



Synergies and Clustering between Maritime Projects (EASME/EMFF/2020/3.1.12) – SI2.850620

“Blue Skills”

Location: Online (Zoom).

<https://zoom.us/j/93496061497?pwd=V0tyWWlGNkp1bmhmQzhjdVQyakVDdz09>

Format: The workshop will take place in two parts, with the second being exclusively for networking

Timing: 9:45 – 13:45 CET, 22nd March 2022

Moderator: ERINN Innovation

Registration link: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/blue-skills>

Materials to be provided pre-workshop: Background information on projects presenting during workshop

Workshop Objective:

The aim of this thematic workshop on Blue Skills, is to identify and facilitate opportunities for synergy and cooperation between the 18 EMFF blue skills' funded projects and projects funded under other funding mechanisms which aim to develop blue skills at national and trans-national level.

The workshop will consider policy developments, insights from projects through case studies and priorities for further skills development. It is also envisaged that the insights generated, and outputs of this workshop will inform future Blue Skills funding calls under EMFAF.

The workshop will have the following outcomes:

- **Clarity:** understanding of the direction/priorities of EU policies in terms of skills, experiences from closed/ongoing projects and how future projects should be orientated to support this.
- **Foresight:** insights to help inform future EMFAF funding opportunities to address blue skill needs
- **Knowledge Sharing:** sharing between beneficiaries of experiences, best practices and insights focused on legacy/impact.
- **Synergies:** identify opportunities for future collaboration among beneficiaries, to build on project outcomes and further develop related actions.

Agenda

Chair: David Murphy, ERINN Innovation

Part 1: Blue skills, Policy and Foresight

Session A: Welcome

09:45-09:50 Introduction to Initiative & Purpose of workshop (CINEA)

09:50-10:00 Overview of EMFF Blue Skills projects (CINEA)

Session B: Setting the scene

10:00-10:30 Skills Agenda for Europe

DG EMPL (tbc)

10:30 – 10:45 Skills challenges for a sustainable blue economy

DG MARE

10:45 - 11:00 Mobilisation of actors

ERASMUS+ Centres of Vocational Excellence (tbc)

Session C: Knowledge Sharing and Learning

11:00-11:35 EMFF and ERASMUS+ Case Study Presentations (tbc)

1. *MarEnet*

2. *ASSESS*

3. *BAPSI*

4. *Sea of Experience*

5. *MATES*

6. *Skillsea*

11:35-11:45 Q&A Session and Coherence Panel Reflections

11:45-12:15 Break

Part 2: Blue skills networking event for EMFF project beneficiaries

Session A: Knowledge sharing

For this session, EMFF beneficiaries will be asked to share their experiences and advice/tips on the specific topics

12:15-13:00: [Part A: Knowledge Sharing](#)

Session B: Networking and Collaboration

For this session, participants will be facilitated to network for future collaborations.

13:00-13:45 [Part B: Networking and Collaboration](#)

13:45 Workshop end

ANNEX 1: Session B Case Studies

1. MarENet (EMFF Project)

Start date: October 2019

End date: October 2021

Budget: €876,922

Original Project Abstract:

The Project seeks to strengthen the cooperation between maritime business and academia, designing and implementing a Northwest European Atlantic Maritime Network made up by training centres and industry, meeting the needs of the port maritime market and maritime curricula, whilst enhancing the visibility and opportunities of blue economy and therefore, attractiveness of blue careers. Through the consortium, actors from blue economy sectors and related value chains (maritime transport, shipbuilding and ship repair, shipping, blue biotechnology, fisheries and aquaculture) will join their effort to offer to students and employee pertinent skills needed to adapt their knowledge and take part to blue economy development. To achieve this objective, an executive committee will be defined to support the trans-regional network of maritime-port industries and educational centres that will constitute the European Atlantic Maritime Network, offering an overview of current maritime education and employment demands in the maritime-port sector of the Atlantic sea basin. This Network will be consolidated in a Maritime Knowledge Centre on which to build long-term structured collaboration between industry, education and public authorities. The network will be made up by training centres (university and vocational training centres) and business of three main maritime sectors: shipbuilding, seaport logistics and fishing and is conceived to become the supporting framework to share human capital, best practices and tools in the Atlantic maritime environment, driving new collaborative training actions to integrate strengths and innovative proposals of each region.

