**INTERACTION IN COASTAL WATERS: A ROADMAP**

**TO SUSTAINABLE INTEGRATION OF AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES**

**THE PROJECT**

- Multidisciplinary project with thirteen partners from ten European countries, coordinated by the Institute of Marine Research, Norway.
- Funded by the European Commission Seventh Framework Programme (Call KBBE-2009-3).
- Project duration: 36 months, started April 2010.

**THE PROBLEM**

- Europe’s coastal zones are of great socio-economic value
- Highly demanded area for developing multiple activities
- Conflict for space allocation
- To balance competing activities with environmental protection

**THE CASE STUDIES**

Case studies, representing the specific conditions and combinations of activities of European coastal areas of particular importance for aquaculture and coastal fisheries, will be studied to investigate individual processes as well as their interaction.

- Interaction of large-scale aquaculture with fisheries, environment and tourism, and the associated impacts
- Exploitation and culture of wild shellfish seed
- Interaction of coastal fisheries and aquaculture with multiple users of the coastal zone
- Interactions of coastal fisheries and aquaculture in a public marine protected area
- Interaction of aquaculture, fisheries and recreational sectors and associated implications

**THE MISSION**

COEXIST will:

- Promote a harmonized approach to the sustainable use of Europe’s seas and oceans
- Provide valuable ecosystem modelling tools to support decision-makers on maritime matters when it comes to managing maritime space
- Produce a roadmap for integration of aquaculture and fisheries with other stakeholder activities in the coastal zone
- Support the new European Maritime Policy and spatial planning of coastal area

**ULTIMATE PROJECT OUTCOMES**

- Characterization of relevant European coastal marine ecosystems, their current utilisation and spatial management
- Evaluation of spatial management tools for combining coastal fisheries, aquaculture and other uses, both now and in the future

**TOOLS FOR SUPPORTING DECISION-MAKERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS**

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