



Región de Murcia



CPMR INTERMEDITERRANEAN
COMMISSION



Région
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

CPMR Intermediterranean Commission

Working Group on “Transport and Integrated Maritime Policy”

WORK PLAN 2017-2018

I. Introduction and context

In December 2014, the Intermediterranean Commission approved, during its Political Bureau, the 2014-2016 global action plan that reorganised in a coherent way the work on sectoral policies of the organization, merging several working groups. A new structure of four permanent working groups was adopted to improve dynamics, foster members’ proactive participation and synergies, as well as to reinforce the impact of results and the development of concrete initiatives. Therefore, the IMC merged the 2 existing former groups and established a new “Transport and Integrated Maritime Policy” joint working group, which has been co-chaired during 2015-2016 - and will be co-chaired, also for the mandate 2017-2018 - by **Murcia** and **Provence-Alpes-Côte-d’Azur** Regions, in charge of the transport and maritime aspects respectively.

In fact, Maritime and transport issues raise **common challenges** in terms of maritime spatial planning, Integrated Coastal Zone Management, maritime safety, sustainable maritime transport, or the role of ports in the socioeconomic development of the regions and the multi-level governance of corridors, issues about accessibility and interoperability of coastal and marine data as well as with regard to funding for building effective infrastructures (or for implementing cooperation actions).

The discussions and progress achieved these last years have helped to identify priorities and issues shared between the members thereby allowing the IMC to draft a **joint work plan** which has been periodically updated. This aims to foster a more integrated form of the interactions and partnerships between member Regions, increase the impact of the advocacy actions before the EU institutions throughout the dissemination of the results of coordinated and developed work on the different thematic areas. The working group pursues the action previously initiated, supporting the regional authorities’ efforts to improve the implementation of the EU regulations and Mediterranean agreements, in particular on maritime and transport policies, to ensure greater consideration of their role at the national and EU level and to put in practice an active and effective coordination.

The actions carried out particularly through the MAREMED project in 2010-2013, covered a large range of activities under a transnational dimension (integrated management of coastal areas, pollution – including implementation of the Water Framework Directive –, adaptation to climate change in coastal areas, fisheries, coastal and maritime data management, governance). The project provided an overview of the implemented policies and their governance suggesting innovative tools in order to develop synergies between regional, European and Mediterranean policies. The results dissemination phase, particularly through the organisation of events of political importance, was combined with the policy message adopted by the IMC on strengthening framework conditions for Blue Growth in the Mediterranean with the coastal regions. This

step, raised new questions about Blue Growth. An integrated approach to the coastal areas management raised as a prerequisite for the development of Blue Growth and for an effective implementation of EU maritime policies in general. In fact it is essential to take into consideration the Mediterranean climatic, geographic and geostrategic conditions.

In the framework of the MAREMED project and the IMC activities, the endorsement of the **Bologna Charter** (*Regions' Charter for the promotion of a common framework for strategic actions aimed at the protection and sustainable development of Med coastal areas*), which promotes in a strong and effective manner joint policies for marine and coastal areas management, generated a joint political effort and the structuring of specific cooperation projects in the Mediterranean (as well as a clusterisation of them). The Charter marked also the reflections towards a macro-regional approach in the Mediterranean where the maritime dimension would constitute the main pillar.

The inclusion of a strong maritime dimension within the macro-regional strategies, in particular for the Adriatic-Ionian and the new emerging strategies and initiatives within the Mediterranean Sea basin, remains in fact a priority for IMC coastal administrations. The continuation of the work in the framework of the guidelines of the Bologna Charter should help to create key projects under a same approach, covering all topics involved in the coastal territories during the 2014-2020 programming period and beyond. In this framework, the Bologna Charter "Coordination board" set up in 2014 to define a joint action plan to **develop conditions for the sustainable growth** of Mediterranean coasts, driven by and in coordination with the COASTGAP cooperation project and its promoters, gave concrete results that are being now taken forward and materialised in the 2014-2020 programming period.

Furthermore, as a bridge between the two programming periods, the Interreg MED programme's integrated maritime approach established a unique partnership that contributed to the effective implementation of the 2014-2020 programming period, in line with the Blue Growth perspective and fostered the development potential for economic, maritime and marine activities in the Mediterranean. The IMC, has been committed in this framework through the **COM&CAP MarInA-Med** project – the first project of this kind based on the integrated communication and capitalisation strategy of thirteen other approved projects under this maritime dimension. MarInA-Med operated in the 2014-2015 period developing activities of communication and capitalization addressing 4 priority areas: Maritime Innovation and Economic Development, Environmental protection, Transport and Accessibility, Governance and policy response.

The Intermediterranean Commission and the MarInA-Med partners organised several events on the future of fisheries in the Adriatic-Ionian Basin, the "Mediterranean Cooperation Days" on emerging strategies, as well as other capitalization seminars on blue energies, maritime sustainable transport and midterm and final lobbying oriented conferences. The project also provided a system for information exchange, news, videos and policy positions addressed to specific targets. It delivered thus a powerful set of communication tools and a Policy paper on the Integrated Maritime Approach in the Mediterranean including technical and political recommendations extracted from the projects. Within its transversal dimension, the work of collecting, processing and disseminating the results of the thirteen projects allowed the multiple stakeholders and specific targets in the Euro-Mediterranean and beyond to exploit and disseminate the technical and policy messages.

MarInA-Med led to a series of spin off actions that were funded with the participation of the IMC, its members as well as key partners in the framework of the 1st call of the programme in 2016-2017. Five maritime projects were thus selected on issues like: environment and biodiversity protection, innovation and blue growth, sustainable maritime and coastal tourism, sustainable urban transport.

Concerning transport policies the past works of the group were conditioned by the **TEN-T review**, and thus the members aimed to monitor the regulatory proposals regarding the CEF and TEN-T and in particular regarding the progress of negotiations on corridors and the hubs of the core network and the proposal for a maritime subcorridor in the Western Mediterranean (corridor number 3). Considered as a priority on account of its socioeconomic impact, the Mediterranean corridor was part of an analysis of projects to be prioritised and a proposed structure for its governance, targeting particularly its planning in a difficult budgetary context and the configuration of a common strategy to optimise costs in order to improve the competitiveness of the

concerned territories at the public and private level. The group and its regions also contributed towards the monitoring of other corridors that are related to the Mediterranean and participated in the first stage of their governance (*Fora*) in coordination with the CPMR transport intergroup. In addition, the IMC participated with the CPMR in the review of the White Paper on Transport drawn up in 2011.

The IMC group also carried out with the CPMR a monitoring of the land-sea connections as a complementary section of the core network, and in particular on the integration of Motorways of the Sea, especially in the Mediterranean, its funding, and issues related to terrestrial access to harbours, adaptation of port facilities, rail terminals and logistics centres, new coastal routes and aid for maritime services and equipment. In addition, a reflection on the possibilities of sustainable maritime transport development in the Mediterranean has been started on themes related to the sulphur Directive, policies related ports, and funding instruments for sustainable transport. Finally, the Neighbourhood dimension of EU transport policy is an aspect that was also addressed for reflection and that will be developed in the future in relation with the monitoring of the Union for the Mediterranean's activities and the 5+5 Dialogue, amongst others.

More recently and at governance level, emerging strategies as EUSAIR, initiatives like West Med, Bluemed on research and Innovation or the works of the Union for the Mediterranean on Blue Economy also appeared in the Mediterranean panorama and will constitute the framework for the action of this group. At the same time several EU directives are being implemented: Maritime Spatial Planning, Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Habitat, Birds and the IMC will have to monitor together with the CPMR the impact on the ground and the role of the regions. Finally, the EU is reflecting upon its future, so the IMC will have to keep pushing hard for a strong maritime dimension and a sound impulse on maritime investments.

The actions and objectives of this group fall in the frame of the [CPMR Maritime Agenda](#) and will help addressing the [key issues raised by the organisation](#) concerning the preparation of maritime policies in the post 2020 period as well as on Accessibility issues at a Mediterranean scale.

II. Objectives, working themes and priorities

A. Main objectives

During the 2017-2018 programming period, as a main objective, the working group shall continue the work begun from the perspective of maritime issues, on strengthening the integrated maritime approach and support for the development of Blue Growth in the Mediterranean. From the specific perspective of transport, it will aim, as a priority, to improve accessibility by implementing a common strategy for the Mediterranean Regions for a better integration of its space and connection of its territories within the context of European and worldwide sea basins and the development of a global approach that takes into account the terrestrial and maritime specificities in the Mediterranean area. In line with the Paris Climate Change Agreement, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector is also a major objective of the WG. More generally, the regions' mobilisation within the working group is aimed at improving the governance, coordination and enhancement of the regions' role in implementing EU maritime and transport policies that affect the Mediterranean.

B. Main themes covered by the group's action

The "Transport and Integrated Maritime Policy" working group includes the maritime and transport themes that can be developed in synergy with other working group of the Intermediterranean Commission and in correlation with CPMR working groups activities.

Priority themes:

- 1 TEN-T/CEF, transport corridors having an impact on the Mediterranean and Motorways of the Sea –**
While contributing to the objectives of the CPMR transport working group, the Intermediterranean Commission will continue to monitor the TEN-T and CEF and the implementation/governance of the corridors – in particular for the Mediterranean corridor – and will expand its analysis of projects to be prioritised while further developing analysis or reflections concerning other corridors in connection with

the Mediterranean area. It could therefore strengthen the advocacy actions directed at the EC's DG MOVE and the States, to defend a common strategy and increase synergies with territorial stakeholders, improve communication for the next steps of the decision making process, the arrangements for reviewing the action plans and for the TEN-T review. The IMC will keep accompanying the work of the CPMR on the Motorways of the sea and remain attentive to an effective integration of the MoS in the terrestrial corridors and to an effective organisation between the land transport coordinators and the MoS coordinators. The IMC will also monitor the situation concerning the RTAP and the connections with the Neighbourhood countries.

2 Sustainable maritime transport, air transport and multimodal transport – logistics and goods transport

– The Intermediterranean Commission will keep analysing with the CPMR the development possibilities for sustainable maritime transport through the mobilisation in the European forum for sustainable maritime transport and the issues related to the implementation of the Sulphur Directive as well as the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from land, sea and air transport of people and goods (logistics) in line with the European objective for 2020. Furthermore, the idea is to take forward reflections to support new functions of the ports and their sustainability including the conformity of facilities to cope with the increase in maritime traffic (particularly goods transport via container ships), and also regarding short-sea shipping between EU and non-EU Mediterranean countries, intermodal hubs, the sustainability and the development of regular shipping lines and services and finally improved cooperation between harbours for mastering the highly increasing growth in maritime traffic while maintaining their specificities. At the same time, the IMC will keep capitalising information and developing thoughts concerning port policies, proposals on the implementation of MoS, financial instruments for accessibility, rail-port transport and intermodal terminals, as well as on logistics activities in the Mediterranean harbours. Finally, in other sectors, work will focus on the territorial rebalancing of the airport network and contribution to the implementation of the works of the CPMR concerning the EU aviation strategy, the improvement of motorway traffic fluidity, the interoperability of the rail network, the homologation and access to transport infrastructures, the intermodality of railway-road routes to promote integration and interconnection between different transport modes, and homologation of traffic system and networks in general. Finally, the development of multimodal logistics platforms for an adequate intermodal service offer and the development of logistics activities in order to increase regional competitiveness will be fostered.

3 Peripheries and accessibility

– In synergy with the CPMR's Islands Commission and transport group, the aim is to address how to compensate the marginalisation of peripheral and island areas by mainly focussing on their harbours and airports. This is also a follow up of the CPMR 2015 Accessibility Campaign, which the IMC supported with a seminar in Malaga in 2015 about harbours, accessibility and sustainable maritime transport and other activities. The connectivity of the peripheral regions to the TEN-T shall also be considered because a clear improvement of the accessibility between the comprehensive network connections with the main network is necessary and an effective programme should be drawn up. This programme should take these connections into account within the CEF, considering the low level of associated funds on calls regarding these actions and the inflexibility regarding their integration within the main network corridors, as occurred when drawing up the Med Corridor work plan.

4 Integrated coastal zone management and maritime spatial planning

– in the framework of an analysis of the links between regions and the implementation of the MSP Directive led by the CPMR, the Intermediterranean Commission will be able to lead initiatives in relation with the capitalisation work in the MareMed project (related to the Bologna Charter and the joint action plan developed under COASTGAP) the MarInaMed COM&CAP project and the most recent PANACeA, InnoBlueGrowth and SIMWEST Med projects, among others. The IMC could thus support the CPMR monitoring activity on the MSP Directive implementation in the regions within the Mediterranean basin. This work will be developed mainly via the SIMWEST MED project at Western Mediterranean level.

5 Adaptation to the climate change in coastal areas

– Reflections are being carried out in several frames connected with the Bologna Charter and its joint action plan, the review of the MSSD strategy, the IMC "Energy and Water" working group, the new CPMR TF on Climate, and several running projects. All these

reflections capitalize the results collected in the framework of MarIna-Med, MareMed and the Mediterranean regions' contributions through Med Cop Climate meetings.

- 6 Maritime economy, investments and industry** (including the shipbuilding industries, marine energies, professional yachting...) – Several works will be developed within a specific Task Force addressing blue economy in connection with the Union for the Mediterranean works at wider basin level and emerging initiatives such as West Med and Bluemed. Also, specific projects will be implemented. All this will feed the CPMR maritime agenda and works from the Mediterranean angle. The CPMR is contributing to the launch of a European industrial maritime strategy in connection with the implementation of LeaderShip2020 and boosting its works on Maritime investments in connection with its analysis on Smart Specialisation Strategies. The IMC works will be developing reflections and actions coherent and related to these activities with a clear impact on the ground.
- 7 Fisheries and aquaculture** – As part of CPMR's actions aiming for a more social, competitive and sustainable Common Fisheries Policy, the Intermediterranean Commission will be able to pursue its contributions and reflections on the future of fisheries in the Mediterranean through the capitalisation of maritime projects linked with MarIna-Med, the forthcoming results the running PANACeA, and priority actions and reflections to be developed in the frame of a dedicated Task Force. This TF will work also on the monitoring of the EMFF implementation, aquaculture strategies and the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy.
- 8 Production and management of marine and maritime knowledge and data** – based on the Bologna Charter and the work carried out under Maremed and other Interreg Med projects like Med Iamer and PANACeA, the Intermediterranean Commission will keep contributing to the CPMR analysis on issues related to marine data (data interoperability, setting up dissemination platforms, training for regions/users), and will also take part in discussions with European institutions.
- 9 Marine ecosystems and biodiversity protection** – Concerning the monitoring of environment Directives and Regulations implementation, the work linked to the results of the Maremed project and the results of MarIna-Med (in particular Med-Iamer) as the ones of the projects capitalised with PANACeA will mobilise the members of the Intermediterranean Commission. Especially with a view to developing a CPMR positions related to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and in coherence with the international processes concerning the maritime dimension of the Rio+20 commitments. This work will also imply synergies with networks like Med Pan, the network of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas.
- 10 Maritime Safety & Surveillance**– Alongside the CPMR's lobbying for the recognition of ecological damage and the debates concerning the Environmental Liability Directive, the IMC's members are concerned by this topic – that has already been the subject of specific seminars in the Mediterranean- and could contribute to this topic capitalising upon the results of MarIna-Med and most recent projects like InnoBlueGrowth, which capitalise projects dealing with Marine Surveillance from a technology and business point of view, and the Panoramed project (Interreg Med), which addresses maritime surveillance in the context of multi-level governance in the Mediterranean.

Complementary themes:

- 11 Maritime and coastal tourism** – The work will be led in connection with the Economic and Social Cohesion group in which the Crete Region will manage a specific task force on "Culture and Sustainable Tourism" and with the CPMR's working group dedicated to sustainable tourism and whose expected actions concern an analysis of the links between regional policies and the European strategy for maritime and coastal tourism. In including a Sea Basin dimension, this analysis will require technical exchanges between the IMC members. Other activities like exchange of good practices and development of projects with interregional / inter-basin dimensions will also be considered. The work on tourism will be implemented through and feed by concrete projects where the IMC CPMR already participates and that will run in the period 2017-2019 (e.g. MITOMED +, CO-Evolve etc.), and the Panoramed project (Interreg Med), which tackles maritime and coastal tourism in a multi-level governance perspective in the Mediterranean.

12 Employment-Training in the maritime economy – In the framework of new initiatives at the sea basin level and further to recommendations from the Vasco Da Gama initiative, interested regions may take part in developing a Vasco Da Gama – Med action, that could generate several spin off and be submitted to the Union for the Mediterranean for endorsement and or to cooperation bodies and programmes in the Adriatic-Ionian area. In this perspective, a specific Task force coordinated by the Veneto Region has been set up within the “Economic and Social Cohesion” group.

C. Work area and actions

The Intermediterranean Commission “Transport and Integrated Maritime Policy” working group organises its actions under two main work areas dealing with their respective issues and another, more transversal that concerns common issues related to both maritime and transport. Within each area some key actions are identified.

1 – Support to initiatives for improving accessibility of the Mediterranean area and connections of its territories through the TEN-T/CEF

- Monitoring of European strategies, regulations related to EU transport policy, and political recommendations
 - General monitoring on the development of TEN-T/CEF and analysis of the corridor work plans, CEF Calls, amendments to the annex I and for future reviews.
 - Coordinated participation of regions in the framework of the corridor fora– advocacy with States, European Parliament (TRAN Committee) and EC’s DG Move (including the request to co-organise decentralised coordination meeting of the corridor fora at the regional level and coordination mechanisms among regions when dealing with cross-border infrastructures).
 - Monitoring on the implementation and multi-level governance of Mediterranean corridors (the review of the corridor plans) – review of the priority project proposals for the regions and further analysis on other corridors concerning the Mediterranean basin.
 - Reflections in association with the Islands Commission on how to counterbalance the marginalisation of peripheral areas and Islands by focussing on harbours, airports and Motorways of the Sea.
 - Reflection regarding the neighbourhood dimension of transport policy and the RTAP (with the involvement of members from the Southern shore), capitalisation of the recommendations resulting from ESPON projects such as ITAN, monitoring and synergy with UfM’s work, relevant 5+5 dialogue, actions led by bodies such as the CMI (Center for Mediterranean Integration).
 - Participation in the review of EU papers related to transport issues.
 - Participation to CPMR works on the EU aviation strategy.
- Support to considerations regarding the improvement of European financial instruments for initiatives related to accessibility:
 - Reflections on the most effective contributions of the structural funds and territorial cooperation programmes to issues related to accessibility in the Mediterranean.
 - Improvement of TEN-T funding through a coordination of CEF funds, cohesion fund, ERDF, ESF, Juncker plan...
 - Reflections on an accessibility and connectivity criterion in the selection process for CEF calls in coordination with the CPMR.

- Networking, partnership development, reflections on joint projects and preparation of future pilot /strategic projects led by the regions
 - Participation in the follow up of CPMR accessibility campaign 2015.
 - Reflections further to the capitalisation work under Marina-Med and other projects related to sustainable maritime transport, environment and harbours.
 - Identification of possible projects to be developed under cooperation programmes, CEF, other instruments.
 - Possible partnerships to be developed with external bodies, projects etc., and participation of regional representatives in relevant seminars and conferences (e.g. Logistic forum/Sector Alliance Committee, Ascame etc.).

2 - Support for developing an integrated maritime approach for Blue Growth in the Mediterranean

- Monitoring on European directives, communications and regulations related to IMP/Blue Growth and production of policy recommendations
 - Monitoring of EU and intergovernmental regulations and political initiatives that contribute to framework conditions for the blue growth in the Mediterranean countries:
 - Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)
 - Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (MSP)
 - Birds and Habitats Directives
 - Climate Adaptation Strategy
 - EU 20% greenhouse gas emission reduction target for 2020
 - EU initiative regarding marine data – Marine knowledge 2020
 - Protocol on ICZM in the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and the action plan for its implementation (2012-2019)
 - Flood Directive (FD), in synergy with the “Energy and Water” group
 - Water Framework Directive (WFD), in association with “Energy and Water” group
 - Other or Follow up/updating of the policy recommendations of the Maremed project
 - Monitoring and drawing up of policy recommendations to be issued in the framework of Policy papers of the IMC and the running projects (e.g. PANACeA, InnoBlueGrowth, SIMWEST MED), capitalizing MarinA-Med PP.
 - Participation in future EU consultations.
- Keep nourishing the work and platform on maritime investments related to smart specialisation strategies (RIS3) launched by the CPMR and monitoring of European financial instruments for initiatives related to Blue Growth
 - Participation in the activities of the CPMR on Maritime Investment by providing the Mediterranean regions’ views (exchange of good practices, networking, conferences, analysis etc.).
 - Monitoring on ESI funds (ERDF, part of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund dedicated to the Integrated Maritime Policy).
 - Monitoring on calls for proposals that include a possible maritime dimension: Horizon 2020 , Life+ , ENI-CBC Med Programme, INTERREG MED Programme, INTERREG Europe, Other.
- Participation and promotion of a strong maritime dimension in the Adriatic-Ionian strategy and other future macro-regional strategies or initiatives in the Mediterranean (for example in the Western Mediterranean)

- Collaboration with the IMC “Territorial Cooperation and Macro Regional Strategies” working group, CPMR Adriatic-Ionian Strategy Task Force and CPMR Balkans and Black Sea Commission.
- Contribution to the implementation of the EUSAIR strategy’s maritime pillars (Adriatic-Ionian area) with participation in concrete initiatives, capitalisation of previous projects, monitoring and implementation of the strategy in general
 - Capitalisation and updating of Mareded results – Bologna Charter/Coastgap – Joint action plan.
- Advocacy action multi-targeted to synergies between DG Mare / DG REGIO..., work within the Seas, Islands, Rivers and Coastal areas intergroup (SEARICA).
- Partnership development, reflections on joint projects and preparation of future pilot /strategic projects (in the framework of main maritime themes listed in this work plan)
 - Collaboration with the EP’s Seas, Islands, Rivers and Coastal areas intergroup for which the CPMR provides the secretariat.
 - Development of a horizontal capitalisation project (following the Marina-Med model) regarding the future MED programme’s environmental axis (3.2): PANACeA.
 - Development of the actions connected to the Joint Action Plan of the Bologna Charter, promotion of the charter and its updating and enlargement process (through a dedicated Task Force).
 - Possible collaboration in several projects with an interregional / inter basin dimension being developed by the CPMR (issues related to the maritime industry – marine energy, maritime safety, sustainable maritime tourism, marine and coastal data).
 - Development of a projects for labelling by the Union for the Mediterranean in connection with Southern shore partners on topics related to sustainable maritime tourism and ICZM-MSP and maritime training (in collaboration with other IMC WGs).

3 – Transversal work area: monitoring the impacts common to maritime and transport/accessibility policies, promotion of land-sea interactions in the sectoral priorities of the Mediterranean area, sustainable maritime transport, work on marine data and regions’ access to funds

- Monitoring on European strategies and regulations and proposal of policy recommendations
 - Participation in CPMR analyses in relation to implementing the MSFD in the framework of an ecosystem approach and seas usage.
 - Contribution to the reflection on issues related to Cohesion policy (ESI funds, allocation of funds and post 2020 indicators) – in coordination with the CPMR core group.
 - Give impulse to the development of synergies among European Commissions DGs (Energy, Move, Climate, Environment, Enterprise & Industry, Regio, Mare) and ESPON on the land-sea links.
- Analysis of the dynamics and possible issues concerning access to different European funds related to the maritime economy and transport (ESIF, H2020, CEF, Juncker Plan etc.)
 - Organisation of joint debates during meetings and identification of advocacy actions and exchange of good practice.
- Actions for prioritising balanced and sustainable maritime transport

- Collaboration with the CPMR transport group, in particular with regard to follow-up of the ESSF forum– Mobilisation to monitor the Sulphur Directive.
- Reflections and advocacy actions for an effective integration of the MoS within the TEN-T and their adaptation to the regional specificities (peripheral, insularity, land-sea connections to the Mediterranean corridor as complementary sections).
- Analysis of EU instruments to support the development of sustainable maritime transport, port policies common to the Mediterranean and capitalisation of cooperation project on sustainable maritime transport.
- Further reflections and actions regarding accessibility and interoperability of coastal and marine data and in general of any type of data useful for developing functional indicators for the development and monitoring of the integrated maritime policy and transport policy
 - Debates, joint reflections on accessibility, joint compilation and interoperability of data from the regions’ point of view (difficulties/added-value) etc.
 - Contribution to and capitalisation of information and reports coming from EU projects.
- Partnership development and reflections on joint pilot/ strategic projects
 - Development of projects under the Interreg MED programme that could have a transversal dimension (e.g. Horizontal projects addressing environmental axis and specific objective 3.2, sustainable tourism specific objective 3.1 and 1.1 on Blue Growth and Innovation, 2.3 on sustainable mobility....) and other programs and calls (e.g. DG MARE/EASME, H2020).

III - Organisation

MURCIA and PACA regions co-lead the working group, each of them focussing particularly on one theme, the first on the transport perspective and the other on the integrated maritime policy perspective.

The joint leading regions together ensure **promotion and coordination of the works with the Intermediterranean Commission’s executive secretariat**. They also provide the human resources necessary for the actions suggested in the work areas.

Within the group’s activities, **specific Task Forces**, each representing an action on a specific topic or project, could be set up. These TFs will be coordinated by a region in particular that will give dynamism to the related activities. The group’s co-presidencies will monitor the progress and the results of the TFs so that everything is developed in a coherent and coordinated framework. The group has currently constituted the following task forces :

- ❖ **Task force “Coordination board of the Bologna Charter”** on management and sustainable development of coastal areas, led by the Region Emilia-Romagna. This TF will cover mainly the implementation and update of the Joint Action Plan of the Bologna Charter.
- ❖ **Task force on “Fisheries & Aquaculture”** led by Andalusia. This TF will cover the funding aspects related to the EMFF, reflections on the future of fisheries in the Mediterranean. Actions and strategies in favour of sustainable aquaculture, the external dimension of CFP, as well as projects (e.g. on fishing tourism).
- ❖ **Task force on “The follow up in the regions of the UfM Blue Economy Agenda”** led by Lazio. This TF will cover all the main aspects related to the implementation in the regions of the UfM works on blue economy (Stakeholder forum, actions, VKC etc.). It will also entail the coordination with emerging initiatives and the capitalization and development of surveys (e.g. Maritime investments) and projects

contributing to several of the themes underlined in this plan and the specific work area addressing Blue Growth.

Further TF can be activated on “Sustainable maritime transport and Motorways of the Sea”, “climate mitigation” or other issues (for example clean port approach and labelling).

The specific perimeter for the priority actions of each TF will be defined in Terms of Reference (ToRs) or similar documents to be annexed to this work plan. Once the working objectives, ToRs and or priority actions are defined, work will be carried out preferably through exchanges by electronic means (email, website, dropbox), videoconference (skype, gotomeeting, or teleconference (e.g. openconf). The TFs will also meet in person preferably back to back with seminars, statutory meetings, project activities and in the frame of the WG “Transport & PMI”.

The group’s members will try to develop useful contacts with organisations, experts, European and Euromed institution representatives that have a link with the themes and are useful to take forward the work.

Synergies will be developed with other CPMR geographical commissions, CPMR working groups and other IMC working groups on transversal issues related to the work areas. These synergies will be organised with the support of the Secretariat of the Intermediterranean Commission.

The working group will meet in a collective manner, or regarding one main work area or one task force as necessary based on the EU and Mediterranean agenda and if possible back-to-back with other events organised by the CPMR IMC or other event specific to the topics addressed. The organisation plans at least two technical meetings per year and the organisation of specific seminars on the regions’ request. All invitations to meetings and the calendar and information regarding the group will be sent to the members’ regional departments in charge of transport and maritime issues in order to notify them and encourage their participation, as the case may be.

The working languages will be English, French and Spanish. If interpretation cannot be provided, the members will communicate in English and French according to the participants’ preference and composition.

Generally, each member will cover travel arrangements and costs for participating in the group’s meetings (unless the co-financing of a European project can contribute to the cost). The IMC Secretariat supports the co-presidencies and the TF coordinators in the preparation and organisation of the group’s and TFs meetings.

This plan will be reviewed and updated as necessary during the mandate.

IV - Calendar

- Meetings of the Working Group and its Task Forces in Naples on the 6th of July (Bologna Charter Coordination Board, TF UfM Agenda Blue Economy)
- Update of the Bologna Charter and its Joint Action Plan (July – end 2017)
- Implementation of 2 horizontal projects selected by MED INTERREG Programme: InnoBlueGrowth on Innovation & Blue Growth and PANACEA on Environment protection and events e.g 3 capitalization seminars of both projects foreseen in Marseilles in October 2017 and another town tbc for InnoBlueGrowth, and Barcelona at the end of October 2014 for PANACEA,
- Future actions in the frame of the Western Med initiative and cooperation with the UfM working Group on Blue Economy (e.g. participation in Western Med Workshop the 4th of July 2017, 3rd meeting of the UfM Working Group on Blue Economy on the 5th July 2017, support to the organization of the MED regional stakeholder forum on blue economy in November 2017).
- Second step of evaluation in the frame of Interreg MED 2nd call for proposals (July 2017).
- Conference “Our Ocean, an ocean for life” in Malta (5-6 October 2017)
- Forthcoming CPMR intergroups on transport and contribution to the survey on aviation (July – end 2017)
- Possible meeting of the WG focused on transport back to back with the IMC Political Bureau in early 2018.

- IMC Task Force on Fisheries and Aquaculture (Transport & IMP Working Group) back to back with forthcoming statutory or other meetings (tbc)

V - Annexes and documents of interest

I –ToRs of the Task Force on Fisheries and Aquaculture

II – ToRs of the Task Force on the follow up in the regions of the UfM Agenda on Blue Economy

III- ToRs of the “Bologna Charter coordination board”

IV-Joint action plan Bologna Charter

V. IMC Policy positions addressing maritime issues

VI.Documents concerning: West Med Maritime Initiative, Bluemed etc.

VII. Information on maritime & transport projects of the IMC and CPMR

These documents are available on the web site of the IMC CPMR, in the specific Dropbox of the IMC or on demand.