



ScienceDIVER Newsletter 5, July 2022

Diving As A Scientist: Training, Acknowledgment And Profession

A pilot training program has taken place. The designed training program aims cooperation with the industry and diving agencies to assess the current needs in human resources and also to analyse the needs in diving skills.

Underwater scientific research is a difficult endeavour. Scientific divers need to handle concerns with scientific methodology, diving safety, professional recognition, training, legal ramifications, etc. when collecting samples or conserving underwater cultural heritage sites.

Depending on the region, organizations involved, legal system, diving philosophy, etc., each of these issues is handled differently, resulting in a diversified framework on scientific diving as a unique category of underwater labor. The finalization of the ISO Standards is considered to be very crucial. They will serve as a guide for the finalization of the training program manual and the training courses.

The European Maritime Day 2022 with ScienceDIVER Consortium

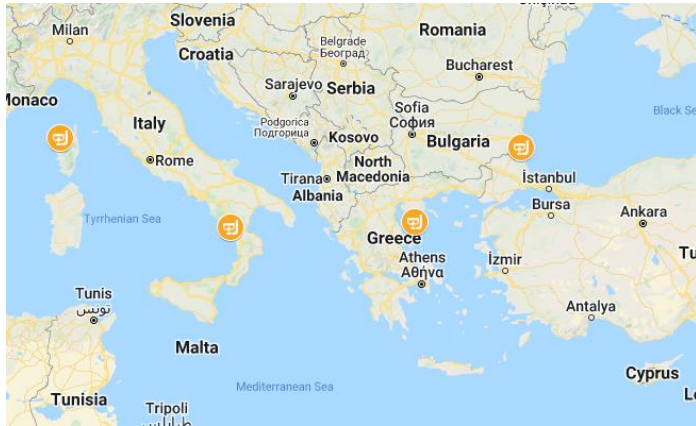
The 4th Coordination Meeting of the ScienceDIVER project partners was held on 19th-20th of May in Ravenna, Italy when project partners participated in European Maritime Day 2022.



European Maritime Day (EMD) is the annual two-day event during which Europe's maritime community meets to network, discuss and outline joint action on maritime affairs and sustainable blue economy. EMD 2022 was an opportunity for ScienceDIVER project partners to meet, disseminate the project initiatives, and hold B2B meetings with key stakeholders of the Blue Economy and the Blue Technology sectors. On this occasion, the 4th project meeting of the ScienceDIVER project was organized on Friday, May 20, for discussing project progress. The meeting was hybrid and was successfully completed with all project partners being represented.

ScienceDIVER training courses

A pilot training course for scientific divers is organized in the frame of the ScienceDIVER project in 4 different places in Europe:



13th – 24th June 2022 at Santa Caterina Village, Scalea (CS), Italy organized by University of Calabria, Italy

16th – 26th June 2022 at University Camp, Kalandra, Posidi, Greece organized by Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

8th – 17th July 2022 at Monitoring Station, Institute of Oceanology, Maslen Nos, Black Sea, Bulgaria organized by Marine Cluster Bulgaria, Bulgaria

3rd – 16th September 2022 at STARESO, Calvi, Corse, France organized by University of Stuttgart, Germany

The training was designed for master students and young researchers (biologists, ecologists, geologists, archaeologists, engineers) who want to improve their skills in the field of scientific diving.

The topics which are relevant to scientific diving standards was used as a guide for development of the course material. The course is organized in 4 modules. Each module includes theoretical lessons and diving and safety practice: General Diving Skills, Risk-assessment, Diver rescue, First aid, Scientific Diving Techniques, Underwater survey techniques and others. More than 30 students in total attended the pilot training until the end of July, and another 10 are looking forward to enrol the forthcoming September course. The trainees underwent general practical course acquiring technical skills that are used in scientific under water activities. Special attention was paid to security and safety when performing



Pic.Scalea, Italy

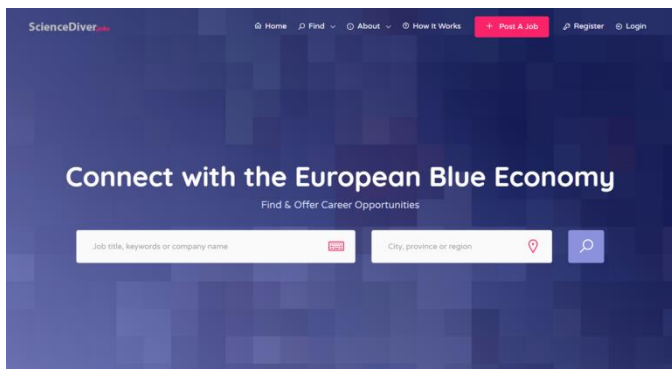
the underwater research. Course graduates received a certificate of attendance that they can use to apply for obtaining an Advanced or Basic ESD certification (or any other certification) according to the diver level and other required certifications.



Pic.Maslen nos, Bulgaria

Bridging the Gap in the Blue Economy Sector – The Blue Careers Platform Official Start!

The Blue Career platform is now launched. The platform is an innovative tool that provides services and help to job seekers, training providers, policy makers and employers in the blue economy sector. It seeks to include cutting-edge methods for matching jobs utilizing artificial intelligence and ranking algorithms, as well as to offer skill development and other educational opportunities as an innovative and sustainable ICT supporting tool.



It supports users by offering a database of companies' profiles continuously updated, job descriptions, required skills, e-learning content to cover skill gaps. The capabilities of the tool allow extraction of relevant data from CVs, effective matching process through AI-driven engine and "Smart matching" algorithms.

Only registered users are allowed to access all platforms' functionalities and benefit from this valuable tool. If you are a job seeker or an employer in the Blue Economy sector, create an account and become part of this initiative: <https://sciencediver.jobs/>

International Workshops

Two international workshops are foreseen to the end of the year within the ScienceDIVER project framework.

The aim of this activity is to present to the scientific diving community a Roadmap towards harmonization of Scientific diving, the features of the launched Blue Careers Platform and the developed training courses for scientific divers, to collect professional opinions and proposals for their improvement.

The workshops are envisaged to be organized within the period from September to December 2022. One foreseen occasion is the "InterDive 2022" fair that will take place from 22.-25.9.2022 in Friedrichshafen, Germany. The "InterDive" is a pure diving fair where stakeholders, scientists and interested divers meet. More than 80 exhibitors show their novelties and offer everything from diving travel to diving equipment next to information on diving education, training and participatory projects from freshwater and marine conservation organisations and research institutions. It represents a great opportunity to talk to young scientists and academics in the framework of the ScienceDiver Career Day on 23.09.22, who will be organized during the "InterDive" by the consortium.

Final ScienceDIVER Conference

The project partners started preparing the Final Pan – European 2 days Conference in third week of April (17-23 April 2023) in Gozo, Malta where the outcomes will be presented to the wider EU policy community. The final conference of the ScienceDIVER project aims at presenting the outcomes and achievements within the project life to large audience:

- To raise awareness about the scientific diving as a crucial tool for underwater research
- To present an Innovative training program/courses for scientific diving
- To get familiar the respective stakeholders with the Blue Career Platform and spread its feasibility
- To present a Roadmap towards elaboration of EU Directive for scientific diving.

The ScienceDIVER team intends to gather more than 100 attendees from a wide range of stakeholders groups (scientific diving community – diving organizations, scientific and research institutes, students, governmental/public bodies, NGOs, donors/ investors...) Stay tuned !

Partners



Marine Cluster Bulgaria



University of Stuttgart



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