

Working group of the Intermediterranean Commission Economic and Social Cohesion

ACTION PLAN 2015-2016

I- Introduction and context

As a major axis of European construction and essential challenge for the future of the Mediterranean, economic and social cohesion aims at achieving a harmonious, balanced and sustainable development of the territories, reducing the economic disparities between countries and regions and fostering an intercultural dialogue and equal opportunities for every citizen. As it was based on the solidarity between States and regional and local authorities, it can significantly help strengthen the sense of belonging both to the European Union and to the Mediterranean.

With EU enlargement, regional disparities are increasing, compounded by the financial and economic crisis. Cohesion in Europe which is materialising through regional policy and its financial intervention, notably the structural and investment funds, has to adapt and maintain equalisation in Europe while pursuing its new regional policy for 2014-2020 focused on the EU2020 strategy objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

In addition, the Cohesion challenge shows a greater complexity in the entire Mediterranean region. Mediterranean territories on all shores have to face recovery from the crisis together and fully take advantage of their potential. The EU countries have to implement political measures to restore growth, employment and competitiveness. This also concerns the action of the EU as a global stakeholder and the Neighbourhood and Enlargement policies at the Southern borders of the EU. At the same time, several countries from the South and the East of the basin are facing challenges related to the democratic transition and decentralisation, and this represents a great opportunity to intensify and structure cooperation between regional and local stakeholders in a better way (also and mostly within the framework of the decentralised cooperation actions carried out by these types of authorities).

In light of this, the Mediterranean – deeply interconnected – is experiencing a unique momentum in the development of a new socio-economic cohesion paradigm both at the local and regional level, which – despite the conflicts in the area – will help to reveal the potential and resources to implement initiatives for a sustainable and smart economic, development, a more inclusive and united society and a real ‘cohabitation’. In this framework, youth represents one of the potentials that can positively be tapped into from all perspectives (dialogue, inclusion, training, mobility, entrepreneurship etc.).

Accompanying, supporting and stimulating these key political and strategic initiatives for economic and social cohesion in the Mediterranean region is an essential work area that corresponds to the objectives of the IMC 2014-2016 action plan. It was agreed to set up the IMC “Economic and Social Cohesion” working group at the IMC Political Bureau that took place in Marseille on 10th December 2014, in line with the desire to coherently and effectively reorganise how work is taken forward and the position to be taken on key sectoral aspects regarding the Regions’ development in the Mediterranean during the 2014-2020 programming period. The working group will be **co-chaired** by **Languedoc-Roussillon** and **Tuscany** regions and will rely – in the view of an effective and shared cooperation – on sub-groups (task forces) led by other Mediterranean regions, on specific topics or actions linked to the group’s work areas.

II- General Objective

Confronting challenges that the Mediterranean area is facing in the development of effective and sustainable economic and social cohesion through the promotion and realisation of concrete actions is the general objective of the work led by the group. The aim will be to contribute to economic and social development in

the Mediterranean, to strengthen links between the two shores in order to reduce socio-economic disparities and to foster a harmonious cohabitation in a stabilised space of mutual understanding, peace and security; a Mare Nostrum supporting opportunities, trust in the future for youth, access to employment and openness to intercultural dialogue.

The Regions' role is significant in providing responses to the Mediterranean challenge. Therefore, the objective will be to highlight the effectiveness of their initiatives, through the exchange of good practice and capitalisation. Monitoring and lobbying actions on European policies will aim at improving the EU's response with regard to strategies and policies that, on one hand, have impact on the Mediterranean territory in the development of social and economic cohesion designed to support citizens and that, on the other hand, promote both the sense of belonging to the EU and the emergence of a Mediterranean identity. Finally, concrete projects will be developed through partnerships, which will help strengthen the territorial and decentralised cooperation actions.

III-Work areas and actions

1- Support and promotion of initiatives for a sustainable, inclusive and smart socio-economic development in the Mediterranean.

A - Fostering the development of the Social and Solidarity Economy and highlighting the regions' initiatives in partnership with key stakeholders of the basin.

With more than 14.5 million European workers in 2009-2010, the Social and Solidarity Economy plays a significant and increasing role within the economic landscape of the EU and is one of the most interesting potentials for the Mediterranean with more than 400 000 companies and organisations in the western basin alone, which represents 6 million jobs. This economic development model that places the human dimension before profits, gathers companies and organisations that reconcile economic development and social utility. Through its progress in terms of organisation, financial approach and production objectives, the Social and Solidarity Economy provides significant support in building a social Europe. The values it conveys are in line with the EU2020 strategy objectives and the initiatives for a sustainable, inclusive and smart economy. The diversity of sectors, the organisational innovation in the development of cooperatives or companies from the industrial, agricultural or services sector, the financial innovation, the environmental commitment, the measured use of resources and the social utility represent different aspects that this emerging sector can bring to help resolve social issues, and stabilise and develop more sustainable economic growth not only in Europe, but also in the whole Mediterranean.

Actions:

- Capitalisation, dissemination and labelling of the initiatives for the SSE of the Mediterranean regions
- Creation of political debates about SSE under the umbrella of the IMC.
- Synergy with networks and organisations active in the field of SSE and its initiatives.
- Preparation of future pilot initiatives / applications for cooperation programmes in the Mediterranean.

First, the IMC "Economic and Social Cohesion" working group aims to develop capitalisation and/or an analysis about SSE in order to understand the core identity in the Mediterranean. Then, it intends to draw up a report and thus define the features and influence of the sector for an economy designed to support a more inclusive and fair social dimension. This work will consist in identifying the initiatives, projects and cooperation actions in the IMC Regions. The methodology, the criteria of the inventory form and the data analysis will be drawn up in coordination between all members of the group.

Secondly, capitalisation and exchange of good practices, particularly through major political events, will disseminate the positive impact of the previously identified actions and results of the analysis. This will offer the opportunity to develop tools that could strengthen the initiatives for sustainable, inclusive and smart economic development in the Mediterranean and beyond. A political debate about this topic could be planned during the 2015 IMC General Assembly.

The development of partnerships with the main SSE stakeholders in the Mediterranean such as lesMed (a platform providing support for SSE and applied cooperative innovation), will strengthen the exchanges and be a gateway to the development of a real structured network for promoting the SSE. The participation in

events such as MedESS, the Social and Solidarity Economy Forum – first edition in Tunis in 2013 – whose next edition will take place in Tangiers in May 2015 will also strengthen the Mediterranean links and opportunities for exchanges between key stakeholders regarding this topic. The working group will be able to promote the participation of the IMC regions and convey the Commission's reflections on the SSE.

Finally, the WG will be able to work on pilot initiatives/projects and/or on applications to be submitted to calls under the cooperation programmes in the Mediterranean.

B – Promoting Entrepreneurship and the Mediterranean diaspora

In order to reduce the disparities between the North and the South, to help overcome the economic crisis and to foster a more supportive and strategic approach to development that supports a balanced and uniform socio-economic fabric, closer links should be established among the migratory Mediterranean diaspora and foster the creation of future businesses by bringing together key stakeholders, local and regional authorities, business leaders, investors and business networks from both sides of the Mediterranean. Finally, the assets and the Mediterranean potential as a whole should be highlighted.

The globalisation of companies, the access to northern and southern markets, receiving companies in the territories, help for business start-ups or the self-employed are part of the numerous forms of actions that can be considered for strengthening cooperation with the countries from the Euromed partnership.

