

Technical Group on Green Shipping and Ports

Key summary points

Last update: December 2024

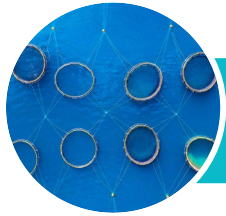
CINEA/EMFAF/2022-3.5.1/SI2.881692

WESTMED
blue economy initiative

Supported
by the



WestMED Technical / Working Groups (TGs)/ Community of Practice (CoP)



Sustainable Aquaculture



Maritime Clusters



Maritime Spatial Planning



Green Shipping and Ports

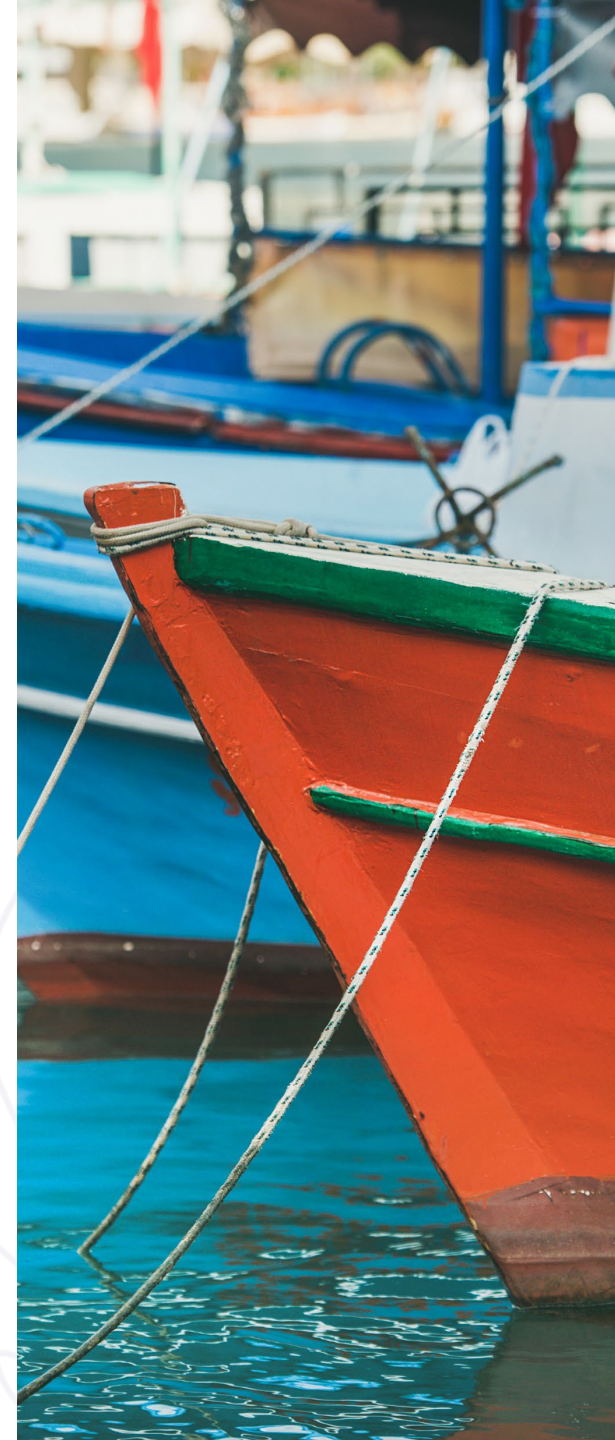


Sustainable tourism



Content

- Context
- Aim of the Technical Group
- Structure of the Technical Group
- Key activities of the Technical Group
- Achieved results
- Synergies
- Latest news of the Technical Group



Context

- The Global Sulfur Cap 2020, adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in October 2016, will limit sulfur oxide emissions to 0.5% in all the world's seas by 2020, compared to 3.5% today. To achieve such goal, a transition from the global fleet to less polluting propulsion energies is needed. In this respect, the western Mediterranean – and to a large extent the Mediterranean at large – faces a number of challenges in the area of sustainable maritime transport that can be transformed in opportunities if properly addressed.
- These actions on sustainable maritime transport contribute to Priority 2.4 of the WestMED Framework for Action (2017) and priority 3 of the WestMED Roadmap (2018). The WestMED Assistance Mechanism (WMAM) has discussed these topics since the initial Stakeholders' Conference in Algiers (December 2018) and then further developed more concrete areas for joint project ideas during the WestMED Hackathon Event in Palermo (May 2019).
- This Technical Group, entitled Sustainable Transport/Green Shipping in the Western Mediterranean has the mandate to establish cooperation within the sub-basin for the research and deployment of innovative solutions for clean maritime transport.



