

ECE Coastal Cities Initiative: for resilient human settlements in coastal areas in the ECE Region



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Background

The proposal was developed to support the implementation of the **Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE region 2014-2020** objective on urban planning:

By the year 2020, member States should develop territorial plans and/or other instruments to enforce planning regulations for areas in human settlements prone to natural and human generated disasters, attractive for private investments, ecologically sensitive and heritage sites.

UNECE member States by length of their sea coastlines and major cities in coastal areas

No.	Country	Coastlines in km	Major coastal cities
1	Canada	202,080	Vancouver, Halifax, Moncton
2	Russian Federation	37,653	St. Petersburg, Vladivostok
3	Norway	25,148	Oslo, Bergen, Kragerø, Kristiansand
4	USA	19,924	Boston, NYC, New Orleans, Seattle
5	Greece	13,676	Thessaloniki, Patras, Heraklion
6	United Kingdom	12,429	London, Edinburgh, Plymouth
7	Italy	7,600	Venice, Naples, Palermo
8	Denmark	7,314	Copenhagen, Aarhus, Esbjerg
9	Croatia	5,835	Rijeka, Zadar, Dubrovnik
10	Iceland	4,970	Reykjavik, Hafnarfjörður
11	Spain	4,964	Barcelona, Bilbao, Vigo
12	France	4,853	Marseille, Nice, La Rochelle
13	Estonia	3,794	Tallinn, Parnu
14	Sweden	3,218	Malmo, Gothenburg, Stockholm
15	Germany	2,389	Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven, Stralsund

Objective of the study

To provide classification of coastal areas and the development of policy advice and guidance for cities in the coastal areas in the ECE region.

Proposed activities

- Elaboration of a classification system for coastal areas;
- Development of a classification of coastal areas
- Pilot activities for testing the classification system
- Development of guidelines for ECE coastal cities, including best practices;
- Capacity building activities, aimed at facilitating exchange of best practices and building capacities

Planned cooperation

- UN-Habitat
- UNEP
- UNDP
- UNISDR
- OECD
- JRC
- ICLEI, UCLG
- Universities, think-tanks