

CAPITALISATION GOOD PRACTICE IN INTERREG MED, ENI CBC MED AND INTERREG ADRION

A CROSS-PROGRAMME PERSPECTIVE FROM ITALIAN BENEFICIARIES





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INTRODUCTION

This capitalisation report has been issued in the framework of the Communication Plan of the Italian National Contact Point (NCP) of the Interreg MED programme, approved by the MED National Committee in February 2018. It is the outcome of the analysis and comparison of a selection of projects with Italian partners of the MED, ENI CBC MED and ADRION programmes. The purpose of the analysis was to identify good practice in capitalisation among projects, and to highlight practices that present effective and potential synergies attributable to the priority lines of intervention of the programmes. As a reference, the exercise took into consideration the guidelines that have gradually been outlined for the 2021–2027 programming, and in particular those related to the new European challenges (Green New Deal for Europe).

The NCPs of the programmes (the Emilia–Romagna Region and ART–ER as NCP of Interreg MED, the Puglia Region, NCP of ENI CBC MED and the Marche Region, NCP of ADRION) were actively involved in the development of the activities, though provisions for the active participation of the national committees were also made.

The programme is in full compliance with the indications for coordination between the programmes provided by the European Commission, and in line with the mandate of the Mediterranean area group set up at a national level.

In order to simplify the process and focus the analysis on specific clusters, the working group has identified ‘Blue Growth’ and ‘Biodiversity’ as priority work areas, paying particular attention to the themes of sustainable tourism and climate change as horizontal aspects.

As regards Blue Growth, the sub–themes considered are: blue energies, integrated coastal zone management and the development of new opportunities for skilled work.

The topic of Biodiversity was analysed with reference to the following sub–themes:

monitoring of marine and coastal eco systems, sustainable fishing, adaptation to climate change, improvement of the management and prevention of maritime waste and the development of new opportunities for qualified work.

Capitalisation is defined by Interact as a building process aimed at consolidating the capital built by Interreg projects and programmes, with the objectives of:

- making the knowledge and results generated by projects more accessible, thus improving the transfer of know–how;
- obtaining additional results through benchmarking and detailed content analysis, building on existing knowledge and experience;
- promoting the re–use and/or transfer of this knowledge and these results, to boost performance and delivery;
- raising awareness and improving the communication of results in specific fields of regional policy.

Some Interreg programmes have worked on capitalisation for several programming periods and therefore capitalisation has become a process of its own for them, they have established consolidated capitalisation dynamics, and provide for guidelines to the projects.

In addition, Interact and other programmes and national structures (like the Agency for territorial Cohesion in Italy as regards the National capitalisation plan, for example) have been working on capitalisation and contributing to the creation of capitalisation processes that can be implemented in all Interreg and cooperation programmes.

ENI CBC MED, Interreg ADRION and Interreg MED are among those programmes that have launched or have consolidated capitalisation actions.

This report aims at compiling and analysing the good practice of Italian Interreg beneficiaries in capitalisation. In some cases, these efforts follow programme capitalisation strategies, in other

cases the efforts are particular to the partner, the theme or the thematic network.

Good practice is structured in 5 sections: human resources, networking, sustainability, communication and mainstreaming, corresponding to these five different aspects of capitalisation. Under each section, the main challenges are presented, together with a summary of best practice implemented by projects. Particular attention has been put on best practice related to the further **involvement of takers**. This specific sub-section relates to the need to reinforce the contact to the target groups, that is to say, those organisations or structures that will reuse the Interreg outputs, which is the ultimate objective of capitalisation. One could consider that the target groups are the **engine** of capitalisation.

In addition, the potential role of programmes and of NCPs are included as recommendations for future developments, following the comments raised by the interviewed projects or during the event organised in July 2021, following the first step of the analysis process (survey on Interreg MED and ENI CBC MED projects only).



IN THIS REPORT, FIVE
ANGLES OF CAPITALISATION
ARE ANALYSED: HUMAN
RESOURCES, NETWORKING,
SUSTAINABILITY,
COMMUNICATION AND
MAINSTREAMING



HUMAN CAPITAL

Challenges for capitalisation

In this report, human capital is understood as human resources and staff working at the organisations involved in cooperation. Human capital is the basis for the re-use of outputs and results, their sustainability, their evolution and innovation.


In cases where an organisation and a particular person is involved in various projects, the transfer between projects and programmes is easier, and the re-use of the outputs can happen naturally. However, this is not always the case. Organisations can go through staff turnover, particular persons can retire, and there is a common need to find solutions to preserve the knowledge gained and make it evolve.

In this respect, the interviewed Interreg projects have raised a number of concerns and challenges that can affect the way projects capitalise on their outputs and results:

- How can knowledge on Interreg be shared within an organisation to avoid that only one or a few persons concentrate that knowledge and expertise?
- How can an organisation develop internal strategies and external ones for sharing the knowledge?
- What role can the new technologies play? Can artificial intelligence and the evolution of technological tools for analysis purposes replace human capital as regards capitalisation?
- How to share knowledge that is particularly specialised?

Solutions implemented by the projects

Some Interreg projects have developed good practice to find solutions to these challenges. Several organisations have developed strategies and particular actions to share knowledge internally and avoid gaps when staff members change positions or retire.



THE MAIN OBJECTIVE IN HUMAN CAPITAL (FROM THE CAPITALISATION PERSPECTIVE) IS THE CONTINUITY OF KNOWLEDGE IN AN ORGANISATION

There are two main solutions implemented by the interviewed projects. On the one hand, there are organisations that appoint one particular department to coordinate all Interreg projects in which it participates. It allows to capitalise and maximise the participation in projects, at all levels. It is the case of the Lazio Region (Co-Evolve4BG project under ENI CBC MED).

On the other hand, other organisations chose to organise systematic meetings among various departments, not only allowing to share knowledge on the different projects, but also to elaborate jointly on the evolution of that knowledge and on new project ideas. This type of multi-thematic meetings is key for projects where cross-cutting competences are needed.

In addition to this internal organisation, the Chamber of Commerce Venezia Rovigo (PROteuSproject under Interreg MED) tries to involve internal specialised staff (from different units) rather than external. This allows for appropriation, for a comprehensive vision on

the topic and for sustainability. Keeping the technical issues in house makes it easier to reuse the outputs and results.

In general, the involvement in different Interreg projects, also in different strands, allows not only to capitalise on the output, but also on the expertise and contacts of the staff involved. It is the case of BLUE_BOOST (under Interreg ADRION).

Challenges and solutions for the involvement of takers

There are particular capitalisation tasks where individual staff members play a key role. It is the case of the networking skills and the potential to establish links with the target groups. Bearing this in mind, organisations can develop a vision to benefit from the networking skills of their staff. They can also implement actions for staff training to improve networking skills for the benefit of the organisation, paying particular attention to the need to pass the message to and attract potential takers.

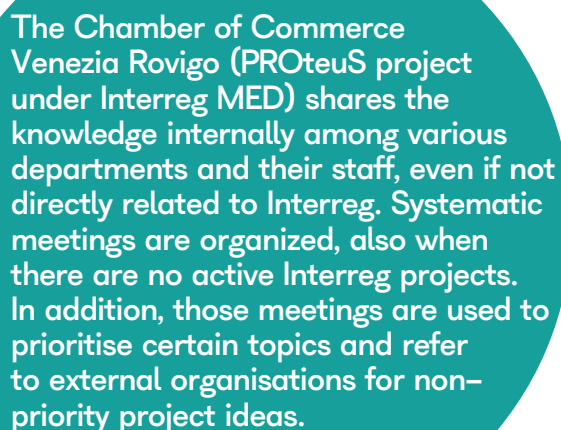
Role for NCPs

NCPs have good knowledge of the national context and administrative culture of the country, which can influence the organisation of human resources. They are in a key position to keep this national perspective when identifying and promoting good practice.

Role of the programmes

Human resources have a strong national or regional approach. However, programmes can provide for staff training on particular Interreg issues and can foster empowerment of smaller partner organisations.

In addition, Interreg projects can benefit from the Interact tools to improve the technical skills of their staff.



The Chamber of Commerce Venezia Rovigo (PROteuS project under Interreg MED) shares the knowledge internally among various departments and their staff, even if not directly related to Interreg. Systematic meetings are organized, also when there are no active Interreg projects. In addition, those meetings are used to prioritise certain topics and refer to external organisations for non-priority project ideas.



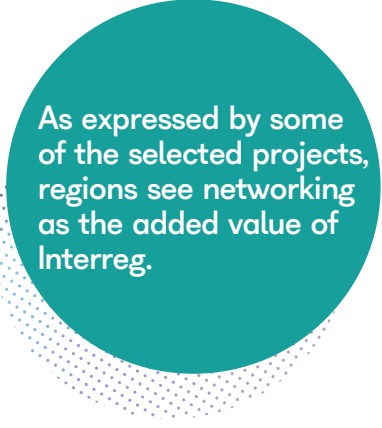
NETWORKING

Challenges for capitalisation


Networking refers here to a number of processes that imply either the creation (thematic or institutional) of networks, the use of existing ones, or the reinforcement of existing thematic networks. These processes can have a positive effect on the communication of outputs and results, and in particular on the re-use, the sustainability and the mainstreaming of those outputs and results. Networking can also lead to a stronger involvement of the civil society.

Interreg projects refer to two types of networking: vertical networking (among different administrative levels) and horizontal networking (among relevant stakeholders), and both are equally needed.

Some of the selected projects argue that local networks are more likely to survive, even though they are fragile. In many cases, local networks start a dynamic of local collaborations, and they refer to local interests that are usually precise and clear. Therefore, it is likely that the local collaborations remain over time. At the same time, these local networks are fragile, as they usually rely on particular persons or small organisations.



As expressed by some of the selected projects, regions see networking as the added value of Interreg.



THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF NETWORKING IS TO SHARE EXPERTISE, CONTACTS AND GOOD PRACTICE

The case of transnational networks is different. Interests tend to be wider at transnational level, and the connection to the local interests needs to be actively established. Therefore, they usually need specific funding to cover the staff or running costs for both the network and the connections to the local level.

Networking is a particular field of interest for some regions. As pointed out by some of the interviewees on the projects, regions do not use Interreg to obtain financing, as they have access to larger resources from other programmes. They use Interreg and see its added value for actions such as networking: both international networking and local networking with the local level and stakeholders.

Bearing this in mind, the interviewees on the projects have raised a number of challenges:

- Once the network is created, how do we keep it alive or reinforce it over time? Is funding the only key for sustainability?
- During these Covid times, most of the networking is online. The correct use of digital and online tools needs particular skills that


not everyone has. In view of this, how do we overcome the digital divide?

- How can we create synergies among different networks? Sometimes, networks exist but don't know each other, or have difficulties cooperating with each other (cultural barriers, personalities, administrative barriers...). Networks make critical mass and allow changes to be made. A local network can be very useful, but it will only bring about change if that network is associated with many others, and they all work at a macro-regional scale (the Mediterranean).

Solutions implemented by the projects

The good practice observed among the interviewed projects shows that there are different levels of networking, and each of them serves a different purpose:

- In some cases, the strong links to big organisations (Union for Mediterranean, CPMR, WWF, academic networks etc) gives visibility in the Mediterranean, helps in the sustainability of outcomes, in the involvement of new partners and in mainstreaming. It is the case of Co-Evolve4BG (ENI CBC MED), MPA Engage, AMAre (both under Interreg MED), or ECOVINEGOALS (Interreg ADRION). These organisations often create a 'common place' for exchange and organise some common actions and campaigns.
- In other cases, the project itself creates its own thematic network in the Mediterranean, as did COMMON (ENI CBC MED), IMPRECO or ARIEL (both under Interreg ADRION).
- A number of projects benefit from their involvement in regional or local networks, which allows for the sustainability and mainstreaming of outputs, as is the case for projects HELIOS and CLIMA (both under ENI CBC MED). In other cases, being involved in local networks has a clear benefit on local communication. CLIMA and NAWAMED projects (both under ENI CBC MED), and



The river contract is a governance tool that is also replicated in other areas (wetlands, coastal areas...). It allows the integration of many sectors active in an area that don't usually interact (the waste sector, agriculture, industry, the citizens...). It also allows the development of strategic visions and the creation of a systematic and participative approach.

AMAre (under Interreg MED) have benefitted from them for communication purposes. The use of networks for communication allows to reach out to wider target groups, and to benefit from the awareness raising activities organised by the network.

- In addition, being part of international networks brings benefits from their communication channels and exchange platforms. This has been the case of CLIMA (ENI CBC MED).
- Other projects create local networks with all the stakeholders involved by following coordinated methodologies, such as those developed through the definition and creation of local meetings in the COMMON project (ENI CBC MED), committees in each protected area of IMPRECO (Interreg ADRION), wetland contracts in WETNET (Interreg MED), water meetings in NAWAMED (ENI CBC MED); but also a number of pilot or local actions in projects like BLUE CROWDFUNDING (Interreg



MED) or RESMYLE (ENI CBC MED). This type of networking has proven particularly useful in involving the civil society, and will contribute to keeping the outcomes at user level.

Challenges and solutions for the involvement of takers

The involvement of takers and organisations is the core of the creation and maintenance of networks.

Networking processes are usually linked to particular persons and their relations. This fact implies that the personality and the ability of these persons to understand other cultures and other views can affect the functioning of the network. A frequent example of the different points of view among Interreg stakeholders is the administrative approach as compared to the approach in scientific or entrepreneurial organisations.

Bearing this in mind, organisations can develop a vision for networking. When developing this vision, partners or organisations could follow the examples of several cooperation projects. Being and working in networks could help fill the innovation gap in small organisations. NEORION (under Interreg ADRION) reported its experience in shipbuilding, which is a craft sector with lots of room for innovation. Its final target group are individual SMEs, which usually have no innovation department, and innovation could be done in the network.

In the case of ECOVINEGOALS (Interreg ADRION), belonging to a network implies creating a critical mass of interest in eco-agriculture. A similar approach is taken by the CLIMA project (ENI CBC MED), for whom working in a network avoids the situation of being an 'oasis' project.

Role for NCPs

NCPs can implement a number of actions to support Interreg projects in networking. First and foremost, they can plan a key role in the creation or maintenance of the (inter)institutional network within the country, involving all relevant authorities



Organisations can build a vision for networking based on the needs of the particular sector or context.

and organisations (reference to Conferenza delle Regioni and National Association of Italian Municipalities – ANCI has been done by interviewed project beneficiaries), and programmes.

In addition, they can promote the interaction between science and administration, and can give support in reaching some high-level institutions (Patents Office, for example), especially if they are difficult to reach via the usual communication channels.

These actions are particularly needed when local partnerships are composed of smaller organisations and scientific partners.

The selected Interreg projects have emphasized the need for NCPs to develop concrete actions based on the themes of the various programmes. Those actions could refer to the organisation of events or capitalisation tools on particular topics common to several programmes, the integration with horizontal communities or clusters among different programmes, and the promotion of interaction with sectorial strategies.

In addition, some methodological support could be developed by NCPs. They could contribute to streamline the networking and capitalisation

actions of regions, and they could also give support in mapping interests and creating networks. Finally, a methodological support on how to engage stakeholders would be needed.

Role of the programmes

The selected Interreg projects would benefit from a more coordinated approach among programmes. Some topics are complex and require coordinated networking (via an inter-programme community of actors or thematic networks, for example).

A particular case is the maritime innovation sector, which has currently many fragmented initiatives. The objective could be to create a KIC focused on the sea. In other topics, there is a need to create networks at Mediterranean level to have critical mass, and a single voice.

At a more practical level, the projects would like to have coordinated or joint calls among the various programmes on the same topics.



SUSTAINABILITY

Challenges for capitalisation

Sustainability or durability of project outcomes has been one of the key challenges for the entire Cohesion Policy, and most particularly for Interreg. Interventions are financed so that they stay in the territory. Currently, the European Commission considers the durability of results as a horizontal issue, and it will play an even more important role in the 2021–2027 period.

In the two topics identified in this exercise (Biodiversity Protection and blue economy), there are clear links to the Green Deal and its aim to restore biodiversity and cut pollution. The re-use and sustainability of actions make it possible to make a real change and contribute to the EU strategies.

The interviewed Interreg projects have signalled a number of challenges for sustainability:

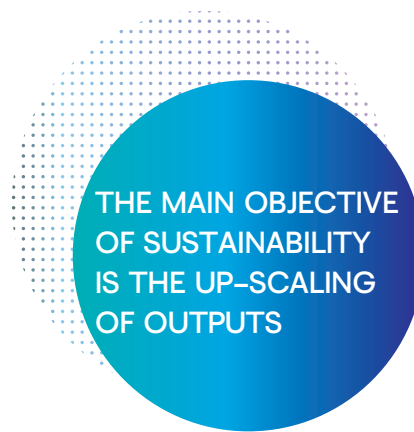
- How to foresee sustainability of outputs from the beginning of the project?
- How can Interreg projects actually contribute to the EU strategies such as the Green Deal?
- Is additional financing the only way to ensure sustainability?
- How can we keep platforms alive after the end of a project?

Solutions implemented by projects

The selected Interreg projects have tried to address all these challenges.

As with other topics, having a **vision** on sustainability helps ensure the durability of outputs and results. Projects usually develop this vision while elaborating strategic or action plans. However, other projects like MEDUSA (ENI CBC MED) have developed a clear vision for sustainability from the beginning of the project. Sustainability inspired the actions implemented by the project, as in the stewardship plan.

Once the vision on sustainability is there, the projects follow this vision and implement actions to ensure that sustainability. For example, the



MISTRAL project (Interreg MED) developed its blue book, an integrated view on the scattered sub-sectors in the blue economy. The objective is to further the use of the blue book to include the technological clusters.

Particular cases of these activities targeting sustainability are the river/wetland/coastal contracts, or the online platforms. As mentioned in the previous section, river/wetland/coastal contracts are governance tools that serve both the purpose of networking, and also the durability. As was the case of WETNET (Interreg MED), Co-Evolve4BG (ENI CBC MED) also signed a coastland contract with the objective of creating a sustainable partnership. This partnership involves the organisation of sectorial meetings to discuss how to face threats on the coastline, and to involve local stakeholders. In the case of IMPRECO (Interreg ADRION), a memorandum of understanding was signed, and the project highlights the need to actively work after signing these official documents.

As regards **online platforms and websites**, the selected projects present a variety of situations. The main issue is how to make them durable and active after the project closure. In some cases, not in all, (regional) project partners can

continue financing them (as is the case of BLUE CROWDFUNDING in Interreg MED); in other cases, users continue to work on them and keep them alive (for example the AMAre geoportal under Interreg MED, or the BLUE_BOOST open innovation platform under Interreg ADRION). An important additional issue is the location of the website or platform: if hosted by **durable** organisations, platforms can continue existing (as is the case of the SHIPmEnTT platform under Interreg ADRION), but updating and animation are still subject to available resources.

One key aspect of sustainability is the **actual contribution to EU strategies**. In order to have this contribution, several projects see the need for demonstrative and pilot actions to make a clear and visible contribution. Projects like PELAGOS (Interreg MED), WETNET (Interreg MED), NEORION (Interreg ADRION), BLUE_BOOST (Interreg ADRION) are of this opinion. As raised by PELAGOS, there is an additional need to have one single Mediterranean voice when addressing concrete topics like marine renewable energy, in this case. That single voice would help contribute further to the EU strategies.

Financing is key to the follow-up of projects and their outputs. Some of the selected projects expect to be financed by future programmes, and some have other ways to attract financing. In the case of WETNET (Interreg MED), the regional authorities were so interested in the wetland contract, that they funded the follow-up of the project until the contract was finalised and signed by the Venetian actors (over 30 of them).

Challenges and solutions for the involvement of takers

A particular concern of projects is how to engage target groups to use outputs and results, especially after the end of the project.

Some projects, like CLIMA and LIVINGAGRO (both under ENI CBC MED) think that the involvement of regional and local authorities in

the elaboration and implementation of action plans and other project activities will ensure the continuity of those outputs.

There is a numerous group of the interviewed projects that have directly involved companies and the civil society as an effective way to sustainability. Interreg projects have been elaborating and implementing different strategies for this.

Some projects have reached their target groups via consultations (HELIOS project under ENI CBC MED), others have caught the concrete interest of the final target groups. NEORION (Interreg ADRION) is one of those projects, and it attracted the interest of the shipbuilding sector (a craft sector) towards innovation, by emphasizing the economic interest behind the project actions. All these projects start by identifying the real needs and interests of the target groups, and base their activities on those needs.

In addition, a number of Interreg projects have used the citizens' science approach to involve local actors. This approach has been particularly used by projects dealing with biodiversity protection, as the topic can be perceived by the citizens as very close to their daily lives. The living labs in LIVINGAGRO project (ENI CBC MED) have created communities among the public, the private and the civil society. And the participatory workshops have been implemented by the Italian partners in DINALPCONNECT (Interreg ADRION). Actually, this type of workshops is already a tradition of the partner, and local stakeholders (public authorities, academia, professionals in the forest sector, hunters, farmers and NGOs) already know each other and continue discussing about new topics in the framework of the DINALPCONNECT project.

A similar approach has been taken by the ARIEL project (Interreg ADRION) in the innovation brokering events. The involvement of fishermen, aquaculture companies, academia and NGOs (among other) has allowed to identify solutions and implement some as pilot projects. In the case of COMMON (ENI CBC MED) citizens and



The citizens' science approach has been used by some projects to contribute in sustainability. MPA Engage and MPA-ADAPT (Interreg MED) have involved the civil society to raise awareness on the marine protected areas threats, as they live nearby and have a concrete interest on the maintenance of those areas. This involvement has led to the creation of a common language between academia and territorial actors, and to the elaboration of simple methodologies and very informative tools that can be used easily by the target groups.

These projects have also engaged divers and fishermen to collect marine data, and to monitor the protected areas. These two actions have traditionally been considered as purely scientific, and the citizens' science approach allows to benefit from the knowledge and availability of those target groups. Besides, divers (and the companies behind them) have an interest in preserving the marine areas, and so do the fishermen. Projects based on the target groups' interest and needs can ensure that activities will continue after project closure.

tourists were involved in the project activities to elaborate recommendations to improve the environment in coastal touristic areas.

