

**PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE**: DeFishGear - Derelict Fishing Gear Management System in the Adriatic Region

FUNDING PROGRAMME: IPA Adriatic Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2007 - 2013

CALL: IPA Adriatic - Priority: 2. Natural and Cultural Resources and Risk Prevention

## SCIENTIFIC FIELD: Natural and Cultural Resources and Risk Prevention

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

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Giulio Pojana

## **FINANCIAL DATA:**

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 5.796.040,00	€ 396.459,00

## **ABSTRACT:**

DeFishGear Project originated as a response to the need for effective dealing with the issue of marine litter in the Adriatic MacroRegion, towards litter free coasts and sea. It aims to facilitate the efforts of policy makers and stakeholders in effective dealing with the issue of marine litter in the Adriatic.

The strategy behind DeFishGear's combat against negative impacts of marine litter is organized around sharing scientific knowledge and obtaining accurate, coherent and comparable scientific data that will ultimately allow the implementation of coordinated and multi-sectoral actions aimed at effective tackling of marine litter in the Adriatic region.

DeFishGear will result in a strategy for reducing marine litter pollution in the Adriatic Sea by involving different stakeholders (fishing industry, researchers, policy-makers, NGOs and recycling industry). Upon the end of the project, the Adriatic region will have its first assessment of marine litter based on data collected and actions performed in pilot areas, better knowledge on micro plastic pollution and its effects on marine biota that will continue to promote the reduction of marine litter even after the completion of the project.

The implementation of DeFishGear will bring forth many outputs that will facilitate the participation process aspect of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol (ICZM). On the basis of the newly acquired knowledge, it is envisaged to develop a database containing all information relevant to the marine litter and its connection to the economic activities and social factors. The emphasis will be placed on detecting the cross-cutting issues among different stakeholders, identifying bottlenecks within their interaction, and providing the best practical solutions. Since the Project recognizes the importance of maintaining regional

competitiveness, its implementation is directed towards creating connections with recycling industry, thus enabling the analysis of an entire life cycle of derelict fishing gear suitable for recycling or processing.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
October 2013	March 2016

## **PARTNERSHIP:**

<b>1</b> National Institute of Chemistry, Ljubljana, Laboratory for polymer chemistry and technology	Ljubljana (SLO)	Lead Beneficiary
2 The National Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and	Rome (IT)	Partner
Research		
3 Università Ca' Foscari Venezia	Venice (IT)	Partner
4 Mediterranean Consortium	Rome (IT)	Partner
<b>5</b> Regional Agency for Environmental Protection in the Emilia- Romagna region	Bologna (IT)	Partner
6 Institute for water of the Republic of Slovenia	Ljubljana (SLO)	Partner
<b>7</b> University of Nova Gorica, The Laboratory for Environmental Research	Nova Gorica (SLO)	Partner
8 Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (IOF)	Split (HR)	Partner
9 Hydro-Engineering Institute of the Sarajevo Faculty of Civil Engineering	Sarajevo (BIH)	Partner
<b>10</b> University of Montenegro, Institute of marine biology	Podgorica (MNE)	Partner
<b>11</b> Agricultural University of Tirana, Laboratory of Fisheries and Aquaculture	Tirana (AL)	Partner
12 Regional Council of Lezha	Lezhe (AL)	Partner
<b>13</b> Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)	Athens (GR)	Partner
14 Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR), Institute of Oceanography	Anavyssos (GR)	Partner
<b>15</b> Public Institution RERA s.d. For coordination and development of Split Dalmatia County (RERA)	Split (HR)	Partner
16 Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change (CMCC)	Lecce (IT)	Partner

WEBSITE: http://www.defishgear.net/