

Agenda CallmeBLUE Workshop: 5th National Event for the Promotion of the Blue Economy in Mauritania

20th January 2025 11:40 - 14:30 GMT

CallmeBLUE presentation

LAURENCE MARTIN (General Secretary of Federazione del Mare)

ELIZABETH CHAPMAN (Project manager of Andalusian Maritime Marine Cluster)

FORMAT: IN-PERSON

11:40 - 11:50 GMT
(10 MIN)

DESCRIPTION: CallmeBLUE is a European project co-funded by the European Union, aiming to strengthen existing cluster alliances in the Mediterranean area and accelerate north-south regional cooperation towards the emergence of strategic maritime clusters in North Africa. The project brings together the main maritime clusters of the Mediterranean region and is supported by the WestMED Initiative.

The project's primary aim is to foster regional collaboration and enhance the competitiveness of maritime economies in the Mediterranean. Its objectives include improving data availability to address barriers and gaps in the southern Mediterranean, empowering emerging maritime cluster ecosystems, and promoting governance dialogue to ensure sustainable development of these clusters.

11:50 - 11:55 GMT
(5 MIN)

Q&A

Cluster initiatives, most promising sectors, main challenges and obstacles, main actions to promote existing initiatives, to boost business opportunities and activities for the exchange of ideas and knowledge

- SARA TEDESCO (Project manager of Cluster BIG)

FORMAT: ONLINE OR VIDEO

**11:55H - 12:25
GMT
(30 MIN)**

DESCRIPTION: In CallmeBLUE, research was conducted in six North African countries—Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Mauritania, Egypt, and Morocco—focusing on mapping and networking emerging maritime clusters in the southern Mediterranean. It highlights how clusters can foster sustainable blue economies through governance, cooperation, and innovation.

Strengthen connections across Atlantic and Mediterranean communities. Mauritania's establishment of the National Marine Cluster in 2023, supported by the WestMED Maritime Clusters Alliance, emphasizes fisheries, contributing 20% of Africa's sea fish production and 6–10% of Mauritania's GDP. Strategies include adding value to products, strengthening export supply chains, and safeguarding marine resources via governance and monitoring. The Banc d'Arguin biosphere reserve is key to biodiversity conservation and sustainable fishing. Infrastructure development focuses on logistics, preservation facilities, and resource protection, supported by governance tools like Individual Quotas (IQs).

Challenges persist in boosting private sector involvement and infrastructure for diverse blue economy sectors. The cluster aims to upscale activities, offer tailored services, and strengthen connections across Atlantic and Mediterranean communities.

**12:25H - 12:30
GMT
(5 MIN)**

Q&A

12:30H - 13:30

GMT

(1H)

- **Presentation of the cluster, services, projects, collaboration**

- HAMADI BABA HAMADI (President of Mauritanian Maritime Cluster) (20 minutes) (FORMAT: IN-PERSON)
- CAPTAIN EZZEDINE KACEM (President of Tunisian Maritime Cluster) (10 minutes) (FORMAT: IN-PERSON)
- MATTEO ELLI (President of Cluster BIG) (10 minutes) (FORMAT: TBC)
- JAVIER NORIEGA (President of Andalusian Maritime Marine Cluster) (10 minutes) (FORMAT: IN-PERSON)
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DESCRIPTION: A brief explanation of each of the maritime clusters within the North-South Mediterranean countries will be driven. In this slot, you will expect the different clusters to share their best practices, and joint activities and highlight their pivotal role in advancing the Blue Economy.

PANEL II - Boosting potential and promising sectors through collaboration

13.30H - 14:15

GMT

(45 MIN)

- MATTEO BOCCI & LEONARDO MANZARI (Technical team of WestMED) (FORMAT: IN-PERSON)
- LORELLA CIUTI, (Blue Executive Assistant of Forum Oceano) (FORMAT: ONLINE)
- COLIN RUEL, (Directeur du Service Europe of Pôle Mer Méditerranée) (FORMAT: ONLINE)
- EMMANUEL NOUTARY (Délégué Général of Anima) (FORMAT: ONLINE)

DESCRIPTION: The maritime cluster in Mauritania presents a strategic opportunity to integrate emerging and promising sectors of the blue economy into regional and international initiatives. Based on the findings of recent assessments, which identify the most promising sectors such as fisheries, aquaculture, desalination, green hydrogen, digitalisation, blue skills, sustainable tourism and sustainable maritime transport, this approach aims to foster effective collaborations that respect the specificities and limitations of the territory. The cooperation between Northern Mediterranean maritime clusters participating in the CallmeBlue project and the emerging clusters in Southern Mediterranean countries plays a pivotal role in this process. This North-South exchange focuses on the transfer of knowledge, the sharing of best practices, and the development of joint initiatives to enhance competitiveness in Mauritania within the blue economy.

This panel will focus on exploring concrete ways to strengthen cooperation between European and African clusters, promoting a sustainable and equitable blue economy in Mauritania and the Mediterranean region.

14:15H - 14:20 Q&A

GMT

(5 MIN)

**14:20H - 14:30
GMT
(10 MIN)**

ELIZABETH CHAPMAN (Project manager of Andalusian Maritime Marine Cluster)

FORMAT: IN-PERSON

DESCRIPTION: Participants will complete a brief survey designed to gather feedback, assess the event's impact, and suggest new areas of cooperation among maritime clusters. The results will serve as a basis for future collaborative strategies in the blue economy.