The use of vouchers is another solution suitable for innovation and blue growth projects to attract the attention of and involve the target groups. BLUE_BOOST (Interreg ADRION) launched a call for innovation vouchers to SMEs. About 10,000 Euros per project was granted, which is a significant amount for an SME to use in innovation. Project ideas were very concrete and focused on the SMEs needs.

Role for NCPs

As raised by the selected Interreg projects, NCPs can play a fundamental role in promoting the sustainability of outputs and results.

The reinforcement of links between clusters and thematic communities of the various programmes has already been mentioned as a tool for networking, and it can also be an effective tool for sustainability.

In addition, NCPs can provide for methodological support to projects. They could foresee a number

of systematic actions to give guidance on how to plan and implement capitalisation activities in the concrete territories, for sustainability purposes. Guidelines or events could be envisaged to support projects at an early stage, even at the preparation phase.

Finally, NCPs could help reach certain type of actors in the territory. They could for example support projects to involve the private sector in the concrete activities.

Role of the programmes

The selected Interreg projects have expressed the need for programmes to continue providing governance mechanisms such as the clusters or thematic communities. These mechanisms could be reinforced by enlarging their scope to the post project phase. For example, they could not only promote outputs, but also continue widening the network and following up on the target groups.

COMMUNICATION

Challenges for capitalisation

Communication and capitalisation go hand in hand. They are different and parallel processes, and they need each other to upscale the quality of both communication and capitalisation.

Targeted communication is key to support capitalisation. This type of communication goes beyond the creation of slogans and focuses on the elaboration of contents and the dissemination via the relevant networks. The elaboration of those thematic contents needs to be solid, and the project needs to ensure that the network will spread the message in the same direction, as a coral voice.

This type of communication implies a number of challenges:

- How to elaborate stories to attract the relevant target groups and networks?
- How to work on communication beyond the project lifetime?

NAWAMED (ENI CBC MED) has worked intensively on communication for waste water reuse, and has reported the need to create winning links with academia. Interreg projects have a relatively short duration in comparison with the longer time needed for research. Therefore, strong links between Interreg and the academia are needed also for communication in the specialised scientific media. The involvement of reliable scientific partners in projects is needed to validate results in a shorter time and obtain reliable information for communication.

THE OBJECTIVE
OF COMMUNICATION
IS THE WIDENING
OF KEY MESSAGES

Solutions implemented by the projects

The selected Interreg projects have developed their communication strategies bearing in mind the different target groups. Local communication needs particular strategies and tools, and so does wider communication in media. In both cases, projects tend to leave aside linear analysis of their achievements and focus on the change they can provide and tell stories around that. They also tend to focus on solutions provided, and not only on the existing challenges.

Various projects like MPA-ADAPT, MPA Engage, AMAre (all under Interreg MED), MEDUSA and COMMON (under ENI CBC MED) and IMPRECO (Interreg ADRION) highlight the need to work on local communication based on simple and concrete outputs. In the case of MPA Engage, communication messages were elaborated based on the concrete challenges of climate change, showing the small changes observed globally and the strong impact at local level.

Some projects like MISTRAL (Interreg MED) have organised project activities like the blue business competitions to attract young entrepreneurs, which are not only competitions, but also an effective tool for local communication

and awareness raising. Other projects like ECOVINEGOALS (Interreg ADRION) have organised the local communication around testimonials: ambassadors of the project have sent messages about eco-agriculture and the project outputs.

In order to be more effective, local communication needs to be complemented with communication to wider target groups via media or specialised publications. In this case, concrete outputs are equally needed, with more elaboration and avoiding bureaucratic details of the projects.

Challenges and solutions for the involvement of takers

For many Interreg projects, communication is not only about passing a message or raising awareness, but also about involving the target groups further. The actual engagement of those target groups can be pursued by promoting participatory communication, and by addressing their concrete interests and needs.

Participatory communication has been used by projects like MEDUSA or COMMON (ENI CBC MED); citizens have been involved as co-creators of communication and awareness raising. In the case of COMMON, also the touristic operators have been involved in communication campaigns such as 'Clean up the Mediterranean'.

In order to engage target groups effectively, ARIEL project (Interreg ADRION) has been in close contact with other transnational and cross-border projects in the area. The idea was to organise events together to involve smaller actors like fishermen, who usually have little time for Interreg projects. A similar approach was taken by Co-Evolve4BG (ENI CBC MED) when organising their participatory meetings.

Role for NCPs

The selected Interreg projects have expressed the need to receive methodological support for

communication at the local level, focused on the context of the territory. The support could also be extended on how to communicate with the institutional level.

Role of the programmes

Interreg programmes have a key role in setting the framework for communication at programme level and maximising the communication actions of the projects. They can create strong links to the EU institutions and other strategic stakeholders and organisations. In addition, they can contribute to the improvement of project communication skills via training activities.

MAINSTREAMING

Challenges for capitalisation

Mainstreaming is one of the most visible and sustainable effects of capitalisation, and it is understood as the actual transfer of Interreg outputs and results into regional, local or national policy and in particular to the Investment for Jobs and Growth programmes. Mainstreaming can happen at different administrative levels and can affect different phases of policy/programme planning and implementation.


Both programme authorities and projects are aware of the importance of mainstreaming, as they are about the complexities linked to it. In particular, projects have raised the following challenges:

- How can we target the various types of organisations, bearing in mind the institutional setting of the region or the country?
- What role can personal contacts and networks play?
- How can we deal with the different timing of cooperation projects and the timing of planning of policies or regional programmes?
- How can projects with a mostly scientific partnership **translate** the project into an interest for the regional or local authorities? In some cases, regions have other funding sources and have difficulties into giving their attention to Interreg.
- How can we overcome the lack of staff or resources at regional or local level so as to ensure that the Interreg outputs are known, analysed and included in public policy?

Solutions implemented by projects

The selected Interreg projects have taken a number of actions and steps towards mainstreaming.

As a first step, several projects have started their path to mainstreaming by using the network of institutional contacts at a personal level. This is the case of PROteuS (Interreg MED), HELIOS (ENI CBC MED) or DINALPCONNECT (Interreg ADRION). Besides, WETNET (Interreg MED),



THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF MAINSTREAMING IS THE ADOPTION OF OUTPUTS BY PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

highlights the usefulness of involving in the project certain key local actors who have good links to the institutional level. These channels have allowed to pass a message to the regional level and make it sensitive to the Interreg project topics.

As a second type of action, some projects have organised working groups involving regional/local authorities. It is the case of NAWAMED (ENI CBC MED), ECOVINEGOALS and IMPRECO (both under Interreg ADRION). These activities allow to send (continuous) feedback to the authorities and plant messages at policy making level. Other projects like RESMYLE (ENI CBC MED) are designing targeted communication actions to involve the region. BLUE-AIR (Interreg ADRION) is also organising peer-to-peer actions with policy makers.

For increased effectiveness, these activities need to take place from the beginning of the project. In addition, projects like SHIPmEnTT (Interreg ADRION) suggest organising round tables with a limited number of participants and on very concrete topics, such as personal contacts and exchange being key in mainstreaming.

Projects have achieved mainstreaming on several levels, degrees and formats.

- The Veneto Region established a working group on maritime surveillance based on PROteuSproject (Interreg MED);
- the President of Veneto has also signed the wetland contract following WETNET (Interreg MED), and Piemonte has included the WETNET outcomes in the regional legislation;
- Co-Evolve4BG (ENI CBC MED) among others have contributed to drafting the Triennial Plan on Resilient Tourism in the Lazio Region;
- HELIOS project (ENI CBC MED) has also been involved in the drafting of the fisheries policies in the Sicily Region, by providing for models and context analysis in the circular economy and blue economy;
- The BLUE_BOOST project (Interreg ADRION) is included in the Interreg Axis of the S3 Marche Region;
- The Liguria Region has promoted the MPA Engage (Interreg MED) outputs among the regional actors, the academia, their international action (RAMOGE Agreement, FAO, International network for the Posidonia protection). The Brussels office produces documents for sharing with other regions and for reference to EU policy making. Outputs are shared at Mediterranean level;
- The MISTRAL project (Interreg MED) drafted the Blue Book in parallel to the drafting of S3 in Emilia-Romagna, and it helped highlight the importance of blue growth. It also provided an overview of all subsectors in a 360° perspective, and not only for single sectors.

A third option for mainstreaming is to invite policy makers to project events. It has been especially useful in cases where contact with the institutional level was less direct.

A fourth possibility is to involve regional and local authorities as partners or associates to the

projects. This involvement makes it easier to find the path to the policy making level. It was the case of MPA Engage and AMAre (both under Interreg MED), or MEDUSA (ENI CBC MED). In some cases, regions are successful in coordinating their different departments to make sure internal information flows are effective. Co-Evolve4BG



(ENI CBC MED) and BLUE CROWDFUNDING (Interreg MED) benefit from this good internal coordination.

One additional key to overcome the difficulties in mainstreaming is the involvement of different governance levels in a single project. PELAGOS (Interreg MED) underlined the importance of the multi-level approach to make sure the various actors, the regional level and funding are all aligned.

While implementing all these actions, Interreg projects are aware of some difficulties in the effective transfer of outputs. The different timing of project implementation and policy design has been raised by a number of projects, especially when trying to feed into the S3 design process. BLUEAIR (Interreg ADRION) highlights the need to adapt project timing to the policy development timing for effective mainstreaming.

Challenges and solutions for the involvement of takers

Catching the interest of target groups (mainly regional and local authorities) is one of the key elements in mainstreaming. Some projects like NEORION (Interreg ADRION) highlight the need to have concrete outcomes for mainstreaming. Even if the region has not been involved in the project activities, the precise NEORION outputs in the shipbuilding sector caught the attention of the Emilia-Romagna Region.

In other cases, Interreg projects can be of interest for regions as they provide for an exchange forum to help in the case of conflictual relations. For instance, IMPRECO (Interreg ADRION) thinks Interreg projects can help deal with opposing interests in topics such as biodiversity protection. In these topics, farmers, local companies and local NGOs for environmental protection do not always share the same points of view, and cooperation can help deal with them, as the Interreg project is perceived as a European initiative in the territory and in a way 'external' to the usual forum of

discussion. The ARIEL project (Interreg ADRION) highlights the potential of cooperation to create trust in such cases. Their brokering events bring the actors closer in the fishing and aquaculture sectors with the authorities to create mutual trust.

Role for NCPs

Interreg projects see a major role of NCPs to support the mainstreaming of their outputs and results. Besides the maintenance of the interinstitutional network already mentioned, NCPs could organise thematic events on priority topics with the objective of ensuring that all strategic and political levels have the same level of information on certain precise topics. They could also provide for some methodological guidance for projects on upscaling at regional or national levels.

Role of the programmes

Programmes can develop three types of support for mainstreaming: methodological support, promotion and the establishment of links at EU level.

Interreg programmes can develop methodological guidance at programme or inter-programme level on the steps to take for mainstreaming. Based on the existing good practice, particular programmes or Interact could continue setting the methodological basis for mainstreaming processes.

In addition, programmes can create working groups, labs or clusters to promote mainstreaming. These groups could be thematic-based, and when relevant, national structures can also support in this task.

Last but not least, Interreg programmes can help establish a strategic link to the EU level, both for particular policies or relevant DGs.

CONCLUSIONS

As referred to by Interact, capitalisation is a building process. It is not a static process, and a variety of circumstances can lead to different effects. Therefore, methodological support, but also the exchange of good practice and visibility are needed to help in the process.

