



Agenda:

[List of Participants/Speakers](#)

29 November 2017

08:00

– **Registration**

09:15

Plenary session Room Partenope – Working languages: IT EN FR AR

[Opening remarks](#)

- **Mr Bernhard Friess**, Director for Maritime Policy and Blue Economy, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission

09:15

- **Mr Mohammed Salman**, Director of Technical affairs & Maritime Safety, Jordan Maritime Commission

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10:00

- **Mr Miguel Garcia-Herraiz**, Deputy Secretary General for Environment and Water of the UfM Secretariat

- **Mr. George Alexakis**, Vice-President of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions in charge for Maritime affairs, Vice-Governor of Crete

Moderator: Mr Spyros Kouvelis

Presentation of the Blue open calls for proposals and the Enterprise Europe Network.

10:00

- **Mr Christos Economou**, Head of Unit for Sea Basin Strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission

11:00

- **Ms Charlotte Jagot**, European Agency for Small and Medium Enterprises (EASME)
- **Ms Maria Cristina Raffone**, Coordinator of Enterprise Europe Network – BRIDGEconomies

11:00

– Coffee break

11:30

Workshop 1: The future of the Mediterranean blue economy

Room Partenope – IT EN FR AR

The workshop will focus on three axes: i) the organization of efficient services so as to offer competitive advantages to the port community, with respect to commercial traffic and passenger traffic; ii) the relationship between port, city and territory, for a close interrelationship between maritime economy and the overall economic and social system; iii) the attraction of investments, and the opportunities arising from special economic zones; on the latter, selected case studies will be presented.

Speakers:

- **Serena Angioli**, Assessore Fondi Europei, Gioventù, Cooperazione europea e Bacino Mediterraneo, Regione Campania, Vicepresidenza Commissione Intermediterranea della CRPM
- **Carlos Botana Lagarón**, Port of Vigo, Spain;
- **Massimo De Andreis**, SRM Intesa San Paolo Group, Italy;
- **Agostino Gallozzi**, Salerno Container Terminal, Italy;
- **Umberto Masucci**, Propeller Club Italy;
- **Giovanni Sgambati**, General Secretary UIL Campania, Italy;
- **Apostolos Sigouras**, ECOMASYN, Greece;
- **Pietro Spirito**, Central Tirreanean Sea Authority System, Italy.

Conclusions:

- A network of Mediterranean ports infrastructures is crucial to strengthen the competitive capacity of Europe and North Africa;
- It is important to look not only at the maritime traffic on an international scale but also at the Short Sea Shipping (SSS) within the Mediterranean Sea;
- It is necessary to establish direct connections between maritime development and economic development, for instance by promoting the networking the special economic zones existing in the Mediterranean Sea.

See the presentations [here](#)

11:30

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13:00

Workshop 2: Integrated approach to the development of coastal communities in the Mediterranean region: tools and best practices.

Room Posillipo A – IT EN FR

The multidimensional nature of the factors affecting the development of the communities living in coastal areas suggests an integrated and holistic approach based on enhancing the potentiality and features of each coastal community, the establishing of strong synergies between all sectors, and the balancing of the environmental safeguarding needs with those of social and economic exploitation. In this regard, tools and selected case studies will be presented to, and discuss with, the audience as pieces of a jigsaw puzzles to be put together according to the socio-economic characteristics and potential of the given contexts.

Speakers:

- **Rigers Bakiu**, Agricultural University of Tirana-Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries, Albania;
- **Antonio Errico**, Magna Grecia Mare Association, Port Museum of Tricase, Italy;
- **Houssam Hamza**, Ministry of Agriculture in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Tunisia;
- **Imad Lahoud**, Ministry of Agriculture Dept. Fisheries, Lebanon;

- **Giovanni Tumbiolo**, Fishery and Blue Growth District, Sicilian Region, Italy;
- **Massimo Zuccaro**, The Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, Italy.

Conclusions:

- The coastal communities' development is mainly based on the following aspects and challenges:
- Community empowerment for community awareness, ownership and actions that aim at a change;
- Encouraging participatory approach for improving governance;
- Building clusters for achieving sufficient critical mass of SMEs to address their research and innovation needs and for an efficient transfer of the results;
- Promoting the role of aquaculture and its environmental services for the fishery sector;
- Boosting the value chain of the local fishery products;
- Favoring cooperation actions for the transfer of knowledge and share of models, methodologies and best practices;
- Investing in nature and culture for ensuring a durable economic and social growth of the communities.

