



Responsive hub for long term governance to destress the Mediterranean Sea from chemical pollution



#5

Newsletter RHE-MEDiation project

RHE-MEDiation ADVANCES IN BULGARIA, MOLDOVA, AND EGYPT

Through the Open Call for Associated Region, RHE-MEDiation selected five Associated Regions to perform the replication assessment of the innovation developed. Actually, four of the five associated regions have already signed the contract within the RHE-MEDiation project, and started implementing replication studies of the RHE-MEDiation innovative solutions. The projects actually ongoing are:

- **Bulgaria (SCeNiC):** Municipality of Sozopol
- **Moldova (GISmart Rhemediation):** AGCC Agency for Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre, Moldova.
- **Egypt (Clean Port Said):** Port Said Governorate (Institute of National Planning - INP as implementing institution)
- **Egypt (INAQUA):** North Sinai Governorate (Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation - MWRI as implementing institution)

The fifth Associated Region is expected to sign the contract soon and has already started implementing its studies. New updates coming soon, stay tuned!

FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ROME



On December 2nd, 2025, the RHE-MEDiation consortium gathered at the CNR venue in Rome, Italy, for its **fifth General Assembly**, marking a milestone in the project's Mediterranean-wide activities.

Partners showcased progress on the project hub, shared updates from pilot deployments, presented early validation results, and discussed ongoing stakeholder engagement initiatives. The assembly was a dynamic space for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and planning the next steps, strengthening the consortium's shared mission to advance innovative solutions for marine and water restoration across the Mediterranean.

RHE-MEDiation at ECOMONDO 2025



RHE-MEDiation participated in the **BlueMissionMed Bootcamp** during **ECOMONDO 2025** in Rimini, highlighting the Mediterranean Lighthouse's role in the EU Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030."

The project contributed to "Young Waves for Change," bringing together students and educators committed to marine protection and restoration, and to "Impacting Together: Promoting Cross-Fertilisation between Interreg and the Mission Ocean and Waters," discussing how the BlueMissionMed platform fosters collaboration and future Open Calls across the Mediterranean.

RHE-MEDiation also joined "From Knowledge to Action: Accelerating the Mission Ocean and Waters Implementation in the Mediterranean Region," showcasing its innovations and results from validation sites.

BULGARIAN AND MOLDAVIAN DELEGATIONS VISIT TARANTO TO EXPLORE RHE-MEDiation SOLUTIONS FOR MARINE RESTORATION



In November 2025, CNR-IAS – Istituto per lo Studio degli Impatti Antropici e Sostenibilità in Ambiente Marino welcomed delegations from the **Municipality of Sozopol (Bulgaria)**, as part of the **SCeNiC Project**, and from Moldova's **AGCC – Agency for Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre**, in the context of the **GISmart project**, under the RHE-MEDiation Mediterranean Lighthouse framework. The visits highlighted innovative solutions for marine pollution mitigation and port restoration, including eco-technologies for sediment and water remediation, nutrient and contaminant removal using microalgae, floating litter-collection systems, and ecological monitoring.

RHE-MEDiation STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN



The RHE-MEDiation project recently held three workshops in Turkey, Greece, and Italy.

Turkey – Gebze Pilot Facility (5 Nov 2025)

Focused on the operation and performance of RHE-MEDiation technologies, with discussions on pilot studies, challenges, results, and recommendations.

Greece – EYDAP's R&D facility, Athens (19 Nov 2025)

Over 50 participants joined EYDAP's workshop, highlighting nature-based solutions, including microalgae, and sharing progress from pilot units in Greece, Italy, and Turkey.

Italy – Taranto, Ketós Centre (26 Nov 2025)

The Italian workshop featured demonstrations from the three pilot sites and insights into international collaborations, advancing practical solutions for a healthier, more resilient Mediterranean Sea.

TESTING INNOVATIVE MONITORING SOLUTIONS IN MAR PICCOLO, TARANTO



In September 2025, the MDM Team carried out two intensive days of activities in Mar Piccolo, Taranto, in collaboration with CNR IRSA. This semi-enclosed Mediterranean basin faces significant environmental stress due to limited water exchange and long-term contamination, making it an ideal site to test **innovative monitoring solutions**.

Day 1 focused on the technical groundwork: setup and calibration of devices and vehicles, testing fixed nodes, and ensuring all systems were ready for field deployment. Day 2 combined knowledge sharing with hands-on field validation at the Galeso River estuary, where the team successfully ran demos and collected important environmental data for the project.



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