

The **focus of the European Maritime Day 2019** in Lisbon, Portugal, will be on **blue entrepreneurship, research, innovation and investment** to boost sustainable technologies and emerging value chains in the wider ocean economy.

The EMD is the **annual EU meeting point on maritime affairs and blue growth**. It targets maritime professionals, entrepreneurs and ocean leaders from **businesses**, governments, public institutions, NGOs and academia.

Stakeholders will find the EMD a great **opportunity to touch base with strategic partners, to make new contacts**, get **visibility for projects, activities and achievements, gain new insights** into the evolving EU policy and funding landscape **and provide input** into European Maritime Policy formulation.

We are offering an **upgraded Blue Expo experience and pitch stage** for stakeholders and companies to present their products and services. Through **EMD dedicated matchmaking application**, participants will be able to ask for meeting slots with other participants and post their profiles online.

So let's dance along the waves and celebrate all things maritime as well as the gift our seas and oceans provide, from the air we breathe, to the fish we eat, to the inspiration that shapes our culture and moves our bards and poets! <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v\_2fyB4dj4U</u>

Venue : Lisbon Congress Centre

The language of the conference is English. Interpretation in English and Portuguese will be available in the opening session.

#### 16 May

08.00 - 09.00 WELCOME COFFEE

#### 09.00 – 10.45 **OPENING SESSION** (Moderator: Spyros KOUVELIS)

Fernando MEDINA, President of the Municipality of Lisbon Welcome

Ana Paula VITORINO, Minister of Sea, Republic of Portugal Opening Address

Karmenu VELLA, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Interview: 'The Ocean is my Mission'

Ocean leader panel: What lies ahead? What is at stake for the oceans?

- Karmenu VELLA, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
- Gesine MEISSNER, Member of European Parliament, Chair of Intergroup on Seas, Rivers, Islands & Coastal Areas (SEARICA), EP Special Envoy on Maritime Policy
- Ricardo SERRÃO SANTOS, Member of European Parliament, Vice-Chair SEARICA Intergroup
- Marcella HANSCH, Ocean Entrepreneur, CEO Pacific Garbage Screening
- Darko MANAKOVSKI, Ocean Activist, Lead for Scandinavia, Global Development, Rare
- Vanessa DRAPER, Director, Sky Ocean Ventures

#### 10.45 - 11.45 NETWORKING BREAK - EMD EXPO & PITCH STAGE

#### 11.45 – 13.15 **STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOPS** (7workshops in parallel, page 8)

13.15 - 14.15 NETWORKING LUNCH

14.15 - 15.45 **STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOPS** (7workshops in parallel, page 9)

#### 15.45 – 16.45 NETWORKING BREAK - EMD EXPO & PITCH STAGE

#### 16.45 - 1815 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Healthy Oceans: Towards a research & innovation mission in the next decade?
- Building bridges to the market: how to make the most of EU funding opportunities
- EU Blue Economy report II: Growing contribution of emerging sectors
- Challenge 2050: Oceans and the EU's decarbonisation strategy

18.15 – 18.45 BREAK (transfer to networking reception)

#### 18.45 – 21.45 HANDOVER CEREMONY & NETWORKING RECEPTION

Venue: Galeotas Pavilion (Marine museum)

Margarida FIGUEIREDO, Municipal Director of Economy and Innovation, Municipality of Lisbon João AGUIAR MACHADO, Director General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission Councillor Mick FINN, Lord Mayor of Cork

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### **17 May** 08.30 - 09.00 WELCOME COFFEE 09.00 – 10.30 STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOPS (7workshops in parallel, page 11) 10.30 - 11.30 NETWORKING COFFEE - EMD EXPO & PITCH STAGE EMD BLUE EXPO & PITCH STAGE 11.30 – 13.00 STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOPS (7workshops in parallel, page 12) 13.00 - 14.00 NETWORKING LUNCH 14.00 - 15.30 BREAKOUT SESSIONS Plugging the finance gap: Building a European Blue Economy Investment Platform CISE (Common Information Sharing Environment): A new era for maritime surveillance Constructing the European Ocean Alliance: Boosting ocean literacy in Europe EU Bio-economy strategy: Towards a more circular and innovative blue bio-economy • 15.30 SOUNDS TOO MANY. Presented by Francesca THYSSEN-BORNEMISZA Sounds Too Many is an immersive lecture performance on ocean sounds of Thyssen-Bornesmisza Art Contemporary (TBA21).

**15.50 END OF CONFERENCE** 

### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**Breakout sessions** are organised by the European Commission (Directorate General Maritime Affairs & Fisheries DG MARE with other services) and focus on a number of strategic EU policy initiatives to support Europe's Sustainable Blue Economy.

## 16 May 2019

#### Breakout sessions I (16:45 - 18:15)

Healthy Oceans: Towards a research & innovation mission in the next decade?

The year 2021 will mark the start of a series of very important new chapters for the oceans.

The EU's new framework programme for research and innovation, Horizon Europe, and the UN's Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. This will be an unprecedented opportunity to pool together our resources addressing the ocean health and gathering ocean stakeholders worldwide behind a common framework. It will ensure that ocean science can fully support countries in creating improved conditions for sustainable development of our Seas and Oceans. At EU level, there is need of increased synergies among the various stakeholders in order to make better use of allocated resources, to avoid duplication and multiply the expected effects between the different instruments: Horizon Europe and its proposed mission on Healthy Oceans, the European Maritime and Fisheries Funds, the EIT (European Institute for Technology) Knowledge and Innovation Communities. The session will discuss "How can we strengthen the knowledge base from which new, innovative products, processes and services can emerge for the maritime economy?"

Moderator: Sigi GRUBER, Head of Unit, Marine Resources, DG RTD, European Commission

- Andreea STRACHINESCU-OLTEANU, Head of Unit, Maritime Innovation, Knowledge and Investment, DG MARE, European Commission
- Julian BARBIÈRE. Head, Marine Policy and Regional Implementation Section, IOC Secretariat UNESCO
- Wilfried KRAUS, Director, European Cooperation, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research
- Andreia FERNANDES, Country Manager, InnoEnergy Portugal
- Jorge Miguel Alberto de MIRANDA, President of IPMA, Portuguese Institute for the Ocean and the Atmosphere

#### Building bridges to the market: how to make the most of EU funding opportunities

Innovation is the key driver to transformation and growth in the ocean economy. In 2012, the European Commission formulated its Blue Growth strategy to harness the innovation and growth potential of Europe's oceans, seas and coasts. Over the past six years the EU has invested substantial funds, energy and vision into promoting this goal. A particular focus has been on supporting innovation projects by SMEs and start-ups through instruments such as the SME initiative, EIC pilot, EMFF, Life and COSME. This session will provide an overview of the main EU funding opportunities and support for innovation projects available to blue start-ups and SMES in the Blue Economy. It will be linked to pitch stage session II (Expo Stage) highlighting project examples/successful projects by beneficiaries of these programmes.

Moderator: Julien Guerrier, Director, Executive Agency for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (EASME), European Commission

- Chiara PETRIOLI, R&D Director WSense, professor University La Sapienza of Rome, Beneficiary EMFF
- Simon FORREST, CEO, Nova Innovation Ltd.
- Oihane CABEZAS BASURKO, AZTI Tecnalia/Tecnologias Pesqueras SosteniblesN.N., Beneficiary Life
- Dora CORREIA, Director, General Affairs and Resources, European Commission, DG MARE, EMFF
- Helena VIEIRA, Professor University of Lisbon; Scientific board member BioBased Industries Joint Union

#### EU Blue Economy report II: Growing contribution of emerging sectors

This session will present the 2<sup>nd</sup> Blue Economy Annual Economic report. The report measures the scope and size of the blue economy, describes sectoral trends and analyses their drivers providing a crucial evidence-base for policy-makers and stakeholders. The session will raise awareness of data limits to properly assess the growing contribution of emerging sectors to the EU's blue economy and the need for an improved data collection framework for these sectors. It will include presentations on measuring and monitoring economic benefits of activity areas such as Desalination, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Blue biotechnology.

Moderator: Frangiscos NIKOLIAN, Head of Unit, DG MARE, European Commission

- Efstathios PETEVES, head of Unit, Marine Energy Technologies, JRC (Petten)
- Rupert HAINES, Managing Consultant, ICF Consulting Services
- Professor Gordon DALTON, University College Cork, Ireland
- Miguel MARQUES, Economy of the Sea Partner, Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PWC)
- François RIVOAL, Responsable de pole économie et coopérations, Agence D'urbanisme Brest (ADEUPa)

#### Challenge 2050: Oceans and the EU's decarbonisation strategy

The European Commission adopted on 28 November 2018 its strategy for a climate-neutral Europe by 2050 and the session will discuss the role of the ocean in supporting this ambition. By 2050, more than 80% of electricity will be coming from renewable energy sources, being the backbone of a carbon-free European power system. An increasing proportion will have to come from offshore, both from wind and from marine renewables that are already on the cusp of commercial deployment. Circular economy and negative carbon emissions business models will play a greater role for Europe to become carbon neutral. Microalgae can be converted into various types of biofuels, contributing as well to a more circular economy. Developing blue carbon ecosystem services will help to provide nature based solutions for climate mitigation with multiple co-benefits, like natural carbon storage sinks, climate adaptation, biodiversity preservation etc.

Moderator: Maris STULGIS, Policy Officer, DG MARE

- Thelma KRUG, Vice-chair of International Panel for Climate Change IPCC
- Bernhard FRIESS, Director, Maritime Policy and Blue Economy, DG MARE, European Commission
- Giles DICKSON, CEO, Wind Europe
- Francisco SARAIVA GOMES, co-founder of SeaForester
- Jean-Christophe ALLO, Business Development manager, Sabella

### 17 May 2019

Breakout sessions II (14:00 - 15:30)

#### Plugging the finance gap: Building a European Blue Economy Investment Platform

Many ocean-based industries have the potential to outperform the global economy as a whole, both in terms of value added and employment. However, innovation in the blue economy, especially in emerging sectors, is hampered through lack of access to finance, in particular for start-ups and scale-ups with an estimated funding gap of around 65-80 billion in Europe. In this session the European Commission will present its analysis of financing needs and how it is working to address this gap. It is also going to launch a new Assistance Mechanism for the Blue Economy that will facilitate the development of a blue investment and innovation community allowing constant interaction between companies and help SMEs in the blue economy to become investment ready.

Moderator: Bernhard FRIESS, Director, Maritime Policy and Blue Economy, DG MARE, European Commission

- Martin POULSEN, Managing Director, Acacia Sustainable Business Advisors
- Minerva ELIAS FRANQUESA, European Investment Fund, Manager, Innovation Programmes
- Ruben EIRAS, Director General for Maritime Policy, Ministry of the Sea, Portugal
- Marco FERNANDES, CEO, PME Investimentos
- Rita BAPTISTA MARQUES, CEO, PT Ventures
- Daniela CEDOLA, Director, PwCD Consulting Luxemburg

# CISE (Common Information Sharing Environment): A new era for maritime surveillance

The session will announce the launch of the operational phase of the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) as an important building block of the overall EU maritime surveillance framework, with the involvement of the European Maritime Safety Agency. This new phase will build upon the successful completion of the EU interoperability project EUCISE2020 as well as important national projects. Devised by the Commission together with Member States and several EU agencies, CISE will further facilitate quick and reliable exchange of information across borders and across different maritime authorities. It will contribute to ensure a safe and secure maritime environment, which is a key precondition to allow blue economy to grow and flourish. It will improve maritime surveillance and mitigate the diverse risks that might have a negative effect on our seas and shores, such as pollution, illegal and criminal activities, piracy, or terrorism.

Moderator: Christos ECONOMOU, Head of Unit, DG MARE, European Commission

- Leendert BAL, Head of Department 'Operations', European Maritime Safety Agency
- Carlos FERREIRA, Director of Inspection, Monitoring and Control of Maritime Activities at Directorate-General for Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services, Ministry of the sea, Portugal
- Giuseppe CODISPOTI, Deputy Coordinator of EUCISE2020
- Bartel MEERSMAN, Head of Unit Transport & Border Security, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

#### Constructing the EU Ocean Alliance: Boosting ocean literacy in Europe

The session will present a new initiative to raise ocean literacy across Europe, the European Ocean Alliance. This is a platform bringing together European groups and organisations active

in ocean preservation and ocean literacy to share good practices in ocean literacy and develop joint ocean literacy initiatives. It will also promote ocean-related issues within primary and secondary schools across Europe, through the creation of a European network of Blue Schools and enhance awareness and civil engagement/activism of young people through the establishment of a European Youth Forum for the Ocean.

Moderator: Claus SCHULTZE, Policy Officer, DG MARE, European Commission

- Gesine MEISSNER, Member of European Parliament, Chair of Intergroup on Seas, Rivers, Islands & Coastal Areas (SEARICA), EP Special Envoy on Maritime Policy
- Sigi GRUBER, Head of Unit, Marine Resources, DG RT, European Commission
- Francesca THYSSEN-BORNEMISZA, Founder and Chairwoman of Thyssen Bornemisza Art Contemporary (TBA21)
- Markus REYMANN, Director TBA21-Academy (Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary)
- Daniele MORETTI, Chief Editor, Sky TG24
- Patricia CONCEICÃO, Policy Officer, Direção-Geral de Politica do Mar, Portugal

#### EU Bio-economy strategy: Towards a more circular and innovative blue bio-economy

The blue bio-economy is an exciting field of innovation, turning blue biomass into novel foods, feed, energy, packaging and much more. Aquatic biological resources will also be crucial to meet global challenges like the growing demand for food and the need to switch to a more circular economy. For instance, the production of algae is becoming increasingly important, for both food and non-food products. This session will present the aquatic component of the EU's new bio-economy strategy. It will highlight the activities of the newly established Blue Bio-economy Forum and it will provide an overview of industry trends for the European algae industry.

Moderator: Valentina MABILIA, Policy Officer, DG MARE

- Andreas LIGTVOET, Project Manager of the Blue Bioeconomy Forum
- Vitor VERDELHO, General Manager of European Algae Biomass Association
- Peter CARLSSON, Developer, Sotnenäs Symbiosis Center
- Jorge Alexandre VIEIRA, CEO of Undersee

### **STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOPS**

Thematic workshops are organised by maritime stakeholders, they are at the core of the conference.

## 16 May 2019

#### Workshops I (11:45 - 13:15)

#### Aquaculture and the Social Acceptability Challenge

Aquaculture Advisory Council.

To explore the social acceptability issues faced by European aquaculture, current activities and strategic approaches to addressing these issues, and seek synergies and future opportunities for better addressing them.

#### Adaptation to 1.5C of global warming in ocean and coasts: Urgent action

Future Ocean Alliance / Centro Tecnológico del Mar

Exchange of experiences to raising awareness on the need for a coordinated framework across scales of governance, to articulate a policy interface for ocean-coasts in global climate action. What are the best and innovative practices in adaptation and finance mechanisms for adaption? What works and what does not? What kind of capacity, knowledge and research is needed to address impacts and to build a blue economy climate resilient?

#### Towards stronger cross-basin R&I collaboration

Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT)/ Middle East Technical University/ BONUS EEIG (coordinator of Baltic and North Sea Support and Coordination Action)/ Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC).

Five regional seas join forces to follow up from the successful cross-regional cooperation workshop held at EMD 2018. We set out to take next steps necessary for coordinated and proactive cross-basin cooperation in research and innovation to ensure the long-term sustainable management of the ocean.

#### EU Cooperation on Coastguard Functions Added Value

European Maritime Safety Agency/ European Fisheries Control Agency/ European Border and Coast Guard Agency.

To present the state of play of the interagency cooperation (achievements and ongoing activities), to demonstrate how it improves maritime situational awareness and the efficiency of the national authorities carrying out coast guard functions and to identify future joint activities of the agencies.

#### From Scientific Ideas to Blue Biobased Businesses

BlueBio Alliance (main organiser)/ SUBMARINER Baltic Blue Biotech Alliance.

To showcase the challenges that scientists face when translating a lab-based innovation to a blue biobased business, from an early-stage startup to a globally grown company perspective, and how networks such as BBA & BBBA can offer effective support to overcome such challenges.

#### Port Tech Clusters powered by Bluetech Accelerator

Directorate General for Maritime Policy, Ministry of the Sea, Portugal.

Bluetech Accelerator offers a blue open innovation ecosystem that will connect blue science, startups and industry with investors. The workshop will focus in discussing the practical experience from the Port Tech Cluster in the Port of Leixões, and the potential of creating a Port Tech Cluster network powered by a Bluetech Accelerator in the Atlantic Strategy Group in the next European funding cycle.

