Capacity building and training for ICZM

Experiences from Vietnam

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Summary

Any Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) programme is based on knowledge of the socio-economic development and understanding of natural coastal processes. Increasing the knowledge base through training is a crucial element in the establishment of effective coastal management. During the Vietnam-Netherlands ICZM project, much attention was given to the training aspects and a lot of experience was obtained. More than 500 people, active at all governmental levels and in non-governmental organisations, were trained in the principles of ICZM. It proved to be important that the programme was tailor made, with different objectives for each target group. Training should not only be for the transfer of knowledge, but also for imparting training skills and tools. Valuable training tools such as the ‘Pesisir Tropicana’ simulation game and role-playing were used. In addition, training in new interdisciplinary work, creative thinking and problem-based learning, is important for effective ICZM planning and implementation. Finally, it is essential that the training programme is the start of a capacity building exercise and awareness-raising process that can continue after the training programme has ended. Therefore, ample attention was paid to the aspect of ‘training-the-trainers’ and the provision of training material in the local language.

This approach proved to be highly successful. The new trainers are now teaching the next generation of ICZM managers in Vietnam, facilitating the implementation of new ICZM programmes at national level and in other coastal provinces.
The exercise ‘Pesisir Tropicana’ is a simulation game facilitating decision making in coastal resources allocation. Decision makers have to decide on an investment plan in the Pesisir Tropicana area, making choices between various alternatives, and have to overcome several dilemmas, all under a certain time pressure.

Netcoast Open Learner - UNESCO-IHE website provides a short manual and introduction of the principles of policy analysis – Pesisir Tropicana: http://www2.ihe.nl/we/dicea/polanaly/pes04/default.htm?http://www2.ihe.nl/we/dicea/polanaly/pes04/jesew.htm