



EC DG R&I, Covent Garden, Brussels, 28th February 2018



1° GSO BLUEMED WG Meeting

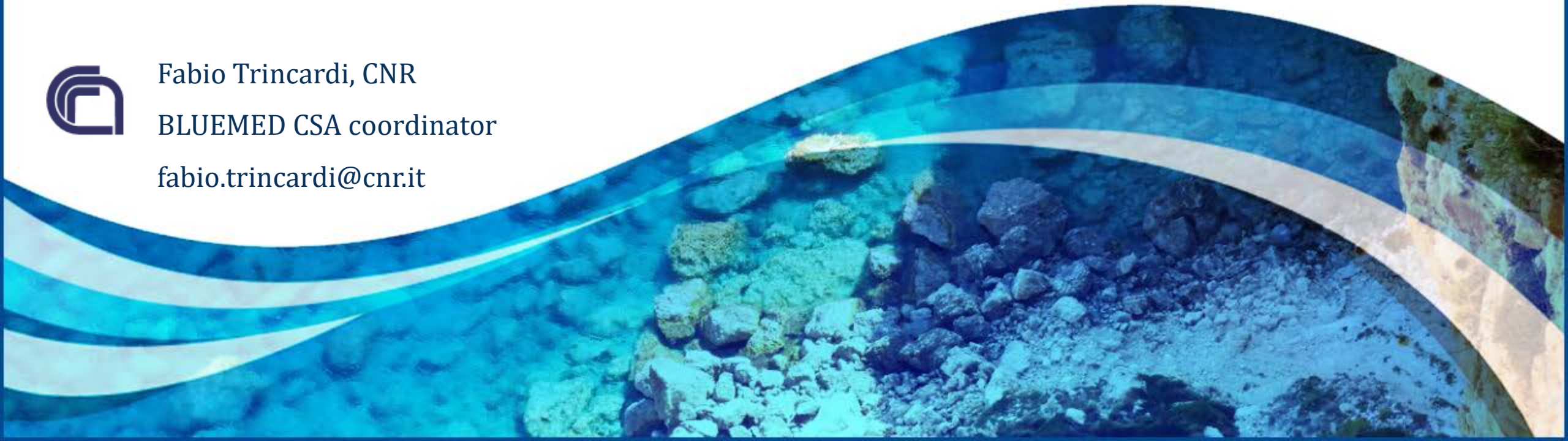
The BLUEMED CSA project



Fabio Trincardi, CNR

BLUEMED CSA coordinator

fabio.trincardi@cnr.it



BLUEMED 'mantra' – The Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda

Sharing, update, implement

*The BLUEMED Initiative will contribute to the creation of new 'blue' jobs, social wellbeing and a sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors through the **IMPLEMENTATION** of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, the **BLUEMED SRIA***

