

Laboratory of Geophysical - Satellite Remote Sensing & Archaeo-environment
Institute for Mediterranean Studies
Foundation for Research & Technology, Hellas (FORTH)

The **Institute for Mediterranean Studies (IMS)** (www.ims.forth.gr) is among the scientific research units of the **Foundation for Research and Technology (FORTH)** (www.forth.gr), which is one of the two largest research foundations in Greece. FORTH was set up in 1987, amalgamating the RCC (Heraklion) with research centres based in Thessaloniki and Patra. The IMS is the only FORTH centre based in Rethymno, and also the only centre which deals with research in the historical, literary and social disciplines, together with the application of new technologies.

IMS has a fully-equipped studio for the production of scientific documentary films, a laboratory for teledetection, paleobotany and paleozoology, and a lending library which is expanding and operates as a supplement to the University Library of Crete. Since 1996, the **Laboratory of Geophysical - Satellite Remote Sensing & Archaeo-environment** of the Institute for Mediterranean Studies (I.M.S.) / Foundation of Research & Technology (F.O.R.T.H.) has provided valuable services in the areas of **geophysical prospection, satellite remote sensing, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), 3D reconstructions and VR and archaeo-environment** and has been widely recognized due to the quality of the services provided, the results of the research projects carried out and the training of students and professional archaeologists.

The Laboratory has carried out a large number of geophysical prospection projects in archaeological sites aiming at the mapping of the subsurface relics and the support of excavations. Both ground and satellite remote sensing techniques contribute to the mapping of the subsurface monuments, the management and protection of archaeological sites and the better exploitation of the natural and cultural environment. The Laboratory employs the most modern techniques for accurate field measurements and has a technical support (hardware and software) that meets the needs of processing, analyzing and mapping geophysical and satellite data.

Among the various milestones of the Lab, we can include the following:

- ✚ Participation in more than 40 large-scale national and international research programs (Leverhulme Trust, University of Cyprus, LIFE, e-Content, INTERREG, ARCHIMED, ETPA, PENED, EPEAEK, INSTAP, NERC, Region of Crete, 3rd Community Support Framework and Cohesion Fund, Innovative actions ETIIA)
- ✚ Scientific supervision and partnership of more than 100 projects of applied and basic research.
- ✚ More than 45 databases and 40 GIS/WEB_GIS applications for natural resources and cultural heritage.
- ✚ More than 250 publications in international journals (100), conferences (102 oral and 58 poster communications) and 70 technical reports.
- ✚ More than 20 reviews from local and international communication media.
- ✚ Co-organization of CAA2002 and participation in the scientific and organizing committees of Int. conferences and symposia.
- ✚ Practical training of more than 200 students from Greek and foreign universities (U. of Crete, U. of Thessaly, Technical Univ. of Crete, Technological Educational Institute of Crete and Athens and the Univ. of Birmingham).
- ✚ Research supervising of graduate and undergraduate dissertations (5 PhD, 12 MA/MSc, 14 BA) from national and foreign universities
- ✚ Bilateral and Technological Research Programs with Cyprus, Bulgaria and China.
- ✚ Member of International organizations, such as AGILE (Association Geographic Information Laboratories Europe), EPOCH - Excellence in Processing Open Cultural Heritage, EARSEL – European Association of Remote Sensing Laboratories
- ✚ Participation in the organizing committee of the EPEAK graduate program of the University of Crete (Departments of History and Archaeology & Department of computer Science) and contribution in teaching graduate and undergraduate seminars at the U. of Crete, Thessaloniki and the Technological Educational Institute of Crete.