#### Acting together in a regional ecosystem

European Regions Research and Innovation Network/ Emilia-Romagna Region (MISTRAL Med Project - coordinator)/ Baltic Sea & Space Cluster.

Building on the competence of a region, this workshop will showcase how investments in blue growth have a positive cross-sectorial impact on the entire regional innovation ecosystem. We will present strategies and gaps in RIS3 as well as tools and methods for knowledge transfer in the blue economy.

#### Workshops II (14:15 - 15:45)

#### Together for sustainable aquaculture

Associação Natureza Portugal in association with WWF/ Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre - Faculty of Sciences, University of Lisbon/ University of Aveiro, Centro de Estudos do Ambiente e do Mar (CESAM) & Laboratório para a Inovação e Sustentabilidade dos Recursos Biológicos Marinhos (ECOMARE).

The moderator will stimulate an open discussion with the aim of identifying common problems and solutions on each of the four major pillars that support a sustainable aquaculture: Science, Economy, Social and Environment aspects:

- Innovative scientific tools;
- Technological and management solutions;
- Social changes induced by the transition/integration between fisheries and aquaculture;
- Prevention and mitigations of major environmental impacts.

#### Using Big Data to stimulate ocean innovation

Campus mondial de la mer/European Marine Board / European Marine Observation and Data Network.

The workshop aims at engaging public and private players with the current use of EU ocean data which could lead to more innovation through new products and services.

It will showcase few initiatives that encourage the use of marine data like the Ocean Hackathon and provide with recommendations.

#### Invasive Species & the IMO Ballast Water Convention

Blue Port Services - Chamber of Commerce of Brest.

The goal is to engage a dialog on the rationale, but also challenges (economic, technological and scientific) challenges araised by the recent IMO Ballawat Water Management Convention, but also on possible facilitators to implement that convention.

#### MSPglobal - A Bottom Up Approach

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO.

Highlight successful local and regional transboundary experiences in Marine Spatial Planning in Europe and beyond in order to support the development of internationally accepted guidelines for Marine Spatial Planning at global scale as a support to the EU-MARE and IOC-UNESCO Joint Roadmap on MSP.

#### Blue energy: Powering Europe's coastal communities

Ocean Energy Europe/ Région Occitanie/ European Marine Energy Centre.

Participants will learn about the latest offshore renewable energy developments along Europe's Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts, with a particular focus on the regional economic and environmental impacts. The session will encourage an exchange of views on the relationship between maritime communities and wave, tidal and floating wind projects.

#### **Blue Generation: Youth & Blue Economy**

Sea Teach.

This workshop introduces and discusses the Blue Generation Project that brings together the Youth Sector and the Blue Economy Sectors.

Its aim is to inspire and engage Youth & NEETs between 15 and 29 years to pursue a sustainable career in one of the Blue Economy growth areas.

#### How to transform mass tourism into sustainable tourism for local communities

Fipra International/ IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation/ Arco Latino

In Europe, passenger numbers are forecast to increase by 1.5 billion a year by 2036. Yet destinations are struggling with their own success. This workshop discusses mass tourism from the perspective of private sector & destinations as they work to understand & manage the various impacts of tourism.

### 17 May 2019

#### Workshops III (09:00 - 10:30)

#### Seafood as key sector for Blue Growth in the EU Regions

Fórum Oceano - Associação da Economia do Mar.

Seafood is a key sector for the socioeconomic growth of EU regions. This workshop aims to discuss on the potential that the adoption of new technologies (i.e the application of the Industry 4.0 concept) and transnational cooperation have to improve the performance of this strategic sector. This workshop is organized by the SAFER project, funded by Interreg Atlantic Area Programme.

#### Marine Litter: Gaps, barriers, solutions and & innovation

Geonardo/ Hellenic Centre for Marine Research.

To present, showcase and co-define through a role game with participants, the existing gaps, barriers, potential solutions, and business and innovation opportunities, for the prevention & reduction, monitoring & quantification, recovery and transformation of marine litter.

#### **Blue Bioeconomy: Investments and Innovations**

European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products.

The workshop will look at (i) the added value of fish rest raw materials and their integration in the supply chain; (ii) innovations and developments associated with the use of aquatic biomass (focus on algae); (iii) data needs and gaps; (iv) public and private strategies to foster development.

# Connecting ocean science to ocean literacy to foster ocean action: a UN Decade to build a global ocean movement

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO/ Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO / Coexploration Limited.

The United Nations has proclaimed a Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). The objective of the workshop is to discuss what is the main role for ocean literacy, and the concrete actions that should be developed, in the context of this Decade. Furthermore, a specific discussion on what is the role of the European institutions and stakeholders will be undertaken.

#### What is next for green and sustainable Ports?

Magellan – Associação para a Representação dos Interesses Portugueses no Exterior/ Hogskolan I Gavle.

To bring together different perspectives on the discussion of the conceptualisation of the port(s)

of the future by 2030 in all dimensions related with climate change, circular economy and sustainable business models, involving, ports researchers and policy-makers.

#### Outermost Regions: Strategic Players in the EU Maritime Policy

Conference of the presidents of Outermost regions.

Maritime policy affects many fields. The workshop will promote Outermost Regions' maritime potential in bleue economy sectors, focusing on projects and good practices implemented and will recommend action to support a true European maritime strategy for ORs. Funding, R&I, marine resources data and energy, training, fisheries etc will be relevant topics.

#### **Smart Specialisation in Blue Economy Value Chains**

#### Joint Research Centre

This session will discuss what it takes to create successful blue growth innovation ecosystems and how the transregional cooperation can facilitate new innovative services and products to feed the global value chains. It will also benchmark innovation activities in emerging Blue Economy sectors with a focus to deliver interregional partnerships around these emerging fields.

#### Workshops IV (11:30 - 13:00)

#### Fisheries waste: innovations for blue growth

KIMO International/ Waste Free Oceans.

This workshop will showcase best practice examples of innovative solutions to remove, manage and add value to fisheries sector waste, identify key factors necessary for a sustainable waste management plan for fisheries sector waste in ports/harbours, and demonstrate improved value chain cooperation.

#### Ingredients for a local blue growth recipe

Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management/ Regione Emilia-Romagna.

This workshop will discuss the challenges to blue growth at the local and regional scales and showcase solutions from locations in Europe and beyond. It will explore how different regulatory and policy instruments are used for promoting innovations for sustainable local and regional development.

#### Innovative Tools & Transferability in MSP Projects

Regional Fund for Science and Technology.

Aims to launch a joint discussion between EASME MSP projects about the use of innovative tools to improve the support of the implementation of the MSP Directive. Projects will identify tools & best practices applied or to be applied in their respective basin with the potential of

#### Maritime surveillance, a multilevel governance model

*General Secretariat for the Sea/ University of Messina – University Center for Transport Studies (CUST Euromed) "Elio Fanara".* 

To increase awareness of on the need to strengthen Multilevel Maritime Surveillance in the Mediterranean Basin. The workshop will embrace on issues pertaining to border and economic security for EU, including international cooperation, related issues on maritime security and surveillance stakeholders, their implications for the Mediterranean region and how natural resources shape border security.

#### The green course towards decarbonization: winning the challenge

Waterborne European Technology Platform; SeaEurope; European Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association (HydrogenEurope)/ CSHIPP Clean Shipping project platform / Tallinn University of Technology/ NABU German Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union.

To investigate needs, motivation and feasibility for a green shift in maritime transport by addressing the following topics:

- Protecting the environment: the role of ECA areas.
- The commitment of EU stakeholders: conservative or ambitious?
- Zero emission in a circular economy: a possible scenario.
- Financing clean shipping technologies.

#### Improving Access to Finance for Blue SMEs

Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions.

The objective of the workshop is to discuss gaps, barriers and solutions to improve access to finance for innovative SMEs in the blue economy. It will focus in particular on synergies between EU (including InvestEU), national and regional initiatives to stimulate private investment.

#### Nautical sports for heritage & sustainability

Surfrider Foundation Europe/ European Maritime Heritage/ CEZAMAT

The workshop aims to build solution to include coastal communities in EU heritage protection through nautical activities. Thanks to an interactive way, we will discuss about the opportunities that nautical sports (surfing, sailing) can bring to the coastal destination. How to make it positive for the EU heritage in terms of innovation and sustainability?