RECENTLY STARTED PROJETS

FLORES: Offshore Renewable energies partnership in the Pact for Skills

Part of the European Pact for Skills, FLORES objective is to develop tools and activities to expand knowledge and foster career in the offshore renewable energies sector. The project developed an ORE skills observatory to analyse the current trainings and the future trends. The partnership also implements pilot actions to test training materials and adapt them to the specific needs of the school.

BlueMissionMed & BlueMissionAA: supporting the EU Ocean Mission implementation in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic

While they focus on different Mission objectives (BMM on combating hydrosphere pollution, BMAA on preserving and restoring coastal ecosystems and biodiversity), both projects intend to establish a basin hub to facilitate innovative solutions. In its first year of implementation, BMM has co-developed with Mediterranean stakeholders a soon-to-be-published Implementation Roadmap laying out the vision and steps for the strategic transformation of the key sectors to prevent and eliminate hydrosphere's pollution. BMAA focused so far on mobilising governance frameworks and networks, through weekly webinars for the dissemination of scientific innovative solutions to preserve marine ecosystems. The project also engaged in citizen engagement actions in several countries.

Dialogue4Innovation & Community4Tourism: promoting innovation institutional dialogue and sustainable tourism solutions transfer in the Mediterranean

D4I and C4T are governance projects under two new Interreg Euro-MED Missions. D4I is addressing the need for transformative innovation, fostering long-lasting dialogue and policy-making for a sustainable economy. It will develop Policy Labs to test an innovation approach to enhance institutional capacity for transformative innovation policies and will establish an online Hub to connect stakeholders in pursuit of Mission goals. C4T aims to optimise the conditions for knowledge sharing of Thematic Projects, enhance the value of their results and amplify their outreach collectively, in particular through the Join the Med platform, Med clusters, Joint Annual Fora, etc.

What’s in it for CPMR members?

CPMR Members can learn to tailor educational programs for evolving ORE skills. This facilitates AAC Members in strengthening ORE collaboration and shaping policies to meet future marine energy workforce demands.

What’s in it for CPMR members?

CPMR involvement offers members early access to Mission services, knowledge, policy advice, and the opportunity to influence future basin priorities. CPMR also helps members access funding and technical support for replicating Mission Ocean solutions through “Associated Regions” calls.

What’s in it for CPMR members?

Both projects facilitate ongoing dialogue between CPMR-IMC regions and Mediterranean influencers, boosting innovation and sustainable tourism. They will align these Missions with MedCoopAlliance efforts, supporting basin strategies in innovation and tourism.
Advancing Black Sea Research and Innovation to co-Develop Blue Growth within Resilient Ecosystems

BRIDGE-BS proposes a multidisciplinary, multisectoral programme building on regional and international initiatives as a critical contribution to the science-based policy needed to preserve the Black Sea ecosystems for the benefit of citizens dependent upon their sustainability. The project will develop predictive tools and capabilities necessary to understand and predict the impacts of climate-driven and anthropogenic multistressors on the services stemming from Black Sea ecosystems. These services and their responses to stressors will be mapped, monitored and modeled in order to identify a safe operating space within which a sustainable blue economy can flourish.

What's in it for CPMR members?
BRIDGE-BS will be implemented by addressing the respective goals of the Black Sea Common Maritime Agenda (CMA) and the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA). It will strengthen collaborations between scientists and stakeholders, policymakers, industry representatives and societal interest groups, to create a connected Black Sea community.

Fostering entrepreneurship, transnational clusters, and digital innovation hubs activities for the EUSAIR

AI-NURECC PLUS supports the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) implementation, ensuring deep and broad territorial coverage while enhancing Regional and Local Authorities’ appropriation of the EUSAIR main objectives and opportunities in the EUSAIR cross-pillar topics: “Research and Innovation”, “SMEs Development”, and “Skills Development”. AI-NURECC PLUS also contributes to the implementation of the Cultural and Creative Regional Ecosystems (CCRE-S3) thematic area’s objectives. CCRE-S3, co-led by the CPMR Member Regions of Aragon (Spain), Tuscany (Italy) and Western Greece, and supported by the CPMR is an AI-NURECC deliverable that went beyond the Adriatic-Ionian region.

What’s in it for CPMR members?
AI-NURECC PLUS promotes multi-actor networking and collaboration among CPMR Members in the Adriatic-Ionian region and relevant EU, national, regional and local, public and private sectors’ stakeholders, in its operation fields, such as Sustainable Tourism, Cultural & Creative Industries, and Circular Economy.

MAESHA: working towards solutions for a decarbonised energy future in Mayotte and other European islands

MAESHA, a project funded by Horizon 2020, demonstrates solutions for a decarbonised energy future in the island of Mayotte - France, while other European islands – Wallis and Futuna Islands, St Barthélémy, Canary Islands, Favignana, Gozo – will study its replicability potential.

In July 2022, project partners gathered in Berlin with the Project Officer from the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency to review the first 18 months of implementation. This was an opportunity to exchange on the local energy community and market ecosystem assessment of Mayotte and to refine the strategy preparing the demonstration phase in Mayotte starting in 2023.

What’s in it for CPMR members?
MAESHA is tackling common challenges and will deliver a user manual which will be disseminated for replicability measures through IC members. The project will also link with similar initiatives within NESO1 – European Islands Facility projects and from the Clean Energy for EU islands Secretariat.
What's in it for CPMR members?

PREP4BLUE will highlight the important role played by maritime regions to boost innovation for healthy ocean, seas and waters and provides continuous support to foster their engagement in the Mission Ocean and Waters.
REGINA-MSP aims at improving the participation of the Regions, local authorities and stakeholders in the development and implementation of national Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP). Building on a general analysis and on discussion at European level and in-depth study of 8 regional case studies in 5 countries (Ireland, France, Spain, Italy and Greece), it is expected that this project will enhance uptake at regional level to further promote MSP, improving its contribution to the European Green Deal and interaction with the European Cohesion Policy. Recommendations will benefit MSP processes and the coordination of public policies at European, national and regional levels.

In the last months, leading to the end of Phase I of the project in July 2022, Next2Met partners organised four study visits and two Policy Learning Events in the participating regions, which allowed for a fruitful exchange of digitalisation good practices and involved local and regional stakeholders from different fields. The interregional learning experience represented a key process for the finalisation of the regions’ Action Plans and the improvement of the six policy instruments addressed, which will be monitored during Phase II of the project (until July 2023).

The CulTourE4Youth Project aims to increase the knowledge and entrepreneurial culture of young people in the Black Sea region; promote sustainable coastal tourism practices to develop new products, services and processes for sustainable cultural tourism; motivate employers, educational institutions, policy-makers and civil society, and facilitate synergies among them, to support youth entrepreneurship with concrete actions. The project engages with young people (18-30 y.o.), government agencies, business operators and training institutions in coastal communities in the geographical area of Türkiye, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine.
RECENTLY CLOSED PROJECTS

CleanAtlantic: Tackling Marine Litter in the Atlantic Area

Initiated in 2016, the project aimed at knowing the state of marine litter pollution in the Atlantic and implementing solutions to tackle the pollution. Partners developed databases to monitor marine litter, tools for beach and ports clean-ups, a knowledge tool gathering projects, resources and organisations working for the reduction of marine litter. The AAC particularly contributed to a Regional Policy Toolkit displaying examples of how Regions tackled marine litter through legislations, initiatives, campaign and waste management plans.

SAFER: Smart Atlantic Seafood Clusters

SAFER aimed at developing transfer of innovations between seafood sector companies through pilot actions. Innovation transfers included the use of apps for oyster harvesting inspections, manufacturing production control systems, remote sensors for monitoring of the environmental conditions and marine water treatments in farms. These shared solutions allowed to further develop a strong seafood sector in the Atlantic Area.

FANBEST: Consolidating cooperation on Blue Regional Smart Specialisation Strategies in the Atlantic

FANBEST objective is to support the scale-up of Start-ups and SMEs in the blue economy sectors. For this purpose it created a network of public and private entities coaching companies through trainings on internationalisation, transfer of technology programmes, fundraising assistance. The CPMR developed a consultation of innovation agents from the Atlantic to develop the Policy Recommendations on How to build a strong Atlantic Innovation Ecosystem.

What’s in it for CPMR members?

CPMR Regions can use the CleanAtlantic Regional Policy Toolkit in order to inspire new regional initiatives for the reduction of marine litter, taking example on other Regions and outputs of the CleanAtlantic projects.

What’s in it for CPMR members?

Through the SAFER Policy Toolkit, CPMR Member Regions will be able to get inspiration to further support the innovation transfers in the seafood value chain of their regions, and potentially replicate innovation transfers developed in SAFER.

What’s in it for CPMR members?

CPMR Members can use the FANBEST Policy Recommendations to better adapt their own policies and funding instruments to support blue economy startups and SMEs.
ASPBAN: Acceleration services gearing up to boost the role of Ports as Hubs of the Blue Economy

AspBAN, an EMFF funded project, developed an important set of knowledge to boost ports as hub of the blue economy. It has mapped ports’ aspirations and bottlenecks to boost innovation. Through the AspBAN Acceleration Services call, 80 startups delivering solutions to ports were selected to start a tailor-made programme to benefit from scale-up training. In addition to relaying privileged information about the project opportunities, the Atlantic Arc Commission has organised political seminars to connect AspBAN experience to other sea basins. The final result will be the endorsement of policy recommendations to EU Institutions in the next year.

SolaQua’s: Combining photovoltaic technology, hydraulic engineering, and high-efficiency water management techniques to optimize irrigated farming

SolaQua’s main objective is to increase the share of renewable energy consumption in Europe by facilitating the market uptake of solar irrigation in the farming sector. The project produced many relevant materials, but it stands out as the new Financial Instrument, eligible for funding from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. This Instrument promotes the use of solar energy for irrigation pumping, through the installation of photovoltaic irrigation systems, thus reducing energy costs for farmers, the sector’s carbon footprint, and improving water management. The Government of Aragon and the Comunidad Valenciana (Spain) had the opportunity to implement it in their regions.

iSOL-MET is complementary to the recently closed MINE-EMI project and focuses on the creation of a comprehensive Maritime skills course programme for multidisciplinary and multicultural groups of students, through case study methodology. Led by the University of the Aegean (Region of North Aegean, Greece), with partners from the wider Black Sea region, Poland, and the CPMR through its BBSC, iSOL-MET addresses the needs of the students for obtaining the required skills for entering the shipping market and provides educators with new educational tools. Furthermore, it addresses the needs of the shipping industry for qualified personnel.

AspBAN offers substantial knowledge to help regions to support ports’ ambitions to become innovation ecosystems for maritime SMEs. Inter-commissions workshops set by the CPMR Acceleration Platform enable best practice exchanges and discussions on the transferability of AspBAN in other sea-basins.

CPMR regions can directly benefit from the project’s technical materials, legal analysis and policy recommendations, a tool to improve existing regulations in all regions suitable for photovoltaic irrigation systems. They can also learn first-hand from the experience of other member regions for replication.

iSOL-MET will design a case study Handbook collection, evaluation tools for soft skills based on the Assessment Centre concept, provide the link between academia and industry, and therefore contribute to making maritime professions in the BBSC membership more appealing and competitive.