



United Nations
Environment Programme



Mediterranean Action Plan
Barcelona Convention



COAST DAY



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
AND THE ENVIRONMENT



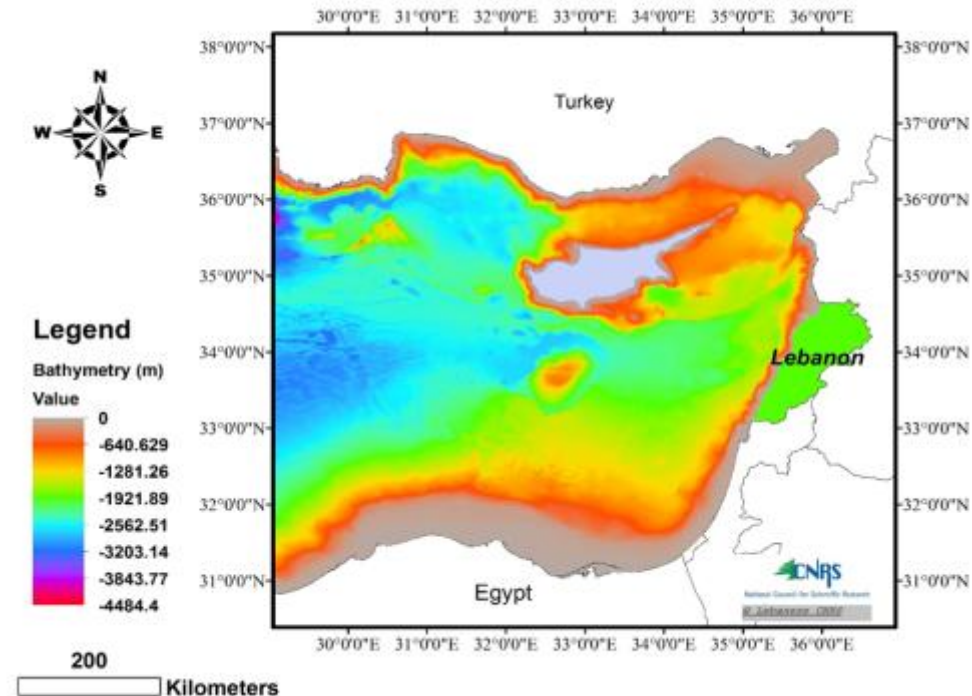
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT

Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Lebanon

Eng. Adel Yacoub and Eng. Paul Moussa, Ayia Napa, 25 September 2019

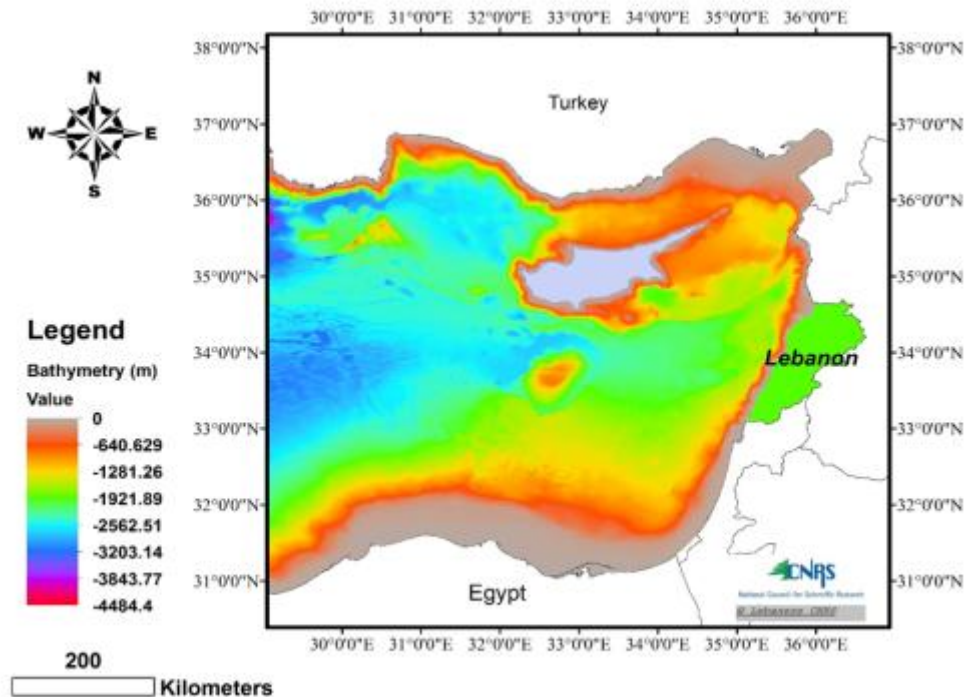
Overview on the Lebanese Coastal Zone

- Lebanese coastline, 220 km, eastern Mediterranean basin.
- Lebanon has a relatively deep coastal waters cover approximately 19,516 km².
- Approximately 20% of the coastline is sand or gravel.

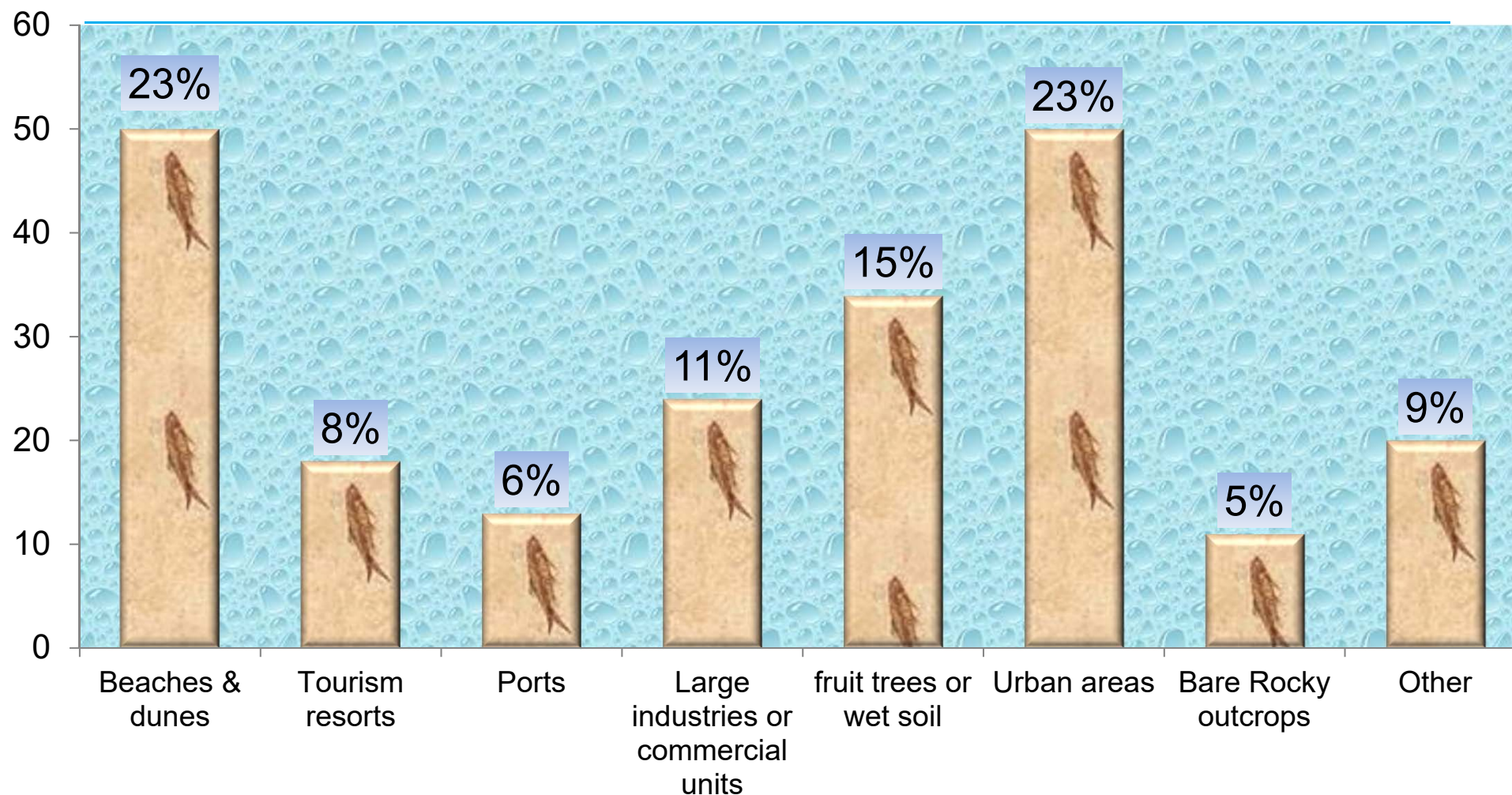


Overview on the Lebanese Coastal Zone

- Major anthropogenic pressures, in particular those associated with urbanisation.
- Remarkable habitats (marine biodiversity) have been noted along the coast of Lebanon.



Overview on the Lebanese Coastal Zone





Overview on the Lebanese Coastal Zone

So far, we have seen the shining side of the picture as the Coastal Lebanon contains:

- The most intense settlements of population and urban various activities (population more than 2.6 millions ...);
- Public Ports open to international trade;
- Private Ports destined to industrial activities;
- Recreational Ports (Marinas);
- Fishing and Leisure Ports.





Challenges at the National Level

- Increase of artificial groundwater wells;
- Many of the sandy beaches have been seriously degraded by illegal sand extraction, which has only been under control since the 1990s.
- Lack of available funds for national projects by the Lebanese Government;
- Lack of enforcement for coastal zone management;
- Administrative over burdens and Overlapping of authorities;
- Limited awareness on the value of, and the need for, appropriate collaboration and communication amongst stakeholder for the introduction of appropriate management measures;
- Lack of National Experts and understaffing at the MOE responsible for coastal and marine resources.



MOE Vision for the Lebanese Coastal Area

What we want to see...

- *Sustainable Development*



MOE Vision for the Lebanese Coastal Area

What we want to see...

- *Local Empowerment: economic, cultural and environmental significance of coastal areas.*



MOE Vision for the Lebanese Coastal Area

What we want to see...

