

INFO KIT

Prepare your visit to Malta

WESTMED 2023

STAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE

22 JUNE 2023, MALTA





Your hosting city



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Welcome to Malta

The Maltese Islands are positively mythic. The narrow meandering streets of their towns and villages lead to the main square, which is invariably dominated by the huge baroque church. As the countryside is dotted with medieval towers, wayside chapels and the oldest known human structures in the world, the Islands have rightly been described as an open-air museum.

The archipelago consists of three islands: Malta, Gozo and Comino with a total population of over 500,000 inhabitants occupying an area of 316 square kilometers.

Malta is the largest island and the cultural, commercial and administrative centre. Gozo is the second largest island and is more rural, characterised by fishing, tourism, crafts and agriculture. Comino, the smallest of the trio, is largely uninhabited.

With superbly sunny weather, attractive beaches, a thriving nightlife and 7,000 years of intriguing history, there is a great deal to see and do.

For further information on Malta, please visit <https://www.visitmalta.com/>

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Useful information

WEATHER: <https://www.maltairport.com/weather/>

Weather in June-July is hot, dry and sunny in Malta with an average temperature of 24.4°C which is made up of high afternoon temperatures of 29°C and low overnight temperatures of 18°C.

TRANSPORT

Bus cards and tickets can be bought at the different Sales and Information Point of [Malta Public Transport](#). You can find an information point in the Arrivals Lounge at the Malta International Airport.

- Malta airport: <https://www.maltairport.com/>
- Taxi: With taxi stands outside the airport, bus terminus, and large hotels, they are never hard to come by. And should you wish to book a taxi in advance, many local companies have apps for online booking. You can book your trip by downloading the Malta Taxi App on Google Play or Apple Store.

LOCAL CUSTOMS

Many of Malta's shops, attractions and businesses stay open throughout the day, openings from 9:00 to 13:00 and again from 16:00 to 19:00. Shops are normally closed on Sundays and on public holidays. Bank timings are generally from 8:30 to 12:30 Monday to Friday and from 8:30 to 11:30 on Sunday.

LANGUAGE: Maltese and English

CURRENCY: Euro

COUNTRY DIALLING CODE: +356

24 HOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT 112

Event and Practicalities



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Agenda

22 June 2023

09:00-09:30 Registration

09:30-10:00 Welcome and opening remarks

Setting the scene: The political/institutional framework for the development of sustainable blue economy in the WestMED

Official welcome: Malta

- WestMED Initiative Co-Presidency: main features and highlights (WestMED Initiative Co-Presidency: Malta and Mauritania)
- UfM Roadmap towards implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Blue Economy and Blue Mediterranean Partnership (UfM)
- Commission report on the WestMED Implementation: key outcomes and recommendations for the future (DG MARE)

10:00-11:30 Building up on the success so far of WestMED's outcomes

- **Offering a holistic overview of the existing projects contributing to WestMED's priorities**
- **Blue skills and ocean literacy**
 - Network of Blue Schools: experience at Mediterranean level and replicability in southern countries
 - Upcoming developments in blue careers: EMFAF project Blue Careers call
 - Strengthening synergies with the Atlantic Strategy (Pillar II) to boost blue skills and ocean literacy in the western Mediterranean
- **Blue tourism**
 - Building a regional framework to boost sustainable coastal and maritime tourism in the Mediterranean (WestMED Co-Presidency)
 - Successful case study: EMFAF awarded flagship projects

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11:30-12:00

Coffee Break

12:00-13:30

Thematic parallel sessions

Session 1: Green shipping

- Priorities and main highlights of the technical group
- Discussion about existing and upcoming funding opportunities
- Discussion about future projects' ideas

Session 2: Maritime Clusters

- Priorities and main highlights of the alliance
- Discussion about existing and upcoming funding opportunities
- Discussion about future projects' ideas

Session 3: Sustainable Aquaculture - AquaWEST

- Priorities and main highlights of the technical group
- Discussion about existing and upcoming opportunities
- Discussion about future projects' ideas

Session 4: Community of Practice on Marine Spatial Planning in the Med

- Priorities and main highlights of the Community of Practice
- Identify topics and possibilities for advancing a more regional/sea-basin MSP approach

13:30-14:30

Network lunch

14:30-15:30

Continuation parallel sessions

15:30-16:00

Emerging findings from parallel sessions: What concrete opportunities for further cooperation have emerged?

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16:00-16:45

Corridors for project impact cooperation (WestMED Initiative Project Awards)

- Announcement of the winners of the 4 different project award categories
- Pitching of the category winners to a selection panel with a focus on transferability/ replicability – to compete for the overall 2023 WestMED Initiative Award
- Q&A with selection panel
- Voting for the WestMED Initiative Project Award 2023
- Announcement of the best 2023 WestMED project award winner

16:45-17:00

Final remarks and closing

- DG MARE/CINEA
 - Maltese Co-Presidency
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The Villa Arrigo (NAXXAR)

The WestMED Stakeholder Conference will take place at the Villa Arrigo in Naxxar.



St Paul's Street,
San Pawl Tat-Targa,
Naxxar, NXR4013,
Malta
T: +356 2142 3214



Wireless Internet will be available throughout the villa.

Accommodation

Please note that this is a very busy period in Malta and prices may rise very quickly. We strongly advise you to proceed with the reservation of your hotel nights as soon as possible.

Note that if you are a member of the Steering Committee, Sea Basin Assistance Mechanism or a speaker, your accommodation will be communicated to you closer to the event. Please do not make any bookings yourself.

You can find a list of hotels located within **5-10 minutes' drive from the venue** hereafter:

[The Village Boutique & Spa](#)

T: +356 2798 8357

E: info@villagehotelmalta.com

[Corinthia Palace Malta](#)

T: +356 2144 0301

E: sananton.palace@corinthia.com

[Chapel 5 Boutique Suites](#)

T: +356 7909 7044

+356 7909 7043

E: hello@chapel5.com

The following hotels are located on the **St Julian's Bay (15 minutes' drive from the venue)**:

[123 Main Street Boutique Hotel](#)

T: +356 9909 2236

E: info@123mainstreethotel.com

[Hotel Juliani](#)

T: +356 2138 8000

E: info@hoteljuliani.com

Interpretation

Interpretation in French and English will be available at the venue during the plenary and parallel sessions.

Catering

Lunch and coffee breaks will be served according to the agenda

Contacts

For all logistical matters, please contact:

Ms Sandra Mboumbouni

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Ms Rachel Husson

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We are looking forward to meeting you in Malta!