Knowledge and efforts for sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors of Slovenia in the northern Adriatic
BlueMed meeting of stakeholders on a micro-regional level
Piran, 21th March 2017

Bluemed Platforms: an instrument to implement the Bluemed Initiative – state of the art and perspectives

Andrea Barbanti - CNR, Italy
On behalf of the Project Management Team

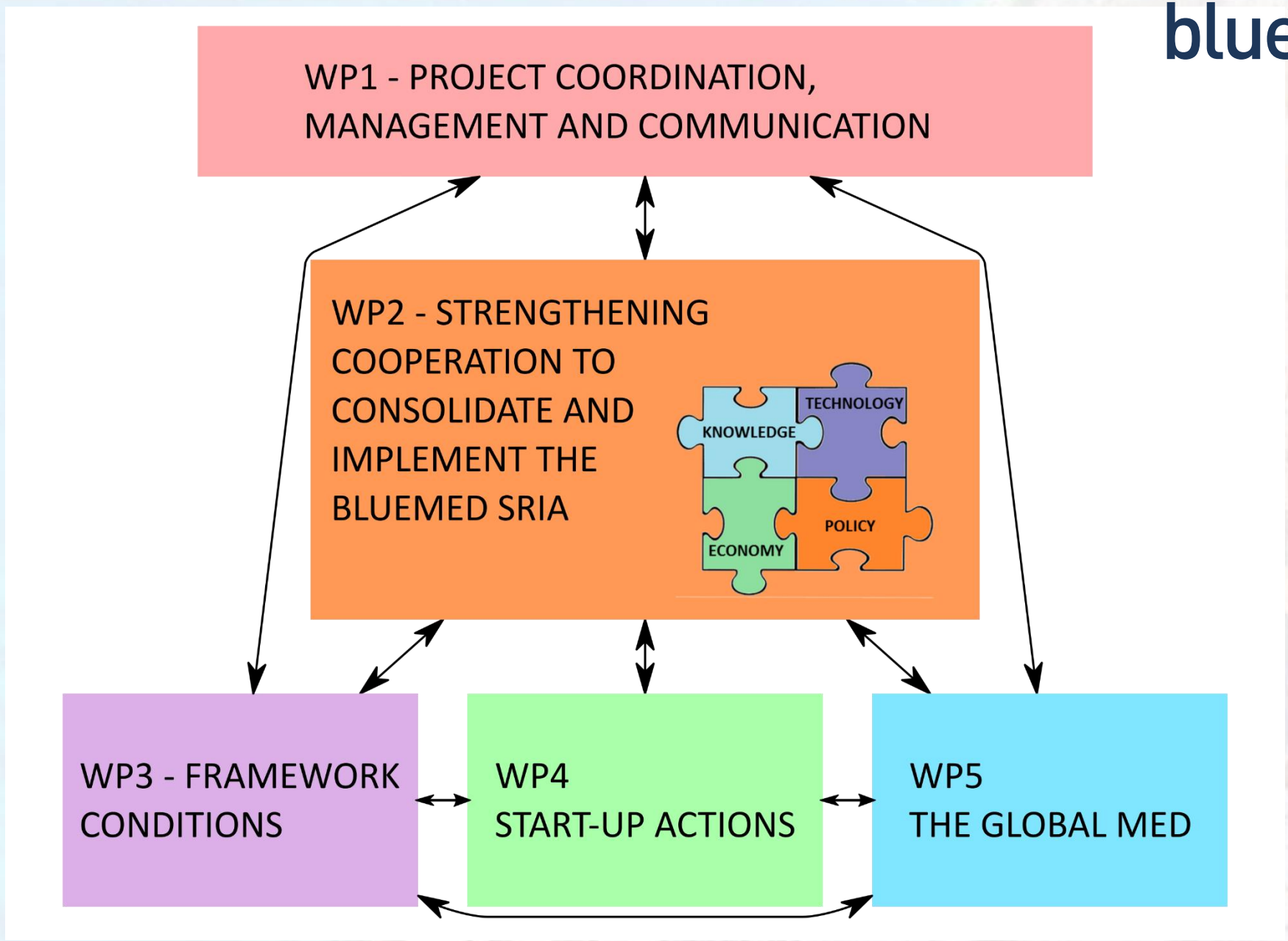
BLUEMED CSA (Coordination and Support Action)

