



Ca' Foscari
University
of Venice

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: ML REPAIR - REducing and Preventing, an integrated Approach to marine litter management in the Adriatic Sea

FUNDING PROGRAMME: INTERREG ITALIA – CROAZIA 2014-2020

CALL: First call 2017 Standard+

SCIENTIFIC FIELD: Marine litter management

HOST DEPARTMENT/CENTRE: DFBC - Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Giulio Pojana

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 1.007.093,20	€ 175.488,70

ABSTRACT:

The strategy for Adriatic-Ionian region and related cooperation programs are paying attention to preserving this environment and improving its quality level. As indicated in the weakness topics of cooperation programs, the marine litter (ML) represents a concerning environmental issue, resulting by lack of sustainable development and constituting a relevant obstacle to a sustainable growth of coastal areas. Concern over the presence and importance of ML in the Adriatic Sea clearly emerged during the DeFishGear (DFG) project, which discovered that disposable plastic items and fishing gears, contribute significantly to anthropic debris in this area. The DFG established also that local communities, coastal tourism and the fishing sector, contribute to the problem, but can also be part of the solution. The fishing sector has a potential in dealing with ML issue, for both preventions, by increasing awareness in a correct obsolete fishing gears disposal, and reduction, by acting in Fishing for Litter (FfL) initiatives.

ML is common problem for countries facing on the semi-enclosed Adriatic basin, due to geographical aspects and anthropic pressures. This issue requires a shared approach in the implementation of solutions to be proposed. In the REPAIR project, these will be focused on strategic topics dealing with: 1-the enhancement of environmental education of coastal population and tourists, with attention to new generations, and fishery communities (WP3), and 2-the optimization of strategies for ML monitoring and management that foresee an active and aware involvement of fishermen (WP4). The REPAIR project will facilitate management and extension efforts through comparison of proposed strategies and activities on both IT and HR, where social, legislative and economic differences exist. It will base its strength on pursuing the development of a collaborative activity among different entities, strengthening joint governance on marine litter management, addressing above mentioned target groups by means of: 1. testing new educational tools, inducing in a positive change in attitudes and behaviour toward ML among future

generations, and fishery communities; 2.raising awareness of tourists on the coastal areas, so supporting a sustainable growth of the tourism sector; 3. providing data and innovative tools to policy makers, fulfilling the necessity of a better understanding of the barriers to be removed for a large-scale, trans-national adoption of ML management initiatives; 4. reducing ML through a participative approach with the fishery sector, straightening the co-operation between science and fishery related organisations, including Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs); 5. consolidating the cross-border cooperation in the region, exchanging knowledge and reducing the gap between diverging approaches. 6. reducing and preventing marine pollution, so improving the environmental quality of the Adriatic Sea ecosystem in the long term.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
1st January 2018	30th June 2019

PARTNERSHIP:

1 Ca' Foscari University of Venice	Venice (IT)	Coordinator
2 Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA)	Rome (IT)	Partner
3 M.A.R.E Cooperative S.C.A.R.L.	Rimini (IT)	Partner
4 Limosa cooperative society	Venice (IT)	Partner
5 Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries	Split (HR)	Partner
6 Public Institution RERA S.D. for Coordination and Development of Split Dalmatia County	Split (HR)	Partner
7 Association for Nature, Environment and Sustainable Development Sunce	Split (HR)	Partner