



Sustainable Blue Economy

Marseilles 30-31 May 2017



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43 MEMBER COUNTRIES



1 MISSION

To enhance regional cooperation, dialogue and the implementation of concrete projects and initiatives with tangible impact on our citizens, mainly our youth, in order to address three strategic objectives for the region: **human development, stability** and **integration**

The UfM Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy

(17 November 2015)

- ✓ *Strengthening the potential of the blue economy in the Mediterranean region, as well as improving maritime governance and achieving a conducive environment to promote jobs, innovation and knowledge-based business opportunities through the development of key maritime sectors;*
- ✓ *Contributing , with this regional effort, to the wider context of the UN Sustainable Development agenda, which aims to promote globally shared economic prosperity, social development and environmental protection;*
- ✓ *Setting in place a UfM mechanism for regional dialogue, stakeholders involvement and launch of concrete actions in areas of common interest. This collaborative approach is crucial, as the challenges affecting the Mediterranean Sea call for shared and integrated responses.*



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**Further
development of the
Blue Economy**



**Blue research,
technology,
innovation,
knowledge and
skills**



**Maritime
governance**



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UfM Forum on Blue Economy

...to bring together the Mediterranean countries to exchange information, views and best practices; create synergies among current initiatives, provide input to future actions and possible sea basin approaches/maritime strategies without duplicating existing initiatives...



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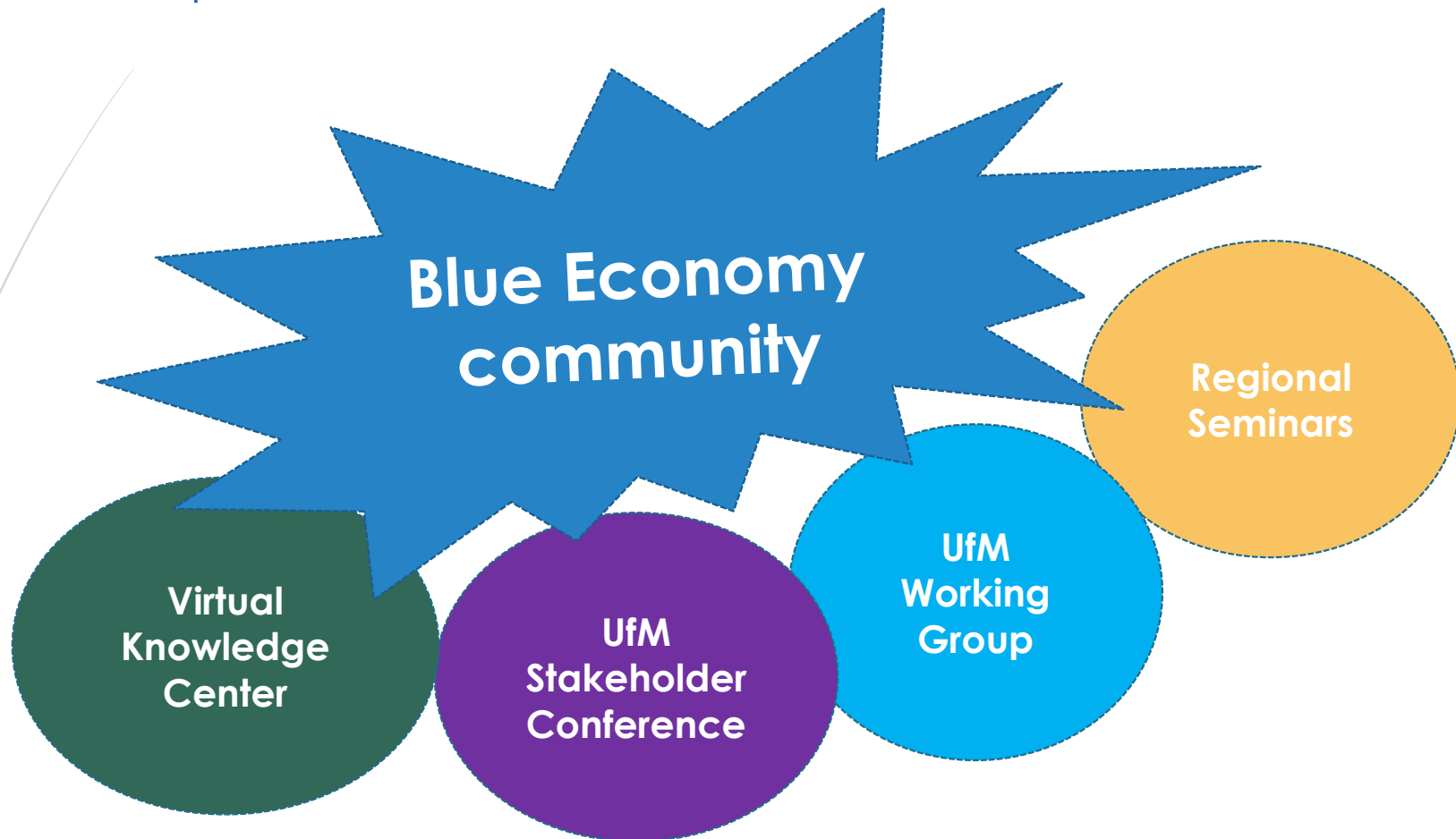


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The UfM Forum on Blue Economy is a dynamic process made up of four components...



