



METADATA

Title: Management of the Marine Environment

Other Titles: -

Language: Greek

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ISBN: 978-618-228-079-9

Subject: NATURAL SCIENCES AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY, LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Keywords: Oceanography / Marine pollution / Marine ecosystems / Fishing/Aquaculture / Tourism

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Bibliographic Reference: Dassenakis, M., Ladakis, M., Paramana, T., Paraskevopoulou, V., & Sakellari, A. (2023). Management of the Marine Environment [Undergraduate textbook]. Kallipos, Open Academic Editions. <http://dx.doi.org/10.57713/kallipos-312>

Abstract

The concept of "sustainable development" was defined during the late 20th century after a period of intensive industrialization and urbanization of many countries. Sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Especially, regarding the marine environment, human activities have caused a lot of environmental and ecological problems that necessitate action to improve the environmental conditions with the use of "cleaner" processes in all fields of human activity. The need for effective environmental management is urgent in coastal areas as well as in enclosed seas like the Mediterranean Sea. The present book contains issues relevant to almost all aspects of the management of the marine environment. In the first four chapters we present the main concepts of environmental management, the institutional framework that supports

the management of the marine environment and the tools that can be used for the achievement of its targets, such as Environmental Impact Assessments. In the next four chapters the relation of the successful management of the marine environment with the environmental quality and the ecological health of the marine environment is described. These chapters include the methods of marine environmental monitoring, the response to human induced marine pollution, the establishment of marine protected areas and the evaluation of the effectiveness of management and protection bodies. In the final four chapters of the book the sustainable environmental management of important human activities that take place in the marine environment is discussed, such as fishing and marine aquaculture, shipping, ports, shipyards, marine and coastal tourism, the extraction of oil, gas, water, minerals, and the production of energy.

