



## Towards the future of blue growth in the Adriatic and Ionian Basin

Rimini, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

*International Conference – event in presence*

**Venue:** Cinema Fulgor - Corso d'Augusto, 162, 47921 Rimini ITALY

### Challenges ahead

In May 2021, the European Commission published a communication for a sustainable blue economy. It set out a new approach, which fully integrates the blue growth into the European Green Deal and the European Recovery Strategy (Next Generation EU) and represents the European Commission's vision for a blue economy that is sustainable, green, resilient and circular and contributes to the mitigation of change climatic. The new approach provides coherence between the sectors of the blue economy, facilitates their coexistence and seeks synergies in the maritime space, without harming the environment. It also underlines the need for investment in research, skills and innovation.

On 7 July, we will explore and discuss the environmental, social and economic importance and benefits of a sustainable growth, as well as the support needed in this regard. This conference is an opportunity to share and discuss the prospects for the blue growth and how we can exploit the opportunities presented by this inevitable transformation of our society for a booming blue economy. Relevant stakeholders will present and discuss opportunities for a green recovery for the blue economy. For this to happen, it is necessary that the European institutions, Member States and the basin regions look responsibly not only at the climate and environmental ambitions of the European Union, but also at the financial and social challenges, as well as at the possible structural changes associated with the implementation of all proposed measures.

Discussions in each session will focus on specific issues, namely:

- Blue growth in the Adriatic-Ionian area
- Blue bioeconomy and blue biotechnology
- Blue circular economy
- Funding opportunities for the sustainable blue economy – S3





## AGENDA

**9:00 - 9:30** *Event opening & registration and welcome coffee*

**9:30 – 09:45** *Opening session* – Greetings of Municipality of Rimini (Anna Montini, Councillor for Ecological Transition and Blue Economy) and Ecomondo (Alessandra Astolfi, Global Exhibition Director - Green & Technology Division, Italian Exhibition Group)

**09:45 – 10:00** *Introductory talk:* Director Ms. Morena Diazi – General Directorate Knowledge, Research, Labour, Business, Emilia-Romagna Region

**10:00 – 11:00** *Session 1: European Strategies in support of sustainable blue growth*

**Chair:** Ms. Veronica Lenzi - Manager of European Territorial Cooperation and Development Cooperation Area, Emilia-Romagna Region

- **EUSAIR initiative: main objectives and priorities.** Mr. Marco Doglia, Italian Presidency of Council of Ministers, Rome **tbc**
- **EUSAIR Pillar 1 Flagship: new priorities and road map.** Ms. Rita Bertocco Head of Unit, European Territorial Cooperation and Macroregional Strategies, Veneto Region
- **The EU Mission Restore our Oceans and waters by 2030 and possible synergies with national and regional programs and initiatives.** Mr. Christos Economou, Head of Unit, DG MARE and Ms. Claudia Pecoraro - DG Research and Innovation, Healthy Seas and Ocean Unit, European Commission
- **MRS and Sea Basin Strategies common flagships to implement.** Mr. Stavros Kalognomos, CRPM - Balkan and Black Sea Commission
- **West Med initiative.** Mr. Daniele Bosio - Coordinator of seas and ocean affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy

**11:00 – 11:45** *Session 2: European Territorial Cooperation Programmes - How Interreg can implement strategies and answer to the territorial needs of Italian regions*

**Chair:** Ms. Stefania Leoni - European Territorial and Development Cooperation Area, Emilia-Romagna Region/ ART-ER





Principal Interreg Programmes that deal with blue growth issues, 21-27 challenges to be seized:

- **Interreg IPA Adrion.** Mr. Lodovico Gherardi, Emilia-Romagna Region
- **Interreg EuroMED.** Ms. Giovanna Tortorella, Toscana Region **tbc**
- **Interreg Italy-Croatia.** Ms. Anna Flavia Zuccon, Veneto Region

**11:45 -12:30 Session 3: Actions and projects supporting blue growth in the Adriatic-Ionian area in a multilevel perspective**

**Chair:** Mr. Ivan Sgandurra - Fondazione Alma Mater /University of Bologna, Research Manager at Interreg, LIFE, EMFAF, Cultura, COST Unit of the Research Division (ARIC)

- **Rimini's Sustainable Urban Development (SUD) Strategy "Rimini: the blue and the green. A city of the sea for the blue and green economy"** (funded by ERDF and ESF+ 2021-2027 Emilia-Romagna Regional Programme). Ms. Alessandra Pesaresi Rimini Municipality
- **From Northern Adriatic District governance policies to Adriatic Cooperation projects for the harmonisation of sustainable fishing and aquaculture activities.** Avv. Vittorio Elio Manduca, fisheries economy service, Department of Agriculture, hunting and fishing, Emilia-Romagna Region
- **European cooperation projects in support of sustainable blue economy:**  
PORTODIMARE (Interreg ADRIAN). Ms. Olga Sedioli  
Sushi Drop (Interreg Italy-Croatia). Mr. Luca Vittuari  
Euro-MED: Dialogue4Innovation (Interreg Euro-MED). Mr. Alessandro Daraio

**12:30 – 13:00 Session 4: Blue Skills and Jobs**

**Chair:** Mr. Massimo Bellavista – ECOMONDO Scientific Technical Committee for the Blue Economy, Legacoop Agroalimentare Training & Safety Manager

- **European Skills Years 2023** – European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion, Sónia de Melo Xavier – Policy Officer
- **Green to Blue Project** – Erasmus+, Andrea Gugnali, Project Manager MARE Cooperative
- **The future of education and training in Emilia-Romagna in the Blue Economy** Giuseppe Messina, Executive of State vocational high school "Versari Macrelli"
- **Blue jobs through blue careers** – EMFAF, Laura Zambrini, Project Manager, Demetra Formazione





13.00 **Wrap up and Closure Event.** Mr. Fabio Fava – University of Bologna & BLUEMED & ECOMONDO Scientific Technical Committee

*A networking session, with a light lunch with fish products of the Emilia-Romagna Region offered by Legacoop Agroalimentare and Mare cooperative (PNT 2023 - CUP J88H23000930001), will follow.*