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1 - Regional seminars

Capacity building tools to deepen knowledge on specific topics organized by the European Commission (DG NEAR/DG MARE) within the IMP-MED project;

- ✓ *Last Regional Seminar organized on 3-4 May 2017 in Barcelona on coastal/marine aquaculture and MSP*

2 - Working Group on Blue Economy

A technical group composed of representatives designated by the UfM countries. Chaired by UfM Co-Presidency (EU and the Ministry of Transport of Jordan), it takes place on annual basis

- ✓ strengthening the regional dialogue among UfM countries, and synergies among relevant initiative, projects and activities;*
- ✓ enabling the exchange of information, views and best practices;*
- ✓ providing input and guidance for future actions;*
- ✓ tackling emerging priorities.*

Next Meeting of the UfM WG on BE
5 July 2017, Brussels

WG Permanent Observers:

- ✓ *United Nations Environment Programme / Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP)*
- ✓ *General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM)*
- ✓ *European Investment Bank (EIB)*
- ✓ *European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)*
- ✓ *International Maritime Organisation (IMO)*
- ✓ *Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM)*
- ✓ *Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)*
- ✓ *League of Arab States (LAS)*
- ✓ *Managing Authorities for the Interreg-MED and ENI CBC-MED cooperation programs*

- ✓ **ad hoc representation** of other organizations;

3 - UfM Stakeholders Conference on Blue Economy

- ✓ *It is expected to take place every two years involving countries and BE stakeholders;*
- ✓ *Wrap up event presenting the status of implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on BE, the major advancement and the pending challenges;*

4 - The Virtual Knowledge Center (VKC)

- ✓ *The first on-line version was officially launched in 2014 and further shaped under the coordination of the European Union (DG MARE/EASME)*
- ✓ *The VKC has been transferred to the UfM Secretariat, and will serve as a regional “...networking mechanism for blue economy stakeholders around the Mediterranean...”*
- ✓ *An advanced version of the upgraded VKC will be presented at the next UfM Stakeholders Conference.*

Ensure the day-to-date update of the VKC and its functioning as **Stakeholder register and Networking platform** bringing together knowledge and experiences for cross-fertilization and collaboration

Promote its role as a **regional hub** on blue economy bringing together information and data through the contribution received by stakeholders

Use it as **communication tool** by disseminating information of the organization of conferences, meetings, seminars, etc. through an “**upcoming events**” section

Disseminate information on policies developments, projects milestones and results, outcomes/outputs of events , etc. through a “**flash news**” section

Support the organization of the **UfM Blue Economy Stakeholder Conference**, in particular by hosting a “**call for workshops**” section



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The **Western Mediterranean Initiative** as acknowledgment of “...the need to strengthening coordination and cooperation in the area of maritime affairs...and exploring the added value and feasibility of maritime appropriate strategies, including at sub-regional level” (UfM Ministerial Declaration on BE, 17 November 2015).

France, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Malta, Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia (5+5 Dialogue countries).

BLUEMED is an EU initiative to coordinate research and innovation activities in order to: i) sustainably manage and exploit the potential of the Mediterranean Sea marine and maritime sectors; ii) structure transnational cooperation to create new ‘blue’ jobs; iii) promote wellbeing, sustainable prosperity and the environmental status of the region and its surroundings.

UfM Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy “Ministers welcome the proposal **to include** UfM partners in the implementation of the above **BLUEMED Initiative** on a voluntary basis and to support the networking amongst maritime clusters in the Mediterranean”

Cyprus, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain, with the support of the European Commission.

Western Mediterranean Initiative

Goals and Priorities

(European Commission Communication "Initiative for sustainable development of the blue economy in the Western Mediterranean, 19 April 2017)

Safer and secure maritime space

Cooperation between coastguards

Maritime safety and response to marine pollution

A smart and resilient blue economy

Strategic research and innovation

Maritime clusters

Skills development and circulation

Sustainable consumption and production

Better governance at the sea

Spatial planning and coastal management

Marine and maritime knowledge

Biodiversity and maritime habitat conservation

Sustainable fisheries and coastal community development



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BLUEMED Initiative

In line with the EC Blue Growth Initiative (EC COM(2014)254/2), BLUEMED started in 2014 during the Italian Presidency of the Council of the EU.

The BLUEMED **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda** (SRIA) is the technical expression of the BLUEMED Initiative. It identifies key challenges that need to be addressed and related actions and goals. Some of the priorities of BLUEMED have been adopted by DG RDT and DG MARE and included in their R&D WP.

The BLUEMED project is the **Coordination and Support Action** (CSA) funded by the EC under H2020-SC2; until 2020 it will support the BLUEMED Initiative by promoting the concrete and operational implementation of the SRIA.



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THANK YOU!



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