evaluation of the program was made and suggestions for future actions formulated. Cooperation with University

of Copenhagen has primarily taken place on deep water species where the municipality of Helsingborg has taken the samples and the University of Copenhagen later done the analysis of the species. Certain cooperation has also taken place with French marine biologists from Bretagne, France, who also carries out similar research on deepwater species.

b) Objectives

The main objectives for the coast control program have been to collect information on the status of the marine environment and create a baseline for future analysis. By knowing the marine environment it is also possible to develop measures for mitigating pollution and improve the environmental conditions.

6. Implementation of the ICZM Approach (i.e. management, tools, resources)

a) Management

The coast control program is managed by the municipality of Helsingborg (SE) in co-operation with the Helsingör municipality (DK) according to the agreement between the two municipalities. The implementation of the program has taken place in the waters of Öresund between Helsingborg and Helsingör.

b) ICZM tool

Local investigations have been made in the adjacent waters to the large scale industries on the Swedish side in order to analyze the immediate effects these may have on the marine environment. Within the interregional cooperation investigations on the decrease of certain deepwater species such as crustaceans and mussels has been carried out. A slow decrease in numbers of these species has long been noted in the marine nature reserve of Knähaken and samples have been taken by the municipality of Helsingborg and analyzed by the University of Copenhagen. An extension of the program has also been made to include marine biologists in France where, in contrast to Öresund, these species have increased in number.

7. Cost and resources

Complete costing is not available

8. Effectiveness (i.e. were the foreseen goals/objectives of the work reached?)

Helsingborg and Helsingör have for a long time had a close cooperation on various different topics. The coast control program was initiated by the municipality of Helsingborg but extended to include actors from the other side of the Öresund for the benefit of a larger area. This may have improved the effectiveness of the program.

9. Success and Fail factors

The program is still on-going but after the evaluation carried out in 2009 a number of concrete suggestions to improve the program were formulated. These are taken into account in today's implementation of the program.

10. Unforeseen outcomes

None as yet

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13. Sources

<http://www.oresundsvand.dk/reports/Diverse/Kustkontroll2010.pdf>

14. Relevance for cross-border management of transitional waters

The population around the Sound is app. 2.5 million inhabitants, 700.000 living on the Swedish side and 1.8 million on the Danish side. The case study highlights a local initiative when the bottom-up approach is successfully implemented to monitor environmental conditions in the most critically important part of the transitional water body. Therefore, the relevance of the case study is rather high.