

Final E-book

Final Version of 15/June/2022

Deliverable Number D.2.3.5

Project Acronym	SASPAS
Project ID Number	10042861
Project Title	SAFE ANCHORING AND SEAGRASS PROTECTION IN THE ADRIATIC AREA
Priority Axis	3 - Major change Environment and cultural heritage
Specific objective	3.2 - Contribute to protect and restore biodiversity
Work Package Number	2
Work Package Title	Communication activities
Activity Number	2.3.5
Activity Title	Communication activities
Partner in Charge	PP6 - University of Rijeka
Partners involved	All
Status	Final

Summary

PART I- Project Results

- 1.1 General overview
- 2.1 Marine system protection activities
- 2.2 Management of an integrated real-time monitoring system for marine phanerogams (Phanerogamae)
- 2.3 Relevant aspects
- 2.4 Places of intervention
- 2.5 Intervention modalities
- 3.1 Improving protection actions and restoring conditions for endangered species
- 3.2 Relevant aspects
- 4. 1 Implementation of an integrated management system
- 5.1 Communication Plan
- 5.2 Awareness campaign report, communication activities and monitoring

PART II

Monitoring campaigns and pilot seagrass transplantations

PART III

Awareness-raising campaign and communication

PART I

Project results

1.1 General background

The Saspas Project was developed over 30 months in three different study sites in the Adriatic Sea: Gulf of Panzano (Monfalcone), Kornati National Park (Croatia) and the Brindisi coastline of the Coastal Dunes Natural Park from Torre Canne to Torre San Leonardo.

The Project aimed was protection of *Posidonia oceanica* habitats on the Adriatic seabed and study and implementation of innovative anchoring systems for pleasure boats and the transplanting of submerged seagrasses.

The main project results are:

- Implementation of a seagrass monitoring system with annual data collection campaigns
- Installation of environmentally sustainable anchoring systems (anchorage and marker buoys)
- Pilot transplantation and implementation of an integrated seagrass management system in the Adriatic Sea (GIS Digital Information Platform (DIP))
- Proposal of the Integrated Marine Flowering Management Programme (MSSIMP)

The project partners are:

- MUNICIPALITY OF MONFALCONE (IT)- lead partner
- SELC COOPERATIVE COMPANY(IT)
- CONISMA - LOCAL RESEARCH UNIT OF TRIESTE (IT)
- CONSORTIUM OF REGIONAL NATURAL PARK »COASTAL DUNES FROM TORRE CANNE TO TORRE SAN LEONARDO« (IT)
- SUNCE (ASSOCIATION FOR NATURE, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CRO)
- KORNATI NATIONAL PARK PUBLIC INSTITUTION (CRO)
- DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, CENTRE FOR HIGH-THROUGHPUTTECHNOLOGIES RIJEKA (CRO)
- NATIONAL INTERUNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM FOR MARINE SCIENCES (IT)

2.1 Marine System Protection Activities

The main achievement of the SASPAS project was the improvement of seagrass conservation and restoration through innovative safe anchoring systems, pilot transplanting and related activities, in order to contribute to a better protection and restoration of biodiversity (Phanerogamae) in the Adriatic cross-border area.

This activity was characterised by the laying and use of environmentally friendly mooring and anchoring buoys, the testing of pilot transplantations of *Posidonia oceanica* in places where persons have caused its regression, and environmental monitoring and surveys.

In this way, an integrated safeguard plan was defined for the qualitative improvement of seagrasses and related habitats and species, with the development of guidelines for the protection of seagrasses.

The guidelines are based on indications on how to behave in protected areas, contributing to the protection of the biodiversity involved, allowing it to expand and increase.

2.2 Operating an Integrated Real-Time Monitoring System of Marine seagrass (Phanerogamae)

Through the project activities, an integrated real-time monitoring system of marine phanerogams was implemented in the Natura 2000 sites involved, suitable for other similar locations, to improve the protection and restoration of biodiversity in the cross-border area.

The preliminary survey report described in detail all the methodologies adopted in the baseline survey and in the positioning of the seagrasses and includes the data collected and an updated map of the distribution of the seagrasses.

The results of the preliminary survey made possible to define the quality status of seagrass populations and related and adjacent habitats and species, and to subsequently identify potential factors and pressures. Two annual monitoring campaigns were conducted, and a report written up detailing the methodologies adopted for the visual survey, station sampling, in-site measurements, and monitoring of the whales.

