



WestMED Initiative Assistance Mechanism

Introduction

Leonardo Manzari, National Hub for Italy

WESTMED
blue economy initiative

WestMED Strategic Initiative

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

ALGERIA

FRANCE

ITALY

LIBYA

MALTA

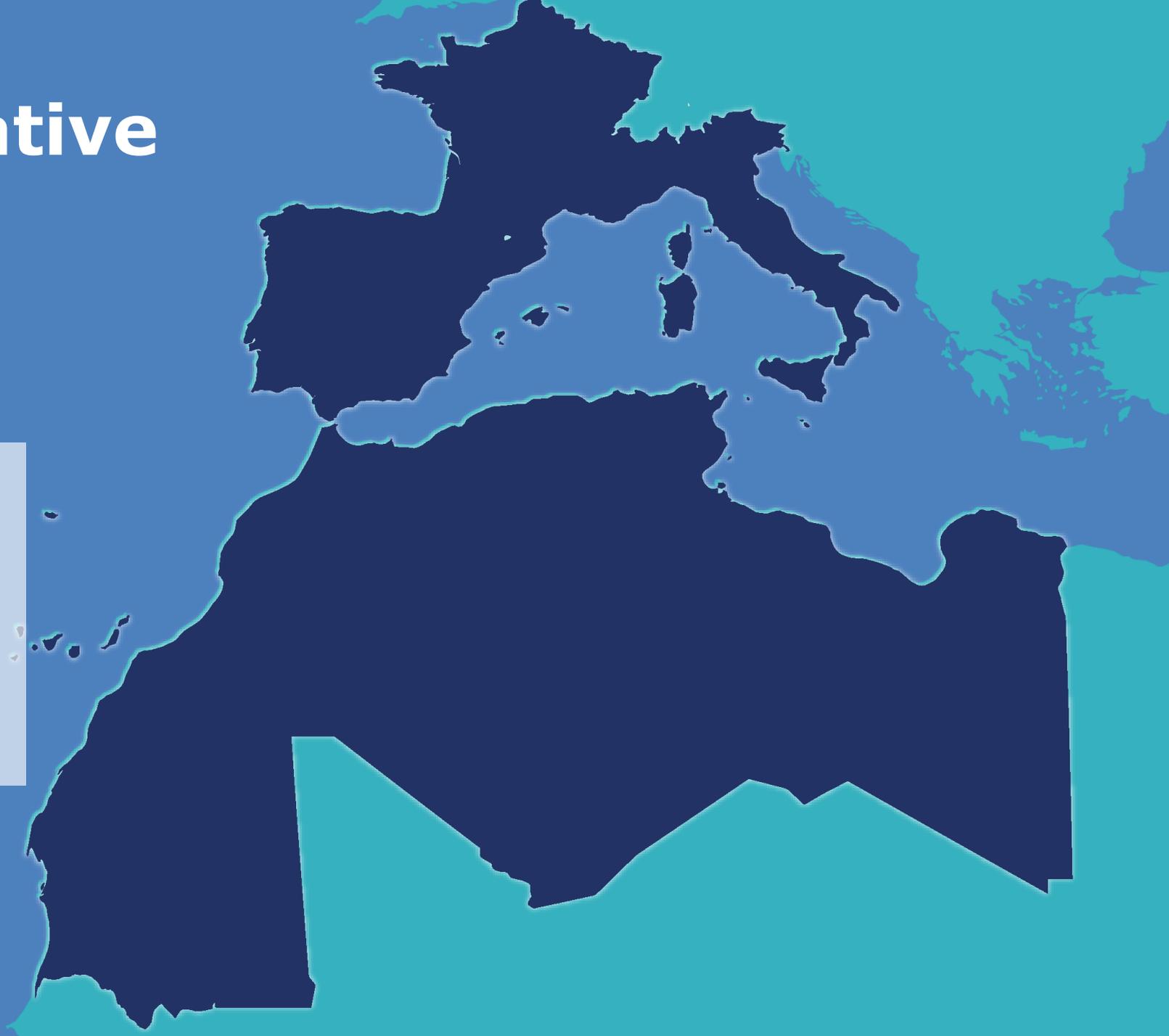
MAURITANIA

MOROCCO

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

TUNISIA



Objectives



**A safer and more
secure maritime space**



**A smart and resilient
blue economy**



**A better governance
of the sea**

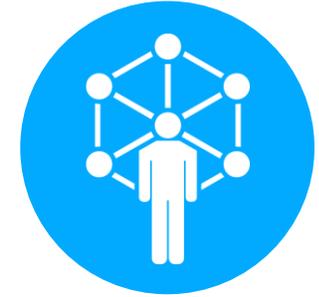
Priorities



**Maritime safety
and security**



**Environment,
biodiversity and
climate change**



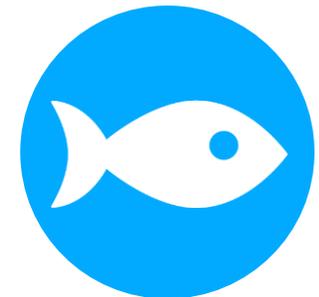
**Maritime clusters
and networks**