This capitalisation exercise wishes to contribute to that process, and present an organised compilation of good practice implemented by the projects.

Many Interreg programmes have managed to give capitalisation a structure, a process and a range of possible actions for implementation. In the capitalisation event organised by NCPs Interreg MED and ENI CBC MED in July 2021, it was concluded that capitalisation should be structured at programme level, and projects should be given space to develop flexible actions.

In addition, dealing with capitalisation from a thematic perspective brings two main benefits. On the one hand, it sets a concrete working basis, with concrete outputs. On the other hand, it attracts the interests of the target groups more easily.

Besides, the complexity of capitalisation makes it necessary to work from all angles possible: from the programme perspective, from the inter-programme point of view, from the EU perspective (including the links to other instruments), and also at national level. When considering the particular situation of each beneficiary, its territory and the context, the programme guidance may need to be complemented by national guidance, which takes into account the administrative and policy setting, the national or regional networks or the particular situation of the target groups. As mentioned in the introduction, the target groups are the **engine** of capitalisation and a variety of elements needs to be considered to reach them properly.

In the 2021–2027 period, capitalisation will be even more central to Interreg than it has been in the last programming periods. Not only the

decrease in funding in many programmes, but also the fact that we are entering the 6th period of Interreg, obliges the Interreg community to demonstrate that outputs are reused in their respective fields.

The good practice analysed in this report confirms that some projects are considering reusing their outputs for future programmes. In these cases, projects are aware that the outputs need to evolve. In future projects, the outputs could ideally show how effective they have been in 2014–20, to which extent they have reached the target groups (takers), and to which extent the takers need the outputs to evolve.

METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH FOR THE ANALYSIS

The first step for the analysis was to identify thematic priority areas (blue growth and biodiversity) shared by MED, ENI CBC MED and ADRION programmes. Based on them, related projects with Italian partners were analysed and subsequently, on the basis of specific criteria, the survey sample was set up. The criteria for identifying the sample projects took into consideration:

- the geographic location of the partner: in order to better represent the entire national territory, projects were selected with partners located in different regions of the national territory;
- the progress of implementation of the project: priority was given to finished projects or projects with a good state of progress of the activities;
- horizontal thematic relevance: on the basis of afore established premises, particular consideration was given to the projects which, with reference to the two chosen sectors, treat the themes of sustainable tourism and climate change as transversal aspects;
- the level of cooperation: in order to satisfy the representativeness of the different levels of interest within the project, priority was given to projects with a significant presence of partners at national level;
- the intensity of cooperation: in order to consider eventual facilitations for the project in accessing different resources and tools, the presence of institutional partners on the national territory was taken into consideration;
- capitalization processes: in order to include in the sample those projects with a significant capacity for creating synergies (effective and potential), priority was given to 2nd or 3rd edition projects and to capitalization projects or to projects which present important actions aimed at this purpose;
- specific interest expressed by the regional administrations on the National Program Committee: the priorities expressed for

the projects pertinent to the topics under analysis were taken into consideration by each of the Regions belonging to the National Committees.

Annex B shows the list of projects included in the survey sample, divided by the sector to which they belong, with a brief summary of the main results of the analysis process, which was based on desk insights and semi-structured interviews aimed at the Italian beneficiaries of the projects.

The information collected was organized on the basis of specific criteria, capable of highlighting the actual and potential creation of synergies between programs and the activation of capitalization processes; these criteria refer to:

- the importance of the outputs in terms of transferability / reuse (including inter-program);
- the capacity of the projects to activate mainstreaming actions (transferring the results into policies at local, regional, national level);
- the capacity of the projects to initiate communication actions / outreach of the results;
- the capacity of the projects to make the results sustainable (also by identifying additional resources with respect to Interreg funding) (sustainability);
- the capacity of the projects to initiate processes aimed at strengthening networks (partnership and / or thematic) (networking).

Particular significance was also attributed to the importance of human capital in favouring the transfer and capitalization processes. This variable was therefore also considered a priority in order to better understand the effective and potential synergies.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS

The analysis activity has allowed to identify some address lines for the activities that the Interreg NCPs will be asked to develop in Italy and during 2021–2027 programming period. The partners included in the analysis sample, have been asked about how the NCPs may facilitate the capitalisation processes between projects and Programmes.

The recommendations included in the report derive from the partner suggestions, which underlined the importance of concrete actions.

One of the primary necessities for facilitating capitalisation mechanisms is to identify a facilitating entity able to establish – through an open dialogue with the beneficiaries – the **analogies between projects** (both at vertical and horizontal theme level), and the **relevance of the foreseen and obtained outputs** to promote their re-use and transfer. **This last objective could be pursued** thanks to the creation of subgroups of projects distributed according to their thematic area, following the example of the horizontal MED Programme projects and the ADRION thematic clusters. A better coordination between NCPs at a national level may foster an inter-programme capitalisation.

Another crucial point is represented by the need to know not only “what” can be transferred, but also to “whom” transfer actions must be addressed.

A consolidation of the coordination role of the NCPs at a national level, played in synergy with the national Committees as happened in 2021, may provide a useful answer to this need. The aim would be that of **harmonizing the actions of the Regions**, in view of creating functional partnerships and collaboration between different projects, and **facilitating the communication and sharing of knowledge and experiences** between the different entities which are already participating in the projects or which may participate in them. In this context the NCPs would function as an “antenna” at a national

level, as a “collector” and “transmitter” of regional claims, being able to support (by directing and coordinating it), the creation of partnerships, as it has already happened in the framework of PANORAMED project, involving the Country Coordinators, e. g., through the combination of top down (institutional stakeholders) and bottom up (project beneficiaries) processes.

In addition, the support of the interinstitutional dialogue between the State and the Regions may be considered too. This could be useful both at the political level, as regards the programming of territorial cooperation in Italy (Conference State–Regions), and at the technical level (e. g. thematic table of the Regions on tourism), in order to mainstream the project outputs (by the preparation of specific dossiers) within the thematic working groups carried out at a national level, in which the strategic and regulation choices of a specific sector, are made. This activity of support would make it easy to manage the outputs of the CTE obtained in the field of the reference sector policies (**mainstreaming**).

Another action of support for the management of the project outputs, may be realistically represented by the support of the dialogue between the institutional world and the scientific world, by the creation of working groups between the science stakeholders and the policy makers, and of dialogue strategies where the scientists make the knowledge developed within Interreg (but not only) available for policy makers. Also in this case, the capitalisation process which could be further consolidated, is that of the mainstreaming.

Within this context, the exchanges of opinion on specific themes with the **national technological districts** need to be considered in order to facilitate the conveying of information on the project outputs and take advantage of social networks, which are characterized by a worthwhile sounding box. At national level, the cascade effect on the local districts would be absolutely facilitated and would allow, besides a higher level

of adaptation with the sector strategies (4.0 Industry, e. g.), a better involvement of private actors.

From the analysis, **networking** has resulted as one of the main processes supporting capitalisation, being able not only of consolidating the existing networks and the exchange taking place within them, but also of promoting the capitalization of outputs, which often ends up in promoting the proposal of other projects, thus giving concrete support to the durability and sustainability of outputs.

As regards the level of exchange between Programmes, the national experience emphasizes the good practice launched again by the network of NFPs (National Focal Points) created by the PROMIS (International Programme “Mattone on Health”), under the coordination of the Region Veneto and with special reference to health, which also aims at promoting inter-programme capitalisation actions. Another key factor for capitalisation that emerged from the analysis refers to human capital and the kind of knowledge owned by the stakeholders involved in the project implementation. NCPs could be in charge of taking action on specific trainings on “how to make capitalisation”, in line or in connection with the capitalisation actions by Interact. NCPs could be in charge of carrying out specific actions on “how to capitalize”, in conjunction with the actions already carried out by Interact.

Last but not least, the importance of communication about outputs and projects’ outputs, where the NCPs may have a function of support aimed at fostering the transfer of outputs, the coordination of national joint thematic events between different ETC programmes, tackling themes of common interest (e. g. green and blue growth) as well as providing coordination actions with the NCPs of other direct management Programmes (e. g. Life Programme, Horizon EUROPE Programme, etc.).

Finally, the analysis revealed the need to enhance

the role of NCPs in the whole governance of the Programmes, with the aim to improve the use of the projects’ outputs thanks to their knowledge and their relationships at national level. As for Italy, the NCPs are represented by the regional administrations which perform their role by closely coordinating their action with that of the Department of the Cohesion Policies and the Agency for Territorial Cohesion) at a national level. A first example in this sense, is represented by the EuroMed Programme 2021–2027.

ANNEX C

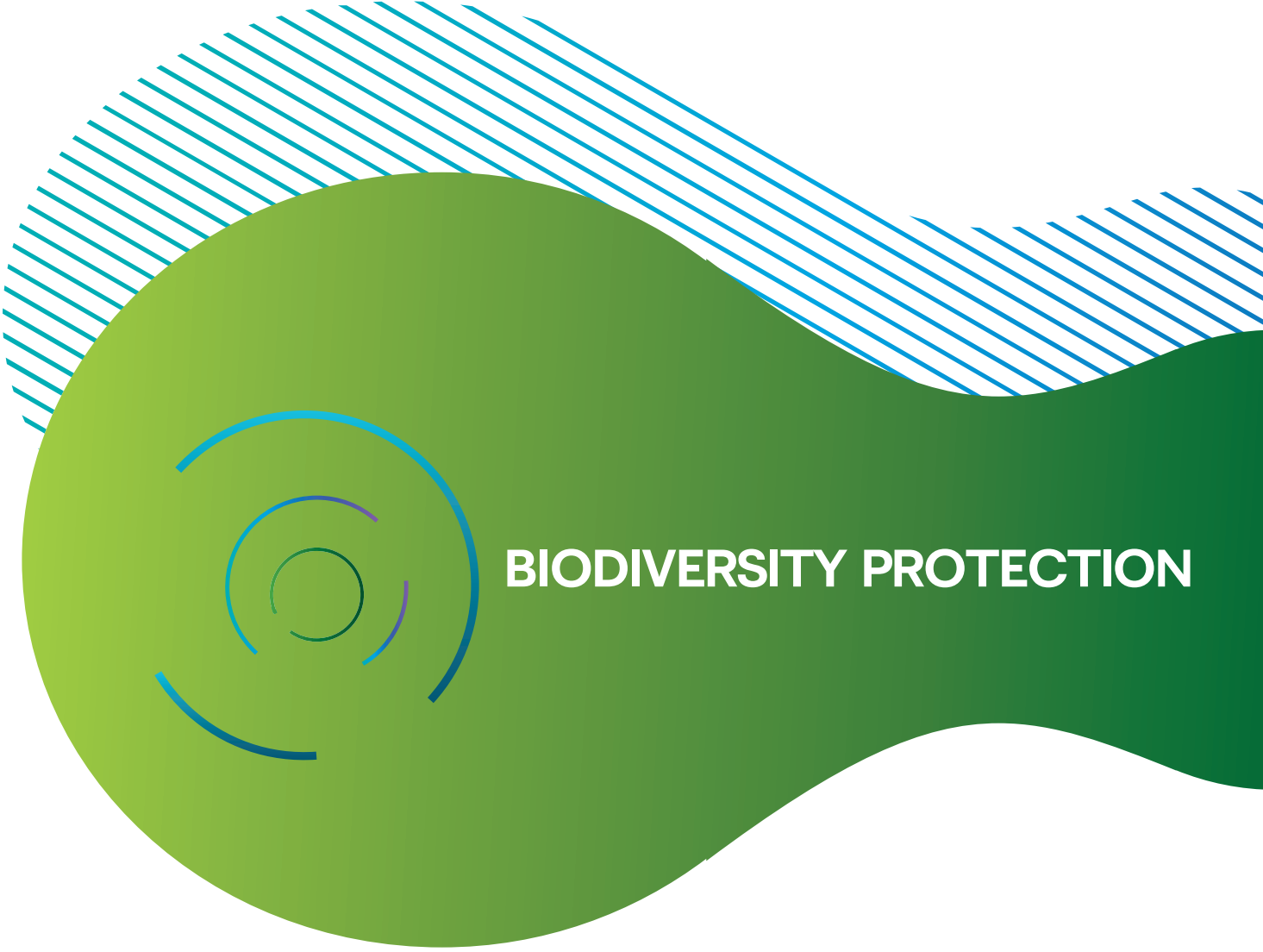
PROJECTS SAMPLE

Biodiversity Protection

- AMARE
- MPA-ADAPT
- MPA ENGAGE
- WETNET
- CLIMA
- COEVOLVE
- COMMON
- LIVINGAGRO
- MEDUSA
- NAWAMED
- DINALPCONNECT
- ECOVINEGOALS
- IMPRECO

