



THE MID TERM CONFERENCE OF THE PROJECT GREAT MED:

FIRST RESULTS

The Project GREAT Med (Generating a Risk and Ecological Analysis Toolkit for the Mediterranean) aims to develop new tools, methodologies, techniques and strategies for the conservation of marine and coastal areas, estimating and preventing the risks associated with human activities and promoting a sustainable use of these areas. It is funded for 90% (€ 1,743,012) by the European Union under the programme ENPI CBC MED, with a total budget amounting to € 1,936,896.

The project is implemented in five pilot sites located around the Mediterranean, in order to assess the feasibility and replicability of the methodological procedure in different cultural, economic and landscape contexts. In particular, the areas under investigation are the Gulf of Cagliari in southern Sardinia, the coastal area of Provence in southern France, the Gulf of Gabès in Tunisia, the coastal areas around Beirut and around the ancient city of Byblos in Lebanon. GREAT Med will also realize a web GIS, hosted by the project's website, that can be viewed and queried by all local stakeholders and decision makers.

On March 19, the Mid Term Conference took place at the Aula Magna of the Faculty of Architecture - Fontanella Borghese, in order to present the state of the art and preliminary results at the end of the project's first year. Special attention was given to the assessment of biodiversity at plant species and habitat levels and to the analysis of risks due to pollution and anthropization in the study areas, especially in the Gulf of Cagliari.

The event benefited from the participation of representatives from several organizations involved in coastal area management. Marko Prem (UNEP-MAP RAC PAP), which is an Associate Partner in this project, presented the Protocol on Integrated Management of Coastal Areas in the Mediterranean. Barbara Negri (Italian Space Agency) illustrated the use of satellite remote sensing in coastal management and presented the collaborative project Risc Kenya (Remote Informative System to support integrated coastal zone management action plan in Kenya) between ASI and the DIAEE Department of Sapienza University of Rome. Alessandro Gianni (Greenpeace Italy), Rosalba Giugni and Federico Di Penta (Marevivo), and Francesca Ottaviani (Legambiente) enriched the event showing experiences and objectives of their respective organizations that relate to the GREAT Med topics. Daniela Addis (National Coordinator of Italy) illustrated the CAMP project, which shares many crucial issues with GREAT Med. Likewise, Daniel Ballesteros Bargues (Centre of Biodiversity Conservation of Cagliari University) presented the ENPI CBC Med project ECOPLANTMED, from which GREAT Med will draw precious lessons as regards *insitu* and *exsitu* conservation. Anna Maria Cicero (ISPRA Institute for Environmental Protection and Research) gave an overview of experiences ranging from the analysis of the environmental impacts caused by the wreck of the Costa Concordia to the use of a GIS support for Marine Protected Areas managing and zoning. Finally, Aleandro Tinelli (Technical Director) reported on the dune reconstruction activities carried out



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in the Presidential Estate of Castel Porziano, whereas Angelo De Vita (Director) illustrated highlights and critical situations in the National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano.

The conference emphasized the importance of strict collaborations among organizations and the involvement of all actors - managers of protected natural areas as decision makers, national and local agencies as stakeholders, academia and research institutes as principal investigators- for properly addressing sustainable and integrated coastal management.



GREAT Med



GREATMedProject

greatmed-coordination@uniroma1.it

greatmed-communication@uniroma1.it

The 2007-2013 ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme is a multilateral Cross-Border Cooperation initiative funded by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). The Programme objective is to promote the sustainable and harmonious cooperation process at the Mediterranean Basin level by dealing with the common challenges and enhancing its endogenous potential. It finances cooperation projects as a contribution to the economic, social, environmental and cultural development of the Mediterranean region. The following 14 countries participate in the Programme: Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Palestine, Portugal, Spain, Syria (participation currently suspended), Tunisia. The Joint Managing Authority (JMA) is the Autonomous Region of Sardinia (Italy). Official Programme languages are Arabic, English and French (www.enpicbcmmed.eu).

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