

2014 - 2020 Interreg V-A Italy - Croatia CBC Programme Call for proposal 2019 Strategic

# MARLESS (MARine Litter cross-border awarenESS and innovation actions)

Priority Axis: Environment and cultural heritage; Specific objective: 3.3 - Improve the environmental quality conditions of the sea and coastal area by use of sustainable and innovative technologies and approaches

# D 2.3.1 High level international events

2.3. International communication & dissemination of project results

WP2

Version: FINAL
Distribution: PUBLIC
Date: 30.06.2023



Work Package:	2. Communication activities
Activity:	2.3 International communication & dissemination of project results
WP Leader:	PP9 IRENA – ISTRIAN REGIONAL ENERGY AGENCY L.T.D.
Deliverable:	D 2.3.1 High level international events

Version:	FINAL	Date:	30.06.2023
Туре:	Report		
Availability:	Public		
Responsible Partner:	PP2 - AUTONOMOUS REGION FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA		
	PP3 – REGIONAL DEVELOPM	IENT AGEN	CY DUBROVNIK-NERETVA
	COUNTY-DUNEA		
Involved Partner	PP2 and PP3, All PPs		
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#### 1. Introduction

Two MARLESS High Level Events have bring together experts, relevant policy makers and the general public in order to discuss and tackle the problem of marine litter in the Adriatic Sea. By raising citizens' awareness and promoting international cooperation, the event aims to share best practices, recognize the importance of the issue, as well as promote innovative solutions in joint efforts to address this phenomenon.

First evets was organized by PP2 Region Friuli Venezia Giulia at 16th June 2021. Unfortunately, because of COVID-19 pandemic, event was organized online.

Second one was be organized by DUNEA as final international conference in Dubrovnik, 18 May 2023, with 4 panel discussions: "Adriatic Sea as driver of development – focusing on ML issues"; "Impact of ML on biodiversity"; "ML in fisheries and aquaculture sector – fishermen and shellfish farmers as guardians of the sea"; "ML as global problem with no administrative borders".



# 2. First High level international events - A clean Adriatic Sea for future generations

Project Partner:	PP2 – Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia
Name of event:	A clean Adriatic Sea for future generations
Date:	16th June 2021
Venue:	On-line Meeting
Short description of event:	MARLESS High Level Event brings together experts, relevant policy makers and the general public in order to discuss and tackle the problem of marine litter in the Adriatic Sea. By raising citizens' awareness and promoting international cooperation, the event aims to share best practices, recognise the importance of the issue, as well as promote innovative solutions in joint efforts to address this phenomenon.
Speakers speeches brief summary and conclusion:	Fabio Scoccimarro (Regional minister for environment, energy and sustainable development - Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia), Elizabeta Kos (Director of the Water Management and Marine Protection Directorate - Croatian Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development) and Pietro Cecchinato (Interreg Italia-Croazia Managing authority) all gave a welcome speech and introduction to the event and emphasized the importance of the MARLESS project, of international cooperation and of environmental protection, especially of the Adriatic Sea. Andrea Torresan from ARPA Veneto presented the MARLESS project and its most important points and timelines.  Silvia Bartolini (Head of Unit Marine Environment and Water Industry - European Commission) presented the EU vision and the main objectives of Green Deal and Zero Pollution, as well as some other announced initiatives and the objectives of Horizon 2030.  Francesca De Pascalis from CNR-ISMAR presented the H2020 - MAELSTROM project and its new solutions from the removal and recycling of marine litter. She presented the main MAELSTROM points and pillars.  Anica Brlek Juren (Water Management and Marine Protection Directorate - Croatian Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development) presented the Project Plastic Busters MPAs: Preserving biodiversity from plastics in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas, its main goals, activities and expected results.  Fabio Fava (BLUEMED Initiative, on behalf of the BLUEMED GSO & University of Bologna) presented the BLUEMED initiative: its aims, actions, priorities, as well as mapped projects and initiatives, such as BlueMed hubs.  Massimo Romita (councillor for the environment, parks and maritime policy for the municipality of Duino Aurisina) presented the efforts of the municipality in protecting the environment, as well as the most important project and initiatives launched.