- BG-13-2016 - Support to the BLUEMED Initiative: Coordination of marine and maritime research and innovation activities in the Mediterranean
- Duration: 4 years (October 2016 – September 2020)
- Consortium : 11 partners, from the nine European countries that promoted the BLUEMED Initiative. Lead partner: National Research Council, Italy

Objectives and Key Deliverables

- Update and consolidate the **BLUEMED SRIA**
- Develop the **BLUEMED Implementation Plan** and prioritize actions
- Promote **joint implementation** and clustering of funds
- Address relevant **framework conditions** for efficiently implementing actions (i.e. indicators and assessment methodologies, research infrastructures, data policies, human resources)
- Enlarge the participation to **non-EU countries**

CSA Structure and internal connections



How to achieve these objectives?

- A **strong TEAM** (influential, balanced, excellent)
- An **open Community** (i.e. extensive involvement of the R&I community, sea economy stakeholders, decision makers and civil society)
- A strong **connection with the EC** and the BLUEMED Strategic Board

The Platforms

Operational tools to accomplish results of the CSA

The Platforms are conceived as **transnational fora and operative environments where national representatives will interact** to convey the messages related to the actions identified in the BLUEMED SRIA and act as dynamic observatories for monitoring the system.

The **four interconnected working Platforms** will allow cross-national communication and interplay among research, private sector, public administration and civil society, pivoting on identified key players of these sectors at national level.

WP2 - STRENGTHENING COOPERATION TO CONSOLIDATE AND IMPLEMENT THE BLUEMED SRIA

The Platforms

- The “Knowledge Platform” >> “Knowledge of Mediterranean Sea dynamics and ecosystems”
- The “Economy Platform” >> “Economic sectors of Blue Growth economy in the Mediterranean”
- The “Technology Platform” >> “Enabling technologies for Blue Growth in the Mediterranean”
- The “Policy Platform” >> “Science to Policy for Blue Growth”

Platform tasks and expected outcomes

The Platforms will:

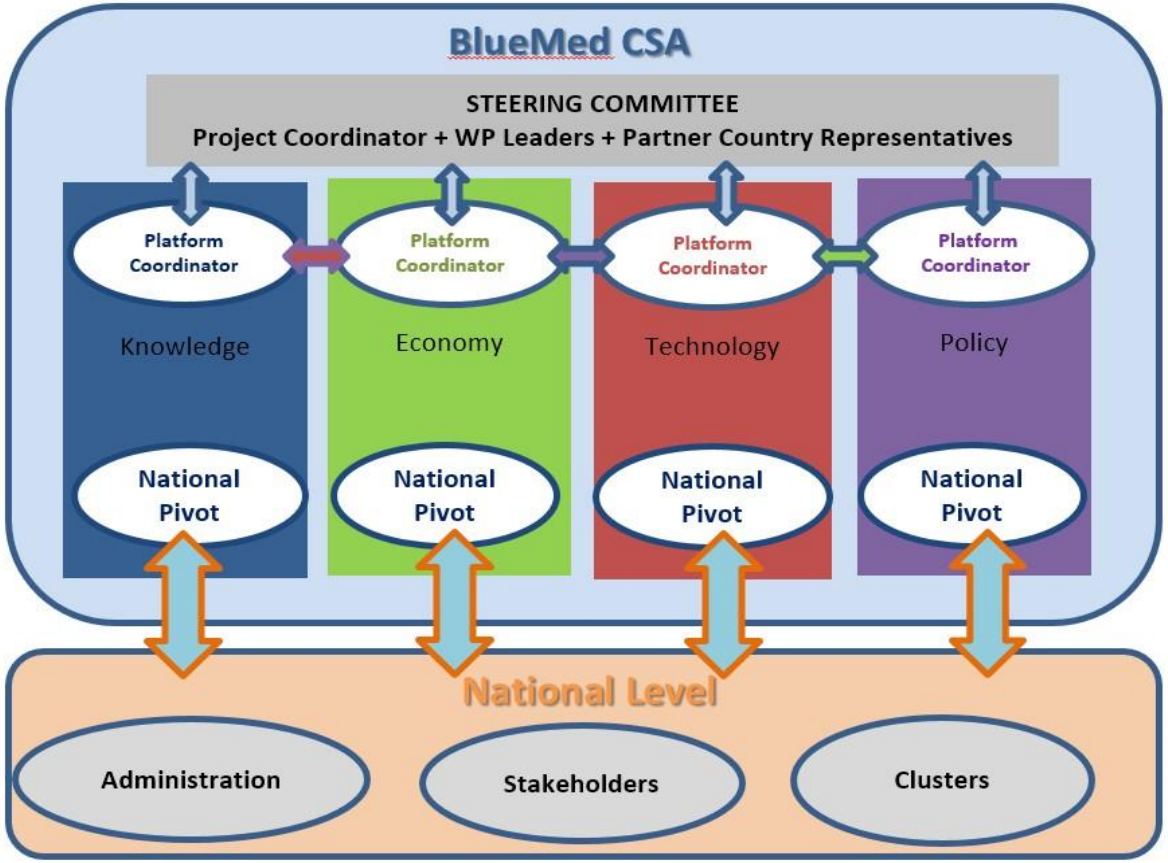
1. Consolidate and update the SRIA in a two-step approach (May 2018, October 2020)
2. Support prioritization of SRIA topics and actions (December 2018 and July 2020)
3. Support discussion on joint implementation and network of research funders
4. Address and provide inputs to the SRIA Implementation Plan (August 2018, October 2021)