**Skills development
and circulation**

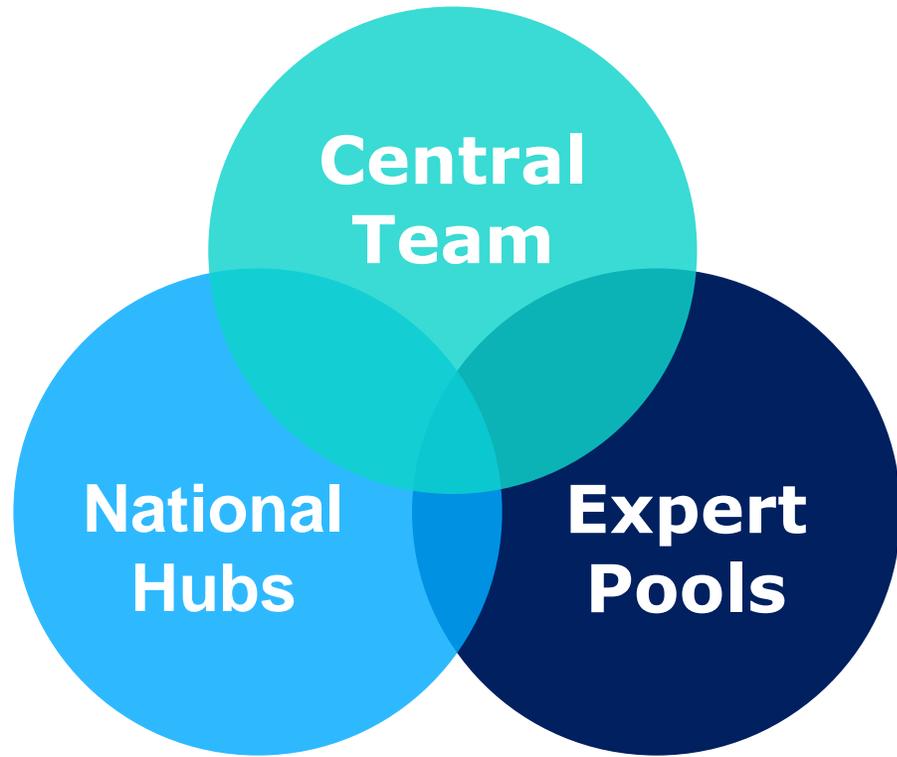


**Sustainable tourism,
transport and fight
against pollution**



**Fisheries and
Aquaculture**

Assistance Mechanism



29+ Experts



Your 29⁺ expert team

Portugal

Rui Manuel Azevedo
Pereira da Silva
Frederico Manta

Morocco

Mohamed Malouli Idrissi
Ayman Jghab

Algeria

Samir Grimes
Samir Bachouche

Tunisia

Salem Miladi
Slim Jerbia

Libya

N/A

Mauritania

Dedah Babou
Mohamed Lemine Tarbiya

France

Frédéric Herpers
Colin Rue

Italy

Leonardo Manzari
Laura Parducci

Malta

Gordon Cordina
Stephanie Vella

National Hubs

Areas of support of the WMAM



Project development

Provide clear guidance and pro-active project development support to local stakeholders.



