



WESTMED
blue economy initiative

WESTMED Maritime
Clusters
Alliance



International Workshop
«Fostering Ocean Innovations»
Naples, September 4, 2023

Westmed Maritime Clusters Alliance

Committed for a capacity building platform to foster the Mediterranean ecosystem of the Blue Economy

MATTEO BOCCI

FOSTERING OCEAN INNOVATION

Naples, 4th September 2023

WestMED Strategic Initiative

Contribute to the development of a sustainable blue economy in the western Mediterranean region

ALGERIA

FRANCE

ITALY

LIBYA

MALTA

MAURITANIA

MOROCCO

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

TUNISIA



National Hubs. Network of Country Experts

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

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

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

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

Collect information on business development opportunities, public funding and private investment opportunities

Advise and assist stakeholders in setting up projects and feasibility studies and find partners across the National Hub Network

Bring technical expertise to the preparation of project-proposals for grants/ calls

WestMED Priorities. Sustainable blue economy



**Maritime safety
and security**



**Environment, biodiversity
and climate change**



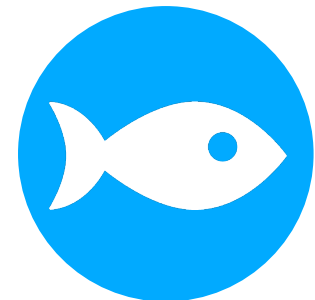
**Maritime clusters
and networks**



**Skills development
and circulation**



**Sustainable tourism, transport and
fight against pollution**



**Fisheries and
Aquaculture**

WestMED Priorities. Restated and expanded



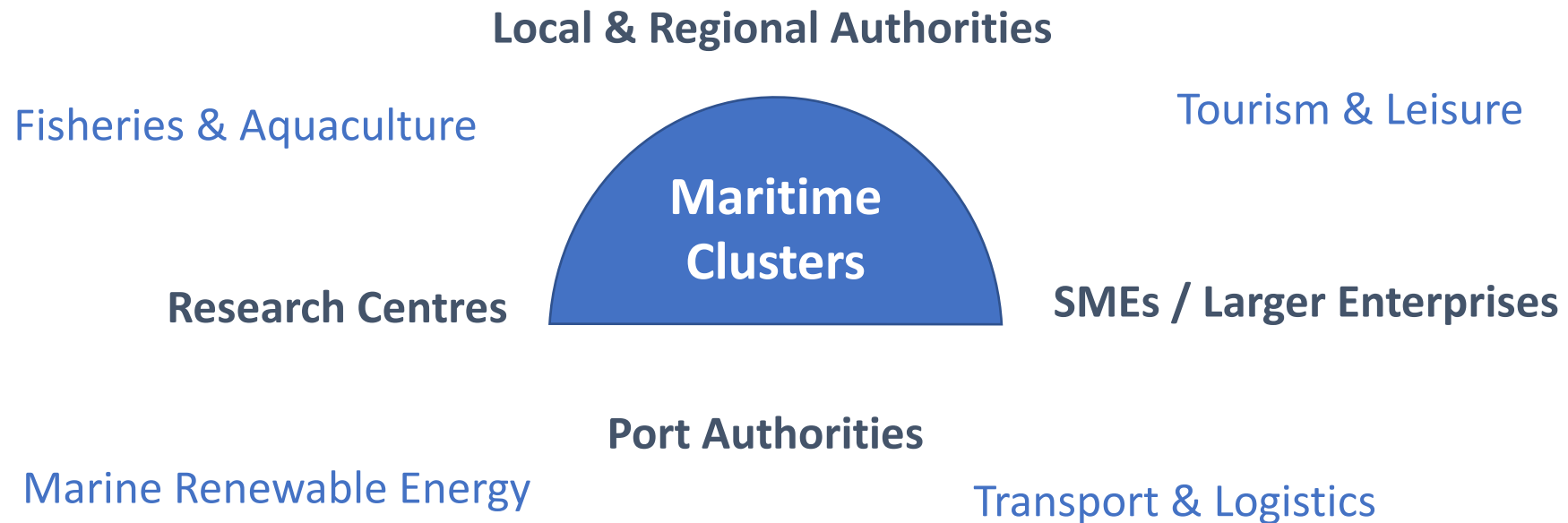
2023 WestMED Ministerial Declaration

Malta - 23 May 2023

[click here](#)