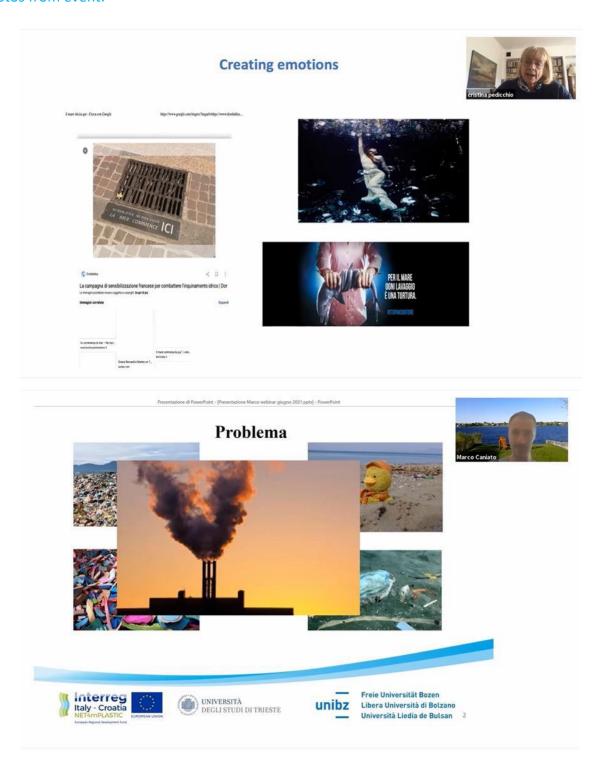


MARLESS	EUROPEAN UNION
	Robert Mohorović (Senior Advisor for International Projects - City of Labin) presented the most important initiatives of the city of Labin in protecting the environment (the most important being Green habits for a sustainable Labin Area), as well as the main activities, examples of good practices and plans for the future.  Marco Caniato from the University of Trieste presented the Project NET4mPLASTIC - New opportunities for the recycling of microplastics and some of the main problems, solutions and results.  Diego Santaliana from Polo tecnologico Alto Adriatico presented the project ECOMAP and its insights, focuses, target groups, main project sites, results and the upcoming animation and dissemination activity.  Alvise Benedetti from the University of Venice talked about the development of biomolecular kits for the monitoring of microplastics in agro-food products and organic matrices and the main procedures and results.  Maria Cristina Pedicchio from the Association MareVivo presented the project From Hell to Heaven: a journey into
Role of MARLESS partner in the event:	PP2 organised and moderated the event and worked on the postproduction. LP and IRENA collaborated in the organisation of the event.
Type of audience/target groups involved:	Relevant policy makers (regional Italian minister, members of the Croatian ministry, head of Unit at European Commission), relevant experts (from initiatives, associations, universities, regions), members of the local communities and the general public

Recording of whole events can be found at project YouTube Chanell in <u>Italian</u> and <u>Croatian</u> language.



#### Photos from event:





## IL COMUNE DI DUINO AURISINA OBČINA DEVIN NABREŽINA PER IL RISPETTO DELL'AMBIENTE

#### GIUGNO 2018 - AVVIO DEL PROGETTO MARE MORJE SAILING

L'Amministrazione comunale con la nuova edizione del progetto di promozione turistica vuole rafforzare i concetti di rispetto e tutela dei mare, delle attività che si svolgono sui mare e sui territorio circostante. Attraverso una rete composta da Capitaneria di Porto, Riserva della Biosfera Unesco di Miramare, associazioni nautiche, operatori economici, stabilimenti balneari, scuole diving, cantieri navali e pescatori, si intende sviluppare un progetto articolato che metta al centro la tutela del nostro ambiente. Con il progetto si vuole valorizzare le attività legate alla nautica, al diportismo e al mare estendo la stagione turistica del territorio al fine di aumentare il movimento turistico sul territorio comunale e regionale nel rispetto dell'ambiente.





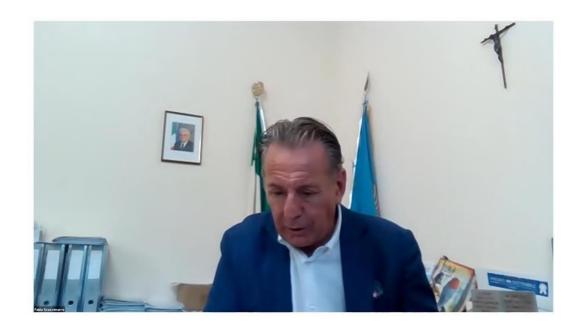








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## WP5-Cross-bounduary management plan



