

PRESS RELEASE

e-GEOS supports the conservation of Marine Protected Areas in Italy

Rome, 20th November 2025 - e-GEOS, a joint venture between the Italian Space Agency (20%) and Telespazio (80%, Leonardo Group), supports the **General Directorate for the Protection of Biodiversity and the Sea**, within the **Italian Ministry for the Environment and Energy Security (MASE)**, in its **monitoring of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)** across the country.

The project, included among the initiatives of the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) as part of investment *M2C4 Inv. 3.2 Digitisation of national parks and marine protected areas*, provides for the **development of an integrated surveillance system for marine protected environments and adjacent coastlines**, with the aim of ensuring their conservation. This monitoring activity, which complements that carried out by the Italian Coast Guard, will make it possible to **build an information base to support long-term control operations**, providing reports on any unusual vessel flows or behaviours.

e-GEOS performs observation and detection activities through the **processing of SAR data** - including those of the COSMO-SkyMed constellation of the Italian Space Agency and the Italian Ministry of Defence, for which e-GEOS is the exclusive worldwide distributor for commercial purposes - **and optical satellite data in Near Real-Time mode**, combined with AIS (Automatic Identification System) and RF (Radio Frequency) information. The data is processed through machine learning algorithms integrated into the **proprietary SEonSE platform (Smart Eyes on SEas)**, dedicated to monitoring the marine environment. This **provides the competent authorities with accurate reports on the traffic, positioning, characteristics and activities of the vessels present in protected areas**.

*"We are proud of this project rooted in technological innovation and environmental responsibility, values that have always guided the mission of e-GEOS," said **Milena Lerario**, CEO of e-GEOS. "Earth Observation, a domain also considered strategic by Leonardo, is a concrete and crucial sector whose potential is evident in its support for environmental policies and the sustainable management of natural resources. Collaboration between the public and private sectors is essential to enhance these capabilities and translate them into real benefits for the protection of a fragile and precious biodiversity. e-GEOS confirms its commitment to putting its technological skills at the service of a common goal: to preserve the sea as a vital, economic and cultural resource, and deliver it intact to future generations."*

"Processing and transforming data into useful information to support informed decision-making strengthens strategic knowledge and oversight capabilities, including for the marine environment, to the benefit of institutions and citizens alike. Earth observation from space and Leonardo's digital technologies, which make it possible to



extract useful information for various user communities, constitute a strategic infrastructure in which we continue to invest, for example, through the development of a new proprietary constellation, to ensure continuity, reliability and autonomy in monitoring the territory and ecosystems, in support of sustainability, security and national competitiveness,” said **Massimo Claudio Comparini**, Managing Director of Leonardo’s Space Division.

The activity covers all Italian Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), for a total of over 3,000 square kilometres. Recreational vessels within the MPAs will be surveyed and monitored in order to **identify areas congested by mooring and anchoring**, with particular attention to traffic in fully protected reserve zones (Zone A). Wind fields and wave height will also be analysed in relation to maritime traffic.

NOTES TO EDITORS

The **Italian Marine Protected Areas** protect a total of 231,000 hectares of sea and 711 km of coastline. They include waters, seabeds and coastal stretches of high natural, geomorphological, physical and biochemical value, particularly with regard to marine and coastal flora and fauna, as well as playing a scientific, ecological, cultural, educational and economic role of great importance. These habitats, often subject to strong tourist pressure, are threatened by phenomena such as boat anchoring, which damages marine phanerogams, and recreational fishing, which can compromise the sustainability of fish reserves and marine ecosystems, especially when practiced with destructive techniques such as trawling.



Map of Marine Protected Areas in Italy © Italian Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security



ABOUT e-GEOS

e-GEOS, an ASI (20%) / Telespazio (80%) company, is a global leader in delivering applications and services through highly technological and innovative Geoinformation platforms based on Artificial Intelligence and cloud technology. e-GEOS offers a unique portfolio of application services, from data acquisition to analytical report generation, also thanks to its optical and radar capabilities and fast access to the superior monitoring capabilities of the first- and second-generation COSMO-SkyMed constellation, by the Italian Space Agency and the Italian Ministry of Defence, of which e-GEOS is the exclusive distributor worldwide. e-GEOS manages the Matera Space Center for the acquisition, storage and processing of multi-mission satellite data. The Center is one of the stations of the Core Ground Segment of Copernicus and receives radar data acquired by Sentinel-1 mission.

Telespazio Press Contact:

Paolo Mazzetti | +39 335 6515994 | paolo.mazzetti@telespazio.com
Ivana Giannone | +39 337 1024608 | ivana.giannone@telespazio.com

e-GEOS Communication:

Catia Rispoli | +39 337 1544348 | catia.rispoli@e-geos.it

