



## **The Costa Crociere Foundation Starts Its Selection Process For Projects Aimed At Social Betterment And Protection Of The Marine Environment**

January 18, 2016

*For the second year running, the Foundation is conducting a call for social and environmental projects for which it will provide funding.*

*Non-profit organizations can submit their proposals on the Foundation's website until February 14 or until the limit of 200 candidate projects is reached.*

Genoa – January 18, 2016 – The Costa Crociere Foundation ([www.costa-crociere-foundation.com](http://www.costa-crociere-foundation.com)) has started the annual selection process reserved for Italian non-profit organizations engaged in the development of social betterment and marine environmental protection projects.

Up until February 14 this year or until the limit of 200 proposals is reached, any Italian non-profit organization operating in either of the Foundation's areas of interest can take part in the call for proposals and submit their project using the special section "Lavorare con noi" (Work with us) of the Costa Crociere Foundation's official website. The candidate projects will be examined by two Advisory Committees consisting of sector experts, while the final choice of the proposals to be funded will be made by the Foundation's Executive Council.

In the social field, the priority areas for the allocation of funding in 2016 will be projects directed at women and at "NEETs", young people who are Not (engaged) in Education, Employment or Training. As for environmental projects, this year's priorities are the prevention and reduction of marine pollution and atmospheric emissions, and the introduction of best practices associated with the "circular economy" applied to the sea. In both areas special attention will be paid to projects that can bring lasting benefits extending beyond the duration of the funding from the Costa Crociere Foundation.

In 2015 the Costa Crociere Foundation provided financial support for nine projects, all of which are ongoing. These include a program to raise awareness on the need to reduce marine litter in the central-northern Tyrrhenian Sea, the assignment of 10 scholarships for students in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Genoa and the "MaTeChef" project run by CIES (Center for Training, Education and Development) in Rome, providing training courses in the culinary industry for disadvantaged youth and helping them enter the labor market by opening a small community restaurant.

The Costa Crociere Foundation is an independent organization which was set up in October 2014 with a mission to promote the social and environmental betterment of Italian communities, by sharing its unique access to resources provided by Costa Cruises and its partners. Italy is the country where Costa Cruises was established and where it is headquartered.

For further information:

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