

Introducing Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) to Trinidad and Tobago

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What is Integrated Coastal Zone Management?

A strategy for an integrated approach to planning in and management of the coastal zone, in which all policies, sectors and to the highest possible extent, individual interests are properly taken into account, with proper consideration given to the full range of temporal and spatial scales, involving all coastal stakeholders in a participative way (International Ocean Institute, 2006)



In a nutshell-

- Continuous and dynamic process
- Integrates policies, sectors and interests (multi-sectoral approach)
- Participatory process that demands good communication and co-ordination between governmental tiers (governance)
- Addresses all three dimensions of sustainability (multi-disciplinary approach)
- Manages human activities within the coastal zone, and addresses conflicts amongst different resource users and uses



Why the need for ICZM in T&T?

- Heavily dependent on resources and activities associated with the coastal zone for socio-economic well-being
- Some coastal resources are heavily depleted, degraded or destroyed
- Vulnerable to natural hazards because of small land mass and high population densities and growth rates along the coast.
- Need to mitigate the effects of climate change and to build resilience of coastal ecosystems
- Increasing conflict amongst resource users and between uses



Multi-sectoral Steering Committee appointed to develop an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Policy Framework, Strategies, and Action Plan for Trinidad and Tobago

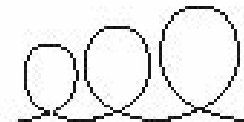
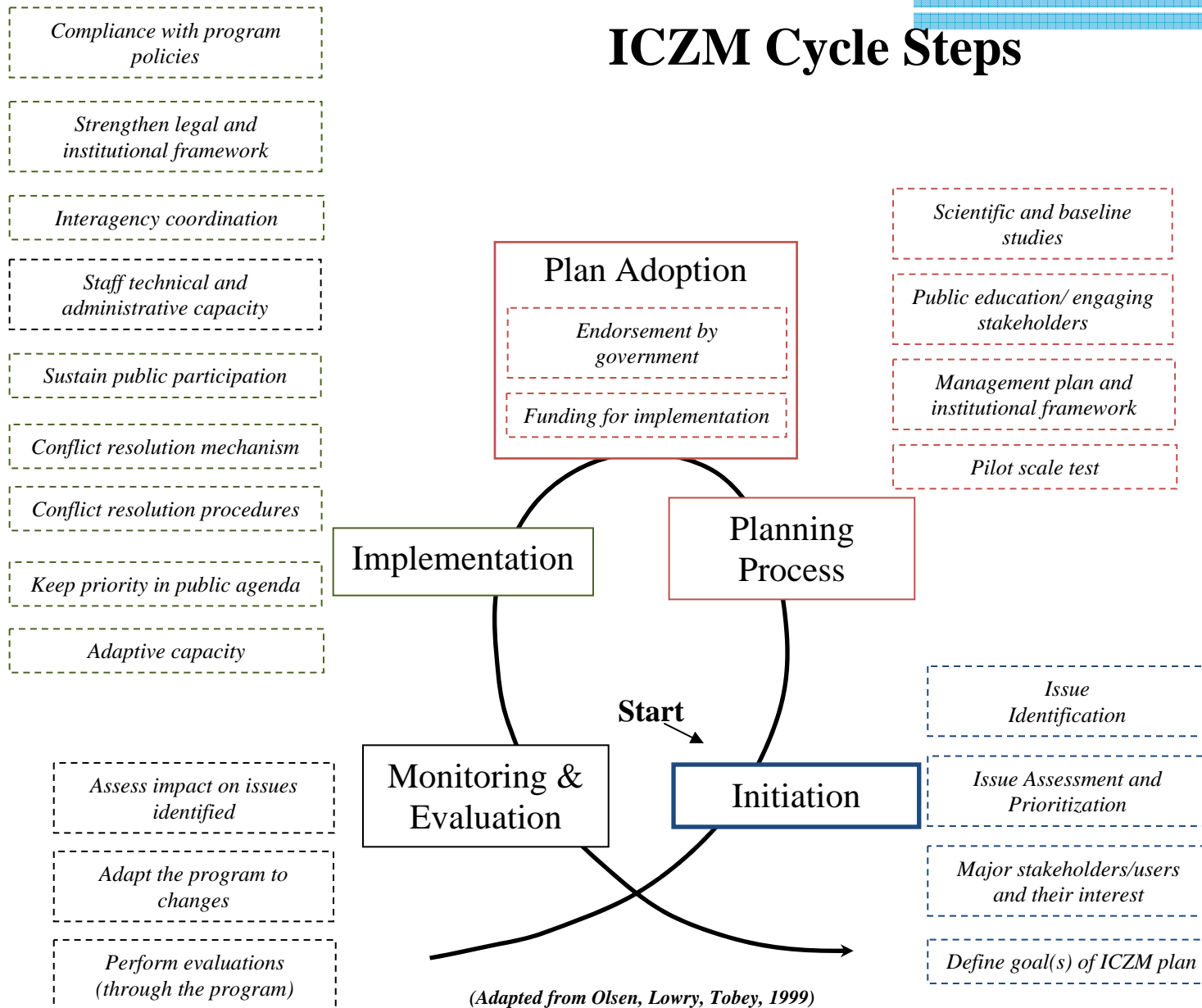
The Steering Committee comprised the following representatives:

- Institute of Marine Affairs
- Ministry of Environment and Water Resources
- Environmental Management Authority
- Town and Country Planning Division
- Forestry Division
- Fisheries Division
- Maritime Services Division
- Ministry of Tourism
- Ministry of Works and Infrastructure
- Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries
- Tobago House of Assembly
- Council of Presidents of the Environment (COPE)

Terms of Reference

- To establish ICZM working groups for the thematic areas
- Review and analyze all existing policies, strategies, legislation and institutional arrangements related to ICZM
- To co-ordinate, manage and implement a public consultation process for the formulation of the ICZM Policy
- Formulate an ICZM Policy taking into consideration aspects of sustainability and policy, legislative and institutional arrangements for coastal zone management
- To solicit oral and written comments from all stakeholders and the general public on the ICZM Policy
- To ensure that the ICZM Policy addresses the concerns of the stakeholders and the general public as indicated at the public consultations

ICZM Cycle Steps





Goals of ICZM policy

1. Reduce and control pollution in the coastal and marine environment
2. Establish ecosystem based approaches to curb biodiversity loss and rehabilitate/restore degraded environments
3. Apply adaptive management and spatial planning approaches to address land and water use conflicts
4. Encourage viable socio-economic activities within the coastal zone that do not compromise environmental integrity
5. Incorporate climate change considerations into developmental planning
6. Continuous meaningful engagement of the public in the ICZM process



Thematic Working Groups (TWGs)

- Economic and Social Development
- Natural Resource Assessment
- Public Awareness, Education and Outreach
- Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts
- Legal and Institutional Analysis



TWG - Economic and Social Development

- Assess all current and proposed development plans and programmes in the coastal zone to identify synergies and conflicts
- Evaluate the sustainability of coastal and marine dependent industries (blue economy)
- Identify potentially sustainable livelihood options within the coastal zone
- Provide recommendations as to type of economic and social activities that should be encouraged in the coastal zone

The background of the slide is a vibrant underwater scene of a coral reef. In the foreground, there are large, rounded, light-colored coral structures, possibly sea sponges or soft corals, resting on a bed of colorful coral and rocks. The water is clear and blue, with sunlight filtering through from above, creating a bright and lively atmosphere. The overall scene is rich in marine biodiversity.

TWG - Natural Resources Assessment

- Assess the current state of the coastal and marine environment/ resources and identify data gaps
- Provide recommendations with regard to areas for development, conservation and rehabilitation
- Provide recommendations for mitigating negative impacts and for building resilience of coastal/ marine ecosystems and communities
- Engage with resource users to promote sustainable utilization and conservation of biodiversity



TWG - Public Awareness, Education and Outreach

- Establish the baseline level of public knowledge on ICZM
- Prepare video, audio and print materials in collaboration with the other agencies to disseminate information on the ICZM process
- Design a multi-media public communication program that would promote buy-in to the ICZM process and build awareness of environmental issues
- Recommend a programme that would allow for continuous engagement of stakeholders throughout the ICZM process
- Evaluate the effectiveness of public awareness material

TWG - Vulnerability Assessment / Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts

- Identify all natural and human induced hazards in the coastal zone including impacts due to climate change
- Conduct socio-economic and environmental vulnerability and risk assessments
- Consult with key stakeholders on disaster risk reduction and management strategies
- Map vulnerable coastal areas / coastal communities
- Provide strategic guidelines to integrate climate change adaptation and hazard mitigation into the ICZM policy framework

Legal and Institutional Analysis

- Review the policy, legislative and institutional arrangements related to management of coastal zone activities and the environment
- Identify existing gaps, synergies and conflicts
- Devise a legal and institutional framework that will enable effective regulation and co-ordination of activities in the coastal zone



Baby turtles crushed

Offshore drilling affects fish stock Fishermen unhappy

By RICHARDSON DHALAI

WITH EXPLORATORY hydrocarbon drilling expected to begin just off the fertile fishing grounds at



The Otaheite Fishing Depot cleans a fish for a customer in South Oropouche yesterday. PHOTO BY ANIL RAMPHAD

PowerGen pipeline pollutes Gulf CARGO VESSELS DELAYED

OPERATIONS at the Port of Port-of-Span came to a halt on Saturday, and continued yesterday as clean-up continued following an oil spill from a leaking pipeline from a fuel tanker owned by Power Generation Company of TT (PowerGen), Wightson Road.

The halt in operations came on the heels of a work stoppage by port workers that caused a backlog in the distribution of containers of goods for local businesses.

Workers returned to duty at the port on Saturday after a tumultuous two week — work stoppage occurred on December 9-10, on December 12 and again on Friday as port management and the Seaman and Waterfront Workers Trade Union (SWWTU) engaged in wage negotiations.

Concerning the weekend's oil spill, reports are that hundreds of barrels of oil leaked into the Gulf of Paria, causing a ripple effect in operations.

The loading/unloading of cargo vessels was delayed and in one instance, no offloading at all could be done on one vessel — in turn delaying other vessels from docking.

In an inter-sun yesterday, Chief Executive Officer of the Port, Colin Lucas, said the labour situation was currently okay but that the oil spill had "put a halt to operations."



WORKERS of Tiger Tanks, the company hired to conduct mop-up operations regarding an oil slick in the Gulf of Paria, scrub oil from the cargo vessel Fabian Schulte yesterday at the Port of Port-of-Span, where it was berthed. PHOTO BY AZLAN MOHAMMED

Schulte), which belonged to the Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) had to be stopped on Saturday and had not resumed up to 2 pm yesterday. The gangs of workers on duty had to be reduced from four to three with no work being done on the Fabian Schulte.

Goods could not be loaded on board, said Gonzalez, as this would make the boat heavier and cause it to sink further into the polluted sea.

"Operations ceased since noon Saturday. It cannot go anywhere"

Environment, the Environmental Management Authority, and PowerGen were working together and "pulling together resources."

He also said the Port was working with PowerGen to ensure the cleaning was done as soon a possible and that customers were being kept informed.

A tanker with a vacuum hose was being used to suck the oil off the surface of the water, said Gonzalez, adding that the process was going "fine" with the cleaning exercise expected to take up most of yesterday.

After 2 pm yesterday, workers with Tiger Tanks, the company hired to do the clean-up, were seen busy with a hose, vacuuming the oil patches visible in the sea close to the quay.

Another group of workers were busy graying the keel of the Fabian Schulte (Hamburg) cargo vessel with a degreaser and then scrubbing off the film of oil with brooms.

to be done at 8 pm, he said, but cleaning would not be completed for the vessel to set sail yesterday, and therefore preventing another vessel from docking.

Gonzalez said that other aspects of port operations, notable that of deliveries of imported goods, continued on Saturday with only 22 containers delivered compared to 46 that were delivered on Friday during the protest by workers.

During "peak" periods, some 275-300 containers are delivered daily, while on "normal" work days, this numbers approximately 192.

There were about 1,211 containers at the port which still have to be cleared, said Gonzalez. Meanwhile, negotiations resumed at 2 pm today between management and SWWTU for August 2008-July 2011. The Port's counterproposal to the union's offer is a consolidation of Cost of Living Allowance of \$120 to the base salary and a two percent increase for the first year, a one percent increase for the second year and a two percent increase for the third year.

Called for a comment on the negotiations yesterday, Minister Desha Mahajed said he expected negotiations on non-cost items to move forward now that the "hardie" of the wage issue had been crossed.

"A proposal was made by the management and a counter proposal by the union. It included the five percent (2-3-2) and consolidation of COLA," he said yesterday.

Asked if he expected further demonstrations as negotiations resumed, Mahajed said he hoped non-cost items would be treated in a similar manner as the wages' issue, with the union acting in a responsible manner.

kilometres no entry zone, that we the fishermen will have to keep out of," Ramnath said.

He explained that the association has a minimum of 100 fishermen on the bay with about 90 registered boats, adding, "This is one of the largest fishing ports in Trinidad and Tobago, people from all over Trinidad coming to trade and do business here."

Ramnath alleged that they had received information that the Ministry of Energy had advised "no compensation for the fishermen."

"What are the fishermen going to do in that duration of

time? All we are asking, is to step in, come back to the table with Soogl and fishermen, let us work out something that everybody would be happy," he said.

"While we support the Government's initiative in oil exploration, you cannot starve people," he said.

In full agreement was president of the La Brea Fisher Folk Association, Alvin La Brea, who said the community was also requesting that members be employed for the duration of the project as a means of maintaining their livelihood.

Turtle tragedy

...thousands of hatchlings crushed to death

Kim Boodram

THOUSANDS of leatherback hatchlings were crushed to death at the weekend as the Ministry of Works used excavators to redirect the Grande Riviere River, at the north east coast.

The Ministry had been called in when the river, running west, eroded most of the beach front, threatening the stability of several homes and hotels.

The community was horrified, though, when excavation work began Saturday without their knowledge on what is the most nest-intensive part of the beach.

Among those buildings under threat was the Mt Plaisir Estate Restaurant and Hotel, the most popular tourist accommodation during turtle nesting season.

"This is the worst set of destruction I have ever seen by humans on turtles."

Reyz was among those in the community who began a rescue mission early yesterday and by evening had saved about 500 hatchlings.

The babies were kept in a cool dugout area behind Mt Plaisir hotel, to be released last night.

Among them could be seen those who had been too badly injured and would clearly not make it.

On the beach, hundreds of eggs could be seen, some crushed and some rolling in the surf. Here and there, hatchlings could be seen fighting for life, some still partially in the shell.

Excavation work went on all day in what is classed by conservationists as zone four of Grande Riviere, which is just over a kilometre long



COMBINED EFFORT: Fire officers and residents search for the body of Solomon Britto, who was swept away by floodwaters in Diego Martin yesterday. —PHOTO: SHWALIA SALANDY

Two men die in 'Diego' mudslides

Yasni Gonzalez
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UDSLIDES claimed the lives of two Diego Martin men yesterday, residents in northwest Trinidad to cope with impassable roads, slick mud in their homes, power outages and, in some areas, no telephone service.

In parts of Maraval, the effects yesterday's heavy rains and ongoing trapped five families in their homes.

Killed as he slept in his home is 68-year-old Solomon Britto, a retired mechanic and father of one lived next to his sister at chapin Road, Diego Martin.

The other man killed was Gerald Bentham, 25, of Upper La Brea in Diego Martin. Britto's body was found almost three-quarters of a mile from where he lived, near a ledge along the Diego Martin Road close to the Khan and Sports Supermarket and Liquor Mart.

His sister, Rebecca Britto, spoke to the Sunday Express yesterday from the porch of her damaged home.

She recalled that around 4 a.m. yesterday, "I was sleeping and my son rushed out from his room and said low water washing through the place, and when I walk outside I see that my brother house wash away."

Britto said, "I living here 30 years now and something like this has never happened before."

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Bentham was killed around the same time as Britto.

He too was at his home at

Upper La Puerta Avenue, which was covered in mud during yesterday's heavy rains, leaving him trapped.

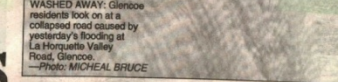
Police and Fire Service officials believe he may have suffocated. Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar said unconfirmed reports yesterday indicated that two other people were missing after the floods in the area.

The Police and Fire Service Disaster Response Unit and several crews from the Community Enhancement and Environment Protection Programme (CEPEP) were out yesterday performing clean-up duties.

In Maraval, Caranage and Glencoe, the situation was also grim.

Part of the La Horquette Valley Road, which leads into Glencoe, was washed away.

The Ministry of Works said a Bailey Bridge will be constructed along the road as soon as possible.



WASHED AWAY: Glencoe residents look on at a collapsed road caused by yesterday's flooding at La Horquette Valley Road, Glencoe. —PHOTO: MICHAEL BRUCE



STUNNED: A Glencoe resident looks on in despair following yesterday's flooding at La Horquette Valley Road. —PHOTO: MICHAEL BRUCE

off in the Petit Valley area. Adding to the frustrations of yesterday's disaster, which leads to tower which had been blown down during heavy winds, leaving hundreds of customers without power.

Martin was a bmobile cellular

Thank You!

