

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

We are pleased to share the latest **updates** on our project aimed at the protection and sustainable management of coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites in Italy and Croatia.

LOOKING BACK

During the **project's first phase** of the project, we conducted an in-depth analysis of the institutional and legal frameworks governing human activities impacting Natura 2000 sites, both in Italy and Croatia. Through research and stakeholder consultations, we assessed existing pressures, mapped regulations, and identified competent authorities and their capacities.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

In the **second phase**, we organised **four key workshops** to discuss our analysis, validate results, and develop joint solutions. They provided essential platform for exchanging good practices and building sustainable partnerships.



On **February 6th**, the **first Croatian local workshop** was held online by **Sunce** to explore regulatory possibilities for anchoring on Posidonia meadows, identified as a major pressure in our project's analysis.

The **second Croatian local workshop**, on **April 3rd**, focused on the education of rangers in protected areas. Held by **Sunce** with a valuable contribution from the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development - Department for Environmental Protection, it underlined the need for improved capacity-building programs for rangers.



Croatian and Italian experts and stakeholders joined the **cross-border workshop held on March 26th in Split**, to discuss the importance of surveillance and enforcement in marine Natura 2000 areas. Professionals from both countries presented national conservation strategies and practical examples of anchoring regulations and surveillance challenges, providing foundation for discussing during the three working groups that concluded the event.

The Italian partner, the **Municipality of Ugento**, organized its **first local workshop** on **May 21st**, hosting prominent institutional representatives and key stakeholders, including directors of the selected pilot protected areas in Puglia. Their contribution was essential to identify necessary actions for ensuring better conservation of the marine environment. More about this event [here](#).

**TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

The workshops have been crucial in gathering practical solutions for the training activities committed by partners.

Sunce has initiated its training efforts last **May 23rd**, with the **specialized seminar held in Split** and proudly attended online by representatives from the **Municipality of Ugento**, with the aim to strengthen the capacities of rangers and public institution employees managing marine and coastal protected areas. More on this event you can read [here](#).



The **capacity building session of Ugento** took place on **July 9th and 10th**. Participants engaged in two days of training that combined theory and practice on innovative technologies, including the use of drones for more efficient monitoring of natural areas. Find more details [here](#).



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

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