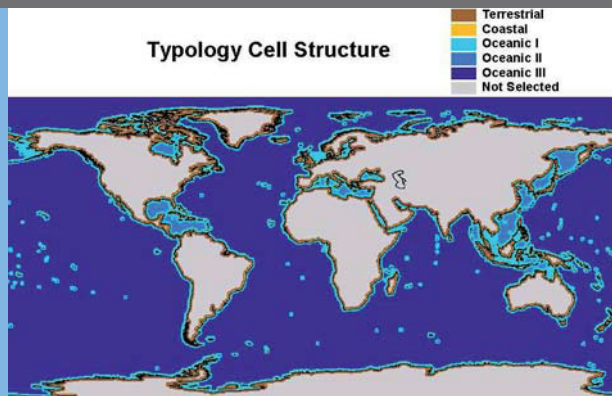




LOICZ Outreach

Outputs and Dissemination

LOICZ research is being communicated and taught through workshops which result in the publication of the Reports and Studies series. Developments within LOICZ are published in a quarterly Newsletter and an Annual Report. Scientists involved in LOICZ also publish their results in a wide range of scientific journals, conference proceedings, manuals and policy papers.



Modeling and Typology

Modeling is an important activity that illustrates the results of LOICZ research and identifies the research needs of the future. Natural systems such as ecosystems are usually very complex, and models are tools that help conceptualize, integrate, and generalize knowledge.

LOICZ Management

LOICZ is coordinated by an International Project Office, administering the project on a day-to-day basis, and guided by a Scientific Steering Committee that oversees project development, planning and implementation. In addition, LOICZ has implemented a distributed organizational structure by establishing Regional Nodes. These regional project offices promote and coordinate regional and local contributions to the global research, thus facilitating links and exchanges between international, national and local science and policy.

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LOICZ is a Joint Core Project of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP) and the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP).



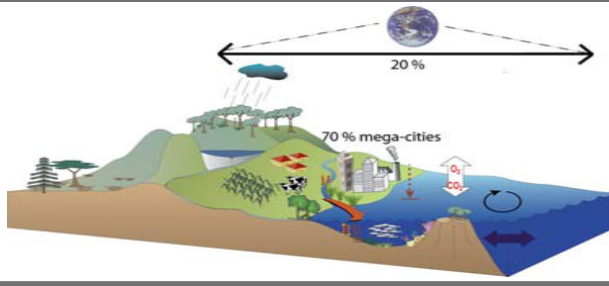
LOICZ

Land Ocean Interactions
in the Coastal Zone



What is the Coastal Zone and why is it important?

The coastal zone represents the interface between land, sea and atmosphere. Almost half the world's population lives within this zone including many of the world's poor. The coastal zone contains natural systems that provide more than half of the global ecosystem goods (e.g., fish, oil, minerals) and services (e.g., natural protection from storms and tidal waves, recreation).



Various user groups compete for land and sea resources. This often results in conflict eventually causing deterioration of the coastal zone.

The coastal zone serves as the source of the national economy of coastal states and is a preferred site for urbanization. The largest cities have on average one-fifth of their population and one-sixth of their land area within the low evaluation coastal zone. Many mega-cities are coastal.

A large proportion of the world's population relies on the health and maintenance of coastal environments. The coastal zone is diverse with productive habitats important for human welfare. The coastal zone frequently includes contributing river catchments and mirrors land-based and shelf processes and pressures.

What is LOICZ?

Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ) is an international research project involving scientists from across the globe who have been investigating changes in the biology, chemistry and physics of the coastal zone since 1993. Since 2003, LOICZ has expanded its areas of research to include social, political and economic sciences in order to address the human dimensions of the coastal zone.

The research results are used to explore the role humans play in the coastal zone, their vulnerability to changing environments, and the options to protect coasts for future generations.

The main goal of LOICZ is “to provide the knowledge, understanding and prediction needed to allow coastal communities to assess, anticipate and respond to the interaction of global change and local pressures which determine coastal change.”

LOICZ Research

Scientific Themes

- I : Vulnerability of Coastal Systems and Hazards to Society
- II: Implications of Global Change for Coastal Ecosystems and Sustainable Development
- III: Human influences on the River Basin Coastal Zone Interactions
- IV: Biogeochemical Cycles in Coastal and Shelf Waters
- V: Towards Coastal System Sustainability by Managing Land-Ocean Interactions

Priority Topics (2006 - 08)

- 1: Linking Social and Ecological Systems in the Coastal Zone
- 2: Assessing and Predicting Impact of Environmental Change on Coastal Ecosystems
- 3: Linking Governance and Science in Coastal Regions



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Cross-Cutting Activities

- A. Modeling and Typology
- B. Variability Analyses
- C. Capacity Building

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