

ECOMAP project

“Establishment of Cluster of Port cities”

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Abstract/Executive Summary

The partnership has worked through a specific project guidance for establishing a network of smart cities, which at the origin of the project was mainly enforced by the fact that in recent years the economic crisis is penalizing small ports and the socio-economic fabric can survive only if in a large variety of industries, financial and legal services of port cities are aggregate in clusters. The project and partner actions have encouraged strategic collaborations to provide governance changes and creative strategies. The cluster of port cities could maximize economic benefits and socioeconomic welfare. The services and maintenance would be optimized by centralizing and providing a cluster for connectivity and accessibility, and facilitating commerce. A strategic and integrated approach has been designed infrastructure adaptation to climate change impact in order to adopt advanced strategies and increase the environmental adaptation capacity. The project in this WP has analyzed the waste cycle to encourage its recovery and reuse. This activity has carried out through a training program that includes analysis of the water footprint in the management of the water in port area. The scope of this specific deliverable (D51.1.1) has been gathering different regional and local stakeholders (private and public bodies) into regional working groups that cooperate and work for common objectives that reflect potential solutions and best practices in regards of climate change impacts, circular economy approaches and informative/training initiatives in the management of the water in port areas. During the project implementation, many RWG meeting have been organized for the establishment of a regional blue technology innovation Hubs in view of the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between stakeholders actively involved in the processes of Innovation and Technology Transfer in the field of Blue Growth. This network has been called ECOMAP cluster of Adriatic Regional Blue Technology Innovation Hubs. Five regional territories have been involved in this participatory process along the cross-border Adriatic Coastal Side between Italy and Croatia: Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, Veneto Region, Emilia Romagna Region, Marche Region, Split County.

1. Regional Working Group on Blue Growth in the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region

The establishment of the network has been facilitated by meetings and workshops with local and regional representatives in the territorial area of Friuli Venezia Giulia Region and the project partners. At the participatory meetings, started officially from July 2020 due to the pandemic COVID-19 that delayed actions and blocked travels, partners and local stakeholders have taken part to the discussion and active interaction, especially: Upper Adriatic Technology Park of Pordenone, OGS – National Institute Oceanography and Applied Geophysics, FLAG Friuli Venezia Giulia, University of Trieste, UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organisations, Marevivo FVG Association. All of them have contributed and exchanged competences and knowledge in the field of Blue Education, Blue Growth and Blue Sustainability. RWGs meetings took place as follow: on 30.01.20 and 01.02.20 PP10 attended a meeting in Podstrana (Croatia) with LP to coordinate itself with the LP upon the realization of WP5; in Monfalcone (GO) on 16.01.2021 also in the context of the contamination process with other territorial initiatives, PP10 got in contact with the FramesPort project (INTERREG ITALY-CROATIA), co-led by the Municipality in Monfalcone; in Sgonico (TS), on 30.04.2021, with members of the RWG FVG (OGS, UNITS); in Pordenone on 17.01.2022 at Lean Experience Factory of San Vito al Tagliamento (PN, Italy) one meeting has been organised with some the members of the RWG and in Udine (UD, Italy) on 22.03.2022 with some partner members of the RWG Friuli Venezia Giulia. Indeed, the important sensibilization campaign and MOU finalization event organized by PP10 on 30.06.2022 in Mestre (Venice) relating to MOU with final adherents and also to the “PLASTICOCENE exhibition on OCEAN-PLASTICS” with the collaboration of the University of Venice, Ca’ Foscari – Department of Molecular Biology. In this last occasion, the artist of PLASTICONOCENE has signed the MoU.

2. Regional Working Group on Blue Growth in the Veneto Region

The establishment of the network has been facilitated by meetings and workshops with local and regional representatives in the territorial area of Veneto Region and the project partners. At the participatory meetings, started officially from July 2020 due to the pandemic COVID-19 that delayed actions and blocked travels, partners and local stakeholders have taken part to the discussion and active interaction, especially: Upper Adriatic Technology Park of Pordenone, (intentionally at the beginning also by Bio4dreams, M9 - Museum of '900 District) Eastern FLAG Veneto, Venetian Cluster, University of Ca’ Foscari in Venice, Contract of the Lagoon of Caorle and Bibione Mare. All of them have contributed and exchanged competences and knowledge in

the field of Blue Education, Blue Growth and Blue Sustainability. RWGs meetings took place as follow: meeting in Mestre (VE, Italy) on October 28th 2020, with some of the main economic and social local affiliates and local stakeholders, dealing with the identification of the physical location for the Innovation Hub on Blue Growth and defining/drafting in details the Regional Stakeholder Working Group of Region Veneto; in Bibione (VE, Italy) on August 22nd 2020 for – Event “Environmentally responsible nautical tourism and related services”; in Portogruaro (VE, Italy) on September 16th 2020 – Presentation of ECOMAP for regional stakeholder engagement; in Mestre (VE, Italy) on October 28th 2020 – Presentation of ECOMAP for regional stakeholder engagement; in Mestre (VE), on 14.01.2021, 11.02.2021, 24.02.2021, 24.03.2021, 14.05.2021, 21.05.2021 with some members of the RWG Veneto (Bio4dreams and M9 Representatives) for discussing and defining the Innovation Hub on the Blue Growth (at the M9 Museum) in the territory and within the project areas; in Mestre (VE), on 03.08.2021 with some members of the RWG Veneto for checking and supervising BIO4Dreams and M9 adhesions to the network; in Mestre (VE), on 15.10.2021 with some members of the RWG Veneto – University Ca’ Foscari of Venice, for discussing WP5 contribution to related activities, in particular for SEALOGY 2021 Edition; in Piove di Sacco (PD), on 09.12.2021 for checking and supervising UNAGA adhesion to the RWG Veneto and on 02.03.2022 in Caorle a meeting has been organised for checking and finalizing the Contract of the Lagoon of Caorle adhesion to the MoU. Indeed, the important sensibilization campaign and MOU finalization event organized by PP10 on 30.06.2022 in Mestre (Venice) relating to MOU with final adherents and also to the “PLASTICOCENE exhibition on OCEAN-PLASTICS” with the collaboration of the University of Venice, Ca’ Foscari – Department of Molecular Biology. In this last occasion, the University of Venice and WIGWAM UNAGA have signed the MoU.

3. Regional Working Group on Blue Growth in the Emilia Romagna Region

The establishment of the network has been facilitated by meetings and workshops with local and regional representatives in the territorial area of Emilia Romagna Region and the project partners. At the participatory meetings, started officially from July 2020 due to the pandemic COVID-19 that delayed actions and blocked travels, partners and local stakeholders have taken part to the discussion and active interaction, especially: University of Ferrara, Future in Research Consortium, Ferrara Fair, Delta del Po Park, Reclamation Authority Adige Euganeo, ARTER, FLAG Emilia Romagna, National Federation of Divers. RWGs meetings took place as follow: in Ferrara (FE, Italy) on October 8th 2020 – partner meeting and planning for regional stakeholder engagement; in Ferrara (FE, Italy) on October 22th 2020 – partner meeting and planning for regional stakeholder engagement; on 10.09.2020 PP10 took part to an online technical meeting with LP and other PPs, in this occasion PP10 explained WP5 sessions relating to the elaboration

of the MoU of Smart Port cities; on 21.10.2020 PP10 attended to the online technical meeting with LP and PP2 to discuss WP5 activities and deliverable in details; in Ferrara (FE), 31.05.2021, with some members of the RWG Emilia- Romagna (UNIFE, CFR and Ferrara Fair); in Rimini (RN), 08-09.06.2021, with some members of the RWG Emilia-Romagna (FLAG Emilia-Romagna); in Ferrara (FE), on 23.06.2021, with some members of the RWG Emilia-Romagna; in Ferrara (FE), 04.11.2021 with some partner members for organizing and discussing SEALOGY 2021 Edition contribution and relevant speakers to be involved and in Ferrara (FE), 18-19.11.2021 for co-organizing SEALOGY 2021 Editions with main organizers; on 21-23.02.2022 in Ferrara and Rimini PP10 has met some partner members for discussing and checking state of play on network adhesion and for organizing main Forum of WP5; in Ferrara on 22.03.2022 has met some partner members for discussing and checking state of play on network adhesion and for organizing main Forum of WP5, especially that one related to the micro-plastics in the Adriatic Sea with promoted itinerant exhibition; in Ancona 17-20.05.2022 for finalizing MOU within different signatories and exchanging further best practices relevant for the project results.

4. Regional Working Group on Blue Growth in the Marche Region

The establishment of the network has been facilitated by meetings and workshops with local and regional representatives in the territorial area of Marche Region and the project partners. At the participatory meetings, started officially from July 2020 due to the pandemic COVID-19 that delayed actions and blocked travels, partners and local stakeholders have taken part to the discussion and active interaction, especially: Blue Economy Research, Municipality of Ancona, University of Marche Politecnico, CNR -IRBIM, Garbage Group, Port Authority of Ancona. RWGs meetings took place as follow: in Ancona (AN, Italy) on 16-18.02.2021, with some members of the RWG Marche mainly for organizing the Tipicità Phygital Edition in May 2021; in Fermo on 03-04.04.2022 with some partner members of RWG Marche, especially around the archaeology topic and its virtual tours. PP10 got in touch with the Halies (National Organization for International Cooperation in the development, that signed the MoU and is joining the network in the RWG on Blue Growth in the Marche region, as well as for the other Italian regional working groups involved in the ECOMAP project.

5. Regional Working Group on Blue Growth in the Split County

The establishment of the network has been facilitated by meetings and workshops with local and regional representatives in the territorial area of Split County and the project partners. At the

participatory meetings, started officially from July 2020 due to the pandemic COVID-19 that delayed actions and blocked travels, partners and local stakeholders have taken part to the discussion and active interaction, especially: Municipality of Podstrana, Zdravi Grad, Marina Spinut, Marina Strozanac and IOF (Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries in Split). RWG meeting took place as follow: in Podstrana (Croatia) on 16-17.03.2022 with some partner members of RWG and for checking potential adhesions and organizing materials/contributions to the Forum, in particular that one related to the archaeology tour.

Conclusions

Upon all the above-mentioned meetings and occasions to discuss common objectives to be perceived for the establishment of the “ECOMAP Cluster of Adriatic Regional Blue Technology Innovation Hubs”, interested public and private bodies widely active into different blue fields have signed the Memorandum of Understanding (D.5.1.2), which is the very basis for a concrete establishment of the cooperation between port cities with a unique scope: supporting the topics around the Blue growth into various initiatives through the environmental protection and sustainable development of Italian and Croatian Coastal areas.