Aim of the Technical Group (I)

General objectives of the group are two-folded:

- Support effective international partnerships and better quality of project ideas to be supported by the WMAM (to be possibly funded by EU programmes, but also and importantly other IFIs). In this respect, different “geographical scopes” can be allowed depending on the specificities of each identified programme and specific call for projects. These would result in a series of coordinated project activities that could maximise the synergies amongst different financial streams, including a focus on southern/northern countries and a possible extension to the eastern Mediterranean.
- Identify specific topics where further policy and political action is envisaged and provide inputs for strategic decisions to be discussed and agreed at the Steering Committee level. In this respect, for example, greater dialogue could be foreseen with existing political fora active in the region (e.g. CETMO, GTMO 5+5). This way, the WestMED Initiative could be instrumental in fueling existing policy dialogue with innovative ideas and solutions towards more sustainable maritime transport solutions.



Aim of the Technical Group (II)

As part of these general objectives, **three interconnected challenges** for the Blue Economy are addressed so to:

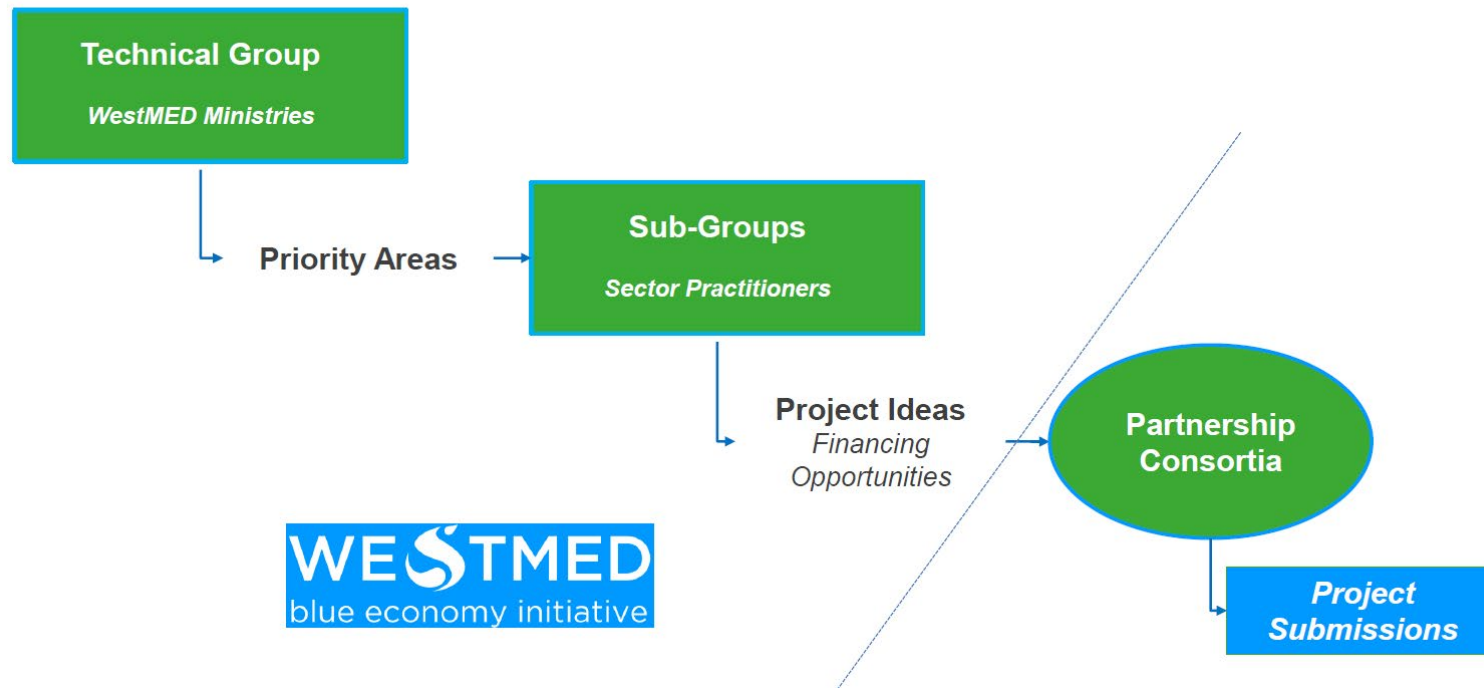
1. Develop a sub-basin alliance for the joint planning and development of LNG and alternative fuel;
2. Contribute to the debates at the regional level to foster green shipping in a context of Emission Control Areas (ECA);
3. Support the ongoing discussion on the Motorways of the Sea in the sub-basin with respect to green shipping development and the uptake of alternative fuel sources.