The datasets include list of seagrass species, percentage of seagrass cover, continuity, and composition (dead/living *Posidonia*), type of seabed (hard rock, sand, opaque), morphological and phenological parameters to describe the status and growth conditions of seagrasses (shoot density and length of shoots, presence of leaf damage, etc.), presence of allochthonous algae (such as *Caulerpa*), specific measurements to assess the status of rhizomes.

2.2 Relevant aspects

Marine phanerogams constitute a valuable habitat and perform numerous functions along coastal marine environments. Having a strong root anchorage system in the soil, they play an anti-erosive role; the leaf component not only slows down wave motion, but also promotes the capture and sedimentation of suspended solids. *Posidonia oceanica* is a characteristic species of the underwater landscapes of the Mediterranean coasts, where it is endemic. Like other similar species that also populate lagoon and estuarine areas, *Posidonia* is a complex ecosystem of high ecological value, where fish and benthic fauna and the plant community find shelter, nourishment and reproduction sites. The high production of oxygen by the extensive leaf apparatus of these macrophytes, which produces biomass to the tune of tonnes per hectare per year, should also not be forgotten.

Various causes are at the origin of the reduction of posidonia along the Italian and Mediterranean coasts; artificialization, modification and exploitation of the coastline, pollution, illegal fishing, recreation, to name the main ones.

Numerous measures have been taken to protect the posidonia beds against wild recreational anchoring, which directly and indirectly causes considerable loss of seagrass. At present, Adriatic Sea-wide or even national guidelines for a more sustainable management of the seagrass resource are not yet organically available.

In particular, in areas where there is the greatest amount of recreational traffic, the contradiction between tourist development and the need for protection and conservation leads to conflicts that for the time being are hardly able to find a balanced sustainable exploitation, with the consequence of the continuous loss of the ecosystem value of the seagrass, expressed in terms of the direct and indirect benefits it generates.

2.3 Places of intervention

- Monfalcone, Gulf of Panzano, Monfalcone (IT)
- Croatia National Park Kornati Islands (HR)
- Nature Park Coastal Dunes Brindisi Apulia Region (IT)

2.4 Methods of intervention

In each of the sites of interest, the SASPAS project carried out preliminary (ante operam) monitoring to characterise the seagrass populations and associated benthic communities present in the areas subject to anthropic impact (mainly caused by the anchoring of tourist boats);

- implementation of interventions to limit and mitigate damage caused by anthropogenic impacts through the installation of eco-friendly anchoring systems (buoy fields);
- implementation of pilot transplantations of marine phanerogams (*Posidonia oceanica* at the Regional Coastal Dunes Park - Brindisi - and the Kornati National Park in Croatia and of *Cymodocea nodosa* in the Gulf of Panzano - Monfalcone):
- execution of annual (post-operam) monitoring of seagrass populations in the vicinity of these interventions in order to verify the effectiveness of the interventions carried out;
- creation, at the end of the project, of a digital IT platform containing the main project results and information concerning the areas studied and their surroundings and general guidelines for a conscious management of these habitats.

3.1 Improving protection actions and restoring conditions for endangered species

Realized through the concrete and experimental installation of ecological buoys and the pilot transplantation of *Posidonia Oceanica*.

The installation of ecological buoys aimed to reduce anthropic pressure on the marine environment and in particular on marine phanerogams and related habitats and species.

3.2 Relevant aspects

Minimising pressures and impacts on Posidonia seagrass beds and other species, as well as preserving their optimal ecological status as key species, the ecological role they play in the habitat and the numerous species that comprise it (benthic organisms, fish fauna), in addition to stabilising erosion basins.

Over the past decades, seagrass transplantation has been carried out in various coastal areas to re-establish seagrass beds that have disappeared due to natural causes (increased sedimentation, benthic fish foraging activities and decay diseases) or due to human activities (domestic and industrial pollution, fishing techniques such as trawling and dredging).

The planned pilot interventions aimed at restoring and sustaining marine biodiversity with very positive results in safeguarding the integrity of the plantings carried out in the project.

4. 1 Implementation of an Integrated Management System

The project aimed to strengthen the integrated management of the Natura 2000 areas in the areas involved through the development of a Digital Information Platform (DIP) and the Integrated Sea Grassland Management Programme (MS S IMP).

