

BLUEMED

Research and Innovation initiative for Blue jobs and growth in the Mediterranean

***EUSAIR: incontro con le Autorità di gestione
Roma, 26 Gennaio, 2017***

***Update sulle azioni ed impatti della
BLUEMED initiative e sulla
cooperazione BLUEMED/EUSAIR***

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The BLUEMED initiative

About

It was initiated by the **EU member states (MS) of the Mediterranean sea (MED)** in 2014 to foster a sustainable blue growth in the area.

It was a **priority of the Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union**; it goes on under the IT coordination with **CY, HR, FR, GR, MT, SI, SP and PT** and in close cooperation with the **European Commission (DG RTD, DG MARE)**.

Why

The **MED**, which **prominently contributes to the EU economy** (with 30% of global sea-borne trade, 450 ports/terminals, the 2nd World's largest market for cruise ships, half of the EU's fishing fleet, 400 UNESCO sites and 250 protected areas), is **facing relevant environmental challenges** (due to climate change, maritime traffic and pollution, overfishing, etc.) and **does not efficiently exploit local biodiversity, deep sea resources, tourism, renewable energy, etc.**

Such **challenges/opportunities** cannot be addressed/implemented by any **EU MS** individually but require a **common/shared Vision and R&I Agenda (SRIA)**.

BLUEMED Strategic R&I Agenda: 12 Key Challenges

Key enabling knowledge for the Mediterranean

- Mediterranean Sea ecosystems: services, resources, vulnerability and resilience to natural and anthropogenic pressures
- Mediterranean Sea dynamics: developing services in the field of sustainable adaptation and to climate change mitigation; and protection of coastal areas in the Mediterranean

Key sectorial enablers in the Mediterranean

- Innovative business based on marine bio-resources in the Mediterranean
- Ecosystem-based management of Mediterranean aquaculture and fisheries
- Sustainable maritime clusters in the Mediterranean
- Maritime Spatial Planning & Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean

Enabling technology and capacity creation for the Mediterranean

- Smart, greener maritime transport and facilities in the Mediterranean
- Observational and geospatial capacity creation in the Mediterranean
- Multi-purpose off-shore platforms in the Mediterranean
- Marine and coastal cultural heritage in the Mediterranean: discovering, protecting and valuing

BLUEMED SRIA available at: goo.gl/ZbJTWH

BLUEMED actions and impacts on the BlueGrowth of the Mediterranean sea

Some of the **BLUEMED SRIA priorities** have been adopted by the **DG RTD** and **DG MARE** and included in their R&I WPs (with € 43 M allocated for 6 R&I topics included in Horizon 2020 SC2 WP 2016/2017). A **CSA** aiming at implementing **BLUEMED SRIA in the MED** will be active since **Nov 1st**.

Some of the **EU MS** are including **BLUEMED SRIA priorities** in their national and regional R&I agendas. In **IT**, **BLUEMED SRIA** is quoted in the “**National Plan for Research**” and in some of the regional **Smart Specialization Strategies**.

Representatives of **BLUEMED** and of the “**EU Strategy for the Adriatic Ionian Region**” (**EUSAIR**) initiative are sharing and aligning R&I priorities and actions, in close cooperation with **DG REGIO** and **DG MARE**. **BLUEMED** is also a reference initiative for the “**Initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy in the western Mediterranean**” (**WEST MED**).

BLUEMED domain will be extended to all Countries bordering the Mediterranean and willing to join in the coming months. **BLUEMED SRIA** is included in the **Union for Mediterranean (UfM)** declaration and road-map.

Cooperation BLUEMED – EUSAIR: towards an integrated/aligned roadmap (a)

Four panels of experts from both EUSAIR TSGs and BlueMED Strategic Board met on November 10, 2016 at Ecomondo2016 (Rimini, Italy) in the presence of EU Commission (DG RTD, DG MARE, DG MOVE) and jointly identified the major common and missing priorities/topics in their strategic agendas in the perspective to set up an integrated/aligned road map.

The topics discussed and members of the 4 panels are listed below

WG 1, Sustainable Aquaculture and Fishery; Marine Biotech: N. Lourenco, J M Gonzalez, I Gauci-Borda, E Klein, P Moretti, S Loukmidou, M Krasic

WG 2, Sustainable Transportation and ports; off-shore platforms: P.Campostrini, C.Cahu, A. Norcini Pala, C. Forte, E. Reja

WG 3, Marine ecosystems and dynamics; MSP; Observing systems: V Likou, L Mortier, M. Gregoire, S. Oprasic, G. Zupancic

WG 4, Sustainable Tourism, Marine/Costal Cultural heritage: M. Cappelletto, C. Aspris, V Malačić, V Papathanassiou, B. Belosevic, S. Popa

THE RESULTS OF THE WORKSHOP ARE SUMMARIZED IN THE ENCLOSED WORLD DOC