Blue Growth

- BLUE CROWDFUNDING
- MISTRAL
- PELAGOS
- PROTEUS
- HELIOS
- RESMYLE
- ARIEL
- BLUE AIR
- BLUE_BOOST
- NEORION
- SHIPMENTT



BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION



☆	PROJECT	AMAre – Actions for Marine Protected Areas
🚩	PROGRAMME	Interreg MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Integrated
📄	LEAD PARTNER	CoNISMa (IT)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Euro Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change, CNR–ISMAR, Torre Guaceto MPA
🌐	WEBSITE	https://amare.interreg-med.eu
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	November 2016–January 2020
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Improve the biodiversity protection and management, and resilience of the MPA network

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other programmes

- AMAre does in fact capitalize the results of a diversity of previous Horizon 2020 projects.
- The geoportal and the management plan are now the subject of new project applications, with the objective to spread the experience towards other MPAs.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- The Puglia Region was an associated partner of the project, and thanks to this experience, has planned to invest more on MPA management.
- Awareness raising on the need to attract the interest of regional and local authorities, and improve communication towards them.

Sustainability of results

- The geoportal is still being used after the end of the project, and other MPAs wish to use it as well.
- Projects that work on the field and involve the management of biodiversity, continue to function after the project ends.
- Awareness raising on the need to approach biodiversity management from a broader perspective, as the way to tackle this type of projects in the future.

Communication

- Citizens' science approach: involving fishermen allows to cross-check research data and knowledge with them.

☆	PROJECT	MPA-ADAPT – Guiding Mediterranean MPAs through the climate change era: Building resilience and adaptation
🚩	PROGRAMME	Interreg MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Testing
👤	LEAD PARTNER	CSIC (ES)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	ISPRA – Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research, MPA Portofino, MPA Pelagie Islands–Municipality of Lampedusa and Linosa
🌐	WEBSITE	https://mpa-adapt.interreg-med.eu/
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	November 2016–July 2019
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Support to the mitigation and adaptation to climate change in MPAs

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Sustainability of results

- Provision of simple management/monitoring tools to the MPAs as a starting point.
- Action started from the bottom, from the real need of the MPAs and target groups: the diving sector (private business) also has a financial interest in these types of activities and is actively supporting and spreading the project messages.
- Citizens’ science approach: involving the civil society in the project activities not only to raise awareness, but also to collect data (also divers and fishermen contributed), and finally to monitor easily. Civil society involvement is fundamental to sustainability.
- Creation of a common language between academia and territorial actors (and translated into simple methodologies and very informative tools, with the ambition that all the tools have to be of common benefit).

Communication

- Simplicity has been the key to communicating the outputs, starting from the concrete challenges of climate change, showing the small changes observed globally and the strong impact at local level. Attention to the specific interest (and needs) of the target groups proved to be the key to successful communication.

Consolidation of the networks

- MPA-ADAPT was requested to participate in a unique Task Force on Climate Change. It was the only maritime (and Italian) representative. A White Paper on biodiversity in adaptation to climate change is foreseen.



☆	PROJECT	MPA Engage – Engaging Mediterranean key actors in Ecosystem Approach to manage Marine Protected Areas to face Climate change
🚩	PROGRAMME	Interreg MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Testing and Capitalising
👤	LEAD PARTNER	CSIC (ES)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Liguria Region, Marche University of Technology, Anton Dohrn Zoological Station, MPA Tavolara–Punta Coda Cavallo, Portofino MPA
🌐	WEBSITE	https://mpa-engage.interreg-med.eu/
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	November 2019–June 2022
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Support to MPA (Marine Protected Areas) in the adaptation and mitigation of climate change effects

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- MPA Engage is the follow-up of the MPA-ADAPT project. Some partners are in other marine biodiversity projects, and the activities are strongly connected.
- MPA Engage was set up to bring the MPA-ADAPT outputs to a wider Mediterranean level.
- Being a follow-up project allows the fine-tuning of the previous outputs and ensures the sustainability of outputs.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Active involvement of the regional authorities of Liguria in the project, including their regional MPA networks, links to academia and their international action (RAMOGE Agreement, FAO, International network for the Posidonia protection). The Brussels office is used to produce documents that could be interesting for other regions and a reference for EU policy making.
- The regional authorities have brought the outputs to the Mediterranean level.
- The involvement of the academia has produced 4 dissertations using the outputs of the project.

Sustainability of results

- Involving the civil society in the project activities leads to the raising of awareness, but also allows data collection (e.g. thanks to the contribution of divers and fishermen), and easier monitoring. Civil society involvement as key to sustainability (Citizens' Science approach).
- Creation of a common language between academia and territorial actors (and translated into simple methodologies and very informative tools, with the ambition that all the tools have to be of common benefit).

☆	PROJECT	WETNET – Coordinated management and networking of Mediterranean wetlands
🚩	PROGRAMME	Interreg MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Testing
📄	LEAD PARTNER	Veneto Region (IT)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Vercelli Province, CIRF – Italian Centre for River Restoration
🌐	WEBSITE	https://wetnet.interreg-med.eu/
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	November 2016–April 2019
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Support to wetlands on environmental, scientific and governance aspects

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- The project is the follow-up of a number of previous projects (LIFE, ERDF). The Interreg MED programme allowed a larger scope and territory.
- The idea of a “wetland contract” comes from the experience of the “river contracts” that exists in Europe.
- The Interreg MED project TUNE-UP capitalized the experiences developed by the WETNET project with a different partnership.

Transfer/links to other programmes

- Interreg Italy–Croatia has funded a project linked to WETNET, also on the wetland contract.
- Signing of a series of wetland contracts in the Mediterranean area thanks to the WETNET project.
- 15 projects in the Mediterranean are testing the wetland contract developed by WETNET.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- The wetland contract developed by the project has been signed by the President of the Veneto Region, and has been included in the regional legislation of Piemonte.
- The institutional process was complex, but the involvement of relevant actors (e.g. a Reclamation Consortium which represents many municipalities and has its own institutional network) proved to be crucial.

Sustainability of results

- The Veneto region authorities were interested in the wetland contract and funded with its own funds the follow-up of the project until the contract was finalized and signed by the regional actors (over 30 of them).

Consolidation of the networks

- Link to Ramsar Convention, WWF and other thematic networks.
- The demonstration approach is a key factor: the project promotes the outputs that are effective and the results will be visible over the next 5–10 years.



☆	PROJECT	CLIMA – Cleaning Innovative Mediterranean Action: reducing waste to boost economies
🚩	PROGRAMME	ENI CBC MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Standard
👤	LEAD PARTNER	Sestri Levante Municipality (IT)
🗺️	ITALIAN PARTNERS	COSPE–Cooperation for the Development of Emerging Countries
🌐	WEBSITE	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/clima
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	September 2019–September 2022
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Organic waste management

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- The project puts a specific focus on advocacy and awareness raising concerning the possible developments on organic waste management at administrative and legal levels. In particular, CLIMA foresees an advocacy plan for the municipalities.
- CLIMA makes systematic use of the networks for a number of key project activities, and also for mainstreaming.

Sustainability of results








- CLIMA is working on integrated action plans for each municipality and such plans are considered key for sustainability, as the results of the actions will remain in the municipalities.

Communication

- The extensive use of existing networks allows the project to reach wider target groups.
- The communication actions in the project benefit from the active participation in already existing awareness raising activities or those organized by other similar bodies or projects.

Consolidation of the networks

- Networks are key for CLIMA. In particular, they are used to benefit from existing actions and also to disseminate project activities. Networks are also used as a sounding board to disseminate relevant actions encountered and implemented by small actors.

	PROJECT	Co-Evolve4BG – Co-evolution of coastal human activities & Med natural systems for sustainable tourism & Blue Growth in the Mediterranean
	PROGRAMME	ENI CBC MED 2014–20
	PROJECT TYPE	Standard
	LEAD PARTNER	Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer INSTM (TN)
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Lazio Region
	WEBSITE	http://www.enicbmed.eu/projects/co-evolve4bg
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	September 2019–August 2022
	MAIN TOPIC	Sustainable activities to promote the territory based on ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other programmes

- Follow-up of an Interreg MED project (CO-EVOLVE).
- A specific department of Lazio Region coordinates all Interreg projects to allow for capitalisation and networking.
- The labeling of UfM could help establish links to other programmes.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- The Lazio Region takes active action in making outputs and results known among its departments.
- The project has contributed to the drafting of the Triennial Plan of Lazio Region.
- Lazio Region is unifying the communication to stakeholders so that they only participate once in the many participatory meetings organized.

Sustainability of results

- Both CO-EVOLVE and Co-evolve 4BG have been recognized as representative projects by UfM and WestMed.
- “Coastland contract” as a model to create a sustainable and participative partnership with local stakeholders.
- Mainstreaming ensures sustainability.

Consolidation of the networks

- UfM and WestMed recognition increases the likelihood of finding partners.
- Stable relations with various organizations, including the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR).



☆	PROJECT	COMMON – COastal Management and MOnitoring Network for tackling marine litter in Mediterranean sea
🚩	PROGRAMME	ENI CBC MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Standard
🗉	LEAD PARTNER	Legambiente Onlus (IT)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	CIHEAM – International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies – Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, University of Siena
🌐	WEBSITE	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/common
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	September 2019–September 2022
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Fighting maritime pollution and biodiversity management

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- Contacts with a number of ENI CBC MED projects involving some of the project's partners.

Transfer/links to other programmes

- Common is the follow-up of the Interreg MED project “Plastic busters MPA” – labelled by UfM – but with a larger scope (coastal zones).

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Some campaigns (e.g. “smoke free beaches” or special areas for fishermen waste) have been welcomed by local authorities.

Sustainability of results

- The project involves the citizens via the Citizens' Science approach.