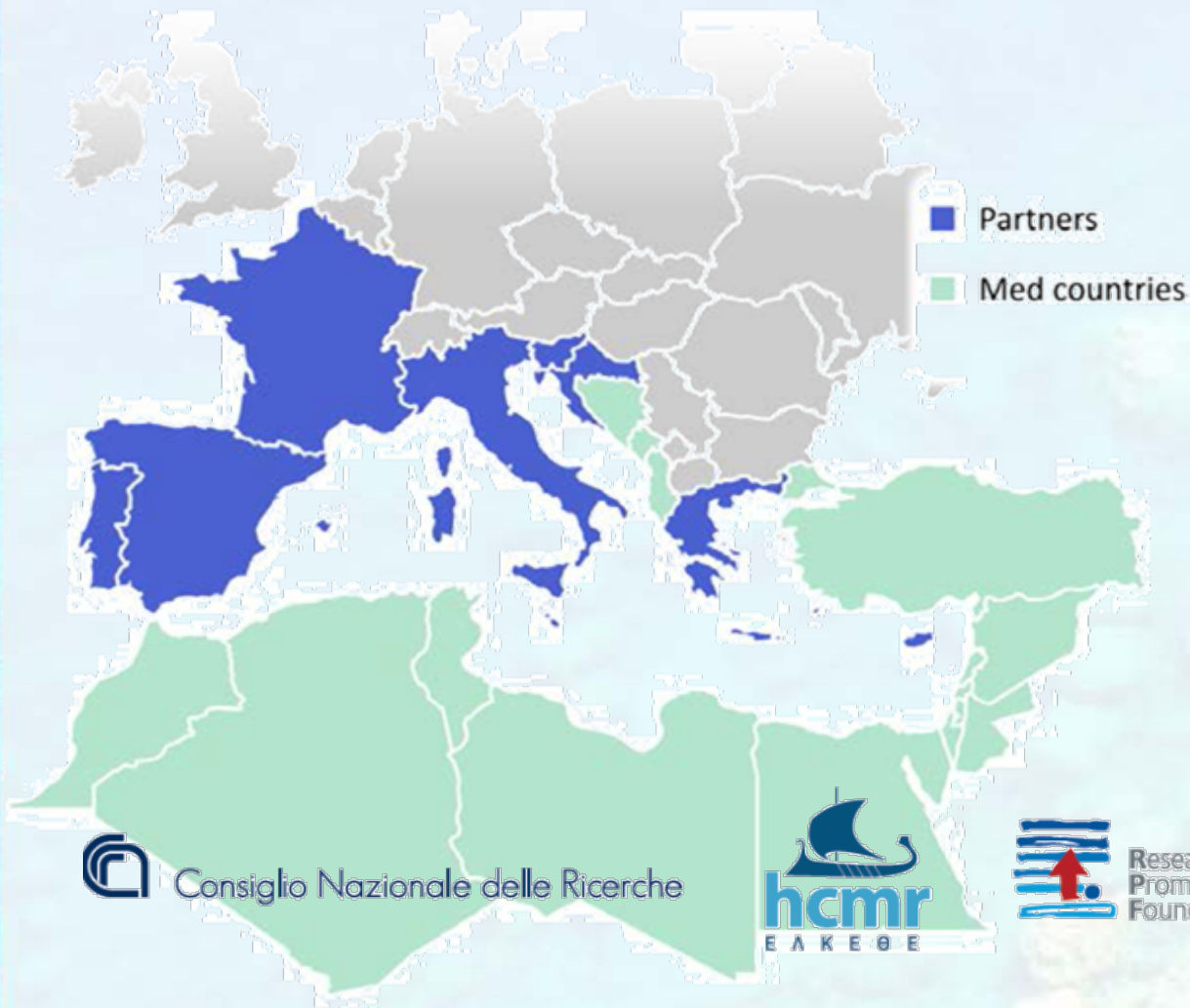


12 key challenges, actions and goals

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- Key enabling knowledge for the Med (ecosystems, dynamics, coastal areas...)
- Key sectoral enablers in the Med (tourism, clusters, MSP, bioresources, ...)
- Enabling technology and capacity creation for the Med (transport, observing systems, off-shore platforms, cultural heritage)



The BLUEMED Coordination and Support Action



11 PARTNERS, COORDINATED BY CNR (IT)
9 COUNTRIES
4 YEARS (started 1st Oct 2016)
2,998 K€ EC FUNDS

What is «special» in this Coordination and Support Action?

- ✓ It directly supports a political initiative
- ✓ It has specific objectives and activities that are major tools and steps towards a wider and more ambitious goal