See the presentations [here](#)

[Parallel session Room Posillipo B- Business to business session A \(organised by European Enterprise Network\)](#)

13:00

– Lunch (buffet)

14:30

Workshop 3: Addressing marine litter in the Mediterranean using an ecosystem-based approach: focus on governance within Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and beyond

Room Partenope – IT EN FR AR

The workshop is expected to open an effective and inclusive debate related to scientific evidence of pressures and impacts of marine litter on biodiversity and integrated protocols to reduce the pressures of pollution (with a focus on marine litter) in the Mediterranean basin. Representatives from formal and informal platforms are expected to contribute to building an understanding on effective measures to reduce pressures of marine litter on the Mediterranean Sea.

Speakers:

- **Dania Abdul Malak**, European Topic Center, University of Malaga, Spain;
- **Emad Adly**, Arab Network for Environment and Development, Egypt;
- **Salud Deudero**, Spanish Institute of Oceanography, Spain;
- **Cristina Fossi**, Plastic Busters, University of Siena, Italy;
- **Malek Ghandour**, Amwaj of Environment Association, Lebanon;
- **Eleni Hatzyianni**, Environment and Spatial Planning, Region of Crete, CPMR Intermediterranean Commission;

- **Omar Khaber**, Coastal Wastes Agency, Algeria;
- **Jamila Ben Souissi**, Université de Carthage, Tunisia;
- **Julien Le Tellier**, UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan Coordinating Unit, Greece;
- **Maurizio Simeone**, Regione Campania, Italy.

Conclusions:

→ **Science / Information**

Marine Litter (ML) is a new field to be studied and there are many knowledge gaps and uncertainties that need to be underpinned by science – research.

80% of the ML found in eastern and southern shores of the Mediterranean is made of plastic. Most of the ML found in the Mediterranean Sea (10 out of 12 items) is made of single use items. All sources of ML are originally land-based and therefore there is a need to integrate efforts across ecosystems (land and sea) to develop effective measures.

There is now clear evidence of the presence of micro-plastics within the stomach of birds, fish, turtles, whales,... and the impact of entanglement of macro-plastics injuring and killing fauna. However, there is lack of knowledge about the effect of micro-litter on the health of biodiversity, and on human health, as consumers of microlitter (through fish, and Seafood).

ML monitoring protocols are being developed by several initiatives in the Mediterranean region (MedSeaLitter, Plastic Busters, ...) and there is a need to agree on common effective measures to be used at transboundary level.

PANACeA project will build on lessons learned from these initiatives and from the work developed at EU level to make some recommendations transferable and useful for the Mediterranean region.

At a local scale, the outcome of joint collaboration between national scientific research institutions such as IEO and local government monitoring schemes and annual ML removal programs (e.g ABAQUA) has allowed sampling surface micro plastics (< 5 mm) in coastal areas. Cooperation between different stakeholders provides new data essential for determining sink and sources of ML enabling better understanding and providing scientific backed solutions.

Taking into account recent data on the oceanographic currents and the nature of the Mediterranean Sea, there are hotspots of ML accumulation in the South-Eastern side of the basin and scarce tools to address the issue.

Advancing in this field, recent assessment risk studies have provided evidence on impacted marine species mainly in coastal areas. These findings call for effective management efforts to be directed in these areas to minimize the impacts of ML on valuable ecological species and habitats.

Scientific evidence, underpinning information and regional indicators on ML of various sorts will become available progressively on platforms including the MEDPOL-INFO RAC database on ML and the Interreg Med Biodiversity Protection Platform. These platforms could be linked to the VKC of the Union for the Mediterranean.

→ **Practice / Management**

Some Marine Protected Area (MPA) managers are implementing measures to reduce the effects of litter on biodiversity (case study on Marine Protected Area of Gaiola in Naples) but there is a need to make these measures adoptable and transferable to other areas.

Many practices are not well coordinated because they are linked to different legislation in many regions of the Mediterranean concerning solid waste and ML management.

Though there are awareness raising campaigns taking place in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean; there are nevertheless serious issues to consider on the capacities and infrastructures in place in some countries (proper sanitary and waste management systems,...) to effectively reduce litter related pressures and impacts on their coastal and marine ecosystems.

