

Lessons-learned from the regional workshop



CONNECT  BLACK SEA

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Webinar on Supporting the Common Maritime Agenda Priorities with Research and Innovation towards Cultivating the Potential for Blue Entrepreneurship






SUPPORTING THE COMMON MARITIME AGENDA PRIORITIES WITH RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
TOWARDS CULTIVATING THE POTENTIAL FOR BLUE ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- ✓ + 140 participants
- ✓ Discussions on CMA priorities towards Blue Entrepreneurship
- ✓ Input of all stakeholders to co-design business opportunities



25 May 2021
(14.00 – 16.45 EET)


Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea
Black Sea Assistance Mechanism



-  A number of challenges emerged in the discussion, such as: **better knowledge of marine environment, new ‘circular’ business models, stronger data-sharing** and uptake of **innovation potentials offered by digitalisation**.
-  An increasing appetite for **private investments** in a sustainable blue economy across the Black Sea remains therefore unmatched, due to **limited expertise of SMEs** to pitch **financing institutions** with innovation projects.
-  The pivotal role of **maritime clusters** was acknowledged, notably for the **uptake of innovative and sustainable solutions** towards a sustainable blue economy.

Building on the CMA events on Research and Innovation towards Cultivating the Potential for Blue Entrepreneurship and Black Sea Blue Entrepreneurship, a workshop will be held in early 2022 in Istanbul (TBC) under Black Sea CONNECT

 to identify **innovation needs** and **opportunities** including potential gaps and barriers, and
 to achieve **economic growth** by adopting emerging technologies.

 An online questionnaire is launched for targeting the Blue Economy sectors in the Black Sea for mapping the innovation needs and gaps.

 Available in BG, GE, RO, RU, TR, UA and EN!



www.connect2blacksea.org

<https://gis.geoecomar.ro/survey/index.php/898378>

While addressing these objectives, our approach will be the following :



Defining next steps to start organizing the **Black Sea innovation ecosystem**.

Based on the analysis of the local context and the **Black Sea SRIA priorities**, the workshop will raise awareness and build capacities on:



The clustering approach: Enhance communication and collaboration between stakeholders from science and research, policymakers, industry, business and investment to generate **innovative products** and **services**.

The **blue economy sectors** that will be targeted are:



Fisheries and aquaculture;



Marine Renewable Energy (e.g. offshore wind);



Green transport and harbours;



Coastal and marine common cultural heritage;



Tourism

