

OpenNESS Project

CENSE

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Operationalisation of Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services

The OpenNESS consortium consists of 35 partners, including 10 SMEs, from 14 European and four non-European countries.

Objectives

The OpenNESS approach is based on an iterative cycle of methodological development and refinement linked to application in a set of real-world case studies.

This case study in the Portuguese southwest coast – Costa Vicentina - explores ways in which natural capital and ecosystem services concepts can be used in support of the development of policies and instruments to ensure the delivery of selected ES and promote local stakeholders well-being.

Methodology

This coastal area provides a wide range of ecosystem services, from which the following will be assessed, food provision, tourism/recreation, other cultural and biodiversity/habitat/nature.

The research questions of this case study will be addressed through the use of diverse methods, namely, spreadsheet-type methods, QUICKscan, InVEST and System Dynamics.

Expected Results

- Maps ecosystem services provision
- A dynamic model describing the main interactions in the area, using system dynamics modeling
- Perceptions and importance of ES to local stakeholders' and monetary and non-monetary values of ecosystem services
- Inform and support decision making and design of policy instruments.

