

**Dolors Blasco, Institut Ciències del Mar CSIC**





Science and Policy Integration for COastal System Assessment

## SPICOSA

An **Integrated Project** (IP) under the “global change and ecosystems” priority of the 6th Research Framework Programme, research area “sustainable use of land”, dedicated to **Integrated Coastal Zone Management** (ICZM).

A large scale project (21 countries, 54 research institutes, universities, SMEs and NGOs, 18 study-sites, 300 persons, budget of 14 M€, grant 10 M€)





## Coasts as socio-ecological systems

It is a widely accepted view that most of the coasts are :

- Rich in natural and cultural assets,
- Under strong and diversified anthropic pressure
- Exposed to many natural and man-made risks

The productive and assimilative capacity of ecosystems as well as aesthetic services of landscapes are affected in many places in a way that is considered undesirable because it leads to losses of assets, economic inefficiency or user conflicts.



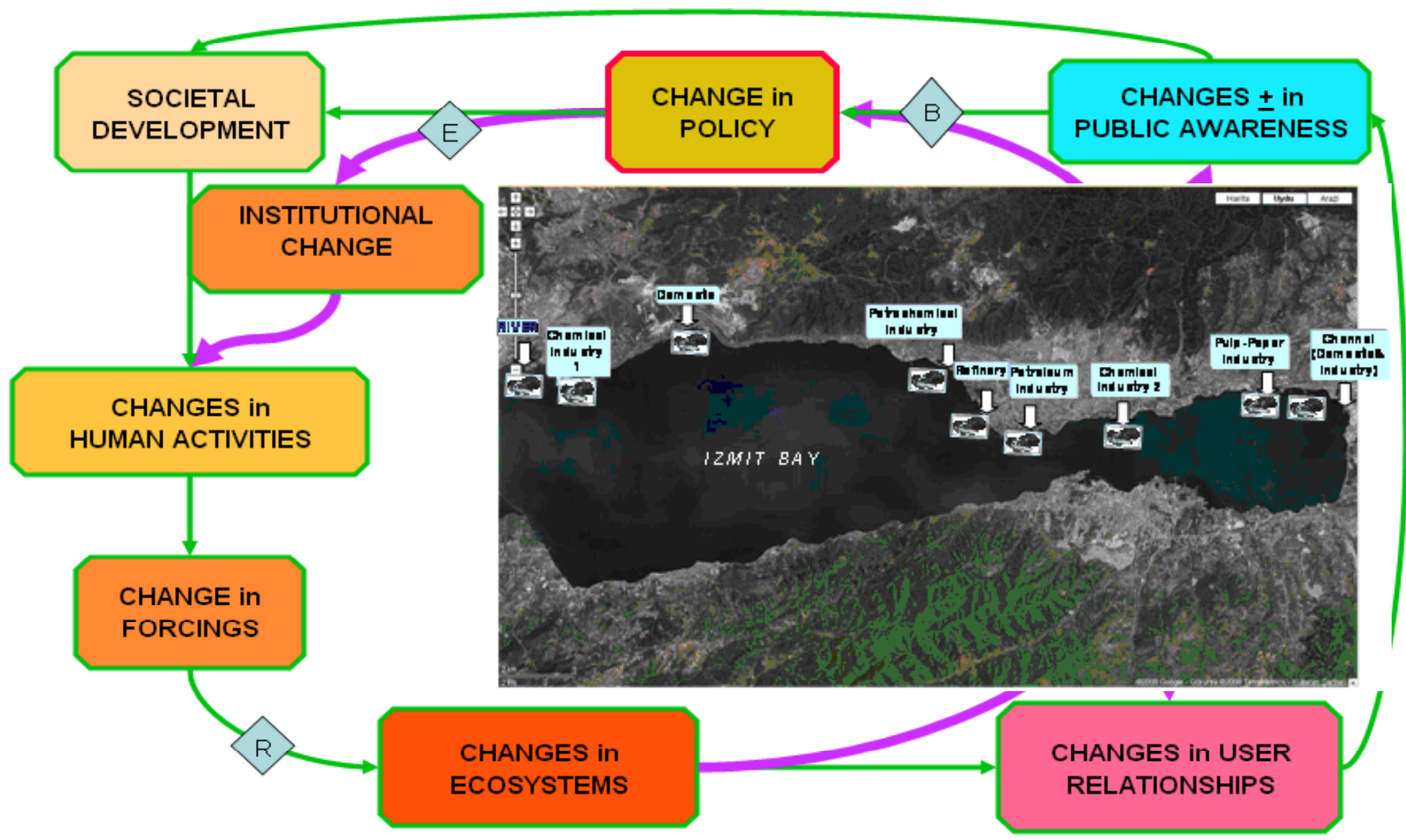




**SPICOSA** aims at delivering tested methodologies to support implementation of environmental sustainability agenda along European coasts by:

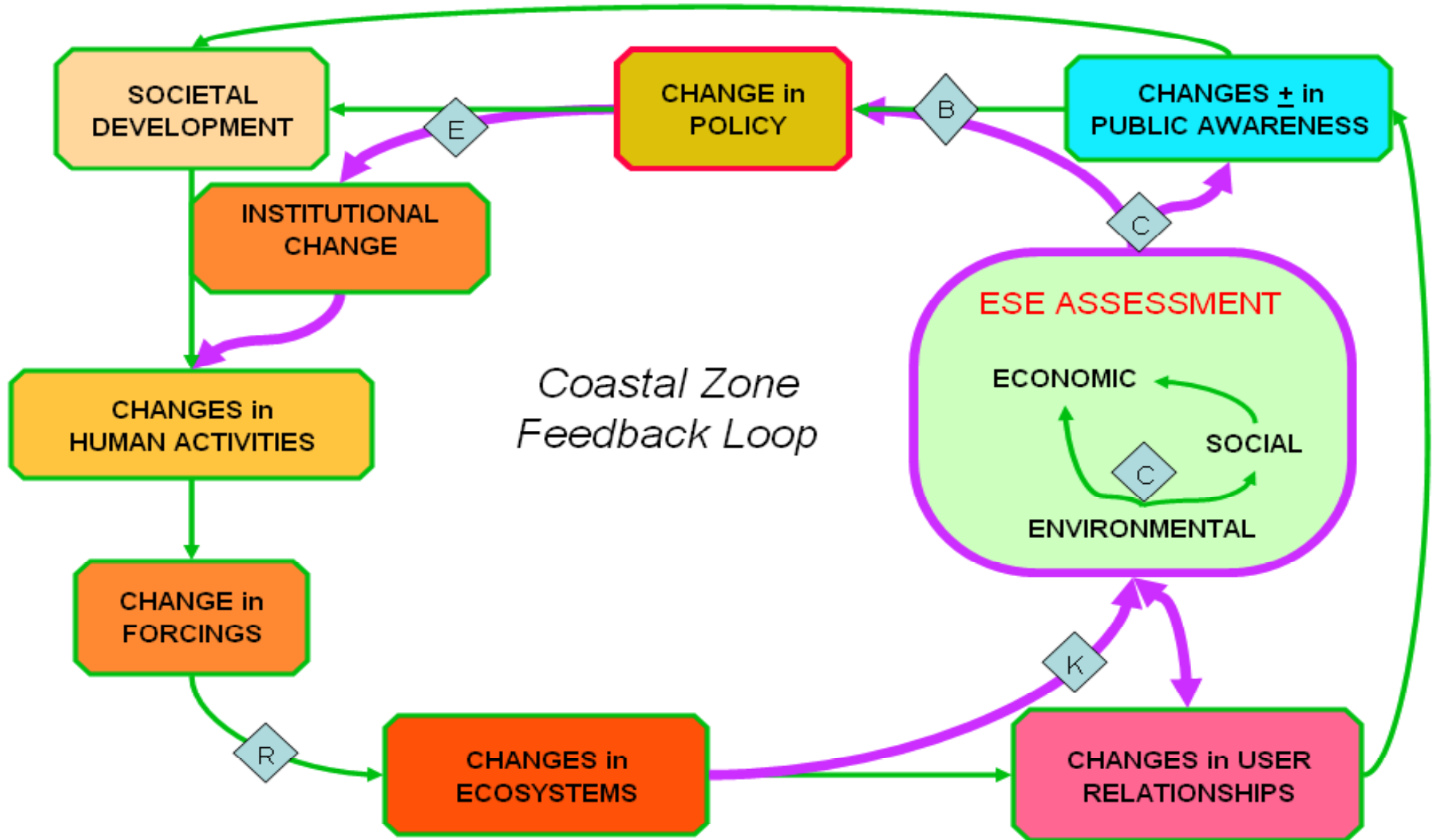
- **promoting the integration of scientific knowledge**
- **from a policy issue perspective**
- **and with a participatory approach**

