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# NEWSLETTER 5



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



27 September 2023 - Funchal (Portugal)



## 5<sup>TH</sup> TRANSNATIONAL MEETING

Associação Comercial e Industrial do Funchal



The 5th Transnational Meeting of the U-MAR Erasmus+ Project took place in Madeira on Wednesday 27 September, It was a very fruitful meeting that allowed the partners to take stock of the situation in order to plan the work for the last project months.

Furthermore, given the excellent results the project is achieving, the partners agreed to continue the collaboration with other projects.

Mr Jorge Veiga França, President of ACIF the host partner, opened the meeting with words of high praise and appreciation.



Great success for the project's II Multiplier event held the following day, Thursday 28 September, at Centro de Estudos de História do Atlântico, Funchal. After institutional greetings by Mr Roland Bachmeier, Member of the Board - Madeira Chamber of Commerce ACIF-CCM and Mrs Dorita Mendonça, Tourist Promotion Director at Madeira Tourism Board, the U-Mar project was presented.

In addition, a session was held on the topic "Best practices of Enhancement of Underwater Cultural Heritage as an engine for social, economic and cultural development".



15 September 2023 - Selinunte (Italy)

## 1<sup>ST</sup> MULTIPLIER EVENT

Underwater Archaeology in the Mediterranean

Enhancement of Ancient Ports, Docks, and Trade Routes

An event dedicated to “Underwater Archaeology” was held on Friday 15 September at 5.30 pm at the Baglio Florio of the Archaeological Park of Selinunte as part of the Erasmus+ Project U-MAR “Enhancing underwater archeology to make it an innovative tool for developing sustainable & creative tourism”, coordinated by the Phoenicians' Route – Cultural Route of the Council of Europe. The event is aimed at presenting the results of the project and proposing a reflection on underwater archaeology and the opportunities that derive from it on a cultural and tourist level.





In addition to the Director of the Park, Felice Crescente, were also present the Director of the Phoenicians' Route, Antonio Barone, Jon Albers, Professor of Classical Archaeology at the Ruhr-University of Bochum (Germany) (who talked about ports and docks in the ancient Mediterranean), the underwater archaeologist Fabio Amato of the Archaeological Groups of Italy, and the Councillor of the Archaeological Park of Agrigento (who talked about underwater archaeology as a tool for promoting territories).

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

28 September 2023 - Funchal (Portugal)



## 2<sup>ND</sup> MULTIPLIER EVENT

Associação Comercial e Industrial do Funchal



The day after the las Transnational Project Meeting held in Madeira, a seminar was held to present the results of the project at the Alberto Vieira Centre for the Study of Atlantic History. The event was attended by the Director of ACIF-CCIM, Roland Bachmeier, the Regional Director of Tourism, Dorita Mendonça, the Director of the Centre for the Study of Modern and Contemporary Alexandre Brazão,

The various interlocutors of this project took advantage of this trip to the region to learn about the work that has been developed in the region in the area of underwater archaeology.

[SEE ON FACEBOOK <](#)



08 September 2023 - Almería (Spain)

## NATIONAL ON-SITE EVENT

### IV International Congress of Early Career in Marine Sciences in Almería

On 8 September, D. Raúl González Gallero (University of Cadiz) in collaboration with CEI·MAR , presented the U-Mar project in the framework of the IV International Congress of Early Career in Marine Sciences.

An important opportunity to make the project known to an audience that is specialising in the field



[SEE ON FACEBOOK <](#)



2-13 October 2023 - Croatia

## NATIONAL ON-SITE EVENT

### Advanced Underwater Archaeology Course 2023

From October 2 to October 13, 2023, the ICUA Zadar conducted an Advanced Underwater Archaeology Course. This course aimed to equip young scientists worldwide with comprehensive theoretical and practical knowledge related to underwater cultural heritage research. Participants hailed from Slovakia, Spain, Greece, and Colombia.

The course included morning lectures by underwater archaeologists and conservators from MCPA Zadar and RGK-DAI. In the first week, underwater surveys and deep dives took place, revealing ancient artifacts in various locations. In the second week, the participants actively engaged in systematic archaeological excavations at the Barbir site in Sukošan, setting up grids, excavating, and documenting their findings, including the ship's structure.



[MORE INFO HERE](#)



## RELATED NEWS: ACIF-CCIM



# U-Mar project launches training course on underwater archaeology

The closing meeting of the U-Mar project took place in Madeira, ending in January 2024, with the participation of the various partners from Spain, Italy, Croatia and Cyprus.

The first day of this meeting served to take stock of the work carried out and to discuss the possibility of developing other projects, in partnership, in order to continue the work that has been promoted so far. One of the outputs of this project was the design of an e-learning training course, aimed at tourism and cultural operators and other entities, to increase the knowledge of these professionals about the area of underwater archaeology and to raise awareness of the importance of promoting strategies for the conservation and enhancement of our archaeological heritage, as a tourist product.

**INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT**

**AIM OF THE PROJECT**

The general aim of the project U-Mar is to contribute to the valorisation of heritage related to underwater archaeology, through the following specific objectives:

- 1) Training professional figures with specific skills in how to valorise it and how to manage these resources, therefore train new experts capable of fostering the area from multiple points of view, by setting up a course.
- 2) Developing sustainable, responsible and effective strategies around underwater archaeology, improving the service by expanding the reference target of users. These strategies will be implemented by making underwater archaeology more accessible to dive or swim, by creating digital content and by developing interpretation centres on land.
- 3) Provide guidelines for organizations that enhance the underwater archaeological heritage, by defining the application depending on the context and the needs, and creation of underwater archaeological itineraries and on the professional's skills required.
- 4) Increase knowledge of the underwater archaeological heritage and its importance of its conservation and enhancement.

