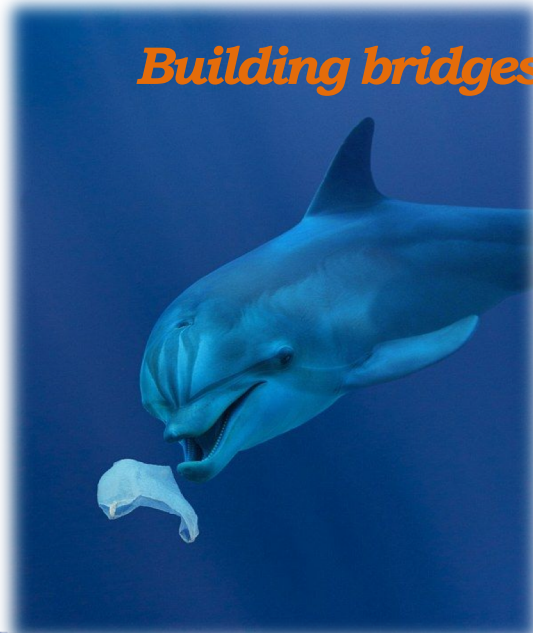




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Scaling up the BLUEMED Pilot for a plastic-free, healthy Mediterranean Sea

Building bridges for the future



*A Plastic-free healthy Mediterranean Sea:
operationalizing the BlueMed R&I Pilot*

20 January 2019

PROJECTS FOR PROGRESS



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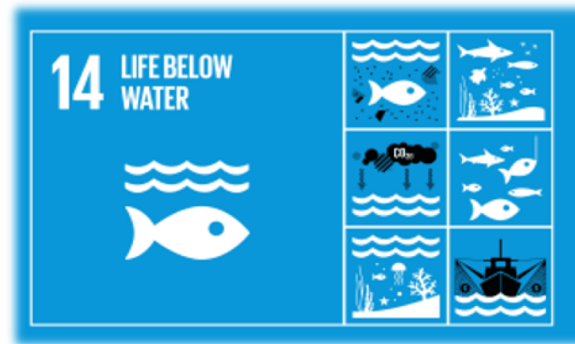
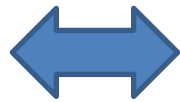
The 2020 UfM Blue Economy agenda

- 
- 25 February 2020 (tentative) – Brussels - 1st ad hoc SOM: discussion on the 1st draft declaration
 - 10-11 March 2020 – Barcelona - 2020 UfM Blue Economy Stakeholder Conference – collecting inputs from the stakeholders to feed the Ministerial process (<http://www.medblueeconomyplatform.org>; www.ufmsecretariat.org)
 - 01-02 April 2020 (tentative) – Brussels – 2nd ad hoc SOM: finalizing the declaration.
 - 2nd of July 2020 (tentative and tbc by the SOM) – Malta – 2nd UfM Ministerial on Blue Economy



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Education and effective communication for a plastic-free, healthy Mediterranean Sea



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BlueSkills – Higher Education and Blue Growth

The project promotes opportunities for “Blue” marine and maritime careers by developing skills, exchanging knowledge and valorising research for more sustainable Mediterranean Sea.

- Promoting capacity building on Blue Economy sectors and knowledge transfer among the blue economy stakeholders;
- Boosting transferable skills and promoting employability for young professional and researchers in the Mediterranean;
- Raising awareness on ocean governance, climate change and all challenges and opportunities related to the marine and maritime sectors;
- Strengthening regional cooperation and networks on blue growth in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

BlueSkills is expected to benefit young scientists, researchers and Ph.D. students; project managers, economists, engineers or other professionals; policy-makers, administrators in the range of 120-140 direct beneficiaries per year, or 600-700 for the five-year project.



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BlueSkills: Blue Jobs and Responsible Growth in the Mediterranean

It has various actions on the ground:

- Advanced Studies Master Programme
- Summer School
- Research Mobility
- Professional Traineeships
- Specific Workshops, Conferences
- Awareness and divulgation
- The BlueSkills Network



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Share and inform on concrete day-to-day practices for taking action

Education for Sustainable Consumption, Behavior and Lifestyles



Increase the amount of shared, reused and repaired goods in your community (especially among friends, work colleagues, and neighbours).



Aim for a zero-waste approach in your daily life. For example, limiting single-use items (especially plastics) such as disposable cups, using rented plates for special events, paper-less strategies at work and in schools, etc.



Swap your clothes or donate to a second-hand shops or charity organisations.



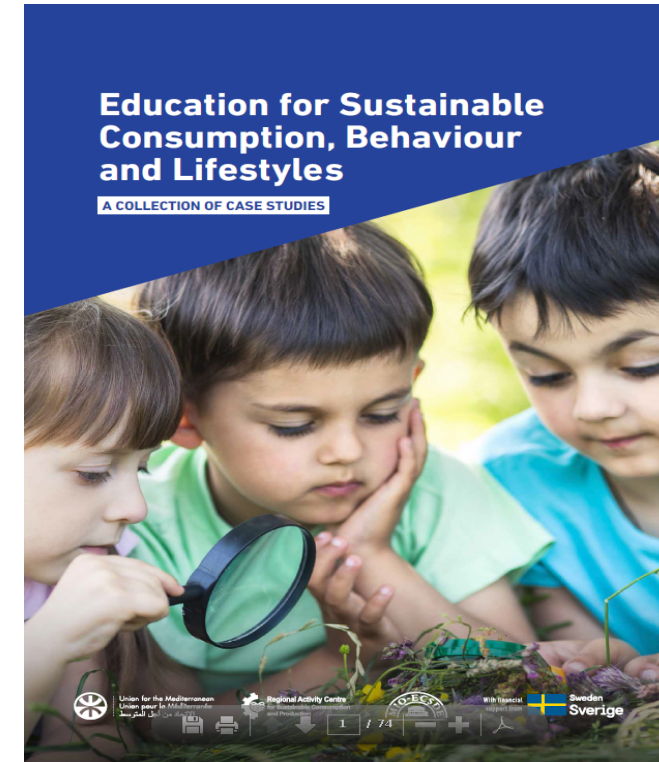
Take part of initiatives that reduce fast fashion or excessive consumption such as the 'Buy Nothing Day'.



Choose products recognised with ecological labels and certification schemes that indicate the products are been produced more sustainably.



Bring your own shopping and grocery bags.



Synergies within the ML community – regional coordination



- Creating synergies between the Interreg Med and to the CBC programmes, through their respective financed projects Plastic Busters MPAs and COMMON projects;
- Bringing together other key players and projects from both the North and the South of the region to set the basis for further operational synergies, dynamic cross-fertilization and capitalization processes in order to consolidate the fight against marine litter throughout the region



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24th Meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Group of Senior Officials in Research and Innovation - 25 November 2019, Barcelona

- The 24th meeting of the EU-Med Group of Senior Officials (EU-Med GSO) in Research and Innovation took place at the headquarters of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) in Barcelona on 25 November 2019 in presence of UfM country representatives and partners of EU-funded projects with a focus on the Mediterranean.
- First time meeting since the establishment of the BLUEMED Working Group
- Note was taken of the progress achieved since the signing of the Valletta Ministerial Declaration (May 2017), notably in:
 - The BLUEMED Initiative and Ocean Research; especially the positive contributions of the BLUEMED pilot project, For a Plastic-free Healthy Mediterranean Sea, towards mobilising key actors and partners from both shores of the Mediterranean for tackling plastic pollution. Participants also take note of the current opportunities for joining the Working Group on BLUEMED, for which nominations are still open for those Member States wishing to join.
- As follow-up BLUEMED Working Group will participate in the Virtual Meeting of the GSO Secretariat on 27 January 2020 for discussing opportunities on Research & Innovation field for youth in the Mediterranean region and preparing agenda points for the 25th GSO Meeting



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The Hashemite
Kingdom of Jordan