



*Contribution from the Westmed Initiative
Meeting in Palermo held on May the 14th 2019*



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Background for the WestMED project ideas

Six project ideas have been identified by the WestMED Assistance Mechanism (Fight of Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fishing - IUU, Aquaculture, Litter, Clean Maritime Transport, Clusters and Tourism), rooted in the priorities identified in the Roadmap¹ for the WestMED as defined in the Algiers Declaration².

The ideas emerged as part of the discussions held during the initial WestMED Stakeholders Conference ‘Towards Concrete Blue actions in the western Mediterranean’ held in Algiers in December 2018³.

These ideas have been further detailed, developed, and further detailed through the WestMED hackathons held on in Palermo on May 14⁴. On this basis, six Concept Notes have been drafted by the WestMED Assistance Mechanism and used as a starting point for discussions in each hackathon⁵.

1. <http://www.westmed-initiative.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/2.Roadmap-04.12.2018-EN.pdf>
2. <http://www.westmed-initiative.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/EN-Declaration-and-roadmap.pdf>
3. <http://www.westmed-initiative.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Algiers-3-December-Final-Report.pdf>
4. <https://digitevent-images.s3.amazonaws.com/5c9ce097eb0c993339e6ac44-registrationfiletexteditor-1557490884240-19-5-11-westmed-palermo-brochureen-def-online-1.pdf>
5. <https://digitevent-images.s3.amazonaws.com/5c9ce097eb0c993339e6ac44-registrationfiletexteditor-1557491367491-concept-note-hackathons.pdf>

The hackathons (1/3)

➤ Fighting Illegal Unregulated Fisheries (IUU)

- Objective: to promote cooperation in the fight against IUU fishing;
- WP:
 - Setting up a Regional Academy (capacity building);
 - Provide Basic and Specialised Training;
 - Provide on-line learning, supporting exchange platform;

➤ Aquaculture

- Objective: circular economy for a «blue» aquaculture
- WP: 1) regional R&I platform and programme
 - Find alternative to reduce aquaculture impacts on climate change and biodiversity along the Value chain
 - Diversify and valorise products/sub-products to enhance local resilience, added value creation with a circular economy
 - Set up a regional network of experts
- 2) Transfer best and sustainable practices and technologies to the Southern Rim
 - Develop a regional sustainable and fare production to ensure food security, create local added value for local communities and an alternative for industrial fisheries
 - Provide training and implement R&I outcomes (WP1)

The hackathons (2/3)

➤ Plastic Litter

- Objective: to boost small scale technologies for artisanal solutions and energy by collecting/reusing/recycling plastic litter;
- WP:
 - Identify Regional and Local differences and gaps on Policy Framework
 - Update of innovative solutions and good practices
 - ✓ Mapping existing Best Available Technologies
 - ✓ Market Assessment
 - ✓ Build up Technologies
 - Assess the potential markets for the pilots
 - ✓ Support Technological transfer and institution capacity building
 - ✓ Commercialisation

➤ Blue Clusters

- Objective: to promote a common innovation platform to share experiences and boost synergies;
- WP:
 - Raise awareness amongst Mediterranean Clusters;
 - Support basic cluster capacity and promote commercial partnerships at regional/international level;
 - Sustainability and follow up: identify areas for investments and financial mechanisms (fees/levy);

The hackathons (3/3)

➤ Clean Transport

- Objective: to boost the ability of the region to move towards a low-environmental impact area;
- WP:
 - Creation of a network of west med ports for LNG bunkering;
 - Increase social acceptance of LNG infrastructures;
 - Creation of a Port Air Quality Monitoring Network;
 - Creation of an Observatory of the Maritime Transport;
 - Urban maritime transport;

➤ Sustainable Blue Tourism

- Objective: Acceleration of innovation and knowledge/technology transfer from north to south and from south to South in sustainable tourism by *maximizing* local socio-economic returns and overall sustainability (*de-seasonalisation, added-value, no mass-tourism, community-based tourism business models*).
- WP:
 - Support awareness and understanding of challenges;
 - Provide vouchers for local piloting of most promising enterprises/start-ups;
 - Valorise local cultures and habits;
 - Accelerate the market potential of the pilots (and link to private investments);

Find all the details

Concept Notes will be further detailed and be available on the WestMED Assistance Mechanism website

<http://www.westmed-initiative.eu/>