

New Genoa Breakwater, offshore construction works underway

01 December 2023



Work continues offshore on the New Genoa Breakwater, with the second block of columns under construction and 600,000 tons of gravel already deposited on the seabed.

Activities at the offshore construction site of the new Genoa breakwater continue unabated. To date, over 600,000 tons of gravel, used in the construction of the columns, have already been delivered by the three ships operating round-trips between Genoa and the Spanish city of Cartagena, with the goal to deposit over 170,000 tons per month. In "Testbed 1", the construction of the 862 gravel columns have been completed, and the installation of the geotechnical monitoring instrumentation is set to commence.

Over 1,000 people work, directly and indirectly, in the construction of the New Genoa Breakwater and, to date, over 80 companies, mostly Italian, are involved in the project. Commissioned by the Western Ligurian Sea Port Authority, this major infrastructure facility will play a strategic role in the local, Italian and European economy. Co-funded by the government, with resources released by the PNRR (National Recovery and Resilience Plan) Complementary Fund, the breakwater has been designed to improve accessibility to the Port of Genoa by sea and to consolidate the strategic role of the city-port within the Rhine-Alpine corridor of the TEN-T Trans-European network. The 6,200-metre New Genoa Breakwater, a unique sophisticated feat of engineering, will replace the existing structure further out at sea, to ensure safe access to the port by the ultra-large vessels which require wider navigation channels and turning basins and which, to date, are subject to restrictions.