Funding opportunities

Ensure sound monitoring of funding/ financing opportunities to support project ideas and development.



Communication strategy

Implement an effective and comprehensive communication strategy for the WestMED Initiative.



Outreach

Improve outreach of the Framework for Action through effective engagement activities.



Governance structure

Improve governance structure by offering operational, logistical and administrative support to the (WMSC) and the Technical Groups that may be created within the WMSC.



Interface Med-VKC

Establish effective interface with existing Virtual Knowledge Centre (VKC).

Areas of achievements of the WMAM

Different types of achievements which are pursued and already reported by the WestMED Initiative:

- **Project support** – one of the core area of support (financing, partnerships, conceptualisation)
- **Improved regional cooperation** – direct effect of AM work (roadshows, national events, hackathons, TGs, webinars, stakeholder conference, etc.)
- **Broader results through the WMAM contribution** – National Blue Economy Strategies, National Programmes and financing mechanisms, cluster cooperation, etc.

A blue-tinted photograph of a meeting room. Several people are seated around a long table, looking towards a presentation screen at the front of the room. The screen displays a slide with a large number '1' and some text. The overall atmosphere is professional and collaborative.

SUPPORTED PROJECTS

Project proposals developed with WMAM support (examples 1/2)

Project supported by WestMED	Topic/Roadmap priority	Countries	Fund & Budget
<p>DESTIMED PLUS DestIMED PLUS aims to promote integrated planning in coastal tourism, where regional policymakers apply holistic policies that link tourism with conservation by putting in practice a concrete ICZM approach for ecotourism products in Med Protected Areas (PAs).</p>	Coastal and Maritime Tourism P3-Sustainable Consumption and Production	ES, HR, EL, IT, FR, UK	Interreg MED Programme € 3.300.000
<p>POSEIDON POSEIDON aims to implement and capitalise common planning/policy frameworks towards an integrated and eco-systemic approach for sustainable and responsible nautical tourism in Mediterranean islands and coastal regions.</p>	Coastal and Maritime Tourism P3-Sustainable Consumption and Production	IT, ES, FR, HR, EL	Interreg MED Programme
<p>BLUE Stream Blue STReAM aims to promote structured and permanent collaboration frameworks between industry and education, whereby the most recent technological and market developments are directly integrated into the educational offer, enabling to reply to labour market needs.</p>	Blue Skills P5-Skill Development and Circulation	EL, FR, IT, MT	EMFF Blue Economy 2018 Window Call € 970,000
<p>Blue RoSES Blue RoSES aims at developing innovative services that seek to adapt marinas and leisure boat design to changing customer demand. By integrating robotics and IoT, these new services will result in creating job opportunities and new business models.</p>	Coastal and Maritime Tourism P3-Sustainable Consumption and Production	IT, ES, EL	EMFF/ESIF 1.042.725,78 €
<p>NewTech Aqua NewTechAqua's main goal is to expand and diversify European and Mediterranean aquaculture production of finfish, molluscs and microalgae by developing and validating technologically advanced, resilient and sustainable applications.</p>	Fisheries/ Aquaculture P4-Sustainable Fisheries and Coastal Community Development	IT, ES, EL, HR, NO	Horizon 2020 6.700.000,00 €
<p>MED-Class-Best Clusters The project aims to create a platform for maritime clusters capable of supporting the Mediterranean area clusters in the preparation of projects for the development of activities in the blue economy.</p>	Clusters P1-Maritime Cluster Development	IT, TN, MT, SP, FR	ENI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme 2014-2020 3.437.375,00 €
<p>Mediterranean Maritime transport Observatory The MedMTO wishes at facing the lack of harmonised, updated and quality information to monitor Mediterranean economic relations, through the identification of necessary information and the proposal of a cross-border tool to detail and promote this monitoring.</p>	Maritime Transport, Shipping and Ports P3-Sustainable Consumption and Production	ES, FR, IT, TN, EG, LB	ENI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme 2014-2020 3.411.189,11 €
<p>2BLive project 2BLive aims to create a Living Lab specific to aquatic food and blue biotechnology products within the Euro-Med zone. Its ambition is to bring organizational changes and effective mechanisms for technology transfer and research results commercialization that are basic for economic blue growth.</p>	Fisheries/ Aquaculture Maritime technology/ Innovation P4-Sustainable Fisheries and Coastal Community Development	IT, ES, TN, JO, FR, MT, EG	ENI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme 2014-2020 3.400.000,00€
<p>TETHYS - Boosting aquaculture as a driver of Blue Growth and Innovation in MED maritime ecosystems</p>	Fisheries/ Aquaculture P4-Sustainable Fisheries and Coastal Community Development	IT, EL, HR, FR, ES, PT, MT	Interreg MED Programme