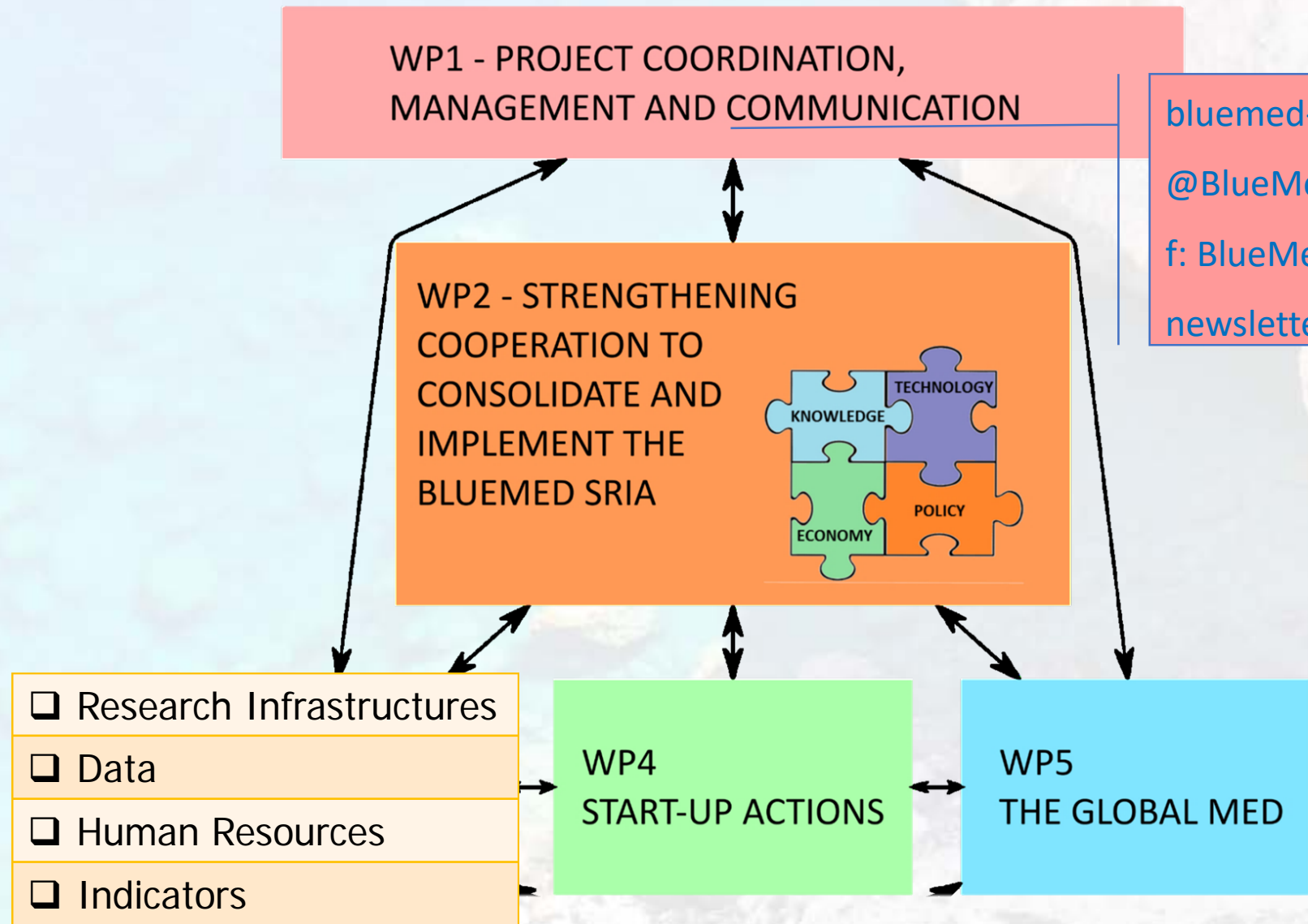


Research and innovation initiative for blue jobs and growth in the Mediterranean area

Supported by the BLUEMED Coordination and Support Action, a project funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme under grant agreement No 727453



