

# Identifying indicators to manage coastal ecosystems in India

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Coastal zones attract a number of economic activities. Anthropogenic activities play a significant role in the environmental changes occurring in the coastal zone. There is a need for efficient tools to assess the impacts of these activities. Indicators are tools that help in measuring and monitoring these activities and are pre-requisites to scientific assessments of environmental impacts of any system. This paper addresses the issue of identifying the development drivers behind the changes in the coastal zone as well as identifying indicators that create pressure on the coastal ecosystems and measure the state of the coastal ecosystems of India. These indicators can be used to locate stressed areas in the coastal region. Conceptual frameworks connecting each of the activities to the coastal ecosystems are also presented.