5. Provide inputs to the analysis of RIs, data and human resources (WP3)
6. Address the selection of start-up actions (WP4)
7. Provide inputs to the dialogue to enlarge BLUEMED at non-EU level (WP5)

Platform composition and key roles

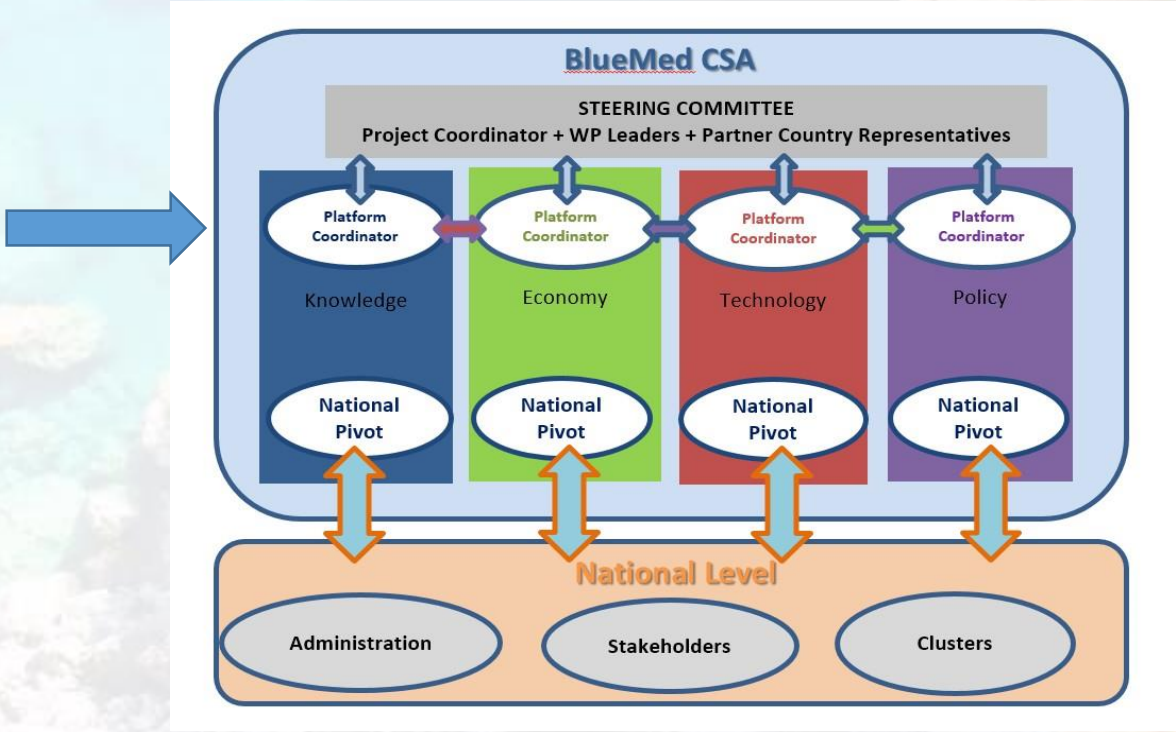
Permanent members
- Platform coordinator (appointed by the Steering Committee)
- National pivots (one for each country, normally from outside the partnership)
- CSA partners' representatives (appointed by the BLUEMED CSA partners)

