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Opatija, Hrvatska

MED OSMoSIS PROJECT PRESENTED SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS FOR MARITIME SURVEILLANCE AND SEARCH AND RESCUE ACTIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

"Visual objects of maritime signalization are still the most reliable system for marking maritime hazards and waterways." – said Ivica Petrovic.

In the town of Opatija 2nd of June, was closed a two-day conference of the MED OSMoSIS project – "Mediterranean governance for Strategic Maritime Surveillance and Safety issues", which brings together 10 partners from eight Mediterranean countries: Greece, Spain, Italy, Portugal, France, Slovenia, Montenegro, and Croatia. It is a strategic project aimed at developing innovative solutions for maritime surveillance, co-financed by the Interreg MEDITERAN program.

The first day of the conference, June 1st was dedicated to the presentation of the results of the three pilot studies held by partners from France, Italy, Greece, and Spain, while the second day was focused on the Transfer and Capitalization of results, acquired knowledge, and experience.

In the introduction, Dimitrios Panagopoulos opened the Workshop by presenting an overview of MED OSMoSIS project activities and the overview of the results.

At the opening of the conference, a very interesting presentation on navigational and meteorological warnings in the Republic of Croatia was given by Željko Bračić, Chief Engineer for Radio-Electronic Affairs of Plovput LLC: "Croatia has three coastal radio stations that on VHF channel 16, and DSC channel 70 (Digital Selective Call) received a total of 1361 calls, during 2021. Most calls were related to the lack of propulsion and the inability to operate a vessel. To increase the safety of navigation and safety of life at sea (SOLAS Convention), coastal radio stations broadcast a total of 4366 regular weather warnings immediately upon receipt, 4380 regular weather broadcasts via VHF system, 510 radio navigational warnings, and 4374 NAVTEX broadcasts (International and National NAVigation TELeX). In dangerous sea conditions, i.e. when the sea condition is equal to or greater than 6 Beaufort scale (wave height 4-6 m), wind strength above 50 knots, and visibility less than 200 meters, since 2009 meteorological warnings are performed with additional repetition, which is specific but also proved to be extremely useful for everyone who sails the Adriatic." - said Bračić.

The Shom (abbreviation for the french hydrographic institute) conducted a presentation of the study on CISE, pilot study PING Navigational Warnings S-124 API, by Armelle Sommier, also the second day she presented an overview of Shom activities carried out within the project, the visualization of the data information, metadata, layers, and the layering of several data layers from different producer's SAR, traffic separation oceanographic forecast.

As part of the Greece and Spain pilot activities results, Christos Zacharakopoulos presented pilot activities field results and the first result of a newly developed web GIS platform, details about search and rescue planning, testing tools, methodologies, and algorithms for search and rescue operations.

Commander Nunziante Langelloto presented UP navigation charts update applications developed by Italian partners through project activities, improving the cycle management of information necessary for the update of cartography.

Horizon 2020 project, RESPOND-A nad ePcenter was also presented as part of the program, Zdravko Paladin, from the Ministry of Capital Investments from Montenegro.

MED OSMoSiS is a project worth a total of 3 million euros and is being implemented until the end of September 2022. The leading partner in the project is the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Island Policies of Greece, and along with Croatian partners KIP - Cluster of Intermodal Transport and Plovput d.o.o., other partners in the project are: DGAM - Autoridade Maritima Nacional - Portugal, Valencia Port Fundacion - Spain, CSIC - Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas - Spain, Shom - French Naval Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service - France, NIB - National Institute of Biology - Slovenia, Abruzzo Region - Italy and the Ministry of Capital Investments of Montenegro.