A New Approach to Evaluate the Environmental Impact of the Coastal Waters in Sicily

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Abstract
Suitable monitoring programmes for the conservation and the rational exploitation of the sea resources are required by the growing anthropic pressure on the sea environment in general, and the coastal system in particular.
Special analysis techniques have been developed thanks to the request for monitoring and recovering the environment where human being is strongly present.
In the whole basin of the Sicily waters a survey has been carried out because of the need to monitor the coastal waters, not only estimating the immediate parameters through the measurement of the pollutant agents, but also using bio-indicators expressing temporally consistent information. According to a well-defined survey plan the condition analysis in 60 different sites of the Sicily coasts has led to the creation of an evaluation protocol of the sea coast environment quality easily applicable to other sites.