The DIP includes a portal (GIS package) that provides restricted access to the managing bodies, with advanced consultation services, enabling more effective planning of environmental protection activities or governing the use of the sea during the tourist season. Private users have been provided with a tool to access and use coastal areas in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. The portal provides an indication of the ecological mooring/anchoring points and a comprehensive set of information such as the type of mooring, the conditions to be adopted for safe mooring, the type of boat that can access and a description of all habitats and species present. The MS S IMP (Integrated Marine Prairie Management Programme) included a description of all activities and their results, as well as a specification of the conservation level of habitats and species for the sites of interest. It thus supports the definition of hypotheses for the conservation, preservation and improvement of the qualitative status of the seagrasses, together with an analysis of user response and feedback.

5.1 Communication Plan

The entire activity was accompanied by an innovative communication and awareness-raising plan to support the project's environmental protection objectives and results.

5.2 Awareness campaign report, communication activities and monitoring

Evaluation of the activities carried out for the implementation of the Communication Plan approved by the partnership was made through an analysis of the elements recorded and the results achieved useful to provide information and feedback for the purposes of project knowledge and dissemination to the various stakeholders and the general public.

5.3 Methodology

The evaluation activity was carried out throughout the implementation of the Communication Plan and covered all the fields of action, involving the collection and processing of information in order to verify the effectiveness and achievement of the expected results. The set of monitoring actions made it possible to highlight the changes introduced, the performance and the results obtained between the start-up phase and the final phase determined by the implementation of the actions. The methodological approach of the monitoring activities was designed according to the implementation times of the actions envisaged by the Project, concerning the Communication Plan as a whole and the individual actions envisaged therein. From a methodological point of view, a participatory approach was adopted, based on self-assessment, which envisaged the direct involvement and active intervention of all the subjects involved in the implementation of the actions/instruments envisaged in the Communication Plan.

PART II

Monitoring campaigns and pilot seagrass transplantations

Pilot **transplantation** tests of *Posidonia oceanica* and *Cymodocea nodosa* were conducted with the aim of evaluating the effectiveness of some methods in difficult environmental contexts, in relation to the existence of various pressures, such as the anchoring of pleasure boats.

The **monitoring** carried out during SASPAS Project included controls of the natural populations of marine seagrass in the three pilot sites, also in relation to the density of anchorages in the different areas. The controls carried out on the transplantation plots were aimed at quantifying, among other parameters, the percentage of development of the shoots of the relocated plants.

The **monitoring** plan provided for the periodic sampling of shoots of macrophytes for biometric measurements and for the qualitative evaluation of the epiphytic leaf community. The plan included surveys on a group of stations divided into transects.





An important outcome of the **monitoring** is the high level of sedimentation detected on the meadows of the more sheltered areas if compared to the more exposed ones of Kornati Island and those of the Coastal Dunes Park, equally open to the sea.

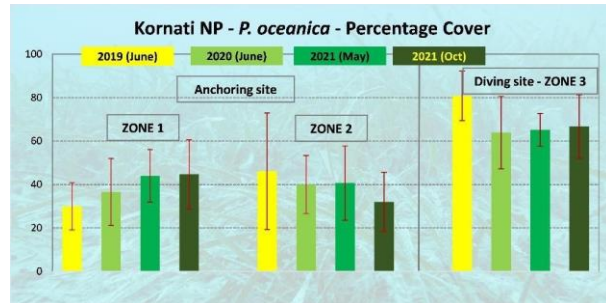
The installation of contour markers (balises) allows monitoring of the edge of a

P. oceanica meadow or a patch, to verify increase or retreat over time. No significant changes were noted during the project at Kornati Park and at Coastal Dunes Park.

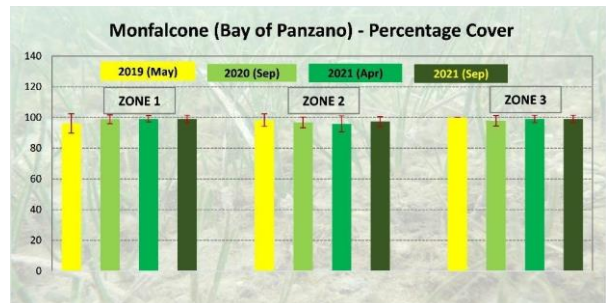
Controls conducted during periodic monitoring did not include a thorough scientific investigation, as this was not the goal of SASPAS. The simple surveys of density and coverage and the signs of damage from anchoring made possible to monitor, during the project, possible modifications of the meadows