Structure of the Technical Group (I)

WestMED Green Shipping: Technical Group

Process in identification and support of Priority Actions



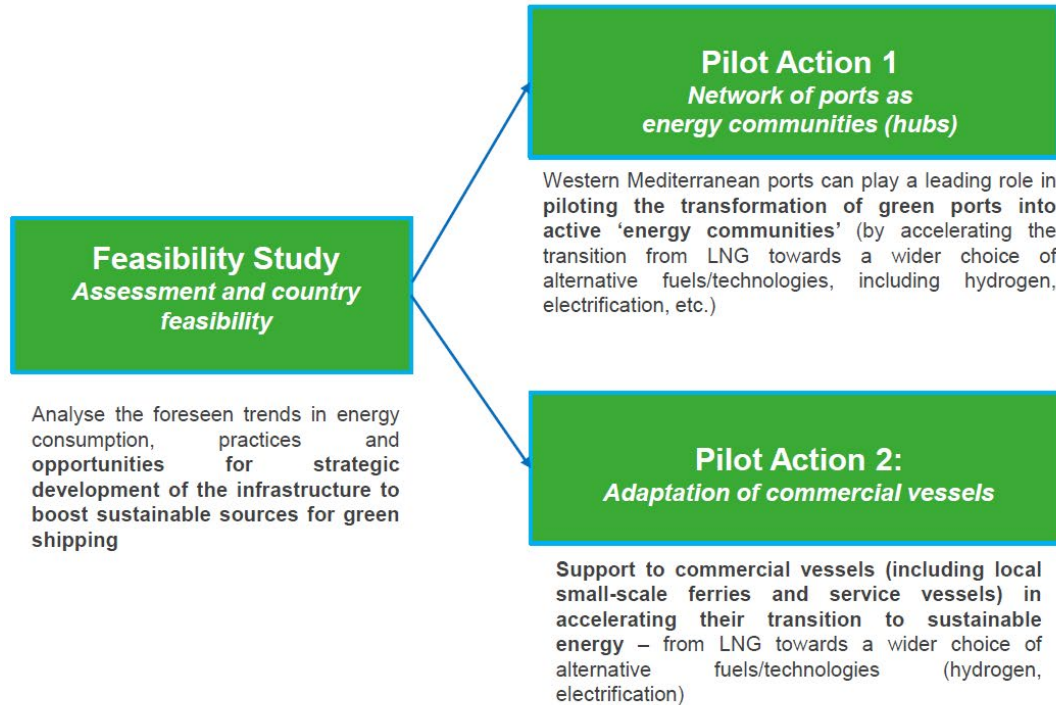
The TG group is managed by the Italian and Maltese National Hubs.



Key activities of the Technical Group (I)

1. Support projects' ideas development, establishment of consortia and search of funding opportunities.

Focus on implementing the identified project 'concepts'



Key activities of the Technical Group (II)

First WestMED Assistance Mechanism round of the TG on Green Shipping:

- Observatory on technological chains
- Energy Communities in Ports
- Fleets renewal and refitting

Second WestMED Assistance Mechanism round of the TG on Green Shipping:

- Observatory on technological chains: create a WM_Mediterranean supply chain of technological chains identified (incl a sustainability rating system)
- Energy Communities in Ports: establishing a WM driving group of Energy Communities in Ports
- Fleets renewal and refitting: create a WM_Mediterranean supply chain (incl a sustainability rating system, ref existing systems and specialized companies)

Tightening the established relations with the other thematic stakeholders' platforms and multilateral organizations (REMPEC, MedPorts, ZEWT Waterborne Partnership, MedCities)



Key activities of the Technical Group (III)

2. Support projects' ideas development and collaboration with funded projects

- **GreenMED – Green Shipping Pathways Towards a Clean Energy Transition in the Mediterranean**

GreenMED is a regionally oriented project aiming to effectively support green shipping efforts in the Mediterranean Sea basin, by promoting plausible scenario-based decarbonisation pathways. The GreenMED's ambition is to contribute directly and actively to the emission targets established by the EU under the 2030 and 2050 milestones. This goal's realization relies on the comprehension and integration of innovative technologies, taking into consideration the regional ship energy demands, the fuel supply chains in both shores of the Mediterranean Sea, and the variety of emerging green shipping technologies, leading to the establishment of a decarbonisation hub: the Mediterranean Sustainable Shipping Observatory (MSSO).

Duration : 24 months – EU contribution: EUR 740 868

- **GREEN MARINE MED – Mediterranean Green Shipping Network: Linking Ports, Industries, Investment and Innovation for Monitoring and Technology Foresight on Green Shipping in the Mediterranean**

GREEN MARINE MED will bring together, engage and mobilise the comprehensive Mediterranean Green Shipping stakeholder community, representing the full value chain including actors from the full vessel community, ports and marinas, fuel and energy, as well as finance, investment, innovation and other stakeholders. The comprehensive Network will create the foundation to enable the most broadly supported and useful Monitoring and Technology Foresight on Mediterranean Green Shipping.

Duration: 24 months – EU contribution: EUR 932 469.91

- **POWER4MED – local emPOWERment of fuel transition FOR a green MEDiterranean**

Transition toward carbon neutrality in maritime transport requires short & medium-term solutions, the former based on transition fuels (LNG), the latter on not yet fully available alternative fuels (green hydrogen, methanol, electricity & wind). Dealing with such complexity is difficult for the operators of smaller ships and POWER4MED has the ambition to support them by developing the POWER4MED Supporting Structure, a "Supporting Team" of multidisciplinary experts and a set of toolkits facilitating the path toward carbon neutrality of the 3 sectors targeted by the project: fishing boats, commercial vessels and marinas.

Duration: 18 months – EU contribution: EUR 638 435



More projects supported:

- **BLUE PORTS – Blue careers in net zero energy ports**

Aims to develop a new, certified, training program for trainers and final users (professionals and students) to enhance digitalization and greening of port activities.

Duration: 24 months – EU contribution: EUR 937 327

- **LIFE4MEDECA – ECAMED Knowledge Center**

Supporting the preparation of an Emission Control Area (ECA), both SECA and NECA, in the Mediterranean

Duration : 36 months – EU contribution: EUR 981.773

- **LIFE4MECA – a wake up call for the Mediterranean Supporting Maritime Emission Control Areas**

LIFE4MECA project is the follow-up to the EU Preparatory Project LIFE4MEDECA, and aims to support the preparation of the implementation of Emission Control Areas for sulphur oxides (SECA) in the Mediterranean Sea and the upcoming Atlantic SECA as well as for nitrogen oxides (NECA).

Duration: 36 months – EU contribution: EUR 697.535,57



POWER4MED

local emPOWERment of fuel
transition **FOR** a green
MEDiterranean



WESTMED ASSISTANCE

- Matchmake among stakeholders
- Support partnership building
- Identify funding calls for project proposals

COUNTRIES

Italy
Algeria
Spain
Egypt

Türkiye
Libya (associated)

BUDGET

€ 798.043

SOURCE DE FINANCEMENT

EMFAF

Green Marine Med

Mediterranean Green Shipping Network: Linking Ports, Industries, Investment and Innovation for Monitoring and Technology Foresight on Green Shipping in the Mediterranean



WESTMED ASSISTANCE

- Identify/ shaping proposal ideas
- Identify funding calls
- Matchmake among stakeholders
 - Support partnership building

COUNTRIES

Spain	Türkiye
France	Israel
Italy	

BUDGET

€ 1.179.443

SOURCE DE FINANCEMENT

EMFAF

Key activities of the Technical Group (IV)

3. Establishment of a new S3 partnership

New S3 partnership:

SHIPBUILDING PROPULSION SYSTEMS ALLIANCE

Modernisation & renewal of the supply chains related to the production/refitting of ships' propulsion

5 EU MS + 4 non-EU Countries

3 Seabasins (WestMED, Atlantic, Black Sea)

3 Regional Authorities

26 Partner Organisations



S3 Partnership

This S3 concept reflects the priorities of the different EU Sea-basin Strategies, by considering the role that operators in the most significant ports could play in fostering the favourable conditions for a green transition in the sector across the Mediterranean, Atlantic and Black Sea.

