

NEREUS workshop

“EGNOS and GALILEO
for marine and maritime applications:
opportunities and challenges for European
Regions”

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I am pleased to extend the welcome of the Regional Government of Veneto, and of myself, to the work of this important international workshop, which sees the presence of prominent personalities representing the reference of a matter that is so important, for its outstanding scientific content, for programs and policies relating to the development of research and technological innovation.

The Region of Veneto, in its action of government, has long been conducting a policy – oriented to the research and to the development of processes and networks of innovation, planning initiatives and projects of special scientific content, aimed at providing tools to support the analyzes needed for a proper planning and a careful management of environmental and land resources, as well as to foster and promote the creation and development of enterprises in qualified technological sectors.

The workshop themes are of particular interest and of significant impact.

The European EGNOS and Galileo programs, are able to provide results and services of exceptional importance for the safety, for the maritime navigation and the port activities: in this scenario, the interoperability and integration of satellite data with GIS data will be promoted.

In this sector, Regions' role, both European and Italian, is of paramount importance.

NEREUS, the Network of European Regions Using Space technologies, is a clear evidence of the importance of the regions in the construction of the European Space program.

The Veneto Region, considering the economic context of its territory, characterized by universities, research centers and a high concentration of small and medium enterprises, decided to be member of NEREUS since the beginning and gave a relevant contribution to the elaboration of the Statute of the Network, thanks to the precious support of CORILA. Today, the Region is actively involved in different NEREUS Working Groups.

The divulgation and communication of scientific results arisen from this kind of initiatives, are essential to reach a wider public and to stimulate a better coordination between different research sectors as well as to foster the integration of policy programmes at National and International level.

In Italy, the reform and innovation process of the Public administration has emphasized the role of Regions in a modified institutional framework.

Today, National, Regional and local institutions are all involved in common programs and they are engaged in a joint action for the coordination and the implementation of projects and initiatives.

In line with this considerations, Veneto Region takes part to the implementation of the provisions concerning the access and use of spatial data in the Public Administration, according to the Digital Administration Code and the European INSPIRE Directive.

The articulated system of plans, instruments and projects, that represent the policy program and the government action lines of the Region, needs to use and elaborate the complex framework of knowledge, available data and information, and to take advantages of the new forms of communication using new technologies. A network of knowledge and communication systems of Information Technologies will be developed in an innovative scientific and technical context.

The contents of the network represent the major themes around which the space research is particularly successful. In this activity the Veneto Region has always paid particular attention: this requires constant professional commitment and relevant financial resources to support research and experimentations

We hope this will continue in the field of maritime applications of EGNOS / GALILEO, which must be supported and developed. In

this particular area we believe that a city like Venice, can contribute not only for its image but also with the development of its technical and scientific excellences.

Therefore, I would like to express my personal satisfaction with initiatives like this and I ensure that the Region of Veneto, within its capabilities and competences, is ready to support along with other local, national and European Institutions, a joint efforts for the support of these excellences.

A city like Venice, with its unique lagoon system, the complex industrial center and the port area, is an example of how research can provide solutions and increasingly efficient and increasingly diffuse services to citizens, as required for improved standards of quality of life.

Best wishes for this workshop and thanks for your attention.