



Press Release

Thetis will participate in managing the European Topic Centre

Venice, 7 July – Thetis, an Italian engineering company with headquarters in the historic Venice Arsenal, has recently achieved an important accomplishment in assuming a leading role in the planning of Europe's most advanced strategies for coping with the challenges of the global climate change emergency.

In fact, Thetis will participate in managing the European Topic Centre (ETC-CCA), an innovative European centre that deals with climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation. The project, which capitalizes on Thetis' expertise in this field, is yet another significant accomplishment for a company that, among other activities, is currently conducting an important study for the World Bank's environmental restoration programme for the Dead Sea basin.

Thetis is part of an international consortium (composed of ten partners and coordinated by the Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change (CMCC)) that was recently awarded the framework contract for managing the European Environment Agency's (EEA) new ETC for the three year period 2011-2013. At the European level, the organizational model for the European Environment Agency provides for a structure that is subdivided into European Topic Centres (ETCs), which collect and process data for the various environmental sectors and feature the involvement of the most renowned experts from the European Union's member states. The ETC-CCA will assist the European Environment Agency in activities that support the establishment, implementation and monitoring of European policies relating to climate change impacts and vulnerability, and encourage the development of solutions and adaptation and mitigation strategies. There are five principal areas in which the consortium will offer its expertise and experience: data and monitoring, indicators and thematic maps, support in developing and implementing EU policies, integrated assessment and reporting, and capacity building. Thetis, which has been involved in numerous international projects including the sustainability assessment analysis for the islands in Chongming County (China) and sustainable mobility management in New Delhi (India), views the current project as an ideal opportunity to capitalize on its expertise.

The company's activities in the Consortium and the ETC will be the responsibility of the Environmental and Land Engineering Division (DIAT) and will be coordinated by Dr. Emiliano Ramieri.

Dr. Ramieri stated: "One of our most important tasks, the integrated assessment of climate change impacts on coastal areas and the development of corresponding adaptation strategies, will draw on the expertise we have gained in recent years from conducting several studies relating to protecting the Venice Lagoon, which we performed on behalf of Consorzio Venezia Nuova".

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