



Smart and Sustainable Energy Port: the Project

The Project SMARTPORT - Smart and Sustainable Energy Port, funded by the 2nd call of the INTERREG IPA CBC Italy – Albania – Montenegro Programme, aims to promote innovative practices and tools to reduce carbon emission and to improve energy efficiency in public sector.

The Project Partnership consists of five Partners from the three countries of the Programme: the Lead Partner, the Port Network Authority of the Ionian Sea (Italy), the Municipality of Termoli (Italy), the Port of Vlore (Albania), the Port of Bar (Montenegro) and the Apulia Regional Agency for Environmental Protection and Prevention (Italy).

In order to contribute to the achievement of the Paris Agreement and to avoid the risk of global warming beyond 1.5° C by 2050, the European Territorial Cooperation is an effective mechanism to share best practices and implement positive actions within an area of common interest, as foreseen by the SMARTPORT Project.

During the 18 months of Project activities, the Partnership is committed to improving the energy sustainability of the port areas of the Ionian and South Adriatic area by adopting new energy strategies that, based on European standards, combine the use of renewable energy sources, energy saving, and smart technologies. Among the main activities of the Project is the installation of smart and sustainable lighting systems with LED lamps in public areas of the Partners. The lighting bodies will be powered by solar energy and equipped with smart sensors to save energy by modulating the intensity of light as needed. Following the installation of the lighting systems, a six-month pilot period will start. During this period, thanks to a remote management and control system of the lighting bodies, regular monitoring of the energy performance will be carried out in order to draw up a new and shared energy strategy for the port areas.

Smart and Sustainable Energy Port Launching event

On Wednesday 27th October 2021, Port Network Authority of the Ionian Sea – Port of Taranto organised the launching event of the Project “SMARTPORT – Smart and Sustainable Energy Port”, funded by the 2nd call of the INTERREG IPA CBC Italy – Albania – Montenegro Programme.

The launch event, hosted by “Pietro Acclavio Library” of Taranto, included a first working session open to the press and a second technical session reserved for the Project Partners. In addition to the LP, Port Network Authority of the Ionian Sea the other PPs attended the event, both in person and online: the Municipality of Termoli (IT), the Port of Vlore (AL), the Port of Bar (ME) and the Apulia Regional Agency for Environmental Protection and Prevention (IT).

During the press conference, Prof. Sergio Prete, President of Port Network Authority of the Ionian Sea as Lead Partner, highlighted the importance of the goal of “green ports” in the Ionian and South-Adriatic and Mrs Chiara Campanile, Project Officer and member of the Joint Secretariat illustrated the aims of the SMARTPORT Project and the Programme’s strategy.

In the second part of the event, the Kick-off Meeting, the Lead Partner Port of Taranto, the Project Officer and the other PPs focused on the Project Main Goals, Specific Objectives, Expected Results and Outputs, as well as the Target Groups to be reached within the end of the Project.

The meeting was an important moment for all Partners involved in the SMARTPORT Project to plan upcoming activities. Considering the important impact of the Project in the Programme area, all Partners are ready to commit to reaching the Project goals, continuing the monitoring of implemented initiatives beyond the end of the Project.

SMARTPORT, outcomes of the first Steering Committee Meeting

Two months after its Launching Event, project SmartPort’s partners gathered online on 14.12.2021, for their first Steering Committee Meeting. On this occasion, partners discussed about the administrative and financial developments of the project, on the activities state of the art and the future steps to be undertaken. For what concerns the technical work packages, the “WPT 1 – Study & Know-how transfer” in particular just entered into a crucial phase, with partners providing inputs and data for the upcoming release of the Deliverables “Energy Evaluation analysis in the communities involved” and the “Swot analysis on energy use in port areas”. These documents will perform the energy evaluation analysis in the communities involved, with a special focus on: energy needs and production, carbon free evaluation, definition of possible strategies for greater sustainability of the local energy system. Overall, the set of data provided by the partnership through this activity will lead to the definition of an “Intervention Strategy for Ports’ Energy Efficiency” to be implemented in the Programme area.