- *Assessment and Management: (water protection, land-use management, cultural heritage protection)*



MOE Vision for the Lebanese Coastal Area

What we want to see...

- *Clean, public and FREE beaches*
- *Beaches maintained by the public through their awareness (mentioned earlier)*

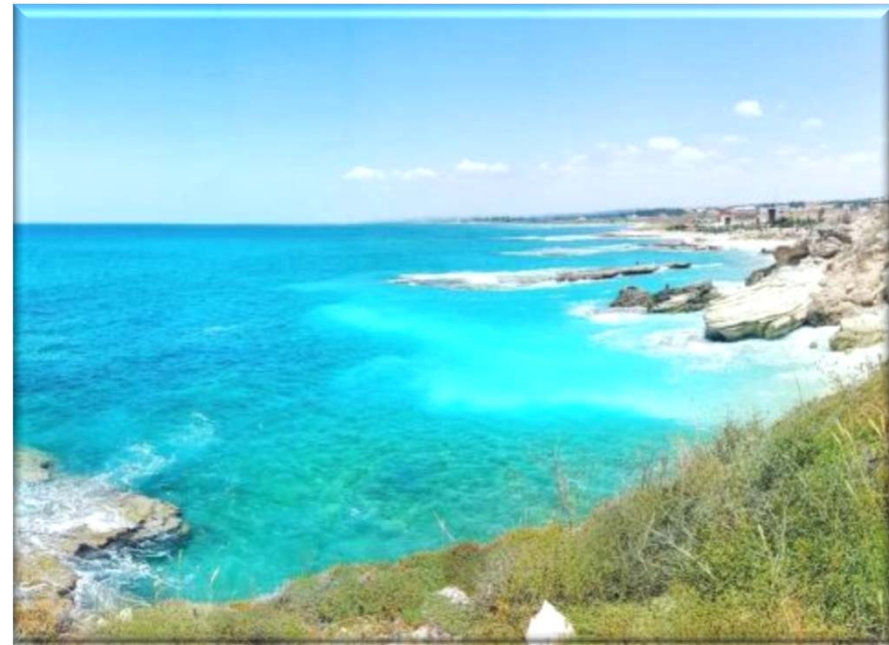


Tyre Beache - South of Lebanon

MOE Vision for the Lebanese Coastal Area

What we want to see...

- *Protecting seawater from all pollution, to swim without fear*



Batroun Beach – North of Lebanon

MOE Vision for the Lebanese Coastal Area

What we want to see...

- *Managing urban areas around the coast to improve living standards*
- *Preserving the natural landscape*

***Downtown Beirut:
Reclaimed after the civil
war 1975 and turned
into
commercial/touristic
site***



MOE Vision for the Lebanese Coastal Area

What we want to see...

- *Industries moved away from the sea*



MOE Vision for the Lebanese Coastal Area

What we want to see...

- *Preventing further mass tourism project, encouraging eco-tourism projects*



A women from Lebanese coastal village selling traditional made home-made food





MOE Achievements and Preparation

- Lebanese government approved a draft decree on Lebanon's ratification of ICZM Protocol on in 2014;
- Establishment of ICZM unit under the department of Protection of Natural Resources;
- MoE-Lebanon had prepared a draft law on ICZM in 2017 (Review and Update Needed);
- MoE-Lebanon had prepared a draft Strategy for coastal zone management in 2015 (Review and Update and endorsement Needed);
- Building inter-ministerial coordination by inviting related ministries to nominate their representatives in order to create a coordination group for the implementation of ICZM.



The importance of the implementation of MedProgramme child 2.1



- Sustainable development;
- Environment protection and climate resilience;
- Sustainable management of coastal areas and aquifers;
- Providing results and experiences;
- Using the experiences and results achieved by the project in other areas at national and regional levels (Duplication).

The project activities and outcomes present high consistency with national priorities and plans namely with outcomes 1 and 2.





MOE Priorities and Needs

Priorities	Needs
ICZM Degree 639	Support/ Implementation
ICZM strategy	Review/ Update Adoption/ Execution
Master Plan for the Coastal Areas	Develop /Align with National policies
ICZM Unit (established)	Support/ Training
Awareness Raising Campaign	Workshops/ Booklet/ Training
National Water Sector Strategy	Improve/ Refine climate change knowledge Improve water quality/ Evaluate environmental consequences of the proposed NWSS



National ICZM Strategy Rational for Lebanese Coast



Mission and Vision	Targets	Objectives and Goals
Well-managed coastal zone	Community well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the living conditions • Maintain the cultural identities,
Vibrant and diverse local economies	Environmental quality and nature conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and enhance a clean and healthy coastal environment
Free access to beaches	Economic products and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the economic development of different sectors and communities along the coast
Protected natural and cultural sites	Land use management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper land use planning • Identify suitable development areas • Protect areas of natural and cultural importance • Proper urban and rural transport
Well integrated transportation	Public participation and access to information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create space and mechanisms for participation and communication



Thank you!



Gibran Khalil Gibran,
1883- 1931

***“If Lebanon was not my country,
I would have chosen Lebanon to be my country...”***