

**Acronym** – CREW

**Title** – Coordinated Wetland management in Italy-Croatia cross border region

**Scientific coordinator** – Maria Chiara Tosi

**Sector** – ICAR/21

**Iuav Role** – Lead partner

**Duration** – 33 months

**Start** – 01/12/2018

**Closure** – 31/08/2021

**Project budget**– € 1.836.947,50

**Iuav budget** – € 330.624,50

**Funding to Iuav** – € 330.624,50

**Source of funding** – EU Call: INTERREG Italia-Croatia 2014-2020 Programme – 1<sup>st</sup> Call for proposals 2017 Standard

**Description** – Wetlands in the cross border area of Italy and Croatia are vulnerable interconnected environments, hugely contributing to biodiversity. Their protection intertwines scientific-environmental aspects and governance concerns. CREW acknowledges these challenges and tackles the issue of implementing a multilevel governance tool in order to achieve overall effects on coastal wetlands ecosystems and socio-economic related systems by overcoming fragmentations that are often jeopardizing the sustainable development and preservation of these fragile areas. CREW aims at ensuring higher coordination between different level of spatial planning and authorities in charge for wetlands management, whilst limiting conflicts between preservation issues and economic activities.

**Objectives** – CREW aims at achieving the following objectives:

1. to set up a cross border Observatory to monitor best practices and data on Italian and Croatian coastal wetlands;
2. to protect the biodiversity in Italian and Croatian coastal wetlands by the implementation of a coordinated methodology for wetlands management (Wetland Contract) in coherence with the ICZM principles. Enhancing the implementation of an integrated tool, the project will assure higher coordination among stakeholders and decision makers, limiting and absorbing raising conflicts between preservation issues and economic activities (farming, aquaculture, tourism) and will enhance the achievement of sustainable long-term results.
3. to share a cross border strategy and strengthen synergies among Italian and Croatian coastal wetlands;
4. to improve the public awareness about the value of the wetlands ecosystems among policy makers, managers, professionals, and general public and strengthen their active engagement in territorial governance.

By implementing the foreseen actions, CREW will also promote the implementation of EU policies among Italy and Croatia. Wetland Contracts particularly help to achieve the goals of Environmental Directives such as Habitats Directive, Birds Directive, Flood Directive and Water Framework Directive.

**Website** – [www.italy-croatia.eu/web/crew](http://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/crew)

**Website** – [www.contrattolagunavenezia.it/](http://www.contrattolagunavenezia.it/)

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