Link to project website: <https://www.marenet.org/home/>

2. ASSESS (EMFF Project)

Start date: February 2017

End date: January 2019

Budget: €695,624

Original Project Abstract:

ASSESS is an education and training project focused on professional profiles specialized on safety and security issues related to ships and off-shore plants with three main concerns: safety and security for ships and plants, for people (human life at sea) and for the environment. The project will focus not only on technical subjects, but also on complementary skills that are mandatory when dealing with complex and highly technological products, in particular, in the validation processes related to the compliance of the products to the regulatory framework (for shipping and off-shore activities), which is defined internationally. The project will develop 3 high-level education and training courses aiming at spreading specialized tailored knowledge to the main different actors dealing with "safety and security issues' processes during the whole ship/off-shore plant life: 1. an advanced master for people involved from the design until the execution phase of a ship or an off-shore plant, from the first plan approval until the final validation and compliance of the product to the design specifications; 2. a professional course for professionals in charge of ensuring the correct periodical checks of the ship/plant during its lifecycle at sea; 3. a refresher course for teachers of nautical high schools (train the teacher activity). While the 1st and the 2nd courses will attract professional profiles directly

employable (or already employed) in businesses and represent the strongest link with industry, the 3rd is dedicated to high-school teachers and it is expected to have the greatest multiplier effect especially in terms of orienting young people towards maritime vocations.

Link to project website: <http://assess.dia.units.it/>

3. BAPSI (EMFF Project)

Start date: October 2019

End date: April 2022

Budget: €749,801

Original Project Abstract:

As the demand of seafood product worldwide constantly increases, there is the need to respond in an efficient, responsible and sustainable manner. In order to do so, professionals working in the sector must be equipped with relevant expertise. Nevertheless, an overall lack of adequate skills and competencies has been perceived and acknowledged by the representatives of the sector. An overall lack of connection between the industry and education is one of the causes of this gap, which is affecting the competitiveness of companies and their capacity to cope with the constant changes and challenges of the sector. The project aims to promote a fruitful dialogue between the industrial sector of fishery and education, in order to address the necessity of professionals to be trained and equipped consistently with the needs of the industry. By putting together the direct representatives of the fishery industrial compartment and the academic and research providers, the project aims to empower hybrid professional figures, equipped with the exact skills required by the industry. BAPSI will implement a one-year academy, which will offer: - 12 short blended courses; - 2 days of seminars/conference; - 5 practice learning days; - Practical experience for willing selected participants to be chosen among: apprenticeship, "alongside the manager" format and "Exchange visits" format. On general terms, the project's expected impact is to challenge and change the current situation faced by the industrial compartment of fishery, as to say the lack of duly equipped professionals and the lack of collaborative schemes between industry and education. Target groups will benefit by learning from highly professionalizing courses. Moreover, the combination of theory and practice will enable participants to gain not only the most updated expertise from the industry and academic sides, but also to live concrete practical experiences. The creation of a CoP enables participants continuous learning.

Link to project website: <https://http://www.assoittica.it/>

4. Sea of Experience (EMFF Project)

Start date: October 2019

End date: October 2022

Budget: €935,007

Original Project Abstract:

Sea of Experience is a regionally-oriented project that aims at establishing a training/mentoring network; the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Network (EMReN), for professionals and youngsters related to maritime transport, shipbuilding and ship repair, ports and the cruise industry. It also targets to bridge the skills gap between education offer and labour market needs, especially with regards to technological developments and innovation, strengthen cooperation between industry, academia and public authorities, encourage mobility of students, teachers and professionals, raise societal awareness and provide guidance and advance knowledge about blue professions. The consortium will implement a wide spectrum of actions to achieve the overall objectives. More specifically, four