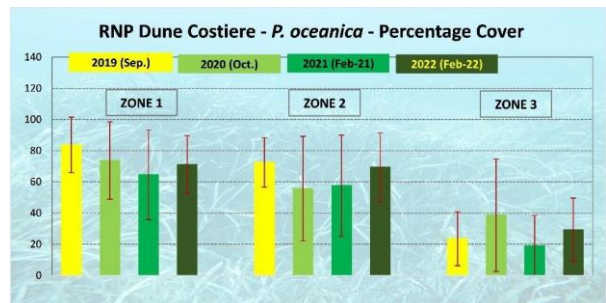
In the **Kornati NP**, the anchoring site (Kravljačica) showed lower coverage values than the diving site (Borovnik), exposed to the open sea and where anchorages for boats are scarce in time. Data showed considerable variability in all cases.



Data collected on the three transects arranged on the *C. nodosa* meadows of the **Bay of Panzano** showed over time stable and uniform conditions of distribution.



P. oceanica showed similar trends at two transects along the shoreline of the **Coastal Dunes Park**. The third transect, which extends over a more exposed seabed, showed a significant regression. The loss of several square meters of meadow was found, attributed to erosive phenomena.





Cymodocea nodosa transplants were carried out using two different manual techniques: collection and planting of sods (i.e., planting units made up by plants with leaves, roots and rhizomes plus the native sediment that surrounds the rooting apparatus) and collection of shoots (i.e., planting units made up by bare root cuttings), which were subsequently re-planted thanks to anchoring staples.

The main choice for the *Posidonia oceanica* transplantation in the Kornati NP site and in the RNP Coastal Dunes site was the solution of the Palermo School (Calvo *et al.*, 2014, ISPRA Manual 106/2014), consisting in fixing cuttings to specific designed biodegradable modules. A significant operational feature of this method consists in managing most of the work on land, in conditions of safety and in complete calm, for the assembly of the modules and for the fixing of the *P. oceanica* cuttings. The supports allow an analytical control over time of the growth of rhizomes, shoots, and roots.



In the Kornati NP site, the *Posidonia oceanica* transplantation method was also carried out using an alternative test to this technique. Shoots were mounted on exotic wood supports, heavy enough and of low degradability to resist on the sea floor at least for a couple of years. The cuttings were attached with biodegradable plastic ties to the wooden supports, and the wooden base was fixed on matting with iron pins.



References

Calvo S, Scannavino A, Luzzu F, Di Maida G, Pirrotta M, Orestano C, Paredes F, Montagnino FM, Tomasello A (2014) Tecnica di reimpianto mediante supporto biodegradabile. In: Bacci T, La Porta B, Maggi C, Nonnis O, Paganelli D, Rende SF, Polifrone M (Eds.).

ISPRA, 2014. Conservazione e gestione della naturalità negli ecosistemi marino-costieri. Il trapianto delle praterie di Posidonia oceanica. Manuali e Linee Guida n. 106/2014. ISPRA, Roma, pp. 47–51.

Why is it important to carry out Biometric measurements on seagrasses?

The seagrass meadow grows in relation of the considered species, season conditions and environmental parameters in the water and sediment. However, anthropogenic impacts can have a negative effect on the development of these aquatic plants. For this, the “biometric measurements on seagrasses” (**Fig. 1**) (number of leaves, length and width of the leaves, percentage of the part in necrosis and epiphytes) by means of scientific instruments like stereomicroscope and microscope (**Fig. 2**) and their monitoring during the years in all stations, is essential to understand the state of health of the investigated meadow.

The results of analyses highlight the differences between two monitored species, *Posidonia oceanica* and *Cymodocea nodosa* but also between the different stations during the project duration. In some areas there may be anthropogenic pressures that could restrict growth, and this result can be confirmed by genetic testing.



Figure 1: Measure of- Shoot Length by stick

Figure 2: Stereomicroscope and microscope for the observation of the leave characteristic, as necrosis and epiphytes

Why is it important to carry out Genetic analyses on seagrasses?

The genetic analyses consist of DNA extraction and sequencing, to determine haplotypes (combination of allelic variants along a chromosome or chromosomal segment). They allow to highlight the genetic differences between populations of species from different environments. In the specific case, genetic analyses were carried out to evaluate the genetic variability of seagrass meadows and possibly correlating it with their conservation status.