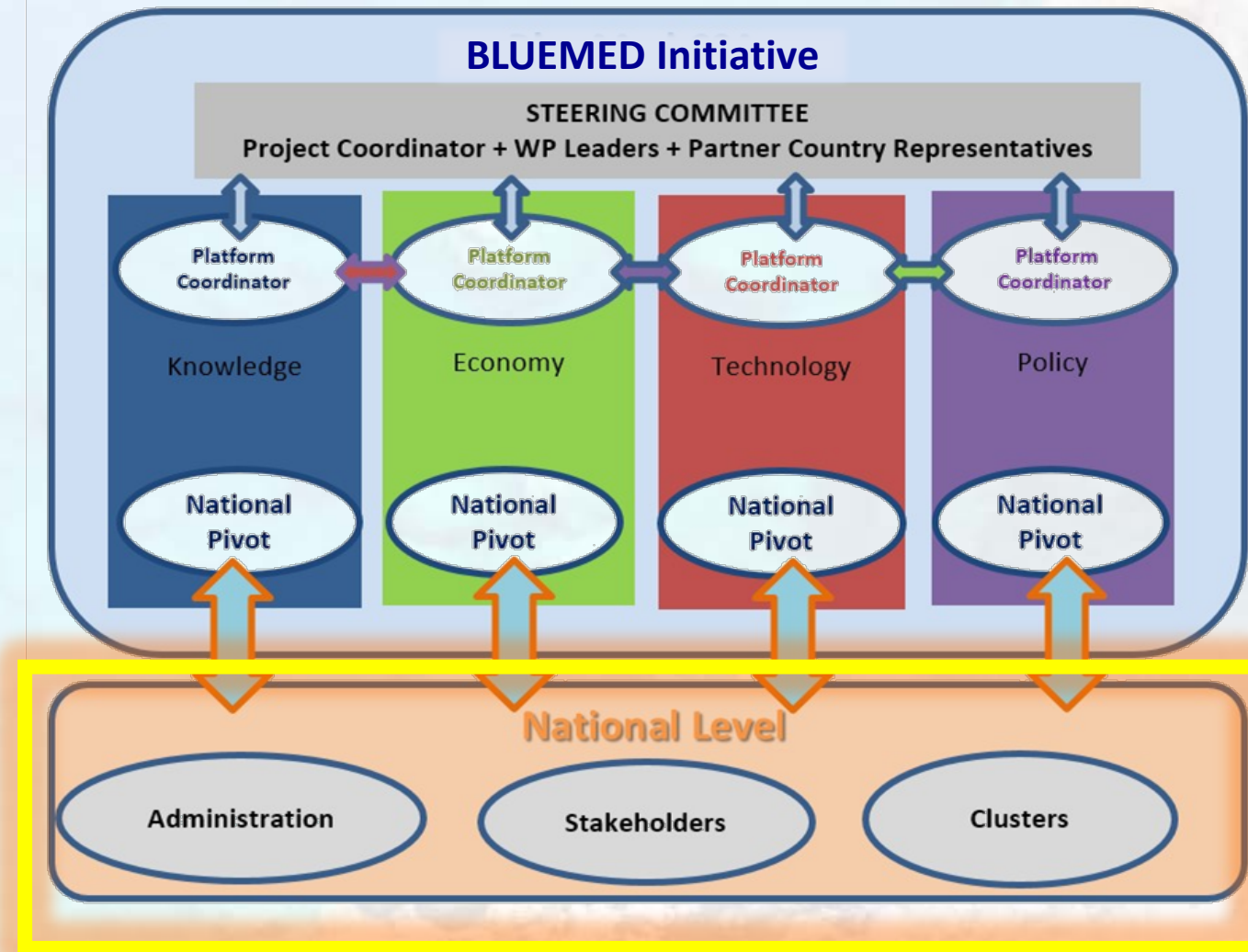
BLUEMED CSA, activities and structure



BLUEMED Platforms

A long lasting tool for stakeholders' consultation and engagement

Setting the frame for the effective coordination of research and innovation activities at transnational level, consolidating networks and establishing mechanisms that will remain and be further developed after the conclusion of the project



**thematic, transnational,
interconnected, open, flexible**

BLUEMED Platforms activity so far... and a preview of next steps

March 2017
Guidelines
for
platforms'
functioning

Oct 2017
Launch of the
on-line survey
to update the
SRIA

Feb 2018
2nd
Platforms'
meeting,
Athens
(GR)

National Pivots collect
contributions and
Platforms coordinators
draft a consistent
document at MED level

Aug 2018
Preliminary
BLUEMED
Impl. Plan

Very preliminary macro inputs to the SRIA update from the platforms' work

Knowledge pillar >> knowledge as background to develop blue growth trajectories (in support to economy); recognizing the knowledge component of a network of (augmented) marine observatories and tools to combine different data; increase the knowledge on key topics more developed under other platforms such as energy, and on the socio-economic geopolitical framework;

Economy pillar >> more comprehensive inputs and focus on the key challenge 'promoting sustainable tourism', including de-seasonalisation measures and cultural heritage

Technology pillar >> addressing the marine renewable energy as missing topic and the energy transition phase;

Policy platform >> need to highlight present and forthcoming SRIA policy relevance and expected policy impacts, on a wide range of policy domains (i.e. Strategic EU Blue Frame, Regional Cooperation Frameworks, Sectoral Policies and Directives, Environmental Policies, Directives, other Acts, Skills & Education)

May 2018
SRIA update
and priorities'
indication

Additional white papers!



BLUEMED CSA – Key actions in support to the BLUEMED Initiative

Support to the GSO BLUEMED WG

Support to the organization of **high level event BLUEMED Conference A Basin of Research and Sustainable Growth under the Maltese Presidency of the EU Council**, 18-19 April 2017

Set-up of 4 BLUEMED Platforms at Med and national level to consolidate and update the SRIA towards the definition of the Implementation Plan. Two meetings (La Seyne-sur-Mer, July 2017; Athens, February 2018)

Research Infrastructures Workshop (La Seyne-sur-Mer, July 2017) for assessing needs and gaps of Med RIs relevant for the SRIA + Data Policy and accessibility and skills assessment

Support to the **engagement of non-EU countries via the BLUEMED policy dialogue workshop on Building a shared research and innovation agenda for blue jobs and growth across the Mediterranean** organized in the framework of the [Union for Mediterranean Regional Stakeholders' Conference](#), Naples, 30 November 2017