common training programs, one for each selected blue sector will be formulated to tackle with the emerging skill shortage of the maritime domain. These educational items will consist of the cornerstone for the development of innovative face-to-face (e.g. summer schools, apprentices) and digital (e.g. Virtual Reality videos, digital competitions) training tools. Finally, a digital platform (the sharing-pooling e-platform) will be developed for hosting this novel toolkit. The EMReN; a dynamic ground-breaking network of academics, maritime industrial representatives and public Authorities, will focus on improving relationships between education and the sectors of interest. Furthermore, it will develop targeted and highly innovative mentoring/training initiatives (human big data) that will enable professionals and students to acquire new skills, diversify and expand on their existing skills and competencies. On the long-term, this blending of innovative face-to-face activities with digital technologies will lead to new employment opportunities in the Eastern Mediterranean region and will attract higher education graduates and/or professionals with significant technical and non-technical skills.

Link to project website: <https://seaofexperience.org/>

5. MATES (ERASMUS+ Project)

Start date: January 2018

End date: April 2022

Budget: €4.9million

Original Project Abstract:

MATES' objective is to develop a skills strategy that addresses the main drivers of change to the maritime industry, in particular shipbuilding and offshore renewable energy. Both sectors are strongly linked and require new capacities to succeed in an increasingly digital, green and knowledge driven economy.

As a transversal line of action, MATES will carry out a robust dissemination and outreach plan. This aims to increase the attractiveness of the maritime industry, particularly careers in the shipbuilding and offshore renewable energy sectors, while also ensuring future adoption of the strategy.

MATES will validate actions and priorities suggested by the skills strategy through the setup of 11 pilot case studies. These case studies will test the MATES concepts on digital skills, green skills, mobility, innovation management, curricula development and ocean literacy.

Furthermore, the project will widen perceptions of Ocean Literacy initiatives by embedding an appropriate industrial perspective. It will spread an updated image for the maritime industry and send out a convincing message concerning the high-tech and long-term future of the maritime sector.

Link to project website: <https://www.projectmates.eu/>

6. Skillsea (ERASMUS+ Project)

Start date: January 2019

End date: January 2022

Budget: €3.9million

Original Project Abstract:

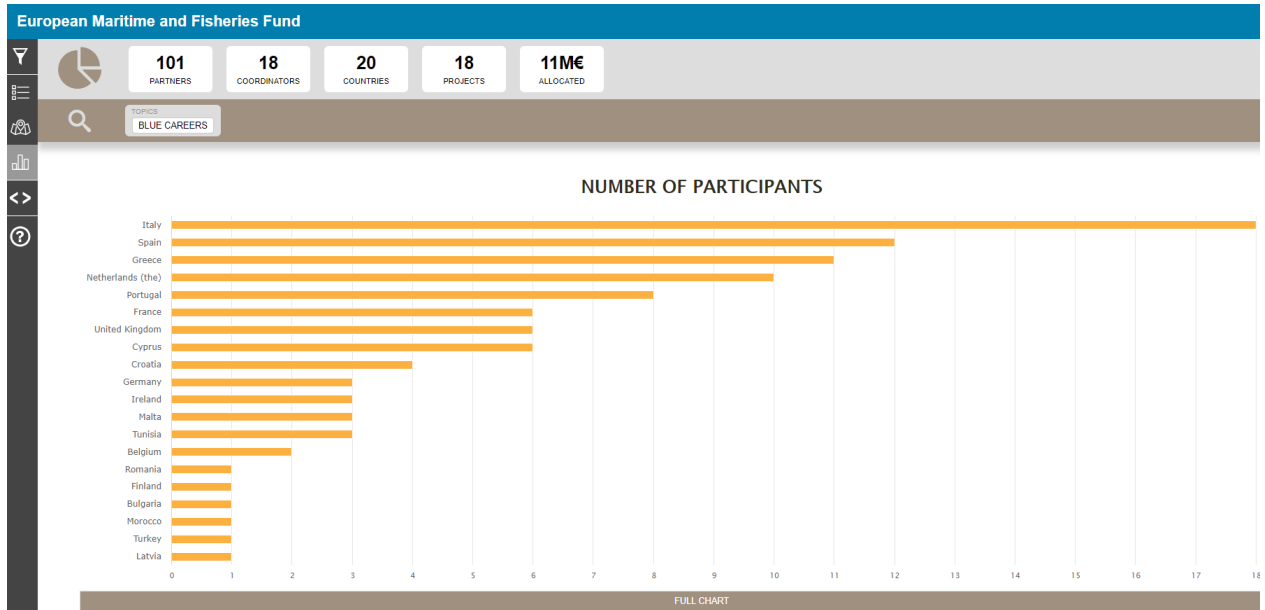
Skillsea will foster cooperation on a European level between the industry, education and training providers and authorities to develop a strategy to make the education and training for maritime professionals future proof, adaptable and attractive, to provide maritime professionals with the