Communication

- Awareness raising and citizen/tourism operators are key.
- Strong communication strategy, involving the EC representation in the Southern countries, institutional stakeholders contacts, social media, events linked to the territory.
- Multiple campaigns for visibility and networking with tour operators and spas on the theme of environmental protection in the Mediterranean area.
- Questionnaires addressed to tourists for reporting problems and needs (which could then be translated into concrete actions).

Consolidation of the networks

- The project created the Network of Coastal Cities.
- In all pilot areas, meetings are organized with all the stakeholders: tourism operators, tourists, citizens and local authorities. Local tables are the means to satisfy all needs.
- Specific meetings with fishermen, operators, students.
- Links to UfM, BlueMed and the European Commission.

	PROJECT	LIVINGAGRO – Cross Border Living laboratories for Agroforestry
	PROGRAMME	ENI CBC MED 2014–20
	PROJECT TYPE	Standard
	LEAD PARTNER	FoReSTAS – Regional Forest Agency for the Development of the Territory and the Environment of Sardinia (IT)
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	CNR National Research Council of Italy – Biology, agriculture and food sciences, ATM Consulting sas
	WEBSITE	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/livingagro
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	September 2019–August 2022
	MAIN TOPIC	Biodiversity protection and sustainable production in distinct ecosystems

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other programmes

- The Living Labs methodology comes from an Alcotra project.
- The Living Labs methodology (participatory approach) of this project has already been taken to the call on the Horizon 2020 programme.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Relevant actors were involved from the beginning.

Sustainability of results

- The importance of involving all actors from the ground can be seen from how LIVINGAGRO is approaching the Living Labs. These labs have been particularly successful in creating communities among public, private and the civil society, and will be key for the sustainability of results.
- Living Labs could be inspiring for the future Common Agricultural Policy and the Forest Policy, as the EU is focusing on governance for the future programming period.
- The presence of institutional partners in the project will be key for the sustainability of the outcomes and results.



☆	PROJECT	MEDUSA – Development and promotion of Mediterranean Sustainable Adventure Tourism
🚩	PROGRAMME	ENI CBC MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Standard
👤	LEAD PARTNER	Barcelona Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Services and Navigation (ES)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Puglia Region – Department of Tourism, Economics of Culture and Development of the Territory
🌐	WEBSITE	http://www.enicbcmec.eu/projects/medusa
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	September 2019–August 2022
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Sustainable tourism (sports, valorisation of the natural heritage, experience tourism)

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- The Puglia Region Department is involved in 17 cooperation projects, and they are all inserted in the regional long-term strategies.
- Close links to other ENI CBC MED projects where the LP is involved.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- The project is perfectly included in the strategic policy for tourism of the Puglia Region, in particular as regards awareness raising and the involvement of local communities, especially in remote areas.

Sustainability of results






- “Sustainability needs to be considered at the beginning of the project, and not at the end”.
- Stewardship plan methodology is used to ensure sustainability.
- The use of European indicators for sustainable tourism will also contribute to sustainability, as they will create operational standards for the competitiveness of tourism (e.g. environmental factors and links to the local communities could make up part of those indicators).

Communication

- Communication to the citizens is key, both to promote co-creation and feed the community.

Consolidation of the networks

- A specialised network on adventure tourism is being created with this project.

	PROJECT	NAWAMED – Nature Based Solutions for Domestic Water Reuse in Mediterranean Countries
	PROGRAMME	ENI CBC MED 2014–20
	PROJECT TYPE	Standard
	LEAD PARTNER	Latina Province (IT)
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	SVI.MED. – EuroMediterranean Center for the Sustainable Development, IRIDRA SRL
	WEBSITE	http://www.enicbmed.eu/projects/nawamed
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	September 2019–September 2022
	MAIN TOPIC	Water management in an urban context

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- Implementation of previous projects financed through the ENPI instrument, where NAWAMED partners were involved.

Transfer/links to other programmes

- Implementation of previous projects financed by the LIFE programme.
- Capitalization projects funded by the ENI CBC MED programme, such as the MEDWAYCAP project.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Creation of thematic round tables dedicated to water resources, to encourage dialogue between Regions and stakeholders. The goal is to develop strategies for regional and national mainstreaming. As a result, a mainstreaming document at Mediterranean level is foreseen.

Sustainability of results

- Networking also contributes to sustainability, especially if it is implemented through training activities.

Communication

- The COVID crisis highlighted an increase in interest and a significant growth in demand for the activities via webinar.
- The media and media specialised in innovation have been targeted.
- Networks play a fundamental role in communication.
- Communication takes on greater relevance and effectiveness if linked to the topic of interest, rather than referring to the project itself.

Consolidation of the networks

- Thematic round tables dedicated to water resources follow the methodology of the river contracts to involve stakeholders and citizens.



	PROJECT	DINALPCONNECT – Transboundary ecological connectivity of Alps and Dinaric Mountains
	PROGRAMME	Interreg Adrion 2014–20
	LEAD PARTNER	Agricultural Institute of Slovenia (SI) Department of Agricultural Ecology and Natural Resources
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	European Academy in Bolzano, Natural Park of Julian Prealps
	WEBSITE	https://dinalpconnect.adrioninterreg.eu/
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	March 2020–August 2022
	MAIN TOPIC	Support to the ecological connectivity through Dinaric Mountains, in connection with Alps, for the long term preservation of biodiversity

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/Link to other projects

- The project is the follow-up of ALPBIONET2030 (Interreg Alpine Space), which has dealt with similar issues in the territory of the Alps.
- DINALPCONNECT has capitalized instruments and data developed within the framework of ALPBIONET2030.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- The Friuli Venezia Giulia Region will be involved in the workshops, in order to develop proposals and joint actions, with the partners in the project.
- The good relationships with the Regional Administration of Friuli will be of great importance for the involvement of it, in the specific actions which will result to be necessary.

Sustainability of results

- The methodology on which the workshops provided by the project are based, is that used by the Natural Park of the Julian Prealps, in its routine activities. Consequently, a good network of relationships already exists between the involved stakeholders, and this allows a direct dialogue with the institutions about the themes of the project.
- The local stakeholders involved in the project actions are the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region (through the mediation of one of the departments which functions as a link with all the other departments involved), the National Council of Research, researchers and experts in the management of forests and fauna, hunters, local authorities, territorial and environmentalist associations and local farmers.
- The sustainability of the project will be ensured by the action Plan which will be developed and which provides specific actions, adopted after a debate held with the local stakeholders.

Communication

- The communication activities provided by the project are addressed to the economic stakeholders who may have an impact on biodiversity.
- Specific actions will be developed for the reinforcement and the promotion of the brand of the Natural Park of Julian Prealps (identification of the Pro biodiversity businesses).

Consolidation of the networks

- The project benefits from the links of the partners with the Italian and European networks, in the field of biodiversity and of the management of forests.

	PROJECT	ECOVINEGOALS – ECOlogical VINEyards GOVERNance Activities for Landscape’s Strategies
	PROGRAMME	Interreg Adrion 2014–20
	LEAD PARTNER	Local Action Group (GAL) Eastern Venice (IT)
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Local Action Group (GAL) Eastern Venice
	WEBSITE	https://ecovinegoals.adrioninterreg.eu/
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	March 2020–August 2022
	MAIN TOPIC	Support to the agricultural–eco–friendly transition of the vine areas by management systems using a low quantity of resources and emissions

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/Link to other programmes

- The partners of the project are linked to other programmes, such as Horizon 2020 (through the project UNISECO), which help the transfer of knowledge.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Along the project a participation process has been promoted– which also involves public authorities at a local and regional level– aimed at ensuring the presence of the eco–friendly viticulture issues within the political debate.
- Along the project specific workshops addressed to local and regional public authorities, will be carried out.
- The implementation of ECOVINEGOALS has involved the institutional contacts of the project partners. More specifically speaking, Vegal as Local Action Group, has involved its own members (that is local public authorities and the Veneto Region) in the project activities.

Sustainability of results

- Starting from the experience developed by ECOVINEGOALS, new projects will be developed and a useful contribution to the achievement of the goals of Agenda 2030 will be provided.
- One of the goals of the project is that of setting up a network at a transnational level.
- The project also aims at creating a critical mass of interest on the agricultural– environmental issues.

Communication

- The communication approach used within the framework of ECOVINEGOALS is of the bottom–up kind and involves a wide range of stakeholders, among which there are citizens and farmers. The latter represent a key factor in the process of transformation of the territory that the project aims at achieving.
- Along the project testimonials and “ambassadors” have been involved, taking advantage of their image and their social networks, for the promotion of ECOVINEGOALS. The citizens represent the main target of the project.

Consolidation of the networks

- The ECOVINEGOALS partners have a strict link with the network Evine and with the other networks at an EU (e.g. Agroecology Europe) and national level (with special reference to the Italian networks).



	PROJECT	IMPRECO – Common strategies and best practices to Improve the transnational PROtection of ECOsystem integrity and services
	PROGRAMME	Interreg Adrion 2014–20
	LEAD PARTNER	City of Staranzano (IT)
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	University of Salento, Veneto Agriculture – Veneto Agency for the Primary Sector
	WEBSITE	https://impreco.adrioninterreg.eu/
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	January 2018–December 2020
	MAIN TOPIC	Improvement of the protection of the ecosystem services and potential enhancement of the protected areas for the preservation of biodiversity and ecosystems

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/link to other programmes

- IMPRECO is the follow-up of the project ADRIAWET 2000 (Interreg Italy–Slovenia 2007–13) which has involved the participation of many Italian partners.
- The experience provided by IMPRECO will lead to the carrying out of a new project within the framework of Interreg Central Europe and to an action within the framework of Horizon 2020.
- The continuous transfer of knowledge is ensured by its link with other projects like NAT2CARE (Interreg Italy–Slovenia) e PORTODIMARE (Interreg Adrion).
- Along the project contacts have been set up with the Biodiversity Community of Interreg Med.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

