Responsive hub for long term governance to destress the Mediterranean Sea from chemical pollution (RHE-MEDiation)

D7.6 – Project Website

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Type of Action	Innovation Action
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Call topic:	Mediterranean Sea basin lighthouse - Actions to prevent, minimise and remediate chemical pollution
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RE	Restricted to a group identified by the Consortium	
CO	Confidential (only Consortium members including EC Services)	

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

HE	Horizon Europe
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
WP	Work package

APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

[AD1] European Commission, Directorate-General for Research & Innovation, Grant Agreement Number 101113045 The RHE-MEDiation project, 2023

[AD2] RHE-MEDiation Consortium Agreement, version 1.0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Deliverable 7.6, titled 'Project Website', presents the structure, content, and features of the RHE-MEDiation project website. Serving as the project's primary communication tool, the website plays a vital role in disseminating both general and technical information to a broad audience. It includes core content and integrates the project's social media channels — Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube — to enhance user engagement. The website also invites visitors to become stakeholders in the project, subscribe to its newsletter or contact the project team with inquiries. Committed to continual improvement, the website will also undergo continuous updates during and after the project's duration. These updates aim to accurately communicate the project's progress and enhance overall quality for increased visibility. Continuous monitoring of website traffic via Statcounter will guide these efforts for improved visibility.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The RHE-MEDiation lighthouse aims to establish a responsive hub deploying long-term governance centred on the mission to destress the Mediterranean Sea from chemical pollution, including peak concentrations in known HOT SPOTS. In particular, the project will test and validate a chemical pollution remediation technology based on micro-algae solutions that will be integrated within existing water/wastewater treatment systems that will enhance the removal of heavy metals, pesticides, and PFAS and forever chemicals. Moreover, it will be complemented with mobile and fixed sensing systems to identify and measure the presence of chemical substances in both land and marine waters, being measured data delivered to the EC EMODnet platform to contribute to the Digital Twin of the Ocean. Three sites (Italy, Greece and Turkey) have been chosen for demonstration and once realized, five replication sites will be added to the list for further investigation. To this end, local stakeholders will be empowered to manage this transformation.

The project activity is distributed across eight work packages (WP), and this deliverable will primarily focus on WP7, Task 7.4, and in particular the project website.

The project website serves as the primary communication platform for the project, enabling the transfer of both detailed and general information about the project throughout and beyond its duration. Moreover, by integrating the different social media platforms the project is active on, the website will ensure that the different target audience of the project (see D 7.1) are well informed and connected.

1.2 Deliverable organisation

D7.6 is structured in the following scheme:

- Section 1 introduces the document.
- Section 2 discusses the website characteristics.
- Section 3 elaborates about supplementary tools integrated on the website and its updating.
- Section 4 closes the document with a synthesized conclusion of the report.

2 WEBSITE CHARACTERISTICS

2.1 URL, Objectives and Technical details

RHE-MEDiation's website at "https://rhemediation.eu" offers extensive information encompassing both general and technical aspects of the project. Additionally, the website provides opportunities for visitors to join as stakeholders, subscribe to the project newsletter, and connect to the project social media channels.

The website was created using HTML static programming language in conjunction with JavaScript on Azure Static Web App. It is designed to be fully responsive, adjusting seamlessly to different screen sizes on any device. The site will exclusively employ analytical cookies, excluding the integration of third-party services. For these services, the "opening blank" mode will be utilized.

2.2 Structure and contents

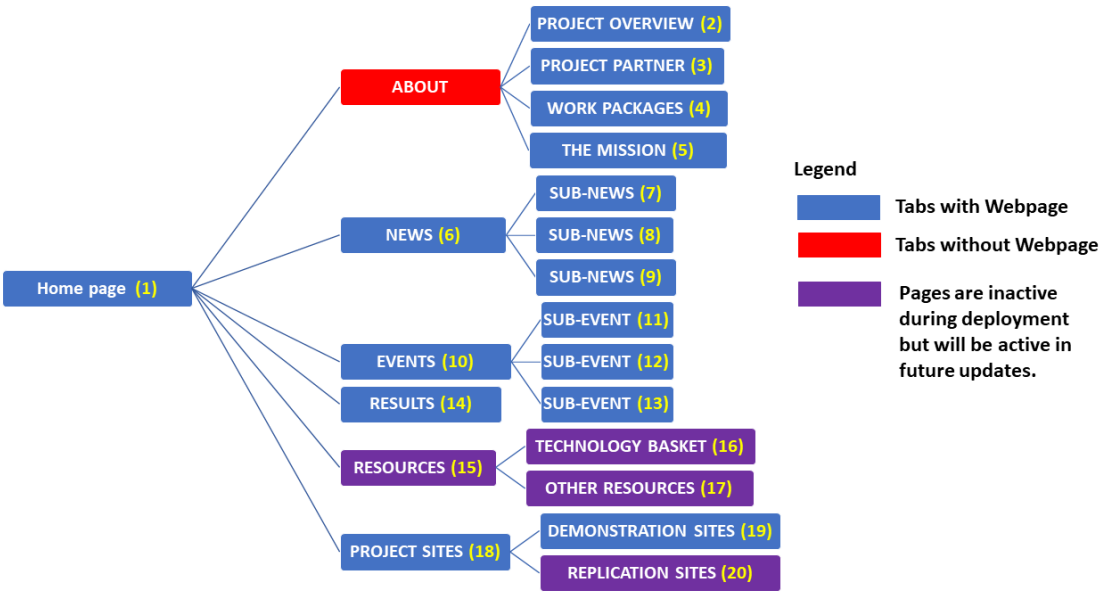


Figure 1: RHE-MEDiation website structure

Below, a short description of the main pages/components of the RHE-Mediation website is provided, as they are depicted in *Figure 1*.

- **Home**: it provides synthesized information about the project, along with links to other pages on the website.
- **About**: it is not a page, it includes tabs 'Project Overview,' 'Project Partners,' 'Work Packages,' and 'The Mission,' each with assigned pages offering synthesized information about the project.
- **News**: in this page, the latest news about the project are published. Three pages are dedicated for the purpose.
- **Events:** this section presents the most relevant to the RHE-MEDiaiton project present/future events. Three pages are dedicated to this activity.
- **Results**: divided in multiple sections, this page will be used to publish project communication and dissemination materials with the option of downloading them.

- **Resources**: Following Task 1.6, 'Establishment of knowledge transfer events with Green Deal and HE funded projects to consolidate and set-up a basket of selected technologies,' the purpose of this page is to offer a comparison of the technologies employed in the RHE-MEDiation project with technologies in other projects. It will be linked to two other pages: 'Technology Basket' and 'Other Resources.' These pages will be active in subsequent updates.
- **Project Sites**: this page will provide information on project's demonstration and replication sites. The "Demonstration Sites" page will be accessible upon the website's deployment, while the "Replication Sites" page will be activated once the project sites within the associated regions are identified.

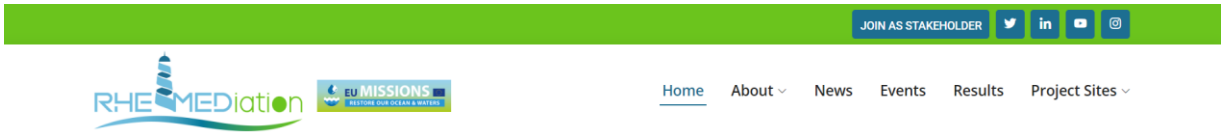


Figure 2: RHE-MEDiation website header

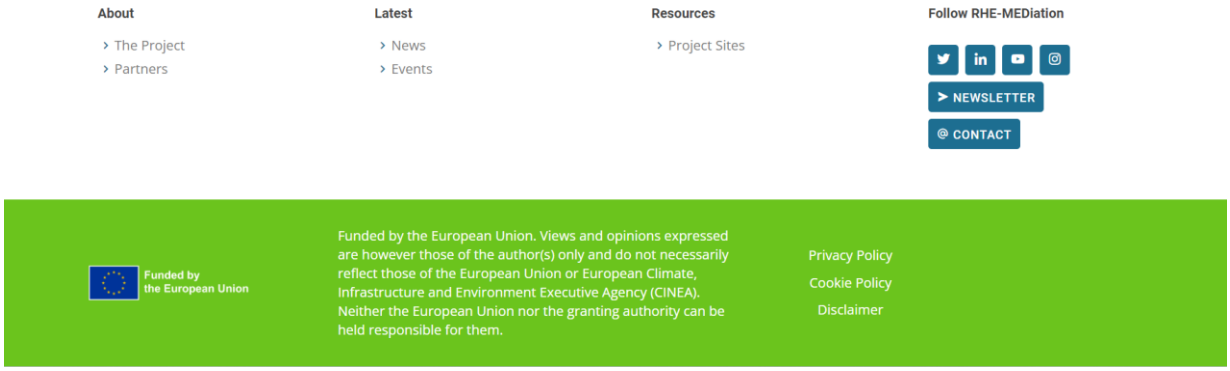


Figure 3: RHE-MEDiation website footer

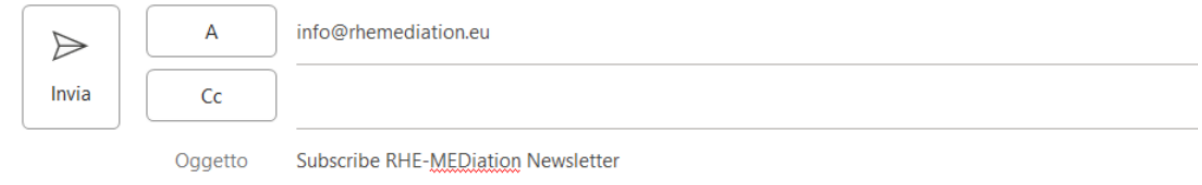
In *Figure 2*, the RHE-MEDiation website header is presented. In the left corner, the official logos of the project and the EU Mission are displayed, whilst in the right corner, an option is presented to "JOIN AS STAKEHOLDER" or access the different social media channels of the project (i.e. Twitter [R2], LinkedIn [R3], Instagram [R4] and YouTube [R5]), for which the home page of each social media channel accounts of RHE-Mediation project are presented in *Figure 5*.

In *Figure 3*, the website's footer is presented. It has top and bottom sections. Right top, viewers are presented with options to access the different social media channels of the project, to contact the project and to subscribe to its newsletter. Top left, links to the various pages of the website for ease of navigation are provided. Bottom left, the EU disclaimer and logo are displayed. Meanwhile, bottom right, links are provided for privacy policy, cookie policy and disclaimer. These three statements can be found in Annex B.

When the tabs "JOIN AS STAKEHOLDER", "NEWSLETTER" and "CONTACT" are clicked, an email box will open as that shown in *Figure 4*. The emails as can be seen are pre-filled and their subject is tailored to the tab clicked. As any of these emails are received by the project, the appropriate replays will be sent back. In upcoming updates, the possibility of linking the website with Microsoft Forms [R1] for these three activities will be investigated.

a)

b)



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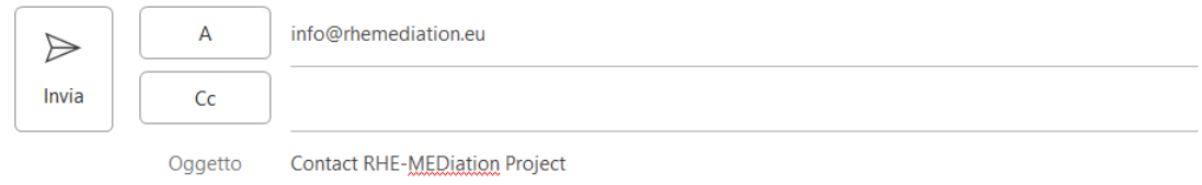
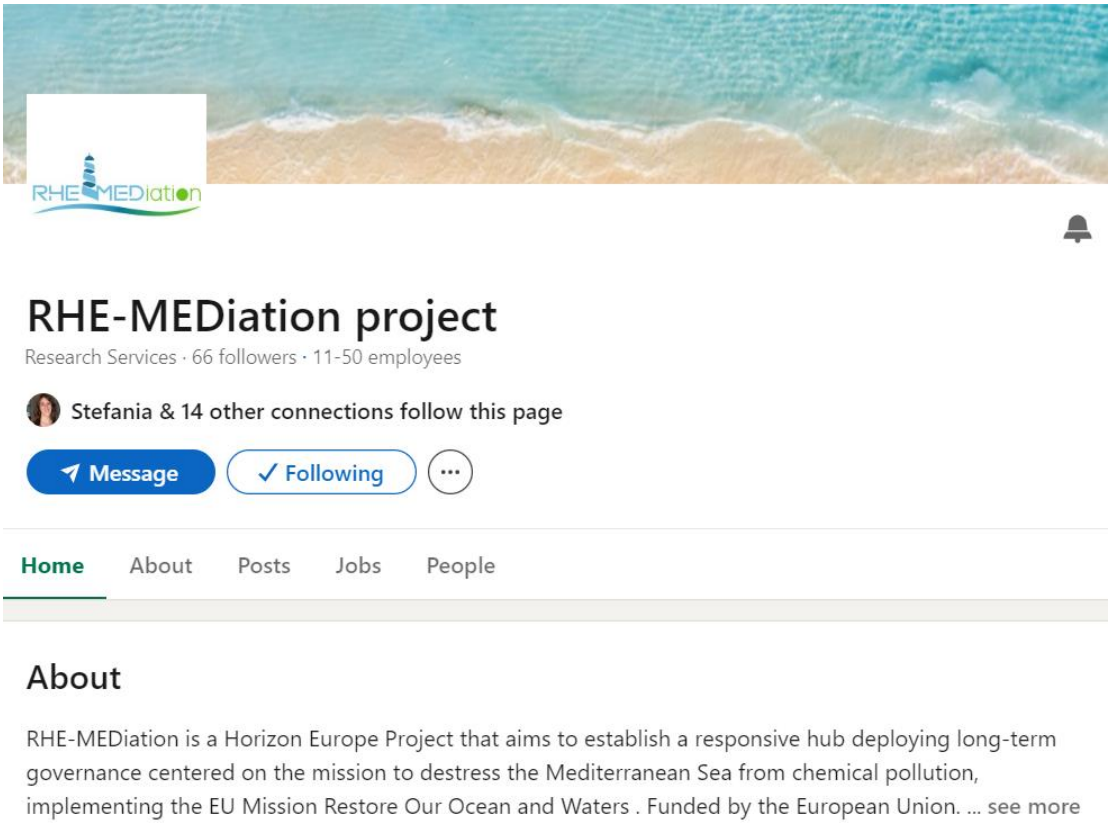


Figure 4: Pre-filled emails, for tabs a) 'JOIN AS STAKEHOLDERS' b) 'NEWSLETTER' c) 'CONTACT'

a)



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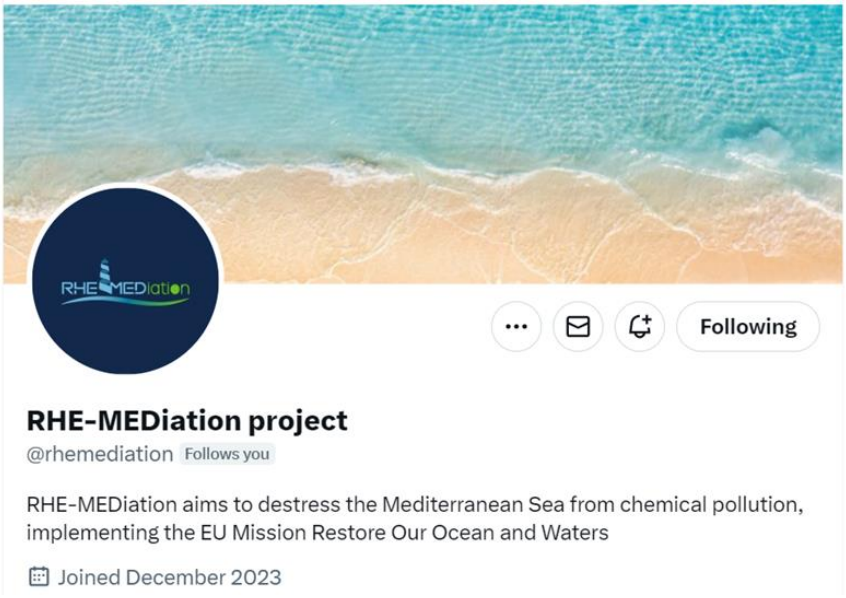

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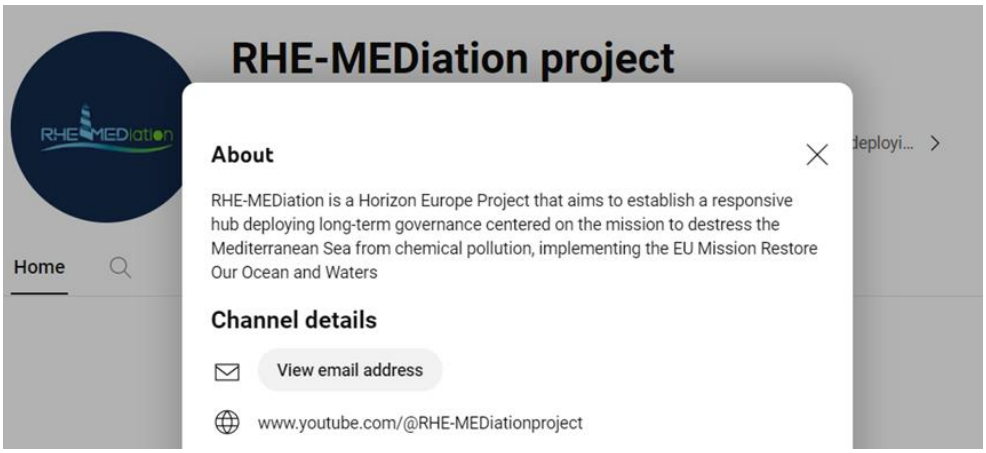


Figure 5: Social media channels of the project a) LinkedIn b) Twitter c) YouTube

2.2.1 Home

The Home page of the RHE-MEDiation website provides a quick peak of the project, the Mission it supports, and current News and Events, see *Figure 7a and Figure 7*b.

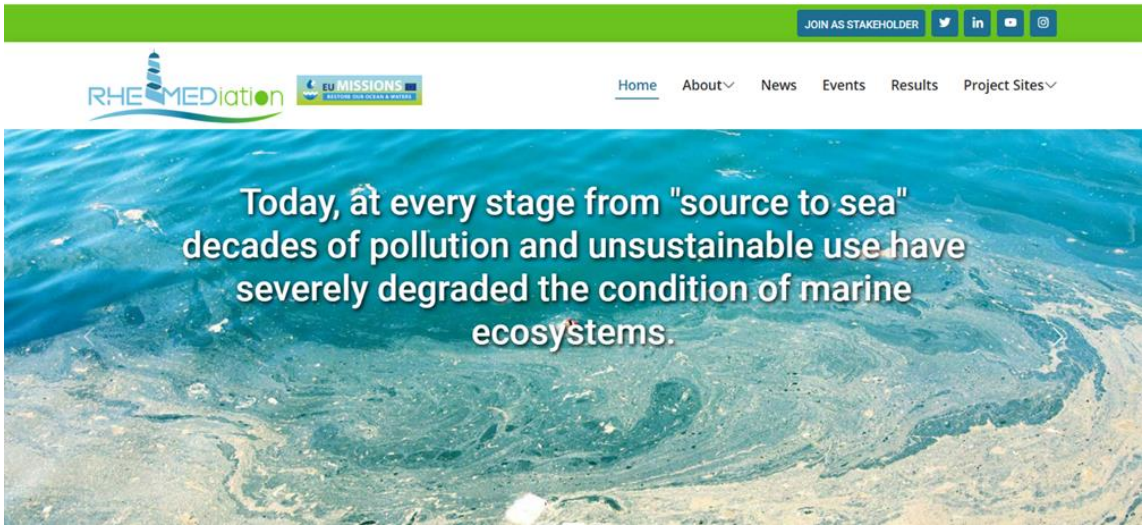
The homepage begins with three key messages, as shown in *Figure 6*, each featuring distinct backgrounds that change every few seconds upon having the website opened.

a. RHE-MEDiation: Responsive hub for long term governance to destress the Mediterranean Sea from chemical pollution.
b. Today, at every stage from "source to sea" decades of pollution and unsustainable use have severely degraded the condition of marine ecosystems.
c. Microalgae are capable of removing excess nutrients and priority contaminants from polluted waters.

The project believes that these three core messages will effectively convey the issue of chemical pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and resonate with a wider audience, illustrating how the methodology proposed by the RHE-MEDiation project will address and remedy the problem.

a)

b)



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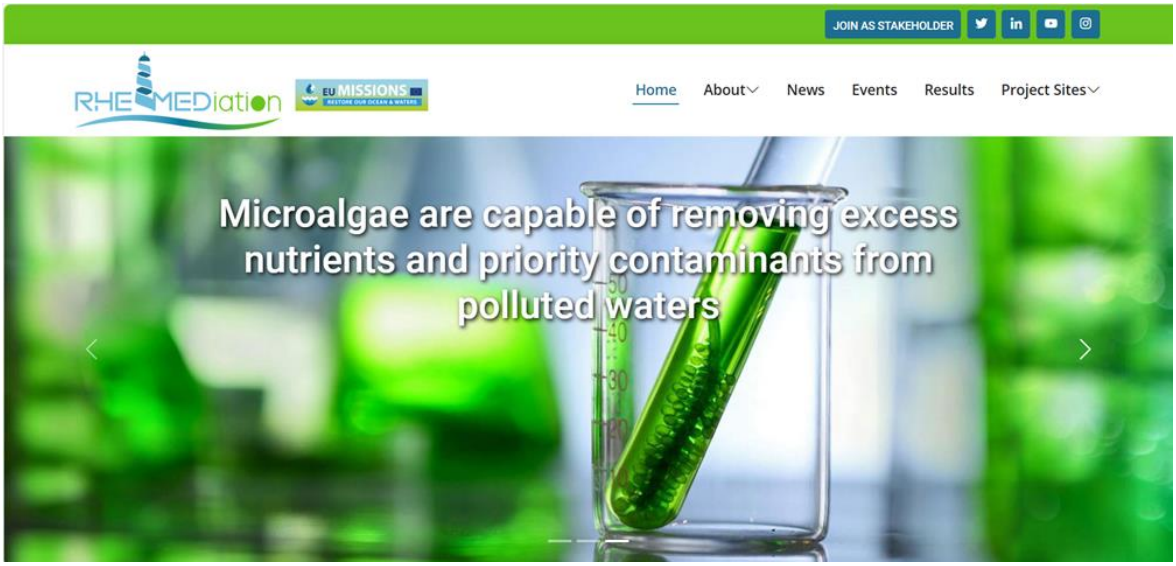
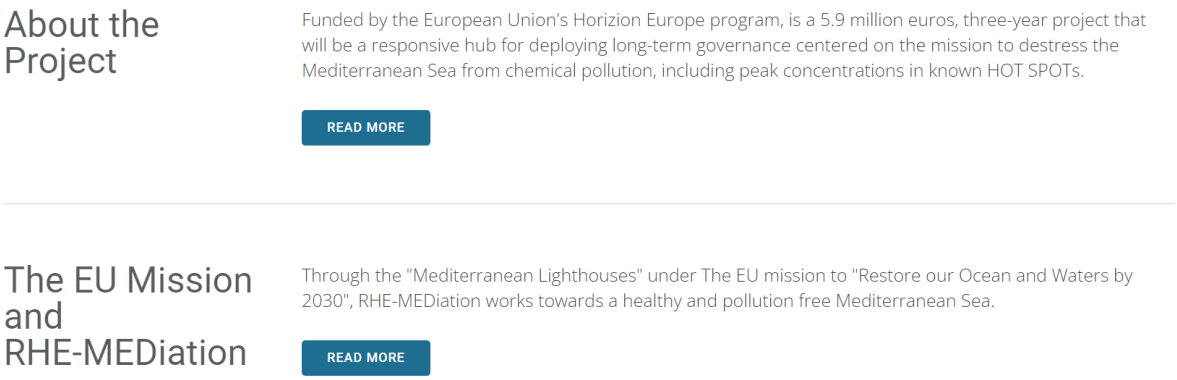


Figure 6: RHE-MEDiation Home page slider and key messages

In future updates, the home page will feature a promotional video. This video aims to showcase the challenges to be addressed in the project, outline its mission and concept, and extend invitation to stakeholders to join the project.

a)



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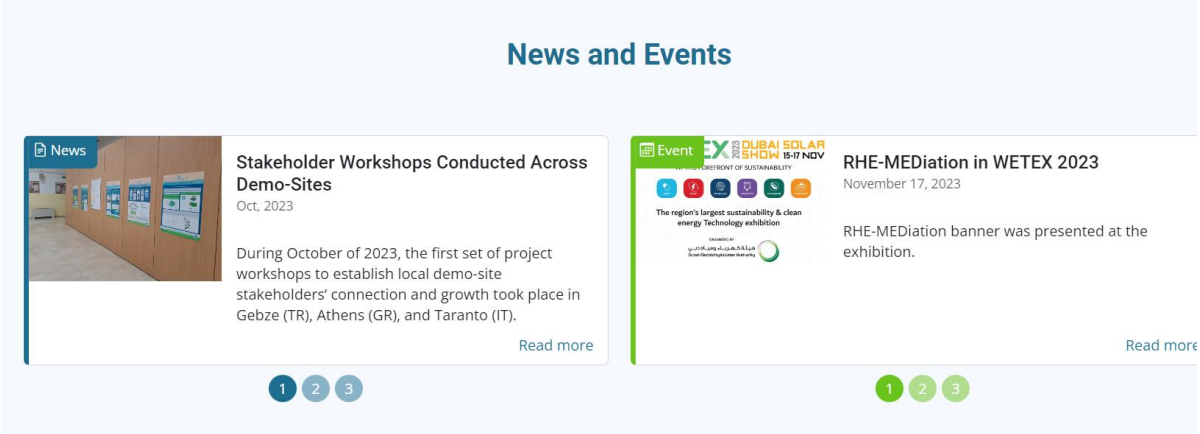


Figure 7: Home page, subsections on: a) "Project Overview" and "The Mission" b) "News and Events"

2.2.2 Project Overview

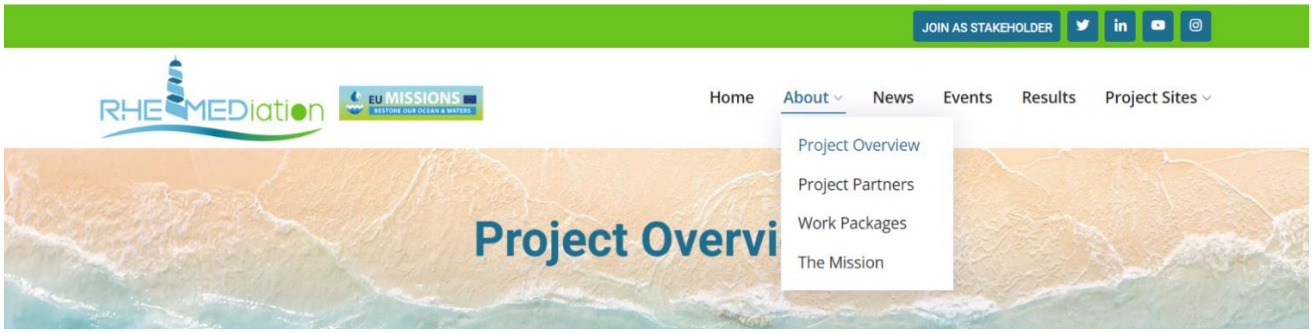


Figure 8: Selection of "Project Overview" page

In the "Project Overview" page (see *Figure 8* on how to access it), the program the project is under, the duration of the project, the allocated budget, the project coordinator, and the type of Horizon Europe project it represents are indicated on top, see *Figure 9*. This is followed by a "Concept" section, see *Figure 10*, where a synthesized information of the project's methodology is given. This section is followed by "Objectives", see *Figure 11* and "Expected Results" see *Figure 12*. At the bottom of the page a link to move to the next webpage

under “About” tab is provided. Similarly, for a smooth browsing experience an arrow is placed at the bottom right that will guide the viewer to the top of the page.

