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NEWSLETTER 3



Enhancing underwater archeology
to make it an innovative tool for developing
sustainable & creative tourism



15 June 2023 - Pafos (Cyprus)



4TH TRANSNATIONAL MEETING

Pafos Regional Board of Tourism



Last June, the U-Mar project partners met in Pafos where they had the opportunity to exchange views and discuss about important topics such as the E-learning Platform and the creation of the Underwater Archaeological Interpretation Centres. Pafos Tourism Boards' members had the opportunity to share their thoughts about the possible interpretation centres and stated that the UNESCO Archaeological Park is the ideal location for it.

Later in the day, a guided walking tour was organised through the unique UNESCO Archaeological Park; the most visited archaeological site in the island! Partners walked through the Park which includes sites and monuments from the 4th century BC to the Middle Ages, while most remains date to the Roman period.

The following day the partners met with the President of Pafos Diving Centre Association, Mr Fotos Socratous, who also shared his thoughts about diving in the area and how popular Pafos is the recent years in that sector. After that, members of the Pafos Tourism Board were interviewed and filmed from Argo members at the Interpretation centre which is located within the UNESCO Archaeological Park.

The rest of the partners went to several other Archaeological Sites such as Tombs of the Kings which is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site, contains a set of well-preserved underground tombs and chambers used by residents of Nea Pafos during the Hellenistic and Roman periods, from the 3rd century BC to the 3rd century AD.

A farewell lunch was followed, as most of the partners started to departure early in the afternoon.



PROJECT RESULT 2



E-learning platform for cultural and tourism operators

The Campus of International Excellence of the Sea is currently analysing in the city of Paphos, in Cyprus, the progress of the U-Mar project, which is being developed within the framework of the European Erasmus Plus in which CEIMAR participates as a partner with researchers from the University of Cadiz with the aim of promoting underwater archaeology and contributing to the development of sustainable and creative tourism.

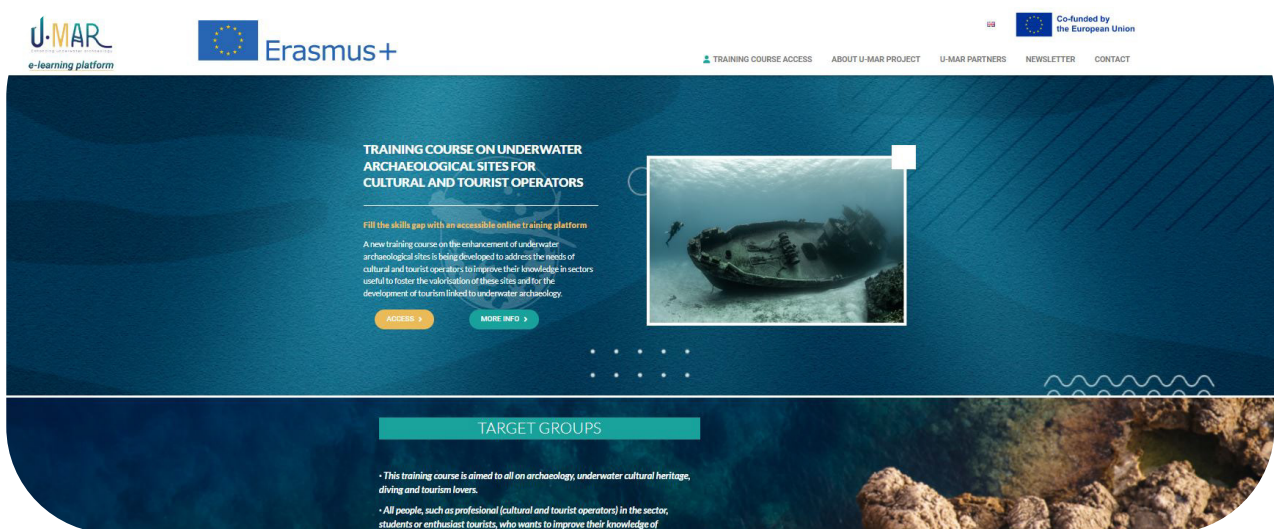




The meeting also served to inform the partners on the progress of the state of operation and structure of the e-learning platform for cultural and tourism operators, which will also serve as the project's website and which will host the course contents, as well as additional information on training opportunities and dissemination activities, tourism activities of interest and a list of good practices on underwater activities that each partner is developing in its country.

Finally, another important aspect of this coordination meeting was to establish the mechanisms for the implementation of the underwater archaeology interpretation centres, which will be used to disseminate information to society as a whole.

