



SD-WISHEES
Water | Climate | Cultural Heritage

SD-WISHEES SEMINAR ON BEST PRACTICES

Innovative solutions and best practices to protect cultural and environmental heritage assets from increasing frequent hydroclimatic extreme events

1-3 OCTOBER 2026 • TAORMINA, ITALY • HYBRID EVENT

Draft Agenda

CONFIRMED SPONSORSHIP: *University of Catania (IT); University of Palermo (IT); Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti (IT); Anton Dohrn Zoological Station (IT); Capo Milazzo Marine Protected Area (IT)*

REQUESTED SPONSORSHIP, NOT YET APPROVED: *University of Messina (IT); University of Malta (MT)*

DAY I – 1 October

Local event

Innovative solutions to enhance hydro-meteorological and marine forecasting and monitoring, addressing extreme events and their impact on cultural and environmental heritage

Palazzo dei Congressi, Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II No. 7, Taormina, Italy

In Italian with Italian-to-English translation

09:00–09:30	Registration and Welcome
9:30–10:00	Greetings & Opening remarks Stefano Mariani, ISPRA (IT) – WP5 Leader
10:00–10:20	Keynote speech: Can the Water-Climate-Cultural Heritage (WCCH) Nexus be quantified? Emanuele Romano, CNR-IRSA (IT) – Project Leader
Session “The value of Earth Observation in addressing climate-related challenges” moderated by Antonella Tornato, ISPRA (IT)	
10:20–10:35	Copernicus World Heritage Hub Chiara Solimini, EUSPA (EU)

10:35–10:50	Copernicus Climate Change Service (tbc)
10:50–11:05	Hydro-geological risk assessment and early warning for resilience community on Cultural Heritage assets Silvia Bianchini, UNESCO Chair in Prevention and sustainable management of geo-hydrological hazards / University of Florence (IT)
11:05–11:20	Satellite monitoring of natural and cultural Heritage from extreme events in the context of climate change – ISPRA experiences Daniele Spizzichino, ISPRA (IT)
11:20–11:50	Coffee break
11:50	Family portrait
Session “How research supports the protection of cultural and environmental heritage” moderated by Jessica Amadio, CNR-IRSA (IT)	
12:00–12:15	title tbd Alessandra Bonazza, CNR-ISAC (IT)
12:15–12:30	Effects of extreme storm surges in the Mediterranean: observations from ISPRA networks and the WAVEGUARD project, with implications for the protection of the environment and cultural heritage Carlo Lo Re & Gabriele Nardone, ISPRA (IT)
12:30–12:45	Evidence of climate change in the marine environment – case study and monitoring strategy Teresa Romeo, Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn (IT)
12:45–13:00	Protecting a Changing Sea: Management, Adaptation and Resilience in the Capo Milazzo Marine Protected Area Giovanni Mangano, Area Marina Protetta di Capo Milazzo (IT)
13:00–14:30	Networking Lunch
Session “The contribution of academia to the WCCH Nexus” Moderated by Giuseppe Castorina, ISPRA (IT)	
14:45–15:00	Advanced methods for sea state detection in the context of climate change Prof. Giuseppe Ciralo, University of Palermo (IT)
15:00–15:15	Extreme events, risk assessment and mitigation strategies in a changing climate Prof. Rosaria Ester Musumeci, University of Catania (IT)
15:15–15:30	Geomorphological changes on the eastern coast of Sicily following the passage of Cyclone Harry: a preview of the effects of climate change. Prof. Giovanni Randazzo, University of Messina (IT)

15:30–15:45	Extreme events and their monitoring in the Maltese archipelago Prof. Sebastiano D’Amico, University of Malta (MT)
15:45–16:00	Hackathon events: engaging young students to address societal challenges in Cultural Heritage, Climate Change, Health and Air Quality Antonella Tornato, ISPRA (IT)
16:00	Conclusion & Final remarks

SITE VISIT

18:30–20:00	Guided tour of Taormina
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International event

Best practices in the context of the Water-Climate-Cultural Heritage (WCCH) Nexus for a sustainable, collaborative and inclusive management of cultural and environmental heritage assets threatened by hydroclimatic extreme events

Palazzo dei Duchi di Santo Stefano, Via De Spuches, Taormina, Italy

In English with English-to-Italian translation

09:30–10:00	Registration & Welcome
10:00–10:30	Greetings & Opening remarks Stefano Mariani, ISPRA (IT) – WP5 Leader
10:30–10:50	The Horizon EU SD-WISHEES project Emanuele Romano, CNR-IRSA (IT) – Project Leader
10:50–11:50	WP2 Session , moderated by Boniface Ushie, AAS (KE) – WP2 Leader Introduction on WP2 contents and results (10 min) Natalia Shatirishvili, WEG (GE) – WP2 Task Leader Title tbd (15 min) Darius Saviour Ankamah, <i>Affiliation</i> Presentation of Best practice #2 (15 min) Title tbd (15 min) Esther N. Kioko, National Museums of Kenya (KE)
11:50–12:05	Coffee break
12:05–12:50	WP3 Session , moderated by Jessica Amadio, CNR-IRSA (IT) Introduction on WP3 contents and results (10 min) Julia Gavarrino, ANR (FR) – WP3 Leader From Research to Policy and Management AQUATAP-ES Best Practice Insights (15 min) Mary Kelly-Quinn, University College Dublin (IE) A TAP action at the service of the monitoring and management of hydroclimatic variability for Cultural Heritage resilience (15 min) Valérie Grouet-Brunet, National Institute of Geographic and Forest Information (FR)
12:50–13:35	WP5 Session , moderated by Giuseppe Castorina, ISPRA (IT) Introduction on WP5 contents and results (10 min) Stefano Mariani, ISPRA (IT) – WP5 Leader Project CMDRP: Coastal morphodynamics for data-driven risk prediction – Insights from Cinque Terre (15 min) Sara Beltrami & Martina Sconosciuto, University of Bologna (IT), and Valerio Oppido Underwater Risk Classification for Heritage Index (URCHIN) (15 min) Federica Greta Libardo, University of Padova (IT) and Chiara Rivi, University of Bologna (IT)
13:35	Family portrait

13:45–15:00	Networking Lunch
15:00–15:45	WP6 Session , moderated by James Mushori, AAS (KE) – WP6 Task Leader Introduction on WP6 contents and results (10 min) Marta Ducci, CMCC (IT) – WP6 Leader Title tbd (15 min) Alessandra Bonazza, CNR-ISAC (IT) Presentation of Best practice #2 (15 min)
15:45–16:15	Conclusion & Final remarks
20:30	Dinner <i>For project partners and invited speakers</i>

DAY III – 3 October

SITE VISIT

10:00–12:30	Teatro Antico di Taormina/Ancient Theatre of Taormina <i>With a seating area diameter of 109 meters, the Ancient Theatre is—after the one in Syracuse—the largest theater in the Italian peninsula and Africa. The original structure dates back to the 3rd century BC, whereas the structure visible today belongs entirely to the Roman reconstruction, specifically the one carried out during the first half of the 2nd century AD under Trajan.</i>
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