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Coastal Network Information System, Gold Coast Queensland, Australia.

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Coastal protection strategies can only be developed effectively with the input from, and interaction with, a range of stakeholders - both public and private. An information system has been developed which enables the storage and presentation of numerous sources and formats of data, and which also enables the presentation of the output from numerical simulation of coastal processes and engineering activity such as beach nourishment. Through the integration of data management, process simulation and graphical representation of complex coastal environments, the management system can be used as a decision support system for use for politicians, engineers, managers and the general community. The aim of the research presented in this article seeks to create a tool to implement ICZM. It allows beach protection recommendations and applications for predicting episodic beach changes and estimating erosion damage exposure probabilities. From an ICZM context, these tools offer the potential to improve the understanding of coastal erosion hazards and keep up beach surveys database. The monitoring and testing of this project within Councils in France and Australia will show how ICZM could be worldwide concretely implemented. Indeed, using these tools for educating and sensitizing coastal stakeholders is also an essential part of the coastal planning process.