



ITALY-MALTA

CORALLO

Information and educational instruments for the correct management and use of the Natura 2000 sites

DATES:

- **Start:** Nov 14, 2020 | **End:** Aug 31, 2023

PARTNERS:

- University of Malta - Lead Partner
- Environment and Resources Authority
- Heritage Malta
- Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione dell'Ambiente, Sicilia
- Università degli Studi di Palermo
- Consorzio Plemmirio
- Consorzio di Ricerca per lo Sviluppo di Sistemi Innovativi Agroambientali

TOTAL BUDGET:

- **€1.579.902,17**

UE CONTRIBUTION:

- **€ 1.342.916,84**

Knowledge of the natural heritage of the Mediterranean islands, such as Sicily and Malta, represents the first stage of a process aimed at creating awareness of its importance and of the benefits offered to local populations. CORALLO has enhanced the landscape heritage, in large part little known and unique, of some of the Natura 2000 sites, in Sicily and Malta. Through a diversified range of edutainment instruments, services and advanced educational structures in each of the target sites, including the wide-ranging use of virtual reality and games, the project has promoted the responsible use of protected areas and has increased the awareness of their ecosystemic value among users and the general population. Visitors to the marine protected areas have interfaced with the humanoid robot Pepper, have travelled onboard a caique, have walked into a sea room and used VT viewers for an immersive stroll on the seabed of Sicilian and Maltese marine protected areas. The project has also promoted the drafting of behavioural codes for the correct use of beaches and responsible water-based activities and diving. Thanks to environmental awareness-raising initiatives, dissemination activities and recreational experiences, the project has allowed to promote environmentally responsible behaviours and to attract and advise young people on the values of sustainability and care for the natural heritage in the Mediterranean.

Marine Protected Areas involved in the project: Lipari, Panarea, Saline, Plemmirio, Malta.

<https://www.italiamalta.it/progetti/funded-projects/corallo/?lang=en>; <https://corallo-italiamalta.eu/>