



PROJECT FACTSHEET


PROJECT FACTSHEET (max 3-4 pages)	
PROJECT	
Project acronym and number:	CALLMEBLUE — 101124967
Summary (max 100 words) <i>Explain the quintessence of the project. Mention the topic, the type of project as well as the expected results.</i>	
CALLMEBLUE is a regional flagships project (EMFAF-2023-PIA-FLAGSHIP) supporting sustainable blue economy in Mediterranean sea basins, aiming to strengthen existing clusters alliances in the Mediterranean area to accelerate north-south regional cooperation processes towards the emerging of strategic maritime clusters in North Africa; creating strategic vision and transferable models of interregional cooperation; raising awareness on the relevance of Maritime clusters as key actors for sustainable blue economy policies and promoting piloting learning activities aimed at offering a transferable training “Toolkit” to prepare the ground of future maritime clusters in southern area from a legal, structural, administrative and management perspective.	
Context (max 100 words) <i>Describe the background of the project and its link to EU maritime and fisheries policy. What is the problem/challenge addressed by this project? Why?</i>	
The role of maritime clusters is increasingly important in the process of connecting public and private entities working in all transversal sectors related to blue economy at both national and Mediterranean level. Maritime clusters are indeed crucial facilitators of networking, technology transfer, internationalisation and innovation between SMEs, large companies, research centres, universities etc., and they act as key actors to promote sustainable investments of the blue economy. CALLMEBLUE offers its role as an accelerator for the policy goals set by relevant EU regional initiatives such as the UfM Ministerial Declaration for sustainable blue economy and the WestMED Initiative priorities.	
Main policy area:	<div>Offshore renewable energy <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Ocean health <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Aquaculture <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Sustainable tourism and cultural heritage <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Sustainable and smart transport <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Algae and bio-economy <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Sustainable fisheries (incl. scientific advice) <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Blue careers and skills <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Maritime spatial planning <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Maritime security <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>International ocean governance <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Ocean literacy <input type="checkbox"/></div>
Seabasin:	<div>Atlantic <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Baltic <input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Mediterranean <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Westmed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Black Sea <input type="checkbox"/></div>

	North Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Outermost regions <input type="checkbox"/>
Activities (max 100 words) <i>What were the main activities carried out and how were they carried out?</i>	
<p>The Work Plan comprises five WPs. WP1 (Management and Coordination; M1 - M24) interacts with every WP, monitoring and ensuring the quality and reporting of the activities. WP2 (Mapping and Networking amongst embryonic and emerging maritime cluster; M2-M8) will serve as a preliminary milestone work for determining the baseline for the actions of WP3 (Empowerment towards setting up and strengthening emerging maritime clusters ecosystem; M9-M24) and WP4 (Strengthening regional cooperation and policy support; M9-M24). WP5 (Dissemination and fostering sustainable follow-up of Maritime Clusters in the Mediterranean; M1 - M24) will disseminate on activities and results of the project.</p>	
Results achieved (max 100 words) <i>Describe the outcomes and results achieved by the project. What is the benefit to the participants and the main stakeholders? What is the expected improvement and impact on the ground (on the economy, society, environment etc.)?</i>	
<p>CALLMEBLUE provides a structured methodology, suitable to be endorsed by and transferred to other regions, based on a bottom-up approach allowing responding to concrete needs and reaching measurable short-term results that lead to further sustainable medium and long term impacts. E.g., strengthened competitiveness of the maritime clusters; enhanced cooperation among clusters and business associations, and between SMEs, academia and research centres; national maritime clusters established across the Mediterranean and enhanced cooperation between EU and partner countries; Maritime clusters involved in the policymaking processes, including the upgrade of smart specialisation strategies; Increased cooperation between the activities of WestMed Maritime Clusters Alliance.</p>	
Policy contribution (max 100 words) <i>Does the project contribute to a specific EU policy? If so, which one and how?</i>	
<p>CALLMEBLUE aims at contributing to the WestMED Initiative's Priority 2.2 "Maritime Clusters Development", addressed in the frame of Goal 2 "A smart and resilient blue economy". CALLMEBLUE is also compliant with a broader range of EU initiatives and policies supporting the uptake of clusters as a tool to support sustainable economy and in line with EU Green Deal priorities, including the synergies with European Cluster Collaboration Platform and the European Cluster Alliance. CALLMEBLUE provides support to the establishment and empowerment of maritime clusters, in line with the UfM Roadmap implementing the UfM Ministerial Declaration for sustainable blue economy.</p>	
Synergies with other EU funding (max 100 words) <i>Are there synergies with other EU-funded projects. If relevant, please name projects.</i>	
<p>CALLMEBLUE represents a further step of two European projects promoted toward the WestMED Alliance involving most of the actors of the same clustering ecosystem: MedBAN Project (COSME) aims at promoting the creation of joint investment support initiatives through the collaboration between the clusters of WestMed basin, engaging third countries from South Mediterranean. MARMED Project (Erasmus+) aims at fostering the skills of EU clusters managers, fostering collaboration between EU clusters and their role as drivers of Sustainable Blue Economy. These projects opened the way to cooperate with South MED ecosystems and to outreach and mobilize local Blue Economy SMEs ecosystems in North Africa.</p>	

PARTICIPANTS

Participants

Who is behind the project?

