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# NEWSLETTER 6



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





## ACHIEVED RESULTS

### 1. New Training Course on the Enhancement of Underwater Archaeological Sites

A new Training Course on the enhancement of underwater archaeological sites has been developed to address the needs of cultural and tourist operators, to improve their knowledge in sectors useful to foster the enhancement of these sites and for the development of tourism linked to underwater archaeology.

The idea of creating this innovative course started from the realization that training courses related to this topic focused mainly on the cultural and historical part of the sites, but did not dwell on the aspects more related to the promotion of these heritages and consequently their related tourism promotion and cooperation with other cultural and commercial actors.

The new and innovative UMAR Training course encompasses together all competences and expertise of project partners in order to address the shortcomings of existing training courses, with the aim of creating professional figures who actively contribute to the development of this sector. The course is divided in seven learning units, consists of written and audio/video materials and has been uploaded to the e-learning platform created by partner CEIMAR so that it is accessible. The course is in English for transfer to all European countries, with a brief description and introduction in all project partner languages. The course was tested through On-Site Trainings that also allowed for improvement changes.



## 2. U-Mar E-learning Platform

The developed E-learning Platform serves not only to access the developed course, but also to find out about underwater heritage training opportunities, to access information about existing sites and their activities. This platform is designed for both cultural workers and the general public, thus contributing to both the goals of training and the development of tourism related to this sector.

[GO TO THE PLATFORM](#)

## 3. U-Mar Interpretation Centres

As a final project output, all partners worked together to develop the prototype Interpretation Centre on underwater archaeology, choosing the ideal location in which to set up the center, deciding on a uniform structure, topics to be told, and materials to be used for communication and promotion, in order to create optimal information centers for the promotion and enhancement of underwater heritage. A great deal of dialogue and interaction was carried out with the associated partners who contributed to the success of the activity. Some centers are already operational: Machico, Madeira Island (Portugal); Menfi (Sicily); Pafos (Cyprus), Cadiz (Spain); the one in Zadar (Croatia) will be ready in 2024.



Thanks to the dissemination work of the project carried out by the Phoenicians' Route, in collaboration with the Superintendence of the Sea of the Sicilian Region, two other Interpretation Centers, not included in the project, used the methodology of the U-Mar project. One of these centers is already active in Marsala (Sicily-Italy); the other will be created in 2024 on the Island of Pantelleria (Sicily-Italy).

### Other Main Outcomes Achieved

- a) laid the groundwork for formalizing a specific training course for those who work or want to work within underwater archaeological sites. In fact, the new training course, once tested and piloted, will be incorporated into the training programs of CEIMAR and ICUA;
- b) promoted the accessibility of underwater sites to all types of visitors by enhancing digital tools;
- c) laid the foundations for the creation of a network dedicated to the theme of underwater archeology within the Phoenicians' Route - Cultural Route of the Council of Europe, encouraging continuous collaboration in the future.

26 October 2023 - Cadiz (Spain)

## 3<sup>RD</sup> MULTIPLIER EVENT

Virtual reality to learn about underwater heritage  
at the Multiplier event of the U-Mar project

The U-Mar project as a clear example of the work developed by CEIMAR and one of the reasons for the recognition of the Phoenicians' Route, those attending the event learned about the results of the U-Mar research project and its e-learning platform from Eva Mena, head of the CEIMAR Coordination Office and Felipe Cerezo, who together with Ana Niveau de Villedary, Carlota Pérez-Reverte, Raúl González and Natalia López, form the team of expert researchers from the University of Cadiz who are developing the project.



The underwater heritage was the subject of discussion in an interesting round table with the participation of Javier Noriega, archaeologist and President of the Andalusian Maritime-Marine Cluster; Josefa Martí Solano, from the Center for Underwater Archaeology of the Andalusian Government; José Manuel Segura, president of the Andalusian Federation of Underwater Activities and Fernando Nieto, member of the Institute of Ceuta Studies. The debate was moderated by Felipe Cerezo, coordinator of the Master in Nautical and Underwater Archaeology of the University of Cadiz.

Finally, the participants discovered the potential of new technologies and digitalization to transmit knowledge about the cultural heritage that we treasure under the sea, thanks to virtual reality, being able to make an "in situ visit" to the findings found by this team of researchers.