Project proposals developed with WMAM support (examples 2/2)

Project supported by WestMED	Topic/Roadmap priority	Countries	Fund & Budget
<p>DigiCirc - European cluster-led accelerator for digitisation of the circular economy across key emerging sectors</p> <p>DigiCirc's vision is to galvanise development of the Circular Economy through digitisation, leveraging SME innovation potential under cluster leadership. The project creates an Innovation Ecosystem linking a wide network of quadruple-helix stakeholders to support SME innovation through partnering and to define innovation priorities in their domain.</p>	<p>Clusters, Maritime Pollution and Circular Economy P1-Maritime Cluster Development P2-Biodiversity and Marine Habitat Conservation</p>	<p>FR, FI, MT, IT, UK, IT, PT, EL, UK, NL, RS</p>	<p>Horizon 2020 € 3.754.678,36</p>
<p>ACoVE - Atlantic Centre of Vocational Excellence</p> <p>Atlantic Centre of Vocational Excellence (ACoVE) aims to develop a transnational cooperation platform in education and training to apply innovative approaches to tackle societal, technological and economic challenges of the Southern countries of Europe, countries in the scope of the WestMed Initiative along the Atlantic as well as Portuguese speaking countries.</p>	<p>Blue Skills P5-Skill Development and Circulation</p>	<p>PT, SP, MT, EL</p>	<p>Erasmus+ (call EACEA 33/2019)</p>
<p>FIUFRA - Fighting IUU Fishing Regional Academy</p> <p>FIUFRA will promote cooperation in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, the implementation of General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GCFM) management measures and will look for synergies among coastguard functions, with the ambition to support the fulfilment of the MEDFISH4EVER Declaration.</p>	<p>Fisheries/ Aquaculture Blue Skills Maritime safety and security P5-Skill Development and Circulation</p>	<p>SP, FR, PT, MT, IT, MA, TN, MR, DZ, LB</p>	<p>DG-MARE Direct Funding to EFCA 150.000€</p>
<p>RAMA - Robotics Applications for MARitime environment</p> <p>RAMA will bring attention to robotics applications in maritime sectors, a field in which these advanced technologies are becoming more relevant.</p>	<p>Maritime technology/ Innovation Fisheries/ Aquaculture Nature conservation P5-Skill Development and Circulation</p>	<p>IT, BG, HR, CY, FR, EL, MT, RO, SP</p>	<p>COST Actions 134.000€</p>
<p>Safety of Work in Logistics and Ports</p> <p>The project is meant to enable the realization of a series of capacity building and training schemes structured in modules according to the needs of the beneficiary: specific training, placement or business creation, public event organization and project dissemination</p>	<p>Maritime Transport, Shipping and Ports P3-Sustainable Consumption and Production</p>	<p>IT, TN</p>	<p>UfM Grant Scheme for Employment Promotion 285.000€</p>
<p>Sustainable Tourism Accelerator</p> <p>The initiative proposed aims at accelerating the adoption of sustainable and innovative business models, as well as disruptive (new) technologies by small and micro business involved in the tourism sector.</p>	<p>Coastal and Maritime Tourism P3-Sustainable Consumption and Production</p>	<p>SP</p>	<p>UfM Grant Scheme for Employment Promotion 200.000€</p>
<p>Small-scale Aquaculture Living Lab</p> <p>This project aims at addressing such "blocking-factors", through the set-up of community-based living-lab aimed at discussing local challenges, identifying best suited pilot actions and testing such actions as demonstration activities.</p>	<p>Fisheries/ Aquaculture P4-Sustainable Fisheries and Coastal Community Development</p>	<p>FR, IT, EG, MA, MR, TN</p>	<p>UfM Grant Scheme for Employment Promotion 200.000€</p>