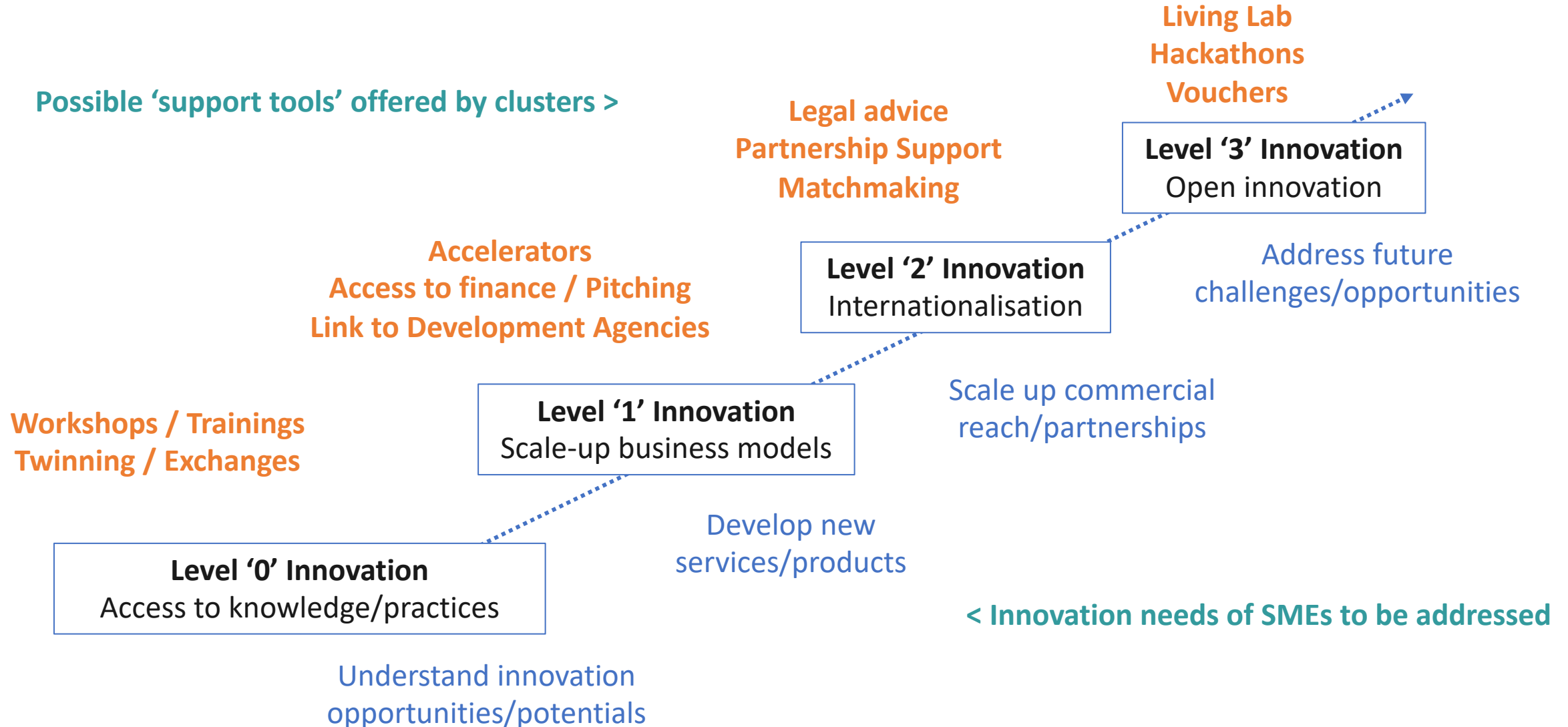
Maritime Clusters. Perfect “broker” for local SBE