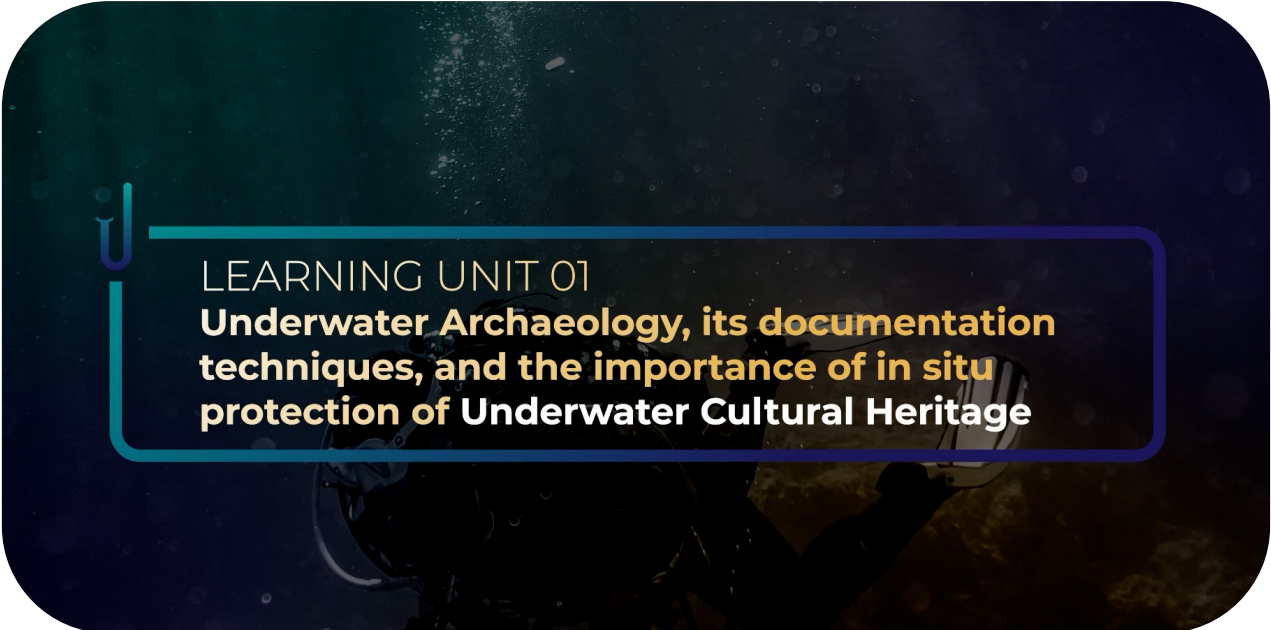
**TABLE OF CONTENT**

- Introduction to the Project.....
- Aim of the Project .....
- Assessment and Impact of the U-MAR Project .....
- Thinking Blue - Blue Economy .....
- The Course – Introduction.....
- The Course – 7 Learning Units.....
- LEARNING UNIT 1 Underwater Archaeology, its importance and the importance of *in situ* protection of Underwater Archaeology – What is hidden underwater.....
- Documentation Techniques – Unravelling History.....
- How and why?.....
- Understanding Archaeology, Understanding the Past.....
- Preliminary questions – Intentional Research.....
- Start digging, but don't shovel just yet.....
- Almost there, but let's double check!.....
- Get Down on It.....
- In-situ* protection vs. Presentation of Underwater Archaeology.....
- Museums /INTERPRETATION Centres .....
- HERITAGE INTERPRETATION CENTRES.....
- Archaeologist and conservators as managers.....



**U-Mar**  
Enhancing underwater archaeology to make it an innovative tool for developing sustainable & creative tourism  
(2021-1-IT01-KA220-VET-000033291)

**U-Mar innovative training course on underwater archaeological sites for cultural operators and learning materials**



LEARNING UNIT 01  
**Underwater Archaeology, its documentation techniques, and the importance of in situ protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage**

The training course will be available from next October, free of charge, on an electronic platform, through which it will be possible to access the contents of the 7 learning units, which address various topics, namely the importance of heritage protection, documentation techniques, how these archaeological spaces should be managed and protected from other maritime tourism activities.

Another objective of the project will be the creation of a space to promote our underwater archaeological heritage, through videos and other informative material, in order to make it accessible to tourists and the whole community.

[DOWNLOAD COURSE](#)

## RELATED NEWS: ICUA ZADAR



### **Croatian proposal for the protection and management of underwater cultural heritage designated as UNESCO example of best practices in underwater cultural heritage**

The 9th Session of the States Parties to the 2001 Convention on Underwater Cultural Heritage, held in Paris from June 13 to 14, 2023, was attended by ICUA Zadar Director Mladen Pešić, PhD. Croatia's proposal, "System of Protection and Management of Underwater Cultural Heritage at Sites Velika Shallows near Cavtat, Letavica, and Baron Gautsch," was designated by UNESCO as a best practice example. This system safeguards underwater archaeological sites, issuing permits for activities near cultural artifacts. "Best Practices" promote public access to underwater heritage and facilitate international cooperation.

Croatia collaborated with ICUA Zadar and the Ministry of Culture and Media, earning recommendation from UNESCO's Scientific and Technical Advisory Body. Italy and Mexico also received recognition for their underwater heritage projects.

This achievement underscores Croatia's commitment to preserving cultural and natural heritage."

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

# 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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