27 October 2023 - Zadar (Croacia)

## 4<sup>TH</sup> MULTIPLIER EVENT

International Centre for Underwater Archaeology

ICUA Zadar successfully hosted the project presentation, titled "U-Mar - Enhancing Underwater Archaeology as an Innovative Tool for Sustainable and Creative Tourism." during a multiplier event on Friday, October 27th. Attendees witnessed presentations by key figures like Mladen Pešić, Director of MCPA Zadar, and Zrinka Brkan Klarin from Zadar's Administrative Department for Culture and Sports.





Speakers, including Doris Kurtov from MCPA Zadar's Department of International Cooperation and Funds, and Maja Kaleb (Education and Documentation Department) with Roko Surić (Underwater heritage presentation department) discussed the project's involvement in the "Erasmus+ Programme: U-Mar and Phoenicians' Route" and outlined its objectives and results.

The event concluded with a video presentation showcasing the essence of the U-Mar project. Attendees also enjoyed a networking session with a light reception, fostering connections and discussions among participants.

This event highlighted the U-Mar project's role in advancing underwater archaeology, offering insights into its potential impact on tourism development.

[MORE INFO HERE](#)



18 December 2023 - Pafos (Cyprus)



## 5<sup>TH</sup> MULTIPLIER EVENT

Underwater archaeology and tourism in Pafos Region



The fifth multiplier event of the U-Mar project was held at the headquarters of the Pafos Regional Tourism Board on 18 December. In this workshop, the U-Mar project's online educational platform for maritime archaeology was presented to local tourism stakeholders as an innovative tool for the development of sustainable and creative tourism.

The online platform aims to inform and educate tourism operators such as diving centres, hotels, tour operators and others. At the same time, the e-platform highlights international best practices for the protection and enhancement of marine archaeology

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10 October 2023 - Castelvetro (Italy)

## NATIONAL ON-SITE EVENT

Exploring Europe's Cultural Diversity: Celebrating #ErasmusDays at IPSEOA "V. Titone" with the Phoenicians' Route Director

On the occasion of the #Erasmusdays (9 -14 October 2023) a meeting between the Director of the Phoenicians' Route and the students of the fourth classes was held in Castelvetro, at the IPSEOA "V. Titone" Hotelier Institute, on 10 October. In this European Year of Competences, it is essential to recognise the importance of Europe's cultural diversity and celebrate the learning opportunities it offers.





The #ErasmusDays are an opportunity to discover new cultures, strengthen language and intercultural skills, develop employability and embrace European values of tolerance, respect and diversity.

The Erasmus programme is one of the EU's key programmes and consists of numerous actions aimed at different target groups.

The most famous ones concern university students and schools, but there are many actions aimed at research, university-business cooperation, social organisations and many other European civil society actors.

During the meeting, the Director of the Phoenicians' Route presented to the students the Erasmus projects in which the Phoenicians' Route is involved, among them the U-MAR project.

The theme of the Days was "6 days to make Europe shine! The #ErasmusDays a great way to promote the richness of European mobility and the successes of the Erasmus+ programme".

A round of applause also goes to the Castelvetro IPSEOA High School, a future-oriented educational institution, which offered this opportunity to its students

[MORE INFO HERE](#)



11 November 2023 - Selinunte (Italy)

## NATIONAL ON-SITE EVENT

Conference 'The Ancient Ways of Land and Sea as Key to New Territorial Planning

With the conference "The Ancient Ways of Land and Sea as key for new territorial planning" the Phoenicians' Route - Cultural Route of the Council of Europe since 2003 - in collaboration with the Archaeological Park of Selinunte, Cave di Cusa and Pantelleria and with the support of the Archaeological Groups of Italy and the UNPLI - National Union of the Pro Loco of Italy - on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of its certification by the Council of Europe, promoted a reflection on the methodologies for the enhancement of the heritages spread along the communication routes of the ancient world in the Mediterranean.

During the event, the U-Mar project was also presented and the Superintendence of the Sea of the Sicilian Region presented the Region's Underwater Archaeological Itineraries.



**LE ANTICHE VIE  
DI TERRA E DI MARE**

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

25-27 April 2024 - Zadar (Croatia)



## SYMPOSIUM ON MEDITERRANEAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Annual meeting of SOMA 2024

The 25th annual meeting of the Symposium on Mediterranean Archaeology (SOMA) will be held in Zadar, Croatia 25-27 April 2024. The Conference is organized by the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar (ICUA Zadar) in cooperation with the Network of the General Association for Mediterranean Archaeology (GAMA), Department for Archaeology at the University of Zadar, Museum of Ancient Glass and Archaeological museum in Zadar. A great and important opportunity to present the results of the U-Mar project.

