



## **Potential evaluation criteria and indicators for knowledge transfer activities in coastal sciences - case studies from the North Sea region.**

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As in many other areas of environmental science, knowledge transfer and interaction with stakeholders gain increasing attention in coastal sciences. In this context, knowledge transfer activities are also subject of evaluations and there is an increasing interest in generally accepted evaluation criteria. To this effect, a discussion has been initiated at the Institute of Coastal Research, Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht (HZG), which is based on long-term experiences of different case studies in the North Sea Region.

Stakeholder groups, ranging e.g., from researchers, authorities, NGOs to industry, education, media and the interested public, increasingly require specific information, data products, and (long-term) contact persons for coastal issues in a changing world. To fulfil these demands, the Institute of Coastal Research, HZG, has developed and pursued a broad range of products, services, and communication formats in the framework of the initiatives COSYNA, coastDat, and in the Northern German Climate Office. COSYNA develops methods and systems with which the current state and changes in the North Sea coastal region and the Arctic Seas can be described, analyzed and forecast. Homogeneous and consistent long-term model data for the marine environment from hindcast and scenario simulations are contained in the coastDat database. The Northern German Climate Office maintains a long term stakeholder dialogue on coastal climate issues in Northern Germany. The data, data products and services are designed to be accessible for the various interest groups via different formats, e.g. internet (web services), print media, talks, round table discussions and others. In order to improve relevance and usability, workshops, interviews and other evaluation activities with stakeholders have been undertaken.

Focusing on the coastal perspective, we discuss potential criteria and indicators addressing the outputs (e.g. products and activities) and outcomes (e.g. effects) of our knowledge transfer activities. In order to ensure comparability among the different knowledge transfer activities a potential general set of criteria and indicators, each with specific modulations, is desirable. We discuss pros and cons of generalization in view of our specific case studies. Providing actual project experiences our study intends to contribute to the identification of overarching evaluation criteria and indices currently being formulated in the Helmholtz research field of Earth and Environment (see Schuck-Zöller et al.).