Technical Groups (TGs) in the WestMED Initiative

WestMED initiative Steering Committee can establish temporary Technical Groups and define their mandates, objectives, deliverables and ensure interactions between them.

- The rules of procedure stipulate that Technical Groups should be **established on the basis of a specific priority and focused on results**
- They need to be **time-bound** (reaching the target in a timely manner)
- They **involve relevant experts and stakeholders** (including from the research and business sector) in order to **define and implement specific measures and projects.**



Fostering (sub)regional cooperation towards concrete projects

Looking ahead: proposals for actions in 2021

○ Set-up and management of working groups in key areas

- *Green Shipping* – continue support funding and coordination (REMPEC, DG MOVE, etc.)
- *Aquaculture* – clear focus to “federate” southern actions for transfer of knowledge
- *Clusters* – “light” approach to support “WestMED alliance” to attract/support financing

○ Support a range of regional project initiatives (also emerging from the TGs)

- *Green Shipping* – two Pilot Actions and the Feasibility Study
- *Clusters Alliance* – WestMED clusters to attract existing financing streams (SMEs, etc)
- *Blue Skills* – **systematize the higher education and VET initiatives on the Blue Economy in the western Mediterranean, to ensure a generation of executives, policy makers, academic & research class, technical experts, civil society actors, with a basin-based view and priority.**
- *Sustainable Aquaculture* – Federated southern programmes for knowledge transfer
- *Tourism Accelerator* – See opportunity to scale-up the UfM Proposal (Palermo concept)
- Support ‘bottom-up’ cooperation between NHs – coordinate and accelerate NHs support

WESTMED ALLIANCE OF MARITIME CLUSTERS

Coordination Group of National Hubs: IT, FR, PT, TU

WestMED Alliance Maritime Clusters

Capacity building
North-South
and South-South

Arab
Maghreb
Maritime
Cluster

Blue Economy Business
and Innovation
Accelerator -
Investment Attraction

Cross-sectoral cluster
matchmaking



The Santa Giulia – Oristano GNL project



Online meetings

Technical Group SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT & GREEN SHIPPING

National Groups of stakeholders coordinated by the National Hubs



WestMED countries National delegates

Technical Group on

Sustainable Transport and Green Shipping

Medium
Term
Scenarios

Common
Initiatives

Cross
Border
Projects



The Santa Giulia – Oristano GNL project



Online meetings

Technical Group

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT & GREEN SHIPPING

Technical Group on

Sustainable Transport and Green Shipping

Feasibility Study:

Boosting Green Shipping: maximising investments in sustainable energy;

Pilot Action 1.

Network of WestMED Maritime Ports as Energy Communities;

Pilot Action 2.

Boost adaptation of WestMED commercial vessels (ferries and service).



