CPMR-DG MARE WORKSHOP ON SYNERGIES BETWEEN REGIONS AND EU FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS IN SUPPORT TO BLUE GROWTH
Région Occitanie

16 May 2018, Brussels
Context – How does Région Occitanie support maritime projects?

• In 2017, Occitanie launched « Le Plan Littoral 21 » with a multi-governance level signed by the French State and Caisse des Dépôts.

• Main objective: to have a regional strategy for the blue economy and the coastline.

• 3 orientations: to ensure an ecological recovery, to have an innovative blue economy and to have an attractive territory.

• In 2018, Occitanie launched a study to establish a picture of the coastline and the maritime economy and to offer growth perspectives:
  - Identification of the several activities composing the blue economy in Occitanie in order to build a regional strategy for the coastline development with an integrated dynamic.
  - Recognition of the Région Occitanie as a strategic leader on these topics based on a new governance of maritime actors (ex: to redefine the role of the Parlement de la Mer).
  - Helping the regional economical level to find new financial solutions and to determine if and where the need of financial instruments can be a significant leverage.
  - Encourage innovation and propose new tools.
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• For the moment, Région works on general analysis elements to have a state of the play

• Priorities of the Région in blue economy: Off Shore wind farms, development of seaside towns, erosion of the coastline ...

• Preliminary work with Caisse des Dépots to identify needs and work on the process to launch a financial instruments

• Today, Région Occitanie is upstream of the work around financial instruments

• Need of expertise by DG Mare and EIB
How can the European Commission and the EIB support initiatives by the regions?

• By helping regions to launch studies to determine which blue sectors are interesting and which financial instruments are needed.

• By having an unique platform to identify all the financial solutions already in place for the blue economy and how we can use them.

• By helping regional initiatives.

• EMFF must remain the European fund for the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy.