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METHODOLOGY FOR MAPPING THE MARITIME DIMENSION OF REGIONAL SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGIES

As part of the work initiated in February 2014 to set up a platform on maritime investments[1], the CPMR General Secretariat, in association with the Regions, has mapped out the maritime dimension of smart specialisation strategies in Europe. This technical paper describes the methodology applied to produce this map.

1. What does the mapping show? What doesn't it show?

This mapping shows the maritime dimension of smart specialisation strategies in Europe. The mapping includes 6 maps that highlight Regions whose strategies contain details relating to the following topics:

- The sea, in a cross-cutting way. 4 groups of Regions were distinguished:
  - Regions whose strategy includes a dedicated maritime section
  - Regions whose strategy has no dedicated maritime section, but where several major non-marine sections include explicit references to maritime issues. This may for instance concern sections on transport that include details on shipping, or sections about food or natural resources which include references to fisheries and aquaculture.
  - Regions whose strategy includes a maritime dimension included in a smaller number of maritime-related sections.
  - Regions whose strategy includes no explicit references to maritime issues, but where links with the sea might be assumed. This concerns for example strategies with a section on bio-resources, which might be considered to include new blue biotechnologies, without them actually being mentioned.
- Food, Nutrition and Health
- Tourism and recreation in coastal areas
- Management of marine and coastal areas
- Maritime transport
- Marine renewable energies, shipbuilding, advanced materials and manufacturing processes.

Factsheets available for the Regions contain details on the content of smart specialisation strategies in the aforementioned areas, and the main stakeholders involved.

However, the map does not provide an overview of the maritime economy of Europe's regions as a whole. Smart specialisation strategies focus on some parts of this economy. They do therefore cover an often significant part the maritime economy, but not all of it.

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[1] This initiative was followed with the Blue.invest conference in September 2014; the paper published in November 2015 on blue growth and smart specialisation strategies; the seminar on maritime investments in February 2016, and European projects in the framework of which CPMR is working on smart-specialisation and blue growth (e.g. H2020 EMBRC PP2 project and EMFF Coastal Mapping project).

2. **Which Regions are shown on the map?**

These are:
- Coastal Regions from:
  - EU Member States
  - Other States including Norway. In these states, the documents used for the mapping are ones similar to smart specialisation strategies (e.g. economic, innovation or research strategies)
- Some non-coastal Regions. The maritime economy is largely concentrated in coastal areas. However, some maritime business activities may exist in certain non-coastal Regions (e.g. maritime technologies in non-coastal German *Länder*) and therefore be identified in their smart specialisation strategies. Where this is the case, these Regions may be included in the map.

3. **Why make this mapping?**

As indicated in February 2014, the objectives of this mapping exercise are to:
- Facilitate collaboration at European level between Regions and/or between socio-economic players, in the form of European projects where appropriate. The CPMR is involved in several projects on smart specialisation and blue growth strategies.
- Identify investments that can be supported through EU programmes and policies such as Horizon 2020 or the Juncker plan. The implementation of the Juncker plan in the maritime sector was discussed at the seminar in February 2016, and we are looking at how to link the results of this analysis with Horizon 2020.
- Help analyse the implementation of the ESI Funds, mainly the ERDF and EMFF.

4. **Will this mapping change?**

The mapping is designed to evolve through discussions with the Regions on:
- The future development of smart specialisation strategies
- Information to feed into the content of the regional factsheets, mainly with regard to the key stakeholders in each of the Regions, and how they work together across the European territory.
- The link between the content of smart specialisation strategies and the programming of ESI funds

5. **What data is used?**

This mapping has been produced on the basis of:
- Information extracted from regional smart specialisation strategies or national strategies where no smart specialisation strategies exist. A bibliography has been created for this purpose.
- Interviews conducted with the Regions to interpret and validate the information.

6. **How were the thematic categories determined?**

The categories used correspond to areas of activity where strong economic interactions can be seen between certain maritime sectors in the Regions. For example:

Category selected for the mapping	Examples of relevant maritime sectors
Food, nutrition and health	Fishing, aquaculture, biotechnology, health and wellness
Tourism and recreation in coastal areas	Maritime and coastal tourism, water sports
Management of marine and coastal areas	Marine environment, Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning
Maritime transport	Shipping, port logistics, maritime safety
Marine renewable energies, shipbuilding, advanced materials and manufacturing processes	Marine energy (ocean energy and offshore wind energy), shipbuilding, oil & gas

ICTs are not selected as a category due to their highly cross-cutting nature.

The [paper](#) on blue growth and smart specialisation stressed that the maritime economy does not consist of a juxtaposition of isolated maritime sectors, but of economic interactions between these sectors in categories like those used for the mapping. The smart specialisation approach helps to support these interactions rather than individual sectors in isolation.

7. What is the link between the thematic categories used and the "Key Enabling Technologies" identified at European level?

KETs are a group of six technologies identified at European level: micro and nanoelectronics, nanotechnology, industrial biotechnology, advanced materials, photonics, and advanced manufacturing technologies. They have applications in many industries and are of significant economic interest. There is a [European strategy](#) to support KETs.

KETs identified at European level are included in the categories that have been used for mapping the maritime dimension of smart specialisation strategies:
- "Industrial Biotechnology" is included in the category "Food, Nutrition and Health" and also in the category "Marine renewable energies, shipbuilding, advanced materials and manufacturing processes"
- "Advanced materials and advanced manufacturing technologies" are included in the category "Marine renewable energies, shipbuilding, advanced materials and manufacturing processes".