Attitudes towards the coastal sea – challenge for the interdisciplinary science



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Some are widely accepted

Some are just recommendations

Some are undoable

all are met by people from different cultures, relations to the sea





Compared populations – we present just expert judgement, not new research data

Japan – islanders, long historical and strong links with the sea, Shinto, high average life standard Indonesia (Bali) – islanders, strong links with the sea, Hindu, medium to low average life standard Poland – mainland, weak and short links with the sea, Catholics, medium average life standard Germany – mainland & Islands, long historical links with the sea, Protestants, high average life standard







Our basic relations to the sea

source of income – direct or indirect sea uses part of property – ownership, renting, formal responsibility for the sea space cause of loss – catastrophic accidents, regular risk, spiritual value – cultural, educational, religion, sense of place – bond with the coastal place, by tradition, family or national identification



Same words – different meaning

"Healthy sea" :

Vacationeer – no bugs, clear and safe water Fisherman – fish are easy obtained, no other worries Industrial investor – no obstacles to my infrastructure Govermental agent – no threat for property or claims Environmentalist – space for Nature, humans limited

",Coastal protection" :

Govermental agent – state boarder defence aginst erosion Environmentalist – protection of natural processes & biota









Stakeholder's affiliation is more important than national/cultural identity

Marine fishers Coastal/stationary fishers Aquaculture Tourism/leisure and recreation Technical exploitation Influencers (conservation, education, science) Governmental agents coastal residents mountain people (never saw the sea)



Common for all

from the range of descriptors - extreme infrastructure (a) to extreme naturalness (b), majority of answers present impossible option (C)







Sea users are excluding each other



Oversized responsibility for erosion -





Conflict between "gardener principle" and ecosystem approach to marine fishery





"Why seal exists" – fisherman's question



Common for all misconception – fisherman as a farmer



Farmer – owns land, owns products, full controll on production and delivery



Common or state owned Sea, does not own the fish before in boat, no influence on yield, international or national control

Issue: marine mammals protection

• Difference between industrial and unregulated catches versus local and limited, focused catch



Growing problem - from trust to distrust to Science,



June 2015, Poland, coastal fisherman on protest against sea mammal protection



November 2020, Poland, Independent Fisherman's Committee, opens own research and claims to prove that "phytoplankton died out, and ecosystem collapsed in the Baltic Sea" - they claim to represent "Traditional Environmental Knowledge"

Respect and understanding of the sea is formed on different levels

Me and my neighbour (first hand experience)

Other humans (media information)

Other living creature (education, administration)

Extreme phenomenon - Climate, Ocean (Science)

Abstract concept (dignity of the Nature) (Spiritual leaders) For the Ocean Decade, we need advance in humanities approach to the marine literacy

- New extensive sociological studies focused on the different marine stakeholders
- Building trust to the formal science
- Involve spiritual values like : emotion, estetics, empathy