#### Advocacy actions in EU Institutions

- Presentare i gap tra le differenti direttive per raggiungere un comune e forte impatto sul ML
- Discutere i risultati delle azioni di monitoraggio e delle azioni pilato con esperti all'interno della Commissione Europea

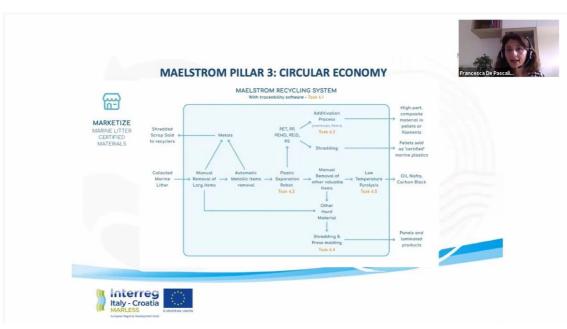






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Is pleased to invite you at High Level Event of Project MARLESS entitled:

#### A CLEAN ADRIATIC SEA FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS



WHEN

Wednesday, 16th June 2021 from 10:00 to 12:00



WHERE

Zoom

## DESCRIPTION

MARLESS High Level Event brings together experts, relevant policy makers and the general public in order to discuss and tackle the problem of marine litter in the Adriatic Sea. By raising citizens' awareness and promoting international cooperation, the event aims to share best practices, recognise the importance of the issue, as well as promote innovative solutions in joint efforts to address this phenomenon.

Register via: MARLESS website

The registration will be closed on 15th June 2021 at 14:00.







# 3. Second High level international events - MARLESS Final international conference

<b>Project Partner:</b>	Regional agency DUNEA	
Name of event:	MARLESS international conference	
Date:	18.05.2023.	
Venue:	Lazareti complex, Dubrovnik	
Short description of event:	Regional agency DUNEA organized MARLESS international conference on May 18 <sup>th,</sup> day after MARLESS final partners meeting. It was a high level event which consisted of two parts — panel discussions and art program. There were four panel discussions which different themes, but with one general similarity — the problem of marine litter.	
	The first panel of the MARLESS international conference brought together representatives of the neighbouring countries — Croatia, Italy and Montenegro and unfolds dialogues on the topic of preserving the marine environment that we all share. On this panel it was concluded that marine litter truly knows no administrative boundaries and requires synergic action as a response.  The second panel of the MARLESS international conference hosted experts from Italy and Croatia and covered topics from innovative solutions for marine litter collection and treatment, such are fantastic solutions of robots collecting our garbage and pyrolysis waste treatment.  Scientists, eco-activists, but also decision making representatives participated in third panel, where they explored the possibilities of new products in fisheries and inspired the introduction of circular economy premises.  The fourth and final panel of the MARLESS international conference covered the topic of waste in the sea and biodiversity. In this panel, a lot was told about the problem of plastic waste as a fraction that, once it reaches the environment, never disappears, but is broken down into smaller and smaller pieces, which is called micoplastics.  Art program consisted of local artists who were selling their products on the outside venue. Part of the art program was also an exhibition event. An exhibition of children's work created in the ECO games "Recycling turns things into other things, which is like	
	MAGIC". The 1 <sup>st</sup> game involved elementary school students, specifically the 8 <sup>th</sup> grade of Opuzen Elementary School and all classes of the Opuzen Secondary Agricultural and Technical School, whose task was to make a plant container from previously used, waste materials. By recycling waste, the authors created true works of art, where the initial function of the objects gain a completely new purpose and form, thus showing the "magic of recycling". The 2nd game involved 8 <sup>th</sup> graders from Cavtat elementary school. Their task was to use waste fractions to create a marine turtle sculpture. By recycling multiple waste fractions, coherent connections and impressive artistic compositions were successfully formed. In this game, children used waste to create art but also managed to	



MARLESS	send a strong visual message on marine turtle vulnerability and the dangers that human waste poses to this protected marine animal.
Speakers speeches brief summary and conclusion:	There were 24 speakers on MARLESS international conference (including moderators) and the general summary and conclusion was that only by working together and step by step we can reduce marine litter and make our seas cleaner.
Role of MARLESS partner in the event:	Regional agency DUNEA organized the MARLESS international conference and participated as a host and MARLESS project partner.
Type of audience/target groups involved:	MARLESS project partners, scientists, decision makers and general public.

#### Photos:













