

Presentation of Proceedings

As described in the Preface of this Proceedings Volume, the Symposium has been confirmed as a place to present the research carried out in recent years on the monitoring of the Mediterranean Coastal Areas and therefore as a space to present new proposals and promote actions for the protection of the marine and coastal environment.

The interdisciplinary of the Symposium has been the occasion for consolidating the scientific exchanges of scholars from Mediterranean countries and also for promoting a greater diffusion of the research and related results.

It is relevant that the Symposium is considering the Mediterranean Coastal Areas in all their aspects: from morphology and evolution of coastlines and seabeds to the landscape dynamics and integrated protection; from the dynamics and protection of coastal and underwater flora and fauna to cultural heritage, considering the challenges of pollution, energy production, environmental assessment and regulatory context of coastal areas.

In this 9th edition, in fact, we had more than 100 participants from 12 countries; this is a sign of great success and willingness of being in presence in Livorno to discuss problems and propose solution for the Mediterranean coastal areas. The international scientific committee supervising the Symposium, formed by 35 renowned scientists, did a great and hard work in selecting 42 oral and 100 poster presentation among the 170 contributions received.

It is important to underline since this year, the *Proceedings* will become a Series published by Firenze University Press: another step forward that underline the scientific and political relevance of studying and managing Mediterranean Coastal Areas.

For all selected works a *double peer review* has been carried out for the inclusion of the extended papers in this Volume.

This edition has been the occasion to establish a new collaboration between CNR-IBE and Italian Society of Silviculture and Forest Ecology (SISEF) in the organization of the Symposium.

The aim of CNR-IBE and SISEF is to continue in their collaboration to organize the next edition, the 10th, of the Symposium and to involve an increasingly wide audience of scholars, supporting in this way the dissemination of scientific results obtained in the field of protection of the Mediterranean coasts.

The Director of CNR-IBE
The Vice President of SISEF
Dr. Giorgio Matteucci