

NETCET CITY NETWORK:

ADRIATIC CITIES TOGETHER FOR CETACEANS AND SEA TURTLES

(a network promoted by the NETCET¹ project)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

Between

City of Venice (Italy)

And

This is an agreement between “*City of Venice*”, and “ ”,

I. PURPOSE & SCOPE

The purpose of this MoU is to clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of each party as they enter the new network called NETCET City Network, Adriatic Cities Together for Conservation of Cetaceans and Sea Turtles. This MoU supports the creation of a network of cities with the goal to promote their role in the conservation of Cetaceans & Sea Turtles (C&ST) in the specific context of the Adriatic.

The Network requires cities to promote actions of their choice regarding the education, information and consciousness of the presence and conservation of cetacean and sea turtles. Any such activity can be promoted on the NETCET website and provide visibility to the city.

In particular, this MoU is intended to enhance the impact of the NETCET project in raising awareness on the role of cities in conservation of C & ST. It will seek to help the network to promote:

- information and dissemination in conservation of C&ST, in particular regarding the EU framework, conservation status, interaction with human activities, etc;
- large and increased participation of stakeholder groups in the Adriatic cities for conservation of C&ST;
- national and international cooperation between cities of the Adriatic through cooperation actions between its members and provide support for exchanges between citizens of the Adriatic seaboard, especially through projects and the sharing of experience about C&ST.

¹ Network for Conservation of Cetaceans and Sea Turtles in the Adriatic



II. BACKGROUND

The European project NETCET is co-financed by the IPA CBC Adriatic Programme and its main objective is to develop common strategies for the conservation of cetaceans and sea turtles in the Adriatic through regional cooperation. Due to the migratory nature of these species, cross-border collaboration and shared management responsibility between Adriatic states and in particular cities is crucial in order to plan effective long-term conservation strategies.

Hence, a new network is being created, called NETCET City Network, Adriatic Cities Together for Conservation of Cetaceans and Sea Turtles: a network of cities with the goal to promote their role in the conservation of Cetaceans and Sea Turtles (C&ST) in the specific context of the Adriatic.

The cities have no obligation to contribute financially to any activity but should contribute actively with their human resources and policies.

Network identity:

Adriatic cities have common challenges in many fields:

- countries along the Adriatic coast (Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Albania)
- maritime dimension: all cities live off the Adriatic sea and its opportunities for economic development and environmental challenges;
- urban framework where the aim is to guarantee the quality of life of their citizens, independently of the city's size, hence favouring bottom-up approach;

In addition, some Adriatic cities may have the following interest and belief:

- interest in the conservation of C&ST;
- acknowledge cities as engines for regional development;
- contribute to elaboration of common strategies and national action plans, which is part of the activities of NETCET .

The above criteria are the pre-requisite to enter the network and create a common identity between the cities.

III. *City of Venice* RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MOU

The City of Venice shall undertake the following activities:

- Give permission to use the NETCET logo to make visible C&ST friendly policies;
- Give visibility of the city to other cities, other countries and an image of a turtle and cetacean friendly city, very useful to attract eco-tourism (for example: the logo of NETCET will be able to be used in camping sites, cities websites, etc. and will indicate a city with a certain standard in environment quality);
- Give an incentive to exchange best/good practices regarding C&ST conservation, but also environmental and development policies in particular through NETCET communication tools (website, forum);
- Provide the use of a scientific and technical network established within the NETCET;
- Contribute to the preparation and presentation of common strategies at the NETCET Final Conference: each city will be invited to the Final Conference, in Venice in July 2015, and will meet NETCET partners and all other cities of the network;
- Contribute to the organisation of a workshop for Adriatic Cities in Venice in combination with the Final Conference: during the Final Conference each city will be invited to participate to the workshop



and contribute to its content.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MOU

The City of shall undertake the following activities:

- Continue to contribute to the conservation of C&ST;
- Endorse a “Turtle Day” (for example, following the existing international one supported by WWF on the 16th June, or the World Turtle Day supported by American Tortoise Rescue on the 23rd May): each city can choose the form and importance of the event depending on its capacities;
- Activate programs with local stakeholders, i.e. fishermen community, tourism agencies, other sea users and especially schools, implying a specific education and awareness on the conservation of cetaceans and sea turtles;
- Contribute to the elaboration of common strategies and national action plans on the C&ST conservation.

V. IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES:

1. *Modification clause: how agreement can be modified*

- × any modification to the MoU must be agreed by all parties;
- × any modification to the MoU must not compromise the realization and the reaching of the projects aims
- × the parties can change and/or terminate the MoU only in exceptional and justified cases;

2. *Termination clause: under what conditions agreement terminates automatically*

- × this MoU can terminate if the parties don't respect their responsibilities;
- × holding behaviours which compromise the right balance between parties, can terminate this MoU;
- × this MoU can terminate if parties assume policies which can damage the NETCET image.

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURE

This MOU shall be in effect upon the signature of Party A's and Party B's authorized officials. It will last at least until the end of the NETCET project (September 2015) and can be renewed during the NETCET Final Conference.

Parties A and B indicate agreement with this MoU by their signatures.

Signatures and dates

City of Venice

City of

Date

Date



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