Actions:

- Inventory of the decentralised cooperation initiatives and actions of the regions that support entrepreneurship and the promotion of SMEs.
- Promotion/participation in the development of a network of Northern/Southern stakeholders to promote Mediterranean entrepreneurship and the diaspora promotion through partnership with ACIM (entrepreneurship agency in the Mediterranean), ANIMA Investment, networks of clusters, regional competitiveness clusters etc.
- Participation in the Mediterranean economic week in Marseille and synergies with the Mediterranean Economic Leaders Week in November 2015 in Barcelona.
- Organisation / participation in events enhancing regional actions and policies to support entrepreneurship and strengthening links with Southern Mediterranean partner countries (i.e. through the MEDSPRING project in which the CPMR-IMC is a partner, debate to be organised during the 2015 IMC Assembly)
- Monitoring and contribution to ARLEM activities/reports and its new Commission for sustainable regional development on the subjects of promoting employment and regional development.

C – Tourism promotion as a trigger for sustainable, cultural and economic development in the Mediterranean

Tourism is an essential sector in the economic growth of the Mediterranean as it provides a major contribution to economic recovery by offering employment and development opportunities that are much needed especially in the most weakened regions. The WTO figures on this sector in the Mediterranean confirm that tourism is a fundamental pillar of the economy: with more than 306 million international arrivals and representing 215 billion Euros of export revenues, that is to say 12% of the total exportations, this sector is constantly increasing with 10 million new arrivals expected between now and 2030. This mass of activities and travels involves the need for infrastructures, the development of services and innovation, and remains the origin of new economic, social, cultural and environmental challenges to be overcome. Becoming increasingly aware of the adverse repercussions of mass tourism, it is essential to develop a sustainable form of tourism that represents a path towards socially and economically sustainable and fair development. Tourist facilities and activities respect the environment and preserve natural and cultural resources in the long term.

A specific **'Culture and Sustainable Tourism' Task Force**: will be created and led by Crete (to be confirmed). It will be devoted to defining the framework and the political initiatives and projects on tourism. The TF will deal with coastal and maritime tourism (including cultural sub-marine itineraries, coastal and wetlands areas, cruise tourism, pescaturism, shell fishing routes etc.), and also with urban tourism linked to culture, heritage, gastronomy, economic activities discovery (business tourism, industrial heritage tourism and scientific tourism).

In order to develop more effective territorial strategies on tourism, one of the objectives is to offset the lack of comparable data on sustainable tourism. This involves work on indicators and capitalising on the IMC regions' experience.

Finally, work with concrete initiative suggestions such as project development and monitoring in the tourism field will also involve analysing available European funding and programmes to carry out interregional actions.

Task force action:

- Monitoring and reactions on the implementation of the EC's Communication regarding "EU strategy for more Growth and Jobs in Coastal and Maritime Tourism". / Analysis will be conducted in synergy with the IMC "Transport and IMP" working group and the CPMR tourism group. Advocacy actions will be carried out towards DG Mare on coastal and maritime tourism with the Blue Growth and DG Enterprise regarding the programme for Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs (COSME programme). The CPMR/IMC will participate to the pan-European dialogue with the cruise tourism operators and the harbours.
- Development of a real European platform of the Mediterranean tourism's key stakeholders, throughout partnerships with organisations like NECSTOUR to develop the work on indicators.
- Reflexion on a future agenda on coastal and maritime tourism in the Mediterranean and in connection with the reflexion on macro-regional and maritime basin strategies (particularly EUSAIR).
- Capitalisation, development and monitoring of specific projects (cultural itineraries linked to the sea products, potential of cross-selling for cultural tourism, pescaturism in the Adriatic-Ionian area, mobility for students' and academics, universities offering training on tourism etc.).
- Participation to COM & CAP MarInA-Med 2015 project's event, capitalisation of the results on coastal and maritime tourism and synergy with the projects targeting the same topic (MitoMed, TourMedasset, Nemo) and brainstorming sessions for cooperation projects' development.
- Participation to a Euromed platform for the UNESCO sites promotion, following a proposal from the UNESCO sites promotion organisations of Southern Italy and Arco Latino (Mediterranean platform for local authorities).
- Specific synergies with the Islands Commission on specific challenges such as the sustainable tourism development (energetic and environmental pressure, resources use, accessibility etc.).
- Partnership development with external public and private stakeholders (observatories...).

