

EFFICIENTN2K**Strengthening institutional
collaboration on surveillance and
enforcement in coastal and marine
Natura 2000 sites**

Funded by the Interreg Italy-Croatia Cooperation Programme 2021-2027, the **primary objective** of the **EFFICIENTN2K** project is to **enhance surveillance and enforcement of regulations in coastal and marine areas** that are part of the Natura 2000 network in Italy and Croatia, **ensuring the conservation and protection of biodiversity**.

sunce**Project duration**
01.08.2023 - 31.12.2024**Total Budget**
€249.144,50**Partnership**

- Association for Nature, Environment, and Sustainable Development Sunce (*Lead Partner*)
- Municipality of Ugento

ACTIVITIES

Protected areas play a crucial role in nature conservation and preserving biodiversity. To better understand the capacities for managing human-induced pressures in coastal and marine Natura 2000 areas, we selected several pilot areas in Croatia and Italy, analysed the institutional and legal framework and identified the most common pressures for each Natura 2000 site. Apart from covering key pressures, our analysis will include monitoring challenges and capacity-building needs of the involved institutions.

Sunce selected a total of **five pilot Croatian areas**:

- Special Reserve Bay of **Mali Ston and Malo More**;
- **Pakleni islands**;
- **Kornati National Park**;
- **Telašćica Nature Park**;
- The northwestern part of **Dugi Otok – Sakarun Bay**.

The **most common pressures** identified in these sites are:

- **fishing**;
- **free anchoring of vessels**;
- **wastewater from vessels**.



The **Municipality of Ugento** identified **four Natura 2000 sites**:

- **Coast of Ugento**;
- **Torre Colimena**;
- **Mar Piccolo**;
- **Torre Guaceto and Macchia S. Giovanni**.

The following **common pressures** have been selected:

- **illegal fishing**;
- **widespread water pollution from agricultural activities**;
- **fires**.

Through the EFFICIENTN2K project, we aim to enhance cooperation to improve management efficiency, enhance on-the-ground collaboration and develop recommendations for more effective surveillance of protected areas. In our **next newsletter**, we'll share **the results of our analysis** and try to answer how to preserve and protect marine and coastal protected areas when they fall under the jurisdiction of numerous institutions.

**KICK-OFF MEETING**

On **3 October 2023**, the inaugural meeting of the project was held in Split. The meeting was organized by the **Sunce**.

Partners discussed key aspects of the project like technical requirements, budget, timeline, and deadlines. It marked the **official start of the project** and the first convening of the Steering Committee and project team.



For more information on the project, please visit our website:
<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/efficientn2k>