

RESISTANCE project Cleaning days in Podstrana and Goro

Follow-up Report

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Cleaning days in Podstrana, Croatia

Introduction

The main goal of RESISTANCE project is to share marine monitoring knowledge and experiences in the sea, coastal and river environments by capitalizing the results of ECOMAP, ECOSS, NET4mPLASTIC, SOUNDSCAPE, DORY, SASPAS and ML-REPAIR. The different types of outputs were exploited in the project, all with a common goal – the marine environment protection.

The project aims to promote the diffusion of information on marine and coastal management/monitoring to enhance the territorial cooperation on local, regional and national policies through the involvement of all PPs and other EU Programmes and Initiatives, in order to approach and involve policy makers. Local events - Cleaning days, with the involvement of citizens have been organized to increase environmental awareness about the ecological status of coastal areas.

In this context, Municipality of Podstrana (LP) with external experts - Podstrana Ecological Diving Club, has organized a cleaning operations of the Podstrana's coastal area, divided in two phases: one realized in October 2022 and the second in May 2023 (Figure 1).

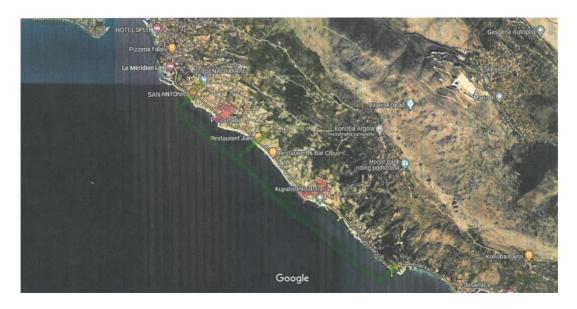


Figure 1: location of the beach cleaning activities (divided in 2 phases)



The 1st Cleaning Day in Podstrana

The action of cleaning the coastal area (Cleaning Day) in Podstrana was carried out on October 22, in the organization of Municipality of Podstrana and Podstrana Ecological Diving Club. The action took place simultaneously in several locations at Podstrana's coastal area and approximately 1 ton of waste was collected (30 car tires, 150 glass and 200 plastic bottles...).

55 divers from Podstrana, Zagreb, Mostar, Sarajevo, Herceg Novi, Split, Dugi Rat, 20 local volunteers of the Municipality of Podstrana (Youth Council of the Municipality of Podstrana and DVD of the Municipality of Podstrana) and students of the Split Maritime School participated in the cleanup.



Figure 2: Participants of the 1st Cleaning Day in Podstrana





Figure 3: Cleaning operations in Podstrana



Figure 3a: Cleaning operations in Podstrana





Figure 4: Collected waste



Figure 4a: Collected waste





Figure 5: RESISTANCE promotional material shared to participants



Figure 6: Mr Mijo Dropuljić, Municipality of Podstrana's Mayor and Mr Jozo Roso, Podstrana Ecological Diving Club



The 2nd Cleaning Day in Podstrana

The second action of cleaning the coastal area (Cleaning Day) in Podstrana was carried out on 6-7/05/2023, in the organization of Municipality of Podstrana and Podstrana Ecological Diving Club. The action took place simultaneously in several locations at Podstrana's coastal area and approximately 1 ton of waste was collected (10 car tires of various sizes, 100 glass and 150 plastic bottles, discarded fishing equipment - 8 tops, iron objects and parts of plastic furniture).

All the extracted waste was sorted and taken to the recycling yard of the Municipality of Podstrana. In the underwater cleanup participated 28 divers, 4 boats to help divers and 9 volunteers from the Municipality of Podstrana.



Figure 7: Participants of the 2nd Cleaning Day in Podstrana





Figure 8: Cleaning operations in Podstrana



Figure 9: Cleaning operations in Podstrana





Figure 10: Cleaning operations in Podstrana



Figure 11: Collected waste





Figure 12: Collected waste



Figure 13: Municipality of Podstrana's Mayor during the Press conference



Visibility





Figure 14: Invitations



Press releases on occasion of the 1st Cleaning Day:

https://www.podstrana.hr/2022/11/23/odrzana-ekoloska-akcija-ciscenja-podmorja-i-plaza-u-podstrani-u-okviru-projekta-resistance/



https://podstrana-portal.com/podstrana/iz-opcine/ekoloska-akcija-ciscenja-podmorja-u-podstrani

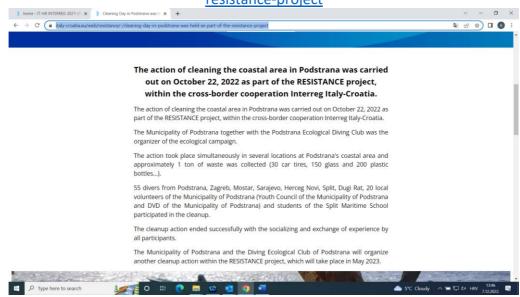




https://www.podstrana.hr/2022/10/17/ekoloska-akcija-ciscenja-podmorja-u-podstrani/



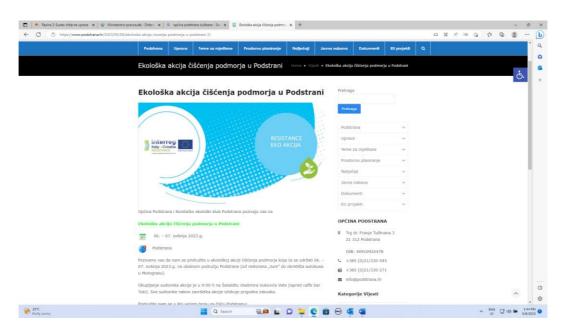
https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/resistance/-/cleaning-day-in-podstrana-was-held-as-part-of-theresistance-project



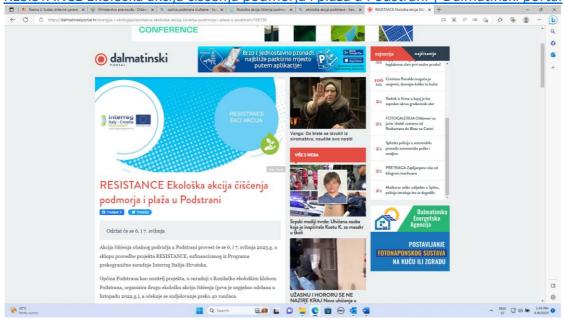


Press releases on occasion of the 2nd Cleaning Day:

Ekološka akcija čišćenja podmorja u Podstrani – Općina Podstrana



RESISTANCE Ekološka akcija čišćenja podmorja i plaža u Podstrani | Dalmatinski portal





<u>Podstrana portal - Općina Podstrana i Ronilačko ekološki klub Podstrana pozivaju vas na Ekološku akciju čišćenja podmorja u Podstrani 06. – 07. svibnja 2023.g. (podstrana-tv.com)</u>

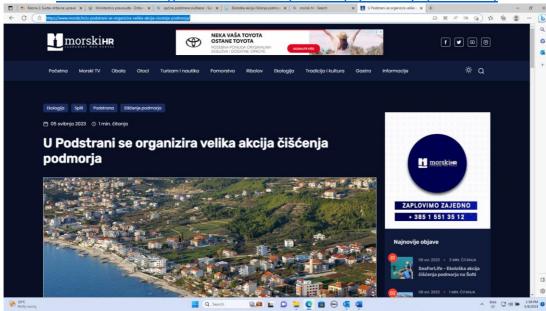


PRIDRUŽITE SE I VI! Organizira se Ekološka akcija čišćenja podmorja u Podstrani: Očekuje vas i prigodna zakuska... - DALMACIJA DANAS





U Podstrani se organizira velika akcija čišćenja podmorja (morski.hr)



<u>Ekološka akcija čišćenja podmorja u Podstrani – Općina Podstrana</u>





FOTO: Na drugoj akciji čišćenja podmorja u Podstrani nije pronađeno puno smeća | Dalmatinski portal



<u>Podstrana portal - FOTO: Na drugoj akciji čišćenja podmorja u Podstrani nije pronađeno puno smeća (podstrana-portal.com)</u>





Conclusion

In the 1st cleanup of Podstrana's beaches participated 55 divers from Podstrana, Zagreb, Mostar, Sarajevo, Herceg Novi, Split, Dugi Rat, 20 local volunteers of the Municipality of Podstrana (Youth Council of the Municipality of Podstrana and DVD of the Municipality of Podstrana) and students of the Split Maritime School.

