

An interdisciplinary Aquarium project for the promotion of natural and historical heritages in Italy and Greece

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The interdisciplinary 'Aquaria for the Promotion of Environment and History' (A.Pr.E.H.) is an in progress project financed within the framework of the European Territorial Cooperation Programme (E.T.C.P.) "Greece-Italy" 2007-2013.



The project aims to study and to promote the historical and natural submarine heritages which characterize two Ionian areas of the Mediterranean: Salento peninsula (SE-Italy) and Kefalonia Island (W-Greece) (FIG. 1).

PROJECT PARTNERS

University of the Salento (Leader partner), Province of Lecce, Municipality of Nardò.

ITALY

GREECE

University of Patras, Municipality of Kefalonia.

In each aquarium several natural submerged landscapes and archaeological-historical findings (FIG. 2) will be represented by faithful copies (handcraft models) of historical heritages (e.g. shipwrecks) (FIG. 3) also representing the other partner country to provide an integrated transboundary touristic promotion.

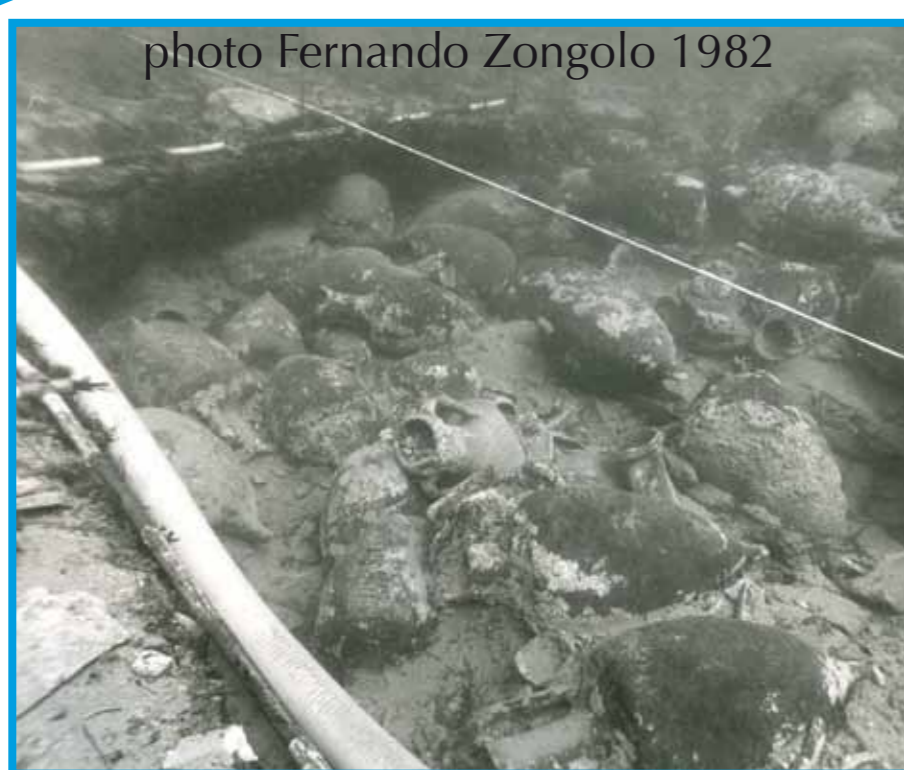


Fig. 2

THE KEY CONCEPT



Fig. 3

SHORT DESCRIPTION

Two small public Aquaria have been designed, respectively at the localities of Santa Maria al Bagno (Nardò) and Lixouri (Kefalonia).

The species, representing the marine life of the local biotopes such as coralligenous, marine caves, Posidonia beds, etc., will inhabit at least fifteen aquarium tanks, with volumes between 250 and 2000 litres, in which submarine scenes will be enriched using archaeological remnants.

Dioramas and archaeological items' reproductions will be displayed in dedicated showrooms.

The histories of shipwrecks and fauna descriptions will enrich the exhibition through informative panels realized in a narrative style. Moreover, all textual and graphical contents will be based on an interdisciplinary front-end evaluation which will be used in investigating the interests, expectations and knowledge of the potential visitors.

SOME TECHNICAL DATA OF THE NARDO' AQUARIUM (ITALY)

Water origin: natural seawater from a deep well (about 20 m depth, 18 °C all the round year)

Water management:

- Filtration by mechanical and biological filters
- Sterilization by UV lamps
- Outlet in underground Imhoff tank

Water circulation system: Closed

Lighting conditions: Artificial

Temperature ranges: 16-20°C

Salinity: 36-39‰

Thermoregulation: By exchangers

SOME TECHNICAL DATA OF THE LIXOURI AQUARIUM (GREECE)

Water origin: superficial seawater inlet from the sea (temperature changes during seasons)

Water management:

- Filtration by mechanical and biological filters
- Sterilization by UV lamps
- Outlet not still defined

Water circulation system: Closed

Lighting conditions: Artificial

Temperature ranges: 16-20°C

Salinity: 36-39‰

Thermoregulation: By exchangers

PLAN 3D OF THE ITALIAN BUILDING

- 1- Entrance-Exit
- 2- Reception
- 3- Staff Office
- 4- Multipurpose Room (50 seats)
- 5- First Exhibit Room
- 6- Second Exhibit Room
- 7- Third Exhibit Room
- 8- Quarantine Room



render engineer Marco Viva

EXPECTED GOALS

The project, which will be concluded within February 2014, will be carried out in two interdisciplinary and multifunctional structures sharing the same conceptual design and will meet educational, recreational, and promotional demands. Besides, they will allow the scientists to conduct studies on species inhabiting archaeological remnants, and also on wood-boring microbiota e.g. aggressing wood, which constitutes the main material of the ancient ships.