



Blue Economy in the Mediterranean and the BLUEMED Initiative: updates and perspectives

ECOMEDPORT Start-up Action
SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT IN HARBOURS AND OTHER WATER BASINS
WEBINAR WITH STAKEHOLDERS, 28 May 2020



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The BLUEMED Initiative

✓ *Research and Innovation initiative for blue jobs & growth in the Mediterranean Sea*

✓ *A joint effort of the Mediterranean Countries, the European Commission, the Union for the Mediterranean*

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- A vertical timeline on a dark blue background with a white line and circular markers. The events are listed from top to bottom. Two entries are highlighted with red rounded rectangles: 'October 2016' and 'February 2018'.
- May 2014 ○ BLUEMED Initiative set-up in the framework of the EU Blue Growth Strategy
 - December 2014 ○ BLUEMED Vision Document endorsed at the Competitiveness Council
 - October 2015 ○ Venice declaration launching the BLUEMED SRIA
 - November 2015 ○ Union for Mediterranean Declaration on the blue economy adopted, non-EU countries invited to join the BLUEMED Initiative
 - October 2016 ○ BLUEMED Coordination and Support Action begins to support the BLUEMED Initiative
 - April 2017 ○ BLUEMED high-level conference "A Basin of Research and Innovation for sustainable growth". First update of the BLUEMED SRIA
 - May 2017 ○ Valletta Declaration on strengthening Euro-Mediterranean cooperation through Research and Innovation
 - February 2018 ○ Group of Senior Officials BLUEMED Working Group established as initiative's steering body
 - October 2018 ○ Launch of the pilot action for a healthy plastic-free Mediterranean Sea
 - July 2019 ○ Research Infrastructures Roadmap, Data Policies and Accessibility Plan and Blue Careers Plan
 - September 2020 ○ Implementation Plan

JPI OCEANS



Constant coordination and alignment with other Initiatives, Strategies, Programmes





COORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTION

Horizon 2020 – BG-13-2016
Grant Agreement 727453

Draft Implementation Plan D2.9

May 2020

blueMed

Mediterranean Sea top priorities
for research and innovation

13 priority goals were selected by countries of the Basin from the BlueMed Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda: their implementation will foster sustainable, non-conflicting Blue Growth in the Mediterranean.



sustainable
food production



open data,
open science,
open innovation



effective maritime
spatial planning



understanding
pollution impacts,
mitigation
and remediation



building
capacities,
blue skills and
blue professionals



greening vessels,
facilities
and services



preparing to
climate change
adaptation
and mitigation
measures



exploring the potential of
blue biotech



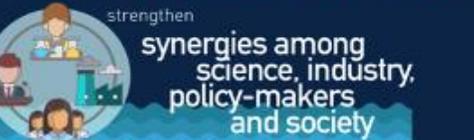
towards
an observing
system of systems



linking
tourism, tourists
and environment



promote the role of
marine renewable
energies
in the energy transition phase



strengthen
synergies among
science, industry,
policy-makers
and society



from
traditional
maritime economic
blue growth activities

Strategic Actions and Promotional Actions, with indicative timing for launching, suggested timeframe, proposed funding programmes and instruments, tentative budget



BLUEMED StartUp Actions

Feasibility, foresight or pilot studies on topics that are crucial to the future of Blue Growth in the Mediterranean, driven by the BLUEMED Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda

BlueBoatsMed

DEVELOPMENTS OF MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE AND
RECREATIONAL BOATING SECTORS

ECOMEDPORT

Feasibility study of an ecosystem-oriented plant for sediments
management in Mediterranean ports and marinas

SEALINES
Mediterranean
Safety Network



LabMAE

Developing a Labelling Scheme
for Mediterranean Small-scale
and Artisanal Fish Products





Pilot Action for a plastic-free, healthy Mediterranean Sea

Joining forces to address marine litter in the Mediterranean

The BlueMed Pilot Action consists in mapping and assessing the actions on place regarding marine plastic pollution in the EU and non EU countries of the Mediterranean in order to share of good practices, R&I actions but also demonstration, communication and education activities.



Why a Pilot Action on plastic litter in the Mediterranean?

1% of the World's waters

the Med Sea is a "plastic trap"

7% of all global microplastics

About 8 million tons of plastic litter enter the ocean every year, threatening marine wildlife and ecosystems, affecting indirectly the human health and the sea based economics.

Plastic pollution represents a transboundary problem and thus it requires global coordination and long-term multiple approaches to develop shared solutions.

Currently, Mediterranean is now one of the more plastic polluted seas at world scale, with record levels of microplastics. With only 1% of the world's waters, Mediterranean Sea concentrates 7% of all global microplastics, earning the "plastic trap" appellation.

Which actions to take forward?

Reduce the generation of plastic waste

Prevent littering and leakage of plastics into environment

Collect and use plastic already in the environment

Overarching actions

A multiperspective approach



The BlueMed Young Communication Ambassadors

The BlueMed Young Communication Ambassadors were chosen in non-EU Mediterranean countries, with the mandate to spread the BlueMed approach to a shared, sustainable Blue Growth in their countries and beyond, and to create and enhance a network of BlueMed concerned people.

INÈS BOUJMIL



BlueMed Y.C. Ambassador
In Tunisia

BADR EL MAHRAD



BlueMed Y.C. Ambassador
In Morocco

MUSTAFA GHAZAL



BlueMed Y.C. Ambassador
In Egypt

DENIZ YAPILCAN



BlueMed Y.C. Ambassador
In Turkey

FELLA MOUALEK



BlueMed Y.C. Ambassador
In Algeria



Horizon Europe

THE NEXT EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME (2021 – 2027)



- Towards stronger cross-basin R&I collaboration and EU Partnership on “A climate neutral, sustainable and productive Blue Economy”
- Mission on «Healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters”
- Standard calls

Targeting Multi-Programme funding streams

- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)
- Interreg / ENI-MED CBC
- Bilateral funds
- National / Regional Funds, including European Structural and Investment Funds



Mediterranean Workshop

21-23 January 2020
Venice, Italy



United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

2021 - 2030

Implementation Plan

A UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: WHAT FOR?

To **stimulate** a global partnership on the marine science requirements needed to support the implementation of Agenda 2030



To **understand** the impacts of cumulative stressors and seek sustainable solutions for sustaining benefits from the ocean

To **share** knowledge and enhance interdisciplinary marine research capacities through the transfer of marine technology, leading to economic benefits for all Member States, particularly for Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries



To **gain** a better quantitative knowledge of ocean ecosystems and their contribution to society, through the whole ocean column, from the surface to the bottom

To **map** the ocean floor and its resources to support their sustainable management



and its damages

#OceanDecade



Coming events

- ✓ **BLUEMED CSA Meeting with Research Funding Agencies (Fall 2020)**
- ✓ **BLUEMED Conferences at ECOMONDO, Rimini (3-6 November 2020)**
 - *Healthy and Circular Blue Growth in the Italian Seas: examples of circularity in the maritime value chains*
 - *The Bluemed Pilot Initiative healthy plastics free Mediterranean sea: the strategy developed by the plastic producing and transforming operators of the area*
- ✓ **BLUEMED CSA – JPI Oceans joint meeting on MSFD Good Environmental Status (December 2020)**
- ✓ **BLUEMED CSA Final Conference (January-February 2021)**
 - *Session dedicated to Start-up results at the BLUEMED Final Conference*
- ✓ **Training activities on Maritime Spatial Planning for sustainable Blue Growth (March 2021)**
 - *Training course on “Science-Policy-Society interactions in ecosystem-based marine resource management and planning”*



Thank you for your attention

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