For proper regional action in the Mediterranean, common legal frameworks and infrastructure solutions are insufficient; which is hindering the reduction of ML quantity and its impact on species and full ecosystems.

→ **Policy / Governance**

Local authorities have the mandate to manage the coasts and need to ensure more effective collaboration with other regions in terms of waste and coast management to effectively reduce the effects of ML in the region.

Common joint monitoring protocols (with sub protocols) are essential tools to support regional policy and appropriate practices within and outside MPAs.

The Barcelona Convention is the only Mediterranean wide policy with adequate provision in terms of protocols, but Member States are not necessarily taking these protocols into account in their national legislation.

The Implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast (IMAP) would strengthen the effectiveness of the ML management. IMAP Guidance document proposes a harmonized approach of monitoring marine pollution at the regional level using common indicators on ML (CI 22 and CI 23), in addition to a candidate common indicator on trends in the amount of litter ingested by or entangling marine organisms.

→ **Science, Practice, Policy**

The evidence and data generated by science and research need to be synthesized into coherent and compatible formulae to become useful and coherent and effectively support policy-making.

The linear, take-make-dispose process in plastic packaging using a linear economic system needs to be adapted into more sustainable business models and then translated into Action Plans. Changing the legislative and economical system to support green entrepreneurship is therefore an essential step to reduce litter at the source. More information and actions and measures are underdevelopment within the ACT4Litter project.

The MAP Secretariat is providing technical assistance to the Mediterranean countries supporting the development of legal frameworks for the banning of single-use plastic bags and for promoting Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes at national level.

→ **Opportunities from the workshop**

Coordination amongst institutions leading ML initiatives is essential to integrate results together and provide a direct intake for policy makers, particularly region-wide data and indicators and applicable solutions to tackle ML (prevention and impact reduction).

An integrated, holistic approach and concerted action is needed to act on ML in the Mediterranean. Though monitoring protocols are currently being developed, a regional common tool would be desirable to facilitate application, transfer and scalability. Best practices in prevention should be assessed and extended to southern and Eastern Mediterranean regions, as only transboundary action along the region can be really effective.

The engagement of local communities and developing green entrepreneurship initiatives could offer opportunities to support livelihoods through a greener economy based on waste related businesses and with a strong educational, reduction and prevention component. Tackling ML in the Mediterranean and in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas specifically effectively involves a change of the socio-economic model at all scales, which will require the active involvement of public authorities and institutions, the private sector and the final consumers.

See the presentations [here](#)

14:30 **Workshop 4: Energy from the Mediterranean Sea – innovative financial schemes and technological advancements**
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16:00

Room Posillipo A – IT EN FR

The workshop will reflect on innovative financing schemes able to support blue growth in the Mediterranean Sea, in particular when it comes to marine energies, a sector which needs considerable investments. Afterwards, it will be discussed how desalination with membrane systems can combine the production of fresh water with energy production together with the recovery of valuable minerals from concentrated brines. A case study on a floating desalination platform will be presented.

Speakers:

- **Simone Bastianoni**, University of Siena, Italy
- **Gabriele Checchia**, Comitato Atlantico Napoli, Italy
- **Ali Harzallah**, Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer, Tunisia;
- **Francesca Macedonio**, Institute on Membrane Technology, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy;
- **Mario Malinconico**, Institute on Polymers, Composites and Biomaterials, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy;
- **Nikitas Nikitakos**, University of the Aegean, Greece;
- **Damien Périssé**, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, France;
- **Gianmaria Sannino**, ENEA, Italy;

Conclusions:

- Promotion of clusters on marine renewable energy (e.g. PELAGOS) is crucial as well as technology transfer/knowledge exchange;
- A common policy on marine energy is needed;
- Specific financial schemes for marine renewable energy are necessary (some models were presented); need of a cost-benefit analysis of marine energy, which is not yet commercially viable in many places (e.g. smart and specific devices to capture big waves have high maintenance costs).

- Figure out how to integrate various renewable energy technologies into a smart grid able to feed the main grid and, at the same time, provide a back-up energy source and store the energy.

See the presentations [here](#)

[Parallel session Room Posillipo B – Business to business session B \(organised by European Enterprise Network\)](#)

16:00

– Coffee break

16:30

Workshop 5: Promoting sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in the Mediterranean

Room Posillipo A – IT EN FR

The workshop will be an opportunity to present and discuss the essence of the GFCM regional and multiannual mid-term strategy, a key contribution to the sustainability of Mediterranean fisheries and aquaculture in the context of blue growth. Selected case studies on participatory governance and co-management of fisheries, as well as on the role of artisanal fishing in the sustainable management of fishery resources will be also presented.

Speakers:

- **Bourhim Aomar**, Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche Maritime, du Développement Rural et des Eaux et Forêts, Morocco ;
- **Miguel Bernal**, General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean Secretariat, Italy;
- **Mark Dimech**, FAO EastMed Regional Project, Italy;
- **Nicola Ferri**, General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, Italy;
- **Mr Idhalla Mohamed**, chercheur, chef de département de l'aquaculture, Morocco
- **José Ignacio Pradas Poveda**, Ministerio de Agricultura y Pesca, Alimentación, y Medio Ambiente, Spain.

Conclusions:

- The ongoing work on blue growth provides an opportunity to boost sustainable development in the Mediterranean Sea along the lines of the MedFish4Ever Declaration;
- The role of fisheries and aquaculture in sustaining blue growth should be better reflected including in national and international policies;
- Cooperation is needed to achieve common goals, including at sub-regional level (e.g. Western Mediterranean) and among competent organizations and regional bodies.

See the presentations [here](#)

16:30

– **Workshop 6: Maritime Spatial Planning/Integrated Coastal Zone Management (MSP/ICZM) in the Mediterranean Sea: implementation status, main gaps and specificities**

18:00

Room Partenope IT EN FR

The workshop will assess the status of the implementation of MSP and ICZM in the Mediterranean region by reflecting on current gaps, existing best practices, and Mediterranean specificities such as marine geo-hazard that jeopardize economic activities and civil infrastructures. The application of the ecosystem-based approach in MSP / ICZM will be addressed and key recommendations for its implementation will be provided. Update on on-going projects (e.g.S UPREME and SIMWESTMED) will be given.

Speakers:

- **Niccolò Bassan**, Università Iuav di Venezia, Italy
- **Bechir Bejoui**, National Institute of Marine Sciences and Technologies, Tunisia;
- **Francesco Chiocci**, Università La Sapienza, Italy;
- **Samir Grimes**, Laboratory of Conservation and Valorization of Marine Resources, National High School of Marine Sciences and Coastal Management, Algeria;
- **Francesco Musco – Corila** / Università Iuav di Venezia, Italy
- **Mauro Randone**, WWF Mediterranean, Italy
- **Marica Castigliano**, University of Napoli Federico II, Italy;
- **Dimitris Sakellariou**, Institute of Oceanography, Hellenic Centre for Marine Research

Conclusions:

- MSP in the Mediterranean is still at an early stage of implementation and the current on-going projects are trying to facilitate both the implementation of the Directive and cross-border cooperation between countries at a basin scale. The real implementation of MSP in the Mediterranean is still to be tested and coordination between multidisciplinary coastal and marine experts is needed. Harmonization between land and sea planning (as MSP and ICZM) is still far to be achieved and working groups of both land and sea experts are necessary in order to facilitate both coastal and marine spatial planning. Are the current ongoing projects enough for a correct cross border MSP implementation in the Mediterranean?
- The practical implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in Mediterranean marine and coastal planning policies still needs to be better understood. It is therefore recommended that a working group involving relevant Mediterranean stakeholders should be created and led by UNEP/MAP to guide a real process of ecosystem-based marine and coastal planning to 2021. Such working group should aim to produce specific guidelines for regional planners and to provide capacity building at the regional level;
- Because of its active geology, geo-hazards in the Mediterranean Sea represent a very specific and real threat to infrastructures and densely populated coastal settlements. Due to new technological advances (multi-beams swath bathymetry) a huge amount of data and knowledge for geo-hazard assessment exist in research institutes and universities. Such knowledge should be transferred to society to boost blue economy and insure a sustainable and safe development of human activities in the marine environment.