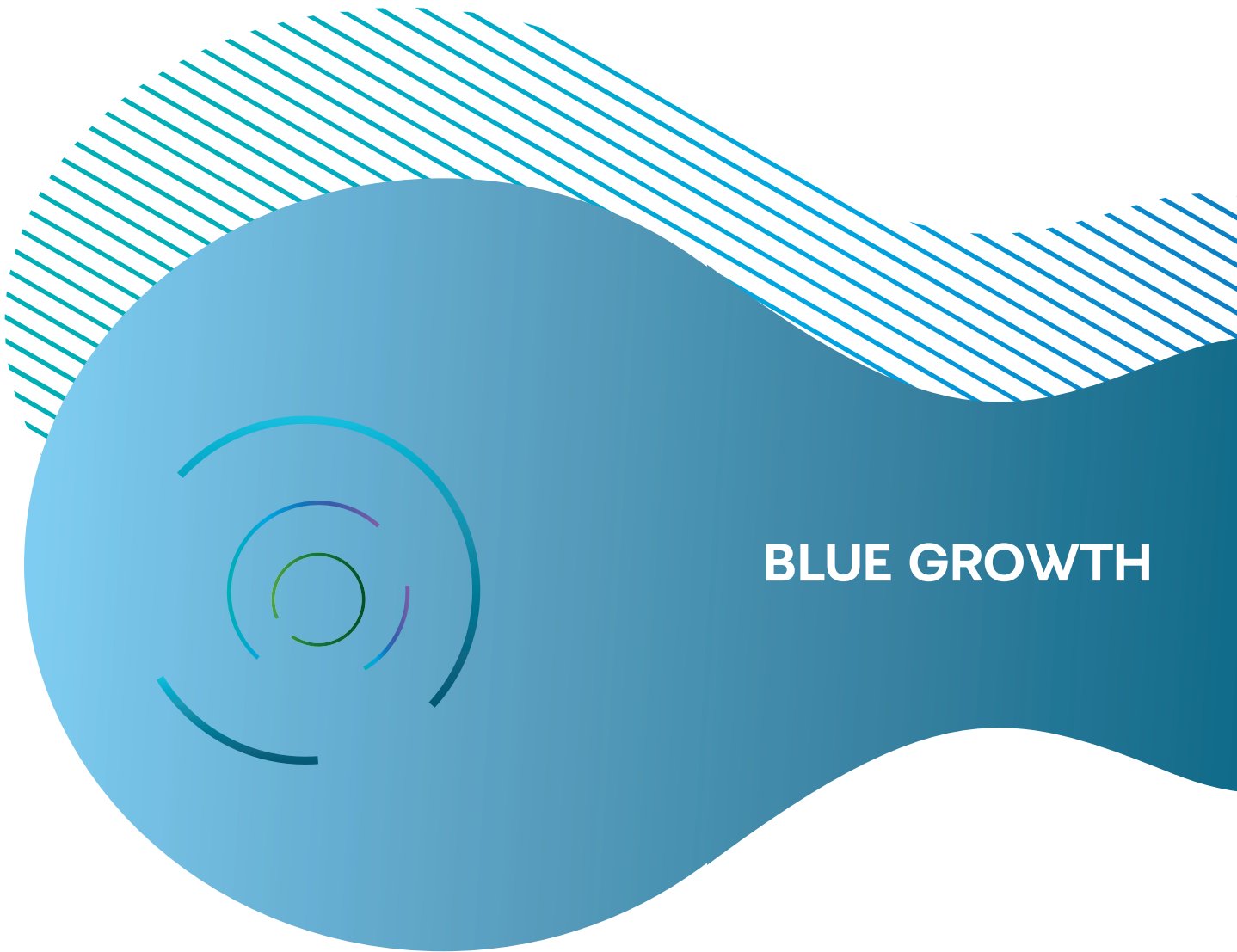
- Each protected area participating in the project has involved the relevant Regional Public Administration in the activities of the project.
- The pilot activities developed within the project have particularly attracted the interest of the Veneto Region, which has been actively involved in the project activities.
- Along the project, the necessity of limiting the presentation meetings to the local and regional public, has been demonstrated, because of the different context situations of the different regions and of the different countries involved in the project.

Communication

- The carrying out of regular communication actions and the creation of working groups represent a key factor in the involvement of stakeholders at a local level, who are characterized by interests opposite to each other (e.g. farmers and environmentalist organizations).
- Along the project the differences of interests of the different stakeholders involved, will be mitigated.

Consolidation of the networks

- Along the project IMPRECO partners have worked at improving the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) developed by the previous project ADRIAWET 2000, for the creation of a network of the so called “wetlands”, thus consolidating the network itself.
- In each one of the protected areas, involved in the project, a protocol has been signed with the local stakeholders, which provides the institution of a council functioning as a permanent management group, which works in close contact with the local stakeholders.
- The network developed at a local level, is considered the network which can be most easily maintained in the long term, since that local interests seem to be more clear and detailed. On the contrary, for a network at a transnational level a more complex structure would be needed, which could be maintained in the long term.



BLUE GROWTH



☆	PROJECT	BLUE CROWDFUNDING – Capacity Building of BLUE Economy Stakeholders to Effectively use CROWDFUNDING
🚩	PROGRAMME	Interreg MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Testing and Capitalisation
👤	LEAD PARTNER	E-Zavod (SI)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Campania Region, Marche Region
🌐	WEBSITE	https://blue-crowdfunding.interreg-med.eu
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	November 2019–June 2022
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	The use of crowdfunding applied to Blue Economy

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- The links are easily established when the same partner is involved in various projects (and has the ownership of outputs and results), facilitating cross fertilization processes and the continuation of the project.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Direct involvement of the project partners in the multisectoral working group in Campania, including the regional authorities for ESIF, will enable a direct transfer of the outputs and results.
- Regional authorities in Campania expressed the interest in receiving recommendations on match funding in view of the future programming period 2021/27.
- Awareness raising on the difficulties to reach the actual policy makers and their orientations.

Sustainability of results

- A crowdfunding platform could be used for purposes other than those of the project, and a regional authority could find additional resources to finance it.

Consolidation of the networks

- For the local network of fishing and aquaculture of the Marche Region crowdfunding is a new topic; the project opened the door to it and the network was reinforced as a consequence.
- Personal knowledge of crowdfunding led to learning possibilities and a number of local experiences in Italy.
- Local pilot actions will be an excellent opportunity to contact the local networks and to reinforce contact with the territory.

☆	PROJECT	MISTRAL – Mediterranean Innovation STRAtegy for transnational activity of clusters and networks of the Blue Growth
🚩	PROGRAMME	Interreg MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Integrated
👤	LEAD PARTNER	Emilia–Romagna Region (IT)
🗺️	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, ART–ER, CNR–National Research Council of Italy
🌐	WEBSITE	https://mistral.interreg-med.eu/
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	February 2018–January 2022
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Clustering on Blue Growth

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Integrazione nelle politiche (mainstreaming)

- The drafting of the project study on Blue Growth (Blue Book) happened in parallel to the drafting of S3 in Emilia–Romagna, and it helped highlight the importance of Blue Growth. It also provided a 360° overview of all subsectors, and not only on single sectors.

Sustainability of results

- MISTRAL is promoting an integrated overview of a number of sectors that used to be scattered over the territory, and is highlighting their development potential.
- The Blue Book developed by the project is a good output for finding out about the Blue economy sector and its sub sectors. It is a dynamic output that may be further developed and adapted to new contexts.
- Involvement of the technological clusters has been key in the project implementation, and will be key for the sustainability of results.
- MISTRAL raised awareness on the need to see the project as the beginning of a process, that needs to follow up with the upscaling of methodologies, and not only their transfer.

Communication

- The “Blue business competitions” organised by the project targeted young entrepreneurs and business set-ups. They started at the local level (and thus were adapted to the local context) and developed into international competitions. Regional calls for proposals helped in raising awareness about the project and its activities, along with the technological clusters, which also contributed to sustainability.



☆	PROJECT	PELAGOS – Promoting innovative nEtworks and cLusters for mArine renewable energy synerGies in mediterranean cOasts and iSlands
🚩	PROGRAMME	Interreg MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Testing
👤	LEAD PARTNER	Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving (GR)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	ENEA, Unioncamere Veneto
🌐	WEBSITE	https://pelagos.interreg-med.eu/
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	November 2016–July 2019
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Clustering the operators in the sector of renewable energy from marine sources

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Awareness raising on the need to reinforce the positioning of the Mediterranean at EU strategic level on marine energy issues.
- Awareness raising on the need for coordination among all programmes in the Mediterranean on marine energy to create a strategic position. The Mediterranean could be “an open air laboratory”.
- Awareness raising on the need to have a variety of stakeholders working for marine energy in the Mediterranean.
- Awareness raising on the fact that there is a mismatch of governance levels, especially as regards the funding sources for marine energy, which makes mainstreaming difficult. Hence the importance of involving a variety of governance levels and types of stakeholders in projects or coordinated actions.

Sustainability of results

- Awareness raising on the need for more concrete pilot projects on marine renewable energy in the Mediterranean area.
- Awareness raising on the need for governance mechanisms on marine renewable energy.
- In the specific field of marine energy, there is a need to identify relevant funding sources.
- Key role of the horizontal projects for the sustainability of results.
- Awareness raising on the opportunities to attract the attention of the European Commission at the drafting of its communication on renewable offshore energy.

☆	PROJECT	PROteuS – PROmoting security and safeTy by crEating a MED clUster on Maritime Surveillance
🚩	PROGRAMME	Interreg MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Studying, Testing and Transferring
👤	LEAD PARTNER	Chamber of Commerce of Venice Rovigo (IT)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Liguria Ricerche
🌐	WEBSITE	https://proteus.interreg-med.eu/
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	November 2016–October 2019
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Promote the exchange of data on risks in sectors related to the sea

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- Continuity in the staff composition allowed to transfer the outputs of a 2007–13 Interreg MED project on maritime clusters (CoRINThos) to Proteus, more specialised in maritime surveillance clusters.
- The partner and the staff have a clear vision on how to use Interreg outputs to create growth opportunities for their users (the Chamber of Commerce is seeking for opportunities/new fields for their companies).

Transfer/links to other programmes

- Active partner, participating in a number of Interreg MED and Interreg ADRION projects.
- Specific person with a clear view on the reuse and the vision for the Mediterranean space and the coordination of programmes.
- A project for the Green Deal based on Proteus is currently being prepared.
- Awareness raising on the need to coordinate with ENI CBC MED on maritime surveillance, as it links to a number of common topics (migration, pollution, etc).

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Partners have a good network of contacts at policy-making level. This has allowed the regional institutions to become sensitive to smart specialisation in Blue Growth. The Regions have established a working group on the topic based on Proteus.
- Involvement of specific units at a regional level all along the project, not only at the end.
- Therefore, continuous feedback to the policy making level and continuous participation in events are key tools to plant the messages at policy making level.

Sustainability of results

- Choice of using specialized internal personnel (belonging to the different units) rather than external personnel, to favour a unitary vision of the issue aimed at the sustainability of the results.

Communication

- Spontaneous dissemination of the project achievements in events and meetings.

Consolidation of the networks

- Online events also facilitate the participation of “minor” actors, facilitating their inclusion in networks.



☆	PROJECT	HELIOS – enHancing thE social Inclusion Of neetS
🚩	PROGRAMME	ENI CBC MED 2014–20
🔍	PROJECT TYPE	Standard
📄	LEAD PARTNER	ARCES Association (IT)
📍	ITALIAN PARTNERS	COSVAP – Fishing production and Blue Growth district
🌐	WEBSITE	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/helios
🕒	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	September 2019–August 2022
🎯	MAIN TOPIC	Blue and Circular Economy as a sector with big potential for growth among NEETs

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- Helios has a close link to the 12 ENI CBC MED projects of priority 3.1, which allows for good practice exchanges. This highlights the need for the clustering of projects dealing with similar topics.

Transfer/links to other programmes


- The origin of the project is the Interreg Italy–Malta project JOB MATCH 2020, focused on the mobility of young people in the blue economy and circular economy sectors.
- Helios has particular links to Erasmus projects.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- The good contacts of COSVAP to the regional authorities allow them to be fully involved in the strategic drafting of certain policies (e.g. fisheries).
- Helios could provide for models and context analysis in the circular economy and the blue economy. It could help develop methodologies for training for subsectors such as aquaculture, coastal tourism, and ship repairing.

Consolidation of the networks

- COSVAP is a very important network in Sicily, covering public and private actors and organising the regional Blue Economy Festival.

