

INFO –DAYS ORGANIZED IN THE PROJECT PILOT SITES

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FOREWORD

(This document has been produced in the framework of the INTERREG Italy – Croatia CHANGE WE CARE Project. CHANGE WE CARE fosters concerted and coordinated climate adaptation actions at transboundary level, tested in specific and representative pilot sites, exploring climate risks faced by coastal and transitional areas contributing to a better understanding of the impact of climate variability and change on water regimes, salt intrusion, tourism, biodiversity and agro-ecosystems affecting the cooperation area. The main goal of the Project is to deliver integrated, ecosystem-based and shared planning options for different problems related to climate change (CC), together with adaptation measures for vulnerable areas, to decision makers and coastal communities. Additional information and updates on the CHANGE WE CARE can be found at <https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/changewecare>.

Executive Summary

The first 5 infodays of CHANGE WE CARE project have been carried out between May and June 2019.

These events took place at the project pilot sites: Neretva River Delta (May 16th), Kastela Bay & Jadro River (May 29th), Banco della Mula of Muggia (June 24th), Park Delta del Po (June 27th) and Vransko Lake (June 28th), were occasions to present the project objectives and the expected results to the local authorities and citizens and to outline the methodological approaches that would be used to address the environmental issues affecting the pilot sites, mainly due to the climate change.

Through these infodays, the CHANGE WE CARE team has therefore initiated those participatory processes aimed at developing specific conservation plans for each pilot site.

Neretva River Delta

The info-day of the Neretva River Delta pilot site was held on May 16 in Dubrovnik, at the Hotel Lero, starting at 10:00 am. The event, organized by the Public Body for the management of the Neretva protected area was an important occasion to present the aims and the expected results of the project and the Neretva River Delta site, which is the largest and most important wetland on the eastern coast of the Adriatic. The area is suffering a number of issues related to climate change such as seawater intrusion, reduced freshwater inflow, settlement of invasive species and loss of habitat suitable for agriculture and fishery.

About seventy people including representatives of Dubrovnik-Neretva County (15), Regional Development Agency Dunea (9), Representatives of local authorities (32), Croatian Parliament (7) representatives as well as the local community (8) attended this event which saw the prefect of the county Nikola Dobrosravić open the works highlighting the importance of European funding to be able to carry out environmental protection activities. The various experiences gained in the development and implementation of EU projects were illustrated through a round table, some of which highlighted possible and interesting synergies with CHANGE WE CARE. The environmental problems linked to climate change which is impacting the pilot site of the Neretva River delta as well as the consequences they may have on the ecology and economy of the area were then presented along with the planned project activities aimed to successfully address them (<https://www.zastita-priode-dnz.hr/info-dan-projekt-change-we-care/>, <http://www.zzpudnz.hr/NOVOSTI/nov20190517.aspx>).



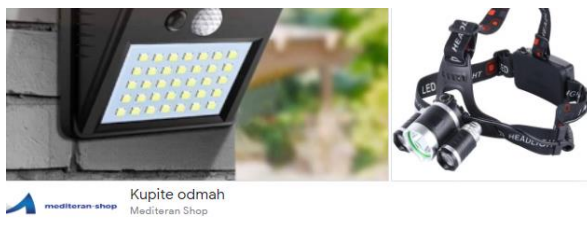
Figure 1: Neretva River Delta info day (Dubrovnik, May 16th, 2019)

Kaštela Bay and Jadro River

The info-day of Kaštela Bay and Jadro River pilot site was held on May 29th 2019 in Kaštel Lukšić, Dvorac Vitturi begins at 18:45 and it was aimed at presenting the environmental issues affecting the area, which is one of the most productive sites in the Central Adriatic Sea but it is affected by problems related to climate change, such as the sea-level rise and saline intrusion, drought, heatwaves and floods. To cope with these issues, measures to reduce the risk of floods and mitigate the saline intrusion are needed to be established, in collaboration with all stakeholders, in order to protect both the ecosystem of the bay and the economy of the entire area.

The event organized by the Public Body for the Coordination and Development of the County of Split-Dalmatia (RERA-SD) was attended by 36 participants. There were 11 participants from University and research institutes, 7 participants from Regional and development agencies, 7 participants from National, regional and local authorities and 11 General public participants. The meeting was started with the speech of the City of Kaštela representative and the Dean of the Faculty of civil engineering, architecture and geodesy. The RERA SD team then presented the CHANGE WE CARE project and during a round table the environmental problems related to climate change affecting Kaštela Bay and the Jadro River, which are threatening many economic activities in the area (especially tourism), were discussed. The project activities foreseen in the pilot site of Kaštela Bay and the Jadro River have aroused great interest as they will provide useful management tools to tackle the problem of climate change in the area.

Parallel to the panel discussion all the participants could get all the information about goals and activities of Change We Care project through the dissemination materials available on the info table, and in personal contact with employees of Public institution.



odručje Kaštelanskog zaljeva i ušća rijeke Jadro prepoznato je kao izuzetno anjivo područje te je odabrano kao pilot područje projekta 'Change we care' koji je govoren u sklopu programa Interreg Italija-Hrvatska. Projektom će se utvrditi vjere prilagodbe na klimatske promjene i ta saznanja prenijeti građanima i tijelima prave.

Podijeli 5 Tweetaj Sviđa mi se

P. I. | 31. 05. 2019. | 10:35h

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Figure 2: Screenshot of press review, link is no more active.



