



The BlueMed Implementation Plan - providing medium-term operational tools to develop sustainable Blue Economy in the Mediterranean area

Prof. Aldo Drago

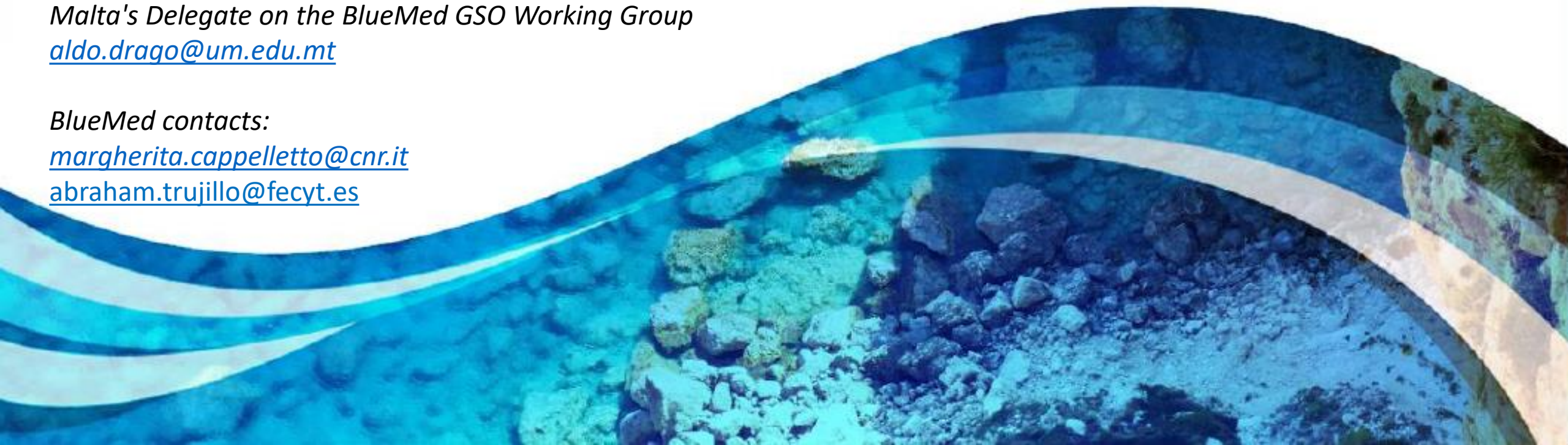
*Leader of the Physical Oceanography Research Group, University of Malta,
Malta's Delegate on the BlueMed GSO Working Group*

aldo.drago@um.edu.mt

BlueMed contacts:

margherita.cappelletto@cnr.it

abraham.trujillo@fecyt.es



WHAT IS BlueMED?

The BLUEMED Initiative aims to advance a **shared vision** for a more healthy, productive, resilient, better known and **valued Mediterranean Sea**, promoting the citizens' **social well-being and prosperity**, now and for future generations, and boosting **economic growth and jobs**.

16 Participating Countries

Algeria, Cyprus, Croatia, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and open to UfM countries



The BlueMED initiative addresses **research and innovation** through a **multidisciplinary** approach, linking **economy, environment** and **humans**

supporting and coordinating **Research & Innovation**

to build **sustainable Blue Growth**

by means of intensive national **networking of actors** and international **science diplomacy** efforts

in the **Mediterranean Sea**

blueMed

<http://www.bluemed-initiative.eu/>

THE BlueMED STORY

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- **May 2014** · BlueMed Initiative set-up in the framework of the EU Blue Growth Strategy
 - **December 2014** · BlueMed Vision Document endorsed at the Competitive Council
 - **October 2015** · Venice Declaration launching the BlueMed SRIA
 - **November 2015** · UfM Declaration on the Blue Economy adopted
 - **October 2016** · BlueMed Coordination and Support Action begins
 - **May 2017** · Valletta Declaration on strengthening Euro-Mediterranean cooperation through Research and Innovation undersigned

- February 2018 · Group of Senior Officials BlueMed Working Group established
- October 2018 · Pilot Action for a healthy plastic-free Mediterranean Sea launched
- April 2019 · BlueMed SRIA priorities agreed
- December 2020 · BlueMed Implementation Plan

250



PEOPLE ENGAGED
IN THE BLUEMED
COMMUNITY

13 BLUEMED PRIORITY GOALS

THEMATIC

Understanding Pollution Impacts, Mitigation, and Remediation in the Mediterranean Sea

Support solutions for sustainable production and consumption of food from the sea

