

# EMD

EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY  
IN MY COUNTRY

As part of the  
European Maritime Day  
in my Country

# CAPRAIA SMART ISLAND

hosts

## THE PILOT PLATFORM FOR SUSTAINABLE MEDITERRANEAN SMALL ISLAND COMMUNITIES

Capraia island  
20-22 May 2025

A joint initiative of BlueMissionMed,  
SMILO and Chimica Verde Bionet



 Funded by  
the European Union



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# EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS



Capraia Smart Island 2025 will host the **Pilot Platform for Sustainable Mediterranean Small Island Communities**, a **joint initiative by Chimica Verde Bionet, SMILO, and BlueMissionMed**. This event brings together key players to explore and scale innovative solutions that strengthen the resilience and sustainability of small Mediterranean islands.

These islands are at the front lines of climate change, facing several threats like coastal erosion, rising sea levels, and extreme weather events. At the same time, their unique character and vulnerability make them ideal testing grounds for pioneering sustainability strategies. The Pilot Platform Initiative will **showcase successful pilot projects, highlight community-driven approaches, and create opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration** between local authorities, researchers, investors, and civil society.

The **EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030”** is central to this transformation, driving research, innovation, and cooperation to restore marine and freshwater ecosystems. **BlueMissionMed**, coordinated by the **National Research Council of Italy (CNR DSSTA)**, works to bring this vision to life in the Mediterranean. **SMILO** shares these goals, supporting biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource management on small islands worldwide. The **Pelagos Initiative** strengthen protections for the Pelagos sanctuary in line with its management plan, while **Erasmus+** enhances education and training for sustainable blue growth. The event is also backed by the **International Foundation for Aids to Navigation (IFAN)**, which promotes maritime safety and environmental protection. **Chimica Verde Bionet** have long been promoting sustainability-focused initiatives, hosting annual events dedicated to small island resilience. Building on this strong foundation, Capraia has been chosen as the 2025 venue for the Pilot Platform, offering an ideal setting to advance sustainability solutions and foster collaboration.

By equipping **Mediterranean small island communities** with the **tools, knowledge, and connections** they need, this event aims to support **islands' transition to sustainability**, demonstrating how **resilience, cooperation, and shared expertise** can drive the **ecological transition** for a healthier Mediterranean Sea basin.





## PROGRAMME

Venue: Sala Ipogea, Via Dè Mari, 22, Capraia

**20 May: Day 1**

### **Islands' Forum & Capraia Sustainable Island Management**

**08:00 Departure from Livorno by ferry.** Tickets available online (see the logistical note and useful information doc) and at [biglietteria Toremare](https://www.biglietteria.toremare.it) (Via del Molo Mediceo, 12, Livorno). Boarding starts 60' in advance.

**10:45 Estimated time of arrival in Capraia**

#### **12:30-12.50 Welcome & introduction**

- Gennaro Giliberti, Manager, Tuscany Region
- Giampiero Sammuri. Tuscany National Park
- Francesco Petracchini, Director of the Department of Earth System Science and Environmental Technologies, National Research Council of Italy (CNR-DSSTA)
- Sofia Mannelli, Chimica Verde Bionet
- Maxime Prodromides, SMILO president

#### **13:00-14.15 Lunch**

#### **14:15-15.45 SMILO Islands Forum**

**15:45-18:30 Island Visit:** discovering Capraia's sustainable management & challenges *(with the participation of local stakeholders)*

Visits:

- Capraia's heroic farming
- Desalination plant & water fountains and botanic path & biodiversity conservation in Capraia
- The old village and the port of Capraia, the Desalination plant and water fountains.



**19:00** Sharing Island cultures, food tasting & meeting with the inhabitants

**20:30** Dinner (for those who confirmed their presence via the registration form)

## 21 May: Day 2 Sea Conservation & Sustainable Tourism

***BlueMissionMed Support Program Desk will be available all day***

Chair: CNR, BlueMissionMed

**9:15-9:30 Welcome coffee**

**09:30-09:45 Keynote: The EU Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030**,  
Elisabetta Balzi, EC DG RTD

**09:45-10:00 Keynote: Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Risk for Mediterranean Small Island**, Fabio Trincardi, Senior Consultant in Marine Geology Sealaska

**10:00-10:10 BlueMissionMed CSA: supporting the Mediterranean Sea basin for the implementation of the EU Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters**, Fedra Francocci, BlueMissionMed Coordinator, Department of Earth System Science and Environmental Technologies, National Research Council of Italy (CNR-DSSTTA)

**10:10-10:30 Coffee break**

**10:30-12:00 Solutions' Forum, Blue Sustainable Tourism, Eco-Ports & Sea conservation. *First part.***

Chair: SMILO

- Lavezzi case, Sébastien Leccia & Jean-Michel Culioli, OEC Corsica
- Blue Tourism, Giulia Balestracci
- Fighting against plastic waste pollution, Sylvain Petit, Remedies
- The role of Aids to Navigation related to safety of navigation and protection of the marine environment, Francesca Pradelli, IFAN





- Presentation of the results from SMILES project, Dr. Aristides Moustakas, Natural History Museum of Crete, University of Crete
- Capraia electric boats eng. Company, Leonardo Spacone
- Sustainable Nautical Tourism, Green Sail, Ornela Krezic

**12:10-13:10 Parallel tables: What are the obstacles & needs for small islands sustainable transition? Conclusions by Rapporteurs.** Moderator/Rapporteurs: BlueMissionMed (CNR, MedWaves)

**13:15-14:30 Lunch**

**14:45-18:30 Pelagos Sanctuary - Discovering solutions in Capraia**

- Mariculture and visit of the port
- Sea tour by boat and visit of the port

**18:30-19:30 Visit to Church of Sant'Antonio.** The historic relationship between the Abbot of Lerins and the island of Capraia: Meeting with the Abbot of Lerins who returns to Capraia after 1500 years.

**20:30 Dinner** (for those who confirmed their presence via the registration form)



## 22 May: Day 3

### Supporting Sustainable Mediterranean Small Island Communities

Chair: CNR, BlueMissionMed

#### **9:15-9:30 Welcome Coffee**

#### **9:30-10:30 National Initiatives for Islands Sustainability**

- Viticulture in the Tuscan Archipelago: Biodiverse, Resilient, Heroic, and Successful, Gennaro Giliberti, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Tuscany Region
- Protected areas and sustainability: the contribution of the Tuscan Archipelago National Park, Maurizio Burlando, PNAT Director
- Regional strategies in Tuscany for the fishing sector: the balance between production support and environmental protection, Marco Ferretti, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Tuscany Region
- The Network of Sicilian Marine Protected Areas: A model of effective and shared governance, Giorgio Occhipinti, Dipartimento Ambiente Sicily Region
- The virtuous case of Salina Island, Domenica Arabia, Mayor of Santa Marina di Salina
- How to Empower Energy Transition in Small Island, Eros Manzo, CNR DSSTTA
- Internationalisation of the Biodiversity Gateway, Marta Curiotto, CNR ISMAR

#### **10:30-11:00 Q&A session**

#### **11:00-11:30 Coffee break**

#### **11:30-12:30 BlueMissionMed think-tank to scale up solutions across Mediterranean Small Islands in the framework of the EU Mission Ocean and Waters**

- CapiMed+ project: a capitalisation of BeMed projects tackling plastic pollution in the Mediterranean islands, Ignasi Mateo Rodríguez, MedWaves
- Funding global activities for the protection of the marine environment and safety of life at sea, Francesca Pradelli, Development Manager IFAN



- THE LAMPEDUSA LIGHTHOUSE: integrated environmental restoration actions between land and sea, Francesco Picciotto, Department of Environment Sicily Region
- Enhancing Cooperation between Northern and Southern Mediterranean Islands, Rym Benzina, President of La Saison Bleue
- Living Labs on Small Islands: Driving Positive Impact for Thriving Ecosystems, Martina Desole, ENOLL Director

#### **12:30-12:45 Q&A session**

**12:45-12:50 Towards UNOC3: One Island**, Olivier Poivre d'Arvor, Special Envoy of the President of the French Republic for the UNOC (online)

#### **12:50-13:20 Closure of the event**

#### **13:20 Lunch**

#### **17:15 Departure towards Livorno by ferry**

#### **20:00 Estimated time of arrival in Livorno**

During the event, the organizers will hold a special reading session of the book “**Our Blue Treasure**” by Susanna Albertini and Valentina Vavassori (BlueMissionMed) with school children from Capraia at the local library (May 22, morning).

Developed by the BlueMissionMed project, “Our Blue Treasure” is an engaging and educational book designed to foster ocean and water literacy among children aged 6 to 10. Already translated into nine languages, the book serves as a valuable tool to inspire the next generation in protecting our marine and freshwater ecosystems.

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This event is part of the  
European Maritime Day  
in my Country

## Co-organisers:

Chimica Verde Bionet, Capraia island, Italy  
SMILO – Small Islands Organisation, France  
BlueMissionMed CSA



## The event is organized thanks to the support of:

National Research Council of Italy (CNR)  
ERASMUS+  
PELAGOS INITIATIVE

International Foundation for Aids to Navigation (IFAN)



## Media partner:



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