



Dipartimento per le Politiche di Coesione
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri



*Agenzia per la
Coesione Territoriale*

PROJECT BOOKLET

FOSTERING QUADRUPLE HELIX TIES IN THE FIELDS OF MARINE TECHNOLOGIES AND BLUE BIOTECHNOLOGIES FOR ADVANCING INNOVATION, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS ADAPTATION IN BLUE BIO-ECONOMY

Interreg 
ADRION **ADRIATIC-IONIAN**
European Regional Development Fund - Instrument for the Accession II Fund
EUSAIR FACILITY POINT


EU Strategy for the
Adriatic and Ionian Region
EUSAIR


EUSAIR
STAKEHOLDERS
PLATFORM

WHY THIS BOOKLET

All the programmes in the EUSAIR area funded a lot projects that turned out into great results. These results are a common and sound ground we can build together upon, so to explore common paths that support the embedding of the EUSAIR in the 2021-2027 programmes.

In this booklet you will find a first and not exhaustive list of projects whose results are coherent with the strategic projects that emerged for each pillar of the EUSAIR. The collected projects are not the only ones and we warmly invite to contribute to a better and more complete list of inspirational projects that can serve as a common basis for embedding EUSAIR.

Consider this collection as a first step and pure food for thought that can feed mutual knowledge and support the co-creation process among all the programmes and the Managing Authorities.

The same purpose considered, please visit also the database of the projects and of the results for the EUSAIR area that can be accessed through the following link:
<http://esp.aimacroregion.eu>

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BLUE_BOOST**BOOSTing the innovation potential of the triple helix of Adriatic-Ionian traditional and emerging BLUE growth sectors clusters through an open source/knowledge sharing and community-based approach**

V-B Adriatic - Ionian

The project aims at unlocking and boosting the potential of knowledge/technology transfer, transnational and cross-sectoral cooperation of key innovation actors of traditional (primarily fisheries and ship-building) and emerging (primarily Blue technologies-including aquaculture- green shipbuilding, robotics and new materials) Blue Growth sectors by reinforcing the relationships and interactions within and among their clusters according to an open source, knowledge sharing&community based approach. The main change sought is to improve the basic conditions for bridging the gap between the 3 helixes of the focused maritime clusters between research/SMEs, users/SMEs, etc. thanks to the collaboration with the NEW INNOVATION AGENTS such as fablabs, co-working spaces, makerspaces, innovation hubs, living labs, techshops, etc.

Expected Outputs: increase of common awareness and understanding among the 7 involved maritime territories about the competitive advantage of Blue Growth and its potential market opportunities

<https://blueboost.adrioninterreg.eu/>

Promotion of green maritime technologies and new materials to enhance sustainable shipbuilding in Adriatic Ionian Region

V-B Adriatic - Ionian

NEORION

2

NEORION aims at establishing a transnational Cluster in the Adriatic-Ionian on Green Shipbuilding that will accelerate both the cooperation of key actors & innovation in the industry. NEORION is expected to reinforce the traditional shipbuilding sector through coordinated efforts that will facilitate the exploitation of innovative technologies and technology transfer between new complementary markets such as new materials & specialized vessels. NEORION aims at exploiting joint assets of the participating countries to eventually create a transnational innovation system for Green Shipbuilding.

Expected outputs: As main outputs, the project aims at enhancing the innovation capacity of the sector, creating a sustainable shipbuilding ADRION cluster, developing tools to favor the cooperation of SMEs with research institutions and provide action plans to both foster economic growth of the sector and benefit the regional business ecosystem, through actions targeted to and initiated by representatives of the Quadruple Helix.

<https://neorion.adrioninterreg.eu/>

03

OIS-AIR

Establishment of the Open Innovation System of the Adriatic-Ionian Region

V-B Adriatic - Ionian

OIS-AIR establishes and develops the Open Innovation System of the Adriatic-Ionian Region: a Hub&Spoke network forging lasting transnational links and leveraging the raw materials of the 21st century, knowledge and innovation. The Hub, coordinated by AREA Science Park, connects the Innovation Centres-Spokes-disseminated across the Region: local assets and excellences-research infrastructures, incubators and accelerators, specialisations, human capital-are pooled together to create a critical mass, crucial to meet the tech&inno needs of SMEs and generate societal growth. A tailored Proof of Concept scheme is designed and vouchers are delivered to the 10 most promising co-development projects embedded into the pilot Adriatic-Ionian S3.

Expected Outputs: OIS-AIR unlocks the innovation potential of the Region as a whole: it designs a Pilot Adriatic-Ionian S3 aimed at building initiatives on synergic specialisation sectors and KETs and it develops an Action Plan for the Pilot Adriatic-Ionian S3 implementation and monitoring. OISAIR is a formal Hub&Spoke network of innovation support organisational and physical facilities open to research and companies;

<https://oisair.adrioninterreg.eu/>

Strengthening Intellectual Property and technology transfer processes in greEn sea mobility sectors

V-B Adriatic - Ionian

SHIPMENTT

04

The SHIPMENTT project aims at establishing an innovation ecosystem focused on the green sea mobility sector (referred partially as green shipping in EUSAIR) across the ADRION area. In the medium-term, the aim is to enhance the investments in regional R&D and increase the competitiveness of the local SMEs. SHIPMENTT acknowledges as key innovation actors the SMEs, innovation support organizations, R&D centers and policy makers in the ADRION area.

Expected outputs: Direct support on a) IP management and b) access to finance to 250 SMEs to improve their chances of collaborating with research institutions and attracting financial resources; facilitation of industry-academia collaboration for 50 SMEs: via the SHIPMENTT platform; An all-inclusive strategy: for the development of a regional innovation ecosystem fuelled by blue-technologies in the green sea mobility field.

<https://shipmentt.adrioninterreg.eu/>

05

BLUEAIR

BLUE GROWTH SMART ADRIATIC IONIAN S3

V-B Adriatic - Ionian

BLUEAIR aims at enhancing institutional capacities of ADRION territories in the definition of a common S3 policy on Blue Growth and guaranteeing the alignment of local initiatives with the EUSAIR strategy. Adopting a coordinated approach will improve administrative capacities, innovativeness, and economic development for participating territories as well as for the whole ADRION area.

Supported by scientific experts and technical documentation, BLUEAIR offers to quadruple helix actors a view on the future scenarios of the Blue Growth sectors enabling them to take advantage of the sector transnational opportunities.

Expected Outputs: establishment of the BlueAIR innovation community; increase the knowledge of ADRION innovation actors in development of S3 in the field of BG, development of a comprehensive set of S3 enabling tools; development of an Innovation strategy on Blue Growth and Action plan for Innovation investments and improvement on BG.

<https://blueair.adrioninterreg.eu/>

BIO-ECOmy Research Driven Innovation

V-B Adriatic - Ionian

BIOECO-R.D.I.

06

BIOECO-RDI aims at developing a Regional Innovation System for the Adriatic-Ionian area based on a structured bio-economy sector through the development of Research Driven Innovation (R.D.I.) strategy at regional and transnational level.

BIOECO-RDI will create a collaborative network among Adriatic regions, enterprises and academia for collaborative research, knowledge transfer and skills development.

This process guarantees to the enterprises of the ADRION area to operate in a more advanced and integrated market, and to regional and national policy makers the needed support to develop effective policies based on circular economy approach.

Expected outputs: BIOECO-RDI regional and international strategies supporting regions in increasing bioeconomy RDI level and cluster maturity. Thanks to the full implementation of those outputs, it will be possible to integrate in a unique and consistent process, regions living different steps in the process of creation of regional bio-economy.

<https://blueair.adrioninterreg.eu/>

Cross-Border Regional Creative Business Networking

IPA CBC Croatia - Serbia

One of the greatest cross-border challenges is unemployment. The other challenge is narrower and focused to ICT sector. All above mentioned challenges will be tackled by the project. During the project, series of events will be organized. Main (overall) project objective is sustainable economic growth of the cross-border region through competitiveness enhancement and business environment development. Cross-border added value of the project is great integration of ICT and creative industries regional eco systems that will contribute to competitiveness enhancement, employment raise and new products (value) development.

Expected Outputs: Raised competitiveness of cross border ICT companies. Increased number of innovative technologies, processes, products and services introduced by the cross-border ICT companies. Cross border ICT network established. Raised project management capacities. Increased awareness about employment potential in the creative industry.

Enabling Development of Sustainable Cross-Border Clusters

IPA CBC Croatia - Serbia

The main challenge that will be jointly tackled by this project is the shortage of skilled labour force for SMEs in the dominant industries in the area – paper industry and mechanical engineering in Belišće and agriculture in Sombor, together with high unemployment rates and low potential for innovation. In order to address those challenges, this project will establish a stronger cross-border industry-government-university-civil society cooperation (“Quadruple Helix”) and therefore enforce the growth capabilities and employment and innovation potential of local SMEs.

Expected outputs: creation of two joint cross-border clusters – one in the sector of agriculture and applied new technology in agriculture, located in the city of Sombor, and another one in the sector of paper industry and mechanical engineering, located in the town of Belišće. During this project innovative mobile and web-based solution will be introduced and Web-based tool for mapping of the renewable resources in agriculture in the CBC region will be developed. Together with that, two buildings will be adapted and equipped for cross-border clusters purposes.

Agricultural Waste - Challenges and Business Opportunities

IPA CBC Croatia - Serbia

Main project objective is to improve competitiveness of regional economy subjects and further develop business environment in CB area. By providing support and knowledge, introducing new principle and new product, agri. subjects will provide biomass to industry and solve problem of waste disposal plus even profit. Biomass is cheaper than commonly used types of fuel in industry so by its use as energy source industry would benefit. Networking of industry and construction companies will introduce possibility of biomass ash (BA) use in civil engineering structures as integral part of construction so their competitiveness would be improved.

Expected Outputs: 4 samples of new, standardized BA products; 1 cooperation network for biomass and BA users and providers and 3 construction companies/enterprises cooperating with research institution during the project implementation .

<https://www.interreg-croatia-serbia2014-2020.eu/project/eco-build/>

Development of the business environment through the education of the labor force in accordance with the market needs

IPA CBC Croatia - Serbia

This project would provide appropriate incentives for self-employment, innovation development, and at the same time reduce the poverty that is largely present in these regions. The project will contribute to creation of better conditions for raising the competitiveness and consequently faster employment of long-term unemployed. The action will significantly influence conditions on the local labour market where local stakeholders are taking greater responsibility in creating more targeted employment policy. A further objective of the project is to improve the knowledge and skills of long-term unemployed in these regions through the creation of a new curriculum for occupations seeking the local labor market.

Expected outputs: cross border network between stakeholders in order to reduce identified skills gaps on the labor market. Target groups will be enabled improving knowledge and skills of unemployed through joint development of training programmes, methodology, networks for support employment, cross border partnerships in order to reduce identified skills gaps on the labor market.

<https://www.interreg-croatia-serbia2014-2020.eu/project/common/>

Fostering of cross-border business environment through development of business competence centres and networks

IPA CBC Croatia - Serbia

Project aims to address the shortage of skilled workers and lack of relevant competences by improving the access to relevant competences in programme area through improvement of relevant infrastructure and services, training programs for unemployed and companies and establishing transnational networking model, thus raising the overall competence levels and opportunities of the labour force and SMEs. Therefore, the main objective of the project is: to contribute to development of institutional infrastructure, services and networks in providing access to appropriate competences to businesses in order to enhance competitiveness and business environment in the cross-border area.

Expected Outputs: Established 1 cross-border network on enhancing favorable business environment. Created 2 curricula for the needs of SMEs. Established 3 functional training facilities for needs of MSMEs sector. Educated 45 persons in cross border area in business-related competences. 10 companies and 10 persons participated in Mentoring Programme. 10 companies and 5 research institutions participated in Smart Cooperation Programme.

<https://www.interreg-croatia-serbia2014-2020.eu/project/fed-ccnet/>

Establishment of Business Clubs for the enhancement of entrepreneurship in the cb area

IPA CBC Greece - Albania

One of the most important tools towards sustainable economic development in the c/b area is the RIS3 pack of strategies that concern the Greek side, but their suggestions will also benefit the Albanian side of the borders. The common target markets for the 2 regions participating in the project are the agro-food sector, tourism and creative industry. Business Clubs aim to provide a respond to this challenge and establish business support facilities in 5 cities of the c/b area. The innovation and novelty of the Business Clubs lies in the location. Business Clubs will be set up in the center of knowledge and learning; the libraries. Each library will organize a specific space where the working positions will be set up. In addition, the beneficiaries will develop web tools that will allow the potential start-uppers to have access to particular resources according to the field of expertise.

Expected outputs: Development of new business hosting facilities in the c/b area, in order to support entrepreneurship and allow for sensitive target groups to be activated in business sector. Activation of at least 25 start-ups during project duration and to double it within 5 years, including start-ups other than those of the pilot action.

<https://greece-albania.eu/projects/establishment-business-clubs-for-the-enhancement-entrepreneurship-the-area>

Fostering capacities and networking of industrial liaison offices, exploitation of research results and business support

Interreg V-A Greece - Italy

The general objective is to share and strengthen skills, capacities, methodologies, models and approaches of the organizations devoted to valorise research results, innovative solutions, to transfer technology, to accompany and support SME/start-up. This will be reached through 3 main actions: 1. Creation and launch of a cross border network of ILO involving all actors of innovation chain; 2. Activation of network services; 3. Strengthening of the ILO managers' skills through capacity building actions. Through the collection and comparison of experiences of technology transfer offices, each of them will be strengthened in its functioning and in relation with SMEs. The relations within important international actors will be strengthened thanks to the exchange of experiences and to the cross-border training and laboratories for ILONET managers, SMEs/start ups through pilot actions.

Expected Outputs: An increased number of SMEs, approx. 10, will cooperate actively with research institutions, universities, science, technology parks. 1 supported innovation-related cross border cooperation network, 5 innovation support tools/approaches/techniques will be introduced through cross border cooperation.

<https://greece-italy.eu/tag/ilonet/>

REcycling strategies for the COastal sustainable waste management towards R&D Innovation

Interreg V-A Greece - Italy

This project aims to reduce the environmental impact of economic activities related to touristic use of coastal areas, closely linked to waste presence in these areas (and as a direct result, marine pollution), with focus on the active participation of the population and on the introduction of new technologies leading to recycling of plastic materials. The overall objective of RE.CO.RD is to facilitate in a soft way, the introduction of environmentally-friendly sustainable technologies and processes to manage plastic waste, and specifically to promote a model of sustainable use of the coasts through shared strategies for the sustainable waste management and making bathing sites as environment protection sites able to contribute to safeguard and enhance of coastal ecosystems.

Expected outputs: The most interesting actions of this proposal will be the design and realization of 2 experimental rapid prototyping linked to the experience on materials, for collecting, weighing solid waste and recycling of plastic material and 6 demonstrative actions for collecting, weighing and recycling plastic materials directly near the beach, also through the active involvement of the population.

<https://greece-italy.eu/rlb-funded-projects/re.co.rd>

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AQUA-M II

Sustainable management of cross-border water resources

IPA CBC Greece - Republic of North Macedonia

Its main objective are the effective and continuous monitoring of the water quality management of Axios River through the application of joint monitoring and management systems and the strengthening of cooperation among responsible stakeholders and authorities. Specifically, the project aims to: improve the river's water quality; establish a permanent technological network for the 24/7 monitoring of specific water quality parameters; establish an operational cooperation network for the prevention, protection and immediate action in case of emergency and potential threats among local authorities of the cross-border area and scientific experts; to improve cooperation among public and private stakeholders as well as the society and the local population of the cross-border area for the protection of the river.

Expected Outputs: The project will strengthen the cooperation and networking on local and cross-border level between stakeholders in the Cross - Border area for the protection of the environment and aquatic resources, facilitate the exchange of know-how and practical experience for the protection of Axios-Vardar River set an example for future similar environmental Projects and cooperation.

<https://aqua-m.eu/>

Increase Innovative Business in sea, environment & Agriculture and IT

IPA CBC Greece - Republic of North Macedonia

IBISEAIT

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The project's general target is the enhancement of the entrepreneurship in the cross-border area. Particularly, the project aims at the establishing of new individual, enterprises in the field of sea, agriculture and environment and at the enhancement of the existing ones. In order to achieve this objective, it targets to an effective professional training and consulting - mentoring of its target group among entrepreneurial issues with the aim to offer them a qualified background, so that they participate in future in the incubator body that will be prepared during the project. The establishment of new enterprises and the reinforcement of the existing ones are connected directly to the other project's objectives, the unemployment decrease and the creation of new job positions.

Expected outputs: The project's long-term objective is to create an Incubator in each area which will be oriented to a particular field that is recognised in each area (marine, agriculture, environment) and to create a Network among these incubators access to particular resources according to the field of expertise.

<https://ibiseait.eu/>

Cooperation for Development of Cross Border Business Environment

IPA CBC Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina - Montenegro

Project aims to contribute to enhancement of business infrastructure and services to support innovations and cluster activities and improve start-up environment in cross-border area. Business support institutions will be supported to increase their impact on business environment through increasing quality of their service, and creating supportive ambient within coworking spaces for enhancing start-up ecosystem.

Project intends to enable local business support institutions to build their collaboration and to create mentorship/coaching programme which will help start-ups to develop their projects. New service will cover all stages of life cycle related to business incubation and will be replicable in wider area.

Expected Outputs: Range of cluster activities enhancing innovation, new technologies and ICT solutions.

<https://www.interreg-hr-ba-me2014-2020.eu/project/code/>

Invest in Lipik, Orašje & Garešnica

IPA CBC Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina - Montenegro

As joint cross-border problems of SMEs that applicants will jointly address with the project have been defined as follows: 1.Underdeveloped cooperation with BSIs 2.General lack of entrepreneurial skills 3.Lack of initiatives for networking and internationalization of SMEs 4. Lack of systematic and quality promotion of investment locations. Thus, applicants intend to develop an effective entrepreneurial ecosystem by focusing on strengthening the role of SMEs and BSI in economic development.

Overall Objective is to contribute to sustainable economic development and increasing employment through the creation of an efficient and effective entrepreneurial ecosystem in the cross-border partnership area.

Expected outputs: reconstructed and equipped BSI, improved business knowledge and skills of BSI staff, marketing and promotional material to attract investors, a common platform for the internationalization of SMEs, common virtual incubator, international economic fairs, increased level of entrepreneurial competencies of SMEs.

<https://www.interreg-hr-ba-me2014-2020.eu/project/invest-in-log/>

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3C4SME

Cross-border Cooperation and Competitiveness for SMEs

IPA CBC Italy - Albania - Montenegro

The project intends to enhance the Economic Growth in involved Territories, through the guaranteed cooperatives instrument. The aim is to verify the conditions to provide to the Albanians and Montenegrin small enterprises a financial instrument that in Apulia and in Molise has been facilitating the enterprises' access to the bank funding, both for the growth and the management. The approach the project intends to follow is to start from the concrete cases that occurred in Italy in order to apply them in cross-border areas where the idea appears new.

Expected Outputs: The main outputs are:- Pilot Action, involving n. 20 enterprises- Law proposal allowing guarantee cooperatives to operate.

<https://3c4sme.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/>

Strengthening and empowering of cross border innovation networks through Fertilization Innovation Labs in Agro-food for improving the connection between research and SMEs (EIP approach)

IPA CBC Italy - Albania - Montenegro

FILA

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The common challenge of FILA project is to create a “cross border Innovation ecosystem” to reinforce the link between enterprises and research. The main overall objective is the creation of cross-border “Fertilization and Innovation Labs in Agro-food - FILA”. FILA Labs are open “innovation environments” which will favour cooperation among actors of the innovation to improve access to research results for enterprises, thus stimulating the creation of innovative solutions and further investment in innovation, to support Start UPs. The expected change is to enhance the innovation level of SMEs through the support given by FILA Labs to at least 50 OG for innovation according to EIP approach.

Expected outputs: Fertilization Innovation Lab in Agro-food model; 3 FILA Labs; Cross-border network among FILAs, open to other institutions and organizations.

<https://fila.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/>

The project approach is an innovative marriage engagement of Blue Growth, Smart Specialization and Quadruple Helix of innovation to accelerate the transfer of research and innovation results to regional Blue Growth. SMART ADRIA aims to identify the most promising local business sectors, define instruments and tools to promote Blue Growth and entrepreneurial culture into those economic sectors and create a joint strategy for Government to manage efficiently the transition towards 4th industrial revolution.

Expected Outputs: Three virtual Blue Labs established supporting commercial exploitation, testing and piloting innovative products and services; Capacity building in Blue Growth; On Line Capacity Building platform in Blue Growth; 1 cross-border Blue Growth Cluster; SMEs received Blue Growth related services.

The overall objective is to foster the creation of a favorable environment for business initiatives in the Blue Energy sector and promote the realization of coastal blue energy systems in the Programme area, particularly focusing on wave and thermal energy converters to be integrated in structures such as breakwaters, marinas, etc. These initiatives must be informed and designed to guarantee the full preservation of marine ecosystems and the landscape, and also comply with the needs of other maritime activities such as fishing, aquaculture, tourism, and shipping. The project will adopt a participatory approach, gathering and involving Quadruple Helix actors in a multi-level network for the development of a common roadmap and the deployment of coastal blue energy systems in pilot areas.

Expected outputs: Training activities will enable technical and administrative operators to take full advantage of the data and protocols made available by the project, while dissemination events and workshops will increase the stakeholders' and communities' awareness on CC impacts and on the existence of specific adaptation measures.

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BEAT

Blue enhancement action for technology transfer

Interreg V-A Italy - Croatia

The project is capitalizing the research on blue (green) technologies developed by the BlueTech project and aims at creating the opportunities for knowledge transfer among Enterprises and Universities for the formal establishment of the cross-border cluster. The project will foster the development of innovation solutions and cooperation among the innovation actors in the Area by the means of developing cross-border cluster in blue technologies in shipbuilding sector.

Expected Outputs: 1 Memorandum of understanding for foundation of the cross-border cluster. 1 Guidelines for cluster management organization. 4 Case studies reports. 1 Cross-border business matchmaking event. 30 Benchmarking reports on innovation capabilities made available to the SMEs. 2 Open training sessions on the management of innovation processes.

<http://www.italy-croatia.eu/beat>

Blue Knowledge Exchange Program and integration of education systems in the cross- border area

Interreg V-A Italy - Croatia

BLUE KEP

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The project is capitalizing the results and methodological approach of the IPA Adriatic project KEPASS aimed at strengthening and harmonization of the technical educational system in the nautical and maritime sector and standardization of school curricula and methods for recognition of professional knowledge of students. The expected results are better prepared labour force and creation of new skills.

Expected outputs: 3 International modules developed and integrated in ordinary school. 39 Training programs for students. 10 Teacher exchange and trainings. 4 Cooperation Agreements among schools. 5 Language courses delivered. 1 Tested tool for students' assessment.

<http://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/blue-kep>

A cross-regional platform to move technological biopolymers from the labs to the market

Interreg V-A Italy - Slovenia

The main objective of the project was to establish a new technology platform by strengthening cooperation between research organizations and key economic stakeholders to accelerate the development of pilot technology in the field of advanced biopolymers. The project developed a new supra-regional technological platform and combined the complementary knowledge and skills of the partners, with a vision to promote solutions, development and applicability of highly innovative, commercially attractive biopolymers and biomaterials. The project provided an integrated solution that uses natural resources to produce materials designed to improve people's quality of life.

Expected Outputs: With the established transregional technology platform, this project has provided the means and space to improve access to knowledge and create opportunities for concrete engagement in the fields of technology transfer, translational research, innovation and technology in the common priority areas of partner

<https://www.ita-slo.eu/BioApp>

Green technologies for ecological cleaning of biological incrustation on hulls in the Upper Adriatic

Interreg V-A Italy - Slovenia

The common challenge of GreenHull project is solving the problem of pollution by cleaning biological fouling on hulls, thus improving ships performance and decreasing the halogen species in the environment. The goal of the project is to improve environmental protection by developing innovative green technologies and solutions for cross-border management of dangerous water and waste. The Project results are useful for companies, research and training institutions, local communities and environmental policy. Sea has no borders, therefore cross-border cooperation approach in the public and private sector is necessary in defining guidelines for the monitoring and management of dangerous water and waste and ensures a more effective crossborder management of water and waste.

Expected outputs: 2 pilot innovative green technologies tested by companies for sampling and analyzing biological fouling on hulls during the ship cleaning (multi-sensorial and underwater robotic system, modular purification system).

<http://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/blue-kep>

TO KNOW MORE

<http://esp.aimacroregion.eu>

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