

5th Atlantic Stakeholder Platform Conference 2018
Vigo, Spain, 23-24 October 2018

**Blue Economy in the EU Atlantic area:
Supporting sustainable jobs, competitive skills and career**

Draft Agenda¹

Day 1 – 23rd October 2018

Working languages: EN, ES, FR, PT²

Location: Mar de Vigo Auditorio

Conference to be moderated by Belén Vallina González

08.00-09.00 – Registration

09.00-09.15 – Welcome addresses by the local authorities

- Mr. Enrique López Veiga, President of the Port of Vigo
- Mr. Abel Caballero Álvarez, Mayor of Vigo
- Mr. Alberto Núñez Feijóo, President of the Autonomous Community of Galicia

09.15-10.00 – Formal inauguration of the Conference agenda

- Mr. Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, European Commission (video message)
- Mr. Ricardo Serrão Santos (tbc), Member of the European Parliament
- Mr. Luis Marco Aguiriano Nalda (tbc), Secretary of State of European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs European Union and Cooperation,
- Ms. Alicia Villauriz Iglesias (tbc), Secretary General of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
- Representative from Ministry for Ecological Transition
- Mr. Vincent Bouvier, Secretary General for the Sea, operating under the authority of the French Prime Minister
- Mr. Jerry Lundy, Member of the Committee of the Regions
- Mr. Bernhard Friess, Director, Maritime Policy and Blue Economy, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission

¹ Agenda updated as of September 17, 2018

² Simultaneous interpretation will be available throughout all work sessions.

10.00-10.30 – Award Ceremony

The Atlantic Project Awards will be granted to 6 projects that fall in line with the priorities of the Atlantic Strategy and its action plan, namely Entrepreneurship & Innovation, Atlantic Marine and Coastal Environment, Accessibility and Connectivity, Sustainability and International Cooperation, and a Special Award as recognition of outstanding performance in these areas.

10.30-11.15 – Coffee Break and exhibition stands

An exhibition area will host about 40 exhibition stands (award project winners, networks and organizations, key stakeholders among which workshop organizers, other stakeholders exhibiting documentation, promotional material, and videos) and the Support Team Help Desk.

11.15-13.00 – Plenary opening session

This session will be structured around two successive panels respectively entitled “Blue jobs of the future” and “Blue Invest in the Atlantic”. The first panel will centre on the avenues to pursue a career in the vibrant blue economy of the Atlantic region. Questions such as how to create sustainable blue jobs, how to upgrade skills and embrace innovation will be at the heart of the discussion. The second panel will feature entrepreneurs with bright ideas to boost innovation in the blue economy. They will pitch their projects in front of a jury of professional investors.

Session A: Blue jobs of the future (50')

Moderated by Ms. Alessia Clocchiatti (DG MARE)

- Ms. Stéphanie Bordenave-Juchereau, University of La Rochelle, “A blue Biotech Master for a Blue Career”
- Mr. Carlos Botana Lagarón, Head of Sustainability and Development Policies, Port of Vigo
- Ms. Lucía Fraga Lago, Centro Tecnológico del Mar – Fundación CETMAR, “MATES Blueprint for sectoral cooperation on skills project”
- Ms. Raquel Costa, Directorate General for Maritime Policy, DGMP, “The Blue School in Portugal”

Questions and Answers

Session B: Blue Invest in the Atlantic (55')

Moderated by Ms. María Muñoz (Spain ERDF Managing Authority)

- Mr. Christos Economou, Head of Unit, Sea-basin strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission
- 1st Pitching Session
- Mr. Sébastien Mounier, CFO of Okahinawave, TED Talk “how I scaled up my company”
- 2nd Pitching Session

Questions and Answers

13.00-14.00 – Lunch and exhibition stands

14.00-17.30 – Matchmaking and B2B meetings forum - dedicated session organized by Europe Enterprise Network³

A half-day business-to-business (B2B) networking session, organised by the Enterprise Europe Network, will bring together managers of maritime business, entrepreneurs and a related community of professionals looking for partners to take their projects forward.

Participants will have the possibility to share their partnership offers or requests and schedule meetings in advance.

17.30 – Conference cocktail

³ The registration for the matchmaking and B2B meetings is now [Open](#).

Day 2 - 24th October 2018

09.00-09.30 – Information session on ERDF post 2020, DG REGIO

09.30-10.30 – Atlantic Area Programme

This session will be dedicated to the contribution of the Atlantic Area Programme to the Atlantic Action Plan, including presentation of good investment practices to the blue economy in skills, employment and innovation.

10.30-11.00 – Coffee Break, exhibition stands

11.00-12.30 – First round of five parallel workshop sessions

Workshop 1A: Training, Youth Employment and New Technologies

Organiser: Instituto Social de la Marina (ISM)

Summary: The workshop organized by the Instituto Social de la Marina (ISM), a public agency under the supervision of the Ministry for Employment and Social Security, revolves around the presentation of the Institute and especially its maritime and healthcare professional training aimed at sea workers. Initially the ISM's goals, challenges and values will be discussed. Afterwards, the workshop will elaborate on the ways in which ISM's training will allow sea workers to obtain the required qualifications or certifications in order to perform determinate functions and tasks on board as well as to acquire further capacities to increase their professional abilities. Finally, opportunities to promote and boost youth employment will be identified. During the presentation, particular emphasis will be placed on the added value of the use of new technologies in ISM's training program.

Moderator: (tbc)

Speakers: (tbc)

Workshop 2A: Entrepreneurship and Atlantic Youth: the way forward

Organiser: Conference of Atlantic Arc Cities

Summary: This workshop will examine opportunities currently open for Atlantic Youth within European funding to start or to foster their careers in the Maritime sector. Thus, the programme Erasmus for the Young Entrepreneurs and the project Atlantic Youth Creative Hubs will be presented. Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs is a cross-border exchange programme, which gives new or aspiring entrepreneurs the chance to learn from experienced entrepreneurs running small businesses in other Participating Countries.

The exchange of experience takes place during a stay with the experienced entrepreneur, which helps the new entrepreneur acquire the skills needed to run a small firm. The host benefits from fresh perspectives on his/her business and gets the opportunity to cooperate with foreign partners or learn about new markets.

Moderator: (tbc)

Speakers: (tbc)

Workshop 3A: SpilLess - An innovative approach to help clean oil spills

Organiser: CIIMAR - Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research

Summary: The workshop is going to discuss an innovative approach to help clean oil spills that is being developed in the framework of the project SpilLess, i.e. a first-line response to oil spills based on native microorganism cooperation, which is financed by EMMF. The workshop will give an overview of the project concept, present the advantages of using native microorganisms and autonomous vehicles to respond to pollution events and explain how the new approach can be used in a real oil spill scenario. The event will be moderated by a Journalist and Design Thinking specialist with the aim to promote interactive exchanges with the audience. Special attention will also be given to the feedback of relevant stakeholders (oil production industry and transport, commercial port administrations, legal authorities in charge of clean-up activities) on the possible implementation of the SpilLess solutions in case of oil spill incidents that may occur inside ports, around industrial and extraction facilities, or during transport activities.

Moderator: Mr. Nuno Vargas, Digital Strategist, Designer, Journalist

Speakers:

- Ms. Ana Paula Mucha, Researcher, CIIMAR, University of Porto, Portugal
- Mr. Eduardo Silva, Professor, School of Engineering, Porto Polytechnic Institute/ Coordinator, Centre for Robotics and Autonomous Systems at INESC TEC
- Mr. Daniel Rey, Professor in Stratigraphy, University of Vigo

Workshop 4A: Marine litter: From a global environmental challenge to a job creation driver

Organiser: CETMAR - Centro Tecnológico del Mar

Summary: The workshop focuses on four collaborative initiatives that bring together representatives of the research community, academia, public administration, NGOs and the industry, who deal with the tackling of marine litter challenges. During the event, presentations on the above projects are going to take place, showcasing those aspects that can foster an innovative market for business in the framework of a Blue Economy. To this end, the workshop, whose objectives are clearly aligned with those of Priority 1 and Priority 2 of the AAP, a) will demonstrate the strong need to make the best use of private and public actors in an effort to tackle environmental problems and turn this environmental challenge into an opportunity for blue growth, new careers, business and job creation in the Atlantic Area; b) will locate technological and knowledge gaps that deserve additional collaborative work and joint actions as the basis for fostering new innovative collaborative initiatives.

Moderator: (tbc)

Speakers: (tbc)

Workshop 5A: Enhancing Blue Careers in Blue Ports promoting competitiveness and social innovation within the blue growth strategy: Best practice

Organiser: Authority of Port of Vigo

Summary: The workshop will address the Blue Economy approach in relation to Ports and their hinterland. Both can be considered as hubs carrying out economic, social and environmental activities that will require new specialised knowledge and skills to be identified and provided to the people as soon as possible. The moderator will lead through the workshop based on her experience and will contribute to achieving the expected outputs by initiating a debate among speakers and the audience. The Port of Vigo is going to make a presentation on the implementation of its own Blue Growth Strategy, focusing on its working area named “blue careers”. Blue Fish Europe will explain the future requirements for the economic activities carried out by the Port hinterland regarding economic, social and environmental sustainability and discuss the different initiatives in which they are involved. The University of La Rochelle will present its transregional experience, namely its Atlantic Master on biotechnology. The speakers will all share with the audience relevant lessons learned and best practices.

Moderator: Ms. Annina Cristina Bürgin Piñeiro, Managing Director, MarInnLeg (Center of Innovation in Maritime and Fisheries Legal Studies)

Speakers:

- Mr. Carlos Botana Lagarón, Head of Sustainability and Development Policies, Port of Vigo
- Mr. Javier Touza, President, Blue Fish Europe and Grupo Golden/ CEO of Chymar S.A.
- Ms. Stéphanie Bordenave-Juchereau, Associate Professor, University La Rochelle

11.00-12.30 – Meeting of the managing authorities of EU funds in the Atlantic (closed session)

Working meeting dedicated to managing authorities of European Structural and Investments Funds (ESIF):
“Contribution of ESIF programmes to the implementation of the Atlantic Action Plan”

12.30-13.30 – Lunch and exhibition stands

13.30-15.00 – Second round of five parallel workshop sessions

Workshop 1B: Attracting talent to the maritime technologies’ careers: the MATES strategy and Business to Sea experience

Organiser: CETMAR - Centro Tecnológico del Mar

Summary: The workshop is going to start with a general overview of the MATES project, with the aim to bridge the gap between the skills needs and the training offer addressing the value chains of shipbuilding and maritime renewable off-shore energy. More specifically, it will describe how MATES intends to deliver sector-specific solutions using an industry-led framework to develop a skills strategy that addresses the main drivers of change. The presentations will further discuss how MATES intends to focus on raising public awareness about the maritime

industry's careers, in order to attract talent and youngsters to the future maritime professions. Special attention will also be given to ways of boosting female participation in the maritime sector as well as promoting gender balance and inclusiveness in the skilling strategy that will result from the project activity. To this end, the conclusions of the annual meeting of the Spanish association of researchers and technologist women will also be presented (on the issue of women participation and visibility in the maritime sector). Finally, the workshop will describe the methodology established to widen the impact of the project in order to promote a Europe-wide network of relevant projects, initiatives, interested organisations and experts.

Moderator: Ms. Lucía Fraga Lago, Head of the Training Department, CETMAR

Speakers:

- Ms. Amaya Soto Rey, Project Officer, Centro Tecnológico del Mar, Fundación CETMAR
- Ms. Ana Jesús López Díaz, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of A Coruña
- Mr. Rui Azevedo, Secretary-General, Fórum Oceano

Workshop 2B: The European Atlas of the Seas and EMODnet: Two powerful tools for professionals in the maritime sector

Organiser: European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet)

Summary: This workshop will focus on the indispensable skills young professionals should develop in the 21st century, in the context of innovation and blue economy. Through the presentation of EMODnet and the European Atlas of the Seas, the participants will have an overall idea on 1. the challenges we are facing in accessing high-quality marine data, 2. the best practices EMODnet and the European Atlas of the Seas are putting in place to make marine data more accessible for a wide range of users in the context of blue growth, 3. the indispensable skills professionals can develop with these two resources. During the workshop special attention will also be given to the opportunities to benefit from EMODnet and the European Atlas of the Seas resources and activities with a number of use cases and examples.