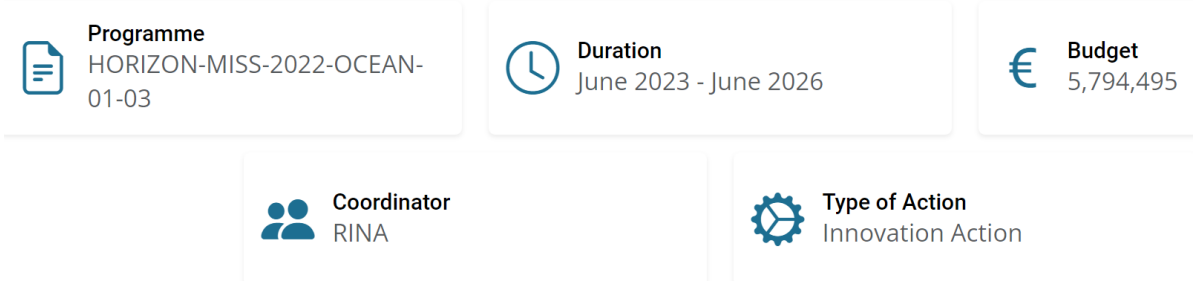


Figure 9: “Project Overview” page, subsection general Information’s on RHE-MEDiation project

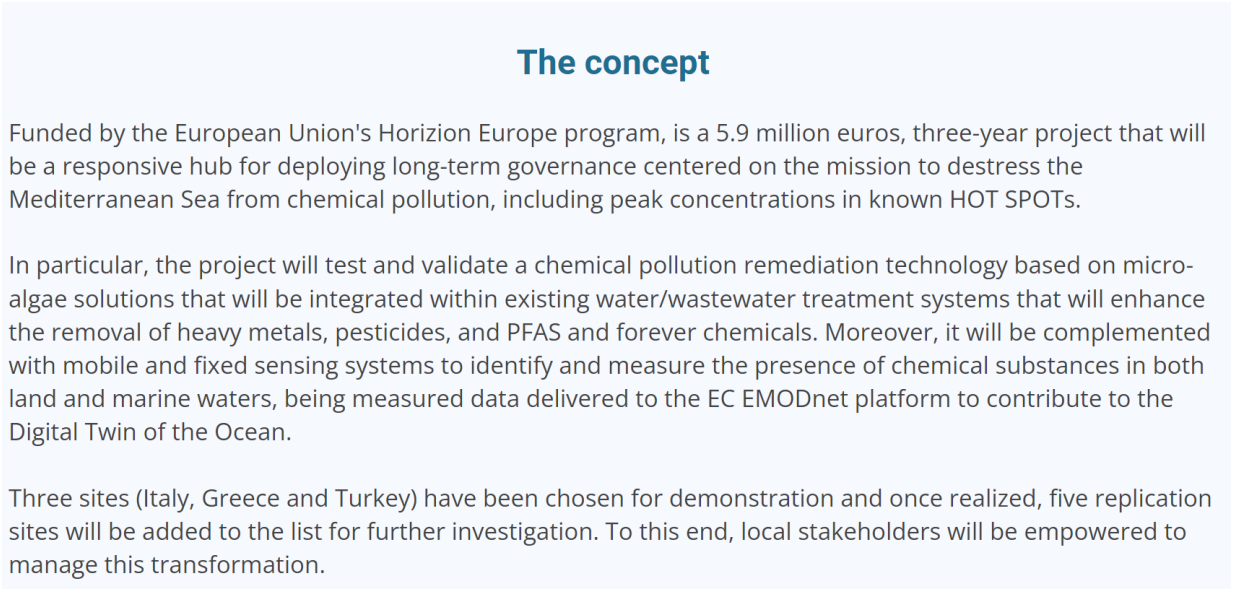


Figure 10 : “Project Overview” page, subsection "Concept" in the RHE-MEDiation project

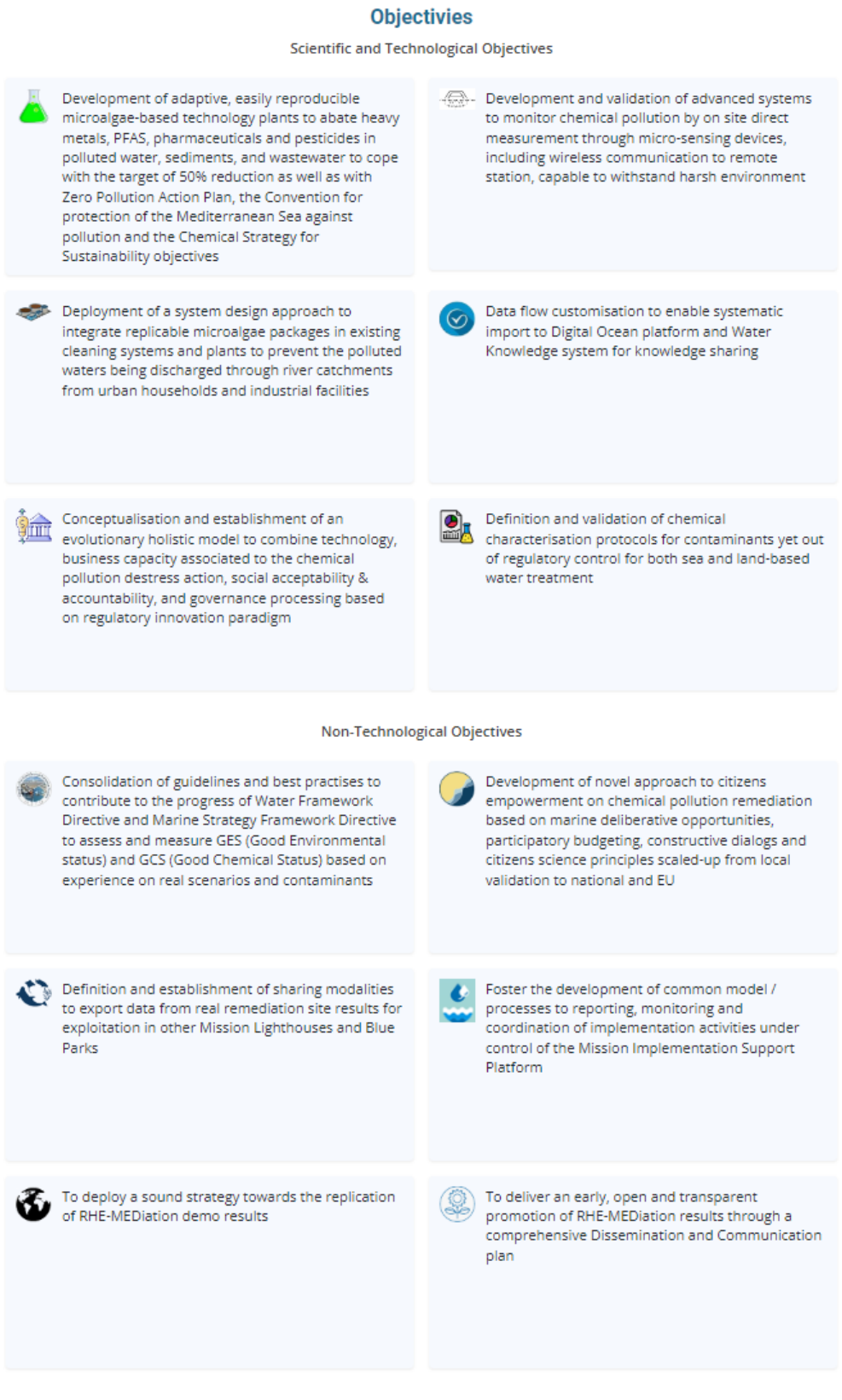


Figure 11: "Objectives" subsection in "Project Overview" page of RHE-MEDiation website

Figure 12: "Expected Results" subsection in "Project Overview" page of RHE-MEDiation website

2.2.3 Project Partners

To access "Project Partners" page the user must select the second option under "About", see *Figure 13*.

In this page, the location of all partners (with their logo) are shown over a map, see *Figure 14*.

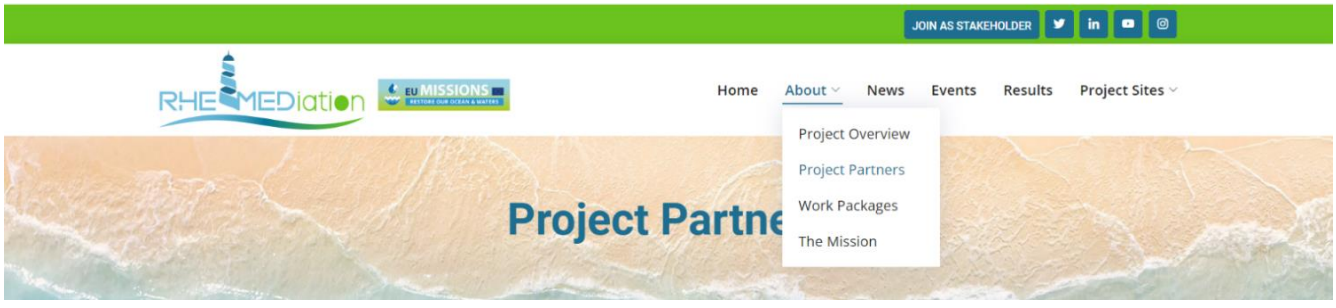


Figure 13: Selection of the "Project Partners" page in the RHE-MEDiation website

Figure 14: Schematic map of the RHE-MEDiation Consortium members

Upon scrolling down the page, a brief description is provided for each partner. In upcoming updates, this content will undergo revision to incorporate each partner's role in the project, and a standardized size will be implemented. Additionally, partners logo will be hyperlinked to their respective websites, see *Figure 15*.

RINA Consulting S.p.A.

We're a global team of 5,300+ experts simplifying complexities in energy transition, ESG, and digitalization. Our roots go back to Registro Italiano Navale, one of the world's first ship classification registers. Today, we offer testing, inspection, certification, and engineering solutions in markets like marine, energy, mobility, and more. Our goal is to partner with clients to develop sustainable solutions and improve quality of life for future generations.

BLUEMATER SA

Bluemater's portfolio offers solutions to a variety of problems related to water and air pollution. We offer innovative biological treatment technologies for wastewater and industrial gases for public companies and industries. All Bluemater solutions are based on unique and patented sustainable biological treatments and are tailor-made for every customer need. Efficiency, modularity and circularity are at the heart of our R&D activity, and both investment and operating expenses are kept in mind.

MDM TEAM SRL

MDM Team is an Italian SME located in Florence Italy (https://www.mdmteam.eu/), founded in 2012 with marine robotics as core business. MDM Team combines several leading experts to support consultancy and designing for a large number of engineering applications, such as Design and prototyping of complex mechatronics systems, CAD design, FEM analysis, Development of mathematical models and software for real-time simulations, Homologation/certification of systems and components. MDM Team has a core team with many years of experience in prototyping of complex robotics systems, including underwater vehicle design and control (AUV/ROV), surface vehicle design and control (USV), inertial navigation systems and inertial measurement units (MRU), sensor fusion, human machine interface design, simulation of mathematical models, numerical optimization and systems architecture. Our mission aims at delivering innovative mechatronics products and to support customer need through consultancy services and high-tech solutions.

