

Interactive comment on “The support of multidimensional approaches in integrate monitoring for SEA: a case of study” by C. M. Torre and M. Selicato

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Monitoring is a relevant phase of Strategic Environmental Assessment; it can be considered as a “proactive phase”, able to provide indications for the progressive realignment of plan content to environmental protection goals, establishing specific corrective actions. According to the above perspective, the authors have developed a dynamic spatial monitoring system, consistent with a concept of monitoring as a complex and multifaceted activity, a decision support activity connected to assessment analysis. In particular, the proposal of a multidimensional approach is able to define an evaluative framework that can help generate more efficient and effective results than sector-

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specific approaches. The case study demonstrates that interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity can be essential, above all if they include the cognitive skills and habits of the stakeholders and experts involved in mutual, joint and dynamic learning processes. At the same time, the application of spatial tools, with the support of GIS, is useful in identifying territorial references, defining a more complete and integrated framework of analysis and evaluation, which is able to elaborate multi-model simulations for the assessment of impacts and effects. In particular, the integration of Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA) and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) is remarkably fruitful in monitoring processes according to a systemic perspective, where an interactive and iterative approach is essential. Indeed, this research article is worthwhile, through the implementation of a robust and well justified methodology, able to obtain remarkable operative results in the spatial context of the case-study area. Author's work is the result of a sustained and in-depth research, rigorous and innovative in methodological terms, using advanced theoretical developments. Furthermore, the expression is clear and the structure is appropriate.

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