Moderator: (tbc)

Speakers: (tbc)

Workshop 3B: Challenges European fisheries face in the context of the Atlantic: supporting the communities, supporting the future

Organiser: Consellería do Mar – Xunta de Galicia

Summary: The workshop examines the main challenges Atlantic fishermen face nowadays. A first challenge is linked to slow population renewal. As European fisheries suffer from diminishing numbers of young professionals, the seminar will focus on said demographic trend and particularly stress the importance of integrating women in

the fisheries sector, evaluated from a good practice point of view. Secondly, the seminar will address the Brexit challenge. The designated expert will provide accurate data on progress and plans concerning the population of European fishermen. Finally, the workshop will discuss two of the most challenging aspects of the new Common Fisheries Policy: the landing obligation and the multi-annual planning on fisheries.

Moderator: Mr. Javier Garat, President, Europêche

Speakers:

- Ms. Rita Míguez de la Iglesia, President, National Association of Women in Fisheries activities (ANMUPESCA)/ President, Fishermens' guild
- Mr. Gerard van Balsfoort, President, European Fisheries Alliance (EUFA)
- Mr. Ernesto Penas Lado, Senior Advisor, DG MARE (tbc)

Workshop 4B: Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture: Challenges and opportunities for its development on the Atlantic Area

Organiser: INTEGRATE project

Summary: IMTA refers to the cultivation of multiple species belonging to different links in the food chain and interacting on the same side of production. This aquaculture fits the EU's Blue Growth strategy by answering the need for aquatic products production, increasing the environmental performance of this industry and bringing social benefits with the opportunity to create new jobs. IMTA can therefore be regarded as a solution to the environmental and social challenges the European aquaculture is currently facing. As concerns the INTEGRATE project, one of its missions is to enhance the IMTA development over the Atlantic Area through an overview and analysis of the main challenges and opportunities this sector is facing. To this end, several case studies were carried out during the first year of the work plan, in the context of which producers, administrations and professional organisations have been interviewed in order to identify the main challenges the project holders are facing during the implementation of IMTA facilities. The workshop will offer an occasion to present the results obtained from the analysis of those case studies and to propose a discussion about the main issues and opportunities for the development of the IMTA sector in the Atlantic Area.

Moderator: (tbc)

Speakers: (tbc)

Workshop 5B: The Atlantic Area Programme: fostering transnational cooperation to promote a BLUE future

Organiser: Interreg Atlantic Area Programme

Summary: Two Atlantic Area (AA) projects will be presented during the workshop: 1. MOSES – it deals with the quantification of blue growth for marine sectors and the development of a common methodology for the quantitative assessment of sectoral pressures on the marine environment and the vulnerability of marine and

coastal areas. The methodology will contribute to the joint implementation of integrated marine industry sustainability assessment toolkits across the Atlantic region. Outputs will assist regional authorities and policy makers in monitoring progress vis-à-vis the AAP. 2. SAFER – it focuses on the improvement of the innovation performance of the seafood sector by increasing technology adoption and transnational cooperation as well as by answering the challenges of a sector identified as high-potential for the smart growth of participant regions. The project will drive innovation with a view of expanding the results to 21 Atlantic regions that will benefit from the experience of the project in order to improve their innovation policies.

Moderator: (tbc)

Speakers: (tbc)

15.00-15.15 – Coffee Break, exhibition stands

15.15-15.45 – Closing words

The 2018 Atlantic Strategy Group Spanish Presidency, the 2019 Atlantic Strategy Group Presidency and a representative from the European Commission Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries will then close the Conference.

Moderated by the conference moderator

- Mr. Christos Economou, Head of Unit, Sea-basin strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission
- Representative of Spain (tbc), (2018 Presidency of the Atlantic Strategy Group)
- Mr. Ruben Eiras, Director-General for Maritime Policy, Portugal (2019 Presidency of the Atlantic Strategy Group)

15.45 – Field visit to Port of Vigo by boat