An Overview of the WestMed Initiative

Online | 4 September 2020
The Initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy in the western Mediterranean

The WestMED Initiative

An innovative cooperation instrument between nations, regions and people of the western Mediterranean to facilitate the blue economy
Stronger cooperation is essential between all stakeholders, on both sides of the Mediterranean, to harness the full potential of the blue economy in this region.
TIMELINE

2017

Adoption and endorsement of the **Framework for Action** and **Communication** by the European Commission and the Council of the EU (in cooperation with the UfM)

2018

Adoption of the **Roadmap with 6 priorities** by the regional ministerial meeting

2019

Operational Implementation through 9 National Hubs and Central Support Team

Formation of the **WestMED Assistance Mechanism**
OBJECTIVES

A safer and more secure maritime space

A smart and resilient blue economy

A better governance of the sea
PRIORITIES

- Maritime safety and security
- Environment, biodiversity and climate change
- Maritime clusters and networks
- Skills development and circulation
- Sustainable tourism, transport and fight against pollution
- Fisheries and Aquaculture
STRUCTURE

Steering Committee
EC/ UfM/ EASME/ National Coordinators/ Consortium

Overall management
EASME/ EC/ Consortium

Operational Management
Consortium
OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Central Team
- steer and spearhead the implementation of activities,
- take responsibility for the overall management and control for the quality of the work delivered

National Hubs
- mobilise and liaise with local and national stakeholders,
- facilitate the local implementation of activities

Expert Pools
Provide hands-on expertise:
- Project funding and development
- Events and Communication
- Monitoring of funds and projects
- Management
TEAM

National Hubs

Expert Pools

29+ Experts

Central Team
9 NATIONAL HUBS

Spain
- Marta Pascual
- Valeria Nuñez

France
- Frédérick Herpers
- Colin Ruel

Italy
- Leonardo Manzari
- Laura Parducci

Malta
- Stephanie Vella
- Annabel Vella
- Gordon Cordina

Morocco
- Mohamed Malouli Idrissi
- Ayman Jghab

Algeria
- Samir Grimes
- Samir Bachouce

Tunisia
- Salem Miladi
- Slim Jerbia

Portugal
- Rui Manuel Azevedo
- Frederico Pinto Ferreira
- Sofia Maciel

Mauritania
- Dedah Babou
- Mohamed Lemine Abdel Hamid

Libya
- N/A
National Hub
MALTA

malta@westmed-initiative.eu

Stephanie Vella
Annabel Vella
Gordon Cordina
NATIONAL HUBS

Ensure **permanent availability** of the Assistance Mechanism at a national level

Liaise with relevant **stakeholders**, including national/regional authorities responsible for WestMed related cooperation programs.
NATIONAL HUBS

- Advise and assist stakeholders in setting up projects and feasibility studies and finding partners.
- Bring technical expertise to the preparation of project-proposals for grants/calls.
- Assisting stakeholders in developing project ideas by finding partners across the National Hub Network.
- Supporting stakeholders in the compilation of the required documentation for the submission of applications.
- During the past two years the NH has assisted with the development of various projects related to the development of clusters, blue biotechnology, aquaculture, fisheries and blue skills.
NATIONAL HUBS

- Identify and promote funding opportunities for projects in accordance with the roadmap & national priorities

- Identification of several cooperation avenues to match potential partners from across the WestMed countries for project development

- Disseminating information with local stakeholders on relevant funding opportunities

- Keeping abreast of ongoing developments of funding programmes and opening of calls
NATIONAL HUBS

Network to support the development of the initiative (roadshows, conference presence)

Assist and participate in the organisation of national and international events (e.g. hackathons)

By engaging directly with stakeholders through in-person meetings and other events, the National Hub is able to:

- **increase the visibility** of the WestMed Initiative
- **disseminate information** about funding opportunities and project ideas
- **understand the main areas of interest** of stakeholders to provide them with better support
Collect information on business development opportunities, public funding and private investment opportunities (including info for EASME Maritime DataHub).

The Maritime DataHub is an interactive tool that compiles information on past and ongoing maritime-related projects.

Around 40 projects were identified by the NH to be uploaded in the DataHub.

http://maritime.easme-web.eu/#
SHAPING THE FUTURE
Stakeholder Theme Discussions

- Sustainable transport/ alternative fuels/ green shipping
- Tourism accelerator
- Sustainable and Innovative aquaculture
- Innovation platform on Maritime Technologies
WE CAN HELP…

If you have a concrete project, to…

• Identify possible funding opportunities
• Connect with possible partners across the National Hub Network
• Structure your project(idea)

If you have expertise, to…

• Connect with possible projects across the WestMED National Hub Network
• Provide a platform to helping shape future WestMED developments (stakeholder meetings)
SOME SUPPORTED PROJECTS
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT & GREEN SHIPPING

National Groups of stakeholders coordinated by the National Hubs

WestMED countries National delegates

Technical Group on
Sustainable Transport and Green Shipping

Medium Term Scenarios
Common Initiatives
Cross Border Projects

Online meetings
ODYSSEA
1 June 2017 – 30 November 2021
ODYSSEA will develop, operate and demonstrate an interoperable and cost-effective platform that fully integrates networks of observing and forecasting systems across the Mediterranean basin, addressing both the open sea and the coastal zone.

