

Abstract

SESSION 2:

Accelerating Actions for Sustainable Development and Climate Change

WORKSHOP 3:

Valuation of Coastal Ecosystem Services and Benefits and Coastal Use Zoning: Tools for Better Planning and Implementation

Opportunities and Barriers on Incorporating Ecosystem Service Valuation in Marine Planning, a European Perspective

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This talk scrutinises the use of ecosystem service valuation for marine planning with lessons drawn from the development and use of environmental valuation and cost-benefit analysis for policy-making in the UK and Europe. It discusses some of the challenges to the valuation of marine ecosystem services and illustrates the nature of the resulting valuation data the requirements of marine planners for such data. While the valuation of ecosystem services is well researched and valuation databases are growing, its uptake in marine planning has still been limited to date. The approach is, however, indirectly being used in marine policy decisions such as relating to the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive. In addition policy makers and marine planners are beginning to bring valuation into local planning decisions e.g. in respect to marine protected area designation and management and understanding the importance of tourism and recreational use of the marine environment. Experiences from several European projects, such as EU-FP7 VECTORS and DEVOTES and INTERREG IV A VALMER, will be presented to illustrate opportunities and barriers to the uptake of ecosystem service valuation in marine planning.



THE EAST ASIAN SEAS CONGRESS 2015
16-21 November 2015 • Danang, Vietnam

Global Targets Local Benefits

Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015

About Tobias Börger:

Dr Tobias Börger works as environmental economist in the Sea and Society Group at Plymouth Marine Laboratory, UK. He has a Master in economics from the University of Bonn (Germany). Before joining PML, Tobias worked in the field of environmental economics at the University of Hohenheim (Germany) where he also completed his PhD in economics in 2012. At PML Tobias has been working in several UK and EU funded research projects dealing with the valuation of marine ecosystem services. Within the EU FP 7 project VECTORS, for instance, he lead the application of discrete choice experiments (DCE) to value certain sets of ecosystem services in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. He has conducted stated preference valuation studies in Europe (UK, Poland) and Asia (China, Thailand, Vietnam). His research interests lie in the economic valuation of non-market environmental goods and the improvement of relevant methods. With a strong background in economics he applies behavioural, psychological and experimental concepts to increase the validity of environmental valuation techniques.