For example, differences in biometric measures were observed between the *Posidonia* populations in the two monitored Kornati NP Zones: cover percentages, shoot density and shoot length are higher in the “Diving site” than in the “Anchoring site”.

It is possible that this is not only due to the anthropogenic pressures (mechanical damage caused by boat anchoring and correlated disturbances) but also to the genetic differences between the *Posidonia* populations in the two Zones (**Fig. 3**).

In fact, two haplotypes were found: “haplotype 1” in the “Diving site” and “haplotype 2” in the “Anchoring site”. It is worthy noting that the “haplotype 1” is present also in other Mediterranean sites.

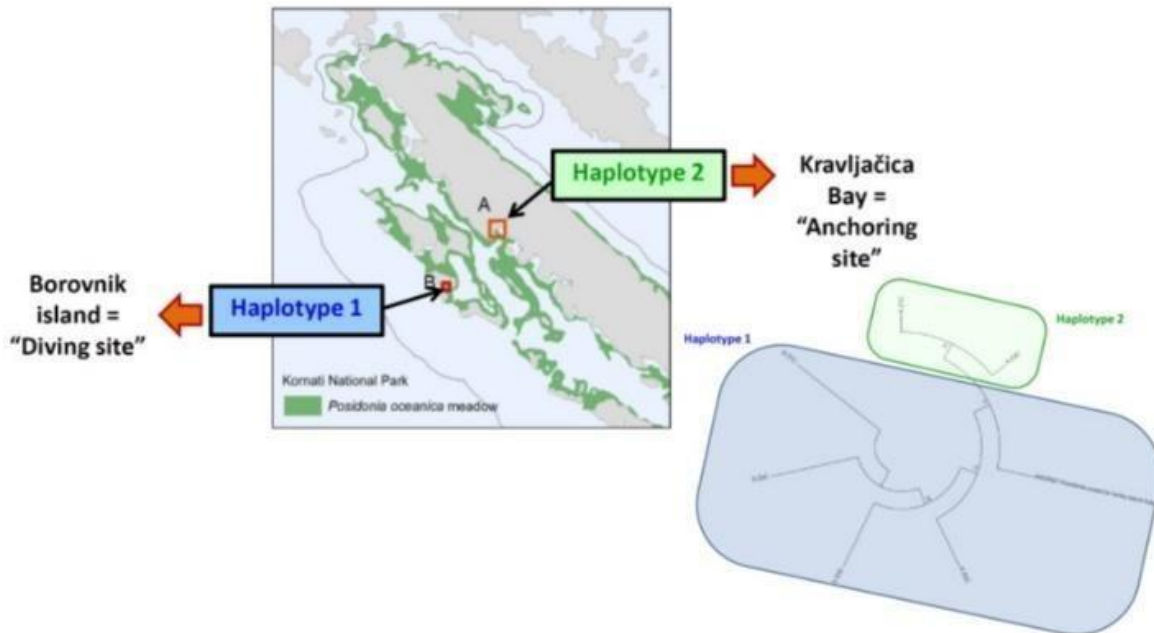
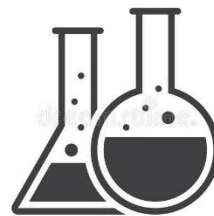


Figure 3: genetic analyses of seagrass

Why is it important to carry out Analyses on surface sediments?



The seagrass species, like all Tracheophyta, are closely related to the substrate. Indeed, these aquatic plants anchor and absorb nutrients from the sediment. Like this, the granulometric characteristics and the quantity of nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen) in the sediments are fundamental for the study of seagrass meadow. The sediment analyses were carried out through a Granulometry Analyser (**Fig. 4**) and an Elementary Analyser for the determination of

Figure 6: Spectrophotometric analysis

carbon e nitrogen (**Fig. 5**) while phosphorus was determined by spectrophotometric analysis (**Fig. 6**)

The granulometry, the concentration of organic and inorganic phosphorus, total nitrogen and organic and inorganic carbon in the sediment have been analysed at each station where seagrasses have been collected. The nutrient concentration in the sediment plays a key role in the transitional ecosystem but also in the development of seagrass meadows. They can provide useful information on the state of seagrass health. Furthermore, the organic carbon is very important for the carbon stock valuation, and seagrasses are the main supplier in the coastal marine ecosystem.



Figure 4: Determination of granulometry of sediments



Figure 5: Nutrient Elemental Analyser



Figure 6: Spectrophotometric analysis

PART III

Awareness and communication

Trough SASPAS Project we created 3 social medial profiles for the project and regularly updated them: Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts. The aim was to carry out a viral marketing campaign by targeting young, well-educated individuals through social media.

From the begining of the project we created the official SASPAS webpage. The website is populated with final deliverables and information about the project outcomes including dissemination and communication activities.

It has been prepared the 3 SASPAS e-newsletters in Croatian, English, and Italian

(first:<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/documents/290205/0/saspas+1st+newsletter.pdf/1715a03b-a8d8-126740252581e5553c0d?t=1631019102061>;

Second: [https://www.italy-](https://www.italy-croatia.eu/documents/290205/0/saspas+2nd+newsletter.pdf/69394527-a5d5-ff94-0c36-5f8ada099af9?t=1631019336625)

[croatia.eu/documents/290205/0/saspas+2nd+newsletter.pdf/69394527-a5d5-ff94-0c36-5f8ada099af9?t=1631019336625](https://www.italy-croatia.eu/documents/290205/0/saspas+2nd+newsletter.pdf/69394527-a5d5-ff94-0c36-5f8ada099af9?t=1631019336625);third:<https://www.italycroatia.eu/documents/290205/0/saspas+3rd+newsletter.pdf/64ad9052-76e8-bf08-d23d-8c96bff41990?t=1631019582418>) The E-

newsletter was delivered to all e-mail addresses at our stakeholders list.

UNIRI prepared, designed, and printed 3 versions of SASPAS flyers in Croatian, English and Italian. A total of 3.300 flyers were distributed to the general public.

PP6 attended the 13th International Fisheries Fair that took place in Poreč, Croatia from November 22nd to 24th 2019. The PP6 activities at the fair included a lecture about SASPAS project to the general public on the 23rd as well as having a stand for the entire duration of the fair. UNIRI team presented the SASPAS Project at the 13th and 14th edition of CROATIA NAUTIC SHOW (HDMB) and TOURIST ATTRACTIONS EXPO at Marina Kaštela, in 2021 and in 2022. (<https://webkatalog.dhmb.org/>)

UNIRI participated in evaluation and help in the final version of preliminary survey report and made analysis of the relevant parameters for assessment of the seagrass status in the Adriatic sea in the scientific literature.

UNIRI prepared 2 articles about SASPAS project that was published in the Platinum magazine (<https://platinum-online.com/>). Article was published in the beginning of the July 2020 and July 2022 and achieve high visibility due to the high circulation of the magazine (265000 copies). UNIRI participated in the scientific publication that was published in the specialized issue of the journal Waters "Restore Degraded Marine Coastal Areas in the Mediterranean Sea." (https://www.mdpi.com/2073-4441/13/16/2289?type=check_update&version=2).

UNIRI presented the SASPAS Project at the radio show at Laganini FM local radio station - Radio show "Na svježem zraku", 2 times. The UNIRI team presented the general goals and purpose of the project, announced future events in the project and informed the general public about where they can follow the activities of the SASPAS project.

On July 7, an exhibition of graphics and photographs of the SASPAS project was opened on the University Campus in Rijeka, i.e. with photographs of activities on site and facts about the Project itself as part of the visualizations created by a student of the Academy of Applied Arts of the University of Rijeka, Ivana Birkaš. The photo exhibition marked the beginning of the marketing campaign "Be/Become a Posidonia Keeper". The exhibition was launched in July and lasted until September. The UNIRI prepared SASPAS PR publication for the Photo Exhibition in Kampus, at University of Rijeka. The opening of the exhibition was attended by television and radio media, and was accompanied by Internet portals. The PP6 team from the University of Rijeka (UNIRI) was the initiator of this campaign and, together with project partners from Croatia and Italy, calls on sailors and boat owners to anchor responsibly and protect the seabed during the summer months. After the Kampus, in cooperation with the Student Cultural Center of the University of Rijeka, we put the graphics of the exhibition on the boards at Korzo, the center of town of Rijeka. The exhibition was scheduled for Tuesday, August 24, without a special opening like the first time on campus. During the first and second exhibition, we sent a press release, an invitation to the PPs, a notice about the establishment of the exhibition, and sent an official invitation to the staff of the University of Rijeka. Numerous media followed our exhibited graphics in both locations (University of Rijeka Kampus and Korzo, Rijeka city center) and informed the public about the exhibition and the campaign.

