

THE 21ST CENTURY SOLUTION

The plan now for Giardini-Naxos Bay is to “hold the line”. This means to reinstate the beach to its former glory and then work out how to keep it in this state.

This is being tackled by using both HARD and SOFT engineering:-

- removing the causes of the beach’s deterioration ... and ...
- adding in measures to return the beach to its former state

In 2000, the Mayor of Giardini-Naxos wanted to save and reinstate the beach to revitalise Giardini-Naxos. Tourism was suffering greatly – everyone loves a good beach!

Geographers from the University of Messina became involved. Their Audit Report showed how both the breakwater and the groynes were ineffective and a double point plan was suggested:-

- augment and nourish the beach ... and ...
- build a submerged breakwater

SCHEME 1: AUGMENTATION NOURISHMENT SOLUTIONS:

The source of sand for beach nourishment was initially taken from the supplies that had built up by the old breakwater, from the harbour in Capo Schisò; see photograph opposite.

Sand from a shore was also used at intervals to add match to the remaining sands on the beach.

The area where beach nourishment has been carried out can be seen below.

Although beach nourishment began in September/October 2005, using dredgers and sprayers - what has been put back has now been lost! It is now estimated that there will have to be a 20% recharge each year to maintain the beach.

TASK 8:

(a) Who do you think would have been in favour of the beach nourishment and why?

