

# The NAMIRS project

North Adriatic  
Maritime  
Incident  
Response System

Duration: 24  
months (March  
2022 - February  
2024)

Budget: 950  
397.54 €

Co-financed by:  
European  
Commission, DG  
ECHO

Call: UCPM-  
2021-PP

Topic: UCPM-  
2021-PP-  
MARIPOL

## ▶ OBJECTIVES

- ▶ **Enhancing prevention of and protection from the effects of maritime disasters**, by adopting a holistic approach to marine pollution incident management at-sea and on-shore in the North Adriatic Sea
- ▶ **Strengthening a transnational/trilateral culture of prevention** as a pre-condition for enhanced cooperation and coordination towards better preparedness and response.
- ▶ Joint definition and validation of specific Guidelines for the **revision and update of the Sub-Regional Contingency Plan for the Adriatic Sea**, which will help achieve a higher level of protection from environmental disasters with potential cross-border impacts in the North Adriatic area.

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**Coordinator:** Central European Initiative-Executive Secretariat

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**Beneficiaries:**

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Italian General Command of the Port Authorities - Coast Guard

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Ministry of Sea, Transport and  
Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia

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Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief

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Adriatic Training and Research Centre for Accidental Marine Pollution  
Preparedness and Response (ATRAC, Croatia)

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University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Maritime Studies and Transport Portorož

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National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics (OGS)

# BACKGROUND

- ▶ Accidental marine pollution, in particular deriving from oil-spills, represents a dangerous environmental risk, calling for the urgent deployment of integrated and coordinated mechanisms and management plans for better preparedness and a more efficient joint response
- ▶ The “Agreement on the Sub-Regional Contingency Plan for prevention of, preparedness for and response to major marine pollution incidents in the Adriatic Sea” was signed by Croatia, Italy and Slovenia in 2005, without entering into force due to uncompleted ratification process
- ▶ A “Joint Declaration on the Trilateral Cooperation in the North Adriatic” was signed by the Foreign Ministers Anže Logar (Slovenia), Gordan Grlić Radman (Croatia) and Luigi Di Maio (Italy) in April 2021
- ▶ “...the three sides reconfirmed their commitment to the protection of the Adriatic Sea and to **intensifying their cooperation** in this regard” and agreed on the “need for integrated and **coordinated action in cases of pollution incidents and their prevention**”. Moreover, they decided to “**consider the need to review the Agreement on the Sub-Regional Contingency Plan** (for prevention of, preparedness for, and response to major marine pollution incidents in the Adriatic Sea) of 2005 in order to update it, taking into account the current circumstances...”



# GEOGRAPHICAL CONTEXT

- ▶ **North Adriatic** is a **semi-closed basin** where three countries (Croatia, Italy and Slovenia) share a marine surface of 550 sq.km, approximately one third of the whole Adriatic. The spill over of pollutants and the proximity of densely populated shores can cause severe damages to the marine ecosystem and the economic activities
- ▶ Rich in **biodiversity**, it hosts a broad network of NATURA 2000 sites, marine protected areas, reserves, and national parks
- ▶ One of the most important **European destinations for seaside tourism**
- ▶ Another sector of utmost relevance for the territories involved is represented by **fishery & aquaculture**
- ▶ Large ports of international relevance are located in the northern portion of the basin (Ancona, Ravenna, Venice, Trieste, Koper, Rijeka and Zadar) and represent the final destination of routes travelled by passenger ships, container ships, cargos and liquid bulk carriers. **The growing intensity of maritime traffic** determines an increased risk of incidents at-sea and on-shore (collisions, fires, sinking, grounding), with consequent loss of fuels and other harmful substances that would badly affect the marine environment.



Co-funded by the  
European Union

# EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- ▶ Communication and operational coordination between at-sea and shoreline preparedness and response is enhanced.
- ▶ A (sub-)regional approach to acute pollution, in particular with regard to spill impact/effect monitoring and assessment is established.

# OUTPUTS

Standard Operating Procedures for first responders

Guidelines for the revision and update of the Sub-Regional Contingency Plan for the Adriatic Sea

Thank you!

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