

# Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) and Integrated Coastal Management (ICM): Divergence and Complementarity

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The EBM and ICM paradigms provide direct responses to the two greatest challenges of coastal management, namely conserving ecosystem services and achieving sustainable development. However, practitioners are often confused with the use of various resource management or ecosystem conservation approaches. In recent years, ICM has been actively promoted especially in the Asian region while new initiatives advocating for a more conservation-baised. Ecosystem-Based Management approaches are being promoted in order to stop and restore the rapidly declining ecosystem functions and services. The wise application of these two management paradigms is necessary to ensure a comprehensive approach in addressing environmental (including ecosystem) concerns in local areas as well as in large bays, gulfs and coastal seas. This paper attempts to explore the divergence and complementarity in terms of concept, limitation, approaches and applications with special reference on the case studies and experiences in the Asian region. The paper highlights the role of national policy and efforts in promoting the application of these two management paradigms in achieving common goal and objectives.



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