We promoted 3 Storytelling videos. Links:

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJW4BqDDDKM>, 222 views on 13th of September 2022
2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FkrYgOu_COY, 430 views on 13th of September 2022
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9o1pKkLNfA> 59 views on 13th of September 2022

"Become a Posidonia Keeper" campaign

<https://uniri.hr/vijesti/otvorena-izlozba-budi-cuvar-posedonije/>

UNIRI and Association Sunce created and published the SASPAS marketing and PR plan for the "Become a Posidonia Keeper" campaign/development of information guidelines for the marketing campaign and preparation of all campaign activities for all PPs. Development of information guidelines for the marketing campaign "Be/Become a Posidonia Keeper" and preparing the whole campaign activities. The campaign was carried out in such a way that the media covered the campaign, companies distributed our promotional materials and flyers, and we encouraged sailors to become guardians of Posidonia through flyers and promotional materials. The campaign was successfully completed in October 2021. The PP6 and PP4 team were the initiator of this campaign and, together with project partners from Croatia and Italy, called on sailors and boat owners to anchor responsibly during the summer months and protect the seabed. The UNIRI team created the promotional materials on which we printed the project logo and campaign messages. The Sunce Association team contacted all the stakeholders and nautical companies in direct contact with the nautical sector

Preparing and publishing SASPAS marketing and PR plan for the „Become a Posidonia Keeper“ Campaign / Development of information guidelines for the marketing campaign “Be a Posidonia Keeper” and preparing the whole campaign activities for PPs.

During the spring months and during the conversation with Sunce Association gave rise to the idea of launching a campaign that would last through the summer of 2021 and continue next year in 2022. Vida Zrnčić (Sun Association) sent Dora Lazzarich (UNIRI) all the materials she had at the time about the campaign, and Dora made a proposal for a marketing campaign based on this draft. After the UNIRI team led by prof.dr.sc. Sandra Kraljević Pavelić reviewed the draft campaign, it sent to all partners for review. All partners had a specific deadline by which they could provide comments, suggestions and other information to make the campaign as successful as possible in Italy and Croatia. The beginning of the campaign was marked by the opening of a graphic exhibition in July on the Kampus of the University of Rijeka. Building on this campaign, we started with special posts on social networks: Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. The campaign lasted until October 2021, due to the extended nautical season. They organized communication with specific companies that are in constant contact with boaters (e.g. charter companies, ACI marinas) and prepared communication packages for them. Sandra Kraljević Pavelić, Dora Lazzarich and Vida Zrnčić were responsible for the PR communication part, they completed the call to the companies. Then Dora Lazzarich made preparations for the social networks and media, and Vida Zrnčić reviewed the documents and shared suggestions. After their work and before sending the invitations to the media and companies that are in close contact with our target audience - sailors - reviewed and approved prof.dr.sc. Sandra Kraljević Pavelić. The campaign was carried out in such a way that the media covered the campaign, companies distributed our promotional materials and flyers, and we encouraged seafarers to become guardians of Posidonia through flyers and promotional materials (caps, chemicals, canvas bags, diaries, paper folders). The campaign was successfully completed in October 2021.

During the presentation of the SASPAS project and the start of the "Become a Posidonia Keeper" campaign, it was necessary to create promotional materials on which we print the project logo for the visitors of the fair and for the campaign that will take place in the summer of 2021. Also we put on the material the “Become a Posidonia Keeper” logo/text. The target audience was sailors who visit Kornati National Park with their own or rented boats and anchor in the habitats of the seagrass *Posidonia oceanica*, destroying it. We presented the SASPAS project to visitors in short or longer speech presentations and conversations. We provided written social media coverage of what was happening in the campaign and handed out promotional materials to our partners.

UNIRI laboratory work: sampling and laboratory analyses were carried over into the 2021 monitoring campaigns to verify the success of the conservation measures. The purchased materials were used within the SASPAS Monitoring Protocol for field activities planned in activity 3.3 (Monitoring campaigns). The sampling and sample laboratory analyses, were adopted in the 2021 monitoring campaigns, to check the success of the protection measure activities (activity 4.2 - pilot seagrass transplants) (<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/saspas/docs-and-tools>).