SENSICHIPS SRL

SENSICHIPS is an SME developing safety learning microsensors. The company brings together a unique combination of expertise in materials science, analytical chemistry, nanotechnologies, precision analog, digital microelectronics and artificial intelligence to engage in the development of a next generation learning microsensors platform. Miniature sensors include diverse sensor types, signal conditioning, acquisition electronics and synergistic coordination to improve recognition, into a single microchip. Measuring just 3x3mm, the chips offer an integrated microsensor IC platform with low power consumption with detection capabilities that include chemical, physical, materials diagnostics, structural health integrity and electrochemistry. Sensichips Srl is part of the Arescosmo Spa industrial group.

CENTRO DE CIENCIAS DO MAR DO ALGARVE

The Algarve Centre of Marine Sciences (CCMAR-Algarve) - is one of the foremost marine science research centers in Portugal, gathering experts in the fields of marine biology, ecology, oceanography, environmental sciences, biotechnology, fisheries, and aquaculture. Dedicated to R&D in marine sciences, CCMAR-Algarve aims to promote multidisciplinary research and education related with the marine environment, with emphasis on the processes of environmental change that affect marine ecosystems. With a multidisciplinary team of about 250 scientific researchers, well-equipped marine facilities and laboratories and facilitated access to important marine and coastal ecosystems, CCMAR-Algarve develops activities that fall into five different core areas: Research, Training, Business, Society and Collaboration. Specifically, the Marine Biotechnology group, has worked on several aspects of microalgae biology, physiology, and biotechnology for the past 20 years and has several expertise that will be applied to RHE-MEDiation namely, the use of microalgae for the treatment of agricultural, industrial and urban wastewaters, isolation of new microalgal strains and their biochemical characterization for added value compounds and for biofuel applications. For the development of RHE-MEDiation, CCMAR counts with a comprehensive chemical platform equipped with state-of-the-art analytical instruments as HPLC-DAD, HPLC-ELSD, UHPLC-HRMS, GC-FID, GC-MS, 500 MHz NMR, multiplate readers (absorbance, fluorescence and luminescence), Automated Microwave Digestion System, Microwave Plasma AES, and an Elementar Analyser (CHN).

CONSIGLIO NAZIONALE DELLE RICERCHE

The National Research Council (CNR) is the largest public research institution in Italy, the only one under the Research Ministry performing multidisciplinary activities. CNR's mission is to perform research in its own Institutes, to promote innovation and competitiveness of the national industrial system, to promote the internationalization of the national research system, to provide technologies and solutions to emerging public and private needs, to advice Government and other public bodies, and to contribute to the qualification of human resources. The IRSA-CNR and IAS-CNR research groups are part of the Institute of Water Research (IRSA) and the Institute for the Study of Anthropogenic Impacts and Sustainability in the Marine Environment (IAS), of the National Research Council (CNR). The Water Research Institute (IRSA) has aim of carrying out research activities in the fields of management and protection of water resources and in the development of methodologies and technologies for water purification and treatment of urban and industrial wastewater and in the remediation and characterization of contaminated sites. Multidisciplinarity has always been the main peculiarity and "strength" of IRSA, where engineers, chemists, geologists, biologists, physicists, etc., work together in the research groups.

HELLENIC CENTRE FOR MARINE RESEARCH

The Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR) is a governmental research organization operating under the supervision of the General Secretariat for Research and Innovation of the Hellenic Ministry of Development. The Institute of Oceanography of HCMR is recognized as one of Europe's major research institutes in the region of the eastern Mediterranean Sea, an important tool to promote, expand and enhance the European Marine Research Area. It has undertaken and successfully completed a variety of EU projects, thus building its infrastructure and expertise in the research field of the aquatic environment. HCMR has a long-standing experience assessing the status of the marine environment and the impact of pollutants and effluents, using both observational and modelling tools. HCMR is the national research organization responsible for the monitoring of the Hellenic coastal zone according to the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the Hellenic Seas according to the requirements of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) according to EU requirements. HCMR researchers are members and consultants in international and national organizations and professional associations/networks for setting and updating the criteria and environmental targets foreseen by the MSFD and/or the Barcelona Convention, thus supporting European and Mediterranean policies through sound scientific knowledge.

ETAIREIA YDREYSEOS KAI APOCHETEFSEOS PROTEYOYSIS ANONIMI ETAIREIA

Athens Water Supply and Sewerage Company (EYDAP) is the largest Water Utility in Greece active in the distribution and management of water and the provision of sewerage and wastewater treatment services.

EYDAP supplies Attica with some of the highest quality water in Europe. EYDAP Water Supply Sector serves 4,300,000 customers (2,030,000 water meters) along a network exceeding 9,500 km. The Company operates three dams, four water reservoirs, two aqueducts and four water treatment plants that have a nominal supply from 200.000 to 600.000 m3 daily each. The main water sources and the reservoirs used are located in pristine areas, free from agricultural and industrial activity, so that the Greek capital is supplied with water of excellent quality, transported naturally by gravity, with low energy consumption. The Wastewater Treatment sector of EYDAP serves approximately 3,695,000 inhabitants. The management of wastewater is done by designing and implementing an integrated treatment system in the Wastewater Treatment Plants, particularly important for the protection of the environment. The sewerage of the Athens Metropolitan Area is carried out by a network of primary and secondary wastewater pipes, spreading over 8,438 km. The treatment of effluents in EYDAP's areas of competence is carried out at the three Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP) at Metamorfosi, (WWTPM), at the island of Psyttalia (WWTPP) and at Thriasio Pedio (WWTPT). EYDAP's strategy is based on achieving balanced and sustainable development for the benefit of society as a whole, customers, employees, shareholders and all those who have a legitimate interest in it.

TURKIYE BILIMSEL VE TEKNOLOJIK ARASTIRMA KURUMU

TÜBİTAK MARMARA RESEARCH CENTER (MAM) is one of the leading organizations of the advanced technology world thanks to its ability and capacity of research, research infrastructure and world class administrative and operational process management. Since its establishment in 1972, TÜBİTAK MAM performs its operations in "TÜBİTAK Gebze Campus" in the City of Kocaeli. The Center aims at becoming a world leader in science and technology production with its research, development and innovation capabilities widely shared by its Climate Change and Sustainability, Energy Technologies, Materials Technologies and Life Sciences

UNES OSMAN

We have been acting in the operation of wastewater and drinking water treatment facilities since 1996 in Turkey, which are among the most important applications of environmental and civil engineering, with the best known techniques in accordance with today's technological developments, and in the construction, cleaning and monitoring of infrastructure facilities. Our business volume is growing along with our company and personnel experience. We not only undertake the operation of large-scale facilities across the country, but also continue our development with R&D practices and strengthen our technological infrastructure in the process. By specializing our group companies in certain subjects, we expand our service network and strive to complete the works we undertake in the shortest time and with the highest quality. We are involved in large-scale operations, infrastructure and superstructure works in important cities of our country. We continue our path with determination, without compromising our service quality, and by attaching great importance to the satisfaction of our customers and employees.

EUROPEAN MARINE BOARD IVZW

The European Marine Board IVZW (EMB) is an independent and self-sustaining science policy interface organisation that currently represents 37 Member Organisations from 18 European countries. It was established in 1995 to facilitate enhanced cooperation between European marine science organisations towards the development of a common vision on the strategic research priorities for marine science in Europe. The EMB promotes and supports knowledge transfer for improved leadership in European marine research. Its membership includes major national marine or oceanographic institutes, research funding agencies and national consortia of universities with a strong marine research focus. Adopting a strategic role, the EMB serves its member organisations by providing a forum within which marine research policy advice is developed and conveyed to national agencies and to the European Commission, with the objective of promoting the need for, and quality of, European marine research. The EMB provide advice on future strategies, by identifying scientific challenges and opportunities through foresight activities, analysis, events and studies to provide high-level recommendations.

Figure 15: Description of consortium partners with their logos

2.2.4 Work Packages

This section is the third tab under "About", see *Figure 16*. It provides a description of each work package with a synthesized diagram showing how they are interlinked to one another, see *Figure 17*.

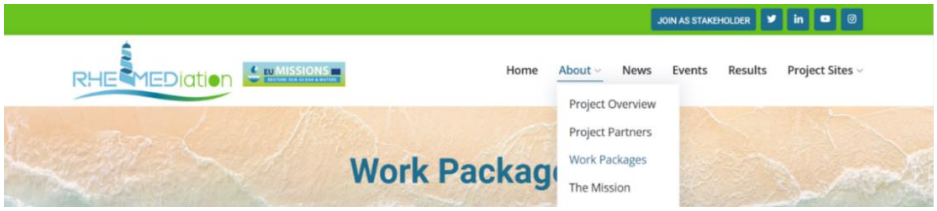
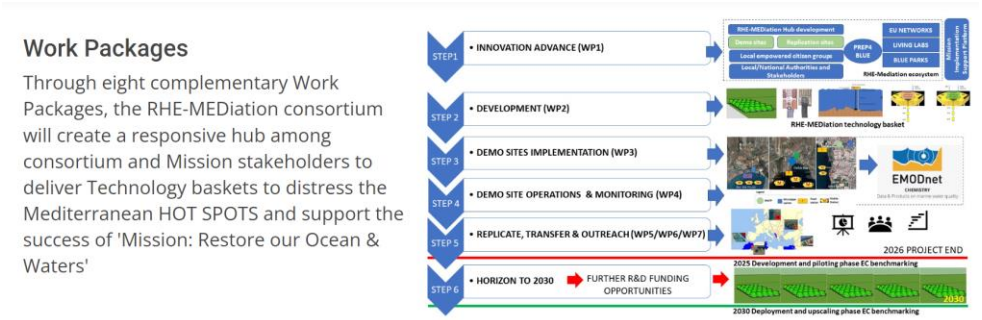


Figure 16: Selection of "Work Packages" page in the RHE-MEDiation website



Work Package 1
RHE-MEDiation Hub Ecosystem development - RINA-C

Work Package 2
RHE-MEDiation technologies design for solutions up-scale - BLUEMATER

Work Package 3
RHE-MEDiation piloting: implementation and setting up - HCMR

Work Package 4
RHE-MEDiation piloting: validation, demonstration and data monitoring follow-up - EYDAP

Work Package 5
Development of replication activities and solution implementation roadmap - CNR

Work Package 6
Integrated approach to Business, Social and Governance Innovation based on RHEMEDiation technologies – BLUEMATER

Work Package 7
Dissemination, Communication and Exploitation of projects results - CNR

Work Package 8
Project and hub governance, ethical and social assessment, regulatory aspects - RINA-C

Figure 17: Contents of the "Work Packages" page in RHE-MEDiation website

2.2.5 The Mission

"The Mission" constitutes the last page, see *Figure 18*, under the "About" tab. It provides synthesized information that connects the EU Mission 'Restore Our Oceans and Waters' with the mission of RHE-MEDiation. *Figure 19* highlights the contents of this section. In upcoming updates, the Mission video and links to the Mission website, the Mission charter and other materials and information will be incorporated.

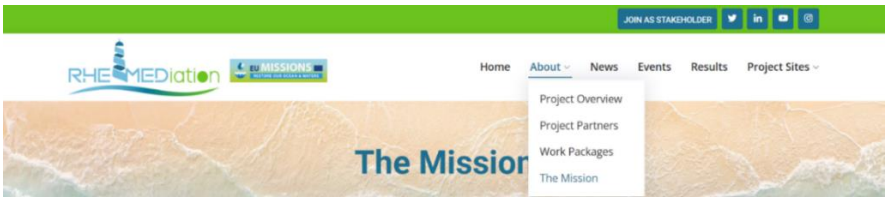


Figure 18: Selection of "The Mission" page in the RHE-MEDiation website

EU Missions are a new way to bring concrete solutions to some of our greatest challenges. They have ambitious goals and will deliver concrete results by 2030. They put research and innovation into a new role, combined with new forms of governance and collaboration, as well as by engaging citizens.

The five missions set by the EU are on Adaptation to Climate Change, Cancer, Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities, Restore our Ocean and Waters, and A Soil Deal for Europe.

Among the missions, "Restore our Ocean and Waters" aims to protect and restore the health of our ocean and waters through research and innovation, citizen engagement and blue investments. The Mission's new approach will address the ocean and waters as one and play a key role in achieving climate neutrality and restoring nature.

Cross-cutting enabling actions will support this objective, in particular broad public mobilisation and engagement and a digital ocean and water knowledge system, known as Digital Twin Ocean.

The Digital Twin Ocean is a replica of our oceans to help us understand predict the impacts of human pressures and climate change. This powerful tool draws on Europe's advanced data resources providing access to data from assets like the European Marine observation and Data Network and Copernicus, the European Earth Observation programme.

The EU Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters" in its quest to protect and restore aquatic ecosystems, prevent and eliminate pollution, and make the blue economy climate -neutral and circular through research and innovation, citizen engagement and blue investment has setup four area-based "Lighthouses" in major sea/river basins: Atlantic-Arctic, Mediterranean Sea, Baltic-North Sea, and Danube-Black Sea that act as hubs to develop, demonstrate and deploy new solutions, far and wide, and guide us in our journey to restoring our oceans and waters. In particular the "Mediterranean Lighthouses", works towards a healthy and pollution free Mediterranean Sea.