COUNTRIES
Malta
Algeria
Italy
France
Tunisia
Spain
Egypt
Portugal
Israel
Germany
Tokelau
Greece
The Netherlands
United Kingdom

BUDGET
€ 8,399,000
FUNDING SOURCE
H2020
West MoPoCo

The Project supports the western mediterranean coastal states in strengthening their cooperation in the field of preparedness for and response to oil and Highly Noxious Substances (HNS) marine pollution and in improving the quality and interoperability of their response capacities.

**Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil and HNS Pollution Cooperation**

**COUNTRIES**

- France
- Algeria
- Italy
- Malta
- Morocco
- Tunisia
- United Kingdom

**BUDGET**

€ 868.000

**FUNDING SOURCE**

ECHO
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CALLS/ GRANTS/ TENDERS/ PROPOSALS</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIFE</td>
<td>EU Funding programme for the Environment and Climate Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H2020</td>
<td>Horizon 2020/ Research and Innovation Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG MARE</td>
<td>Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPI Oceans</td>
<td>Joint Programming Initiatives for Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMFF</td>
<td>European Maritime Fisheries Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENI CBC MED</td>
<td>European Neighbourhood Instrument/ Cross Border Cooperation/ Mediterranean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERREG</td>
<td>Atlantic/ Mediterranean / POCTEP/ POCTEFA/ SUDOE/ EUROPE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERDF</td>
<td>European Regional Development Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COSME</td>
<td>EU programme Competitiveness for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEF</td>
<td>Connecting Europe Facility (transport, energy and digital projects)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERASMUS +</td>
<td>EU programme for education, training, youth and sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAFAEA</td>
<td>Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency</td>
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SOME (OPEN) OPPORTUNITIES

Last updated: August 2020
The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) is a key EU funding instrument to promote growth, jobs and competitiveness through targeted infrastructure investment at European level.

**Ongoing call**

- Transport Blending Facility Call – Deployment of alternative fuels
  - **Deadline:** 23-11-2020

**Future calls**

- Transport: € 24.115 M. | Energy: € 8.650 M. | € Digital: 3.000 M.
Joint Programming Initiative Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans is an intergovernmental platform that strives to increase the impact of national investments in marine and maritime research and innovation.

**Ongoing call**

ERA-NET Cofund on Blue Bioeconomy - Unlocking the Potential of Aquatic Bioresources (BlueBio)

**Deadline**: 14 September  **Budget**: 11 Million


- 14 September: submission **deadline** for pre-proposals
- 14 December: Invitation for submission of full proposals
- December 2021: all projects should have started

**Upcoming calls:**

N/A
EMFF

- Fostering sustainable fisheries and the conservation of marine biological resources
- Contributing to food security in the Union through competitive and sustainable aquaculture and markets
- Enabling the growth of a sustainable blue economy and fostering prosperous coastal communities
- Strengthening international ocean governance and enabling safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed seas and oceans

Ongoing call:

Synergies and Clustering Between Maritime Projects

Deadline: 05-10-2020  |  Budget: € 450,000

Upcoming calls:

New calls expected late 2020
**LIFE**

LIFE programme is the EU’s funding instrument for the environment and climate action

**Ongoing calls**

- **Climate action sub-programme**  
  **Deadline:** 06-10-2020  |  **Budget:** € 500,000 – 5 M.+  

- **Integrated Projects (IPs) Environment and Climate Action sub-programme**  
  **Deadline:** 06-10-2020 (concept note)  |  **Budget:** 10 M. project average  

- **Preparatory Projects – ECA (Emission Control Areas)**  
  **Deadline:** 10-09-2020  |  **Budget:** variable  

- **Preparatory Projects – Air Quality**  
  **Deadline:** 10-09-2020  |  **Budget:** variable  

**Upcoming calls**

New calls expected spring 2021

The European Commission organized an information and networking day on the 2020 LIFE call for project proposals: 30 April 2020  
[https://eulife2019.b2match.io/](https://eulife2019.b2match.io/)

See stream from that day:  
EU CORONAVIRUS INVESTMENT INITIATIVE

EU cohesion policy contributes to the fight against coronavirus with numerous projects all over Europe.

Project beneficiaries have quickly reacted to the sanitary and socio-economic emergency situation using cohesion policy funds to adjust their resources and/or propose solutions.

Many Member States still have a substantial EMFF budget left to support their fisheries, aquaculture and processing sectors, which they can use until the end of 2023.

They can redirect the unspent budget to existing and new EMFF measures in their programme to reduce the negative impact of the Coronavirus crisis on the workers and businesses in these sectors.
MORE INFORMATION

www.WESTMED-INITIATIVE.EU

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your portal to BLUE GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES in the western Mediterranean

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