Aggregating and having direct access to a range of local stakeholders



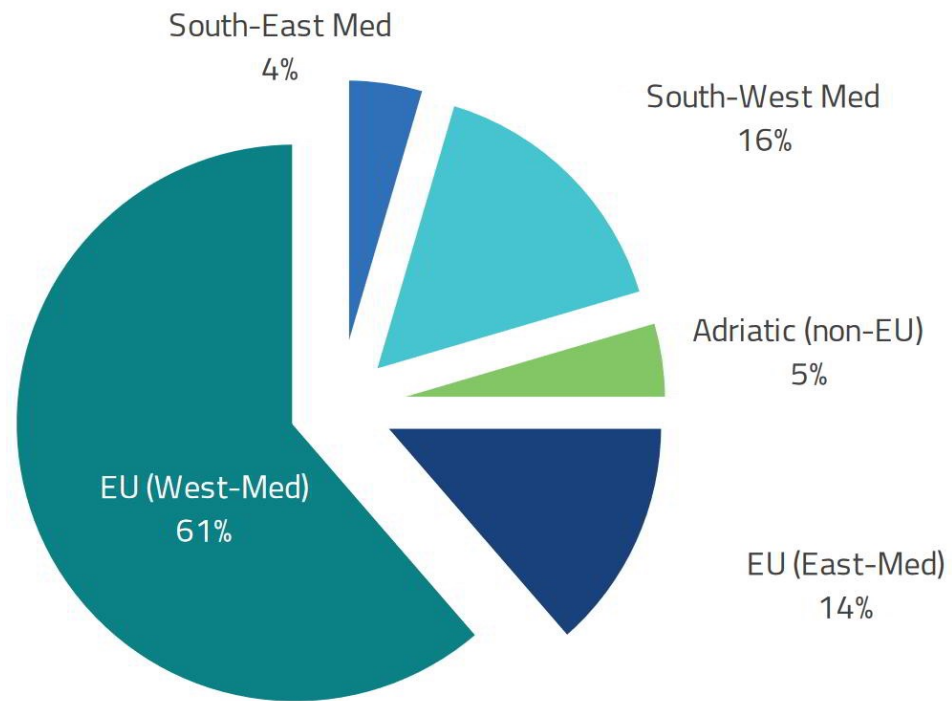
Understanding local value-chains and business ecosystems across SBE sector

Potentials. Support different 'innovation stages'



WestMED. Developed but still needing support

A potential to be further exploited



An effective "platform" already at disposal



WestMED Maritime Clusters Alliance

Accelerating Cooperation and joint actions by maritime clusters in the western Mediterranean

Accelerating Cooperation and joint actions by maritime clusters in the western Mediterranean



WestMED Cluster Alliance. Features & Activities

Main features

- **June 2021: launched officially**
 - **Maritime Clusters** – leading on a range of strategic actions
 - **Geographical scope** – western Mediterranean focus (but open to east)
-

Main activities

- **Cluster dialogue** – leading of Pole Mer Méditerranée
- **Capacity building South-South** – leading of Cluster Maritime Tunisien
- **Capacity building North-South** – leading of Blue Italian Growth
- **Investment attraction** – leading of Forum Oceano

Role of Maritime Clusters – WestMED Alliance



‘MALTA ROADMAP’ FOR SOUTHERN CLUSTERS COOPERATION

CONTEXT FOR THE ROADMAP

WestMED Cluster Alliance in support to maritime clusters

The WestMED Cluster Alliance (WMCA)¹ is the initiative Accelerating Cooperation and joint actions by maritime clusters in the western Mediterranean. The WMCA includes all national maritime clusters active across the western Mediterranean region, but also involve dialogue with sub-national clusters as well as relevant innovation enablers (accelerators, etc.).

To achieve its aim the WMCA works across a number of synergetic actions

- *Intersectoral cluster dialogue*, to support exchange in maritime and non-maritime clusters
- *South-South cooperation*, to boost the development of southern clusters
- *North-South capacity support*, to upgrade cluster management skills
- *MedBAN*, to provide a platform for investments in innovative SMEs.



WestMED Cluster Alliance. Project support



Cluster Management Training

Leader:

ForMare (IT)

Partners:

Cluster BIG (IT)

Tunisian maritime Cluster (TU)

Forum Oceano (PT)

Maritime Malta (MT)

Strategis ICT (EL)

Others ...



MedBAN – Med Blue Accelerator Network

Leader:

Forum Oceano (PT)

Partners:

Federazione del Sistema Marittimo Italiano (Federazione del Mare) (IT)

Cluster Tecnologico Nazionale Blue Italian Growth (IT)

STRATEGIS - Maritime Center of Excellence (GR)

CLUSTER MARÍTIMO DE LAS ILLES BALEARS (SP)

TOULON VAR TECHNOLOGIES (FR)

MAGELLAN (PT)

Southern Associates ...

Support to cluster development in the south ...

MedBAN. Project overview



MedBAN - Mediterranean Blue Acceleration Network

MedBAN aims to mobilize EU blue economy SMEs to adopt greener and digitalized processes



Sept 2022 – Oct 2024



7 partners



Total budget: 1,4 M€

Call for Proposals: Open Calls for Blue Economy SMEs
Closed

Set-up the system in support to SMEs

- Analysis and mapping of innovation needs
- Identify the common challenges of the MedBAN's
- Structure the MedBAN's investors network

Actions to scale-up innovation ecosystems

- Organize the MedBAN's mentors and experts network
- Create the MedBAN's startups community (80 start-up's)
- Implement MedBAN's acceleration scheme (300 start-up's)

Call Me Blue. Project overview

Aware of the role of Maritime Clusters as key actors for the promotion of sustainable investments in blue economy, the **project ambition is to set-up and strengthen Maritime Clusters Alliances – particularly targeting southern Mediterranean countries but also allowing to enhance regional dialogue** and more advanced services offered to Cluster Mediterranean ecosystem.

Leader: Polo Formare (IT)

Partners: Cluster BIG – Blue Italian Growth; Federazione del Mare; Strategis – Maritime ICT Cluster; Fórum Oceano; Clúster Marítimo-Marino de Andalucía (CMMA); Cluster Maritime Tunisien; Pôle Mer Méditerranée; ANIMA Investment Network; SARL Leanovator

Associated Partners: BUSINESSMED – Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises; UNIMED – Unione delle università del Mediterraneo; Cluster Maritimo de Las Islas Baleares.

Board with relevant policy actors in other countries: Egypt, Mauritania, etc.

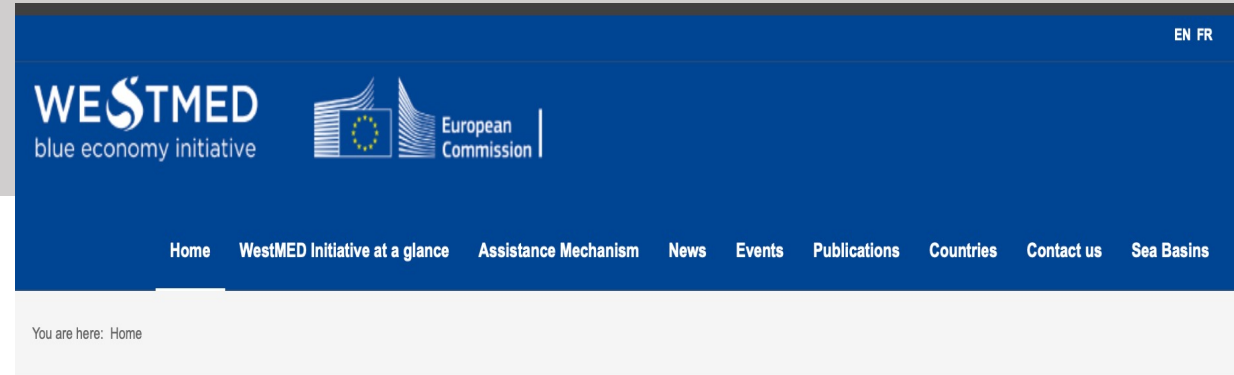
Follow us on-line



www.westmed-initiative.ec.europa.eu



@WestMedStrat



The WestMED Initiative

Your portal to a Sustainable Blue Economy in the western Mediterranean



Stakeholder Conference 2023

Download the Conference '23 summary note

with outcomes of the day

[click here](#)



WESTMED
blue economy initiative

WESTMED Maritime
Clusters
Alliance



International Workshop
«Fostering Ocean Innovations»
Naples, September 4, 2023

Westmed Maritime Clusters Alliance

Committed for a capacity building platform to foster the Mediterranean ecosystem of the Blue Economy

MATTEO BOCCI

FOSTERING OCEAN INNOVATION

Naples, 4th September 2023