In the 2nd cleanup participated 28 divers, 4 boats to help divers and 9 local volunteers from the Municipality of Podstrana.

Overall, 2 tons of waste was collected, sorted and taken to the recycling yard of the Municipality of Podstrana.

Each piece of litter we extracted meant one less piece of litter in our Adriatic Sea.

Beach cleanup actions protect marine ecosystems from the harmful effects of pollution, they help in raising awareness on environmental protection of local inhabitants and consequently in Municipality of Podstrana they will be continued after the project implementation.



Cleaning days in Goro, Italy

Introduction

The Resistance "Raising awarenESs of MaritIme Spatial planning importance" Project aims to share solutions that can be effectively developed, encouraging national and international cooperation and to establish guidelines in order to preserve the Adriatic Sea. In this context, PP4, University of Ferrara, department of Environmental Science and Prevention, has promoted withthe association Plastic Free onlus (a voluntary association with the aim of informing and sensitizing as many people as possible about the dangers of plastic pollution) a cleaning operation of the beach of Goro (Figure 1, and 2). This event occurred on March 05, 2023.



Figure 1: location of the beach cleaning activities





Figure 2: Cleaning Day announcement



Pre event

Before the event, press releases have been realized by PP4 and Plastic free association as well (figure 3, figure 4a, 4b).



Figure 3: Press release on the University website:

(https://www.unife.it/it/eventi/2023/marzo/unife-plastic-free-odv-onlus-evento-pulizia-spiagge-goro)



Isola dell'amore, scatta la pulizia della spiaggia «La speranza è che partecipino cento volontari»

GORO

Anche domenica, come lo scorsonno, i volontari di Plastic Free di Rovigo e Ferrara si impegneranno a rimuovere i troppirifiuti dall'isola dell'Amore, una lingua di sabbia e vegetazione verso il mare Adriatico che parte dal Delta del Po verso Volano. Un anno fa oltre 100 persone, traghettate dalla terraferma sull'argine sinistro del Po al faro, si impegnarono per tutta la giornata rimuovendo circa 7 tonnellate di immondizia.

L'obiettivo è ripetere le adesioni, con la speranza che il bottino finale dei rifiuti raccolti sia minore. I due organizzatori Laura Felletti Spadazzi, referente per Ferrara e Riccardo Mancin coordinatore nazionale, confida-



no nel consueto entusiasmo dei volontari in maglia blu, sempre pronti a cercare di ridare decoro all'ambiente deturpato dall'inciviltà. Il programma della giornata, patrocinata dal comune di Goro e dal Parco Delta e prevede il ritrovo alle 10, presso il pon-

tile di imbarco in località Bacucco di Ariano nel Polesine (Ro), in via Po Gorino. Una volta traghet-tati sull'isola gli organizzatori distribuiranno i sacchi. L'attività di raccolta durerà all'incirca fino alle 16, ma è prevista una sata pranzo intorno alle 13 con la

10 euro, un piatto di spaghetti alle vongole preparato sul posto dalla Pro Loco mentre le bevande saranno offerte dai titolari del ristorante Il Faro, oltre al tra-ghettamento gratuito. Per adesioni contattare 347 0733267. Ci sarà, inoltre una delegazione del Dipartimento di Scienze dell'Ambiente e della Prevenzione dell'Ateneo Estense, nell'am-bito del progetto Interreg Resistance Italia-Croazia, che mira a incoraggino la cooperazione nazionale e internazionale al fine di preservare la ricchezza del mare Adriatico. A completamento Clara lunedi mattina, porterà via i rifiuti che Erik Scabbia titolare del faro avrà provveduto a depositare a Gorino.

cla casts

Figure 4a: Press Release: Il Carlino 03/03/2023, which has also been published on the Resistance facebook profile



Figure 4b: The information also been published on the stories of the Ferrara University Instagram profile and Resistance Facebook profile



Event

The cleaning operation of the beach of Goro (FE) occured the 05/03/2023. The departure and the meeting with the other partecipants were scheduled at 10:00 am at the embarkation pier of Gorino (figure 5).