Meeting with coordinators of relevant projects/initiatives to capitalize on results, Villa Bigghi, Kalkara, Malta, 11-12 January 2018

Research funders' workshop to start building an operational network for the implementation of actions, Brussels, 1 March 2018

BLUEMED at the European Maritime Day. Added value of cross-regional cooperation, a joint workshop with BONUS (Baltic Sea research and development programme), and the Black Sea Commission, 31 May or 1 June 2018, Burgas, Bulgaria



Focus on 'The Global Med'

Enlarge the BLUEMED Initiative to non-EU countries

Extension of the partners' group, to include non-EU participants in the process, concept and thinking of the BLUEMED by engaging experts/representatives in the next platforms meetings and provide joint recommendations supporting the BLUEMED SRIA. *The activity will be performed in collaboration with UfM.*

First milestone = the BLUEMED workshop [*Building a shared research and innovation agenda for blue jobs and growth across the Mediterranean*](#), organized within the 1st UfM Stakeholders Conference on the blue economy in Naples on 30 November 2017, and attended by experts from Tunisia, Turkey, Egypt and Lebanon. Points highlighted: importance of fisheries activities, including in deep water, need to design new offshore aquaculture plants, lack of knowledge on the factors that facilitate the entrance and the spreading of alien species in the Med, the concern about the impact of the plastic debris and garbage patches on marine ecosystems; the need to develop Maritime Spatial Planning.

Ambassadors of the BLUEMED

Identify and train up to 5 BLUEMED "Ambassadors" investing in the "science diplomacy" concept. Ambassadors will promote the activities and results of the Initiative in non-EU countries eventually becoming BLUEMED focal points, training other groups in their own country. This will facilitate the spreading of the BLUEMED vision through sustainable and enhanced participation in all countries in the Med. *The activity will be performed in collaboration with UfM.*

Time is mature to prepare the ground for...



...the **BLUEMED WEEK**, November 2018 (location tbd)

**GSO BLUEMED
WG meeting**

**Second
Research
funders'
workshop**

**Third Platforms
meeting jointly
with non-EU
stakeholders**



BLUEMED input-output mechanisms

Project Coordi



Strategic Research
Innovation Agency

Preview of inputs on topics to be integrated in the SRIA from projects coordinators'

For the knowledge platform >> micro-biodiversity; deltas; bioremediation to tackle pathogens in aquaculture;

For the economy platform >> marine protein, ocean literacy and citizen science; economic impact of combined effects of different hazards and pollution, aquaponics;

For the technology platform >> measuring impact of pollution in ports on human health and ecosystems; integration of offshore renewable energy; improvement and impacts of desalination processes; internet of things as a solution for marine observation and monitoring;

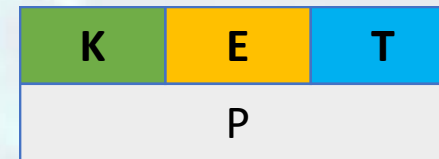
For the policy platform >> regulatory framework required on unmanned vehicles.

Implementation Plan

Platforms are antennas of thematic inputs and process suggestions gathered from:

- High level events;
- National consultations;
- Research Infrastructures workshop;
- Advisory Board meeting;
- Policy dialogue workshop with non-EU stakeholders;
- Meeting with projects' coordinators;
- Meeting with research funders;
- Kick-off meeting of the BLUEMED GSO WG;
- Evolving R&I policies and initiatives.

All relevant documents/information available on the website



Platforms transmit outputs to feed/provide info to the:

- SRIA update and Implementation Plan;
- Meeting with research funders;
- Start-up Actions;
- Engagement process with non-EU countries;
- BLUEMED GSO WG;
- National, regional, and EU policies.



BLUEMED CSA expected achievements

- ❑ BLUEMED SRIA update through cooperation across the Med
- ❑ 1 Implementation Plan for realizing economy-driven blue growth trajectories
- ❑ 4 BLUEMED Platforms to develop and maintain research/industry/policy/society virtuous relationships
- ❑ 1 Network of funders and key players
- ❑ 3 to 5 Start-up Actions
- ❑ n+1 people in the Community through effective participatory mechanisms and tools
- ❑ 5 BLUEMED Ambassadors



Contribute to change the mindset for growing blue in the Mediterranean Area, envisioning the Med Basin as a spot for innovation via the implementation of counterfactual actions





While mechanisms of raising awareness and consulting stakeholders will continue to be consolidated, with the governance at the Initiative level formalised, the ground is being gradually prepared for the transition towards the implementation phase ...

thanks for your attention!