See the presentation [here](#)

[Parallel session Room Posillipo B- Business to business session C \(organised by European Enterprise Network\)](#)

18:30

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Cocktail reception

20:30

30 November 2017

Plenary session Room Partenope – Working languages: IT EN FR AR

High level panel

09:00 Speakers:

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- 10:45
- **Mr. Karmenu Vella**, Commissioner in charge of Environment, Fisheries and Maritime Affairs for the European Union
 - **Mr. Fatallah Sijilmassi**, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean
 - **Mrs Ana Paula Vitorino**, Minister of the Sea (Portugal)
 - **Mrs Justyne Caruana**, Minister for Gozo, Malta
 - **Mr Vincenzo De Luca**, President of the Region Campania
 - **Mr. Alberto Lopez-Asenjo**, Deputy Minister-Secretary General for Fisheries, Spain
 - **Mrs Zakia Driouich** Secretary General of the Department of Marine Fisheries, Morocco
 - **Mr Enrico Granara**, Plenipotentiary Minister. UfM Senior Official and Ministerial Coordinator of the Euro-Mediterranean Multilateral Initiatives, Italy
 - **Mr. Abdelkader Bouazgui**, Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries, Algeria

Moderator: **Mr Spyros Kouvelis**

This panel will be closed with the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean of the FAO.

10:45

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11:30 Coffee break

Workshop 7: Sustainability and attractiveness of Mediterranean tourism: best practices and innovation projects in the Euro-Mediterranean coastal countries

Room Posillipo A – IT EN FR AR

The promotion of sustainable tourism is a global economic, social and environmental objective. At regional level, the identities and values of the Euro-Mediterranean cultural diversity represent a development engine. The workshop will address how to tap the potential of coastal and underwater tourism in the Mediterranean region, including cultural tourism, by strengthening cooperation mechanisms and capitalise on existing best practices and tools.

Speakers:

- **Bechir Bejoui**, National Institute of Marine Sciences and Technologies, Tunisia;
- **Maurizio di Stefano**, ICOMOS, Italy;
- **Konstantinos C. Giotopoulos**, Chamber of Achaia, Greece;
- **Samih Khellifa Bedioufi**, University of Sousse, Tunisia;
- **Ioannis Kostopoulos**, SaMMY, Greece;
- **Davide Strangis**, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, Spain;
- **Hotaf Yassien**, Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority, Jordan;
- **Milena Zoppeddu**, Secretariat Permanent de l'Arc Llatí, Spain.

Conclusions :

- Valorize the under-water heritage for promoting opportunities of cultural tourism development and the conservation of marine biodiversity through i) mechanisms able to operationalize the 2001 UNESCO Convention on Underwater Heritage; ii) enforcement of UNESCO underwater sites network; iii) a coherent connection among the underwater heritage with the coastal and maritime tourism offer;
- Modernize marinas for a better sustainable accessible offer through i) private-public partnerships and cluster initiatives for the improvement of IT facilities able to adapt tourism offer to the changing tourist profile; ii) development of infrastructures integrating emerging technologies for providing higher added value services; iii) promotion of advanced services by exploiting new technologies and systems (e.g. IT infrastructures and protocols, Satellite communications, Cloud services and Big Data analytics, Mobile services);
- Address tourism pressures in the Mediterranean region by integrating analysis of threats and enabling factors for sustainable tourism and improving IT facilities for the marine environmental monitoring;
- Strengthen analysis, planning, and management practices as well as toolkits and cross sectors cooperation towards a sustainable tourism at Mediterranean level;
- Build a strong community of projects and stakeholders, and promote interaction among existing communities of stakeholders in order to optimize capitalization on existing project and experiences ensuring the transferring of results to other EU MED territories;
- Take into account complementarities among financial instruments in order to support capitalization of flagship projects and initiatives at a wider Mediterranean scale;
- Valorize the specificities of Mediterranean territories in order to promote a sustainable replication of flagship initiatives among the different Mediterranean areas.

See the presentations [here](#)

Workshop 8: BLUEMED – Building a shared research and innovation agenda for blue jobs and growth across the Mediterranean

Room Partenope – IT EN FR

The aim of the workshop is to promote the involvement of non-EU countries in the BLUEMED Initiative. After a presentation of the BLUEMED's Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) and of the experiences of the Italian Blue Growth Technology Cluster and the Regional Cluster for the Blue Economy of Campania, a panel will follow to give the opportunity to experts from several non-EU countries to talk about their strategy/policy/priorities on marine and maritime research and innovation, and to seek for alignment of themes and priorities. Finally, stakeholders from non-EU countries will be invited to get involved in the BLUEMED initiative towards the elaboration of a common SRIA and the joint implementation of its actions.