The Santa Giulia – Oristano GNL project



Online meetings

Green Shipping Technical Group – identified projects

- **Study: WestMED assessment and country feasibility (south)**
Analyse the foreseen trends in energy consumption, the **opportunities for strategic development of the infrastructure to boost renewable energy sources for green shipping.**
- **Pilot Action 1: Network of WestMED ports as energy communities**
Western Mediterranean ports can play a leading role in **piloting the transformation of green ports into active 'energy communities'** (by accelerating the transition from LNG towards a wider choice of alternative fuels and technologies, including hydrogen, electrification, etc.).
- **Pilot Action 2: Adaptation of WestMED commercial vessels**
It aims at **testing the potentials for adaptation of small-scale commercial vessels (including local ferries and service vessels) in accelerating their transition to sustainable energy** – from LNG towards a wider choice of alternative fuels/technologies, including hydrogen, electrification, etc.

The central importance of Blue Skills development and circulation

Considering that the **North-South and South-South** synergies are at the core of the WestMED Initiative and its Assistance Mechanism, the focus on Blue Skills is the most urgent priority to ensure a common action towards **Sustainability, Circularity, Climate Change, Bio-economy**, etc., through **specialization, entrepreneurship and employability opportunities** on the territories.

In a framework of capacity building initiatives, Blue Skills represent the first area of co-operation required by southern shore countries, whose educational system offers a large potential of modernization and development.

The demographic dynamics and the consolidated role of remote learning modes, are increasing the importance of local characteristics and specificities, which can only be experienced on the territories. This model may become the suitable way to develop a detailed knowledge on local species and marine ecosystem.

The central importance of Blue Skills development and circulation

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- Fostering **networking in a common system of competence and specialization hubs** across the Western Mediterranean, avoiding overlaps, and encouraging development of **complementarity** of wider and deeper knowledges, also on local eco-systems;
 - Adopt **the best practices of education-work (permanent and temporary) exchanges** as a way to enrich and update continuously the ecosystem with the most modern contents;
 - **Reducing brain-drain from southern countries**, as a result of supporting the birth and establishment of local entrepreneurship and employment initiatives, with international view and skills, to ensure countries with suitable capacities.
 - **Availing on/Optimizing the existing EU and non-EU platforms and networks** of universities, research institutes, technological centers, laboratories. Building on proven positives experiences **and services**.

The central importance of Blue Skills development and circulation

Some priority areas expressed by southern ecosystem of Blue Growth stakeholders

- 
- **Merchant Navy;**
 - **Naval Architecture & Engineering;**
 - **Marine Bio-technology;**
 - **VET;**
 - **Marine Renewable Energies;**
 - **Water Management, Quality of Waters; Desalination;**
 - **MPAs management;**
 - **Marinas management;**
 - **Sustainable Aquaculture.**

NATIONAL HUB - ITALY



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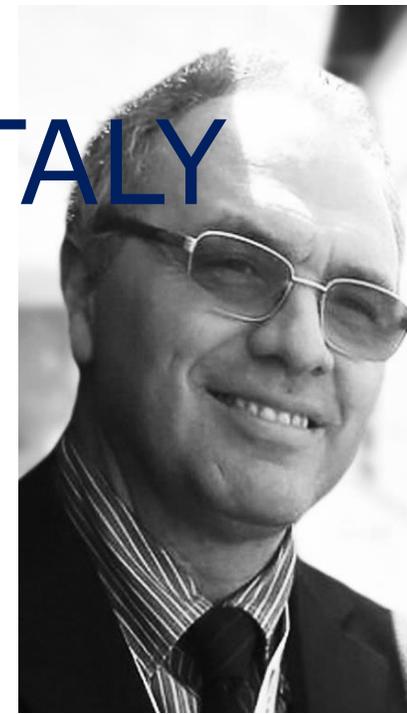
WestMed_Italy



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Leonardo
o



**Laura
Parducci**

Online presence



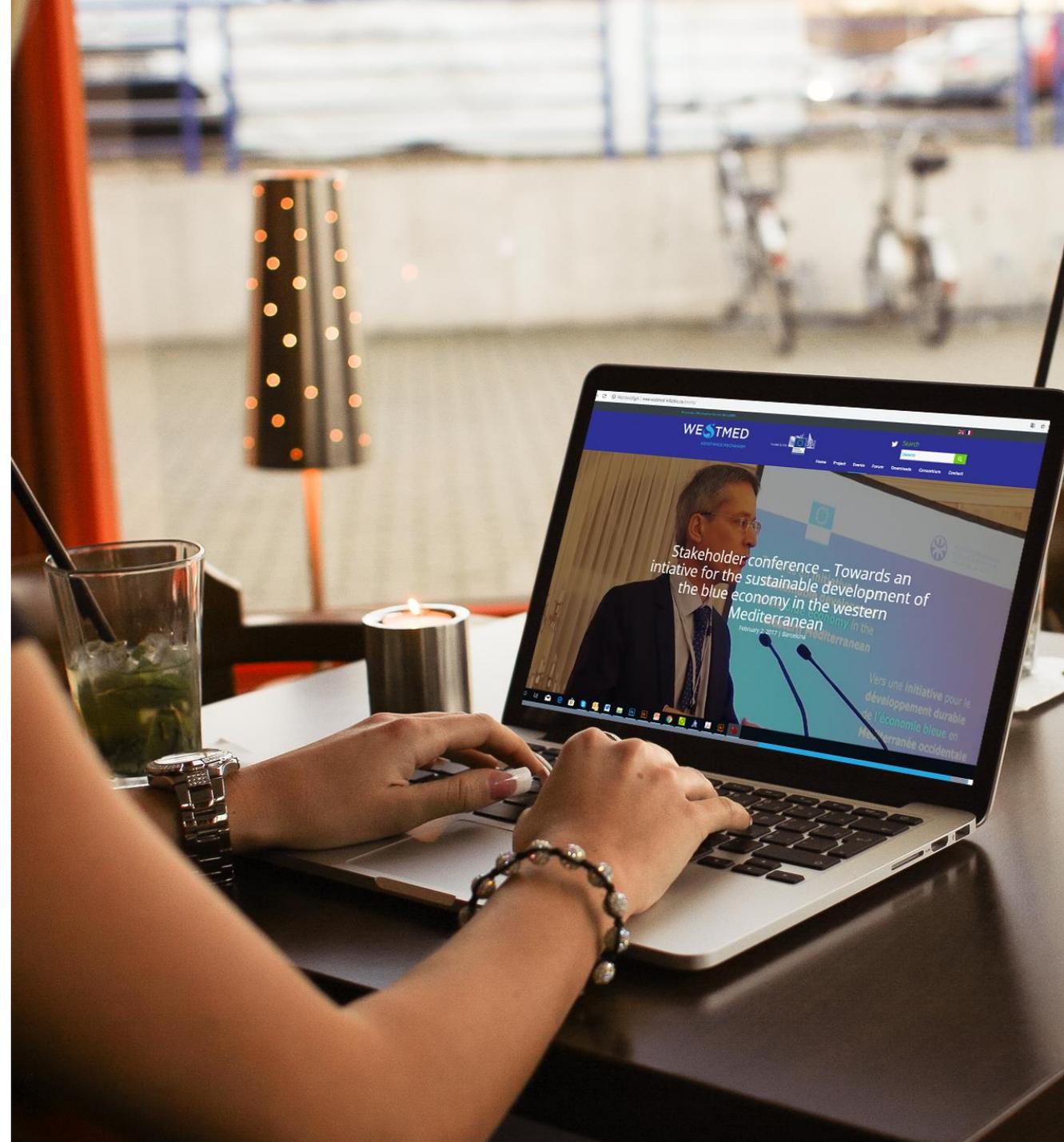
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To be developed



WESTMED

Your Portal to Blue Growth opportunities
in the western Mediterranean



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