

“How to foster the development of Blue energies in the Med region?”

10 & 11th November 2020

Online event

1. Context and objectives of the conference

In Europe, the Mediterranean basin shows a great potential for Marine Renewable Energies production (MRE), testing of technologies in situ and stimulation of a MRE sector, especially for SMEs, in the framework of the action plan of the EU Green Deal to turn the fight against climate change into a unique growth opportunity.

Within the Marine Renewable Energies (MREs) available types, offshore wind power shows the greatest potential, alongside wave and tidal energy, Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) and salinity gradient. These low-emission technologies (LET) can make a significant contribution to the fulfillment of the EU climate objectives, whilst supporting job creation and economic growth.

To better exploit this enormous potential and push the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of the technologies towards industrial roll-out, the European Commission has launched a number of targeted support instruments.

This includes notably the 2014 Communication on Blue Energy, which recommends two “phases of action” in order to facilitate stakeholder engagement, or the Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) 2007, which calls for an increased coordination between different policy areas, and identifies Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) as an important tool for the sustainable development of marine areas and coastal regions, including in relation to the deployment of ocean energy technologies.

This event is the First Capitalization event organized in the framework of the Interreg Med Blue Growth project (2019-2022) which main objective is to ensure the capitalization and transferring of outputs produced by our community of projects dealing with Blue economy issues in the Mediterranean region for an efficient mainstreaming and strategic liaising with identified targets.

This online event will be organized in two phases:

- A capitalization event (10th Nov.) mainly devoted to an overview of MRE development in the Med region, to the enabling framework (incl. legal & regulatory) to foster it and how to reconcile MRE, biodiversity and eco-tourism;
- An E-Blue Agora (11th Nov.), co-organized with the Circle the Med Forum, dedicated to SMEs with the presentation of tools, funding opportunities and a matchmaking session in the framework of the 1st BLUE DEAL Business Forum.

2. Expected outputs

- A widened and shared knowledge among scientists, decision-makers and entrepreneurs on levers for promoting sustainable development of Marine Renewable Energies in the Mediterranean region
- Sharing of best practices in reconciling development of MRE with biodiversity and eco-tourism
- Support to Mediterranean SMEs in the Blue energy sector to find potential investors and to identify additional source of funding
- Promote transfer and strengthen capitalization of the jointly elaborated tools/measures and results that explicitly target collective territorial appropriation and ownership

3. Target Audience

- Multi-level decision-makers
- Funding entities
- SMEs
- The private sector
- Interreg programme bodies (Joint Secretariat, Horizontal Projects, Modular projects and Integrated projects, etc.)

4. Languages

The sessions will be held in English

5. Provisional agenda

1st Day: November, 10th 2020

09:30 – 10:00 Introduction

- Caterina Praticò, CoNISMA - Lead partner of the Blue Growth community project
- Céline Dubreuil, Plan Bleu UNEP/MAP - Programme officer for Blue economy
- Overview, trends and challenges of Marine renewable energies in the Mediterranean region - Martina Bocci, Director of t-ELiKa

10:00 – 11:15 How to foster the development of Marine renewable energies in the Mediterranean region?

Facilitator: Céline Dubreuil, Plan Bleu UNEP/MAP

- European strategy - Xavier Guillou – Policy officer, Marine Renewable Energy at EU Commission
- Regional smart specialization strategies for MRE in the Med region - Javier Gomez Prieto – Scientific Officer, Joint Research Center, European Commission
- New challenges and opportunities for Alentejo RIS3- 2030 - Carmen Carvalheira - Vice President of Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional do Alentejo - CCDR Alentejo
- Blue Action plans in Med - Maria Vittoria Struglia, ENEA - PELAGOS project
- Blue Growth community's projects: the way forward - Varvara D. Bougiouri, School of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering NTUA, Med Blue Growth community

Exchange with participants (20')

11:15 – 11:30 Virtual coffee break

11:30 - 12:30 How to reconcile the development of renewable energy with biodiversity and tourism

