

I-STORMS NETWORK AND

PERMANENT COOPERATION TABLE

AGREEMENT

OUTPUT 6d 1.1

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# PROJECT CONTEXT

*The I-STORMS project aims at* ***fostering transnational cooperation to enhance innovative policies and develop joint strategies to safeguard the ADRION area from sea storm emergencies*** *by sharing knowledge, data and forecasts among involved countries and improving their capacities in terms of early warning and civil protection procedures, in compliance with the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. Thanks to the I-STORMS project, the* ***involved countries will increase accuracy and reliability of sea storm forecasts and thus be able to improve risk preparedness in their coastal areas****.*

*To this aim,* ***a Storm atlas that identify the most vulnerable areas Adrion coasts*** *and the* ***I-STORMS Web Integrated System (IWS)*** *has been developed. The IWS is a common interoperable web tool aggregating data, models and practices from the different countries involved and is composed of four products:*

* ***a common sharing system of ocean observations****;*
* ***a Transnational Multi-model Ensemble System*** *(TMES), coordinating the existing initiatives on storm surge and sea state forecasts;*
* *a* ***collaborative geoportal*** *for accessing both observations and TMES products;*
* ***a tool set and dashboards for promoting the use to the general public*** *(Open I-STORMS).*

*Moreover, an* ***application*** *designed for the mobile device has been realised to allow to public* ***easy access to information and warnings on sea storm events****.*

*Since the very beginning of the project, each partner invited the relevant actors of the ADRION area to join* ***the I-STORMS Network*** *to foster a common understanding of the current challenges in the coastal areas and promote coordination and sharing of know-how.*

*The* ***I-STORMS Network*** *is formalized by the signature of the present* ***cooperation agreement****. The members of the network will commit to participate in the* ***permanent cooperation table*** *and to adopt the* ***I-STORMS strategy*** *aimed at promoting and transferring at EU level the project findings to make more effective management of data and forecasts and early warning procedures.*

# I-STORMS NETWORK AND PERMANENT COOPERATION TABLE (PCT)

*One of the I-STORMS core output is the* ***creation of a Network of******key-actors active in the Adriatic-Ionian marine sector*** *to foster a common understating of the current challenges in the coastal areas and promote coordination and sharing of know-how.*

*At the start of the project, I-STORMS Partners and associated partners contacted the potential members of the Network; constant consultation and feedback loops between the project and the Network have been ensured by meetings, web tools and socials.*

*The inputs collected thanks to the actors invited to join the I-STORMS Network members were crucial for providing an overview of previous coastal disasters and responses in the Adriatic-Ionian area. Furthermore, a set of common best practices and guidelines have been identified to realize a common Strategy aiming at suggesting the most effective way to deal with management of data and forecasts and early warning procedures in case of sea storms.*

*The I-STORMS network will be strengthen by the establishment of* ***a Permanent Cooperation Table (PTC)*** *that will ensure that dialogue continues after the project’s closure and that collected data are constantly implemented in the I-STORMS Web Integrated System (IWS).*

*The I-STORMS permanent table will also create the conditions for an effective, resource-sustainable cooperation in the ADRION area, also thanks to the collaborations activated through the I-STORMS network with other EU and Interreg projects and structures in the ADRION/EUSAIR area.*

***The I-STORMS network and the permanent cooperation table are formalized by the present agreement****.*

## Benefits for the members of the I-STORMS Network and permanent cooperation table:

* ***reserved access to the I-STORMS database*** *of observations and forecasts with larger contents;*
* ***customized storm surge forecasts for specific area****;*
* ***increased knowledge on more effective procedures and practices of civil protections****;*
* ***more relevant competences in the field of interoperable data sharing and open source systems*** *in compliance with EU legislation;*
* ***easier coordination with other actors in the ADRION area*** *and in the neighboring countries.*

## Key role of the members of the I-STORMS Network and permanent cooperation table:

* ***foster a common understanding of the current challenges in the coastal areas****;*
* ***share know-how and best practices*** *concerning the risks prevention;*
* ***share available sea storms related observations and forecasts*** *(sea levels and waves);*
* ***contribute to the continuous discussion on risk analysis and emergency response*** *within the ADRION area.*

# I-STORMS PERMANENT COOPERATION TABLE (PCT) COMPOSITION

## Governance

*The initial and founding members are the 16 project and associated partners of the I-STORMS project, financed by the Interreg ADRION Programme. They form the governing board of the PTC:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***LP1*** | ***City of Venice (IT) – Lead partner*** |
| ***PP2*** | ***National Research Council-Institute of Marine Sciences (IT)*** |
| ***PP3*** | ***Agency for environmental protection and energy in Emilia-Romagna (IT)*** |
| ***PP4*** | ***Slovenian Environment Agency (SI)*** |
| ***PP5*** | ***Apulia Region (IT)*** |
| ***PP6*** | ***Regional Council of Durres (AL)*** |
| ***PP7*** | ***Regional Union of Municipalities of Epirus (EL)*** |
| ***PP8*** | ***Institute of Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment (AL)*** |
| ***PP9*** | ***Meteorological and Hydrological service of Croatia (HR)*** |
| ***AP10*** | ***Emilia-Romagna Region (IT)*** |
| ***AP11*** | ***Durres Port Authority (AL)*** |
| ***AP12*** | ***Italian National Civil Protection Department (IT)*** |
| ***AP13*** | ***Regional Civil Protection Agency in Emilia Romagna (IT)*** |
| ***AP14*** | ***Arpav – Regional Agency for Environmental Prevention and Protection of Veneto (IT)*** |
| ***AP15*** | ***Albanian General Directorate of Civil Emergencies (AL)*** |
| ***AP16*** | ***Slovenian Water Agency (SI)*** |

*The governing board is coordinated by a Steering Committee composed by:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***City of Venice*** | *Lead partner of the I-STORMS project* |
| ***Agency for environmental protection and energy in Emilia-Romagna (ARPAE)*** | *Responsible of the I-STORMS guidelines and Strategy* |
| ***National Research Council-Institute of Marine Science (CNR-ISMAR)*** | *I-STORMS scientific coordinator* |

*The Steering committee is in charge of validating the decisions/actions of the PTC table activities. The validation of the PTC Steering Committee decisions / actions is based on absolute majority votes of the present or represented members. Voting may utilize some electronic voting tool or be done via email.*

## new members of the I-STORMS Network and permanent cooperation table

***Any entity*** *that would like to join the permanent cooperation table (PTC) and to become a member, shall come from different categories of actors* ***linked to the marine weather forecast in the Adriatic-Ionian area.***

***It may face different challenges relevant to the above concept:***

* *informing and alerting the population*
* *protection and safeguard of the territories effected by the sea storm events informing and alerting the population*

***It may have different level of interest and/or experience with reference to the above concept:***

* *early warning and civil protection procedures*
* *forecasting and alerting services*
* *emergency management*
* *developing tools and systems for the management and control of the coastal risk*
* *numerical modelling both in coastal and transitional environments and at the basin scale*

*The Community will comprise* ***stakeholders primarily from****:*

* *The partner regions*
* *The partner countries*
* *The ADRION macroregion*

***Members based on their level of interest will be committed to:***

* ***participate in the table*** *at least once a year for the following 5 years*
* ***apply the I-STORM Strategy*** *in dealing with forecast and early warning of sea storm events and ensure the dissemination to other territories*
* ***contribute to the implementation of the I-STORMS Web Integrated System (IWS)******providing and sharing meteo marine data*** *also after the end of the I-STORM project*

## network registration modalities

*Each stakeholder interested in joining PERMANENT COOPERATION TABLE (PTC), is required to* ***accept the present agreement, filling in the PTC membership accession form (Annex 2).***

***An absolute majority vote of the present or represented members is required for the approval******of the accession of a new stakeholder****. The Lead Partner (City of Venice) will have a casting vote in the case of difficulty of choice.*

***Meetings may be virtual meetings****. Frequency of meetings to be defined according to the number of applications for membership.*

***The accession will be possible throughout the life of the PTC*** *(at least 5 years after the I-STORMS project’s closure).*

*Information for applicants:* ***no entrance fees for the membership.***

# PERMANENT COOPERATION TABLE OBJECTIVES

***The I-STORMS cooperation table aimed at guaranteeing durability, sustainability, capitalization and transfer of the projects outputs and results.***

*The set-up of the I-STORMS permanent cooperation table will be* ***an opportunity to expand the level of knowledge and competence in the field of the coastal risk prevention*** *and management with positive consequences for the civil protection system and the environmental planning.*

*The I-STORMS Network and the permanent cooperation table will foster* ***a common understanding of the current challenges*** *in the coastal areas and promote coordination and sharing of know-how.*

*The members of* ***the PCT agree to put into practice the I-STORMS Guidelines and Strategy****, ensure its wide dissemination and transferability to any other interested organization in the Adriatic-Ionian area and beyond.*

# ORGANISATION AND DURABILITY

## The City of Venice (I-STORMS project coordinator) is responsible for:

* *coordinating the I-STORMS network and permanent cooperation table and ensuring its effective functioning also after the end of the I-STORMS project, in cooperation with Arpae and CNR (the steering committee);*
* *summoning and chairing the permanent cooperation table at least once a year for the following 5 years, in cooperation with Arpae and CNR (the steering committee);*
* *the implementation and maintenance of the I-STORMS Web Integrated System (IWS) in cooperation with CNR Ismar, collecting, coordinating the collecting and sharing of meteo-marine data to feed the System also after the end of the I-STORM project.*

## I-STORMS network and permanent cooperation are committed to:

* *participate in the table at least once a year for the following 5 years;*
* *Apply the I-STORM Strategy in dealing with forecast and early warning of sea storm events and ensure the dissemination to other territories;*
* *Contribute to the implementation of the I-STORMS Web Integrated System (IWS) providing and sharing meteo marine data also after the end of the I-STORM project.*

***All project partners and associated partners*** *are committed towards utilizing their networks of organizations in attracting PTC new members.*

***The founding members of the PTC have a strong commitment towards the durability of the PTC for the following 5 years after the project end date****. To this end, the present Covenant/agreement is regarded as a binding document between the participating actors and the future members of the network.*

# Annex 1 FOUNDING MEMBERS SIGNATURES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| I-STORMS Cooperation agreement  Governing board | |
| *Partner role in the project* |  |
| *Nome of the Organization* |  |
| *Name and surname of*  *the Legal Representative* |  |
| *Signature of the Legal Representative* |  |
| *Place and date* | *Stamp* |

# ANNEX 2: CTP membership accession Form

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| I-STORMS Cooperation agreement | *Institution:* |
| *Name and surname of the Signatory:* |
| *Role of the Signatory:* |
| *Address / City / Area code:*  *Country:*  *Tel / Fax:*  *E-mail:* | |
| *Signature:* | *Stamp* |
| *Place and date:* |

# ANNEX 3: List of the members signing the accession form

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *ENTITY Name* | *COUNTRY* | *CONTACT DETAILS* |
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