Non-permanent members / observers following invitation
- Interested CSA Partners
- Task Leaders (joint Platform Meetings)
- Experts/ Stakeholders
- Members of the BLUEMED Advisory Board



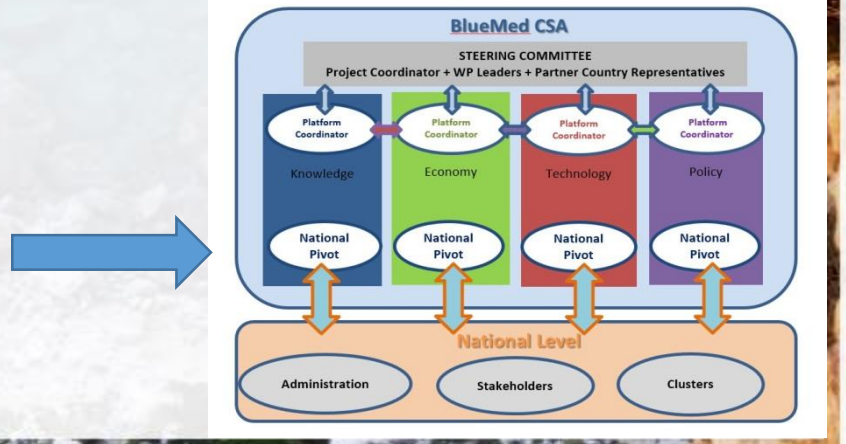
Platform coordinators

- The "Knowledge Platform" >> N. Papandroulakis, HCMR-GR
- The "Economy Platform" >> MINECO-SP
- The "Technology Platform" >> CNRS/IFREMER-FR
- The "Policy Platform" >> A. Barbanti, CNR-IT

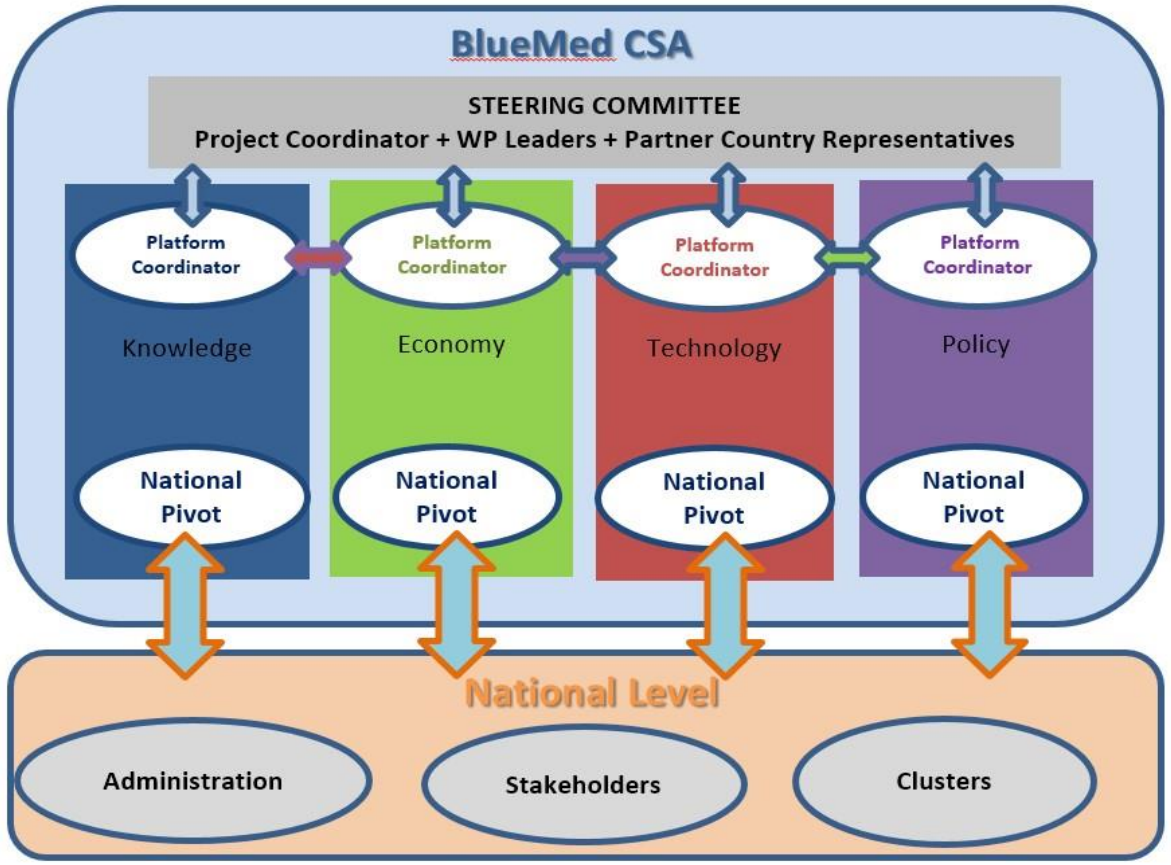


National Pivots

- ✓ National Pivots will contribute to increasingly **mobilize other relevant national stakeholders** by collect and convey their message and bring back the feedbacks. Their expertise will mirror the four themes of the Platforms.
- ✓ In particular, **NPs duties** include:
  - support of the meetings organization by acting as moderators at national level
  - support of the prioritization process of the implementation plan
  - participation in the platform meetings and other meetings of the CSA where necessary
  - networking at national level
  - assist to consolidate the SRIA at Mediterranean level
- ✓ The group of NPs will be **appointed by the Steering Committee** selecting among the names provided by countries.
- ✓ National Pivots can **rotate on a yearly basis** to ease the burden of workload and responsibility.



The engagement of National Communities



Country-specific, depending on:

- Country characteristics
- Structures in place (clusters, networks, etc.)
- Judgement of CSA Partners

Options:

- National Mirror Platforms
- Thematic Working Groups
- Pool of consultation methods
- Existing networks/clusters
- Others?

IT Mirror Knowledge

IT Mirror Economy

IT Mirror Technology

IT Mirror Policy

How do the Platforms work

Reference documents:

- D 2.1 - « Guidelines for Platforms Functioning”
- Detailed Platform Roadmaps to be developed by Platform Coordinator and National Pivots in collaboration with WP Leaders before the first meeting of the Platforms. Roadmaps are expected to be living documents

- Platform meetings (July 2017, February 2018, September 2019, August 2020)
- Joint Platform meetings after each of the four Platform meetings
- Sub-groups working on specific tasks, according to the operational platform roadmaps to be developed and established at the first Platform meeting
- Interactions with WP/Task leaders on specific WP/Task needs and deliverables (2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 4.1, 5.2)

