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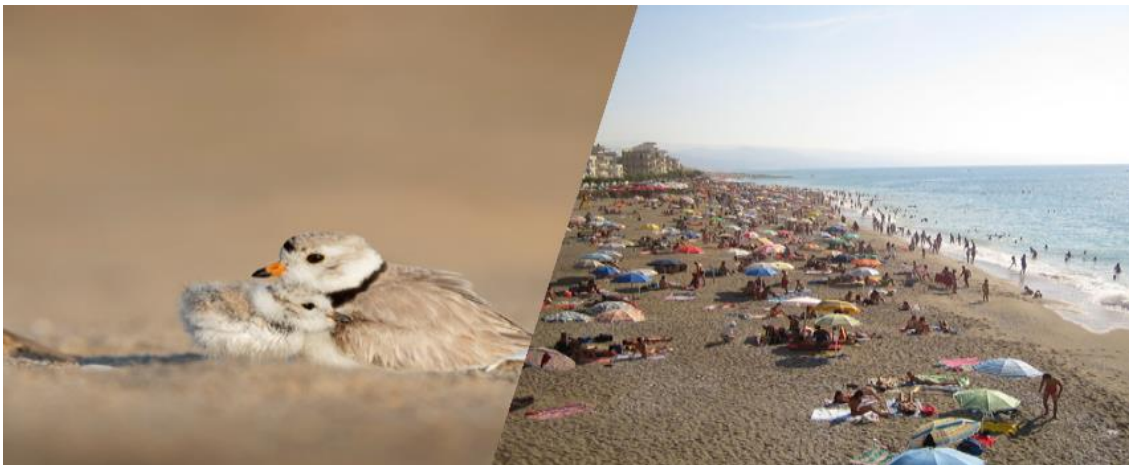


EUROPEAN UNION



CO-EVOLVE

NEWSLETTER #1 JULY 2017



CO-EVOLVE is an Interreg MED three-year project that aims at analysing and promoting the co-evolution of human activities and natural systems in touristic coastal areas, allowing sustainable development of touristic activities based on the principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP). It couples a presently unavailable analysis at MED scale of threats and enabling factors for sustainable tourism with local studies on seven representative Pilot Areas, to demonstrate through pilot actions the feasibility and effectiveness of an ICZM/MSP-based planning process.

CO-EVOLVE recognises as a key challenge for sustainable coastal and maritime tourism development the strengthening of cooperation among regions and the joint development and transferring of approaches, tools, guidelines and best practices. Finally, CO-EVOLVE contributes to the Strategic Theme 2 (Joint Action 2.1) of the [Bologna](#)

For more information, you can have a look at the [project's brochure](#).



Presentation of the CO-EVOLVE project

Video from the MED Sustainable Tourism Community

16-17 March 2017, Marseille, France

Why should you subscribe?

CO-EVOLVE's newsletter is aimed at entities and people that care about the sustainable development of maritime and coastal tourism. It provides detailed and updated information about the project, which seeks to analyse threats to and enabling factors for sustainable tourism, define and quantify tourism sustainability, and develop ICZM/MSP based action plans for sustainable tourism development at pilot areas and Mediterranean scales.

What has been achieved so far?

Project's activities started with the Studying phase running from November 2016 to January 2018. Partners have been working on analysing principal threats to and enabling factors for the development of

What you will find in our Newsletter

CO-EVOLVE's first newsletter reports on the project's first activities and achievements. The first section focuses on recent events organised by the project or in which it was represented. The second one provides information about relevant internal and external upcoming events and activities. A new version of the newsletter will be published approximately every six months, until the end of the project's lifetime in October 2019.

Interactions with Community 3.1

In accordance with the new spirit of the Interreg MED programme, CO-EVOLVE is part of the 'Sustainable Tourism' thematic community, which gathers 14 Modular Projects (more information [here](#)). CO-

sustainable coastal tourism. Pre-identified threats include climate change, morphological stability, littoralisation, urbanisation, pollution, conflicts of use, etc. and main enabling factors are coastal and ecosystems protection, water cycle and depuration, transport and accessibility, legislation and governance. Several reports are currently being drafted. Final reports will be delivered in September this year.

EVOLVE is already interacting with the members of the community. For instance, 8 projects were pre-identified and are considered as compatible with CO-EVOLVE. Next steps include identifying possible joint actions and objectives, sharing information on respective events and signing memoranda of understanding, if relevant. A [map](#) showing the location of the partners of each preidentified project's was also drafted.

RECENT EVENTS

CO-EVOLVE kick-off meeting – Komotini (12-13 January 2017)



The kick-off meeting of CO-EVOLVE took place on 12-13 January 2017 in Komotini, at the invitation of the Region of East Macedonia and Thrace, lead partner of the project.

During the two-day meeting, partners discussed the main milestones and activities of the project. Work Packages leaders presented the roadmap of each Work Package (project management, communication, studying, testing and transferring).

Project's activities will begin with the Studying phase, starting in November 2016 and ending in January 2018. Partners also discussed the first activities to be implemented in the very first months of the project's lifetime, in particular the analyses of threats to and enabling factors for the development of sustainable coastal tourism.

[Read](#) [more](#)

Meeting with Greek local stakeholders - Komotini (9 February 2017)



The project's lead partner (Region of East Macedonia-Thrace) organised a Technical Meeting in Komotini, Greece, on 9 February with Greek local stakeholders from two pilot areas (Alexandroupoli –Makri and Keramoti-Thassos) to raise awareness on the project and discuss difficulties related to tourism.

