



Innovation camp on Strengthening innovation and smart specialisation for sustainability in the Adriatic and Ionian Macroregion

23-24 May 2023

Main venue: Hotel Holiday, Sarajevo

Zmaja od Bosne 4, Sarajevo 71000, Bosnia and Herzegovina

The innovation camp is organised by the [Interreg Euro-MED 2021-2027 Innovative Sustainable Economy Mission institutional dialogue project](#), in collaboration with the [EUSAIR Presidency](#) and the [Interreg IPA ADRIION 2021-2027 Programme](#) within the [8th EUSAIR Annual Forum](#).

The 2-days event focuses on exploring opportunities to strengthening smart specialisation for sustainability in the Adriatic and Ionian Macroregion. Participants will know about the approach proposed by the Interreg Euro-Med Innovative Sustainable Economy Mission institutional dialogue project to address complex environmental and social challenges. The results of the innovation camp will be used to define the basis for the collaboration between the Euro-MED Mission community and the EUSAIR stakeholder networks.

After one half-day conference session, the innovation camp consists of three facilitated workshop sessions to stimulate participants' discussion and active engagement using innovative methodologies and tools. Inputs for the co-design of the "transformative innovation policy labs" - a key activity proposed by the Interreg Euro-MED Innovative Sustainable Economy Mission - will be collected, focusing on the issue of depopulation in rural areas taken as an example of systemic challenges.

Expected participants: local, regional, national and macroregional policy makers, smart specialisation and territorial development researchers and practitioners, and other stakeholders from the Mediterranean innovation ecosystem.

Registration: There are limited seats available for participation in presence. Registration is compulsory filling this [online form](#). Confirmed participants will receive preparatory materials before the event.

Further information about the EUSAIR Annual Forum and practical info are available [here](#).



Provisional Agenda

Tuesday 23rd May - 9.00 - 13.00 – in presence and online

- 9:00 Participants registration
- 9:30 **Welcome greetings**
- Midhat Džemić**, Directorate for European Integration of Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, EUSAIR Presidency 2022/2023
- Mersiha Delić**, Directorate for European Integration of Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Interreg Euro-MED BA National Contact Point
- 9:50 **Interreg support to transnational cooperation to face common challenges**
- Isabelle Nobio**, Interreg Euro-Med Programme Joint Secretariat
- Lodovico Gherardi**, Interreg IPA ADRION Programme MA (tbc)
- Gilles Kittel**, European Commission DG for Regional Policy and Urban Policy
- 10.20 **The EUSAIR perspective on innovation**
- Matija Pavlovčič**, Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development of Slovenia, EUSAIR Facility Point Lead Partner team
- 10.35 **The new Interreg Euro-MED Innovative Sustainable Economy Mission**
- Alessandro Daraio**, Emilia-Romagna Region, Mission Institutional Dialogue Project Lead Partner
- Nadira Berbić**, CENER21, Mission Thematic Community Project Partner
- 11.00 Coffee break
- 11.30 **The smart specialisation strategies in the Mediterranean: exploring opportunities for reducing the innovation gap in lagging regions**
- Tatiana Fernández**, Catalan Government, Mission Institutional Dialogue Project
- Fernando Mérida Martín**, European Commission Joint Research Centre Seville



12.00 **Opportunities for collaboration for innovation across the scale of multilevel governance in the Mediterranean: synergies between Interreg and other initiatives**

Chair: **Maria Garcies**, CPMR Intermediterranean Commission, Mission Institutional Dialogue Project

Eleni Hatziyanni, European Commission DG for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Elena Banci, Area Science Park, BLUEAIR Project Lead Partner

Slaven Zjalić, Vice-rector for inter-institutional cooperation and technology transfer, University of Zadar

Daniele Antinarella, Abruzzo Region

Sinisa Marcic, Regional Cooperation Council (tbc)

13.30 Lunch and networking

Tuesday 23rd May - 15.00 - 17.30 – in presence only

15.00 Workshop 1: Exploring the potential of transformative innovation policy labs to support smart specialisation for sustainability in the Adriatic and Ionian Macroregion

Wednesday 24th May - 12.00 - 16.30 – in presence only

12:00 Workshop 2 (first part): Addressing the challenge of depopulation in rural areas

13.30 Lunch and networking

15.00 Workshop 2 (second part): Addressing the challenge of depopulation in rural areas



Dialogue4Innovation project summary

Dialogue4Innovation project is an *Institutional Dialogue Project*. The aim of the project is contributing to a better governance and to a more innovative and sustainable economy in the Mediterranean, engaging with a large network of organizations from public sector, business, research, and civil society.

It works in pair with the respective thematic community project to steer the [Mission Strengthening Innovative Sustainable Economy](#) as part of the Interreg Euro-MED Programme.

The activities that will be implemented during the project have been designed by the partnership to tackle some common territorial challenges related to foster better governance in the MED area. These challenges, aligned with the results of the 2014-2020 programming period, can be identified in:

- ◇ Raising the overall impact of the Euro-Med Programme
- ◇ Promoting synergies among territorial cooperation actions funded by several cross-border and transnational Programmes (partially) overlapping in the same Mediterranean area.
- ◇ Creating an integrated policy value chain encompassing territorial cooperation in the structural policies for jobs and growth, either supported by EU funds for cohesion and resilience or by domestic funds.
- ◇ To enhance the territorial governance, particularly challenging in the MED region, an area where cohesion and neighbor policies are crucial.

Through activities of capacity building, the project wants to increase the skills of policy makers and stakeholders to address the Sustainable Development Goals more effectively. By working with territorial actors through Transformative innovation policy labs (TIPL), the project will promote the diffusion of more systemic and integrated approaches, which are necessary to tackle the urgent challenges of the ecological transition. The Project will contribute to improve the long-lasting conditions for a permanent institutional and social dialogue in the Mediterranean, bridging the transnational dimension with local solutions and increasing coordination, policy coherence and alignment of actions for an innovative sustainable economy.

Partners:

1. Emilia-Romagna Region (LP)
2. Generalitat de Catalunya
3. Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds of Croatia
4. Directorate for European Integration of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina
5. Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) – Inter Mediterranean Commission
6. Adriatic Ionian Euroregion
7. MedWaves, the UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Centre for SCP
8. The French Agency for Ecological Transition - ADEME
9. Open Space Collective