

## Science and Policy Integration for COastal System Assessment

# **Cork Harbour SSA 8**

**Formulation Step** 

### "Real world" Real System A data poor, normative, highly political environment







Virtual System

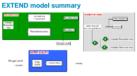
A data intensive, positivist, reduced experimental environment

### **SPICOSA Policy Issue**

How to optimise the potential for expanding the leisure boat sector in the context of Cork Harbour's multi-use environment?

#### **Ecosystem components & transformations**

Impacts	State Components (amounts)	Input, loss, transformation (rates)	Mapable
Change in available user space	Surface area of water body (m²)	Rate of change of area (e.g. through building, reclamation, flooding)	Yes
Increased potential for user conflict		No. of boats	Yes
Reduced navigation	Depth of water body (m)	Sedimentation rate	Yes
Increased navigation		Volume of capital dredging	Yes
Change in user numbers and activities	Water quality (status -	Level of pollution (e.g. N volume/year)	Yes
	goodbad)	Dilution (rate of flushing)	Yes
		Mixing (e.g. threshold wind speeds/year)	Yes









A 'science-policy' interface: meeting of the Cork Harbour Forum (i.e. the target

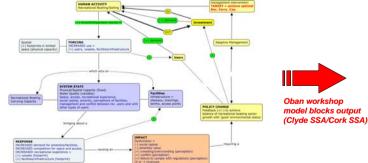
'audience' for SPICOSA methods and tools)





...The conceptual model was revised to fit the policy issue and modelling...

## Problem (re)Scaling



Revised conceptual model (NB. did not involve Stakeholder Participants)

niversity College Cork, Ireland, the Coastal and Marine Resources Centre (CMRC) is a multi-disciplinary centre active in the firmatic areas of integrated coastal management, coastal processes and seabed seabrids and cetacears and GIS and remote sensing.



## **Cork Harbour governance**

Policy makers and other stakeholders agree that Cork Harbour requires a multi-level, multiscale integrative framework of participatory adaptive governance and co-management.



ICZM must be capable of addressing ALL human activities (policy issues) in Cork Harbour simultaneously through negotiation.

A complex cluster of "real world" problems (Policy Issues) challenges the sustainability and sustainable development of Cork Harbour and region. These problems are primarily normative unquantifiable and involve negotiated trade-offs between stakeholders.

#### Science-policy integration

Trust is key at science-policy interface. Cork CZ stakeholders, including policy makers, require 'best available' scientific advice delivered through participatory multi-stakeholder mechanisms, rather than by 'black box' models of a virtual Cork Harbour system

Cork Harbour SSA stakeholders want real solutions to their real world problems.

Talk of 'virtual systems' and computer models can be off-putting to stakeholders who deal primarily in people (votes) and costs-benefits.

WP13 Professionals' training workshop, UCC, Cork, June 2008; Cork SSA stakeholders preferred co-construction of conceptual models ('mind maps'), stakeholder mapping and other participatory techniques rather than computer models and virtual simulations.

The simpler and less technical the tool, the more likely it is to be taken up and used at the science-policy interface in Cork Harbour and elsewhere in Ireland.

Stakeholders want tools to assist negotiation of trade-offs between sustaining ecosystem structures, functions and services and the urgent demand for social and economic development. It is unclear how or if EXTEND can deliver a simple comprehensible overview of the Cork SSA social-ecological system that non-expert stakeholders can use and further develop themselves. Concept mapping tools may provide a much more inclusive alternative.

Whereas System Design opened path to 'systems thinking' approach to integration of socio-economic and ecological domains of the real world Cork Harbour complex system..

.System Formulation is doing the opposite.





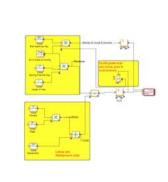
Exclusive

A stakeholder participant's perspective on alternative tools...



Inclusive





Generic marina economic model

Envision a consultancy and research group providing environmental services to the laternational community. It has environmental expertise in institutional capacity development for sustainable coastal management and experience of providing a wide range of tailoned activitical, management and professional training services.

Marina economics