D – Promotion of innovation for industrial and technological processes in the IMC regions and industrial reborn in the Mediterranean (to be confirmed)

A new area of work is to be developed in the mid-long term in connexion with the CPMR's work on smart specialisation strategies and investments in the maritime field and on the model of other initiatives as [Vanguard](#). On one hand, it aims at harmonising the strategic investments that result from different regions' road maps towards smart specialisation and on the other hand to promote the main projects led in partnership in this framework and the globalisation of operative clusters in territories.

In this regard, the IMC regions will be able to study the possibility of carrying out discussions regarding investments to prioritise on targeted industrial sectors, apart from the maritime (already tackled by the CPMR and the other working groups): manufacturing sector, industrial automation, food-processing industry etc. with the objective of developing concrete cooperation in the future and improving the expertise, the industrial process and the clusters' actions on their territories. In this framework, it would be interesting to develop exchanges and reflexions about processes and technologies that can be used in different sectors at the same time ("factories of the future") and to expand the reflexion to Southern and Eastern territories of the Mediterranean.

2 – Promotion of specific actions in favour of democracy and citizenship, youth and intercultural dialogue.

A – Support training, mobility, integration and employment access for young people in the Mediterranean

The Mediterranean regions are strongly affected by the extent of the endemic youth unemployment and by the social integration problem that results from it. The fight against youth unemployment is an essential priority for the construction of a viable socioeconomic context in every European territory and beyond. Developing a real multi-level policy for Youth Employment is a true challenge that includes all the political

stakeholders and that should imply an effective coherence between the EU actions and the one necessary developed at the regional and local level.

An effective coordination of the actions and initiatives for the development of training pathways and a sustainable professional integration is a primary objective. Territorial differences in the models of integration will also have to be taken into account and be included.

The actions have to target all youth categories (dropping out of school, not in Education, Employment nor Training – NEETS, overqualified talents who do not find any access to employment) as each of them has its own issues and needs adapted measures in term of prevention, orientation, advices and job opportunities development.

Regions have direct experience as they implement measures to develop an education oriented to the development of skills adapted to the professional world, encourage insertion and socio-cultural development opportunities and independence, bring support in term of income and tax advantages, develop youth entrepreneurship and promote their mobility in Europe and in the Mediterranean etc.

The IMC “Social and Economic Cohesion” working group aims to promote effective actions in the Mediterranean regions and to influence in a more effective way the European policies in order to improve tools (including financial support) and intensify initiatives to fight youth unemployment.

Actions:

- Development of a regional and local authorities Mediterranean network and key associations for a better integration of young people in the Mediterranean, aiming for a mutual understanding and the strengthening of the exchanges towards their inclusion in the institutions, training and work.
For example:
 - Monitoring of initiatives or transversal platform for exchanges and dialogue that make young people aware of their responsibilities (as an example, MED NET, launched by Tuscany in 2014) and increasing the participation of the associations from the IMC regions’ territories to the virtual platform and the future meetings.
 - Promotion of the synergy between different initiatives and platforms for youth, promoted by the IMC regions (*Euromediterranean Youth Meeting 2015 “Social Entrepreneurship and the Collaborative Economy”* by Catalonia, *Mediterranean Young Citizens workshop* by PACA, other by Languedoc-Roussillon etc.).
 - Possible creation of a coordination action for developing networking and share of experiences, optimisation of young people and key stakeholders’ participation and maximisation of the results (as well as for enhancing operating schemes conceived with the young people to support access to the professional world).
- Setting up of concrete projects that aim to improve youth mobility and training. For example:
 - [Vasco da Gama](#) – Med. The VdG_Med project will be carried out by a **Task Force** – led by the **Veneto** region – who will study the possibilities for developing the mobility initiative of the CPMR on maritime careers within the EUSAIR, ADRION programme and the Union for the Mediterranean.
 - EUROMED + led by the French Erasmus + Agency in connection with Med4Jobs led by the UfM: initiative exclusively linked to specific aspects such as the mobility for people looking for training, internship, enterprise mobility, training centres, the education trainer/professional training in the primary fields of the dialogue 5+5 (synergies with VdG Med could be studied).
- Monitoring and contribution to activities / the ARLEM report and its new Commission for sustainable regional development on the subject of promotion of employment and regional development.
- Monitoring of European policies and programmes about employment, social inclusions that will lead to a reflexion work about reinforced investments in favour of youth in the structural funds’ implementation, in particular the ESF for the 2014-2020 programming period. Work in synergy with the CPMR Cohesion working group and advocacy actions in the EC.
- Exchange and capitalisation of best practices at the European and regional level, regions’ actions promotion (guarantee for young people, development of quality internship opportunities, apprenticeship, work-linked training, policies and financial tools supporting entrepreneurship by young people, work mobility).