# COASTAL ZONE SYSTEM



Switches: E=effectiveness, R=resilience, K=knowledge, C=communication, B=bias

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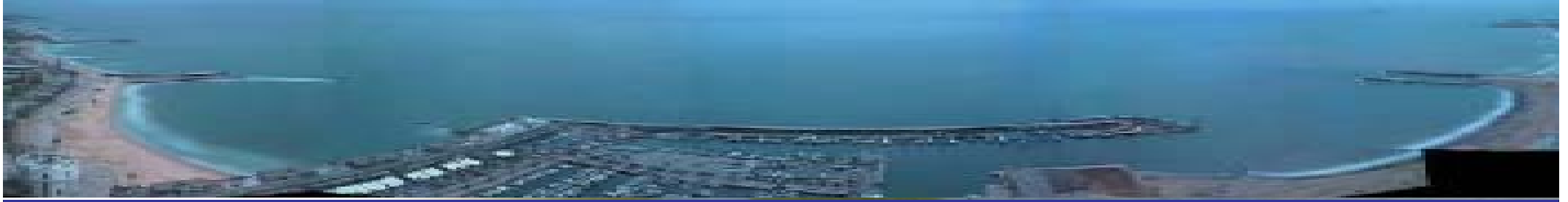






## **Main challenges for the System Approach Framework**

1. Demonstrate and make easy to operate the coupling of natural and social processes dynamics (economics but also legal/political/social)
2. Provide integrated assessments of policy options that mobilize the best of existing knowledge
3. Operate simultaneously numerical simulation and qualitative/narrative/interpretative information
4. Produce outputs that stimulate debat among stakeholders and with policy-makers including the potential to integrate their knowledge in our representations



## 18 Study Sites

The Project tests and improves the SAF at eighteen Study Site Applications (SSAs) all over Europe representing the diversity of coasts that differ in geomorphology, environmental conditions, cultures, and human activities.

Each SSA is run by a multidisciplinary team involving natural scientists, social scientists and modellers, working in interaction with local policy-makers and stakeholders.



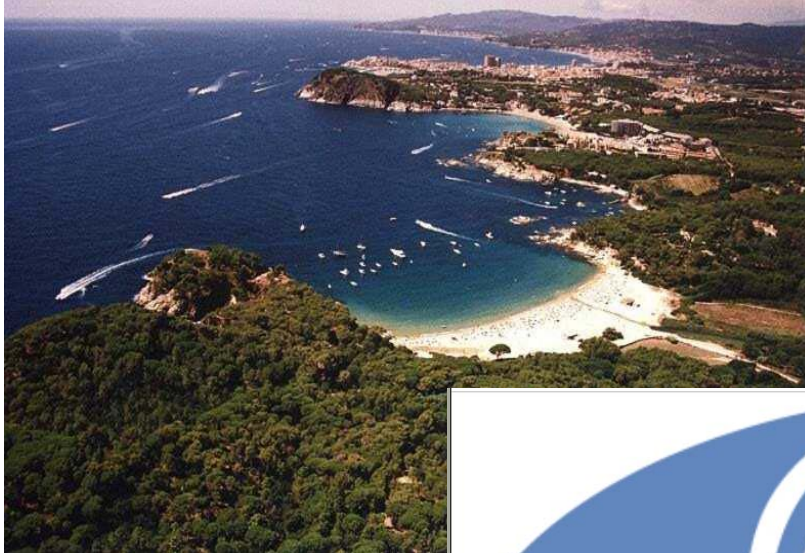


## ***SPICOSA Study Site Applications***

- 1. Gulf of Riga***
- 2. Gulf of Gdansk***
- 3. Oder Estuary***
- 4. Himmerfjorden***
- 5. Limfjorden***
- 6. Sondeled***
- 7. Clide Sea***
- 8. Cork Harbour***
- 9. Scheldt Delta***
- 10. Pertuis-Charentais***
- 11. Guadiana Estuary***
- 12. Barcelona Coast***
- 13. Thau Lagoon***
- 14. Taranto Mar Piccolo***
- 15. Venice Lagoon***
- 16. Thermaikos Gulf***
- 17. Izmit Bay***
- 18. Danube Delta***







**SPICOSA**

The central graphic features a stylized logo composed of three curved, overlapping shapes in blue, orange, and green. Below the logo, the word "SPICOSA" is written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font.