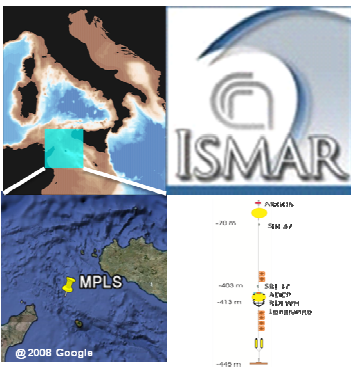


Infrastructure (short name)	CNR-Marine Platforms and Laboratories (CNR-MPL)	
Installations (short name)	Sicily Channel mooring (MPLS)	
Locations	Mediterranean Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea, Sicily Channel	
Coordinates	S: 37°23.00'N - 11°35.50'E	
Bottom depth	S: 500 m	
Legal name of organization	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche CNR	
Location of organization	Rome, Italy	
Contact	Mireno Borghini, mireno.borghini@sp.ismar.cnr.it, Phone: +39 0187978313 Katrin Schroeder, katrin.schroeder@ismar.cnr.it, Phone: +30 041 2407946 Institute of Marine Sciences, National Research Council (ISMAR CNR) Forte Santa Teresa, 19036 Pozzuolo di Lerici (SP), Italy	
Web site address	http://www.ismar.cnr.it/infrastructures/observational-sites/catene-correntometriche/il-canale-di-sicilia	

Description

Sicily Channel, MPLS: Underwater installation moored at about 500 m depth between Sicily and Tunisia, out of the wide Sicilian continental shelf and on the western sill of the Sicily Channel. It performs continuous monitoring of the surface and intermediate exchange of water masses between eastern and western basins of the Mediterranean Sea. Equipped with traditional current meters and ADCP, it has been operative since 1993. At great depths it is furnished by high precision CTD probes for continuous measurement of hydrological parameters. The site is part of the CIESM Hydro-Changes Programme.

Maintenance and data recovery are managed twice per year. Developments towards real time data transmission are planned for both installations.

In occasion of the 6-month maintenance, which is done using a fully equipped research vessel, along the transect connecting the edges of the channel, additional measurements are carried out, which will be available to the JERICO users on specific request. Those are physical (CTD stations, vessel mounted ADCP, lowered ADCP profiles) and chemical (dissolved oxygen, dissolved inorganic nutrients) measurements.

Service offered

The underwater installation in the Sicily Channel is available for Trans National Access to JERICO users for specific experiments, tests of sensors and in-situ validation. The access is offered for multiples of a 6 month period, corresponding to the periodic maintenance operations.

A support team formed by one technician, one sea-man and one head scientist will assist the user group, taking also care of installing/uninstalling operations. The user will have access to the infrastructure by boat, this service will be arranged by the operator. The data will be available to the user in delayed mode at the end of the 6 month access period.

Instruments/Sensors

The following instrumentation is installed in the mooring and will be available to the JERICO users

Sicily Channel, MPLS

Instrument	Measured Parameter(s)	Elevation/Depth	Sampling frequency	Frequency of data recovery
ADCP RDI 75kHz longrange	Current Profiles Temperature	from -415 to -10 m -415 m for T	2 hours	ca. every 6 months
SBE37	Temperature Conductivity Pressure	-400 m	5 min	ca. every 6 months
SBE37	Temperature Conductivity	-80 m	30 min	ca. every 6 months

Special owner rules

Researchers accessing the installation by boats must provide an insurance statement and must bring their own safety equipment.

Whenever possible, the start and end of an access interval will be set to coincide with times scheduled for the ordinary maintenance of the installation in the interests of financial economy (e.g. limiting the costs of boat-time, etc.).