B – Intensify the intercultural dialogue and the mutual understanding between the North and the South

The intensification of the intercultural/ interreligious dialogue and the mutual understanding between the North and the South is a true challenge to be taken into account in the view of a socioeconomic development adapted to cultural realities, that is to say more balanced and sustainable. The strong existing disparities within the Mediterranean societies are worsened by the economic and financial crisis. A support to the cultural institutions and the civil society's role at regional and local level is decisive, not only to strengthen the intra-Mediterranean cultural links but also to foster a mutual understanding between North/South. This would involve the respect of the cultural diversities, beliefs and religions and a total rejection of ethnocentrism. The objective of creating an intercultural dialogue is to move forward a dynamic for mutual recognition, a more inclusive society and a true "cohabitation".

Actions:

- Experiences of exchanges about the initiatives, measures/laws for the religious and socio-cultural integration in the IMC regions (brief recommendation report drawing up?)
- Partnerships and synergies with euro-Mediterranean networks (Anna Lindh foundation, IEMed (the European Institute for the Mediterranean) on current works in favour of an intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding between countries of the Mediterranean basin (possible pilot projects to be presented for the FAL calls? Participation to conferences).
- Political debate to be organised within the framework of the 2015 IMC GA.
- Coordination between all platforms for inclusions and dialogue for youth in the Mediterranean (transversal ref. to point 2a).

C – Promote citizenship and democracy in the Mediterranean

The promotion of citizenship is a priority in the relaunch of a successful euro-Mediterranean cooperation that takes Mediterranean populations' real needs into account. Strengthening societies, broken by a financial and economic global crisis, conflicts, and who are facing the democratic instability, social inequalities, unemployment, insecurity and environmental degradation, will only be possible with an effective mobilisation of both rims and reinforced euro-Mediterranean relations that integrate civil society and citizens. In coherence with the numerous mobilisations started during the Arab Spring, which is a proof that citizens develop an increasing interest in politics, economics and their neighbours' culture and do not accept to be put aside from the governance, the political decisions and the countries' governance must be truly placed in the hands of the citizens throughout governmental structures whose primary preoccupations are the interest and the will of its populations. The support to actions that foster the emergence of a Mediterranean citizenship, the development of democracy in the Southern countries, will be promoted within the working group.

Actions :

- Participation of the chair regions in events that promote citizenship in the Mediterranean, in collaboration with euro-Mediterranean networks (Anna Lindh Foundation...)
- Promotion and capitalisation of "media" initiatives for the emergence of a Mediterranean citizenship (reports, conferences, photo competition, exhibitions, videos, debates, radio, workshops, demonstrations, actions to raise awareness that include citizens, media and 2.0 social networks).
- Promotion of the intensification, development and experimentation of the high level actions for citizenship, like the international civilian service (labelling initiative promoted by the regions?)
- Promotion of the regional initiatives and decentralised cooperation actions with a view to the strengthening of local and regional authorities' skills, in order to accompany the decentralisation process (i.e. ARLEM project) and synergy with Platforma, in which the CPMR is a partner, particularly on the activities aiming at developing the partnership with the Southern rim (in coordination with the IMC "TC and Macro-Regions" working group).
- Coordination in the different platforms for inclusion and dialogue for youth in the Mediterranean (transversal ref. previous point).