The Mediterranean Sea accounts for about 7,5% of the world marine biodiversity and 15% of the global maritime traffic, yet it is one of the most polluted seas in Europe. Restoring and protecting the Mediterranean and its waters from chemical pollution is one of the most urgent challenges of our time. This consideration arises from the fact that today, at every stage from 'source to sea,' the entire water cycle is under pressure like never before. Decades of pollution and unsustainable use have severely degraded the condition of marine ecosystems in the Mediterranean Sea.

In light to this, the RHE-MEDiation lighthouse missions are, prevent pollution reaching the Mediterranean Sea, minimize and control pollutants in the HOT SPOTs of the Mediterranean basin and eliminate and remediate existing polluted HOT SPOTs in the region.

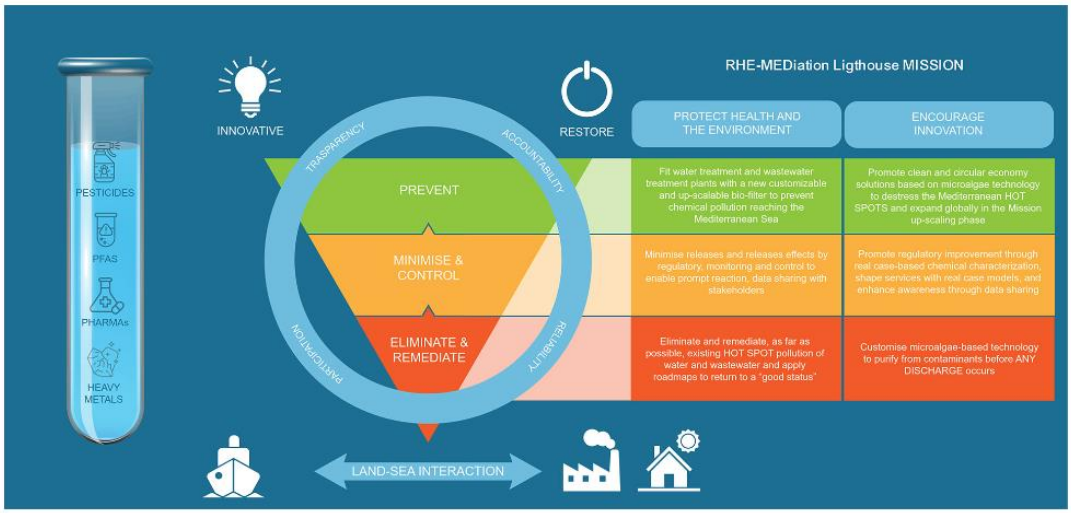


Figure 19: Contents of the "EU Mission" page in the RHE-MEDiation website

2.2.6 News

It is accessed from the RHE-MEDiation website as shown in *Figure 20*.

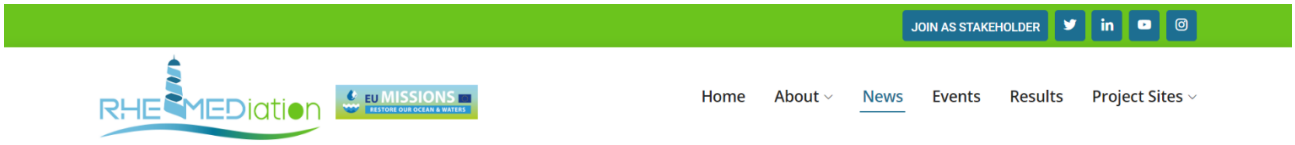


Figure 20: Selection of "News" in RHE-MEDiation website

In *Figure 21*, the arrangement of the "News" page is presented. This information is also presented in the Home page, but in a shortened form - refer to *Figure 7*. In both instances, clicking on the "Read More" tab directs users to a dedicated page for each news article.

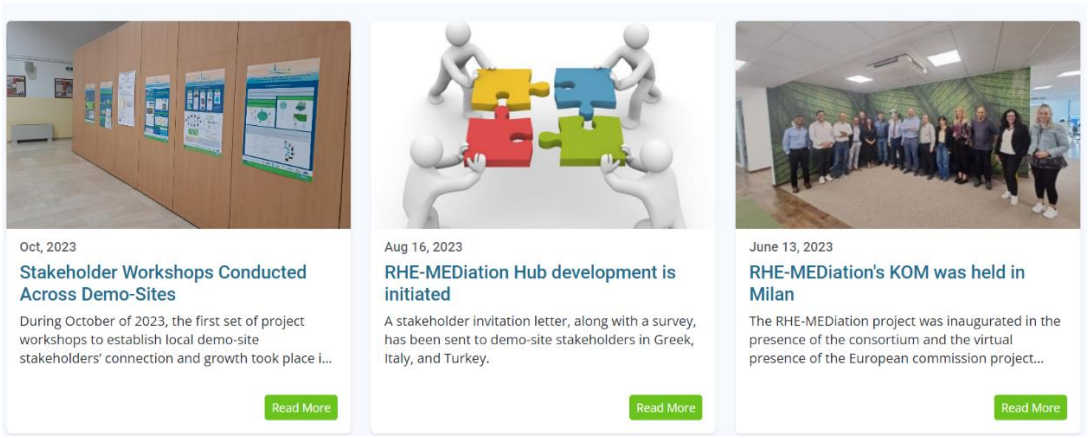


Figure 21: Arrangement in the "News" page of RHE-MEDiation website

a)

b)

The RHE-MEDiation project was inaugurated in the presence of the consortium and the virtual presence of the European commission project officer in RINA's office in Milan.

Kick-off meeting is the first official occasion partners have, in the framework of EC funded project best practices, to meet and organise operational aspects of the development plan outlined in the proposal and confirmed in the Technical Annexes of the Grant Agreement.

The kick-off meeting began with the Project Coordinator introducing the meeting's agenda. This was followed by a concise presentation, highlighting the main challenges addressed by the RHE-MEDiation project, its proposed solution, associated actions, project development stage, ambitions, and the methodology it adopts. Subsequently, each Consortium partner introduced themselves to the audience through brief presentations.

The EC PO then provided a presentation on the practices of EC-funded project development, modalities for cost accounting, financing rules, and best practices for dissemination and communications activities. The floor was then left to the different Work Package Lead Beneficiaries, being supported by the Task Leaders, to present each WP sequentially.

The last event before closing the KOM with the Project Coordinator and EC PO statements was a brief wrap-up of the project's financial process and its periodic reporting, delivered by RINA-C. This was the opportunity to share with the Consortium the specific insights of RINA-C about contractual documents, reporting to the EC, eligible costs and payment modalities, certificates of financial statements, and the informatics tool proposed by the project coordinator to organize the preparation of the cost statements to facilitate the final upload to the EC portal.

c)

Figure 22: A typical news post in the RHE-MEDiation website; a) Header, b) body c) images

In most circumstances, a typical news post on the RHE-MEDiation website consists of three parts, as depicted in *Figure 22*, a header, a body text, and accompanying images.

2.2.7 Events

The section "Events" is accessed from the RHE-MEDiation website as shown in *Figure 23*.

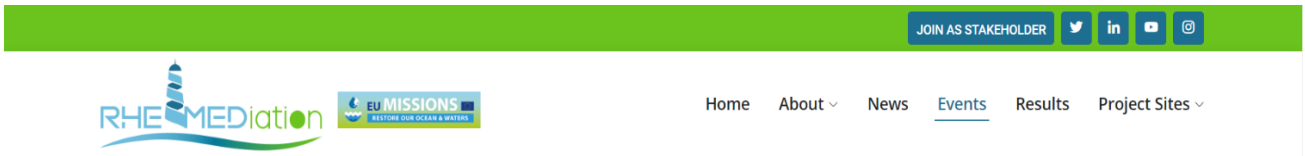


Figure 23: The Selection of "Events" in the RHE-MEDiation website

In *Figure 24*, the arrangement of events starting from the latest one is presented. This information is also presented in the Home page, but in a shortened form, see *Figure 7*. In both cases, the tab "Read More" takes readers to dedicated pages for events.

A typical event posting in the RHE-MEDiation website would have three parts as shown in *Figure 25*, a header, a body text, and accompanying images.

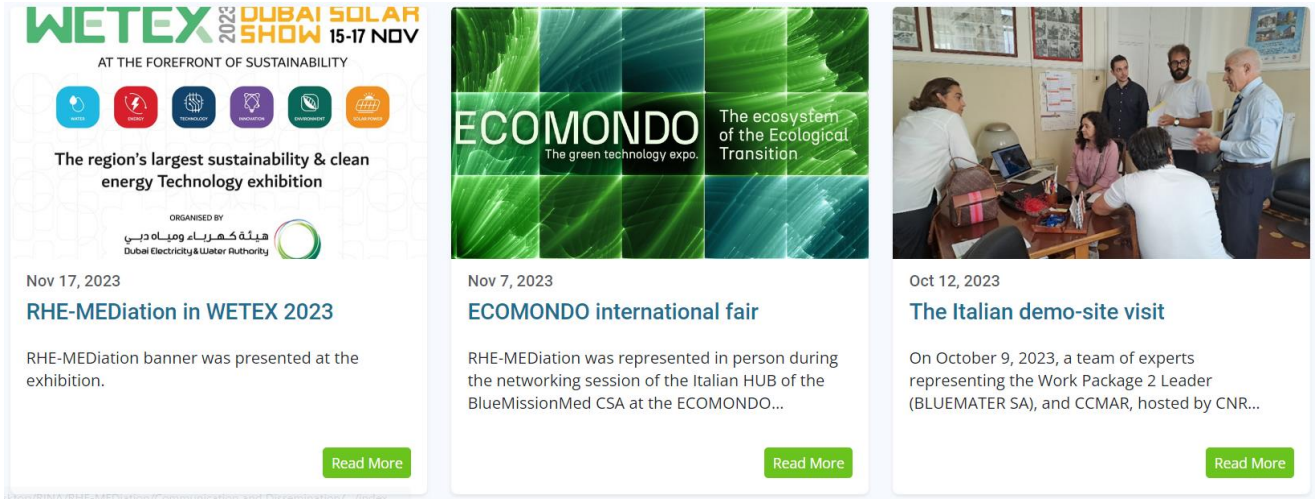


Figure 24: Arrangement of events in the "Events" page of the RHE-MEDiation website

a)

b) The Water, Energy, Technology, and Environment Exhibition (WETEX) and Dubai Solar Show 2023 were organized by the Dubai Electricity & Water Authority at the Dubai World Trade Centre from November 15 to 17, 2023. The exhibition aims to advance the UAE's sustainability agenda by creating commercial and learning opportunities for businesses within the country and the region.

RHE-MEDiation was presented at the exhibition in RINA's stand. A project banner, featuring a QR code directing to a downloadable leaflet, was used to provide a synthesized information at the event.

The project extends its gratitude to those involved in the exhibition for their excellent work. This activity aligns directly with the project's vision for upscaling by attracting potential investors. Additionally, international communication and dissemination events of this magnitude serve as instruments through which the Mission's key message resonates across the globe, emphasizing the importance of protecting oceans and waters from all forms of pollution.

c)

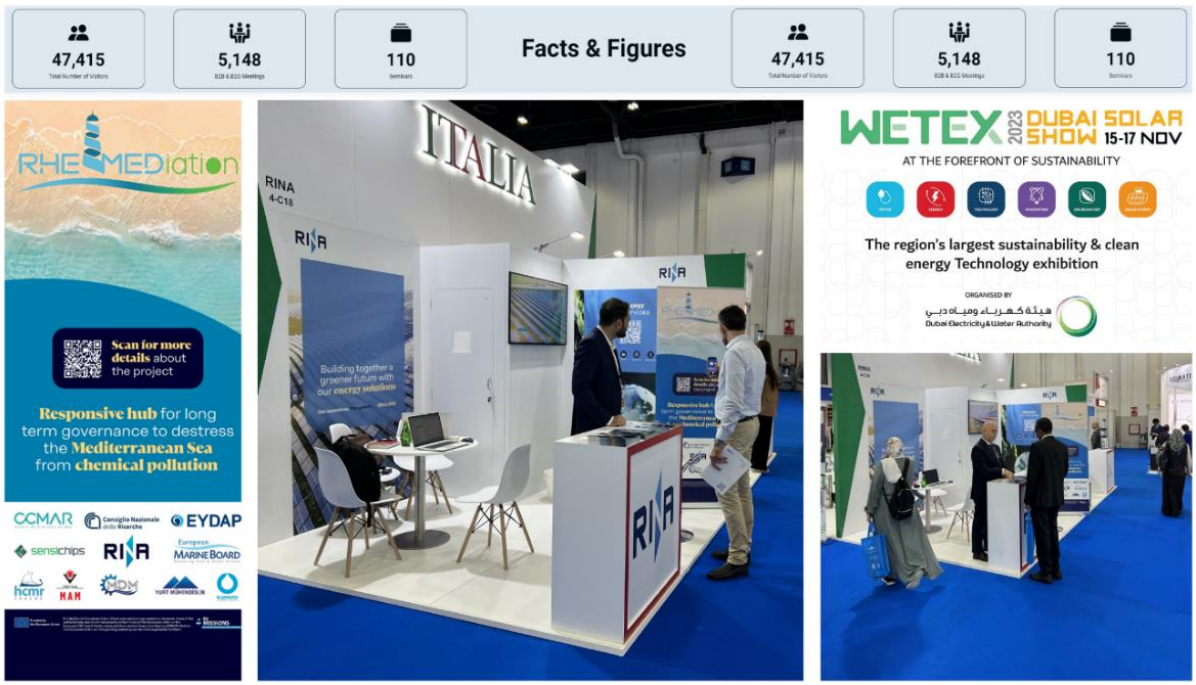


Figure 25: A typical Event post in the RHE-MEDiation website; a) Header b) body c) images

2.2.8 Results

In this page, project outputs, including communication toolkits, deliverables, publications, reports, and open-access data, will be made available for download. Refer to *Figure 26* to identify the location of this page within the RHE-MEDiation website and consult *Figure 27* for the present contents of the page.