Figure 3: Kaštela Bay and Jadro River info day (Kaštel Lukšić, May 29th, 2019)

Banco della Mula di Muggia

The infoday of Banco della Muggia pilot site was held in Grado on June 24th, 2019 starting from 16:00, organized by the Geological Service of the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia (Project Partner) at the Municipal Council Hall. About 17 people including representatives of the local and regional authorities, touristic operators, universities, press agencies and citizens (6 representatives of the local and regional authorities, 2 touristic operators, 3 universities, 1 press agencies and 5 citizens) attended this event which was aimed at illustrating the activities specifically planned for the Banco della Mula di Muggia, a site located near the mouth of the Isonzo and included within the Natura 2000 network, which encompasses a vast area of shallow waters consisting of a series of sandy bars arranged in the shape of an arch and covered, in their internal part, by dense seagrass meadows. These banks are migrating towards the tourist beaches of the area and consequently, the development of a management plan aiming at protecting both the particular ecosystem and the tourist / economic development of the entire area is urgently needed.

The event opened with welcome greetings from the Mayor of Grado Dario Raugna and of the Regional Councilor for the Environment Fabio Scocciarro, who underlined how, also through this project, the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region is committed to adapting to international directives for the protection and sustainable development of coastal areas and to promote trans-national agreements that can outline the actions to be pursued in the environmental field in the near future.

The CHANGE WE CARE team, represented by Project Coordinator Davide Bonaldo (ISMAR) and Antonio Bratus (Geological Service of the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia) then presented the objectives of the project and the methodological approach that will be used above all to address the problems concerning the pilot site of Banco della Mula di Muggia, whose particular characteristics have been outlined also thanks to the intervention of Giorgio Fontolan and Annelore Bezzi of the Mathematics and Geosciences Department of the University of Trieste.

During the info day RAFVG (PP4) delivered the Italian version of the factsheet describing the project pilot sites Banco della Mula di Muggia. The factsheet is formed by two A4 pages, containing a brief overview of the both project and the site (first page), and more specific information on its geomorphological and ecological features, the main problems to be tackled and objectives to achieve describing also the activities to carry out and the stakeholder to be involved (second page)

The press review of the event at the following links:

https://www.regione.fvg.it/rafvfg/comunicati/comunicato.act?dir=%2Frafvg%2Fcms%2FRAFVG%2Fnotizi edallagiunta%2F&nm=20190624184511013&fbclid=IwAR3pMLGQBr8tMc_pfegEzkTU7mHNaxRUeA_8EkSBIB7bH1BTNaWkQ6Oo2U

https://www.ansa.it/europa/notizie/la_tua_europa/notizie/2019/06/25/europa-regioni-clima-mula-di-muggia-fvg-sito-pilota-ue_5db37f4b-4522-4f63-927a-5cd3e5db5deb.html?fbclid=IwAR3FTHxYB6Yk8l2l3mMrChi07owEFpU4_HdzqF7meI8FGWndk-mS6kK8SR4

https://www.ilgiornaledellaprotezionecivile.it/t/fvg-mula-di-muggia-nuovo-sito-pilota-per-il-monitoraggio-delle-aree-costiere/?fbclid=IwAR0iwacdZ779aUfzt259Pqpy8M4-WWCr-zbbjbSCqyJVYdabsep_yaSlzTk#.XRH4yfMYWpg.facebook



Figure 4: Banco della Mula di Muggia info day (Grado, June 24th, 2019)

Po River Delta

The infoday of Po River Delta pilot site was held on June 27th, 2019 in Goro in the Po Delta Park. The event, organized by the Management Body for Parks and Biodiversity - Delta del Po, in collaboration with CNR-ISMAR, the Veneto Region, the Emilia Romagna Region and ISPRA, took place in the Hall of the former province of Ferrara, Via of the Harbor Offices, Goro (FE) starting at 14:30.

The event was attended by about 25 participants included representatives of local and regional authorities, economic operators, universities and research and it was aimed at providing the audience with an overview of the project activities and in particular to inform on how the project team intends to face the problems affecting the area of Sacca di Goro (loss of biodiversity, erosion of the barrier island systems, marinization of lagoon and sediment deposition), involving the local stakeholders in developing suitable shared solutions.

The event will see the participation of the vice-president of the Po Delta Park, Mr. Diego Viviani and interventions of Davide Bonaldo (CNR-ISMAR), Marina Aurighi (Veneto Region), Luisa Nicoletti (ISPRA), Roberto Montanari (Emilia Romagna Region), Maria Pia Pagliarusco (Po Delta Park) and Guido Salvi (Genio Civile Rovigo).



Figure 5: Po River Delta info day (Goro, June 27th, 2019)

Vransko Lake Nature Park

The Vransko Lake infoday was held on June 28th, 2019 starting from 9:00 at the Vransko Jezero Crkvina Information Center and organized by the Vransko Jezero Natural Park Management Authority.

About twenty people including representatives of Vransko Jezero Natural Park involved in CHANGE WE CARE Project and Local authorities attended this event which was aimed at illustrating the activities specifically planned for the Vransko Jezero Natural Park, a shallow karst lake encompassing a wide wetland area rich in biodiversity but also suffering a number of problems due to climate change (periods of drought, intrusion of marine waters, processes of eutrophication and withdrawal of water from the tributaries for irrigation use).

The fruitful discussion among all the actors involved in the management of the lake laid the groundwork for the development of a plan aimed at protecting the hydrological system and promoting sustainable use of the territory. During the event, information materials were distributed and a survey of the area that will be interested in the project activities was carried out.



Figure 6: Vransko Lake Nature Park info day (Crkvina, June 28th, 2019)

Conclusions

The info days allowed the presentation of the aims and the main expected results of CHANGE WE CARE project to a broad audience including all the identified target groups of the project, in order to promote the stakeholder involvement just at the very beginning of the project. The interaction between CHANGE WE CARE team and all the actors involved in the use and safeguarding of the different sites laid the groundwork for the participatory processes implementation aimed at identifying adaptive/mitigative measures to tackle climate change impacts on the project pilot sites.