3 Fostering a Cohesion Policy that tackles the Mediterranean regions' challenges.

A - Contribution to the analysis and monitoring of structural funds allocations and future indicators in the framework of the EU Cohesion Policy.

The working group will be able to play a part in the current work on the analysis and monitoring of the structural funds allocations and the indicators revision (for the allocation definition) led by the CPMR working group on cohesion policy, called "CORE Group". This work aims at improving the effectiveness of the cohesion policy, already targeting the next programming period, through a revision of its allocation mechanisms that have to take the regional characteristics into account in order to find a solution to the

economic and social disparities and to promote investments in key sectors. On that point, the IMC regions' participation is essential to collect feedbacks and specific expectations of the Mediterranean regions in the projections framework that will be carried out by the CPMR in a view to the mid-term Cohesion policy (2016) and Multiannual Financial Framework (2017) revisions. These elements could be useful to transmit the specific requests to the States and the EC.

Actions:

- Monitoring Cohesion Policy and work on synergy with the CPMR working group on cohesion (reactions and participations to the work delivered by the group in a view to present a position or common results during a debate organised for the 2015 IMC-CPMR General Assembly).
- Accompany the political advocacy work of the CPMR - particularly in the DG Regio (Mediterranean specific messages inclusion in the IMC political declarations).

B – Support to the Macro-regional strategy approach in the Mediterranean

The macro-regional approach is a vector for the implementation of a more effective socioeconomic cohesion, asking to the private and public stakeholders to better coordinate their actions, to adopt a coherence that is necessary to implement policies and to reinforce the effectiveness of financial tools, multi-level governance and partnerships. The work carried out by the IMC working group on the “TC and macro-regional strategies” falls into synergy with the objective of fostering a balanced socioeconomic development in the Mediterranean basin.

Action:

- Monitoring the reflexions carried out within the IMC “TC and macro-regional strategies” working group and the CPMR Task force. Reactions to their works and initiatives that have already began (i.e. identification of pillars and key initiatives to be capitalised/developed in the framework of social and economic cohesion).

NB: actions linked to three identified work areas will be prioritised during the mandate in consideration with the Euro-Med Agenda, the IMC and its co-presidencies.

3 Organisation

During the 2015-2016 mandate, the “economic and social cohesion” working group is co-chaired by the regions of Tuscany and Languedoc-Roussillon. Both regions will bring their support in the development and validation of works carried out and will coordinate together the group's activities.

Specific Task force will be created depending on expressed needs and on specific initiatives to be realised or that would need a particular work structure in order to guarantee the effectiveness and fluidity in the works' progress. Other regions will be able to lead these Task forces coordinated by the working group's co-presidencies. In the same way, the coordination of certain actions, if necessary, could be put in other specific regions' hands in order to promote a real effective work division and to have fully shared objectives.

The working group will have to promote the participation of a high number of IMC members. On each axis and concerned action, the core of the “contributory” regions will have to be identified.

The planned Task forces are the following:

Axis 1

- Vasco da Gama Med Task force - led by the region of **Veneto**

Axis 2

- Culture and tourism Task force– led by the region of **Crete** (to be confirmed)

The working group and Task force meetings will be organised by taking into account other meetings of the CPMR's and IMC's agendas. It will thus support gathering.

The travels and personnel costs will be supported by the participating regions members.

Complementary meetings or events could be organised in collaboration with other partner organisations, or within the framework of European projects activities.

Finally, in order to support an effective coordination and to follow the works processes, the priority for e-mails exchanges, online sharing documents, the organisation of short follow-up meetings by phone or Visio conference will be given to the responsible members of the tasks.

