

Sardinian "Open Coast" Programme



The countdown for the launch of **The Sardinian "Open Coast" Programme**, developed on the occasion of the celebration of the Coast Day and in the framework of the [SMAP III MAP/METAP project](#), has begun.

Along with Italy, fourteen countries (Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Jordan, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and the Palestinian Authority) will be simultaneously involved in activities related to the conservation and promotion of the Mediterranean coastlines.

The Sardinian "Open Coast" Programme is a major campaign to raise awareness concerning the need to protect, promote and manage the sustainable development of one of the island's major resources, its coastal areas. The campaign will aim to reach out and involve the wider public.

From October 25 to November 2, 2008, different venues along the Sardinian coastline will become a theatre for a large, diversified, coordinated and integrated programme of activities: scientific symposia, training and educational programmes, field visits, excursions, sporting activities (regattas, fishing tours, wind surfing, kite surfing, scuba diving), a film festival and concerts (www.sardegnaacoste.eu).

Through these initiatives the organizers (Conservatoria delle Coste in close collaboration with Agenzia Sardegna Promozione, Ente Foreste and Agenzia del lavoro) seek to create interaction and exchange between coastal areas and various user groups; local residents and councils, environmental groups, developers, government officials, experts, tourist boards and artists.

Through this dialogue Conservatoria delle Coste, Agenzia Sardegna Promozione, Ente Foreste and Agenzia del lavoro aim to foster a new vision for the use of Sardinian coastal areas and deepen understanding of the need to apply an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) system to ensure the sustainability of coastal development and fully exploit its socio-economic potential.