



Prodotto realizzato nell'ambito del progetto SEPOSSO
e finanziato con i fondi del Programma LIFE
Progetto LIFE16 GIE/117/000761



SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE FOR THE POSIDONIA OCEANICA SUSTAINABLE TRANSPLANTING OPERATIONS



POSIDONIA OCEANICA

WHAT IS IT?

- Is not an alga but a flowering plant that lives exclusively in the Mediterranean Sea
- Forms extensive meadows
- Is a protected habitat

WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

- Hosts several species of both marine flora and fauna
- Protects the coast from erosion
- Produces oxygen
- Is a carbon sink

WHY IS IT AN ENDANGERED SPECIES?

Because the pressure and impact of human activities, such as illegal trawling, boat anchoring, maritime works, wastewater discharges contribute to its regression

WHY TRANSPLANT IT?

- To compensate for damage caused by coastal marine works
- To restore damaged meadows

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- DO NOT fish on *Posidonia*
- DO NOT anchor your boat on *Posidonia*
- DO NOT pollute
- DO NOT throw waste at sea

Concrete modules used for the transplant

WHY CIVITAVECCHIA AND SANTA MARINELLA?

The objective of the Life project SEPOSSO is to improve the governance process related to the transplant of *Posidonia oceanica*, priority habitat 1120* of the Habitat Directive, 92/43/EEC, made to compensate for the damage caused by the development of coastal infrastructures in Italy. Furthermore, the project aims to increase citizens' awareness of the importance and respect of *P. oceanica* meadows and of the Natura 2000 marine sites, designated to conserve protected habitats and species.

The impact on the *P. oceanica* seagrass meadow occurred in the area of the Mattonara, a Special Area of Conservation (ISAC IT6000005), located north of the port of Civitavecchia (RM). The impact was caused by dredging activities carried out for the expansion of the dock Grandi Masse from the Harbour System Authority of the Northern Tyrrhenian Sea and from the ENEL power plant of Torvaldalliga Nord.

Posidonia oceanica transplantation was indicated as a compensation measure in the Environmental Impact Assessment decree. The transplant was carried out between August 2004 and March 2005 in areas identified as suitable and located within the Special Area of Conservation (ISAC IT6000007) between the towns of Santa Marinella and Santa Severa. The transplant took place on an area of 10.000 m². Several 50x50 cm reinforced concrete frames were utilized inside which a metal poultry fencing net was adapted to secure the 306.000 shoots to be transplant. This was the first and most extensive transplant carried out to date in the Mediterranean.



CIVITAVECCHIA SANTA MARINELLA



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