The priority working languages are French and English (selection to be checked after having defined the participating members).

The tasks' sharing will be done in an effective and transparent manner in conjunction with all members of the group and will take specificities, expertise and each ones' preferences into account.

The group's members and the co-presidencies will keep continuous contact with the IMC Secretariat who will bring its support to logistic organisation, communication and works' processes. The Presidency will also support this groups' works development.

Synergies between groups or its Task forces can be considered with other IMC groups (i.e. "Transport and IMP" on the coastal and maritime topics / Vasco da Gama or "TC and Macro-regional strategies" with the cooperation projects or the reflexions about macro-regions or migrants integrations in the framework of the socio-economic development) or CPMR groups (i.e. "CORE group" about the Cohesion policy, the migrations Task force etc.), and with other geographical commissions (i.e. Islands, Balkan Black Sea about the sustainable tourism).

The group's works will be reviewed in 2016 by the Political Bureau or the General Assembly who evaluate – from the perspective of continuity – how actions carried out during the 2015-2016 period and future inaugurated works can be pursued.

4 Calendar

Save the dates 2015

- *February/March 2015* – preparatory meetings to set up the **working group plan** and guidelines.
- *2^{3rd}-2^{4th} of February 2015* – annual event of the **Med Spring project**, Berlin (GE)
- *20th of March 2015* – Meetings of the **Technical Representative of the IMC Political Bureau**: preparatory meeting for the IMC General Assembly and working groups' plans
- *13th-17th of April 2015* - **Euromediterranean Youth Meeting 2015 "Social Entrepreneurship and the Collaborative Economy"**, Barcelona
- *April 2015* – Exploratory meeting on Vasco Da Gama Med with DG Mare, Brussels (BE) and other meetings in connexion with the project development.
- *13th of May 2015* - MarInA-Med **fifth event of capitalisation and communication on sustainable tourism** CIM CRPM-Latin Arch meeting for the cooperation project development (tbc) Florence (IT)
- *19th-23rd of May 2015*- **Med Spring of High Schools / Young Mediterranean Citizens workshop**, Marseille (FR).
- *21st of May*, **Young Mediterranean Citizens Assembly** (synergy with Med Net)
- *29th of May 2015*, **Seminar on the Med Diaspora** organised by the Centre for Mediterranean Integration ' IMC Marseille (FR)
- *May 2015* - **Medess** Forum in Tangier
- *2nd / 3rd of July 2015*, Intermediterranean Commission General Assembly (political debate on topics the group is interested in) "Economic and Social Cohesion" working group, Napflio (GR)
- *October 2015*, Open Days participation? (Seminars organised by the regions?)
- *November 2015*, **Med Economic week**, Marseille and Barcelona (FR)
- *End of November/ December 2015*, **Intermediterranean Commission Political Bureau and seminar** in Rabat (MA) tbc + **international seminar** to be defined
- *Last trimester 2015 or 2016*, Med Net Meeting/Forum – Youth platform?
- *December 2015*, **YES Academy**, 2 days of meetings between social entrepreneur, project managers, experts and coaches in order to work together and boost creation and innovation in social entrepreneurship

Save the dates2016 (to define)

- 1st semester, **Plenary** of the “**Economic and Social Cohesion**” WG + **seminar**? Place to be confirmed.

This calendar has to be included to the activities (linked to the plan axis) organised by the IMC regions. The list and information about these activities could be communicated by using the Commission’s website.

5 Annexes

- « Culture and Sustainable Tourism » *Task force*: Lobbying actions project and other projects (to be developed)
- *Vasco da Gama Task force*: Paper on the perspectives of Vasco Da Gama in the Mediterranean (project to be presented to the UfM) and in the Adriatic-Ionian basin (project to be presented to the ADRION programme and for labelling in the EUSAIR framework) / Map of Maritime Schools of the Mediterranean.
- *Med Net platform overview?*