 We may publish this factsheet (or part of it) for publication/dissemination purposes. Do not include any confidential information or personal data (e.g. names and addresses).

CALLMEBLUE Project gathers together the main representatives among Maritime Clusters of the Mediterranean Area. The consortium represents the geographical extension of the Mediterranean basin, the coverage of the impact areas targeted by the WestMED Initiative, the ecosystemic complexity required to address the specific goals of the project and the impacts set in the present call as well as long term environmental and societal goals triggered by the development of a Resilient and Sustainable Blue Economy. The consortium includes ForMare (Coordinator), maritime clusters such as Cluster BIG, Federazione del Mare, Strategis, Fórum Oceano, CMMA, Cluster Maritime Tunisien, Pôle Mer Méditerranée, ANIMA Investment Network, Leanovator Algerian Incubator. The consortium is also supported by the Associated Partners, in particular Unimed, Businessmed, Cluster Balears, and the Advisory Board who is composed of high representatives from Mauritania, Egypt, and Morocco. The roles of the partners have been distributed in a complementary, strategic and balanced way. South-North co-leadership of WPs is planned for WP3-WP4-WP5. WP2 has a co-leadership of two Italian clusters since they represent, on one side, the industrial and, on the other, the scientific sectors. Each partner is leading the tasks accordingly to their expertise and outreach relevant to the target areas.

RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Results and achievements

List the project results.

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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. The **Work Package 2** will define the needs assessment methodology and it will aim at creating the proper framework on which the foreseen actions in the following WPs will be implemented. Among the main results, there is the delivery of a **technical report** that will include a comprehensive list of actors and main blue economy sectors identified as results of the activity of Desk Analysis and Mapping. Furthermore, it will be produced a **database** as result of the **Needs Assessment process**, that will include qualitative and quantitative data. The **WP3** will aim to implement **concrete actions at local level**, based on the results of the stakeholder mapping and assessment process identified in WP2. This work package will aim to promote tailor-made pilot activities in local territories, in order to facilitate the process of good practices exchange and knowledge transfer between North and South to create the basis and strategies of future maritime clusters in the south Med area, with a view to mutually benefit from the experiences gained. In the frame of the WP3, there will be organized tailor-made face to face **workshops in Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania**. At least 10 participants are expected to attend each workshop. Tailor made **learning labs** will be organized aimed at offering a transferable “Toolkit” addressed to future maritime clusters actors to be prepared on the legal, structural, administrative and management aspects for a concrete creation of future maritime clusters and educating a group of professionals who could lead the establishment and management of maritime clusters in the region. Among the main output of **WP3** there are the **technical reports** produced in the aftermath of the overmentioned matchmaking local workshops, a **feasibility study on emerging maritime clusters** and a **set of recommendation** to be addressed to existing, emerging and embryonic maritime clusters that will illustrate how to undertake concrete joint activities, joint investment in research and innovation for developing clustering strategies. The **WP4** will work simultaneously with WP3 and focus its actions on a **regional dimension approach** with the aim to engage relevant regional/sub-regional policy bodies in order to raise awareness on the relevance of maritime clusters and of the blue economy sector in the policymaking process and plans of investments including attractiveness of the sector. In the frame of WP4, it will be organized a **matchmaking business forum** for maritime clusters. In this frame, a number of 20 participants are expected to attend the event physically and 50 participants online. It will also be redacted a **strategic plan**, aimed to facilitate southern med clusters engagement with strategic regional subregional policy making institution, and a policy brief paper based on the main outcomes of the project and policy **recommendations** acquired to enhance the regional cooperation and between north and southern Mediterranean area. The **WP5** focuses on dissemination and communication activities. Among its main results there are the production of a **Communication and Exploitation Plan**, the design and management of the project website, the design of a legacy and business plan and the creation of a **Regional Alliance Blue Economy Platform**. In the frame of WP5, there will also be organized the final conference of the project with a wide audience from blue economy ecosystem.

PHOTOS AND VISUALS

Photos and visuals



Illustrate the project with visual supports, such as pictures of events, illustrations, infographics, visual arts or videos.

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Logo of CALLMEBLUE with Partners Logos.



Group Picture during Project KOM – 4 - 5 December 2023

