

# **CZM in the UK Policy and Practice: Does It Continue to Evolve?**

**Diane A DUMASHIE, United Kingdom**

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## **ABSTRACT**

In November 2002 the UK Government agency, Dept of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs began progressing the recommendation of the EU parliament concerning the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Europe (2002/413/EC).

The Olympic spirit generates a dual thought that on the one hand seeks to foster a collective endeavour to success, and on the other maintain a sustainable advantage. Both may be linked by strategy. Thus strategy has evolved throughout history emerging from the Greek military ethos to that of permeating our modern living roles, for example, in government, business and sport.

Continuing this theme, a strategic process is about success in action but to what extent has the English ICZM process evolved further down a strategic path?

This paper seeks to address the questions: Can the UK government's action be viewed as part of an evolutionary process? Is there an opportunity to envelop the skills of the surveyor who is professionally adept in a broad range of activities, which may occur on, above or below the surface of the land or the sea (1).

Research undertaken in the 1990's by the author identified that ICZM could be viewed as a strategic evolutionary process but implementation had become stymied at that time to a near halt. Moreover, a vital element of CZM had been missed, that of land economics and the attendant spatial planning and management that occurs. Thus an opportunity was identified to move coastal management towards an integrative partnership with coastal landowners often facilitated by surveyors.

The aim of this paper is to address these questions by building upon the analysis and thesis proposed in 2001 by first considering the strategy process next a situational assessment before looking at the structural analysis.

This is achieved by considering two central themes. First an analysis of the UK steps since the EU motivation. This will concentrate upon developing the case study evidence that supports the evolution process of ICZM at government level by first summarising the past actions, next analysing the evolving process over the period November 2002- March 2003.

Second, it was considered that the extent to which land and property rights plays a strategic role in the success of management may be a driving force toward sustainability in coastal areas. Local government ICZM is unlikely to be sufficient in itself and a partnership approach with landowners is required in order to achieve sustainable strategic management. The ultimate test of management is the level of implementation and surveyors in the capacity as stewards may well be suited to facilitate a mechanism or plan of action. This is discussed next with concluding observations of the contributing role played by surveyors.

## **CONTACT**

Diane Dumashie, PhD BSc FRICS  
Dumashie Associates  
Keta House  
1 Worgret Hill  
Wareham  
Dorset BH20 6AD  
UNITED KINGDOM  
Tel. + 44 1929 555 392  
Fax + 44 1929 555 392  
E-mail: ddd@dumashie.co.uk