

TEMPUS Final Conference

31st | March | 2023 | Bari

Press Release

ABANDONED PORT SPACES ARE A GROUND FOR INNOVATIVE IDEAS AND PROSPECTIVE IT ENTREPRENEURSHIP

"**Bringing new life to Adriatic ports**" is the name of the final conference held on 29th March, within the framework of the TEMPUS project (TEMPorary USEs as start-up actions to enhance port (in)tangible heritage) in Bari. The conference was attended by representatives of nine partner organizations from Croatia and Italy in order to find the best solutions to give new life into the historic ports of Ravenna, Rijeka and Solin.

The participants of the conference pointed out that the abandoned port areas, which once upon a time were teeming with life, travelers, sailors and trade, are ideal places for various innovative cultural and economic activities. One of the most promising economic branches is certainly IT entrepreneurship, which opens countless opportunities to young people on the global world market.

The conference discussed, among other things, the projects of the port administration and the temporary use of the port as the beginning of the process of improving the port's (intangible) heritage with a special focus on three project pilot areas - the ports of Ravenna, Solin and Rijeka. They talked about the new life of the port of Ravenna, i.e. the installation based on containers at the headquarters of the Agrarian Consortium, the future of business premises in the building of the Solin Football Club, and the use of the port of Rijeka and the port heritage as a temporary stage for various cultural events. The web platform "My Port Heritage: Urban Regeneration of Port Heritage on the Adriatic Sea" was also presented.

Particular attention was drawn to works from the recently held open innovation competition - Innovathon. It is a sort of "marathon" of ideas where young people simultaneously in three port cities in Italy and Croatia (Ravenna, Rijeka and Solin) designed innovative projects relying on their technical knowledge, creativity, spirit of adaptation, problem-solving skills and teamwork in order to find solutions for the new entrepreneurial and economic life of the three pilot ports of the TEMPUS project. Among the many ideas, the international jury chose the winner - an idea called "Angela Angelina platform". It is about the restoration of the old oil platform „Angela Angelina“ on the Italian coast of the Adriatic Sea. The decision foresees the restoration of the platform for tourist purposes, so in the future, after the restoration, numerous educational and gastronomic workshops will take place on the upper

part of the platform, while at its foot there will be facilities for the restoration of the fish stock.

The TEMPUS project - TEMPorary USes as start-up actions to enhance port (in)tangible heritage - brings together nine partners from Croatia and Italy with the aim of regenerating abandoned urban port areas, respecting the cultural heritage and customs of the community. The value of the project is EUR 2,706,920.00, of which 85% of the grant is co-financed by the European Union through the cross-border cooperation program INTERREG V-A Italy - Croatia 2014-2020.

The primary goal of the TEMPUS project is to test an experimental methodology for the regeneration of neglected urban port areas, by creating long-term strategies based on culture and community. In addition, TEMPUS aims to connect partner cities with their ports and create a new space of social life that will encourage creative entrepreneurship, as well as entrepreneurial initiatives in culture and tourism. In the long term, the project aims to stimulate economic development based on the valorization of the port's hidden tangible and intangible heritage, including the archaeological background and natural context, starting through temporary use activities.

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