Facilitator: Dr Céline Dubreuil, Plan Bleu UNEP/MAP

- **Minimizing the Offshore Wind energy development in Marine Protected Areas** - Pierre-Yves Hardy, Mediterranean Marine Initiative - WWF France / PHAROS4MPA project
- **Sustainable energy planning of Med islands** – Manos Kamilakis, Aegean Energy and Environment Agency / Med Renewable Energy community
- **Ports and Marinas as a testbed for innovation and a key part of the MRE supply chain** – Fabio Filocamo, CEO, Porto delle Grazie - Marina di Roccella - Italy
- **Offshore wind and tourism: could the two happily co-exist?** Ivana Lukic - s.Pro-sustainable projects

Exchange with participants (15')

12:30 - 12:45 Closing of the 1st Day

- Caterina Praticò, CoNISMA - Lead partner of the Blue Growth community project
- Maria Groueva, Interreg Med Programme - Joint Secretariat

2nd Day: November, 11th 2020

10:00 - 12:00 Circle The Med Forum session / Transition towards a Blue Economy; case studies, lessons and perspectives

Moderator: Christos Economou, Acting Director DG MARE, European Commission

- Miltiadis Varvitsiotis, Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs

- Dimitrios Oikonomou, Deputy Minister of Environment and Energy
- Christiana Kalogirou, General Secretary of the Aegean and Island Policy
- Giuseppe Sciacca, Executive Secretary of the CPMR Islands Commission
- Simone Bastianoni, Professor of Environmental and Cultural Heritage Chemistry, University of Siena
- Anna Escoda, Projects and International Cooperation Area Manager at ASCAME
- Caterina Pratico, Lead Partner of the Blue Growth Community
- Giovanni Caprino, Vice-President of the National Blue Italian Growth Technological Cluster - BIG

**12:00 - 15:00
(CET Time)**

e-Blue Agora - 1st BLUE DEAL Business Forum

→ 1st Session “Science, policymakers and SMEs to foster the Blue Energy deployment in the Mediterranean area” (50’)

Facilitator: Carmen Renovell Giner, CEEI VALENCIA

- Opening and welcome
- Presentation of the BLUE DEAL project
Prof. Simone Bastianoni, University of Siena
- The Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) - How EEN could assist SMEs/enterprises acting in the Blue Energy sector
Kostas Karamanis, PRAXI Network
- DG MARE presentation (tbc)
- Presentation of the BLUE DEAL Transfer Protocol
Christoforos Perakis, Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving - CRES
- Q&A

→ 2nd Session “SMEs/Enterprises acting in the Blue Energy market” (65’)

Facilitator: Thanasis Koukounaris, Dynamic Vision

- FEAC Engineering P.C. - *Sotiris Kokkinos*

- Wave for Energy S.r.l - *Andrea Gulisano*
- Tecnomac S.r.l - *Marco Negri*
- TYP SA - *Javier Abanades*
- InnoEnergy HUB Greece & Cyprus - *KINNO Consultants - Yiannis Geragotellis*
- SignalGeneriX - *Lefteris Economou*
- Rover Maritime - *Cristina Suesta*
- Eco Wave Power - *Yair Rudick*
- Rotary Wave - *Andrea Novás Cortes*
- KUMA ENERGY S.r.l - *Ezio Pellegro*
- SWEL - Sea Wave Energy Ltd - *Tony Antoniou*
- Q&A

→ 3rd Session “Funding opportunities and financial tools for SMEs”
(50’)

Facilitator: Luis Miranda Molas, ASCAME

- Available financing mechanisms in Blue Energy
Thanasis Koukounaris, Dynamic Vision
- Funding opportunities in Horizon 2020
Vaya Piteli, PRAXI Network
- Crowdfunding Opportunities for SMEs
Darko Ferčej, Head of EU project unit E-zavod
- Funding through voucher schemes
Valentina Bozzi, EU Project team of SVIM-Sviluppo Marche Srl
Andrea Rosini, Owner and founder of "Different Srl"
-Marketing & Innovation Knowledge provider of ILMA Srl

Wrap-up: Luis Miranda Molas, ASCAME, on behalf of Blue Growth Community

Closing speech: Natalia Tsami, Dynamic Vision

15:00

Closing of the 2nd Day

End of meetings