







Critical issues and strategies for the management and adaptation of the Emilia-Romagna coastline to climate change

12 December 2023



Palazzo Malvezzi - University of Bologna

Monica Guida Luisa Perini Roberto Montanari *Emilia-Romagna Region*

The Emilia-Romagna coastal zone

fragile environments

the coastal plain was largely formed after the last sea level rise (5 Ky B.P.), morphologies (dunes) and wetlands are only partially preserved

strategic area for regional economy - tourism is the pivotal asset

its development also depends on the preservation/restoration of coastal morphologies (dunes; beaches) and other resources (e.i. water, biodiversity)

urban sprawl in the last 70 y

particularly fast in the decade immediately after the II World War high interference between human infrastructures & nature

extremely exposed to the effects of climate change:

• Increase of floodable areas

ioneEmilia-Romagna

- Aquifer and soils salinization and salt intrusion in the rivers
- Faster coastal retreat and loose of natural ecosystems and resources
- Impacts on the anthropic infrastructures/activities, thus on the society

Main economies:

Tourism (overall contributes for the 11% of the regional GDP)

Transport and harbour facilities (26 ports/marinas

Aquaculture (contribute to the 45% of national production)

Fishery (small scale-609 vessels – 4500 workers

Energy (oil&gas and the uncoming regasifier and renewable energy)

Other values:

Cultural heritage (e.i. Ravenna,Rimini; Comacchio)

Protected areas (Mab-Delta Po – and several Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) interest

Littoral morphologies (Beaches and Dunes): important ecosistems shoreline 5500 y BP

critical issues: the sediment balance

1943



shoreline

dismantling of the river mouths and outcropping of retrodune fine deposits

the beach erosion and seabed lowering still affects around the 47%

Effects of jetties on longshore sediment flows;

The geological surveys and cartographies of the historical shorelines and morphologies highlight the dramatic reduction in sediment supply from rivers, since the end of the Little Ice Age (~ 1300-1860) that cannot be counteract with hard coastal defences



RegioneEmilia-Romagna

critical issues: morphological setting & loss of dunes

RegioneEmilia-Romagna

Height < - 2 meters -2 < Height < 0 meters 0 < Height < + 2 meters Height > 2 meters Lagoons Hills and mountain

Coas

1200km2 of the coastal plain below m.s.l.;

detectable the morphologies of the fossil delta Po; lagoons and discontinuous dunes which are bordering low-lying areas, often reclaimed

coastal dunes are present only along 43% of the shoreline (~ 50 km); 90% are 'stabilized dunes', dated between the XX and the XVII century

the **82% of the coastal dunes,** mapped at the 2019, have an **elevation<2 m**, therefore easily overtopping by swell

in the period 2004 - 2019 have been **lost** around 10 hectares of coastal dunes, most of them in the active portion





critical issues: effects of subsidence + sea level rise

The sea flood hazard, for Tr100 year events, may increase more than **3.5 times by 2100** (using IPCC-AR5 scenarios), if compared to the currently prone areas under the Floods Directive





Impact of severe marine storms is already a matter that can concern around 70 Km2 the coastal strip

The 1200 km² of low-lying areas - can increase of a 25% by the 2100 considering subsidence + SLR





RegioneEmilia-Romagna

critical issues: sea storms effects

The major impacts recorded are related to the Bora (NE) winds, especially when coupled with high sea level (**storm surges**) – the only parameter showing a slight increasing trend



beach erosion represents the most frequent class of impact, followed by the sea flooding, that sometimes affect the urban areas









the GIDAC Strategy and the Partecipatory Process "Che Costa Sarà?"

Integrated Management for Protection and Adaptation of the Coast

Legal framework: the **regional Strategy MACC** (D.A.L. n. 187/2018);
the **PGRA - Flood Risk Management Plan** - Dec 2021





Outcomes of the participatory process at a glance

RegioneEmilia-Romagna

CHE COSTA SARA

What coast will it be? Results ...

2022

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

GIDAC strategy document

46 contributions:

- 36 proposal of integration/modification
- 10 expressions of support on specific topics

32 Proposals accepted

in whole or in part **4** proposals not acceptable

Emilia-Romagna. We make the future together.

Participatory
 construction of
 GIDAC Strategy
 7 meeting 195 overall
 attendance

Involved: Municipalities and other territorial bodies of the coast, associations and economic operators, universities and research institutes, environmental and local associations.

the process totaled **12.534** views





Dealing with CC impacts, SLR, storm surges, coastal erosion, marine flooding, saltwater intrusion

- **GO1** Reduce the vulnerability of the coastal territory by ensuring an adequate safety trim of the coastline & beach system in relation to its function of "first protection structure" for the inland.
- GO2 Ensure conservation and integrity of the coast environment, ecosystems, landscapes, geomorphology, for present and future generations.
- GO3 Promote a sustainable development of the coastal zone regarding to a rational planning of human activities in relation to the expected scenarios and impacts of climate change.
- **GO4 Prevent/reduce the impacts on coastal territories** related to sea level rise, storm surges, erosion and marine ingression, saltwater intrusion in the coastal groundwaters.
- GO5 Ensure the sustainable management and coordinated use of the different sediments' SOURCES for littorals nourishment and maintenance purpose.
- GO6 Ensure coherence between public and private initiatives and decisions regarding the protection and adaptation of the coastal zone, the littorals management, the use and conservation of coastal and marine resources.



Pillars of the GIDAC

Pl1 Free up space along the coast and keep beaches free from structures and infrastructures creating "buffer zones" for the unfolding of the dynamics of the sea, promoting the reorganization of critical coastal stretches and the retreat or realignment of the anthropic elements where necessary

PI2 Adequate supply of sediments to the coastal system, from the different internal and external sources, with the purpose

of restoring and maintaining the sedimentary balance for current and expected climatic conditions.

PI3 Integrating coastal risks costs in decision-making

processes on coastal transformations planning and investments, through a shared approach and an adequate coastal-risks-inclusive cost/benefit assessment methodology.

PI4 Maintain a Knowledge System always updated on coastal/rivers dynamics, erosion management and sediment sources, phenomena impacts and risks in current and future perspective, planning and implementing transformations and interventions along the coast.

The GIDAC Strategy document - completed December 2022

🗖 Regione Emilia-Romagna

OVERALL INDEX

PART A) GENERAL FRAMEWORK, PURPOSES, KNOWLEDGE FRAMEWORK, PARTICIPATORY PROCESS

PART B) STRATEGIC VISION, OBJECTIVES, SUSTAINABILITY, MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

PART C) ACTIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES-

- PART D) COMMUNICATION, AWARENESS RAISING, PARTICIPATION strategies and tools, intergenerational approach and involvemen
- PART E) MONITORING & EVALUATION on GIDAC strategy implementation and effectiveness of proposed actions
- PART F) MONOGRAPHIES OF PROVINCIAL COASTAL STRETCHES critical issues and hot spots, sustainability of coastal management, interventions and resources needed

Annex 1 KNOWLEDGE FRAMEWORK extended version Annex 2 TERRITORIAL WORKSHOPS "ACTIONS" results Annex 3 COASTAL RISKS INCLUSION IN C-B ANALYSIS methods

https://ambiente.regione.emilia-romagna.it/it/suolobacino/argomenti/difesa-della-costa/gidac/gidac-dicembre-2022/



Systemic Actions

- Integrated management of **coastal sediments**
- Improvement of river and coastal sediment transport
- Management and sustainable use offshore sediment deposits
- Management and use of sediments from building excavations
- Further reduction of the anthropic component of **subsidence**

Adaptation Actions

13 Measures

24 Measures



- Planning for the **reduction of vulnerability** in the coastal area
- Widening and elevation adequation of the beach systems
- Strengthening of the coastal early warning system

Maintenance Actions

29 Measures

- Beach maintenance with **nourishment**
- Maintenance and **remodeling** of detached protection works
- Maintenance and adequation of hard defenses and internal embankments
- Port fronts, port channels, docks elevation adjustment

Cross-cutting Actions

10 Measures

- Construction of a "Intergenerational Pact for the Emilia-Romagna Coast"
- Update and further development of the Knowledge Framework
- **Cost-benefit assessment** with **coastal risks** and **sustainability** evaluation for the interventions on the coast

16 Actions

66 Measures

Monographies on provincial coastal stretches (PART F)



Area portuale/foce fluvial
 Argine fluviale

For each provincial coastal stretch a brief report on:

- Pressure indicators
- Status indicators
- Impact indicators
- Response indicators
- Critical spots and proposed interventions
- Current management sustainability
- Sustainability of management for future scenarios
- Transformations on the coast foreseen in the next 5-10 years for adaptation and risks reduction

 Plus, an "Identity Card" showing the coastal stretch AT A GLACE: features, indicators, management

RegioneEmilia-Romagna

FE

RA

FC

RN

Intergenerational Pact for the protection and adaptation of the Emilia-Romagna coast

RegioneEmilia-Romagna

"Innovation Camp" financed by "Science Meets Regions" Program - EU DG Joint Research Centre (March-April 2023) **Designing a "Intergenerational Pact"** involving 15 **Senior** and 15 **Young** representatives of the **4Helix**: Public institutions/local bodies – Economic activities/associations - Research/University – Civil society/Youth movements

2023

INTERGENERATIONAL PACT INNOVATION CAMP

Marzo-Aprile 2023

Chiamata all'azione per un patto intergenerazionale per la difesa e l'adattamento della costa ai cambiamenti climatici



Commission



Il cambiamento climatico è e sarà un problema con forti implicazioni sul nostro modo di vivere e lavorare nel futuro.

Come collaborare tra le generazioni per affrontare le sfide e gli impatti del cambiamento climatico sulla costa dell'Emilia-Romagna? Quali soluzioni possiamo trovare e sperimentare insieme?

L'Innovation Camp per il Patto

La Regione Emilia-Romagna ha lavorato alla costruzione partecipata di una nuova strategia per la difesa e l'adattamento della costa ai cambiamenti climatici (GIDAC).

In guesto ambito, la Regione vuole predisporre un Patto con il territorio come strumento di supporto all'attuazione della strategia.

Il Patto, guardando al futuro deve necessariamente coinvolgere anche le generazioni più giovani, a partire già dalla fase di co-progettazione.

Per la costruzione del Patto è previsto un ciclo di laboratori (Innovation Camp promosso dalla Direzione Generale JRC della Commissione Europea) da svolgere a marzo 2023.



Partecipazione innovativa

L'Innovation Camp è uno metodo promosso dalla Commissione Europea per affrontare le sfide sociali attraverso lo sviluppo e il collaudo di prototipi di soluzioni per il futuro. Il metodo permette ai decisori e agli attori sociali di lavorare insieme per sviluppare e sperimentare idee innovative.

Partecipanti



Ci sono due livelli di partecipazione.

L'Innovation Camp (IC) genera prototipi di soluzioni e azioni con un gruppo ristretto di portatori di interesse delle diverse generazioni che lavoreranno su tre sfide concrete.

Le soluzioni emerse nell'Innovation Camp saranno condivise e messe in pratica con un pubblico intergenerazionale più ampio attraverso la piattaforma PartecipAzioni della Regione Emilia-Romagna

https://partecipazioni.emr.it /processes/che-costa-sara

Participatory workshops issuing intergenerational discussions and proposals/prototypes on :

- **Governance** -> how can collaborate the different generations in the protection and adaptation of the coast (GIDAC Strategy) implementation?
- **Communication & Participation ->** how can we co-design intergenerational an not conventional communication and participation strategy?
- & Knowledge continuous Monitoring **improvement** -> how to promote continuous intergenerational learning coastal on protection and adaptation?

5 prototypes

https://partecipazioni.emr.it/processes/che-costa-sara/f/405/

Monitoring Plan of the GIDAC implementation

🔁 Regione Emilia-Romagna

Describe the context (the territory, the environment)

Characterize the climate and its variability

Define direct-indirect climate impacts and risks

Identify and define actions and adaptation solutions and their implementation path

Identify and define indicators to monitor the advancement of GIDAC implementation and the efficacy of Actions and interventions

A set of the GIDAC indicators matches with measures/indicators of both the Flood Risk Management Plan (**PGRA**) and the National Plan for Climate Change Adaptation (**PNACC**) related to the parts focused on coastal areas

Strategy Implementation Indicators

Monitoring the advancement on transposition into local urban planning instruments and regional sectors of practices and guidelines for implementation of GIDAC Actions

Strategy Effectiveness Indicators

Monitoring the efficacy of Actions and Interventions throughout a set of indicators already consolidated on a regional scale, classified according to the DPSIR model

COASTAL RI	SK INDICATORS			Indicators of	effectiveness are derived from the	
Indicator Type	Type of information	Indicator Name	Last reference year	evolutionary analysis of some indicators of Pressure, Status and Impact.		
				IMPACTS by		
Pressure	tendency	Susidence rates	2016	phenomena of	INDICATORS	
	qualitative	Interfering Works	2020	Subsidence Coastal Erosion	Reduction of the Subsidence Rates indicator	
Status	tendency	ASE	2018			
	tendency	ASPE	2018		Improvement of ASE and ASPE indicators	
	morphological	Amplitude free beach (SLI)	2019			
	morphological	Beach Elevation	2019	Marine Ingression	Improvement of the Beach Elevation and Coastal Hump indicators Reduction of the Floodable Area (SA) indicator	
	morphological	Coastal Hump	2019			
	modeling	Floodable surface (SA)	2019			
Impact	observation	Number of storm surge impacts (NIM)	2020			
	modeling	Flood/Length (SARapp)	2019	Storm Surge	Reduction of the Number of Storm Surge Impacts (NIM) indicator	
	tendency	Variation of the seabeds	2018			
Response	observation	% of protected coastline and type of work	2020			
	observation	Sand inputs	2020			
	qualitative	Level of protection	2020	13		

Investments in coastal management and risk mitigation

Investments for interventions on	h the Coast planned/realized (by typolog	gy)
in the p	period 2020-2023	

Total in the period	76,1 M€
Maintenance and restoration of defence works	21,3 M€
Hydraulic risk mitigation (RN)	8,7 M€
Marine ingression risk mitigation (RN)	8,4 M€
Nourishment and restoration of defence works	6,2 M€
Extraordinary nourishment (GProject4)	22,9 M€
Ordinary nourishment	8,6 M€

RegioneEmilia-Romagna

Thank you!

Monica Guida Luisa Perini Roberto Montanari *Emilia-Romagna Region*