

**“EUROPEAN-FUNDED PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS AS ENGINES FOR A MORE  
CIRCULAR BLUE BIOECONOMY ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN”**

**Thursday, November 9, 2023  
Agorà Blue Economy, Pav. B6**

Organized by: Cluster Blue Italian Growth, WestMED Clusters Alliance

There is growing need of finding new sustainable way to produce food, energy and reduce waste in both land and sea. These unprecedented challenges are getting increasing priorities at European, national and regional level, and growing attention is given to the Blue Economy emerging and innovative sectors, including Blue bioeconomy and biotechnology, sectors that offer significant potential for economic growth, sustainability transition, as well as employment creation.

In order to address these challenges, it has been registered a significant increase of funding opportunities to help support organisations in addressing these challenges. According to the EU blue economy report 2022, about € 345 million have been allocated to blue bioeconomy and biotechnology under Horizon 2020, and there is growing attention to this growing sector with more fundings available in the coming years.

Several European marine and maritime clusters and organisations have already taken on these challenges and intend to address these issues through European-funded projects. We will hear of several actions taken through projects funded by COSME, Erasmus+ and EMFAF, with the main aim to maximise the positive impacts and enhancing the innovation in the blue bioeconomy sector by supporting SMEs, the backbone of the European economy, through cascade funding, and through the training of new maritime clusters manager in order to provide the right skillset to address critical issues related to blue economy sectors, with positive impacts on the bioeconomy, as well as investing in new innovative sustainable and eco-friendly solutions in various sectors, i.e. aquaculture.

**PROGRAMME**

10.00-10:20 *Introduction by the Chairs*

**Giovanni Caprino, Cluster Blue Italian Growth**

**Leonardo Manzari, WestMED Clusters Alliance**

**Angiolo Boncompagni, MUR**

**Apollonia Tiziana De Nittis, Emilia Romagna Region/Mistral**

**SESSION 1 – BLUE ECONOMY PROJECTS ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN**

10:20-10:40 *Overview of EMFF/EMFAF projects in the Mediterranean and future opportunities*

**Vincent Favrel, CINEA Sustainable Blue Economy Unit**

10:40-11:00 *EU-funding opportunities in the Mediterranean*  
**Leonardo Manzari, WestMed Clusters Alliance**

11:00-11:20 *ALGAENAUTS: development of new lines of sustainable and eco-friendly biopesticides line of products*  
**Joaquín Pozo Dengra, Algaenauts project**

11:20-11:40 *The WestMed Clusters Alliance blue economy projects: MEDBAN, IKAT, MARMED projects addressing the bioeconomy-related challenges*  
**Sara Tedesco, Cluster Blue Italian Growth**

11:40-12:00 *Bluesealand as a blue bridge across the Mediterranean*  
**Nino Carlino, BueSeaLand**

12:00-12:20 *Advanced manufacturing for energy related applications in harsh environments*  
**Stefano Valentini, ADMA Emilia Romagna Region**

12:20-12:40 *The Challenge of the Circular Economy approach for a common European Ship Recycling Strategy and the Blue Growth*  
**Enrico Maria Mosconi, Università della Toscana**

13:00-14:00 Lunch break

## **SESSION 2 – BLUE ECONOMY & BIOECONOMY EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS**

14:00-14:20 *Digital Twins of the Ocean: European and Italian Initiative*  
**Emilio Fortunato Campana, DIITET-CNR**

14:20-14:40 *Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP): joint transnational calls and emerging blue economy opportunities*  
**Angiolo Boncompagni, Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership, Brussels - MUR**

14:40- 15:00 *Circular Bio Based Industry Joint Undertaking (CBE JU): a public-private partnership to unlock the European bioeconomy potential*  
**Virginia Puzzolo, Circular Bio-Based Europe Joint Undertaking**

15:00-15:20 *The Joint Programming Initiative Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI Oceans) joint actions in support of the blue bioeconomy*  
**Angelo Camerlenghi, JPI Oceans, National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics – OGS**

15:20-16:30 Discussion and closure by the Chairs