Both the course and the platform will be presented in each of the countries of the U-Mar consortium through a multiplier event which, in the case of Spain, will take place next October in Cadiz.



[MORE INFO HERE](#)

RELATED NEWS



Spain and Croatia sign an agreement for the protection and conservation of the Underwater Cultural Heritage

The general director of Cultural Heritage and Fine Arts of the Ministry of Culture and Sports, Isaac Sastre de Diego, and the director of the International Center for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar (ICUA), Mladen Pešić, have signed a memorandum of cooperation for the protection and conservation of the Underwater Cultural Heritage.

The agreement lays the foundations for the Ministry of Culture and Sports and the ICUA to collaborate in carrying out joint programs of education, research and capacity development, in the exchange of publications, experiences and specialized knowledge and in promoting the enhancement and awareness of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (PCS).





Likewise, the memorandum establishes the cooperation of both countries for the promotion of joint projects in the field of the PCS and of activities within the framework of European and international programs and initiatives of the European Union.

With this memorandum, Spain and Croatia express their commitment to the identification, protection, management, preservation, promotion and awareness of underwater cultural resources and sites, in line with the consideration of this heritage as an asset shared by all humanity. In 2001, both countries became two of the first States to sign the UNESCO Convention for the protection of SPCS.

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

11 July 2023 - Marettimo island (Italy)



NATIONAL ON-SITE TRAINING EVENT

U-Mar specialisation course on underwater archaeological sites

National On Site Training foreseen by the U-MAR project, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, was held on 11 July on the island of Marettimo (Egadi Islands, Sicily – Italy).

The event was organised by the Phoenicians' Route – Cultural Route of the Council of Europe in collaboration with the Superintendence of the Sea of the Sicilian Region, both project partners.

The meeting was participated by the representatives of local bodies (Municipality of Favignana) and Cultural Associations, but also by diving centres and members of Sicilian Archaeological Groups of Italy.

The objective of the meeting was to present the international strategic partnership within the U-Mar project (enhancement of cultural heritage, especially underwater heritage), provide useful information and outcomes to local decision makers, to present the innovative training course and exchange views.

The issue of the protection, enhancement and promotion of the underwater heritage is very important for these places. In fact, we recall that, for example, in the waters around the Island of Marettimo, the 25th underwater archaeological itinerary in Sicily, part of the Egadi Islands Underwater Archaeological Park, was inaugurated in 2021.

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17 July 2023 - Pafos (Cyprus)

NATIONAL ON-SITE TRAINING EVENT

U-Mar specialisation course on underwater archaeological sites

On 17 July, a national on-site training event was held in Cyprus, organised by the Pafos Regional Board of Tourism in the beautiful setting of the UNESCO Archaeological Park of Kato Pafos, which was attended by several members and representatives of local organisations.



The aim was to present the international partnership that is developing the U-Mar project, provide those present with information on the results achieved so far.

In this sense, the innovative training course among the participants was illustrated and discussed, and the structure of the E-learning Platform that will see the light in a few weeks' time was outlined.

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23 June 2023 - Funchal (Portugal)

NATIONAL ON-SITE EVENT

Presentation of the U-Mar Project in Portugal

ACIF-CCIM carried out the presentation of the U-Mar project to the tourism and cultural operators on the 23rd of June, with the aim of making known the activities that were carried out within the scope of this project, supported by the ERASMUS+ program, and in cooperation with other partners in Italy, Spain, Cyprus and Croatia..



During the presentation, the activities that have been developed under this project were shared, namely the e-learning training course that is being designed, in order to increase the knowledge about this area of tour operators and cultural operators.

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GENERAL INFORMATION



U-Mar aims at developing the knowledge and the valorization of heritage related to underwater archaeology, through four specific objectives:

- Training professional figures with specific skills in underwater archaeology by setting up an ad hoc innovative training course;
- Developing sustainable and environmentally friendly tourism around underwater archaeology;
- Provide guidelines for those organizations that want to develop strategies for enhancing the underwater archaeological heritage;
- Increase knowledge of the underwater archaeological heritage and the importance of its conservation and enhancement.

Project Partners

La Rotta dei Fenici, Italy
Itinerario Culturale del Consiglio d'Europa

Regione Sicilia, Italy
Soprintendenza del Mare

ICUA, Croatia
International Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar

CEIMAR, Spain
International Campus of Excellence in Marine Sciences

Pafos Regional Board of Tourism, Cyprus

ACIF-CCIM, Portugal
Industrial and Commercial Association of Funchal Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Madeira

ARGO, Italy

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