Platform Roadmaps

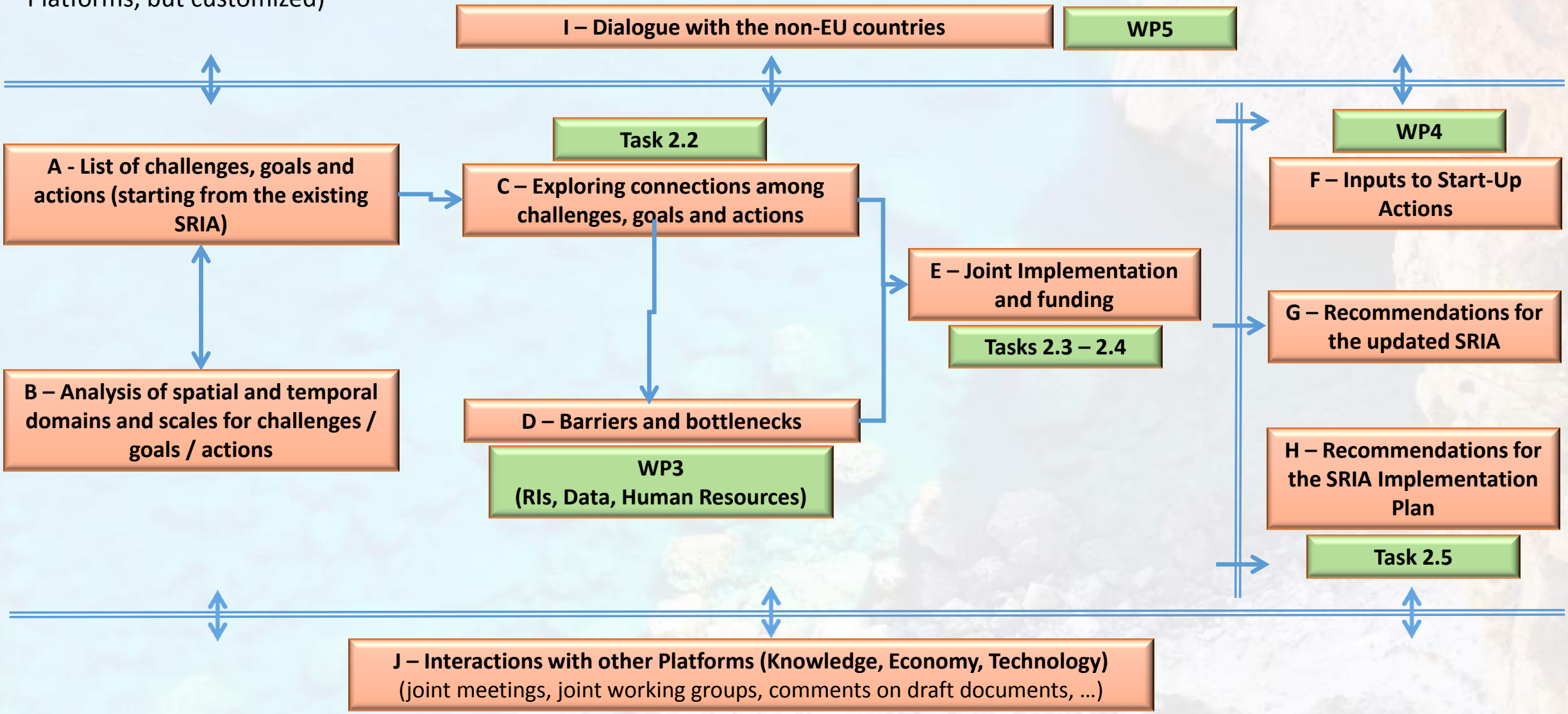
Platform Roadmaps will identify s**pecific cross-cutting issues and challenges** tackled by the Platforms

Examples for the **“Policy Platform” >> Science to Policy for Blue Growth** are:

- Science-to-Policy needs and gaps from the policy perspective – main requests from policy makers and administrators
- Legal aspects as enabling factors for R&I
- How is policy influencing the other three Platforms
- Innovative and crucial themes such as Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), safety and security, surveillance, migration and the role of R&I

Platform Roadmaps

Platform Roadmaps will identify **specific actions** to be carried out to support CSA workflow and expected outcomes (similar among Platforms, but customized)



How do the Platforms work

Platforms have to operate in **close connection**

- Coordinated roadmaps
- Joint Platform Meetings – continuous monitoring and integration of outcomes
- Joint working groups
- Specific cross-cutting issues
- Cross-fertilization through comments and inputs on draft documents

Risks

- **Operational roadmaps** should be carefully designed and harmonized
- Need for **Platform monitoring from the SC** to assure outcomes consistent with Bluemed CSA expectations
- The **active engagement of the National Pivots and the reflection / engagement of the national stakeholders** might be issues of concern
- The process of **engaging national marine and maritime communities in the BLUEMED debate** also presents risks of failure or of insufficiency. Such process requires a constant monitoring by the SC, in order to adopt countermeasures (e.g., sharing of experiences among partners and adoption of the most productive practices, involvement of the Advisory Body in raising attention at higher level, organizing specific events, involving other stakeholders and NPs, etc.)

State of the art and perspectives

- Platforms set-up and activation: appointment of Platform Coordinators, partner representatives in the Platforms, National Pivots
- Following the definition of the “Guidelines on Platforms functioning”, development of Platform-specific roadmaps
- Engagement of national marine and maritime communities (Mirror Platforms or other mechanisms)
- **First Platform Meeting: July 2017, France**

- In connection with other BLUEMED meetings during 2017:
  - Research Infrastructure Meeting
  - Research funders Workshop
  - First project coordinators Workshop
  - Policy dialogue Workshop

Thank you for your attention

Acknowledgments

- E. Brugnoli, CNR – BLUEMED CSA Coordinator
- M. Cappelletto, M. Sprovieri, A. Bonanno, A. Barbanti, CNR – Project Management Team
- N. Papandroulakis, HCMR – Task Leader 2.1

For more information

- bluemed@cnr.it
- http://www.bluemed-project.eu/
- https://www.facebook.com/BlueMedProject/
- https://twitter.com/BlueMedEU