Preparing to climate change and define adaptation/ mitigation measures

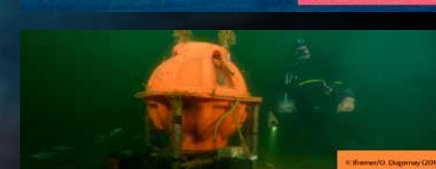
Linking tourism, tourists and environment

Effective maritime spatial planning in the Mediterranean

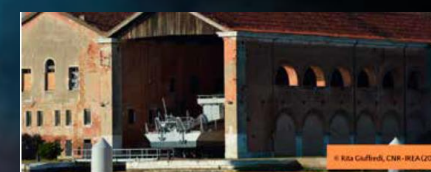
Greening vessels, facilities and services

Towards an observing system of systems

MALTA



THEMATIC	Exploring the potential of blue-biotech
	Promote the role of Marine Renewable Energies (MRE) in the energy transition phase
CROSS-CUTTING	Open data, open science, open innovation MALTA
	Building capacity, blue skills and blue professionals MALTA
	Strengthen synergies among science, industry, policy-makers and society
	From traditional maritime economy to blue growth activities



BLUEMED Priorities

The BLUEMED Implementation Plan structure

- **Scope:** Placing the BLUEMED Implementation Plan in the overall landscape (Horizon Europe, UN Decade of the Oceans)
- **Introduction:** The Bluemed Initiative from Valletta Declaration to Bluemed Vision and SRIA: Strategic Implementation Plan (management of expectations)
- **Societal challenge in the Mediterranean and policy synergies with other initiatives:** Elaborate on the challenges identified in the SRIA, the complex nature of the Med and link with other Basins and initiatives at European and international scale.
- **Catalogue of instruments:** highlighting possible programmes and available tools to implement the different actions (mappings, scoping workshops, joint calls, capacity building, knowledge brokerage, etc.)
- **Planned Joint Actions:** Promotional and Strategic actions to be implemented **[Core part of the Implementation Plan]**
- **Monitoring and Key Performance Indicators:** follow-up and impact of the implemented actions
- **Methodology from the SRIA to the 13 Priorities and the development of the Implementation Plan (ANNEX):** Infographics explaining the milestones of the project.
- **Background document:** The Fiches pack: “living” documents to be upgraded by co-champions in the final version of the IP.
- **Authors and contributors:** Recognising all contributors to the IP: GSO, CSA partners, National Pivots and Co-champions.

BLUEMED Planned Actions outline

- Some priorities are thematic and some others have a crosscutting nature. These **priorities**, introduced by a framing paragraph and a list addressing how to tackle them, have been **developed in Promotional and Strategic Actions**, to be implemented in 2020 and beyond.
- **Promotional Actions**: More specific, the BlueMed CSA aims to achieve them within the project's lifetime.
- **Strategic Actions**: Larger and medium-long term, with specific scientific or structural content requiring strong commitment and additional dedicated resources from Research Funders.
- **Information per Actions**: All of them include an indicative timing ($t < 1\text{yr}$, $1 < t < 5$, $t > 5$), a proposed instrument to undertake them and a tentative budget scale ($\text{€} < 50 \text{ k€}$; $\text{€€} < 1 \text{ M€}$; $1 \text{ M€} < \text{€€€} < 10 \text{ M€}$; $\text{€€€€} > 10 \text{ M€}$).

Planned Actions – Examples 1 & 2

Strategic Action: "Scaling up the BlueMed Pilot Action on Healthy Plastic Free Mediterranean Sea" under P1 on UNDERSTANDING POLLUTION IMPACTS

- *Indicative timing:* 2021, tt
- *Proposed instrument:* Horizon Europe – Mission area: Healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters, in a Multi-Programme Framework (e.g. EMFF, Interreg, LIFE) & National Pilot Hubs
- *Tentative budget:* €€€

Strategic Action: "Integrated Programme to increase knowledge on the impact of global change on Mediterranean marine ecosystems (food webs, biodiversity, habitats) and therefore on the following key social and economic drivers: fisheries/aquaculture and tourism, by exploiting appropriate observing systems" under P1 & P4 on TOWARDS AN OBSERVING SYSTEM OF SYSTEMS

- *Indicative timing:* 2021, ttt
- *Proposed instrument:* Horizon Europe – Mission Area: Adaptation to Climate Change including Societal Transformation targeted R&I actions & European Investment Bank Blue Sustainable Ocean Strategy (Blue SOS) & LIFE Call
- *Tentative budget:* €€€€

Planned Actions – Examples 3 & 4

Strategic Action: "Blue Economy Mediterranean Observatory MedBlueNet (integrated data service connected with Emodnet and Copernicus)" under P10 on OPEN DATA, OPEN SCIENCE, OPEN INNOVATION

