



Aboard Mediterranea
June 18th 2014
Lat 36°38'N Long 21°57'E

Press release no.10

Mediterranea Project: onboard experimentation of the “Sea-Conditions” system for sea and weather forecast which was developed under TESSA (Sviluppo di TEcnologie per la Situational Sea Awareness), an industrial research project supported by PON “Ricerca e Competitività 2007-2013” programme of the Italian Ministry for Education, University and Research

“Sea-Conditions is working very well” – according to Simone Perotti, captain of Mediterranea, the boat of Mediterranea Project (www.progettomediterranea.com) which is experimenting the “Sea-Conditions” service by TESSA for sea and weather forecast. “We study the weather every day to find a sheltered bay for the night on the basis of algorithms and data analysis. Even where other tested forecast systems dominates, “Sea Conditions” is doing very well. Wave forecast is very precise. In a couple of days we had unexpected bad weather conditions, but it was due to sudden thermal inversion conditions, that is the earth warming up and local humidity. ”

Mediterranea Project works with **CMCC** (Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change) and its partners **LINKS S.p.A.** and **CNR- IAMC** (National Research Council – Institute for Marine and Coastal Environment) of the industrial research project **TESSA** (Sviluppo di TEcnologie per la Situational Sea Awareness), in order to use and validate forecast data and services which were developed by the project itself, as for **“SeaConditions” weather and sea forecast service** and a system to detect the safest course.

The service provides a single and integrated access point to weather and sea forecast based on weather and oceanographic models on wave conditions. 5-day forecast are updated daily and are displayed on Google maps. They refer to sea and weather conditions, and can be easily consulted at different examination levels.

“However, weather conditions in the Peloponnese area are not particularly hard in these days” – Perotti said – “We are looking forward to testing this system in more complicated conditions that will certainly occur”.

TESSA project, which developed “Sea-Conditions”, is aimed at strengthening and consolidating oceanographic services in Italy and, in particular, in Italy’s southern seas. The platform where TESSA project services are developed are highly technological and will enable a dissemination of information on “Situational Sea Awareness”.

*“Meanwhile, aboard Mediterranea plankton sampling is being carried out with a Plankton Recorder in the framework of **Sahfos** project and microplastic debris are collected according to the guidelines provided by “**Plastic Busters**” of the University of Siena. Spices, leaves and flowers are also being collected to be used as natural colours, which are the “**Shades of the Mediterranean sea**” within the Animami project, and jellyfish are classified and photographed according to the keys and tables provided by Prof. Ferdinando Boero of the University of Salento”- explained Giuliana Rogano, the second in command on Mediterranea and official photographer of the expedition.*

Mediterranea Project is the first *co-sailing* experience in the world. It has no main sponsors and is supported by dozens of Mediterranean sea and culture enthusiasts who will join the 5-year journey throughout the Mediterranean, the Black Sea and the Northern Red Sea.



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