

Case Study

Coastal Management in Catalonia

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Description of the Application

The Geoinformation coastal zone application was developed as part of the European Commission Environment Directorate's Eurosion project (<http://www.eurosion.org>). The purpose of the application is to provide access to information about the Catalan coast for the purposes of evaluating and implementing policy and management measures to address coastal erosion. The application is part of a Local Information Service. The Geoinformation viewer enables the display of information and provides tools to Zoom In, Zoom Out, Zoom Window, Obtain Information, Print, Help. The application allows the viewer to make standard queries such as: a search for geographical names, zones or municipalities. These tools and queries have been designed to facilitate ease of use.

The combined utilization, on line, of these information sources enables a better study and analysis of the coast of Catalonia to be undertaken. This enables the observation of the nitrate vulnerable zones together with the public management of forests within the protected zones in the coastal municipalities.

Benefits

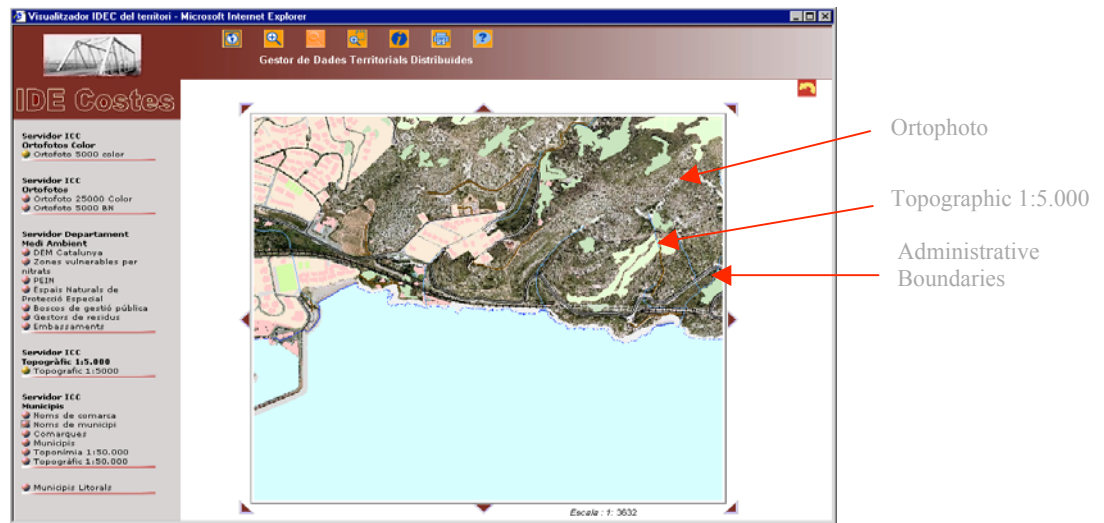
- Provides an inventory of existing information related to the Coastal Environment.
- Improve the access to this information.
- Makes the information available to the Public.
- Avoid duplication and improve the efficiency of the creation and maintenance of information.
- Bring the various stakeholders involved in managing the coast together through a one-stop geoinformation portal.
- Promotes Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

Data Used

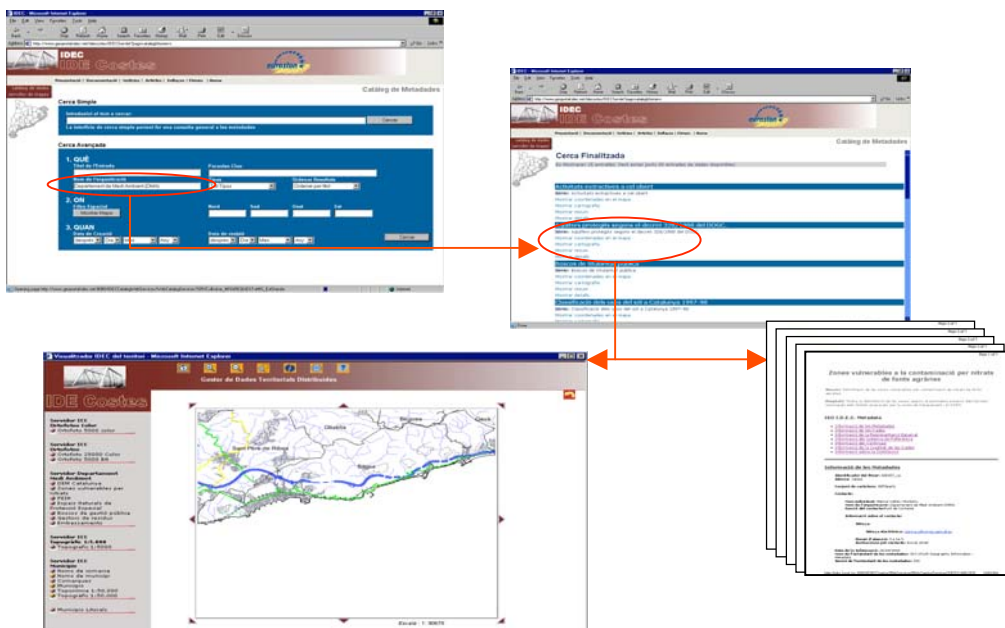
- Colour Orthophotos of Catalonia at 1:5000.
- Orthophoto 1:5000 (black and white) and 25000 (IRC and colour) of Catalonia
- cartography: Soil uses, PEIN, Special Protection Natural Spaces, Nitrate Vulnerable Zones, Public Management Forests, Waste Managers, Rivers, Reservoirs
- 1:5000 topographic cartography of Catalonia
- Administrative boundaries of the Municipalities, counties limits and geographical names of Catalonia.
- Information that shows the area of action of the coastal management projects.

Case Study

Map server:



Data catalog:



Background Information

The IDEC has been one of the institutions that have collaborated in this project, which is based upon the Catalanian spatial data infrastructure. (SDI). The Autonomous University of Barcelona – ICTA (email: gr.euroSION@uab.es) co-ordinated the EuroSION project. The data is physically held on different web map servers with different architectures and formats. This WMS client is based on the concept of interoperability¹ between servers. And it has been designed following the specifications WMS (Web Map Service) and WFS (Web Feature Service) of OGC. The use of these specifications allows this overlap on-line of different cartographic layers located physically in different map servers

¹ The ability of two or more systems to interchange information and to be able to use it.

Case Study

The objectives of the European Commission funded EuroSION project is:

- To provide recommendations on policy and management measures to address coastal erosion in the EU.
- Assess and map the sensitivity of the European coastline to coastal erosion (based on a GIS database compatible with scale 1:100000).
- Review physical and technical engineering lessons learnt from current coastline management practices.
- In depth study on local policy cycle and relevance of local information exchange.

Funding

The project was funded by the European Commission EuroSION project. The cost assigned to the technical development of the Local Information System in the pilot site of Barcelona has been around 10.000 €. Other costs are derived from Metadata generation, marketing and diffusion, coordination, etc.

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