This **new S3 Thematic Partnership** aims to:

- Speed up the **modernisation and renewal of the supply chains related to the production/refitting of propulsion systems**, as well as to the delivery of the fuel, for each type of alternative fuel.
- Accelerate the **replacement/refitting of traditionally propelled fleets to diversify, renew, revitalise the sector** across Europe and its neighbourhoods;
- Foster the **adoption of innovative fiscal and financial schemes**, to allow shipowners, shipbuilders and related stakeholders to achieve greater impact and sustainability for their investments.

Maritime transport is not only a pivotal sector per se, but also is instrumental to the sustainable development and overall greening of the other blue economy sectors considered by the S3 Thematic Partnership – notably sustainable transport, aquaculture and biotechs, marine renewable energy.



Key activities of the Technical Group (V)

4. Approaching the new MED SOx-ECA SOx from 2025 on: persisting gaps and technical assistance needs at Mediterranean level and by each country.

Project Development Lab (3rd Edition WestMED Hackathon, October 2024).

- This lab was attended by approx. 20 participants including colleagues from beyond the WestMED region like Türkiye, Greece and Bosnia Herzegovina. After the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) presented an update on progress towards the implementation of the UfM Regional Action Plan on Transport 2021-2027, Interreg NEXT MED shared an update on the status of the 2nd green economy call. Before opening the floor and starting the exchange, the WestMED National Hub for Italy concluded the introduction by presenting the progress made under the WestMED Initiative and its Technical Group on Green Shipping with among others, a recently submitted proposal for a new S3 partnership with 30 partners from EU and non-EU countries.
- Outcomes and emerged ideas (first 3 most innovative)
 - Establishment of a Center of Excellence on Marine Civil Protection at the Canary Islands
 - Network of Excellence Centers
 - Upgrade of energy grids to serve smaller ports
 - Digital twin focusing on common ports & oceans -contributing to a unified approach to data collection and management
 - Transitional fuels linking to the green hydrogen supply chain and the concept of energy communities



Synergies

- **Mediterranean Regional Centre for Emergency Response against Accidental Marine Pollution (REMPEC)**
- **UfM Transport platform**
- **ASCAME**
- **Atlantic Action Plan – Pillar 1 Ports**
- **Centre for Transport Studies for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO)**
- **Studi e Ricerche per il Mezzogiorno (SRM)**
- **European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)**
- **MedPorts,**
- **ZEWT Waterbone Partnership**
- **MedCities**



Latest news of the Technical Group

- **Last Technical Group meeting on 5th September:**
 - Overview of progress of EMFAF and LIFE projects (Green Med, Green Marine Med, Power4MED, Blue Ports, LIFE4MEDECA, LIFE4MECA)
 - A new S3 Partnership among territories involved in shipbuilding activities
 - With the intervention from UfM Transport platform

Hackathon session on Green Shipping and Ports:

- Discuss the proposal for the S3 Partnership
- Further collaboration with UfM Transport platform
- Identify new funding calls and key project ideas



Latest news of the Technical Group

- 30 November 2024. [Launch of S3 Thematic partnership “Shipbuilding Propulsion Systems Alliance” with 30 partners from 3 EU sea basins](#)
- 9 October 2024. [WestMED Hackathon 2024: Crafting Sustainable Blue Economy Projects](#)
- 17 July 2024. [WestMED Malta discusses current and future challenges of the Mediterranean Logistics sector at MedaLogistics Week Barcelona 2024](#)
- 15 May 2024. [The Atlantic Action Plan, WestMED Initiative, Port of Vigo, DG MARE, MAPA and the Energy Transition Partnership streamline port and vessel decarbonization actions](#)
- 25 February 2024. [WestMED national event on Green Shipping in Algeria](#)
- 21 December 2023. [WestMED Success story: The drive for green shipping with MARINEHOUND as a leading project example,](#)



Thank you for your support!

Italian National Hub: italy@westmed-initiative.ec.europa.eu

Maltese National Hub: malta@westmed-initiative.ec.europa.eu

Central Team/ Synergies: Matteo.Bocci@ecorys.com;

thanos.smanis@westmed-initiative.ec.europa.eu

 **#WestMedStrat**

Westmed-initiative.ec.europa.eu

CINEA/EMFAF/2022-3.5.1/SI2.881692

WESTMED
blue economy initiative

Supported
by the

