

Project acronym - Project title

BESS - POCKET BEACH MANAGEMENT & REMOTE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

Programme Priority Axis	3 Protecting the environment and fostering an efficient use of resources
Programme Investment Priority	5b) Promoting investments targeting specific risks
Investment Priority Specific Object	 3.2 To promote systemic actions and technologies able to mitigate the climate change effects and the natural and anthropic risks with a particular reference to the catastrophic from the maritime risks

Name of the lead partner organisation

Università degli Studi di Messina
 Dipartimento di Scienze Matematiche e Informatiche, Scienze Fisiche e Scienze della Terra (MIFT-UNIME)

Project Partners

Partner 2	University of Malta
Partner 3	Università degli Studi di Palermo Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra e del Mare
Partner 4	Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia - Sezione di Palermo
Partner 5	Ministry of GOZO EcoGozo Regional Development Directorate

Project duration (months)	Start date	End date
36	13.02.2018	12.06.2021

Project summary

BESS faces the problem of the Sicilian and Maltese coasts erosion caused by the effects of climate change and the anthropic pressure to which the coastal areas with greater tourist vocation are subjected.

The project creates a management system for specific environmental niches called "pocket beaches" in the entire Sicilian and Maltese territory.

The "pocket beaches" are small beaches enclosed between two promontories jutting out to the sides and a cliff that constitute a natural system of environmental protection. These systems are based on natural coastal defence features and represent a naturally resilient response to the effects of climate change.

In Sicily and Malta there are 110 pocket beaches that because of climate change have begun to show signs of retreat, determining the evolution of the entire coastal system.

The BESS project intends to monitor the state of conservation of all the Sicilian and Maltese pocket beaches by observing their evolutionary tendency through a remote detection network and the acquisition of satellite images covering the entire area in which they are present. The data collected will allow the definition of an adequate management system for sustainable protective systems represented by pocket beaches.

Project expected results

80 sq Kms area covered by pilot measures for the climate change mitigation effects

Output del progetto

✓ 1 territorial informatic system for the urban and touristic anthropic pressure of all Maltese and Italian pocket beaches	✓ 1 surveillance system of pocket beaches environment and morphological variation	✓ 1 coastal management model of the pocket beaches ✓ 2 management plans on 2 pocket beaches sample
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Budget	ERDF Contribution	Public Contribution	Cofinanziamento Aggiuntivo
€ 2.074.359	€ 1.763.205	€ 311.154	€ 0

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