- *Indicative timing:* 2021, ttt
- *Proposed instrument:* Horizon Europe, alignment and coordination with relevant initiatives and bodies (Emodnet, Copernicus, Eurostat, Medstat, EOSC, ESFRI)
- *Tentative budget:* €€€

Strategic Action: "The BlueMed Platforms' Constellation (multi-level cross-stakeholders' hub)" under P12 on STRENGTHEN SYNERGIES AMONG SCIENCE, INDUSTRY, POLICY MAKERS, AND SOCIETY

- *Indicative timing:* 2021, tt
- *Proposed instrument:* European Partnership – A climate neutral, sustainable and productive Blue Economy/Expert Groups + ESI/S3 + ENI/Cross-border cooperation Capitalization
- *Tentative budget:* €€

Planned Actions – Examples of Promotional Actions

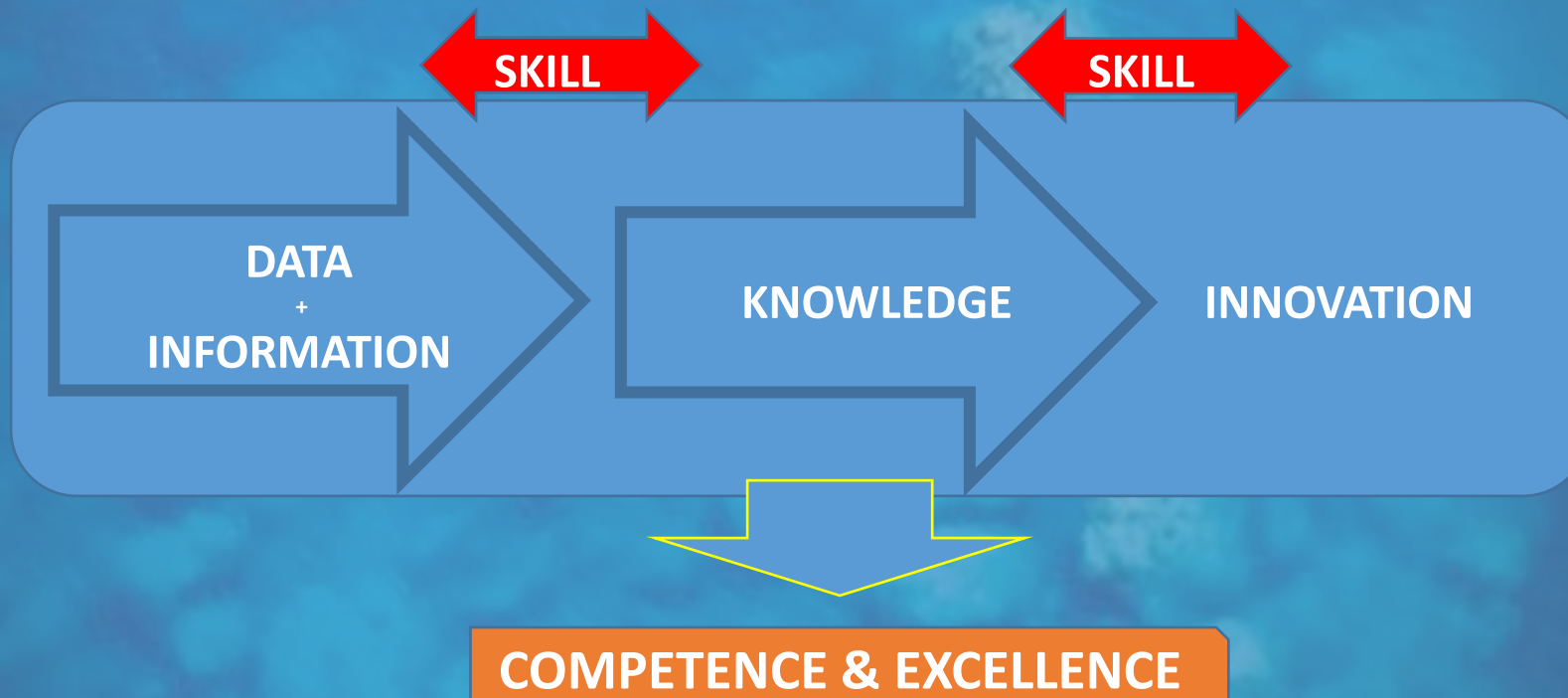
- **Promotional Action/1:** *thematic conference on Mediterranean Blue Biotech* (related to P8 on EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL OF BLUE-BIOTECH)
 - *Indicative timing: November 2020*
 - *Proposed instrument: Joint BlueMed CSA and Ocean4Biotech COST Action operational thematic conference*
 - *Tentative budget: €*
- **Promotional Action/2:** *OECD-UNESCO/IOC-BLUEMED joint Conference on Ocean Economy and Innovation: Linking economy potential and marine ecosystem health through Maritime Spatial Planning* (related to P3 on EFFECTIVE MSP IN THE MED)
 - *Indicative timing: September 2020*
 - *Proposed instrument: BlueMed CSA task*
 - *Tentative budget: €*

Setting the instruments

- Many more **Strategic Actions** are presented in the **Implementation Plan**
- More promotional actions to be proposed, including via a possible BlueMed CSA thematic conference
- A range of instruments and suitable tools including frameworks and financing programmes are needed to concretely work on the implementation of the 13 priorities and to reach the underlying goals.
- Several institutional and non-institutional actors (international, national or regional) include in their strategies elements aiming at the development of a sustainable blue economy. This opportunity requires the proper alignment of the different actions and the coordination of the different stakeholders.
- Important instruments comprise the two major EU 7-years R&I framework programmes, the UN-Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the Joint Programming Initiatives like JPI Oceans, networking initiatives, regional initiatives like WestMed, etc
- Engage with the non-EU countries to overcome the significant gaps in economic development and resources allocated to R&I between the Northern and Southern shores.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE

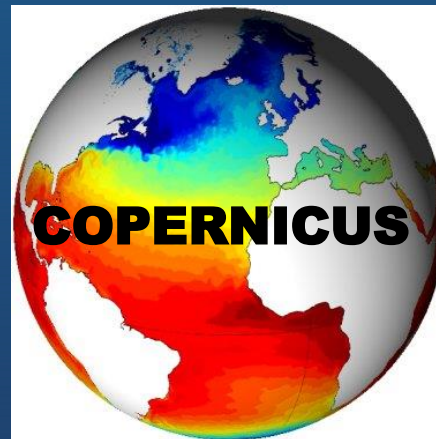
Key enabler for Blue Growth



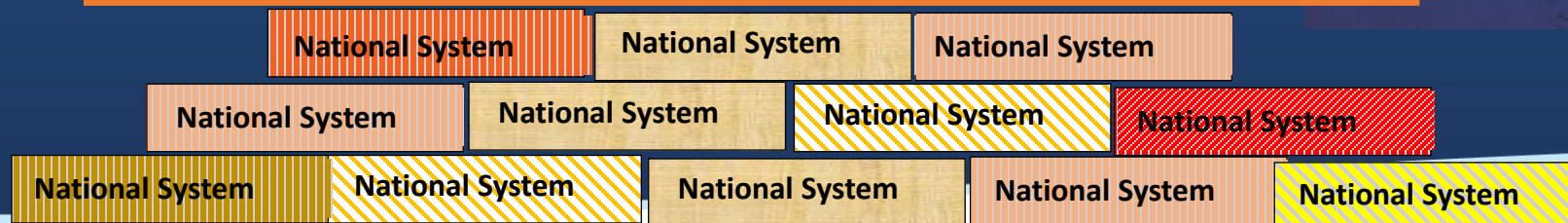
National Systems in EOOS

EOOS design with NSs serving as building blocks for coastal and HR marine data

Setting EC targets for commitments by governments to invest in national capacities for coastal sea observations & forecasting



coastal and high resolution observations, models and data



Building a European Ocean Observing System

COPERNICUS-like national marine core data systems linked to CMEMS and EmodNET

National desk(s) to link to local users

Contribution to Blue Economy by the Physical Oceanography Research Group

Introduced operational oceanography in Malta

Runs a number of real time meteo-marine observing stations

Publishes daily forecasts of sea state, hydrodynamical parameters and weather

Specialises in the delivery of services

Serves national stakeholders

introduced the concept of the national marine data core service

Training the marine professionals for tomorrow



Member of the **COPERNICUS Academy Network**

International schools on Oceanography and the Blue Economy

One-week intensive courses such as the JERICO-Next school (Malta, 2018)

Malta International Winter School 2020 organised in collaboration with the Commonwealth Small States Centre of Excellence Oceanography and the Blue Economy, 8th to 14th January 2020

MSc Course in Applied Oceanography

One year full time course intended to train post-graduate students and professionals on state-of-the-art methodologies and tools to measure, understand and predict the marine environment, and derive sustained benefits from the sea.

Applications still open:

<https://esims.um.edu.mt/esims/ipp/appindex.html>

Engage with the European University of the Sea (SEA-EU)



Thank you!
Questions?