



COASTAL
Collaborative Land-Sea
Integration Platform

NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN COASTAL AREAS

In the context of foster land-sea synergies & coastal-rural collaborations, business innovations based on nature-based solution offer sustainable solutions to anthropogenic pressures and can also offer additional benefits in terms of landscape restoration, providing new opportunities in terms of recreational activities. In coastal-rural areas it can create the base for a circular economy system through water recycling and reuse. For instance, as an alternative to coastal discharges, areas with extensive wetlands could possibly be part of a secondary treatment/overland flow system, with the already nutrient rich wetlands 'treating' the final effluent material. Also, instead of being expensively treated and ejected into the system, wastewater could be reused, particularly by the agricultural sector or by coastal golf courses. A well-designed and planned water recycling and reuse system with nature-based solutions over the whole coastal-inland system (that includes stakeholders from coastal and rural areas in the design process), would reduce the impact of inland polluted water onto the coastal-sea ecosystems; and by extension the impact on activities such as fishery, aquaculture and coastal tourism, which are dependent on good sea-water quality.

Nature-based solutions are also used in coastal risk management (coastal erosion, waves surges), sand beach nourishment can be used as alternative solutions to conventional options to reduce coastal erosion with an additional co-benefits through increased attractiveness of recreational opportunities by increasing the beach width (i.e. development of new water sports activities, construction of new beach houses), and consequently the number of tourists. It also improves the environmental quality of the area with positive impact on the local biodiversity. Such co-benefits can increase economic activity, generating tax revenues, which in turn lead to leveraging of the overall public investments in the project.

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For more information, please visit: <https://h2020-coastal.eu/>

