



BLUE GROWTH in the FUTURE of ADRIATIC- IONIAN MACRO-REGIONAL STRATEGY (EUSAIR)

25.01.2021 – Milena Krasić – Deputy Pillar Coordinator for Pillar I - Blue Growth of EUSAIR

Pillar I - BLUE GROWTH of EUSAIR

is about driving innovative maritime and marine growth in the Adriatic-Ionian Region by promoting sustainable economic growth and jobs as well as business opportunities in the blue economy sectors.

COORDINATORS: GREECE AND MONTENEGRO

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).***

Pillar 1 focus on three topics:

Topic 1 - BLUE TECHNOLOGIES

Topic 2 - FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Topic 3 - MARITIME AND MARINE 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***

Priority 1. Blue Technology

Flagship 1: 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

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

Policy Choices

Boosting blue technologies in the Adriatic and Ionian Region through:

- development of macro-regional research
- development and innovation platforms in marine and blue biotechnologies
- establishment of Macro-regional clusters in promising sectors such as green shipbuilding and new materials
- mobility of researchers between institutes, universities and companies

Results Expected



Strengthening quadruple helix ties in the field of blue technologies in the region through:

- Stronger RDI and cooperation among SMEs and between SMEs, large enterprises and research centres operating in the Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion
- Increased networking between researchers, SMEs and clusters
- Increased joint research papers and number of researchers exchanged within the macro-region
- Internationalization of SMEs in the region
- Easier access to finance and promotion of the creation of start-ups

Possible Priorities



Possible priorities to be set at National/Regional level:

- RDI platforms on green sea mobility, deep sea resources, biosecurity and biotechnologies
- Encouragement for National, Regional and Macroregional cluster development
- Enhancement of Researchers mobility in the macroregion
- Facilitating access to finance for SMEs and promoting start-ups

Strategic Importance



Maximizing sustainable economic growth and employment as well as business creation based on blue technologies, “brain circulation”, networking capacity and access to seed and venture capital.
Strategic goals served:

- Development of skilled human capital on Blue Technologies
- Creation of new jobs in the field of Blue Growth
- Know how transfer between EU and IPA countries
- Cooperation between research and public and private sectors, as well as users, to develop innovative products and services and technology transfer
- Compliance/adaptation of non-EU countries with EU Acquis
- Remove barriers to trade and investments

Indicative Type of Actions



Type of actions to be eligible for funding under MFF 2021-2027:

- Encouragement & creation of clustering, especially of quadruple helix.
- Research on blue technologies & prioritisation of its adoption by SMEs in the Macroregion
- Promotion of blue skills
- Reinforcement of networking, knowledge sharing & creation of databanks
- Enhancement of competitiveness and sustainability of relevant local and European industry sectors through utilization of marine bio-discoveries
- Allowing development of novel eco-friendly end products that serve circular economy
- Development of solutions to decarbonize fishing fleets
- One-stop-shops' operation for SMEs support

Indicative Projects



Indicative industry driven actions and project ideas for funding under MFF 2021-2027:

- Identification of networking and cooperation mechanisms for promoting and supporting the marine equipment and shipbuilding industry serving maritime transport to find innovative solutions towards safer, more efficient and cleaner ships
- Research platforms for green shipbuilding, ship & boat building, boating, maritime transport, offshore logistics
- Research platforms for marine robotics
- Promotion of start-ups
- Novel bio-products from the Macro-region's sea biological resources
- Development of innovative approaches for utilizing marine bio-resources for the benefit of human nutrition and circular economy
- Design, production and testing at full scale vessels able to exploit novel fuels for vessels

Eligibility & Possible Funding Sources



- INTERREG
- EMFF
- coordination with national and regional RDI programs of ERASMUS+ and RIS3
- ERDF
- COSME



Priority	<h1>Fisheries & Aquaculture</h1> <h2>- <i>Fisheries</i></h2>
Flagship	<p>Promoting Sustainability, Diversification and Competitiveness in the <u>Fisheries</u> and Aquaculture sectors through education, research & development, administrative, technological and marketing actions, including the promotion of initiatives on marketing standards and healthy nutritional habits</p>

Policy Choices

Policy choices must support the achievement of the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy through:

- Sustainable development of fisheries
- Promotion of eco-innovation
- Improvement of knowledge, monitoring and surveillance
- Harmonization of standards across the macro-region
- Improvement of skills and capacity to comply with EU rules and standards
- Increase of the added value of local seafood value chains
- Development of market intelligence and transparent marketing
- Diversification of activities for the fishermen
- Identification of existing technologies and their potential for use in the fishing sector (gear selectivity)

Results Expected



Strengthening fisheries in the region through:

- Better management and sustainable exploitation of fish stocks.
- Improvement of data collection and fish stock assessment.
- Improved fisheries management & harmonization with EU regulations & international organizations.
- Compliance & implementation of measures to combat illegal, unreported, unregulated fisheries and elimination of destructive fishing practices.
- Utilization of Unwanted and Unavoidable catches and discards.
- Plans to improve professional skills of fishermen.

Possible Priorities



Possible priorities to be set at National/Regional level:

- Sustainable use of resources and integrated control of fisheries.
- Building capacity to comply with the EU acquis on fisheries, which is essential for long-term sustainability.
- Cooperation on scientific issues and fisheries management. Scientific cooperation between the macroregion's countries could be promoted in order to link scientific research to the needs of fisheries and aquaculture.

Strategic Importance



Better cooperation across the Adriatic-Ionian sea basin should trigger a virtuous process of increasing the competitiveness of the coastal communities. Strategic goals served:

- Creation of new jobs, the harmonization of standards as well as the compliance of non-EU countries with EU Acquis are of strategic importance.
- Combining fisheries with tourism activities (Pillar 4) should be exploited and further developed.

Indicative Type of Actions



Type of actions to be eligible for funding under MFF 2021-2027:

- Development of a strategy for small scale fisheries.
- Scientific cooperation on fisheries management
- EU compliance and common standards and practices.
- Developing skills.
- Creation of a network for monitoring and predicting the distribution of alien species in the Adriatic-Ionian region and potential ways of exploitation.
- Restoration actions to enhance habitat features (e.g. artificial reefs) in areas that have been degraded or replaced by maritime infrastructures and in-situ monitoring of their efficiency.

Indicative Projects



Indicative industry driven actions and project ideas for funding under MFF 2021-2027:

- Fishing tourism and ichthyotourism
- Initiatives aim to evaluate fish freshness with various methods (sensory, chemical - biochemical, natural and microbiological), to develop indicators
- Restoration actions to enhance habitat features (e.g. artificial reefs) in areas that have been degraded or replaced by maritime infrastructures and in-situ monitoring of their efficiency.
- Improve monitoring, surveillance, resources knowledge, assessments and efficiency via modern technologies throughout the fisheries value chain
- Green energy fishing boats
- Compliance and implementation of measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries and facilitation of trade in the macro region.

Eligibility & Possible Funding Sources



- INTERREG
- EMFF



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

Policy Choices

Aquaculture activities must be environmentally sustainable and managed in a way that is consistent with the objectives of achieving economic, social and employment benefits, through:

- Support the achievement of the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy
- Foster the implementation of the Union's maritime policy and to strengthen international ocean governance
- Contribute to food security through competitive and sustainable aquaculture and markets.
- Support the promotion and the sustainable development of aquaculture
- Support the marketing of fishery and aquaculture products
- Support the creation of producer organisations, the implementation of production and marketing plans, the promotion of new market outlets and the development and dissemination of market intelligence.



Results Expected

Strengthening aquaculture in the region through:

- Increase of aquaculture production.
- Improvement of productivity, quality, environmental sustainability and diversification in aquaculture.
- Introduction of new species, use of alternative raw materials for feed production, new farming technologies, use of advanced processing technologies and innovative actions on traceability.
- Improvement of the image and competitiveness of farmed products.
- Acquisition and improvement of professional skills.
- Creation of improved sustainable marine aquaculture systems and implementation of productive and resilient aquaculture practices that maintain healthy aquatic ecosystems and strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change.
- Enhancement of genetic diversity of farmed aquatic species (fish, molluscs and crustaceans) and their related wild species.

Possible Priorities



Possible priorities to be set at National/Regional level:

- The development of a strong, high-quality aquaculture sector that is economically sustainable and environmentally-friendly, contributes to job creation and to supply of healthy food products, respecting the EU and international rules.
- Enabling clear harmonised policy with respect to access to space and licensing; addressing limited access to seed capital or loans for innovation and time-consuming administrative procedures and red tape.

Strategic Importance



Maximizing sustainable economic growth and employment to the aquaculture sector will help the fulfillment of strategic goals:

- Increase of the European production in aquaculture
- Creation of new jobs
- Harmonization of standards and overcome of barriers in aquaculture
- Combining aquaculture with tourism activities (Pillar 4) should be exploited and further developed.

Indicative Type of Actions



Three main axes around which common actions can be developed:

- **Administration:** includes legal framework, licensing procedures and monitoring of the activity. Data is available from previous projects together with monitoring tools that are under development (e.g. TAPAS project)
- **Technology:** Methodological and technical issues related to farming. Nutrition, ichthyopathology and treatment are of high priority and exchange of information is vital.
- **Marketing (including Trade):** refers to quality of the final product, promotion of the industry, market research etc, including the promotion of initiatives on marketing standards and healthy nutritional habits.
Trade: refers to facilitation of trade of fisheries and aquaculture products including seafood processing products, traceability, certification, harmonization of legislation.

Indicative Projects



Indicative industry driven actions and project ideas for funding under MFF 2021-2027:

- Creation of a strategic roadmap for sustainable aquaculture development in the Adriatic-Ionian macroregion.
- Creation of a transnational partnership of business network organisations, public entities acting as knowledge providers and consultants
- Smart breeding programmes & feeding formulas and technologies for conventional and organic marine aquaculture targeting animal health and welfare,
- Cost effective production methods for upscaling the production processes and enhancing profitability
- Enhancing health with sustainable seafood and physical activity towards Blue Mediterranean Lifestyles, through stronger transnational cooperation of the quadruple helix actors
- Activities addressed to reduce waste and activities for by-products valorisation.

Eligibility & Possible Funding Sources



- INTERREG
- EMFF



3. Maritime & Marine Governance and Services

Priority

Flagship

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

Policy Choices

Policy choices should be directed towards training and efficient coordination of planning activities needed for better marine and maritime governance and services, through:

- data sharing, joint planning and coordinated management of existing resources
- enhancing capacity building to equip people with new skills (including soft skills) that are needed for better marine and maritime governance and services as well as for securing quality jobs and improve life chances

Results Expected



The Adriatic and Ionian Region needs to make better use of the skills that are available, equip people with new skills (including soft skills) that are needed:

- Enabling the growth of a sustainable blue economy and fostering prosperous coastal communities.
- Improved Governance of maritime space.
- Improved Skills and career development in blue economy and strengthening of networks of academics, training organisations and professional organisations of maritime sectors in the macroregion.

Possible Priorities



Relevant priorities to be set in the National EMFF Operational Programmes and CLLD strategies in fisheries dependent areas (EMFF, ERDF and ESF). They should target to:

- Reduce conflicts between sectors and create synergies between different activities.
- Encourage investment - by creating predictability, transparency and clearer rules.
- Increase cross-border cooperation - between EU and non-EU countries for MSP.
- Protect the environment - through early identification of impact and opportunities for multiple use of space.



Strategic Importance

Competition for maritime space - for renewable energy equipment, aquaculture and other uses - has highlighted the need to manage our waters more coherently. The Strategic goals served are:

- Improved maritime and marine governance and services,
- Creation of new jobs,
- Harmonization of standards,
- Overcome of barriers and obstacles,
- Compliance/adaptation of non-EU countries with EU Acquis.

Indicative Type of Actions / Projects



Actions / Projects to be eligible for financing under proposed regulatory framework 2021-2027:

Research platforms and Trans-regional cooperation between community-led local development (CLLD) strategies for actions:

- to combat marine litter pollution,
- development of fishtourism and ichthyotourism,
- Creation of start-ups and local employment and promotion of partnership working

Governance of maritime space for a sustainable and transparent use of maritime and marine resources. This will include:

- supporting the implementation of the new Directive on Maritime Spatial Planning
- adopting clearer legal frameworks for development of Allocated Zones for Aquaculture (AZAs), marine protected areas (MPAs), exploiting deep-sea water and marine mineral resources.

Maritime professional skills:

- improve the levels of skills and expertise for the working manpower in maritime sector.

Eligibility & Possible Funding Sources



- INTERREG
- EMFF (CLLD- Community Led Local Development Strategies)
- ERDF
- ESF

Thanks for your attention

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In collaboration with