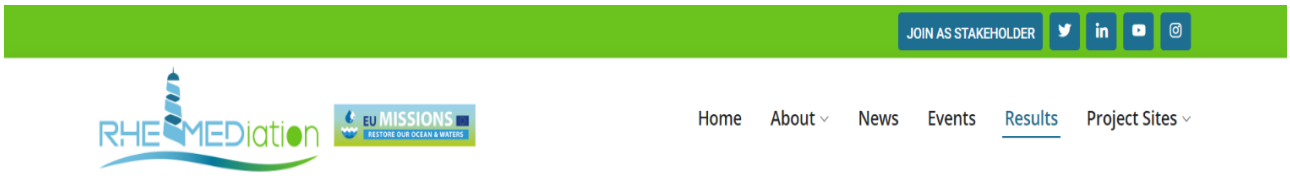


Figure 26 : The selection of "Results" page in the RHE-MEDiation website

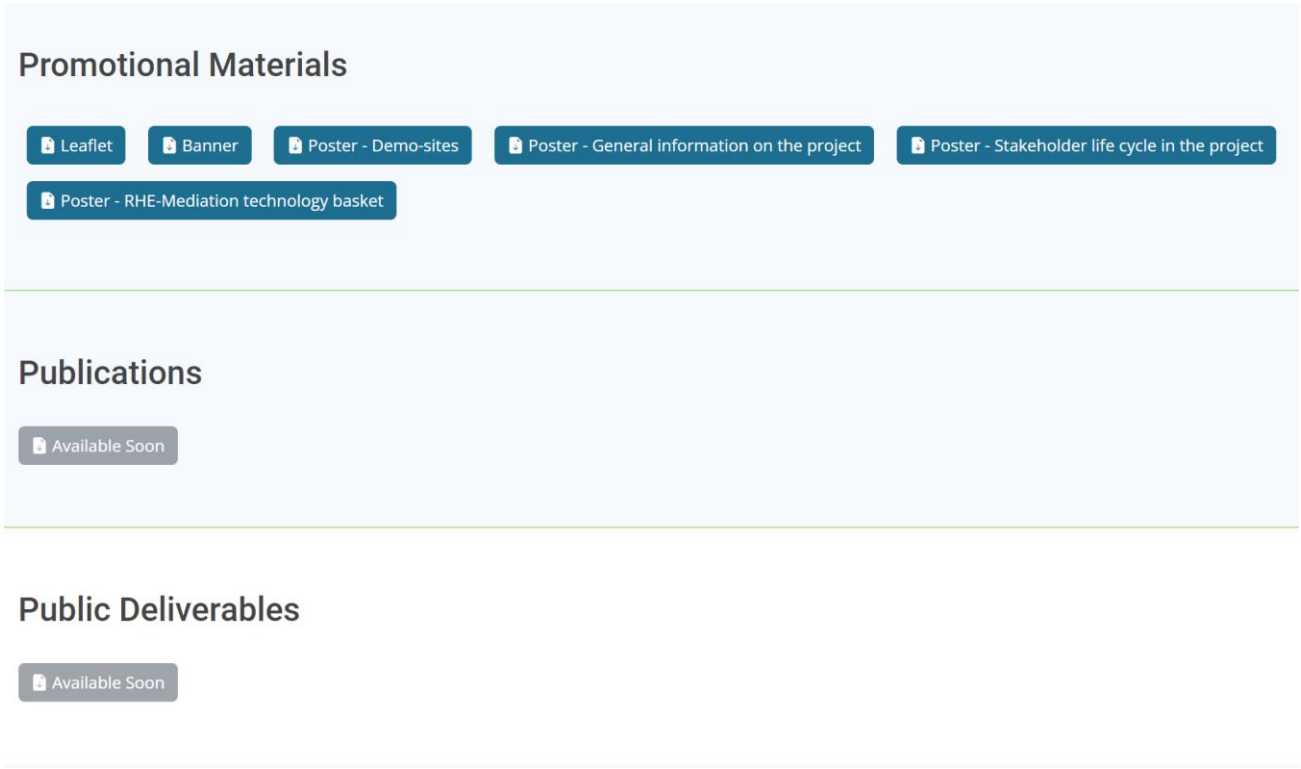


Figure 27: Contents of the "Results" page in the RHE-MEDiation website

2.2.9 Project Sites

This page is dedicated to presenting the project's three demonstration and five replication sites. Information concerning the later will be available at a later stage of the project. How to access this page is indicated in *Figure 28*.

At the top of this page, a map of the demonstration sites can be found, as shown in *Figure 29*. When the sites in the associated region are confirmed, they will be indicated in this section as well.

At the bottom of the page, a box is dedicated for each demonstration and replication site, see *Figure 30*. Moreover, this sub-section is linked to the "Demonstration Sites" page that provides a synthesized information of all demo-sites in the RHE-MEDiation project.

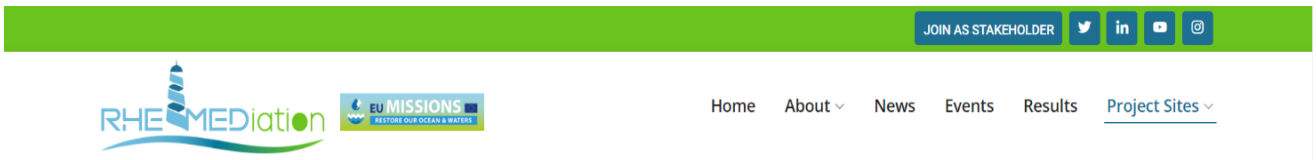


Figure 28: The selection of "Project sites" page in the RHE-MEDiation website

Figure 29: Map showing the demonstration sites of the RHE-MEDiation project

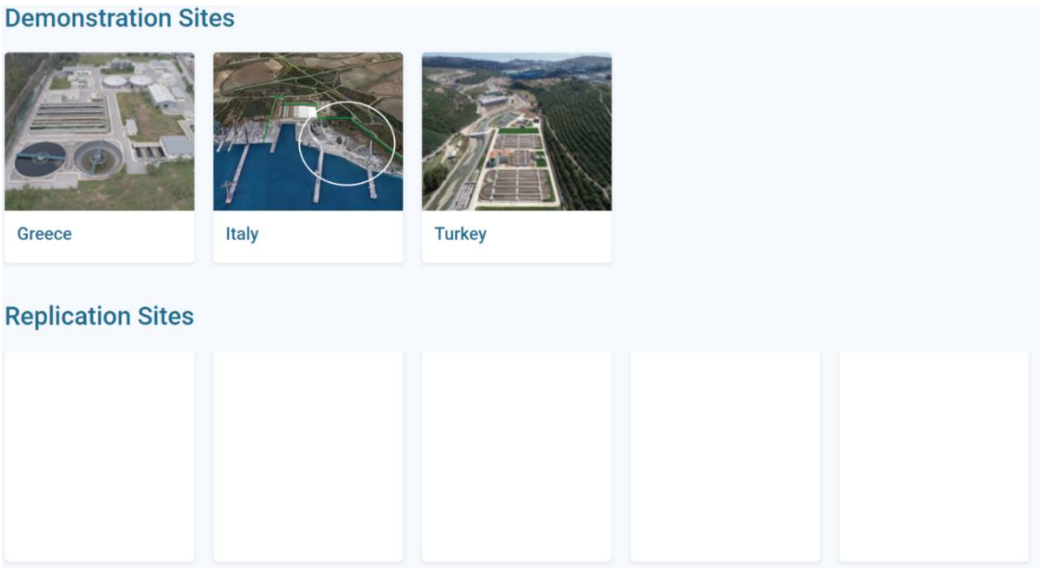


Figure 30: Demonstration and Replication sites subsections in the "Project Sites" page of RHE-Mediation website

2.2.10 Demonstration Sites

This page is accessed under the "Project Sites" page, as shown in *Figure 31* and contains synthesized information of all the demonstration sites.

In subsequent updates, information reflecting the project's progress will be added to these pages. The current content of this page for the Greek, Italian and Turkish demo-sites is presented in *Figure 32*, *Figure 33* and *Figure 34*, respectively.

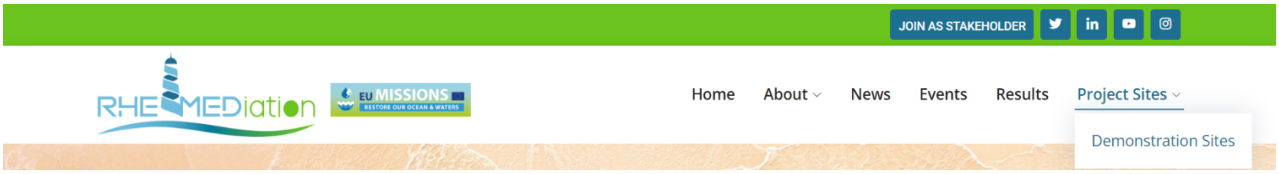
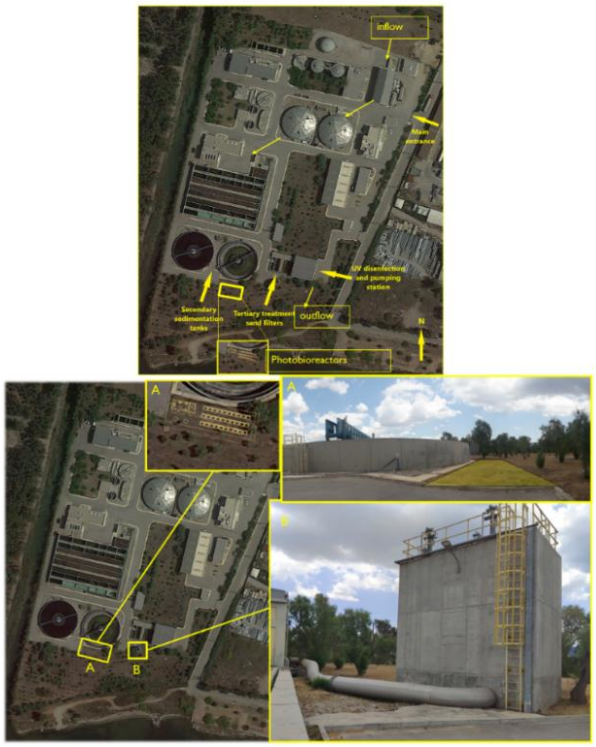


Figure 31: The selection of "Demonstration sites" page in the RHE-MEDiation website

Greece

The Thriasio Wastewater Treatment Plant (TWWTP) serves as the demo-site in Greece. It is located West of Athens, and it serves the Municipalities of spropyrgos, Elefsina, and Mandra-Idyllia, also receiving pre-treated liquid waste from nearby industries and businesses. The Thriasio WWTP has been operating since 2012, eliminating phenomena of absorbent cesspools and uncontrolled sewage discharges that were common practice in the area. Treated sewage is discharged to the sea of Elefsis Gulf, meeting all the current compliance criteria required by European and national regulations.



A monitoring system will be deployed, composed of fixed installation at the WWTP outlet and mobile, autonomous drifters in the Elefsis Gulf.

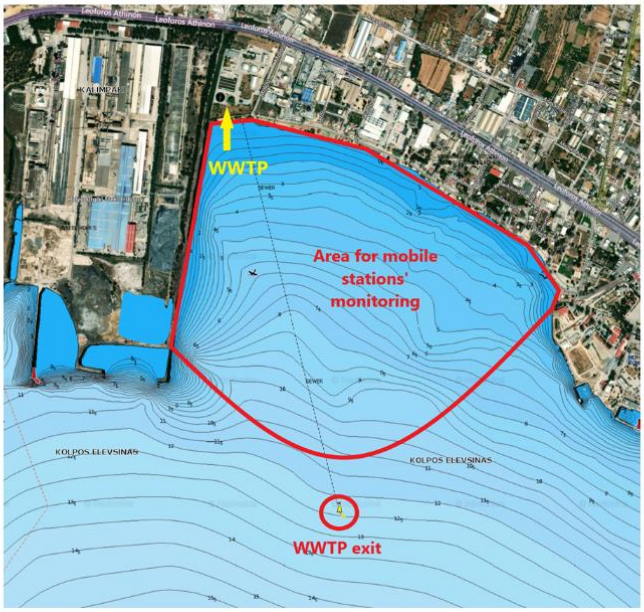


Figure 32: Information about the Greek demo-site in the "Demonstration sites" page

Italy

The major industrial settlements around the urban area of Taranto are the Steel plant of Acciaieria d'Italia, Ex ILVA (among the largest in Europe), the ENI refinery and the Cementir (cement factory). Some areas of the Mar Piccolo, especially those adjacent to the naval shipyards, have high concentrations of mercury and PCBs. Marine sediments represent an extremely complex environmental issue for this area. Furthermore, investigation of other pollutants, like pesticides, pharmaceuticals, PFAS hasn't been done so far, although they are likely present.

Mar Piccolo is an example of Mediterranean coastal marine ecosystem whose biological balances have been modified as a result of the considerable environmental stress due to the development of human activities. Therefore, Mar Piccolo basin reflects the negative effects of pollution because of its semi-enclosed shape with remarkable problems of water exchange, which are mainly due to moderate sea tides. The seabed of this coastal basin is severely contaminated by metals, PAHs and PCBs.

The Italian demo-site is located in the "Mar Piccolo," which is a coastal basin north of Taranto. Specifically, in the I bay of Mar Piccolo, the site of the SGM srl shipyard will act as a base for capturing and treating waters from the Citrello canal that flow into the inlet. Moreover, the project anticipates testing the microalgae plant's capability to treat water contaminated by sediment in a reservoir in order to evaluate ex-situ remediation of contaminated dredged sediment.

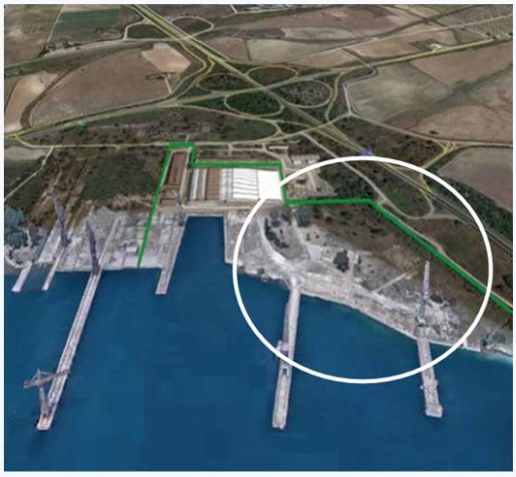
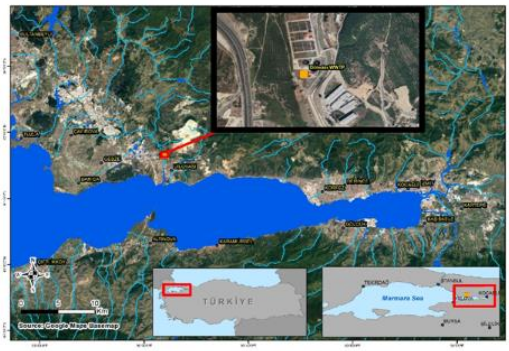


Figure 33: Information about the Italian demo-site in the "Demonstration sites" page

Turkey

The Dilovası Municipal Advanced Biological Wastewater Treatment Plant serves as the demo-site in Izmit Bay, a semi-closed embayment located in the Northeastern Marmara region of Turkey. Dilovası is one of the districts of Kocaeli city. It constitutes 40% of the industrial area. With this feature, it is the densest district of the industry in Kocaeli province.



The Dilovası WWTP is located in the east/northeast of the Marmara Region and plant treats domestic wastewater and wastewater originating from industries and has been operating since 2017.

The discharge of the treatment plant reaches the Izmit Bay via Dilderesi meeting all the current compliance criteria required by Turkish national regulations. It is operated as extended aeration activated sludge process integrated with phosphorous removal capability. There is also rapid sand filter and UV disinfection for further treatment in order to supply industrial water needs.

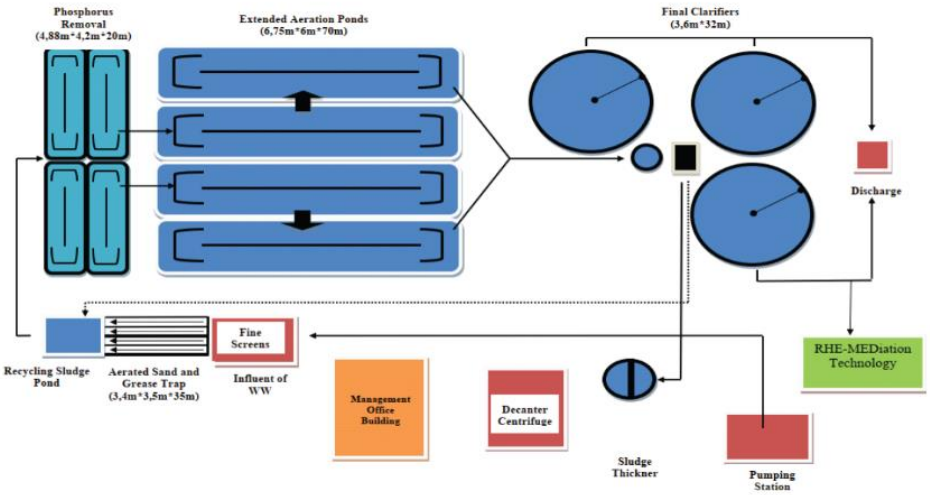


Figure 34: Information about the Turkish demo-site in the "Demonstration sites" page

2.2.11 Resources

Following Task 1.6, the purpose of this page is to provide visitors a platform for comparing technologies whose functionalities are analogous to those validated in the RHE-MEDiation project, see *Figure 35*. The first row (1) and the second row (2) represent, technologies that will be explained in the pages "Technology Basket," and "Other Resources," respectively.

The "Resources" page will be linked to two other pages: "Technology Basket," which concentrates on comparing technologies similar to the "Micro-algae photobioreactor" (refer to *Figure 36*) and "Other Resources," which will exclusively compare technologies that will be validated in the RHE-MEDiation project, excluding the Micro-algae photobioreactor.

In *Figure 36*, numbers are used to indicate the different components of the “Technology Basket” page. A similar layout will be used for the “Other Resources” page.

During the website deployment, these pages remain inactive and will become operational on the third update.

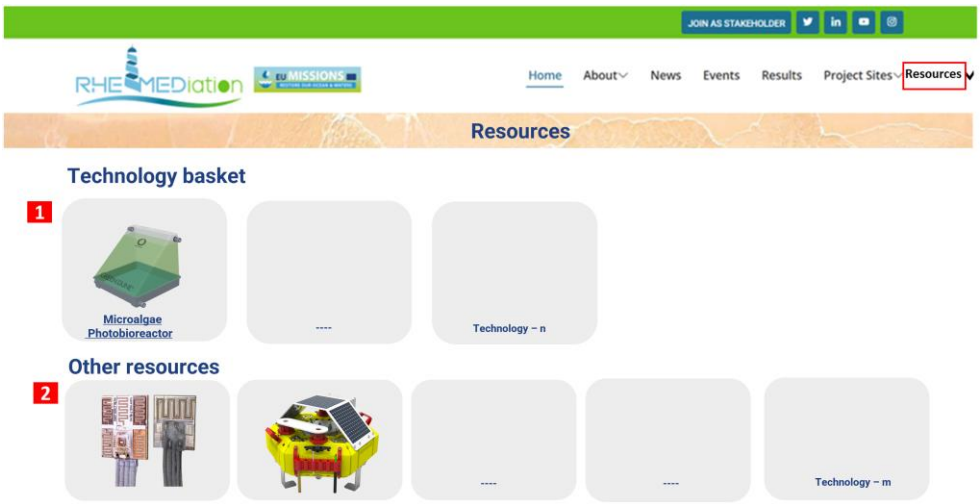


Figure 35: Structure of the "Resources" page in the RHE-MEDiation website

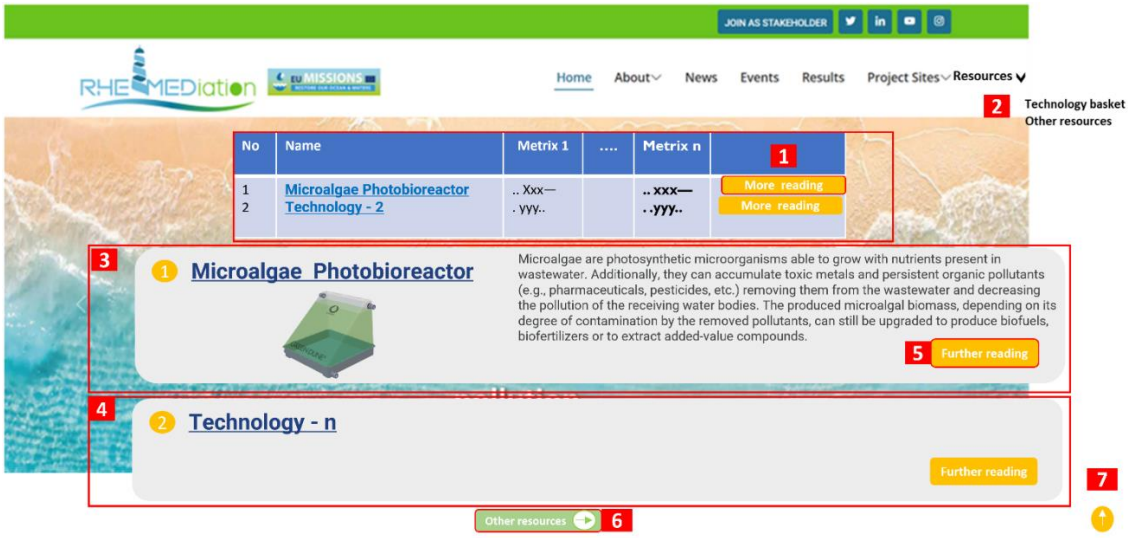


Figure 36: Structure of the "Technology Basket" page in the RHE-MEDiation website

3 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

3.1 Monitoring website traffic

Front the Grant agreement [AD1], performance metrics directly tied to the utilization of the RHE-MEDiation website encompass an annual average of 1,000 page views and an objective of achieving 5-10% of referrals to the website and portal from social media channels. In this regard, to measure the website traffic, Statcounter [R6] is integrated.

Statcounter's core capabilities include:

- Analyzing website traffic trends over time;
- Assessing the website's performance at a glance;
- Delivering comprehensive reports directly to the customer's inbox;
- Monitoring and managing the website's bounce rate;
- Zoning in on important visitors with filters;
- Exporting website traffic data for in-depth analysis;
- Tracking website activity remotely;
- Providing detailed insights into each visitor's experience for complete visibility.

In *Figure 37*, the daily website traffic of RHE-MEDiation is shown for the first week of implementation. This information will be tracked to recommend actions necessary for enhancing visibility.

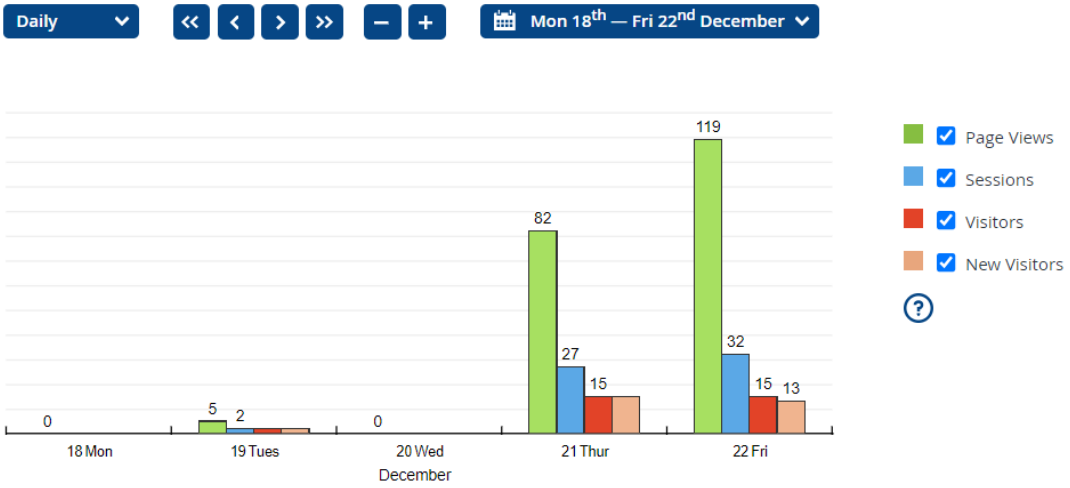


Figure 37: RHE-MEDiation website traffic in the first week of implementation

3.2 Website updating periods

The RHE-MEDiation website will undergo updates every three months until the end of the project to accurately communicate the project's progress to a wider audience and to enhance its quality. Refer to Annex A for a detailed breakdown of the updating strategy. The website will also receive updates at longer intervals for up to four years after the project completion. RINA-C will be the responsible partner for managing this activity. In this regard, RINA-C will contact partners in the consortium one month before each update to collect content for publication on the website.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The RHE-Mediation website, with its structure, content, and graphic design, constitutes the basis for an impactful website that attracts many users and will be the main communication channel for the project duration. In this regard, the website is effectively connected to all the other social media accounts of the project to guarantee an interactive project communication.

RINA-C will regularly update the website, upload relevant content, and publish project related news and events. In this regard, RINA-C will contact partners in the consortium one month before each update to collect content for publication on the website. Moreover, a continuous monitoring of the website traffic will be carried out by Statcounter to understand actions necessary for enhancing visibility.

REFERENCES

[R1] https://bluemissionmed.eu/stakeholder-registration-form/
[R2] https://twitter.com/rhemediation
[R3] https://www.linkedin.com/company/99136847/admin/analytics/updates/
[R4] https://www.instagram.com/rhemediation/
[R5] https://www.youtube.com/@RHE-MEDiationproject/featured
[R6] https://statcounter.com/
[R7] https://statcounter.com/statcounter-vs-google-analytics/

ANNEX A

Table 1: Updating of pages in the RHE-MEDiation website (Y = YES and N = No)

Updating period (Months from website deployment)	Period MM/YY	pages																			
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1st (3rd month)	12/23	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N
2nd (6th month)	03/24	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N
3rd (9th month)	06/24	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
4th (12th month)	09/24	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
5th (15th month)	12/24	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
6th (18th month)	03/25	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
7th (21st month)	06/25	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
8th (24th month)	09/25	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
9th (27th month)	12/25	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
10th (30th month)	03/26	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
11th (33rd month)	06/26	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
12th (36th month)	09/26	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

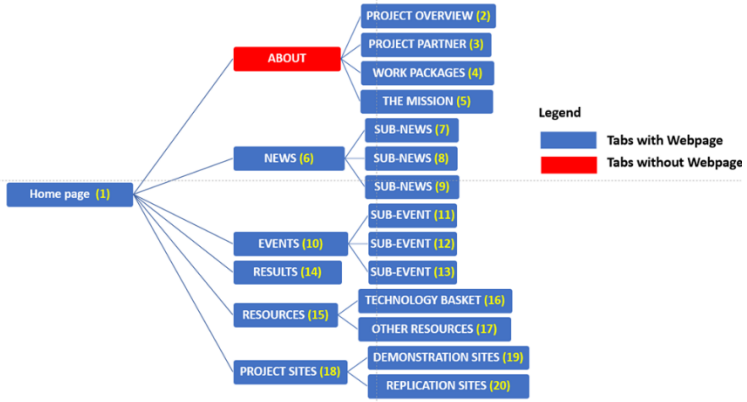


Table 2: Type of update per page for the RHE-MEDiation website

Page number	Expected Updates
1	The summary of new news and events will be added here and linked to the dedicated page for each news and event posting in the website (i.e. "SUB-NEWS" and "SUB-EVENT" pages, respectively). Content to be added: [Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages]
2,3,4	Any changes recommended by the consortium will be incorporated. Content to be added: [Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages]
5	Any new information about the Mission will be incorporated. Content to be added: [[Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages]
6	The summary of new news will be added here and linked to the location of the new news on "SUB-NEWS" pages. Content to be added: [Text, Image, Linking]
7, 8, 9	A new news item will be added at the top of the previously posted news in previous updates. It will then be linked to news summaries (i.e. the "NEWS" and "Home" pages). The relative location of the news on the "SUB-NEWS" pages will be taken into consideration when creating the links. The aim is to see this news on top in the "SUB-NEWS" page when routed from the news summaries. Content to be added: [Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages]
10	The summary of new events will be added here and linked to the location of the new events on "SUB-EVENTS" pages. Content to be added: [Text, Image, Linking]
11, 12, 13	A new event item will be added at the top of a previously posted event in previous updates. It will then be linked to webpages with event summaries (i.e. the "Events" and "Home" pages). The location of the event on "SUB-EVENT" pages will be taken into consideration when creating the links. The aim is to see this event on top in the "SUB-EVENT" page when routed from the event summaries. Content to be added: [Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages]
14	Key project outputs such as deliverables, publications, reports, and open access data will be added once they become available for download. Content to be added: [Text, Image, Linking, upload files]
15	The comparison on Technologies will be added here and linked to the "Technology Basket" and "Other Resources" pages, where the brief information will be shared. The relative location of this information on the "Technology Basket" and "Other Resources" webpages will be taken into consideration when creating the links. Content to be added: Content to be added: [Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages, PDFs]
16	New Technologies (Only similar in function to Micro-algae photobioreactor) will be added on top of previously added Technologies in previous updates. They will then be linked to the Technology summaries provided on the "Resources" page. The location of the Technologies on the "Technology Basket" page will be taken into consideration when creating the links. Content to be added: [Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages, PDFs]
17	New Technologies (excluding the Micro-algae photobioreactor types) will be added on top of previously added Technologies in previous updates. They will then be linked to the Technology summaries provided on the "Resources" page. The location of the Technologies on the "Other Resources" page will be taken into consideration when creating the links. Content to be added: [Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages, PDFs]
18	Adding any new information on the replication sites and linking them to the summaries of the replication sites on the "Project Sites" page. Content to be added: [Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages, PDFs]
19	Adding any new information on the Demonstration sites and linking them to the summaries of the Demonstration site on the "Project Sites" page. [Text, Images, video, Links and Linking to other pages, PDFs]
20	The update on this page involves adding information about the replication sites and linking them to the summaries of the replication site on the "Project Sites" page. Content to be added: [Text, Image, Linking]

ANNEX B

PRIVACY NOTICE

Pursuant to art 13 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (hereinafter, the "GDPR"), you are hereby informed that your data will be processed by the following means and for the following purposes:

1. **DATA CONTROLLER**

The data controller is RINA Consulting S.p.A., whose registered office is in Genoa (Italy), via Cecchi 6, Tax code and VAT n° IT03476550102 (hereinafter, the "Controller"). The Controller may be contacted by writing to: rina.dpo@rina.org

2. **SCOPE OF PROCESSING**

The Controller processes personal data of a common type (name and e-mail address), provided by you through e-mail automatically opened by clicking on the "Contacts" button or "Newsletter" button on the RHE-MEDiation website. In addition, normal operation of the website makes it necessary to obtain some personal data. This is information that is not collected to be associated with identified data subjects but that, by its very nature, could make it possible to identify the users by processing and associating the same with data collected by third parties. This category of data includes cookies, which are small text files that websites visited by the users send to their terminals, where they are stored to be sent back to the same sites at the time of subsequent visits. For further information on cookies used by the website go to: https://rhemediation.eu/cookie-policy.html

3. **PURPOSE OF PROCESSING**

a. Your personal data are processed for the following purposes:
   - to receive and respond to any request for a contact, by sending the information you requested.
   - to analyze website interactions through Statcounter, an online service, which helps us understand our visitors better. This includes insights into how visitors find our website, the duration of their visits, and the web pages they find most interesting. We use Statcounter to enhance the content, design, and functionality of our site, ultimately offering a superior online experience to our visitors.

b. In addition, with your explicit consent, your data will be processed to:
   - send you newsletters about RHE-MEDiation project.

4. **PROCESSING METHOD**

The Controller will process personal data in accordance with the principles of lawfulness, fairness and transparency. Your personal data are processed by means of the following operations: collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, consultation, use, dissemination, disclosure by transmission, retrieval, alignment, restriction, erasure and destruction of the data. Your personal data are subjected to both hard-copy and electronic processing. The Controller will process the personal data for the time necessary to carry out the purposes indicated above and, in any case, for not more than 10 years.

5. **ACCESS TO DATA**

Your data may be made accessible for the purposes indicated in art 3.a and 3.b to the following recipients: affiliate companies or subsidiaries of RINA Group, in Italy and abroad, to the extent to which this is necessary for processing; public entities, for fulfilling legal obligations. Without requiring your explicit consent, the Controller may communicate your data for the purposes indicated in art 3.a to supervisory bodies, judicial authorities, insurance companies for providing insurance services, as well as to entities to which communication is mandatory in terms of the law, for carrying out said purposes.

6. **TRANSFERS OF DATA**

Personal data are stored on servers located within the European Union. In any case, it is understood that, should this be necessary, the Controller will have the right to move the servers even outside the EU. In such a case, the Controller hereby guarantees that transfers of data outside the EU will be done in accordance with the applicable laws, also by means of including standard contractual clauses provided for by the European Commission and adopting binding corporate rules for intra-group transfers.

7. **CONSENT**

The provision of data and related processing for the purposes indicated in point 3.a is necessary in order to guarantee the Controller's services you have requested, and for executing the requests made. If refused, you cannot successfully submit requests and cannot receive a response from the Controller. Providing data for the purposes indicated in point 3.b, on the other hand, is not mandatory. You may, therefore, decide not to provide any data or subsequently refuse processing of data already provided - the only consequence of any such refusal will be that receiving newsletters, commercial communications, and advertising materials related to the services offered by the Controller will not be possible. However, you will continue to have a right to the services indicated in point 3.a.

8. **RIGHTS OF THE DATA SUBJECT**

In your capacity as the data subject in processing of the data in question, you have the rights provided for in the GDPR, including the right to ask the Data Controller, by contacting the Data Protection Officer for: access to the personal data, indication of the means, purposes and logics involved in the processing, the right to object, to request restriction of processing, data portability, rectification and erasure of the same, within the limits and in the ways provided for in the GDPR. Where processing of data is based on consent, you have the right to withdraw the same at any time. In addition, you always have the right to object to the sending of newsletters and processing of all or several data for marketing or commercial purposes. Therefore, in your capacity as the data subject, you have the rights pursuant to Arts. 15 – 21 of GDPR, as well as the right to lodge a complaint with the competent Authority pursuant to art. 77 of GDPR.

9. **PROCEDURE FOR EXERCISING RIGHTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The Controller has appointed a Data Protection Officer, who can be contacted for all matters related to processing of your personal data and the exercising of related rights.
Therefore, you may contact the Data Protection Officer at any time, using the following procedures:

- by sending a registered letter with notification of receipt to RINA Consulting S.p.A., via Cecchi 6, 16129 Genova, for the attention of the Data Protection Officer, or
- by sending an e-mail message to rina.dpo@rina.org. We wish to state that you have the right to withdraw the consent given at any time by writing to: rina.dpo@rina.org

Cookie Policy

The processing of personal data of Users will be in accordance with the law in force, with particular reference to Regulation (EU) no. 679/2016 effective from 25 May 2018 as applicable to the use of cookies.

What is a cookie?

A cookie is a small text file which is recorded in the temporary memory of the browser when a website is entered, for a variable period of time generally lasting between a few hours and some years, with the exception of profiling cookies which last a maximum of 365 calendar days. The file memorises certain information which the site is able to read when it is consulted again, and which may be necessary for the proper functioning of the site and to improve usability. Through cookies, for example, it is possible to determine whether a connection has already been made between the computer and site, to highlight novelties or maintain "login" information.

Cookie types

Technical cookies: necessary for the proper functioning of the site, they are used for browsing purposes or to provide a service requested by the user; they are not used for other purposes and are usually installed by the website owner.

Statistical cookies (analytics): they make it possible to know how users use the site, in order to assess and improve its functioning and promote the production of contents which best meet user requirements. All information collected by these cookies is anonymous and unconnected with the user's personal data.

Profiling cookies: they make it possible to offer the user advertisements related to him/her and his/her pertinent interests. Moreover, they are used to limit the number of times the same advertisement is shown and to assess the effectiveness of advertising campaigns.

Third party cookies: they are conveyed, without RHE-MEDiation control, by third parties (example: Google Maps, Youtube, Linkedin and Twitter) which can intercept the user also while browsing in non-site. These cookies, typically persistent, cannot be controlled directly by RHE-MEDiation which therefore cannot guarantee how third-party owners use the information gathered.

Statcounter integration

In addition, our website utilizes Statcounter, an online service that uses cookies and other technologies to collect data on visitors and visitor activity. This data includes:

- Time and date of visit (this can help us to identify and plan for busy periods on our website)
- IP address (this is a numerical label assigned to a device by an Internet Service Provider to enable the device to access the internet)
- Browser and Operating System (this can help us to make sure that our website functions correctly in the browsers/operating systems used to access our site)
- Device Information e.g. device type and screen size (this can help us to make sure that our website functions correctly in the devices used to access our site)
- Referring Data e.g. a search engine link (this can help us to understand which search engines are helping visitors to find our website)

When you visit our website, a Statcounter cookie ("is_unique") may be placed in your browser to determine whether you are a first-time or returning visitor and estimate unique visits.

You can learn more about cookies from Statcounter and set your browser to refuse same here: http://statcounter.com/about/set-refusal-cookie/

For further details, please see the Statcounter privacy policy the: https://statcounter.com/about/legal/#privacy

RHE-MEDiation website only uses technical cookies and the so-called "analytics" cookies which, for the purpose of optimising the site could collect information, in anonymous and aggregate form, about the number of users and how they use the site.

RHE-MEDiation does not use any type of cookie aimed at profiling the user but uses third party services which, in turn, use profiling cookies.

List of these services and link to the pertinent privacy information policy:

- Linkedin is a social network.
- Twitter is a social network.
- Instagram is a social network.
- Youtube is a social network.

Where to find information on how to disable or manage cookies in different browsers:

- Google Chrome
- Mozilla Firefox
- Apple Safari
- Internet Explorer

For any further clarification concerning "cookies", reference can be made to the following link:
https://www.garanteprivacy.it/temi/cookie

Disclaimer

Acceptance of Terms of Use (ToU)

By accessing and using this website you agree to be bound by the following ToU and all terms and conditions contained and/or referenced herein or any additional terms and conditions set forth on this website and all such terms shall be deemed accepted by you. If you do not agree to all these ToU, you should not use this website. These Terms of Use may be amended by RINA Consulting S.p.A. at any time. Such amended ToU shall be effective upon posting on this website. Please check the ToU published on this website regularly to ensure that you are aware of all terms governing your use of this website.

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For any doubt and information, please contact info@rhemediation.eu

Warranties & disclaimers

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