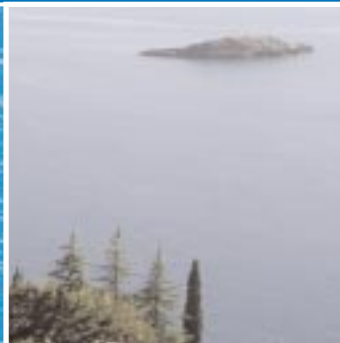




The European Funds



and Tourism in Southern Italy

Ministry of Economy and Finance - Department for Development Policies
Service for EU Structural Funds Policies

October 2004



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In 2003 the tourists who visited the Regions of Southern Italy exceeded 70 million. Contributing to this positive figure were the efforts made in recent years by regional and local Governments through integrated policies for the promotion of investments in tourism, the restoration of sites of cultural and naturalistic interest and the reinforcement of access infrastructures and hospitality facilities. Such policies of tourist development were often co-financed with European Funds provided under the 2000-2006 Community Support Framework (CSF) for the Objective 1 Regions. Co-financed investments in tourist development of the South of Italy are sizeable: total resources invested in sector policies and in context policies for the 2000-2006 period was 5.922 billion euro.

The following pages present a number of tourist itineraries in Southern Italy created with the planning approach referred to as “integrated tourist packages”, which promote development by supporting the use of territories and their resources for tourism. The joint approach followed by many Regions was to introduce innovative initiatives complementing traditional seaside attractions and already well known monuments and artistic sites. The objective was to showcase valuable examples of local cultural heritage, religious and folk rites, food and wine customs as well as minor monuments which illustrate the history of the areas, identifying ancient traces that verge on the mythical and contribute to forming the contemporary identity of Southern Italy. In this way the fixed resources of the territories are used to attract potential mobile resources.

The final aim is to intercept that segment of tourist demand which pays increasing attention to the quality of environmental resources, to naturalistic and cultural itineraries, to hospitality in countryside guest houses as well as in fishermen’s villages, all new forms of tourist consumption generating a favourable impact on demand, on the balancing of activities among different seasons of the year and on the upgrading of the overall supply of tourist offerings across the South of Italy. Within this context, a crucial juncture is represented by the presence and the development of tourist ports. “Ports” are viewed as “gateways” that provide access to the resources of the hinterland, identifying and showing their points of attraction, so as to move beyond the condition of being outlying areas.

A natural outcome of such territorial approach to development, based on the integration of existing factors of attraction, is the abandonment of local partisan attitudes and the embracement of a vision that looks beyond boundaries of individual sectors and local administrative divisions. The new approach favours instead potential strengths and synergies, heightens the leading roles of territories and apply instruments and resources towards achieving objectives of development already widely endorsed. This approach has been confirmed by the 2000-2006 Community Support Framework and by the strategies of the Regional Operating Programs into which it is articulated and implemented.

From Maratea to the Hills of the Pollino Park



BASILICATA > Maratea

Maratea, a town in the Basilicata Region facing onto the Tyrrhenian Sea, together with the villages of its hinterland (Trecchina, Rivello, Lauria, Lagonegro), constitute an area rich in landscape and historical features. In a territory that is not overly large, and can thus be rapidly visited, tourists will enjoy the splendours of a coastline stretch featured by many underwater archaeological finds, plus the peaks and forests of the Pollino National Park and the National Park of the Lucania Apennines (currently being established), along with spa areas and charming historic villages of medieval origin. In recent years the territory, with no more than 30 thousand inhabitants, was upgraded through the enhancement actions for tourist mobility, sponsored by the Regional Government, for a total amount of 3.4 million euro, financed by the European Funds of the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program (ROP) for the Basilicata Region. Nowadays this area represents one of the most important and fully integrated tourist attractions in the Region, with adequate hospitality facilities, and high quality wine and food offerings based on local heritage, all promoted under the slogan of "Seas, hills and spas". The ROP actions are expected to produce an increase in tourist flows both to Maratea - whose port has become a major, fully outfitted wharf, as well as a point of departure for the Aeolian Islands -, and towards the hinterland.

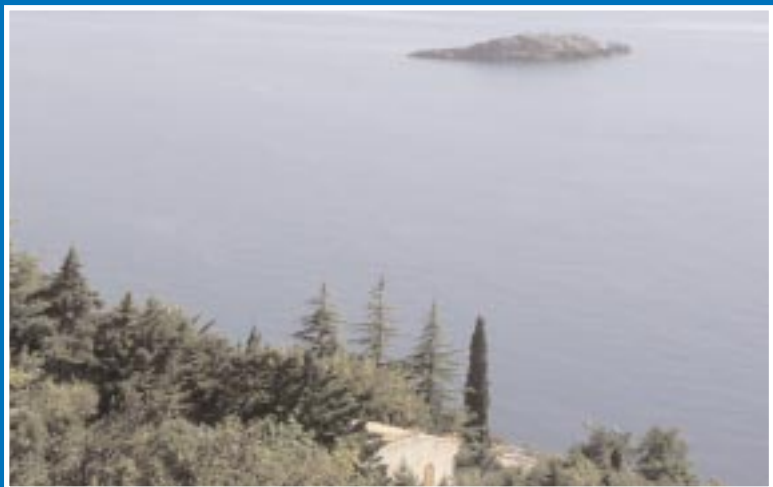
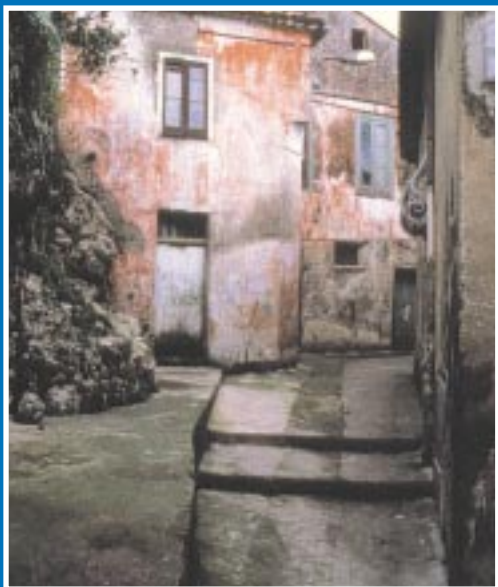
The effort to reinforce tourist attractions in the local area includes the actions to upgrade the **Port of Maratea**, situated in the eastern part of the Gulf of Policastro and protected by the northern, elbow-shaped dock, 275 metres in length (running S/SE), and the southern dock of 275 metres (running WNW/NW). The body of water inside these docks holds a secondary wharf running W/SW, plus a number of floating wharfs. There are 70 berths for free mooring (along a 110 metre wharf) and 270 berths available for payment (along a 350 metre wharf). Sports boats may dock at 4 different wharfs (a, b, c, d) operated under a license granted to the Port of Maratea Consortium, plus 1 wharf (f) to the Italian Naval League and 1 last wharf (e) not assigned. The northern dock is set aside for fishing craft and sports boats in transit, after they have obtained authorisation from the Harbour Authorities.



Boats may be moored on the docks of the southern wharf and in the open water in front of the port only during the summer months, and with authorisation from the Harbour Authorities. The works recently undertaken in the area involved a functional upgrading of the technical facilities of the Port of Maratea (fencing, reserved parking areas, etc.), an architectural make-over of the northern wharf (stone facing, new covered facilities for the port services, lighting), the creation of a charming walkway along the wharfs ashore (paving, lighting, decorative elements) and the renovation of the urban décor, with restoration (expansion, paving, lighting, pedestrian areas) of the historic square of

the port village. The present port facilities can satisfy all the necessities tied to nautical tourism: distribution of gasoline, diesel fuel and mixed fuel on the wharf (from 8 am to 8 pm), water plugs, energy sockets, switchboarded phone jacks, lighting of the wharf, a water fountain, a slide, a launching ramp, a fixed crane with a capacity of 5 tons, a mobile crane with a capacity of 18 tons, an open/covered facility for overhauling, engine repair, electrical and electronic repairs, repairs of fibreglass hulls, surveillance personnel, docking staff, fire-prevention service, waste collection, car parking, telephone booth and collection of spent oil and batteries, with supervised storage areas.

Worthy of note is the **historic centre of Maratea**, a town known as "the City of the 44 Churches". Standing in the ancient burgh is the mass of the Pontifical Basilica of San Biagio, the town's oldest church, which holds the relics of the Saint, its protector. In the proximity of the recently restored Church of the Addolorata is an obelisk of the same name, a monument based on a triangular pyramid and holding a statue of the Madonna created in 1788 by an unknown sculptor. Just outside the city is the most attractive architectonic complex in Maratea: the Convent of the Minor Observants and the Church of the Rosario,



dating back to 1574. Also of note, for their unusual architecture, are the six sixteenth-century defensive towers which, together with the Castle of Castrocucco, constituted the most forward lookout defence point against attacks from the sea. In the territory of Maratea, in a position from which a breathtaking view of the coast and the valley is available, stands the Statue of the Redentore, a point sighted by sailors for safe navigation. Branching out from the historic downtown area are numerous walking routes that follow winding paths, framed by a thick vegetation of hornbeam, wild olive and holly oaks.

Coming after the uncontaminated **coast of Maratea**, reachable only by the sea, are the modernised beaches of the Glicini area. Highly suggestive is the Grotta di Marina, a cavity more than 100 metres deep, rich of concretions and delicate stalactites, and the part of the sea in front of the little Island of Santojanni, where a sizeable deposit of old anchors hearkens back to Magna Grecia and the subsequent period of Roman domination, when this portion of the coast was used as a docking and supply point. The Acquafredda district, the last portion of the coast heading north before the boundary with the Campania Region, holds the Villa Nitti, an estate that belonged to Francesco Saverio Nitti, a statesman from the Lucania Region. Perched above the sea, the villa has extensive grounds in its rear portion.

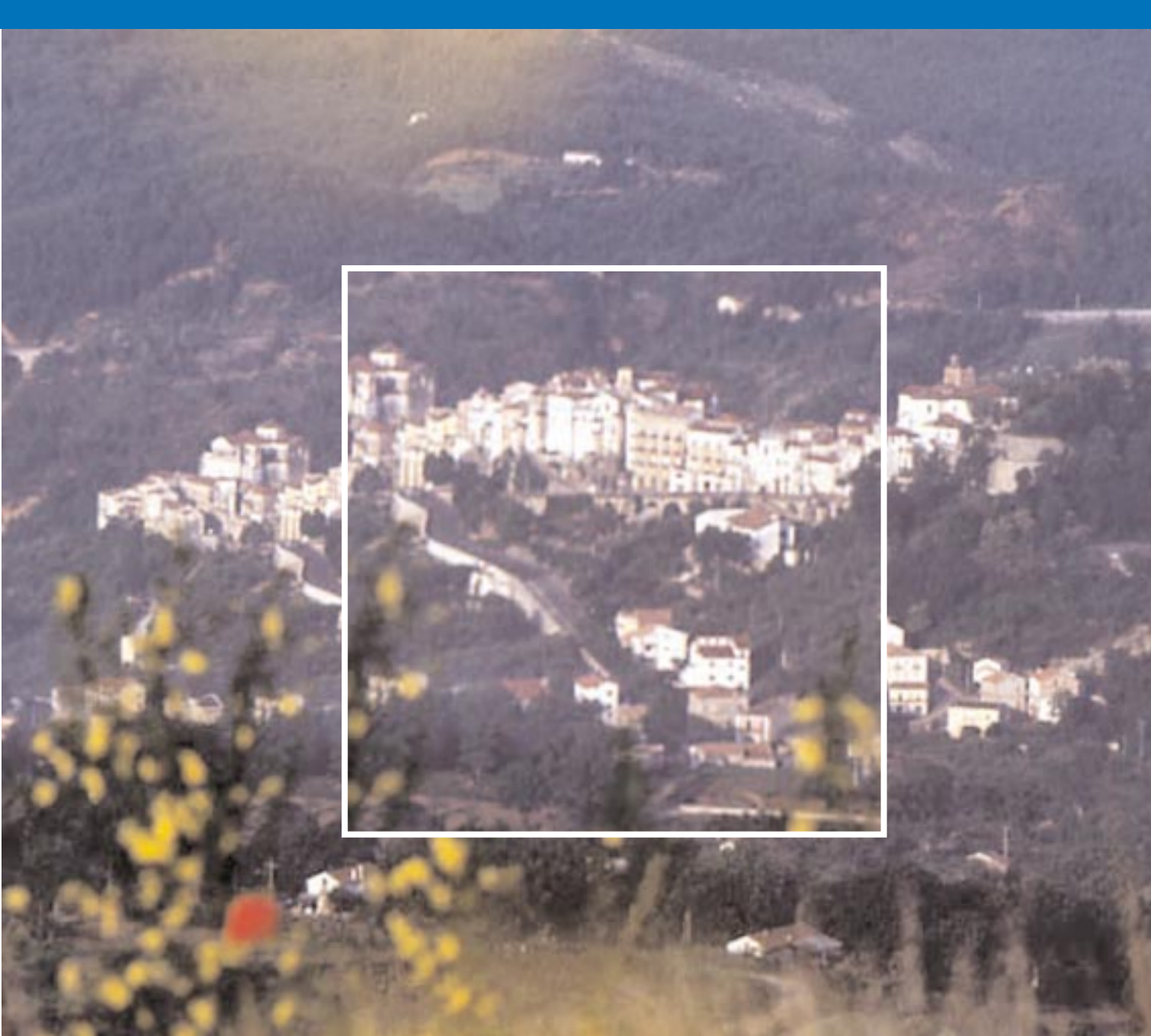
Running inland from the coast is a well developed network of roadways that makes it possible to easily reach other tourist attractions in the nearby hinterland and hilly regions behind it. Worthy of note is the town of **Trecchina**, just a short distance inland, known primarily for its forests and typical walnuts sweets. In the tourist attractive town's centre are the urban spaces of the Piazza del Popolo and the area around the Basilica, recently restored with the European Funds from the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Plan.

An easily travelled road leads to the medieval burgh of **Rivello**, one of the oldest and most interesting remains of the Basilian Community and anciently contended between the Byzantines and the Longobards. The historic core of the village, perched in a panoramic position at the top of a ridge, is the target object of restoration actions financed by the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Plan for the Basilicata Region and carried out in synergy with work for the recovery of buildings damaged or destroyed by a 1997 earthquake that hit the area.

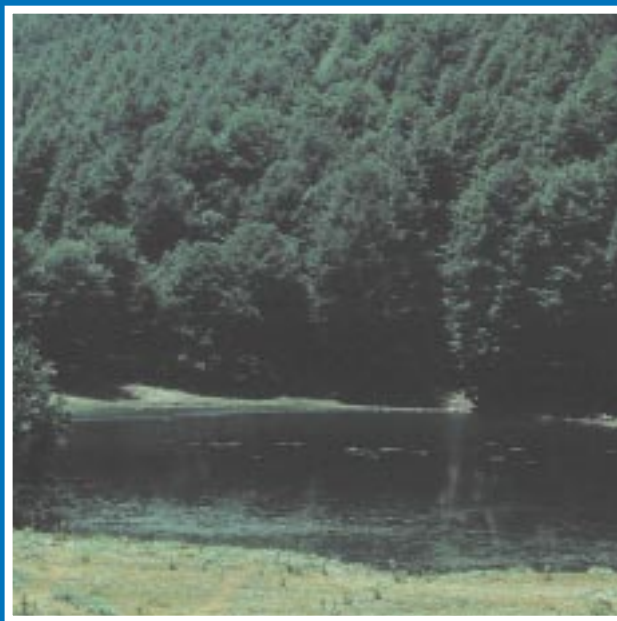
Reinforcing the village's role as a tourist attraction will make it possible to showcase its intriguing historical and architectural heritage, and especially the many churches, with their original Byzantine layouts and the later Baroque and Catalan modifications. The town developed along a main thoroughfare sitting atop a ridge, together with a series of small cross-streets and stairs. Its extremely lively constructions are characterised by many decorations and a wide variety of architectural motifs (loggias, portals, balustrades). At a short distance from the town, in the Città district, recent archaeological digs have brought to light the remains of habitations from the Roman Age, while the fictile materials recovered can be viewed at the Museum of Archaeology in Potenza. Rivello is also a site of thriving crafts activities, especially well known for its products made of copper, and it hosts a large number of religious and cultural events, such as the Carnival parade and the folk feasts of the months of July and August, with the tasting of traditional products.

Together with Rivello, the towns of **Lauria** and **Lagonegro** are part of the mountain chain of the Sirino Massif, whose highest peak rises above 2000 metres. In Lauria the Regional Operating Plan for Basilicata has financed actions for winter tourist activities, such as the creation of a ski trail connected to the "Conserva" lift station, as well as the completion of the station itself. Of historic-architectural interest in Lagonegro is a bold iron bridge built with eight parabolic arches, closed down for many years because of geological problems, plus the Monastery of Santa Maria degli Angeli, founded in the 9th century by the Basilian hermits fleeing from the Saracens.

An hour by car from the Port of Maratea, in the Pollino National Park, is the Town of **Latronico**, where the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Plan for Basilicata made it possible to complete a mountain shelter, plus areas outfitted for summer and winter tourism, in an area dominated by the verdant Mount Alpi and famous, first and foremost, for its spas. In fact, two kilometres from the Town of Latronico are the "Hot Springs of Latronico", whose waters, flowing from two 22,5 °C springs, are used primarily to treat conditions of the respiratory and auditory tracts, as well as arthritis, liver and bile disturbs, gastroenteritis and bad veins. The spa complex includes four hotels (with a total of 100 rooms), food-service facilities, an ample parking area and grounds measuring approximately 7 hectares.



ROP Basilicata



The **Pollino National Park** is definitely a major tourist attraction for the area. Its vast territory (192,565 hectares) includes two Regions (Basilicata and Calabria) and 56 municipalities, holds rare and exceptional endemic species, such as the Loricato pine, the royal eagle and the roebuck. The nature sites, covered with vast beech groves and sitting on dolomite rocks, morenic sedimentation and glacial swirls, hold grottos, paleontological sites (such as the Romito Grotto and the Valley of Mercuri) and archaeological remains dating back to the Greek colonisation. Also scattered throughout the Park are sanctuaries, convents, castles and historic burghs whose populations include ethnic-linguistic minorities of Albanian origin dating back to the 15th and 16th centuries.

For more information:

www.parcopollino.it

www.comune.latronico.pz.it

www.comune.rivello.pz.it

www.comune.lagonegro.pz.it

From Reggio Calabria to the Peaks of Aspromonte

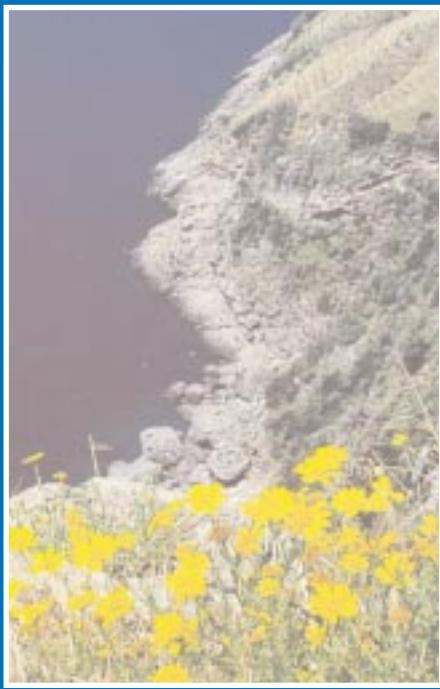


The City of Reggio Calabria and its surrounding province are featured by numerous cultural and environmental attractions whose value is being optimised by the Regional Government through a complex series of initiatives financed both with the European Funds of the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program for the Calabria Region, national funding and other PFA (Planning Framework Agreement) resources. The initiatives provided are designed to improve the transportation and access infrastructures leading to the different locations, upgrade tourist

centres, restore architectural resources and promote the wine and food local customs, for a total amount of about 251 million euro. The territory involved in the project of integrated tourist optimisation includes the municipalities of Reggio Calabria, Bagaladi, Bova, Bova Marina, Brancaleone, Condofuri, Melito di Porto Salvo, Montebello Jonico, Palizzi, Roccaforte del Greco, Roghudi, San Lorenzo, Samo e Staiti and Pentadattilo. These towns and cities hold a total of about 650 thousand inhabitants.

The city of **Reggio Calabria** is rich in history. Evidence of its distant Greek origins are provided by the remains of the walls in the proximity of the seaside drive (recently restored with national public funding), which, decorated with palms and exotic plants, offers a marvellous view of the Strait of Messina and Mount Etna. Sites of major historical-architectural value include the Aragonese Castle and the finds on display at the National Archaeological Museum, which is worldwide famous for the Bronzes of Riace.

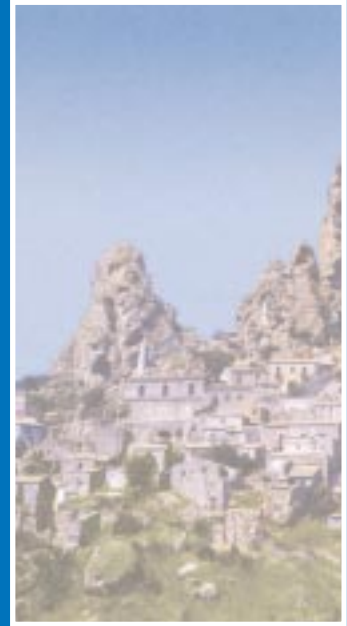
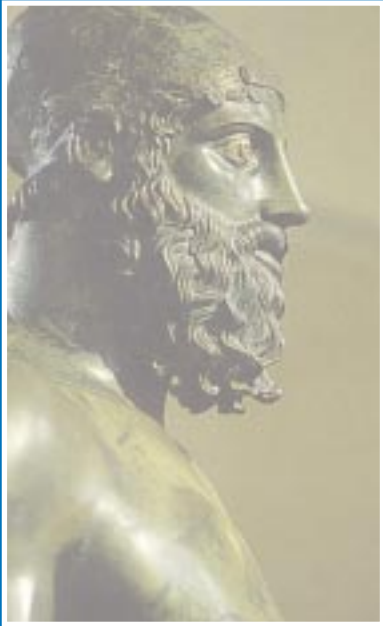
The portion of the **Ionian coast** running north from Reggio, towards Crotona, stretching for roughly two hundred kilometres, offers splendid seaside landscapes, plus the striking, nearby peaks of the Aspromonte range. Long beaches of golden sand alternate with small inlets of reefs, cliff sides dive down into an always crystal clear sea, in a setting where, in the marinas of certain towns, ancient Greek is still spoken. This territory can be reached from the sea using the docking sites reserved for sports boats inside of the industrial and commercial ports of Reggio Calabria and Villa San Giovanni. The Port of Reggio Calabria consists of an artificial harbour protected to the west by a wharf running NS and fully outfitted for



docking. In the NE portion of the harbour is a tourist wharf reserved for sports boats and operated under a license from the Naval League, with 48 berths for boats up to 14 metres long. The wharf is well equipped, offering full nautical assistance. The Port of Villa San Giovanni is protected by a straight jetty with docking facilities. On the eastern wharf 100 metres have been set aside for the free mooring of sports boats.

Moving northward along the coast, the next locations encountered are Porto di Saline Joniche and Bova Marina, which provide two opportunities for mooring before returning to the marina of Roccella Jonica. At present, thanks to financing under the Regional Operating Plan for Calabria, work is underway on the planning, restructuring and upgrading of these two ports, which are not yet fully outfitted for sport boats. The Port of Bova, in particular, is currently under construction and closed to maritime traffic; sport boats can anchor 350 metres from the shore, where the water is 6-7 metres deep.

The **inland** area of Reggio Calabria, with its rich heritage of environmental, ethnic and linguistic features, is the target of numerous actions designed to showcase local cultural customs and upgrade venerable villages, with European Funding provided under the Regional Operating Program for Calabria. This zone falls within the area of the **Integrated Territorial Project of the "Grecian" area**, referred to with this term to remind the many ethnic and linguistic minorities of ancient Greek origin living in the municipalities of Bagaladi, Bova, Bova Marina, Brancaleone, Condofuri, Melito di Porto Salvo, Montebello Jonico, Palizzi, Roccaforte del Greco, Roghudi, San Lorenzo and Samo e Staiti. The actions to be carried out under the Integrated Territorial Project regard infrastructures and services supporting the cultural heritage, religious itineraries, a network of historic downtown areas and rural villages, an ecological network, the upgrading of the hospitality system and the reinforcement of production activities (especially fisheries), plus various services to the local population, first and foremost the weakest groups.



The tourist itinerary running through the Grecian towns starts from the coast, and specifically from **Melito di Porto Salvo**, the chief centre of bergamot production in Calabria, and reaches, just 7 kilometres further on, **Pentadattilo**, an ethnic and architectural “jewel” of Byzantine origin sitting on a rocky hillside surrounded by the five steep pinnacles which the town’s name originate from. For years Pentadattilo has attracted the attention not only of historians and architects, but international volunteer organisations as well, plus the Regional Operating Plan for Calabria, in a joint revival effort meant to forestall the abandonment and population decrease of the ancient town. Also worthy of note are the Greek fortress of **Condofuri**, the splendid natural terrace facing onto the sea at **Montebello Jonico** and the urban agglomeration of **Roghudi**, stronghold of the so-called Community of the Greeks of Calabria, which includes three different villages: Roghudi Vecchia, located in the heart of the Aspromonte, dating far back in time and almost completely abandoned, Roghudi Nuova and Chorio di Roghudi, a small centre still active and inhabited, where master carvers and weavers still work juniper with old methods and use looms to produce extremely valuable fabrics decorated with motifs from the Greek tradition. Also famous for its speciality crafts products (and especially its cheeses) is another town in the Community of the Greeks of Calabria, **Roccaforte del Greco**, also perched on a rocky spur in the heart of the eastern Aspromonte area. In August the municipalities of the Grecian Area organise the Palariza Festival, a series of days on the Grecian culture of Calabria, ethnic music, rural hospitality and traditional gastronomy. And for the last fifteen years, the cultural association “Conservatorio Grecanico” has proposed a summer training session to learn how to play and dance to the music of Greek Calabria, with the participation of musicians and dancers of the southern Aspromonte area, held directly in local farmhouses, barns and streets.

Dominating the landscape of the Province of Reggio are the extraordinary Aspromonte mountains, the southernmost portion of the Italian Apennine chain, mighty and highly varied in terms of their shape and size, offering wild, verdant natural surroundings and landscape views of rare beauty from the highest peaks, running down into gulches holding roiling streams, out to the unspoiled blue of the Ionian and Tyrrhenian Seas and the Strait of Messina. The **Aspromonte National Park**, founded in 1994, covers a surface of almost 80,000 hectares and includes the territories of 37 municipalities in the Province. The Park holds numerous animal and vegetable species, some of them extremely rare (such as the Monelli eagle and the *woodwardia radicans* tropical fern). With the towns of the

Grecian area among its attractions, it also offers a significant historical and archaeological heritage. Local crafts products are highly valued (weaving and processing of wood, including production of the famous Calabrian pipes made from briar root after 8-10 years of seasoning), as are the time-honoured wine and food customs (based on "pappaluni" beans, vintage capocollo cold cuts, bergamot, cheeses and Greek white raisin). The Park offers visitors numerous opportunities to enjoy themselves, thanks to the increase of tourist services and hiking facilities. Located in **Gambarie d'Aspromonte** is one of the Calabria Region's most popular ski attractions, where a new chairlift and recreational structures were recently financed under the Regional Operating Program for Calabria. The Regional Operating Program for Calabria also made it possible to complete the regional and local roadway network connecting the Town of San Luca with the well known Sanctuary of the Madonna di Polsi, at the top of the Aspromonte.



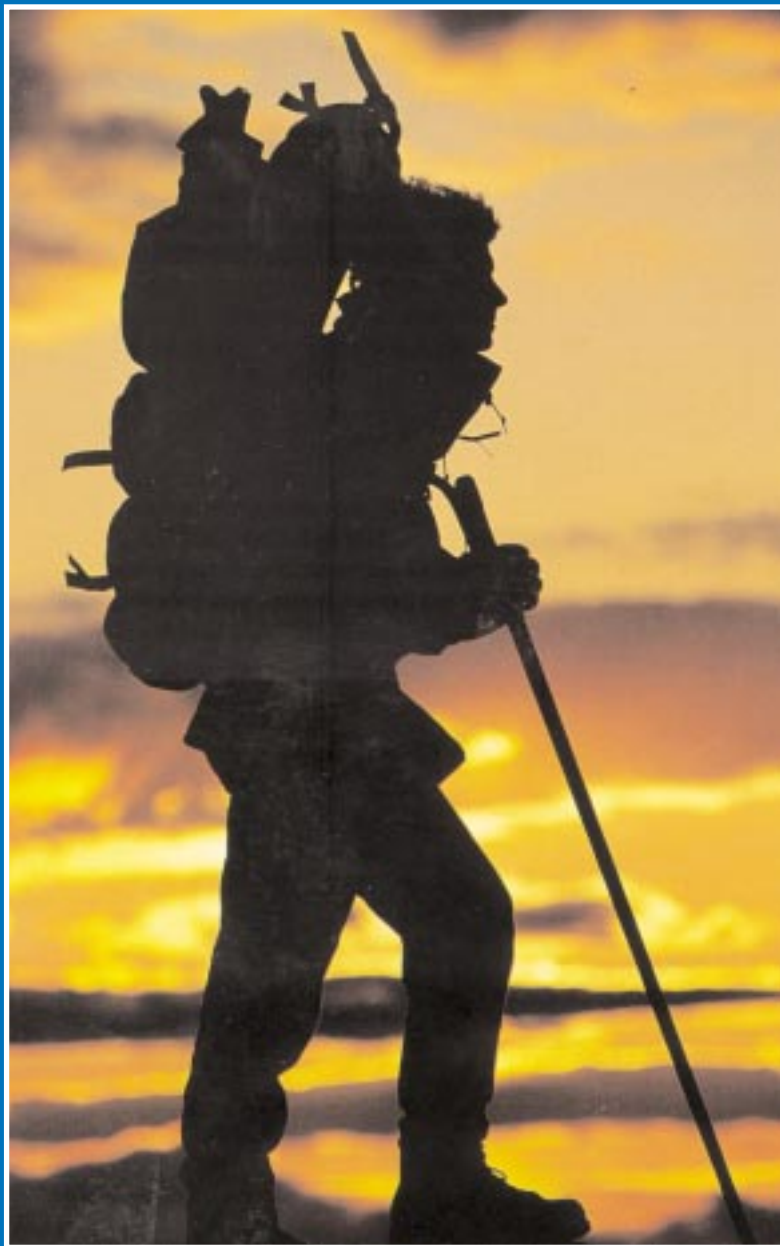
For further information:

www.parcospromonte.it

www.paleariza.it

www.conservatoriogreco.it

www.regione.calabria.it/pit



ROP Calabria

Torre Annunziata, the Spas and the Vesuvius National Park



CAMPANIA > T. Annunziata

The area between Torre Annunziata, the towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum and the Vesuvius volcano could benefit from the many integrated actions for the development and upgrading of tourist activities (Integrated Tourist Port Project, Spa Industry Project, Integrated Project for the Pompei-Ercolano Major Cultural Attraction, Integrated Vesuvius Project) which the Campania Region has been pursuing, primarily with the resources of the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program. The investments, spent on an area inhabited by roughly four million people, total approximately 365 million euro, of which about 204 million are financed with the European Funds of the Regional Operating Program.

Located at the centre of the Gulf of Naples, **Torre Annunziata** is the ancient spa town of Oplontis, destroyed, together with Pompeii and Herculaneum, by the eruption of the Vesuvius in 79 AD. In addition to evidence of the ancient baths, Torre Annunziata still holds the remains of the vacation residences of Roman patricians, including a villa thought to have belonged to the wife of the emperor Nero, Poppea, a villa of enormous size, famed for its exquisite wall paintings. The capacity of Torre Annunziata to attract tourists will further increase in the future, also thanks to the Funds allocated for its vast port area from the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program for Campania, part of the larger **Integrated Tourist Port Project**, for which the Regional Government has already invested 33.5 million euro. The project is meant to restore and support tourist sector by upgrading the entire systems of Campania's ports through modernised structures and facilities and more berths for sports boating. From a recent project's feasibility study arises the confirmed traditional role of the **Port of Torre Annunziata** as a port for trade and fishing, also depicted - together with other municipalities of the Vesuvius coast, such as Portici, Ercolano, Torre del Greco and Castellammare - as a strategic access to the major archaeological resources along the coast and in the nearby inland area. Two main actions are planned for the port, with completion scheduled for Spring of 2006. The first is designed to upgrade and revive the functional capacity of the western wharf. Specifically, after the demolition of an old above-water jetty, the systems and services currently lacking shall be installed (water and sewage systems, sewers,

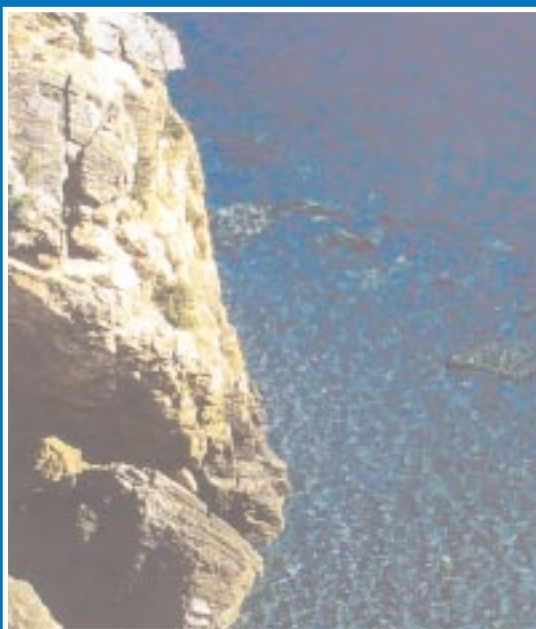


electricity and fire-prevention), while the whole area will be modernised with new paving made of Vesuvius stone, to link the ordinary roadways with the western wharf, currently reserved to sports boats, and an adjoining parking area. The final aim is to increase the number of berths for sport boats from the current 350 to 550, and generally turn the port into an archaeological gateway for the inland areas

of Oplontis and Pompeii. In fact, from the Port of Torre Annunziata, one of the stops on the Sea Subway, it is already possible to take the special Vesuvius area Archeobus to the digs and sanctuaries of Pompeii, the digs of Oplontis, those at the Villa Regina in Boscoreale and at the ancient Stabia. The second action intends to improve the mooring capacity of the Sea Subway by partially digging and eliminating the underwater reefs in the proximity of the Crocelle wharf, increasing the depth of the water from the current 6 metres to 9, so as to allow ships with larger hulls and passenger capacities to dock.

The **Sea Subway**, which, in addition to Torre Annunziata, connects 21 other ports in Campania, represents an important service for tourist mobility in the Campania hinterland.

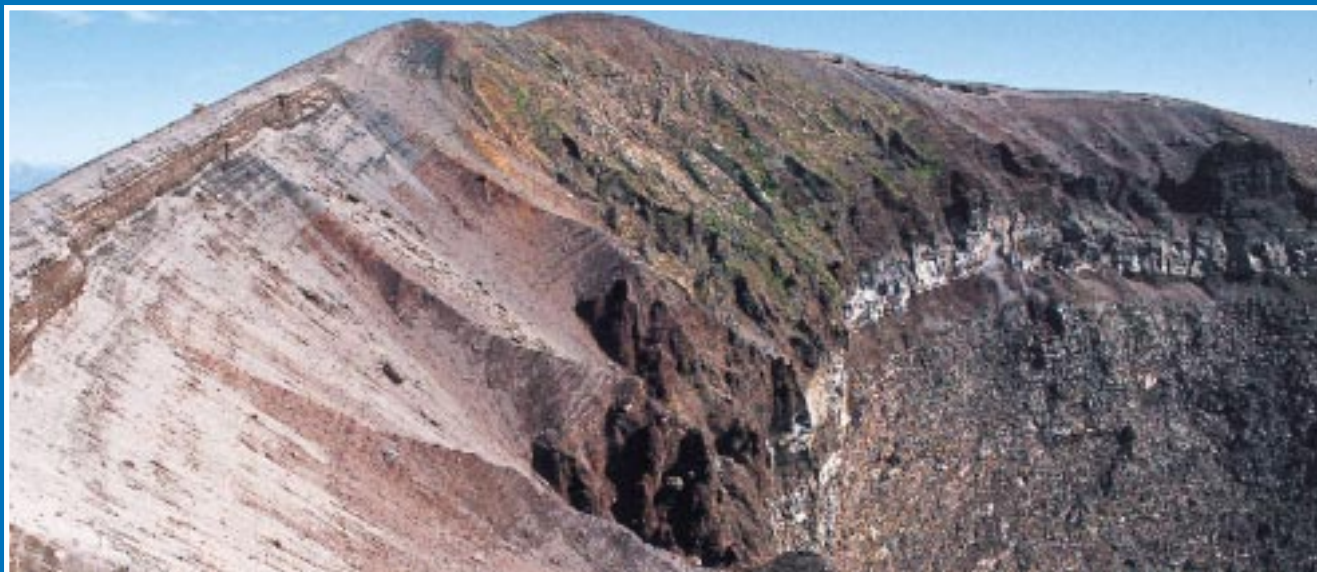
Started up since the summer of 2001 and, promoted by the Department for Transport of the Regional Government, the Sea Subway is a daily public service of seagoing connections and a valid alternative to the use of private boats to reach the Flegrea and the Cilento areas, as well as the Sorrento and Amalfi coasts. Its innovative, integrated ticket system permits the use of public surface transportation 45 minutes before and after the maritime connection. The same ticket can also be used to travel on the Flegrea and Vesuvius Archeobuses of the Sepsa and Circumvesuviana railway systems along routes crossing through the main archaeological centres of the Flegrea and Vesuvius areas. The "Sea Subway"



is managed by the cooperative S.C.a.R.L. "Metrorò del Mare", whose members are the Alilauro company, Alilauro Gruson, Navigazione Libera del Golfo and SNAV. After the first successful year of activity, the service period was expanded (from April to the end of September) and the number of lines increased (now totalling 6: 3 in the Gulfs of Naples and Salerno and 3 connections to the Cilento Peninsula), as well as the number of ports serviced, which rose to 22. In the four years of operation of the Sea Subway, the number of commuters and tourists increased together with the services offered: from 31,000 passengers transported in 2001 and 43,000 in 2002 the peak of 170,000 was reached in 2003. The estimates for 2004 call for the number of passengers to increase by 35 percent.

Many flows of tourists travel each year to the Pompeii-Herculaneum archaeological area, one of the most famous archaeological attraction in the world. In the year 2003, more than 2 million people visited the digs at Pompeii, and more than 280,000 visitors went to Herculaneum. The **Integrated Project regarding the Major Cultural Attraction of Pompeii-Herculaneum and the Vesuvius Archaeological System**, developed by the Regional Government and financed for a total amount of about 58 million euro by the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program for Campania, aims at developing the Vesuvius coastal area and showcasing the actual archaeological and cultural heritage, which extends well beyond the Pompeii area, designated as part of the World Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 1997. With the completion of the integrated project, attention shall be shifted to expanding the tourist season and increasing the permanence average. The initiatives planned are meant to highlight the cultural and archaeological resources, connect the tourist centres of Pompeii, Herculaneum, Stabia and Oplontis in a network, improve tourist hospitality and develop a social, cultural, guest-oriented welcome system based on archaeological heritage.

A further support for the territory upgrading comes from the **Integrated Spa Industry Project**, which is meant to involve, in a single and cohesive plan for growth, all the spa towns of the Campania Region, both along the coast and inland. The Spas of Vesuvius, held by historians to be among Italy's oldest, were already well-known in the Imperial Age, when the inhabitants of the Roman villas at Oplontis, used for their cures the waters and the naturally radioactive mud, still used today against rheumatic conditions and illnesses of the respiratory and digestive tracts.



With the Integrated Territorial Project for the Spa Industry, the Campania Region intends to upgrade and modernise the spa services for tourist development. Initiatives will be undertaken to restructure and reinforce the spa facilities of Campania not only as ordinary centres of medical care, but also as places devoted to fitness and well being. The overall investment provided by the project is approximately 185 million euro, of which 62 million will come from the Regional Operating Project for Campania.

Another destination of ever increasing tourist flows is the **Vesuvius Volcano** and its **Park**, an area of great geological and naturalistic interest, but also one rich in historical-cultural values. The world's most famous volcano, and the only active one in Continental Europe, the Vesuvius is also considered to be one of the most dangerous, given the intensive urban development that extends up to its slopes. In 1995, in order to safeguard the Vesuvius area, a national park was created. Measuring only 8,842 hectares, it is one of Italy's smallest parks, though one of the richest in terms of the great variety of animal and vegetable species, the biological diversity and its invaluable landscapes and views, as well as the variegated and tasteful agricultural products. The Vesuvius National Park is the subject of

the **Integrated Vesuvius Project**, an initiative managed by the Park Authority and focused on the safeguarding and preservation of the natural heritage and an “ecological and sustainable” retooling of the local economy.

The overall investment planned for the initiative is more than 73 million euro, of which 50 come from the European Funds of the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program for Campania. Plans call for activities involving environmental and landscaping reclamation and upgrading of the roads leading to the protected area, incentives for private operators to reinforce tourism-hospitality facilities and cultural, eco-museum and scientific structures, plus initiatives to optimise and promote local crafts and typical products.

In fact, the heritage of **food and farming products** from the area around Vesuvius is world-widely famous, and the projects regarding the Vesuvius Park include initiatives for upgrading the skills of operators in the sector, promoting local products and obtaining the European quality certifications (for example, PGI and PDO) needed to be more competitive on the market. Many of the products from the Vesuvius area are already included in the national list of typical Italian food and farming products: “nocillo”, a liqueur extracted from the famous hazelnut of Sorrento; the 40 varieties of apricot; the mountain cherry; the Vesuvius tomato, picked unripe in summer and preserved in bunches; the Catalan grape, grown on the slopes of Mount Somma; the bread of San Sebastiano; vintage wines, such as the Vesuvio and the Lacrima Christi, cited and praised since antiquity, together with the wines of the Sorrento Peninsula: the Gragnano, the Lettere and the Sorrento, all made from famous vines, such as the Falangina, the Aglianico, the Greco and the Piediroso. And pasta is another typical product that contributes to the identity of the territory, which runs from Torre Annunziata to the Sorrento Peninsula, where the earliest pasta factories were already in operation in the seventeenth century.

For further information:
www.metrodelmare.com
www.pompeisites.org
www.vesuviopark.it

The Brindisi Marina and the Cultural Attractions of the Hinterland



The territory extending inland from the tourist port of the Brindisi Marina is rich in examples of baroque and Norman-Swabian-Anjou architecture, as well as folkloristic events, high-quality wine and food customs and environmental splendours. In the 1990's tourist demand rose and, gradually became more cultural and rural with a positive tourist de-seasoning and distribution impact that favoured the social and economic development of this area. The Apulia Region has formulated a coherent strategy for the integration of the tourist attractions of the Brindisi area, allocating a total of 62 million euro of the European Funds of the 2000-2006 Regional

Operating Program for Apulia to integrated projects involving the municipalities of Brindisi, Cisternino, Fasano, Francavilla Fontana, Latiano, Mesagne, Oria and Ostuni.

A meaningful contribution to the effort to revive the tourist attractions of Brindisi most closely tied to the environmental and historical-cultural treasures of the territory was made by the development of tourist ports. The new **tourist port of the Brindisi Marina** (financed with European Funds, for a total of 5.8 million euro), outfitted with 640 berths for boats up to 35 metres long, plus an extensive land and sea exposition surface, benefits from a geographic position strategically advantageous for intercepting the flow of sports shipping. The whole port, which covers a total surface of more than 123 thousand m², holds a body of water measuring more than 84 thousand m² and a land area of approximately 39 thousand m². The waterfront extends for more than 460 metres, with a new wharf connected to the historic English jetty - 39 metres in length – plus an additional 70 metres of reclaimed coastline. There are 8 floating docks connected to the wharf, with wood treading surfaces and an overall length of 1,380 metres. In the proximity of the southern end of port waters, a fixed jetty supported by pillars equipped with breakwaters and measuring 192 metres in length branches off from the wharf. The depth of the basin varies from a minimum of 2.5 to a maximum of 11 metres. All boats have easy access to the water plugs and power sockets along the floating docks. At the base of the fixed wharf, where the boats can easily moor, is the fuel supply plant, in addition to which the entire tourist docking complex is supplied with drinking water and serviced by an internal sewage system.



The land surface area is basically divided into three parts: one set aside for the ordinary and extraordinary maintenance, as well as the overhauling and cleaning, of the boats (12,500 m²), the second area is used for parking, and equipped with facilities for storage and services (more than 5,000 m²), plus a Service Centre (more than 5,000 m²) with 4 buildings (a restaurant, some shops, the management offices and the radio room)

interconnected with porticos and piazzas, both open and closed, and including an amphitheatre. The tourist dock is in an especially favourable location for sports-boat owners: very near the mouth of the commercial port, in the eastern inlet, in a area named Bocche di Puglia, bound to the north by the base of the breakwater, to the east by the Island of Sant'Andrea and the Alfonsino Castle, and to the southwest by the military and civilian airports of Brindisi, which are only a few kilometres away.

The **Alfonsino** (or Aragonese) **Castle**, located on the Island of Sant'Andrea, at the port's entrance, was built in 1481 by the Duke of Calabria, Alfonso d'Aragona, who included inside the castle complex the Benedictine structures and the remains of the Anjou constructions already found on the island. The castle is also known as the Red Castle: the enemies from sea called it that out of fear, seeing the purplish colour of its stone at sunset. In 1558, in order to make the port more secure, a giant fortress was built alongside the castle: the Forte a Mare, which can still be admired today. Resources were allocated under the Regional Operating Program for the architectural restoration and reclamation of the Castle, as well as the **Bastion of San Giacomo** and the **Roman Columns** (more than 11.6 million euro in public funding was allocated for the restoration of cultural resources in the Brindisi area, with about 8.3 million euro from ROP Funds). The restoration of the Roman Columns, from time immemorial the symbol of the City of Brindisi, was an especially meaningful effort. Considered, possibly by error, to mark the end of the ancient Via Appia, the columns actually signalled the location of the port for the sailors of the era. Only one of the twin columns, which date back to the middle of the 2nd century BC, has entirely survived. Built of eight stones, for a total height of slightly less than 19 metres, it is

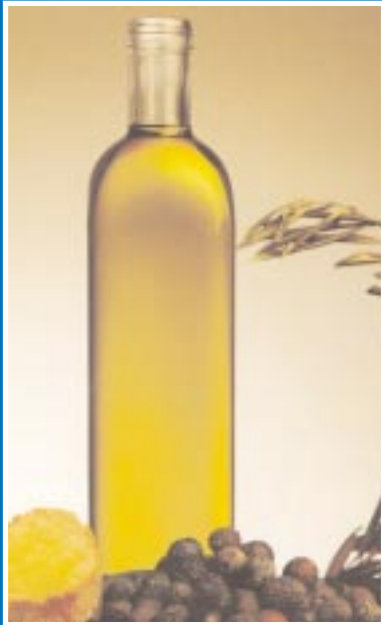
topped by a capital decorated with leaves of bear's breach, heads of divinities and eight tritons at the corners. After a lengthy period of absence due to the restoration and consolidation of the area, the column once again dominates the stairway at the internal port's entry.

Worthy of particular note in the Brindisi **hinterland** are the examples of Apulia's baroque architecture found in Martina Franca, Francavilla Fontana and Mesagne, plus constructions from Norman-Swabian-Anjou period found in Oria and Latiano, along with the picturesque architecture of the ancient burgh of **Ostuni**, painted exclusively in white and located atop the territory's highest hill. The village is also well-known for the many sixteenth-century farmhouses, often fortified, located in the surrounding area, which today attract a refined cultural tourism tied to the territory and its customs.

The De Graecis farmhouse in the Fasano countryside includes an olive oil museum displaying a collection of machines for olive oil production, dating from the end of the 17th century to the start of the 20th. The area surrounding the town also holds the digs of the **Roman site of Egnazia**, recently upgraded with funding from the Regional Operating Project of Apulia, and the National Archaeological Museum, which also holds artefacts of the Bronze Age (pottery, works of bronze and stone) and of the Hellenistic-Roman era (earthenware, mosaics, sculptures).

The optimisation of the archaeological-architectural heritage is accompanied by that of the local **folk and gastronomic customs**. Olive oil and wine are the main foodstuffs that have characterised for centuries the rich and varied local cuisine, typically Mediterranean in style.

The historical-cultural importance of these products, which increasingly contribute to augmenting the allure of the Brindisi Region, has been reinforced by the establishment, thanks to the European Funds, of the Roads of Wine and Olive Oil, such as the "Road of Locorotondo and Martina Franca Vintage Wines" or "The Via Appia of Brindisi and Ostuni Vintage Wines", an itinerary running inside of a territory which the ancient Greeks once referred to as Enotria (the Land of Wine). The "Road of Vintage Extra-Virgin Oil of the Brindisi Hills" (which winds through the towns of Carovigno, Ceglie Messapica, Cisternino, Fasano, Ostuni, San Michele Salentino, San Vito dei Normanni and Villa Castelli) provides the opportunity for visits to olive mills, olive farms, museums and typical towns and villages, as well as stops at taverns and inns.



Further tourist attractions are the events tied to folk traditions, hearkening back to either religious or pagan rites, such as the Feast of the Madonna of Pozzo Faceto in Fasano, in June, the Inter-Borough Tournament and the historic procession of Frederick II in Oria, in August (a re-enactment of the celebrations held by Frederick II on the occasion of his wedding), the rites of the Holy Week and the Cavalcade of St. Oronzo, both held in Ostuni, respectively during the periods of Easter and in August. The costumes and folk traditions of peasant civilisation are reconstructed at the Museum of Arts and Traditions in Latiano.

The resources from the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Plan for Apulia were also used for initiatives to upgrade the numerous local crafts enterprises and hospitality structures – not only hotels, but agritourism and bed & breakfast establishments as well – that show steady growth and offer female enterprise opportunities.

The territory is also interesting for its natural resources, which are diversified, thanks to the presence of the wet habitats typical of coastal Regions and wooded areas further inland. Among the places of importance to the Community are the Tramazzone forest, the ponds and marshes of Punta della Contessa, the Brindisi seashore, the Lucci Forest, the area of the Guaceto Tower, the San Giovanni Brush Land, the Woods of Santa Teresa and the Mouth of the Giancola Canal.

For further information:

www.appiadeivini.it

www.locorotondodoc.com

www.stradadellolio.org





PUGLIA > Gargano e Tremiti

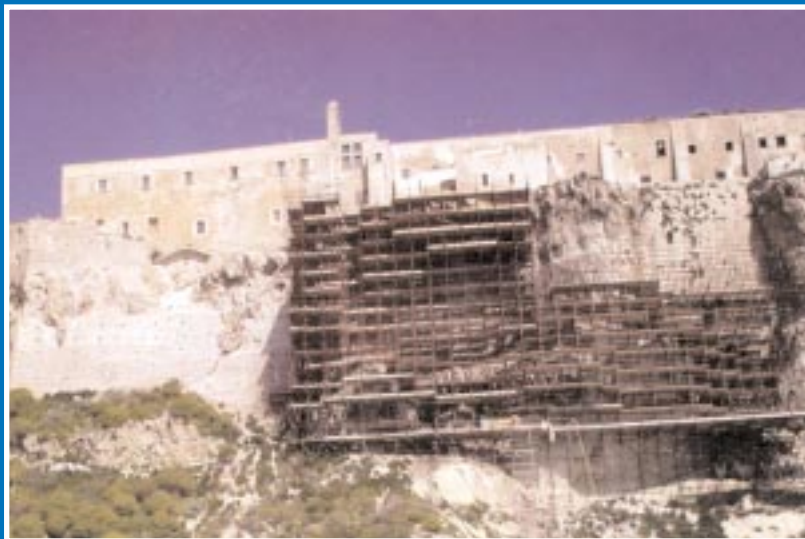
The erosion of the **Gargano coast**, an area of Apulia highly attractive to tourists, dates back to the early 1980's and has continued ever since. After pushing back the coastline and eliminating entire beaches suitable for bathing, it is now affecting extensive portions of the hinterland that hold clusters of habitations and commercial activities. In the area of Mattinatella and the Bay of Zagare, the sea had worked its way into the coast through valley openings, seriously unsettling the walls of the bluffs and further exacerbating the existing situation of hydro-geological risk.

The Community resources from the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program for Apulia have been used to finance initiatives to defend the coastline and eliminate the state of risk, restoring not only the landscape and the environmental balance, but also placing the economic situation back on a solid footing while providing a new stimulus and margin of security for tourist enterprises that currently risk disappearing. The actions, managed by the town of Mattinata, were undertaken in the month of June 2002 and are nearing completion; the cost of the work is approximately 3.7 million euro, 85 percent of it financed by resources from the Regional Operating Program for Apulia and 15 percent with regional resources.

The specific actions consist of:

- construction of an element of closure (measuring 150 metres) to the north of the Bay of Mattinata, built with boulders of natural appearance and calcareous materials extracted from virgin quarries;
- construction of a reef protecting the beach, running parallel to the current line of the coast and rising above the water for slightly less than a metre;
- renewed morphological and volumetric installation of the pebble beaches created with calcareous stones of limited dimensions and presenting the same features as the existing stones; a portion of the material has been deposited directly on the beach, while a portion has been accumulated in "supply panels" that will provide the beach with further materials through the demolition action of the sea waves.





Also nearing conclusion is the work of geo-technical reinforcement on the **Island of San Nicola**, the smallest of the Tremiti Islands. San Nicola, the administrative, religious and historical centre of the small archipelago, holds important examples of architecture, such as the complex of the Abbey of Santa Maria delle Grazie and the adjoining cloister, the Fortress of the Castle of the Badiali, the Anjou tower and an archaeological area with a large cistern. The island is long and narrow, with rocky cliffs facing onto the sea and a jagged coast defended by large reefs running for a total length of 3700 metres around an area of just 43 hectares. The cliff sides are highly instable, placing the abbey complex at risk and undoing much of the restoration work.

In May of 2002, with the European Community resources of the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program for Apulia, the Municipality of the Tremiti Islands undertook initiatives involving the reclamation, protection and stabilisation of the rock walls, so as to eliminate the risk of detachment. The cost of the work totalled approximately 5.6 million euro, 85 percent of which was financed with the Regional Operating Program.

The specific works of reinforcement regarding the calcareous-dolomite covering plate consisted of:

- surface reconstruction of the rock mass, highly cracked in the past and filled with empty spaces, using cement mortar to fill the fractures and the cavities formed by the collapse of the blocks at the foot of the bluff;
- the construction of support walls in reinforced concrete (at the base of the bluff) or in stone chips (on the rock face), for the purpose of restoring support for the rocky block;
- consolidation and reclamation of the underlying rock through injections of cement that provide adequate resistance for subsequent medium-deep operations of nailing and anchoring;
- anchoring, by means of steel rods in various lengths, of the reclaimed and reconstructed surface pieces to the underlying reinforced mass.

In the case of the underlying formations of calcilutite (carbonatic rock), on the other hand, it was necessary to reclaim only the section in contact with the limestone, significantly altered by the action of the salt air, with injections of a cement mix, in order to keep the erosive action of the sea at the bottom of the bluff from causing further collapse of the wall and reducing the stability of the limestone at the top.

Menfi and the Lands of the Leopard



The territory of the Sicane Lands, municipalities in the Province of Agrigento, also known as the **Lands of the Leopard**, is defined by precise natural boundaries – the Belice River to the East, the Carboj River to the west, the Sicani mountain chain to the north and the Mediterranean Sea to the South – a situation that has contributed, over time, to safeguarding the area's strong cultural identity and folklore, while serving as a stimulus for an eco-compatible process of development. In order to optimise the potential as tourist destinations of the Lands of the Leopard, which include the municipalities of Menfi, Montevago, Santa

Margherita Belice and Sambuca di Sicilia, the Region has allocated 26 million euro, of which approximately 1.5 million from the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program resources for Sicily. Local tourist offerings are diversified among itineraries featuring history and culture, nature and wine and food, together with the more traditional seaside activities.

A visit to the sea of the Lands of the Leopard brings to light a variegated **coast**, partly flat, with a scattering of sandy dunes, and partly jagged and featured with environmental splendours. Sitting on the sandy platform are the seaside village of Porto Palo, with its tiny port, the beach of Lido Fiori and the **Nature Reserve at the mouth of the Belice River**, which stretches for approximately 130 hectares. Founded in 1984 and placed under the custody of the Department for the Environment and Territory of the Regional Province of Trapani, the reserve features a thriving marsh canebrake, sea sedges and prickly rush. The area facing the estuary is rich in aquatic species, such as the eel and the marsh turtle, while the banks hold patches of willows, cards and elms. The wet environment draws numerous species of migratory birds, such as the grey heron, the garganey, the duck and the kingfisher. Special areas of naturalist interest are the Capparrina District, covered with a thick, thriving vegetation of dwarf palms, the Serrone Cipollazzo area and the Solette of Porto Palo, running for about 25 hectares and including the Gurra Valley, which opens onto the sea with an extremely charming beach. The environmental high level of the coastline is demonstrated by the Blue Banner recognition and its being part of the FEEE (Foundation for Environmental Education in Europe) since 1998.



The **small port of Porto Palo** is primarily used for fishing boats, though approximately 20 million euro (of which 9 million from the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program for Sicily) have been allocated to turn it into a facility for small-scale nautical tourism. It consists of an above-water jetty and a break-water beneath the level of the waves to protect a shore wharf equipped with a hoisting crane. The port can be used only by

boats with a limited draught (the depth of the water at the wharf is 1 to 2 metres), and there are a total of 50 berths for motorboats. The project for completion, financed with European Community Funds, calls for the construction of another 150 berths.

The **inland areas** also features uncontaminated and natural settings. The Magaggiaro forest, located 7 kilometres from the Village of Menfi, covers a surface of approximately 850 hectares and holds massive specimens of oak trees, plus a six-hectare area equipped for excursions, with tables, benches, bathrooms, fountains supplying drinking water, a mini playground and a bocce court. The oriented Reserve of Monte Genuardo, established in 1991, sits on 2660 hectares in the northern part of the Lands of the Leopard. Its territory includes the Punic settlement of Adranone and the monastery of Santa Maria del Bosco, whose beauty and elegance have earned it the title of the "Montecassino of the South". The Arancio Lake, in the territory of the municipality of Sambuca di Sicilia, is an artificial basin built in 1950 following the damming of the Carboj River. It holds numerous specimens of resident and migratory birds.

From time to time water-skiing, canoeing and windsurfing competitions are held on the lake. When the water level falls, the remains of the fortress of Mazzallakkar, evidence of the past Arab dominations in this area, can be glimpsed.

In fact, the historical identity of the Lands of the Leopard has ancient roots dating back to the late Palaeolithic, with the successive presences of the Phoenicians, the Mycenaeans, the Sycans, the



Greeks, the Selinuntines, the Carthaginians and the Arabs. The territory is full of **archaeological attractions** (the Greek-Punic settlement of Mount Adranone, the necropolis of Resinata in Sambuca, the Caliated district in Montevago and the Montagnoli district in Menfi) and **architectural treasures**: Palazzo Filangeri Cutò and the Mother Church of Santa Margherita in Belice; the Beccadelli, dell'Arpa and Panitteri palazzos and the Saracen streets in Sambuca; the Burgiomilluso Castle; Palazzo Pignatelli; the Mother Church; the Church of San Giuseppe and Palazzo Ravidà in Menfi).

There are also numerous **cultural institutions**. The Tomasi di Lampedusa Literary Park is located in Santa Margherita, next to the Palazzo Filangeri Cutò, where the famous writer spent a part of his childhood. The building is also used for cultural activities, including the Tomasi di Lampedusa Literary Award. The original, historic vegetation of the grounds, along with the architectonic elements of the estate were recently restored under an agreement signed by the Municipal Administration, the Forestry Authority of the Region of Sicily and the University of Palermo. The town of Sambuca is the site of the recently founded Gianbecchina Institute, where the drawings of Giovanni Becchina, works that describe Sicily in the early 1900's with extraordinary force, are on exhibit, while Menfi has a museum offering a malacological collection of approximately 1700 sea shells. Many initiatives to effectively exploit the vast range of archaeological and cultural resources of the Lands of the Leopard are financed with the 2000-2006 Regional Operating Program for Sicily and part of the **"Aequae Labodes" Integrated Project**, which includes: the restructuring of the Palazzo Planeta and construction of the Museum of Folk Traditions in Menfi; the creation of the Park of Gardens and Historical Memory in the Town of Montevago; the restoration of the Palazzo Panitteri, selected to house the Museum of the Town of Sambuca; and initiatives held by the Leopard Museum of the Mother Church of the town of Santa Margherita del Belice.

The sources of local development to heightening overall recognition and attractiveness of the area include **food and farming products** from the sectors of wine-making, olive-growing, fruit and vegetables and animal husbandry. The deeply rooted wine-making vocation of this area, the introduction of modern methods and techniques for the management of the vineyards and the making of the wine, the use of barrique casks, the presence of local vines that have been grown for centuries, such as the

d'Avola Black, the Grecanico, the Inzolia and the Catarratto, together with other, newly introduced vines, have all favoured the production of top-quality wines (such as the vintage Sambuca di Sicilia, Menfi and the Santa Margherita di Belice) that increase the visibility of the entire territory. For the last eight years wine has been the featured star at **"Inycon, Wine Feast"**, an event organised in July in Menfi, with expositions, guided tasting sessions, entertainment events and information activities, while, with the recent establishment of the **"Terre Sicane" Road of Wine**, wine has been proclaimed the primary symbol of the area's development. Other typical products also satisfy high quality standards, such as the thorny artichoke of Menfi, olive oil, the Indian fig and the "vastedda", a fresh cheese whose mix is spun in the traditional way during the Summer, using the milk of the sheep of the Belice Valley, a home-grown race of considerable economic importance. The PDO (Protected Designation of Origin) recognition has been requested for this sicilian typical cheese. Contributing to the showcasing of lesser known products and rural areas, so as to attract and de-season tourist flows, is the project "Southern Foods Parallel Monuments" part of the Community Initiative Interreg III for the MEDOCC space (Western Mediterranean).



For further information:

www.comune.menfi.ag.it

www.comune.montevago.ag.it

www.stradadelvinoterresicane.it

www.regione.sicilia.it/presidenza/programmazione/puntopit/login.asp

www.interreg-medocc.org





GLOSSARY

Agenda 2000

The document approved by the European Commission on 15 July 1997 indicating the prospects for the future development of the Union, the policies of the new millennium, the problems connected with EU enlargement, the modifications in the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund, the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the financial perspectives of the EU.

Objective 1

Objective 1 promotes the development and structural adjustment of lagging behind Regions (i.e. whose average per capita GDP is less than 75% of the European Union average). In Italy the Objective 1 Regions are: Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Apulia, Sardinia and Sicily. The Molise Region is currently subject to phasing-out (transitional support), the treatment that allows former Objective-1 Regions to gradually leave the system of European Community support, facilitating consolidation of the earlier structural initiatives.

Objective 2

Objective 2 of the Structural Funds aims to revitalise all areas facing structural difficulties, whether industrial, rural, urban or dependent on fisheries. The Objective is regional: the areas eligible for aid are identified on the basis of the percentages of the population established under the regulations (18 percent of the Union's population) and under specific socio-economic criteria. In Italy: specific areas in the Centre-North.

Objective 3

Objective 3 aims to modernise education and training policy and systems and promote employment. This Objective is the reference framework for the measures taken under the new Title on employment inserted in EC Treaty by the Treaty of Amsterdam and under the European employment strategy. Objective 3 is not regional: all Regions not covered by Objective 1 are eligible for the aid.

Structural Funds

These financial instruments are managed by the European Commission in order to achieve economic and social cohesion in all the Regions of the Union while reducing the gap between the more advanced Regions and those lagging behind. The Structural Funds for 2000-2006 are the ERDF (European Regional Development Fund), the ESF (European Social Fund), the EAGGF (European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund) and the FIFG (Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance). These are joined, in pursuit of

the same goals, by the Cohesion Fund (reserved for Portugal, Spain, Greece and Ireland). The funding for the structural initiatives of the European Community budget for 2000-2006 totals 213 billion euro, of which 195 billion are allocated to the Structural Funds, while 19 billion are earmarked for the Cohesion Fund. This amount represents 33 percent of the allocations for commitments in the European Community budget.

ERDF (European Regional Development Fund)

Created in 1975, this European Community Fund contributes mainly to assisting the Regions whose development is lagging behind and those undergoing economic conversion or experiencing structural difficulties. The ERDF supports local development, research and technological innovation, tangible and intangible networks development, in the field of environment protection and equal social opportunities.

ESF (European Social Fund)

Already set up by the Treaty of Rome (1957), this Fund is the main financial tool through which the European Union translates its strategic employment policy aims into action.. It provides support for programmes which develop or regenerate people's "employability", social integration on the labour market and equality between men and women, improving lasting social development and economic and social cohesion.

EAGGF (European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund)

Created in 1962 for financing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund articulates into two sections: the "Guidance" section contributes to financing projects to improve structures for the production, transformation and sale of agricultural products; the "Guarantee" section regards full financing of measures for supporting prices and stabilising markets.

FIFG (Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance)

Established in 1993, the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance is the instrument for the implementation of the Common Fishing Policy (CFP). It finances actions in the sector of fishing, aquaculture and the transformation and marketing of the related products. Its aims to contribute to achieving a sustainable balance between fishery resources and their exploitation.

CSF (European Community Support Framework) for the Objective 1 Regions

This is the document approved by the European Commission, in accordance with the member State, containing an overview of the initial socio-economic situation, the strategy for development, the priorities for action, the objectives, the distribution of the resources of the structural Funds and the conditions for implementation. It is organised into priority sectors of intervention and implemented by means of Operating Programs. The 2000-2006 CSF for the Italian Objective 1 Regions includes 7 ROP (Regional Operating Programs) and 7 NOP (National Operating Programs).

Operating Program

This is the document for the implementation of the European Community Support Framework. It provides a detailed description of the priorities of the CSF, consisting of initiatives in the form of multiyear measures. In Italy, the 2000-2006 CSF for the Objective 1 Regions contemplates 14 Operating Programs: 7 ROP (Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Apulia, Sardinia, Sicily and Molise) and 7 NOP (Research, School, Security, Local Development, Transportation, Fishing, Technical Assistance). The Programs are drawn up by the Managing Authorities (Regional Governments in the case of the ROP, Central Governments in the case of the NOP) and approved by the European Commission..

Integrated Territorial Projects (ITP)

The Integrated Territorial Projects represent a specific mode for the implementation of initiatives co-financed under the European Community Support Framework for the Objective 1 Regions. They constitute a set of inter-sector activities, closely tied and consistent with each other, that point towards a shared objective of territorial development, justifying a unified approach to implementation.

European Community Initiatives

These initiatives are proposed by the European Commission to the member States in order to solve problems affecting the territory of the Union. , The European Community initiatives for the 2000-2006 period are as follows: Interreg III (financed by the ERDF, favours cross-border, trans-national and inter-regional cooperation), Leader + (financed by the EAOGF, favours rural development), Urban II (financed by the ERDF, favours the development of disadvantaged urban areas) and Equal (financed by the ESF, fights discrimination in the labour market).



REFERENCES

The **Department for Development and Cohesion Policies (DDP)** is one of the five Departments of the Ministry of Economy and Finance. Created in 1998, the main institutional objective of the DDP is the implementation, in accordance with art. 119, paragraph 5 of the Italian Constitution, of policy initiatives designed to restore economic and social balance and stimulate economic growth in the lagging-behind areas of the country, and especially in Southern Italy.

In particular, the DDP co-ordinates the implementation in Italy of the 2000-2006 Community Support Framework (CSF), the instrument through which EU Structural Funds are used. It also promotes the planning of public investments and incentives financed with national Funds allocated for lagging-behind areas, plus their implementation through the Institutional Program Agreements stipulated between Central and Regional Governments. It handles the background work on the technical and organisational aspects in preparation for the meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Economic Planning (CIPE). It carries out analyses and evaluations of investments of administrative bodies and of other subjects operating with public financing, controlling their enactment. It designs and promotes projects for the modernisation and reinforcement of the institutional capabilities of the administrative bodies that manage capital spending. It produces analyses of territorial economic trends and financial flows for development, contributing to the formulation of the major economic and planning documents of the Central Government. It manages institutional twinning programs and projects of technical assistance involving candidate countries to the European Union.

The **Service for EU Structural Funds Policies** is the structure of the Department for Development Policies that co-ordinates the implementation of development projects co-financed with EU resources in the Objective 1 Regions of Italy (Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Apulia, Sardinia, Sicily and Molise, with the latter classified under the transitory system) and in the areas currently undergoing economic and social retooling in Central and Northern Italy (Objective 2).

The Service co-ordinated the negotiations with the European Commission for the approval of the 2000-2006 Community Support Framework (CSF) for the Objective 1 Regions, the planning document for the resources of the Structural Funds containing the strategy for the socio-economic development of Southern Italy, the priorities for action and the objectives to be reached. The Service is the Managing Authority of the entire CSF, and, in such function, co-ordinates the implementation of the Operating Programs in which the CSF is articulated, supplies guidelines, and handles the monitoring of the planning objectives in terms of spending and reporting to the European Commission.

The Service also handles negotiations with the Commission on the subjects of competition (in particular State subsidies for regional objectives) and on the identification of the areas classified under Objective 2. It also played a leading role in the formulation of the "Second Italian Memorandum on the Reform of EU Cohesion Policy for 2007-2013", which presents the Italian position on the negotiations that will redesign the cohesion policy of the new European Union enlarged to 25 member States.



EFS

www.qcs.tesoro.it



ROP

Basilicata

www.regione.basilicata.it/sportelloeuropa/default.cfm

Calabria

www.regione.calabria.it/Servizio_Utente/Servizio_Utente/start.htm

Campania

www.regione.campania.it

Apulia

www.por.regione.puglia.it

Sicily

www.euroinfosicilia.it



The **Office for Communication and External Relations** of the Department for Development and Cohesion Policies provides for the external communication of the Department's activities through the editing of publications, the organisation of conferences and seminars, and the updating the departmental website. It also handles relations with the media and institutional bodies on behalf of the Head of the Department.

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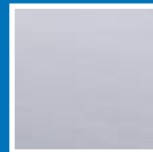
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