The meeting gathered representatives from the municipalities of Nestos and Alexandroupoli, the managing body of Nestos Delta, the Port Authority of Alexandroupoli as well as people from the Region's services of Development Programming, Environment and Spatial Planning, Technical Works and Regional Development Fund. It started with a presentation of the project (milestones, objectives and general framework of the pilot activities) and was followed by a roundtable discussion with local stakeholders. Local stakeholders pointed out their current problems concerning tourism development, coastal environment protection and coastal erosion, and they presented information about the state of implementation of their local strategic planning on spatial planning, urban redevelopment and relevant infrastructure works.

During the discussion many interesting issues came up about existing legal and organisational gaps that the Region could analyse and propose adequate innovative solutions for through the pilot areas selected in the framework of the project. These solutions would be transferable to all Greek touristic coastal areas.

[Read more](#)

CO-EVOLVE 2nd Steering Committee – Split (10-11 May 2017)



CO-EVOLVE partners met in Split, Croatia, on 10-11 June to discuss the project's progress and future steps. They presented the main deliverables produced to date (i.e. communication plan, WP3 inception report, etc.), the state of play of other activities (i.e. reports on threats and enabling factors) and discussed about the upcoming activities.

In order to give a clear idea of the following steps, each Work Package and task leader recalled the aim and calendar of the activities. At the end of the two-day meeting, partners participated in a technical visit of the Kastela Bay pilot area.

Other recent meetings



Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Working Group on Environment and Climate - Barcelona (March) Regione Emilia-Romagna participated in the first meeting of the Union for the Mediterranean Working Group on Environment and Climate Change in Barcelona on 14-15 March, on behalf of CO-EVOLVE. The aim of this meeting was to review the progress made in the implementation of the 2014 UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate's recommendations.

BLUEMED 'a basin of research and innovation for sustainable growth' event - Malta (April)
Regione Emilia-Romagna took part in the 'a basin of research and innovation for sustainable growth' event in Malta on 18-19 April, on behalf of CO-EVOLVE. This meeting was the occasion to continue the work initiated in 2015 through the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and open up the initiative to non-EU Mediterranean countries.



'We are MED' Interreg MED meeting - Alicante (May)
The official launch of the MED Community took place on 17 May in Alicante. The event gathered more than 100 representatives (mainly lead partners and communication managers) from all horizontal and modular projects (MPs) of each project from the Interreg MED programme. CO-EVOLVE was represented by its lead partner (Region of East Macedonia and Thrace) and communication manager (IMC-CPMR). [Read more](#)

Kick-off meeting of the 3rd Mediterranean Water Forum - Monaco (July)
Hérault department's Vice-President, Claude Barral, participated in the kick-off meeting of the Mediterranean Water Forum in Monaco on 11 July, to present CO-EVOLVE. It was the occasion to discuss topics related to the Mediterranean Preparatory Process for the 8th World Water Forum.



UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd Community Building event - Athens (4-5 October 2017)



The 2nd Community Building Event of the MED 'Sustainable Tourism' (3.1) Community "Making tourism more sustainable: Sharing methodologies for a joint action" will take place in Athens on 4-5 October 2017. It will bring together representatives from Modular Projects belonging to the 3.1 Community and other external stakeholders. Modular Projects will have the opportunity to discuss about their progress, seek synergies and foresee joint actions with other projects.

CO-EVOLVE 3rd Steering Committee - Valencia (October 2017)

CO-EVOLVE's 3rd Steering Committee will take place in Valencia (Spain) in October 2017 (date tbc), at the invitation of the Valenciaport Foundation. It will be the occasion to discuss the project's progress, especially regarding the Studying activities (WP3) and prepare the beginning of the Testing phase (WP4). By then, all the analyses of threats and enabling factors will be available and will help prepare the testing at pilot scale of instruments, policies, strategies and joint plans already identified during the Studying phase.

CO-EVOLVE Information Day (Ecomondo) - Rimini (7 November 2017)



The first CO-EVOLVE's information day will be organised by Regione Emilia-Romagna on 7 November 2017 in Rimini (Italy), in the frame of the 2017 Ecomondo expo, to raise awareness about the project among local, regional, national and transnational stakeholders.

In addition to communicating what the Co-Evolve project is doing, the aim of the meeting will be to discuss Mediterranean policies related to sustainable coastal and maritime tourism, objectives and actions, with a focus on the Interreg MED program, in particular the "Thematic Community on sustainable tourism". The meeting will also address the potential of the sector and the opportunities for development of sustainable tourism in the Mediterranean area.

[More information](#)

39th edition of SETT - Montpellier (7-9 November 2017)



Representatives from the Hérault department will participate in the 39th edition of SETT®, Salon des Équipements et Techniques du Tourisme (Tourism Equipment and Techniques Trade Fair), in Montpellier, France, on 7, 8 and 9 November 2017, on behalf of CO-EVOLVE.

This event will gather over 580 exhibitors representing the tourism sector (i.e. all tourism professionals: campsites, cafés, hotels, restaurants, holiday rentals, bed-and-breakfasts, tourist beaches, leisure and theme parks, and community organisations, among others). This will be the occasion to present CO-EVOLVE's first results and explore synergies with local, regional, national and EU stakeholders.

[More information](#)

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Become an observer of CO-EVOLVE

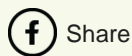
If you want to become an observer of the CO-EVOLVE project and monitor/get involved in its activities, we invite you to fill in this [form](#). It was developed in order to ensure the results of the project are being disseminated as broadly as possible and capitalised on, but also to engage as many stakeholders as possible in its activities.

The CO-EVOLVE project is supported by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) under the Interreg MED Programme. Lead partner: Region of East Macedonia and Thrace - Regional Development Fund. - email: co-evolve@pta-emth.gr



Contact us at: co-evolve@pta-emth.gr

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