

Smart Specialisation for Sustainable Blue Economy Workshop

6 July 2021 -Virtual Event

*„Blue Growth Cooperation of Adriatic - Ionian counties -
priorities, sustainable strategies and innovation, best
practices”*

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EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region -EUSAIR

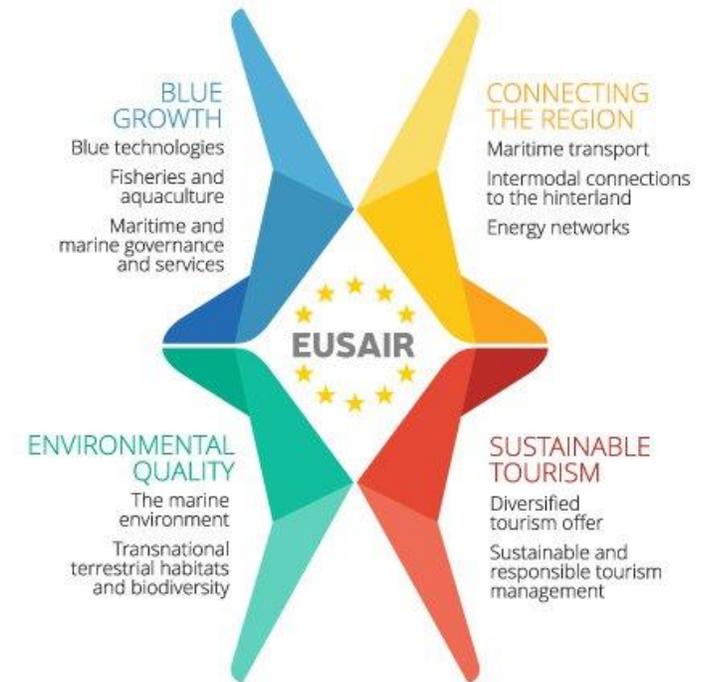


EUSAIR participating Countries



EU Strategy for the
Adriatic and Ionian Region
EUSAIR

Pillars



Capacity building Research and innovation Small and medium size business
Climate change mitigation and adaptation Disaster risk management

Pillar I - BLUE GROWTH of EUSAIR



1. Blue Growth

Driving innovative maritime and marine growth in the Region by promoting sustainable economic growth, jobs and business opportunities in the blue economy

Blue technologies

Fisheries
and aquaculture

Maritime and
marine
governance and
services

COORDINATORS: GREECE AND MONTENEGRO

TSG 1: representatives of all 9 EUSAIR countries



SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES of Pillar I - BLUE GROWTH of EUSAIR:

- 1. TO PROMOTE RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN BLUE ECONOMY SECTORS (facilitating the brain circulation between research and business communities; increasing networking and clustering capacity);***
- 2. TO ADAPT TO SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION (common standards and approaches for strengthening these two sectors; providing a level playing field in the macro-region);***
- 3. TO IMPROVE SEA BASIN GOVERNANCE (enhancing administrative and institutional capacities in the area of maritime governance and services).***

EUSAIR – Pillar 1: Blue Growth Flagships

- ***Programming period for multiannual financial framework (MFF) 2021-2027***
- ***GB approved the EUSAIR final list of flagships for embedding in:***
 - *European structural and investment funds – ESI funds and*
 - *Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance - IPA funds*
- ***Promotion of Flagships:***
 - *Mainstream programmes ERDF, ESF, CF, IPA, EFMM*
 - *Transnational program (TN), CBC programmes*
 - *ADRION TN*

Priority 1. Blue Technology

Flagship 1: Fostering quadruple helix ties in the fields of marine technologies and blue biotechnologies for advancing innovation, business development and business adaptation in blue bio-economy

Priority 2a. Fisheries & 2b. Aquaculture

Flagship 2: Promoting Sustainability, Diversification and Competitiveness in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors through education, research & development, administrative, technological and marketing actions, including the promotion of initiatives on marketing standards and healthy nutritional habits

Priority 3. Maritime & Marine Governance and Services

Flagship 3: Bolstering capacity building and efficient coordination of planning and local development activities for improving marine and maritime governance and blue growth services

Priority

1. Blue Technology

Flagship

Fostering quadruple helix ties in the fields of marine technologies and blue bio-technologies for advancing innovation, business development and business adaptation in blue bio-economy

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Fostering quadruple helix ties in the fields of marine technologies and blue bio-technologies for advancing innovation, business development and business adaptation in blue bio-economy

- Establishment of a Network of Blue Career Centres in the EUSAIR countries
- Creating an Adriatic and Ionian innovation community for interregional cooperation on Blue technologies
- Creation of Circular Economy Action Plans for the territorial deployment of innovative solutions (creating circular economies through the valorization of residual bio resource streams)
- Forming alliances among AI region innovation ecosystems with leading competences in the **blue technologies field**
- Development of solutions to decarbonize all the maritime mobility activities, fishing fleets e.g. new materials, shore -based supply of electricity for vessels in ports and innovative propulsion modes and fuels



Priority	<h1>Fisheries & Aquaculture</h1>
Flagship	<p>Promoting Sustainability, Diversification and Competitiveness in the <u>Fisheries and Aquaculture</u> sectors through education, research & development, administrative, technological and marketing actions, including the promotion of initiatives on marketing standards and healthy nutritional habits</p>

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- **Improve monitoring, surveillance, resources knowledge**, assessments and efficiency **via modern technologies** throughout the fisheries value chain
- Methodological and inovative technical issues related to farming for improvement of productivity, quality, environmental sustainability and diversification in aquaculture (new species, alternative raw materials for feed production, new farming technologies, advanced processing technologies, ichthyopathology, reduce waste and activities for by-products valorization) are of high priority and exchange of information is vital.
- Enhancing health with sustainable seafood and physical activity towards Blue Mediterranean Lifestyles, through stronger transnational cooperation of the quadruple helix actors



Priority	<h1>3. Maritime & Marine Governance and Services</h1>
Flagship	<p>Bolstering capacity building and efficient coordination of planning and local development activities for improving marine and maritime governance and blue growth services</p>

Flagship

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- Establishment of a network of Blue Career Centers in the EUSAIR
- Common guidelines and tools for climate adaptation and SDGs
- Development of a shared data system at sea basin level
- Novel devices to prevent marine litter to enter in the sea and ways to process marine litter
- Development of a common framework for implementing circular economy projects in Blue Growth sectors



Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) and EUSAIR

- ▶ **EUSAIR activities presented are in line with S3 approach** - means dedicated to boosting growth and jobs by “enabling each region to identify and develop its own competitive advantages”
- ▶ The S3 approach has a particular relevance for the EUSAIR, as it could **increase cooperation in the macro-region and facilitate the advancing and implementation of innovation**
- ▶ Smart Specialisation Strategy approach can contribute to the enlargement process of Western Balkans Countries thanks to its connection with chapter 22 of the acquis
- ▶ The Smart Specialisation approach could be also a good instrument to develop networks among different stakeholders (fosters quadruple helix ties): Academia, private sector, policymakers and public



S3 approach and EUSAIR BLUE GROWTH



- ▶ With respect to Pillar 1, **blue technologies** is the sector that would benefit the most from **the S3 approach**, as innovation, through its participatory approach, can encourage a concerted, harmonious development of all the countries in the macro-region.
- ▶ The S3 approach is **key** on the following grounds:
 - it allows the **identification of macro-regional strengths**;
 - it **defines a vision shared among all the actors in the macro-region**;
 - it **strengthens the dialogue between research and industries** thanks to the prioritisation of research in the identified competitive areas;
- Once countries have developed their strategies, **S3 together with EUSAIR could serve as a framework for coordinating actions in common priority areas.**

Best Practices - examples of S3 cooperation



▶ Blue AIR - BLUE GROWTH SMART ADRIATIC IONIAN S3

Teritorial challenge:

- fragmented situation in AI Blue Growth Innovation policies
- Presence of pioneering and lagging behind regions
- Need for harmonizing the Blue growth policies

BLUEAIR aims:

- enhancing institutional capacities of ADRION territories in the definition of a common S3 policy on Blue Growth and
- guaranteeing the alignment of local initiatives with the EUSAIR strategy.



(8 countries, 20 partners)

Best Practices - examples of S3 cooperation



- ▶ BLUEAIR project activities will produce the following **main results**:
 - 1) establishment of the BlueAIR innovation community,
 - 2) Increase the knowledge of ADRION innovation actors in development of S3 in the field of BG,
 - 3) development of a comprehensive set of S3 enabling tools
 - 4) development of an Innovation strategy on Blue Growth and
 - 5) Action plan for Innovation investments and improvement on BG.

Best Practices - Projects



- The **ARIEL** (INTEREG ADRION) project focuses on small-scale fisheries and aquaculture with the aim to provide common **skills, tools, and methods for innovation and networking in the macro-region** (Italy, Croatia, Greece, and Montenegro)
- **PORTODIMARE** (INTEREG ADRION) creation of a Geoportal of Adriatic Ionian Region (GAIR) provides access to numerous **datasets related to coastal and marine areas**, supporting transparent and efficient decision-making processes (Croatia, Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro)
- „**FOOD4HEALTH**“(INTEREG –IPA CBC)” adapt to sustainable seafood production and consumption, by developing common standards and approaches for strengthening these two sectors and providing a level playing field in the macro-region (Protection of geographic origin, organic product and branding small producers competitive and visible on the regional map (Albania, Italy and Montenegro)
- **NewTechAqua** (Tools and Strategies for a Sustainable, Resilient and Innovative European Aquaculture) Horizon 2020-innovative aquafeeds, **Artificial Intelligence** models for disease prediction, inovative rearing syitem, **Innovative breeding programmes, reproductive physiology, innovative high-quality seafood**



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Blue Growth
EUSAIR

Thank you!