



COASTAL MANAGEMENT 2025

Creating a climate for change
16-18 September 2025, Bristol, UK

Abstract submissions and template guidelines

Submission guidelines

This guidance note is intended to offer some helpful hints without being excessively prescriptive. The diversity of our contributors across geographies and sectors is a particular strength of the conference, so we want to remain sufficiently flexible to accommodate a variety of novel contributions.

Informal guidance on preparing an effective abstract

The initial abstract submission is the basis upon which the Organising Committee selects the papers to take forward to full presentation and the conference proceedings publication.

We expect to review more than 200 abstracts, of which about half will be taken forward.

We hope the following advice will help to prevent some potentially excellent papers not 'making the cut' at the initial selection stage because abstracts have been poorly constructed or presented.

Maximum stated length for abstracts: 500 words

Typeface: please use Arial, size 11

Recommendations for writing your coastal management abstract

Please try to write about work that has already been completed. Delegates may be less interested in work that is anticipated or still in progress.

Think carefully about the title of your proposed paper. Does it adequately capture the novel contribution? Is it specific enough to be helpful?

Try to construct an abstract that includes scene-setting; key motivations; prime objectives; key aspects of the methods used; main findings; and any onward impact.

Use language that is accessible to those who may have knowledge of the broader coastal engineering arena but are not necessarily specialised in your branch of the sector.

Try to include key quantifications to give the reader a sense of scale or provide them with precise information (rather than saying, for example, "we found agreement between predicted and measured data").

Where relevant:

Do include one or two images/graphics, such as photos or sketches, if they will help the reader to visualise the setting (in the field, lab or simulation) or a key output. Please make sure that the abstract text refers to these figures.

Do include references. These should include only sources that have been cited in the abstract.

Do acknowledge any contributors (for example, funders) who are instrumental to the work.

At the same time:

Don't use a writing style that could be interpreted as overly promotional or considered as marketing. A measured account of your work will promote itself and the reader will form their own judgement of its value.

Don't use jargon, nor any abbreviations or acronyms that are not defined at the point of their first use.

Don't include figures with text (such as graph axes or annotations) that is too small to be easily legible.