SOMA is an international conference that brings together archaeologists from different parts of the Mediterranean. Until today it has been held in Turkey, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, Ireland, Russia, Poland and the United Kingdom in cooperation with partners from various countries. The results of previous presentations at conferences are regularly published by Archaeopress.

The aim of the conference is to present and exchange experiences and ideas dealing with new achievements in the research, protection and preservation of cultural heritage in Mediterranean area. An important opportunity also to present the results of the U-MAR project

[MORE INFO HERE](#)



19 December 2023 - Madeira (Portugal)

## PROJECT RESULT

Opening of Madeira Underwater Archaeology

Interpretation Centre

On December 19th, the Madeira Underwater Archaeology Interpretation Centre was inaugurated, featuring an exhibition on Madeira's underwater archaeological routes: SS Newton, Bom Rei and Prompt.

This space, located in Forum Machico, in the city centre, aims to awaken the interest of the general population in the themes of underwater archaeology, giving its glass walls great visibility to the exhibition. It is also possible to find in this space some archaeological objects, found in sunken ships, during surveys carried out, as well as information about the routes, through videos and brochures.



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## RELATED NEWS: CEIMAR



### **Welcome students of the VIII Edition of the Master of Nautical and Underwater Archaeology of the University of Cadiz!**

Last Monday the new edition of the Master started with the wonderful talk of Dr. Michele Stefanile from the Scuola Superiore Meridionale about the research carried out in the port of Puteoli.

Combining different working techniques, such as aerial photogrammetry with drones and the manual taking of dimensions, has allowed the study of the different port processes of Puteoli in ancient times.



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## RELATED NEWS: CEIMAR



### **Phoenicians at School: My Phoenician Ship Let's Play at Being Phoenicians Traders.**

This activity is linked to the European Researchers' Night (within the Reserchers at School modality), which will be given to children in the 3rd grade of Primary School.

The workshop was carried out by colleagues and members of LABAP: Ana María Niveau de Villedary y Mariñas, Natalia López Sánchez, Marina Camino Carrasco and Pablo Sicre González.

The games have been designed thanks to the support and funding of the UCA's Own Outreach Plan managed by the UCC+i (Scientific Culture Unit) and the Project Proof of Concept Implementation of Virtual Archaeology in the Museum of Cadiz as a didactic and outreach tool, public and inclusive (GADIR 3.0) - PDC2022-133123-100 - PROOF OF CONCEPTS (CALL 2022) and collaborates with the Cultural Route of the Council of Europe "The Phoenicians' Route".

We hope the boys and girls of 3rd grade enjoyed the workshop!

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

## RELATED NEWS: CEIMAR



### **Gladiator Commemoration Ceremony**

In 1893, the "Gladiator", an English steamer, sailed from Gibraltar to Liverpool with a cargo of sugar. However, this vessel never managed to reach its destination because, on December 12 of that same year, it ran aground in Zahara de los Atunes.

Last Saturday our colleagues participated in the commemoration of the 130 anniversary of the sinking of the "Gladiator". It fills us with pride to see the deep involvement shown by the neighbors of the town and especially the younger ones, with their heritage.

Many thanks to the students of CEIP Miguel de Cervantes Zahara de los Atunes for pouring all their potential in the drawing contest and to Francisco de la Torre Zaragaza for his incredible work in the dissemination of this day. And finally, we would like to thank the City Council of Zahara De Los Atunes for offering a space to raise awareness about the importance of the submerged cultural heritage.



## RELATED NEWS: CEIMAR



### **The Portuense Astronomical Group recovers the legacy of the Ancient World in the XI Science Week**



The event includes the awarding of diplomas to entities and individuals who support scientific dissemination and an exhibition on 'Crafts and tools of Prehistory'.

During the meeting took place a conference by one of our CEIMAR-UCA researchers, Natalia López Sánchez, official master in Nautical and Underwater Archaeology, PhD student, Predoctoral researcher at the UCA and member of the Phoenix Mediterranea research group, who spoke about the results of the U-Mar Project and the importance of the protection of the Underwater Cultural 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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