	PROJECT	RESMYLE – Repenser emploi et insertion sociale des jeunes méditerranéens à travers le développement durable
	PROGRAMME	ENI CBC MED 2014–20
	PROJECT TYPE	Standard
	LEAD PARTNER	Coopérative d'Activité et d'Emploi Petra Patrimonia (FR)
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	AMESCI, Consorzio Formazione Lavoro e Cooperazione
	WEBSITE	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/resmyle
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	August 2019–August 2022
	MAIN TOPIC	Integration of NEETs in the labour market

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- The participation in a previous Interreg project allowed the partners to develop and test a similar methodology to the one used in RESMYLE.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- As concerns mainstreaming, RESMYLE takes different actions depending on the target group:
 - a targeted communication with Liguria Region in order to ensure that the transfer of good practice takes place effectively;
 - a number of advocacy actions for the third sector.

Sustainability of results

- The continuity of the actions is the key for sustainability. The project is not inventing new actions and it does not substitute any other action. It complements the actions of the partners in a cooperative context. This complementarity of actions makes it possible for continuity to be ensured when the project ends.

Consolidation of the networks

- The project aims at creating a community of operators in the field of NEET support.
- Use of the networks of each partner in the field of the third sector (strong links to the Third Sector Forum).



	PROJECT	ARIEL – Promoting small scale fisheries and aquaculture transnational networking in Adriatic–Ionian macroregion
	PROGRAMME	Interreg Adrion 2014–20
	LEAD PARTNER	IRBIM – National Council of Research, Institute for Biological Resources and Marine Biotechnologies (IT)
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Marche Region, Sicily Region
	WEBSITE	https://ariel.adrioninterreg.eu/
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	January 2018– December 2020
	MAIN TOPIC	Promotion of small scale fisheries and aquaculture

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- A new project, focused on “smart fish”, is provided. It will be carried out by the help of funding instruments different from Interreg

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- The Marche and Sicily Regions actively participated in the project, and successively in its implementation. The Marche Region applied again the methodology on which the brokering events on the theme of innovation are based. (“innovation brokering events”).
- The brokering events helped the consolidation of the relationships between stakeholders and public authorities, based on dialoging and trust. The cooperation promoted by Interreg in this field, is aimed at the creation of relationships based on trust and the reduction of disputes between the sectors of fishing and aquaculture, which have historically been in conflict with each other.

Sustainability of results








- Through the brokering events on the theme of innovation, a wide public of stakeholders was involved (fishermen, aquaculture companies, research, non governmental organizations, etc.); in addition to this, the follow-up of ARIEL provides the carrying out of a pilot project.
- The project has provided the setting up of a virtual market (that is an application for the direct sale of fishing products), which can be used at a local level.

Communication

- Joint events between ARIEL and other two projects (BLUE_ BOOST and an Interreg project Italy–Hungary). These events were aimed to foster the engagement of target groups (e.g the craft groups of the small scale fishing) for the investigation of issues shared by the three projects.
- Special attention was given to the use of a common language, being this fundamental, when talking about small scale fishing, above all at an International level.

Consolidation of the networks

- One of the goals pursued by the project was the creation of a network of relationships, which has been set up after the conclusion of the project itself.
- Today the network involves public authorities and its purpose is the drawing up of a policy paper about the promotion of small scale fishing and aquaculture.

 PROJECT	BLUEAIR – BLUE GROWTH SMART ADRIATIC IONIAN S3
 PROGRAMME	Interreg Adrion 2014–20
 LEAD PARTNER	Area Science Park (IT)
 ITALIAN PARTNERS	Area Science Park
 WEBSITE	https://blueair.adrioninterreg.eu/
 IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	January 2020–May 2023
 MAIN TOPIC	Support to the development of a regional innovation system for the Adriatic–Ionian region

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- The project BLUEAIR is the follow-up of the project OIS–AIR (Interreg Adrion) which has been focused on the theme of innovation in general. More specifically speaking, BLUEAIR is focused on the theme of blue growth.

Transfer/links to other programmes

- The participation of a partner in projects belonging to different Interreg programmes, fosters the transfer of knowledge between projects. Area Science Park participates in the strategic project BLUE BIO MED (Interreg Med), which is considered a “twin project” of BLUEAIR. Between the two projects there is a continuous exchange of knowledge.
- Area Science Park also participates in the project A–RING (Interreg Alpine Space, which has been recently approved) which deals with issues similar to the ones dealt with by BLUEAIR.

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- One of the goals of the project is the support to the definition of the regional S3. To such an end, it is necessary to align the schedule of the project with the timeline of the definition of the S3.
- BLUEAIR has invested a lot of energy just in its adaptation to the present policy cycle, by trying to match the production of reports and the achievement of outputs to the timeline of the regional decisions, as regards the S3, with the purpose of having a bigger impact on it.
- Along the project, peer-to-peer activities will be carried out, which will involve policy makers.
- The limited number of participants in the round tables, is the key to their success.
- The discussions opened in the round tables are characterized by the concreteness of the issues dealt with and of the sectors involved.
- The role of the associated partners is very useful for mainstreaming, because it helps to establish contacts. Personal relations are essential for a suitable mainstreaming.
- Contacts have been capitalized by the projects previously developed.



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

	PROJECT	BLUE_BOOST – BOOSTing the innovation potential of the triple helix of Adriatic-Ionian traditional and emerging BLUE growth sector clusters through an open source/knowledge sharing and community based approach
	PROGRAMME	Interreg Adrion 2014–20
	LEAD PARTNER	Croatian Chamber of Economy Zadar County Chamber (HR)
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Puglia Region, Central European Initiative–Executive Secretariat, University of Camerino
	WEBSITE	https://blueboost.adrioninterreg.eu/
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	January 2018–December 2020
	MAIN TOPIC	Support to the transfer of knowledge and technologies of the traditional and emerging sectors of the blue growth, within clusters and between different clusters

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer/links to other projects

- One of the main outputs developed by the project (the “innovation voucher”) was capitalized by the project WIDER (Interreg Med 2007–13).
- Relationships with other projects which have partners in common, have been set up, such as 4helix+ (Interreg Med).

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Besides the participation of the Puglia Region, also the Marche Region, even if it is not involved as a partner, is well informed as regards the activities developed by the project and is able to capitalize the outputs developed.
- BLUE_BOOST has been mainstreamed in the Interreg axis of S3 of the Marche Region.
- As regards the future, the project provides the possibility of experimenting the combination of different typologies of funding. Once applied the methodology on which innovation vouchers are based, regional administrations may make different sources of funding available, crowdfunding included.

Sustainability of results

- The networking activities play a key role in the sustainability of the project and provide close contacts with other Interreg projects.
- The implementation and use of the innovation vouchers showed the scarcity of funding for small and medium sized enterprises. The innovation vouchers consist in calls for the funding of transnational projects, of about 10,000 Euros each (a meaningful amount, which ensures the possibility for small and medium sized enterprises, to aim at a suitable level of innovation). The ideas on which the BLUE_BOOST is based, were deemed really concrete, at the moment of their presentation.
- The platform of open innovation (which uses artificial intelligence to promote a real correspondence between stakeholders) guarantees the sustainability of the project, thus remaining available for stakeholders in the long term. Digital platforms ensure dynamism and interactivity and need only little updates for their working.

	PROJECT	NEORION – Promotion of green maritime technologies and new materials to enhance sustainable shipbuilding in Adriatic Ionian Region
	PROGRAMME	Interreg Adrion 2014–20
	LEAD PARTNER	University Aegean–Research Unit Department of Shipping, Trade and Transport (GR)
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna, Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Handicraft and Agriculture in Venice, Staff of the Ministry of Defence – the Navy
	WEBSITE	https://neorion.adrioninterreg.eu/
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	January 2018–March 2021
	MAIN TOPIC	Support to the regional system of innovation in the field of the shipbuilding

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- Taking into account the specific characteristics of the shipbuilding sector and its potential growth, the results obtained by the project NEORION attracted the attention of some regional administrations which do not participate in the partnership. In particular, the project has allowed the Region Emilia Romagna, to identify elements of growth and to catch innovation potentials in the shipbuilding sector, notwithstanding the fact that in this craft sector, there are regions which have for a long time played a leading role.

Sustainability of results

- In the sector of shipbuilding, the real stakeholders' interest plays a fundamental role in attracting each one of them towards the innovation of the whole sector. NEORION has achieved this goal by involving many shipbuilding companies in the project.
- The suppliers of the shipbuilding sector too, being aware of the possible economic interests deriving from the project actions, were actively involved in NEORION.
- NEORION has caused the formation of a cluster which is still active, even if the project formally ended its activities in March 2021.
- In order to promote the spread of the technologies already used in the project, a new project is going to be developed, in which a higher number of companies being already willing to implement it, will be involved.
- NEORION has been focused on the special need for innovation of the single small and medium sized enterprises of the shipbuilding sector. Because these enterprises do not usually avail themselves of research and development departments, they can take advantage of networks or clusters in order to jointly develop innovation.

Consolidation of the networks

- The project has set up links with the networks existing in Europe, which may be used, in order to ensure the continuity of the project (NEORION II).



	PROJECT	SHIPmEnTT – StrengtHening Intellectual Property and technology transfer processes in greEn seamobiliTy secTors
	PROGRAMME	Interreg Adrion 2014–20
	LEAD PARTNER	Foundation for Research and Technology–Hellas (GR) PRAXI Network
	ITALIAN PARTNERS	Area Science Park, ART–ER S.cons.p.a., Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Handicraft and Agriculture in Venice, Rovigo
	WEBSITE	https://shipmentt.adrioninterreg.eu/
	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	January 2018–December 2020
	MAIN TOPIC	To create an innovative eco system dedicated to green sea mobility in the Adriatic–Ionian area

GOOD PRACTICES IN CAPITALIZATION

Transfer to policies (mainstreaming)

- The project is based on the care of the territories involved, for the theme of the Blue Growth. In particular, regions are attracted by the possibility of mainstreaming the outputs of the projects into their own Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3).
- Some of the instruments developed by the project, have been used by the regional administrations involved, with the help of the partners of the project, within the respective S3.
- Within the project, specific events and workshops addressed to public regional authorities, have been organized. The limited number of participants and the focused agenda of these meetings have been the key to their success.
- At the same time, the project has been presented within the context of more general and bigger events, with a wider public, organized by the regions involved.
- The actions necessary for mainstreaming provide personal relationships and face to face meetings. The virtual environment in which these interactions have taken place (because of pandemic) has influenced their success.

Sustainability of results

- Thanks to SHIPmEnTT an interactive project platform has been created. The platform and the connected activities are managed by one of the partners involved in the project and this ensures its sustainability.
- The platform animation is necessary for ensuring suitable interaction.

Communication

- The small and medium sized enterprises represent one of the main target groups of the project. In order to ensure a suitable involvement of the latter, the project partners have interacted by the help of their usual functions of help–desk.

Consolidation of the networks

- The project partners have used their own networks and contacts for the dissemination of project information. In particular, the latter has been sent to thematic networks and clusters.



<https://progeu.regione.emilia-romagna.it/it/medncpitalia>



<https://enimed.regione.puglia.it/>



<https://www.regione.marche.it/ADRION#II-programma>

December 2021

NATIONAL CONTACT POINT INTERREG MED

ART-ER Attractiveness, Research Territory Unit European Union, International, Territorial Cooperation and Social Cohesion

Rita Fioresi, Eleonora Liuzzo, Amparo Montan Montesinos, Lidia Castagnoli, Federico Agostini

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