



Added value of cross-regional cooperation

Baltic Sea, Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea R&I initiatives' workshop at the European Maritime Day 2018, Lecture hall II, 11:15-12:45, 31 May 2018, Free University Burgas

The past decade has seen rapid emerging of transnational research, development and innovation programmes addressing the issues of environmental protection and sustainable development of maritime economy (the 'blue growth') at the scale of European sea-basins. This workshop – the first ever jointly organised by three regional seas' R&I initiatives *i.e.* the Black Sea Commission, BLUEMED and BONUS sets out to share the success stories and the lessons learned and to seek answers to common questions.

While it is a common notion that the sea-basin scale R&I programmes act as vigorous enablers supporting fulfilment of a number of important global and EU-level strategies and directives, e.g. UN's sustainable development goals, the EU Blue Growth Strategy, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Common Fisheries Policy, the macro-regional strategies *etc.*, the particular context underpinning implementation of such programmes is characterised by a multitude of natural, historical, geopolitical and socio-economic differences. Nevertheless, there are as many communities as are objectives to be achieved, the challenges to be faced and solutions to be found, all justifying the effort of sharing experiences and best practice as well as establishing closer collaboration among these programmes.

We invite for a discussion a broad range of actors and stakeholders: representatives of the relevant General Directorates of the European Commission, research and innovation funding institutions, joint programming initiatives, implementing bodies of the EU macro-regional strategies, regional sea conventions, industries, academia and non-governmental organisations.

- **The Black Sea Commission** *i.e.* the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution implements the provisions of the Bucharest Convention and the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan (2009) www.blacksea-commission.org. Later in 2018, the European Commission also plans opening a call for a coordination and support action to develop SRIA, to further align national research and innovation activities and investments of the countries bordering the **Black Sea** and to establish an operational network of marine and maritime research funders of the Black Sea.
- **BLUEMED** is the research and innovation Initiative for promoting the blue economy in the Mediterranean Basin through cooperation. It is the strategy of reference for the Mediterranean countries to work together for a healthy, safe and productive **Mediterranean Sea**. The BLUEMED Initiative will contribute to the creation of new 'blue' jobs, social well-being and a sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors through the implementation of its Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, the BLUEMED SRIA. www.bluedmed-initiative.eu
- **BONUS**, the joint **Baltic Sea** research and development programme commenced in 2007, after its fundamentals had been laid by an ERA-NET project, and is now working towards expanding its geographic coverage into the **North Sea**. BONUS influences the ecosystem based management action in the Baltic Sea and wider European landscape and acts as a trend-setter and a testlab for developing programmes in support of solving EU macro-regional issues. This is carried out from the perspective of a programming and funding initiative that integrates both marine and maritime research and contributes increasingly to the sustainable blue growth and related EU strategies. www.bonusportal.org



Agenda:

Minutes 0-90:

- 0-5 Welcome and introduction by the moderator
Dr. Kathrine Angell-Hansen - Strategic Director, Joint Programme Initiative Oceans
- 5-10 Welcoming address:
Ms. Atanaska Nikolova, Black Sea Commissioner for Bulgaria and the Deputy Minister of Environment
- 10-40 Three regional seas, three perspectives:
Dr. Andris Andrusaitis, Programme Manager, BONUS, the joint Baltic Sea research and development programme

Dr. Fabio Trincardi, Coordinator of BLUEMED Coordination and Support Action and Head of the Department of Earth System Science and Environmental Technologies, National Research Council, Italy

Ms. Irina Makarenko, Pollution Monitoring and Assessment, Black Sea Commission
- 40-80 Interactive audience session
Use of **slido** for facilitation: a mix of questions crowdsourced from the audience, some polls prepared in advance focussed on the audience's opinion on topics under discussion.

For the participants of the workshop: Join the event at www.slido.com, the event code #Y397. As the event unfolds, ask your questions that you would like the panellists to answer, and take part in audience polls!
- 80-90 Wrapping up the key outcomes of the joint discussion (appointed rapporteur) and closing