Moderator: Fabio Trincardi (CNR Italy, BLUEMED CSA coordinator)

11:30

– Speakers:

13:00

- Luca Marangoni, Unit for Sea Basin Strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission
- Marta Iglesias, Unit for Marine Resources, Directorate General Research & Innovation, European Commission
- Fabio Fava (chair of the BLUEMED Initiative strategic board)
- Valeria Fascione, Regional Minister for Internationalisation, Start up and Innovation, Region of Campania
- Lucio Sabbadini, President Technological Cluster BIG
- Mohamed Salah Azaza, In charge of International Cooperation, INSTM (Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer) – Tunisia
- Baris Salihoglu, Director of Institute of Marine Sciences, Middle East Technical University – Turkey
- Alaa Eldin El-Haweet – Dean of College of Fisheries Technology and Aquaculture, Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime transport – Egypt
- Manal Nader – Director, Institute of the Environment, University of Balamand – Lebanon

Rapporteur : Jean-Francois Cadiou (Ifremer France)

Conclusions :

- The BLUEMED Initiative launched in 2015 by some EU Member States elaborated a Strategic Research and Innovation agenda (SRIA). In May 2017 the BLUEMED Initiative was endorsed by UfM and EU Member States. Now it's time to share the SRIA with non-EU Mediterranean countries and collect inputs for updating it. The main outcomes of the workshop are:
- A first view of the strategy of some non-EU countries in the field of marine and maritime research and innovation has been provided. It appears that these strategies mostly match the BLUEMED SRIA. The next step will be to continue the dialogue by involving stakeholders from these countries and working at Pan-Mediterranean level to share and align priorities;
- Some points were particularly highlighted as the importance of fisheries activities, including the tendency to fish in increasingly deep water; the need to design new offshore aquaculture plants; understand the factors that facilitate the entrance and the spreading of alien species in Mediterranean waters; the impact of the plastic debris and garbage patches on marine ecosystems, just to give few examples. The need to develop Marine Spatial Planning was also pointed.

See the presentations [here](#)

Workshop 9: Blue Entrepreneurship World Café

Room Posillipo B – IT EN FR

Shifting current consumption and production patterns of economic development to more sustainable ones raises enormous challenges. Yet, these challenges often represent an opportunity for entrepreneurs and start-ups to build and scale sustainable businesses that not only help overcome the challenge, but can also lead to more fair and sustainable growth. At the Blue Entrepreneurship World Café / Entrepreneurship Lab for a Blue Economy, you will connect in depth and exchange around specific questions to identify compelling challenges and define how entrepreneurship support programmes and organizations (such as SwitchMed – UN Environment/MAP SCP/RAC, EGYPRENEUR and UACTI) can best sustain blue entrepreneurs and start-ups in addressing these challenges.

Speakers:

- **Nouran El Said Agrimatic**, Egypt;
- **Salah El Sadi**, UACTI Palestine;
- **Mostafa Hassanen**, Agrimatic, Egypt;
- **Daniel Hires**, SCP/RAC, Spain;
- **Abdelrahman Magdy**, Eypreneur, Egypt;
- **Shimrit Perkol-Finkel**, Econcrete, Israel;
- **Alessandra Pome**, SCP/RAC, Spain.

Conclusions:

- **Focusing on University Students:** universities across the Mediterranean has the most powerful asset for the future of its economy – youth with potential for being “Job makers and providers” other than “Job seekers” and “Solutions finders” other than “Trouble makers” – as perceived by some countries. Both undergraduate and graduate students would be the primary audience for engagement to inspire entrepreneurship and get them to spend the time + energy + intellect in finding solutions to economic challenges. (Hence; focusing on engagement programs with innovation centers in universities);
- **Providing “Startup Internship” Opportunities to Students:** providing students with opportunities to become Interns inside innovative startups has a lot of value to both the startup and the students, Nouran’s company relied on interns for their growth and providing them with the space to innovate – the internship experience and working closely with Startup Founders usually inspire the interns to pursue their own business;
- **Getting Experts to Produce Problem Statement:** entrepreneurs across the Mediterranean are struggling to find the right Product-Market fit especially with poor availability of data in some countries. So much energy is wasted pursuing opportunities that’s not clearly defined – a “Pivot” is a small change to a company strategy to align its efforts with market opportunities. By getting the experts in each economic sector across the Mediterranean to produce “A Problem Statement / Opportunity Statement” then sharing this “Problem statement” with entrepreneurs, by then they can pivot their “struggling” startups into a new opportunity they might not have seen. I suggest that “The Virtual Knowledge Centre” recently launched to be used for this purpose;
- **Innovation Funnel Management:** given that majority of startups fail anyway and any kind of initiative targeting startups will experience a decrease in the number of engagement startups, the “Innovation Funnel” impact should be taken into consideration while engaging startups with “Finance and Support” to produce the desired solutions in the shape of the most sustainable startups. This also requires allocating the capacity to train/support/finance a large number of startups in each sector and taking into consideration that eventually a small number will become an actual solution;
- **Synergy and an Open Mindset:** what came out as a comment on the model of sharing in a “World Cafe” format, it was suggested that participations would have the mindset for synergy while engaging in an open discussion format and to take off their hats and share their thoughts openly, by then the struggle of getting on the same wave length, defining the objectives and providing the safe environment for everyone to speak their mind freely;
- **Entrepreneurs/NGOs Speaking to Institutions:** institutions need to be engaged more on how Innovative Entrepreneurs and the NGOs supporting them think and approach such problems as there is often a lack of clarity in understand how these “small” entities can have a contribution to solving bigger problems that requires big funds and big strategies.

See the presentations [here](#)

13:00

– Lunch (buffet)

14:30

Workshop 10: Maritime safety and anti-pollution contingency planning

Room Posillipo B – IT EN FR AR

Focusing on cooperation and interoperability among the Coast Guards organizations of the Mediterranean sea, the workshop aims to enhancing the importance of planning, data sharing and operational surveillance to protect marine environment against pollution, a cross-sectorial obstacle in the wider field of the Marine safety. The importance of an effective and efficient communication system between all involved actors, which embraces different technology platforms and take advantage of standardized procedures, is the baseline to improve the control of the marine traffic and the use of the sea for all public scopes. Moderator: LtC Alberto Adamo, Coast Guard, Italy

Speakers:

- **Adm. Patrick Augier**, Deputy Secretary General for the Sea, France;
- **LtC Fabio Borriello**, Coast Guard, Italy;
- **Giovanni Caprino** Cetena S.p.A
- **Armando Graziano**, European Maritime Safety Agency;
- **Youssef Ben Romdhane**, Director General, Ministry of transport, Tunisia
- **Mohammad SALMAN**, Jordan Maritime Commission, Director of Technical affairs & Maritime Safety Directorate.

Conclusions:

Coast guard cooperation is a crucial matter in order to find and implement joint solutions to cope with common challenges. This assumption implies the necessity to maintain and guarantee stable common platforms where the organizations with coast guard functions of the Med Countries can share knowledge, experiences, raise needs and promote projects, such as the Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum. Key sectors for coast guard cooperation are:

- data integration and information sharing, through communication and IT tools such as VTS, AIS, SafeSeaNet, CISE, in order to achieve an integrated multipurpose maritime surveillance;
- training cooperation through network of training centres and exchange of personnel among the med countries;
- joint exercises among the Med Countries to develop and test multipurpose operations and joint contingency plans to enhance maritime safety, surveillance and marine environment protection using effective communication and exchanging best practice experiences;
- exchange of know how about ship project and construction, implementing the usage of new technologies.

See the presentations [here](#)

Workshop 11: Blue mission in the Mediterranean region: promoting youth employability throughout developing skills and building capacities in the marine and maritime sectors.

Room Posillipo A – IT EN FR

The workshop will try to answer to the following questions: How to attract talents and focus on competence and skills development to make a younger generation fit for new emerging blue jobs/profiles? ii) How to jointly create pilot activities to strengthen common partnerships to address youth unemployment as well as train new researchers and new entrepreneurs to develop new skills and competencies needed for blue growth? iii) How to connect and network the diaspora of researchers from Southern Mediterranean countries as a potential for enhancing cooperation and foster knowledge transfer?