Figure 5: transportation of the participants to the beach of Goro



Once arrived, big trash plastic bags were provided by the Plastic Free Association to the participants an a brief meeting was performed before the operations in order to illustrate how to proceed and provid some security advices (figure 6). For instance, it was recommanded that:

- 1. Put plastic, paper, textile, rubber items in the bags and collect glass bottle separately
- 2. To be careful of sharp items like syringes and razors; or anything that may be a biohazarde.g., diapers, etc.
- 3. Leave organic materials which look like they belong.

In addition, educational information regarding the ecology and biology of the site itself were also given.



Figure 6: Meeting before the cleaning activities



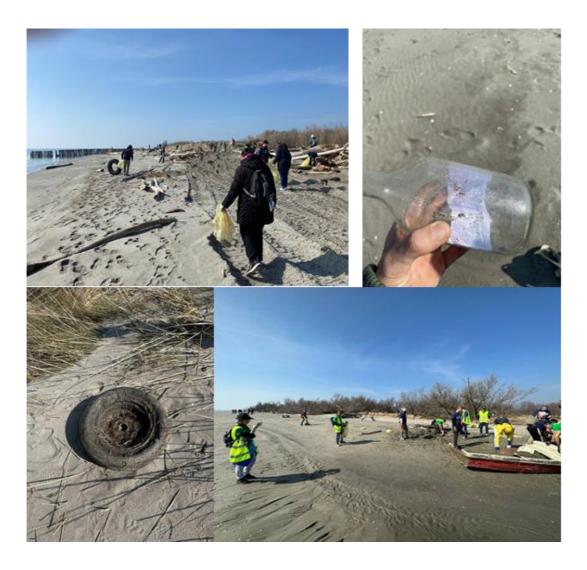


Figure 7a: cleaning operations

At the end of the activity, all the litter collected (figure 8) were removed by Clara Society (https://www.clarambiente.it/), which manages the urban waste for 19 communes of the province of Ferrara.



Results and Visibility

The registration to the event was performed through the website of the Plastic Free Association. Therefore, for logistic reasons, and since Plastic Free Association has the information, we did not ask the participant to fill the Resistance project form, we only ask some relevant associations to provide us their information.

133 voluntaries (79 women and 54 men) and more than 10 children were registered online to the event on the Plastic Free association website. In addition, 10-20 other people participated to the event without being registered. In total, the cleaning operation at Goro has involved more than 150 people.

Most of the participants came from the province of Rovigo and Ferrara, and secondly from Padova and Ravenna province.

At the end of the journey, about **2 tons** of waste were removed from the beach of Goro (figure 8).





Figure 8: litter removed

In this operation, litter are not classified since the aim of this event is to:

- increase awareness on environmental issues related to marine litter
- remove litter from the beach.

However, most of the litter were plastic items (70-80% in agreement with other cleaning operations), and in particular bottles (water bottles for instance) and recipients (sunscreen tubes), phials, jerry cans, buoys, fishing nets. A lot of rigid plastic and polystyrene (fishing boxes)boxes were also removed.



It should also be noted that a huge quantity of plastic fragments (which origin is uncertain) were removed, especially polystyrene fragments that reveal the urgency to develop solutions for such material.



Figure 9: publication of the event on University of Ferrara Instagram page (https://www.instagram.com/p/CqGTZ7zrlcs/?iqshid=MGU3ZTQzNzY=)



Conclusion

More than 150 people participated in the cleaning operations performed at Goro on March, 5,2023 and more than 2 tons of litter were removed, mostly plastic items. Consequently, cleaning operation appears to be a good instrument for educating the importance of a cleaner beach to the local "users" and involving them in awareness programs.

In addition, further information could also be provided like, for instance:

- 1. Installation of dustbins on the beach for the use of beach-goers.
- 2. Placing awareness boards such as "DON'T LITTER" at the beaches.