correct skills for the labour market and to ensure sustainability of the European maritime industry. Besides development of the strategy, the project will support implementation of the strategy and products developed during and after the lifetime of the project. Thereby, Skillsea will provide a concrete, sustainable solution for the qualitative and quantitative mismatch between demand for and supply of labour, will increase labour mobility within the sector (horizontal, vertical and geographical) and enhance attractiveness of the sector. Skillsea follows the approach of skills needs identification (current, medium term and long term), design and delivery of VET, the development of strategy as well as stakeholder mobilisation and awareness raising as sustainable implementation.

Link to project website: <https://www.skillsea.eu/>

ANNEX 2 : EMFF portfolio of skills projects

In the EMFF portfolio of projects managed on behalf of DG MARE, we have 18 projects in total from various calls dealing with skills and blue careers including vocational training. Details on the projects can be found on the following website by filtering the topic “blue careers” <https://emff.easme-web.eu/#>



ANNEX 3: information about the contract: Synergies and Clustering between Maritime Projects (EASME/EMFF/2020/3.1.12) – SI2.850620

INFORMATION ON THE CONTRACT:

The general aim of this contract is to set up and develop a process for **evaluating and clustering EMFF** (bottom-up) financed projects from 2016 onwards. The service contract will manage and animate a platform for **structured exchange of information, mutual learning, greater visibility and cross-fertilisation between projects** funded under EMFF.

SYNERGIES – COHERENCE PANEL:

An originality of the contract is that a “coherence panel” from Commission services (and executive agencies) managing other programmes such as HEurope, INTERREG, ERASMUS+, INTERREG will also intervene. The coherence panel’s outlook on EMFF projects will complement the workshops that are planned under the networking activity (WP3) and the task of evaluation (WP1) and of clustering/visibility of projects (WP2). Drawing lessons and experience from such EU funding instruments and relevant funded projects will be a key role of the coherence panel that will intervene under this service contract under Work Package 3 (WP3) in a specific workshop where projects from other EU funding instruments will be invited to participate. The coherence panel will be composed of representatives of the European Commission, chosen by the Contracting Authority.

Basically, the contract will cover 3 key activities:

1) Evaluation (WP1)

The contract will cover 60-90 projects and evaluation of these projects is the first task (WP1) based on indicators (some provided as part of the technical specifications and some as part of the technical tender) so we think it is relevant to have someone from your team to be informed, contribute and be invited to meetings where necessary. For example, we need to provide the contractor with a list of sectors in the blue economy at the start of the contract. We are indeed looking at the sectors identified in the blue economy report although some further granularity may be needed.

2) Clustering and visibility (WP2)

Under this activity the contractor will set-up thematic clusters of projects and give visibility to relevant EMFF projects through the preparation of communication material for social media and on the maritime forum (web).

3) Networking (WP3)

Under this activity, the contractor will organise thematic clusters workshops to allow projects to exchange lessons learnt and best practices but also to identify opportunities for cooperation and also 3 specific workshops (one on integration between EU funding instruments, one on seabasins and a final conference). This task will also be closely linked to WP2 regarding communication and dissemination.

The contract will have as main results:

(1) a better understanding of factors that positively influence the success of projects supported by the EMFF direct management, as well as of bottlenecks (in order to inform and improve future processes for programming actions to be funded under EMFF through direct management).

(2) mutual learning to enable projects to take advantage of insights and practices from other projects, including relevant similar projects funded by other EU funding instruments (i.e. Horizon Europe, INTERREG, LIFE etc.);

(3) an increased visibility of EMFF projects.