14:30

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Speakers:

16:00

- **Niccolò Bassan**, University IUAV-Venezia, Italy;
- **Mounir Ghribi**, Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale -Sustainable – Blue Growth Initiative, Italy;
- **Jerneja Penca**, Euro-Mediterranean University EMUNI, Slovenia
- **Walid Kamali**, Almanar University of Tripoli, Lebanon
- **Georgios Triantafillidis**, MarInEM , Greece;
- **Ahmed Youssef Taha**, Professor at the Arab Academy of Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, Egypt

Conclusions:

- There are excellent individual initiatives that offer the opportunity of building capacities, job-oriented training supporting career development in the sector of Blue Growth both on the northern and southern side of the Mediterranean. Such initiatives, demonstrate that talents exist, it is crucial to move from individual capacity building to institutional capacity by involving institutions and key persons;
- The mission is now to provide a common ground for a Pan-Mediterranean network as a step beyond regional networks, supported by a steering group, and implemented through a web portal, a data base, and a coordinated offer of opportunities for the young generation. Such network must be ready to adapt to a rapidly changing economic environment and normative framework for environmental sustainability. A coordinated action is therefore needed to avoid replication of existing activities and initiatives;
- Science diplomacy should be considered as a driving mechanism to achieve a full level of integration, harmonization and implementation of the Pan-Mediterranean network. Dialogue and international cooperation through scientific events, trainings and project partnerships may be considered the way forward. Some already ongoing initiatives such as the “Blue Growth Summer School” should be further supported.

See the presentations [here](#)

Workshop 12: Moving towards blue economy in the Mediterranean region: what works, what is missing and what needs to be done?

Room Partenope – IT EN FR

The UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)-Barcelona Convention system develops policies and implements projects that contribute to a more sustainable development of the region, including the promotion of a shift to towards a blue economy paradigm. The workshop will inform on the legal frames and

other instruments contributing to blue economy: Barcelona Convention, its Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management, the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 and the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production. This will be followed by a discussion on how to move towards blue economy including improvement of governance for a blue economy; the wider use of economic instruments; technological and social innovation; investments and financing; and development and use of statistics and indicators (by Plan Bleu/RAC, PAP/RAC and SCP/RAC). The latter will be illustrated by opportunities and resources available to acquire data, information and services for the marine environment provided by COPERNICUS CMEMS services (contributed by Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale – OGS) and by the need for mapping the sea bottom for a more efficient blue economy (Istituto Idrografico della Marina).

Speakers:

- **Emad Adly**, Arab Network for Environment and Development, Egypt;
- **Julien Le Tellier**, UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan Coordinating Unit, Greece;
- **Jean Pierre Giraud**, Plan Bleu/RAC, France ;
- **Marco Grassi**, Istituto Idrografico della Marina, Italy;
- **Marija Mijuskovic**, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism Government of Montenegro, Montenegro
- **Marko Prem**, PAP/RAC, Croatia;
- **Luigi Sinapi**, Istituto Idrografico della Marina, Italy;
- **Cosimo Solidoro**, Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale, Italy.
- **Enrique de Villamore**, SCP/RAC Director

Conclusions:

The Blue Economy is a low polluting, resource-efficient and circular economy based on sustainable consumption and production patterns, enhancing human well-being and social equity, generating economic value and employment, and significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities". The Blue Economy integrates a diverse range of economic activities from coastal and marine tourism to maritime transport, fisheries and aquaculture, and offshore renewable energy. Its potential contribution to sustainable jobs creation, food security, clean energy supply, circular economy and sustainable mobility is huge. A wide number of actors and sectors need to be capacitated and coordinated to face the opportunities and challenges of the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean region. To avoid natural resources depletion and environmental degradation while providing local socio-economic development, the deployment of a Sustainable Blue Economy in the Mediterranean region needs governance mechanisms (institutional arrangements, regulatory framework) and a strong monitoring and reporting system, which are ensured by the Mediterranean Action Plan-Barcelona Convention in cooperation with other international agreements. The role and involvement of scientists, businesses, local authorities and civil society organizations is therefore key to ensure sound science-based policies and green/blue economic activities contributing to a prosperous, sustainable and inclusive Blue Economy in the Mediterranean region.

See the presentations [here](#)

16:00

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16:30

Coffee break

16:30

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17:15

Closing remarks:

- **Mr Miguel Garcia-Herraiz**, Deputy Secretary General for Environment and Water of the UfM Secretariat
- **Mr Christos Economou**, Head of Unit for Sea Basin Strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission