

“Shaping a Circular Blue Economy in the Mediterranean”

The BLUEfasma project

27-28 June 2022

Cairo + online



// Session: How can circular practices benefit the economy?

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Project Identity

Title: Empowering innovation capacity of SMEs, maritime clusters and networks in MED islands and coastal areas to support blue Circular Economy (CE) growth in fishing/aquaculture

Co-financing: European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through the Interreg MED Programme 2014-2020

Project total budget:
2,811,585.00 €

Duration: November 2019
– June 2022

Project Identity

What does “fasma” mean?

The origin of “**fasma**” is the verb “**φαίνω**”, pronounced phainō (ancient greek) and it means “I cause to appear - **bring to light/shine** - give life”

Metaphorically, it means the **sum** of **identical elements** with some differences for accomplishing a **common purpose**.

In physics, optical **fasma** refers to the **analysis** of a beam light in its **individual** colours.

So why “BLUEfasma” ?

BLUEfasma generates new methods – gives birth to innovative ideas and **brings circular solutions to light!**

BLUEfasma **sums identical needs** of Med countries in **fishing/aquaculture** to address **common challenges!**

BLUEfasma **analyzes** its problems to sub –problems to solve them **individually**, just like a light beam is analyzed in individual colours!

The Consortium



project partners:



University of Patras
Greece



Region of Crete
Greece



Dynamic Vision P.C
Greece



Pôle Mer Méditerranée-
Toulon Var Technologies
France



Maritime Cluster
of Balearic Islands
Spain



MEDCITIES
Spain



Taormina Etna Consortium
Italy



IMC Foundation-
International Marine Centre
Italy



Larnaca-Famagusta District
Development Agency ANETEL
Cyprus



Dubrovnik Neretva Regional
Development Agency DUNE
Croatia



CEEETA-ECO, Energy
Consultants Ltd.
Portugal



Chamber of Economy of
Montenegro
Montenegro



Ministry for Agriculture,
Fisheries, Food & Animal Rights
Malta



Strategem Energy Ltd.
Cyprus

Project Main Goals

#1

Enhance innovation capacity of SMEs and maritime clusters/networks by

- 1) transferring knowledge,
- 2) recording their level of circularity
- 3) supporting financing & transferability

#2

Improve **transnational cooperation** and **deep networking** amongst SMEs, maritime clusters & networks to facilitate **transfer of replicable results**

#3

Capitalise on BLUEfasma Testing & Transferring results to **shift policies** of fishing/aquaculture towards **Circular Economy innovation**

Project Concrete Results

BLUEfasma e-network
facilitates experience
exchange & networking
amongst all actors in
fishing/aquaculture sector

BLUEfasma Circular Economy
consolidated knowledge base;
systematizes best practices,
tools, solutions in
fishing/aquaculture

BLUEfasma Livings Labs
(BLLs) integrate R&I, create
user-centered open-innovation
ecosystems **focused on**
increasing circularity in
fishing/aquaculture

Enhance effective synergies between businesses, research bodies & Public Authorities in BLLs and during the transferring phase

Project Concrete Results

BLUEfasma Circularity self-assessment tool as a **unified measure** of SMEs readiness & willingness to invest in CE. Decision support tool - highly transferable to coastal/insular areas.

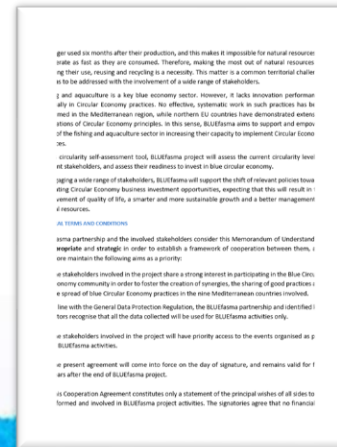
BLUEfasma Capacity Building Instrument integrates existing financing Programmes/Funds and available opportunities for projects' funding in blue Circular Economy (CE) and R&I business investment in the key blue growth of fishing and aquaculture

114 SMEs in fishing/aq. value chain tested it

BLUEfasma Memorandum of Understanding

MoU between BLUEfasma partnership and private/public key actors of fishing & aquaculture sector has been signed

52 entities signed the MoU



Level of circularity in Mediterranean territories

Overall view of the level of circularity in the Mediterranean territories involved in BLUEfasma project

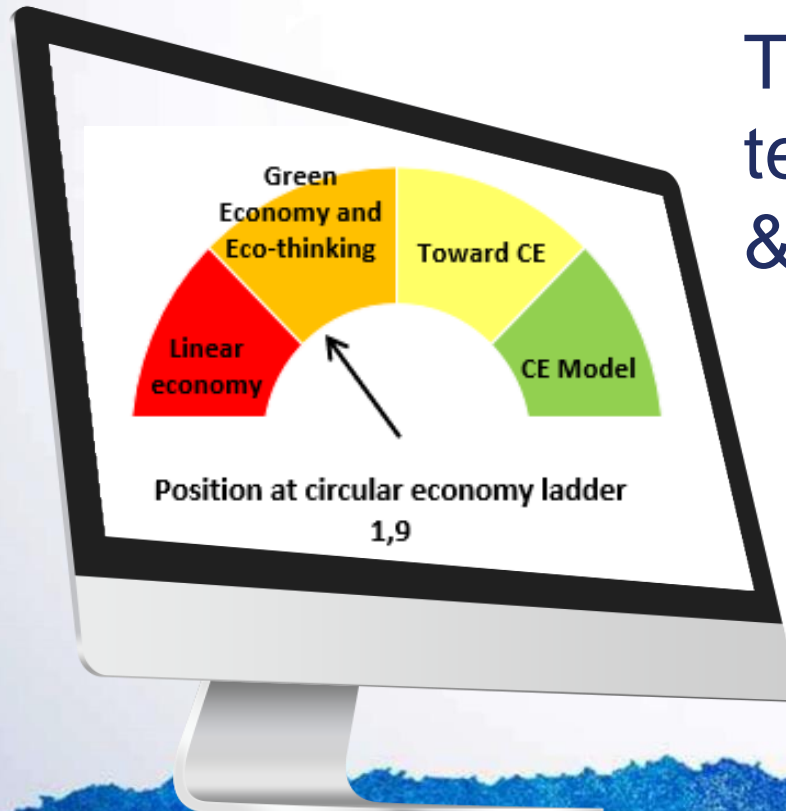
Repartition of beneficiaries per countries



Level of circularity in Mediterranean territories

The level of Med regions in terms of CE related to fisheries & aquaculture is quite low.

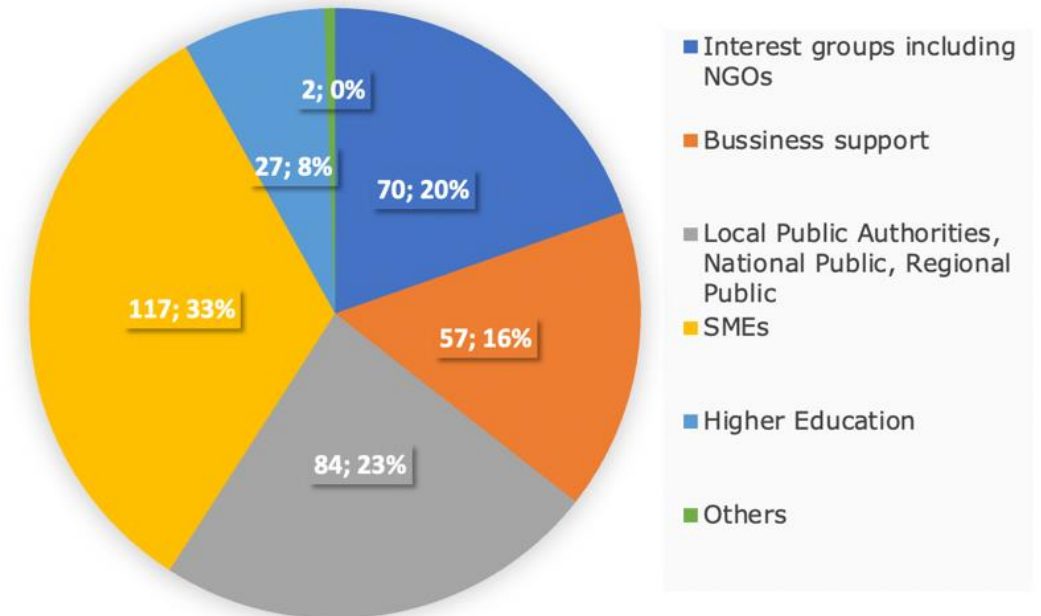
The average willingness to invest in CE is encouraging



BLUEfasma Living Labs



Types of Stakeholders Participants in general



BLUEfasma Living Labs - Main needs derived

Development of an integrated approach with the creation of synergies between national authorities, research centers and the private sector

Support fisheries to design regenerative production systems not depleting fish populations or damaging marine ecosystems -> sustainable fishing & businesses preservation for the future

BLUEfasma Living Labs - Main needs derived

Improve, simplify, make more accessible the system of European funds aimed at the sector, limiting bureaucracy to a minimum, taking into account the reference target

Development of personalized SME's Action Plans for entering CE, proving technical advice on best solutions on the market

BLUEfasma Living Labs - Benefits

Increase participants' knowledge in CE best practices in fishing/aquaculture

Exchange of experiences/concerns on CE

SMEs adopt innovative CE solutions

More positive attitude towards Blue CE Growth

Transferring user-oriented solutions

SMEs form new CE partnerships in fishing/aquaculture

BLUEfasma Living Labs – Conclusions

Predisposition of fishing & aquaculture to adopt CE and prioritize it as key element in value chain

The barrier to a sustainable development of the sector:
current framework of technical, legal, economic and financial support

Quadruple Helix to work together to overcome the latent risks and meet the challenges identified in the experiences lived through the BLLs

BLUEfasma Capitalization phase highlights

BLUEfasma Policy recommendations

related to CE principles integration & funds allocation for business investment in R&I in fishing/aquaculture, mainly for Regional Public Authorities.

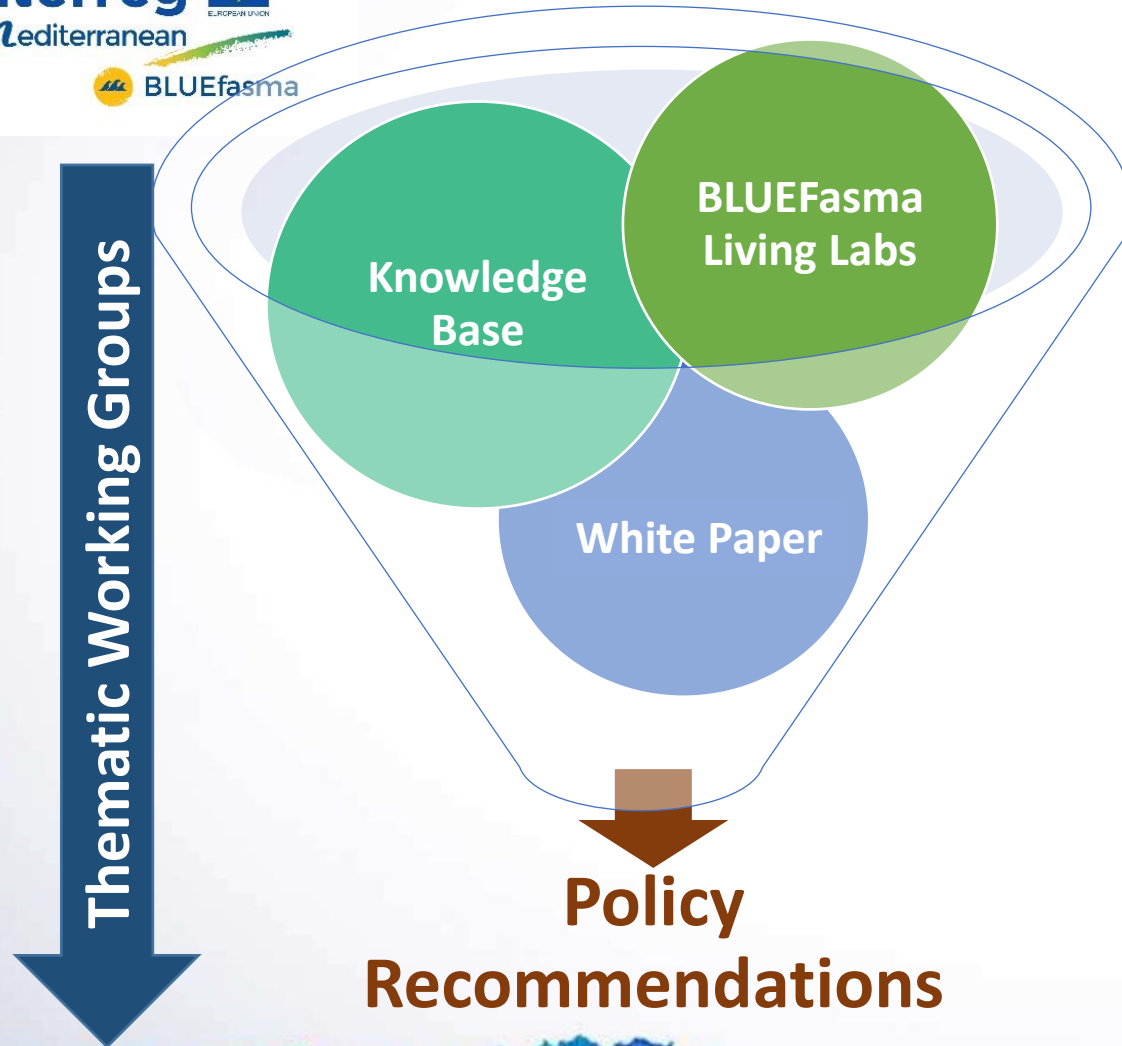
BLUEfasma White Paper

identifying existing barriers to the development of a Circular Economy & proposing solutions to overcome barriers in blue CE.

BLUEfasma Agreement & Letter of Commitment

between BLUEfasma and identified policy actors committing to project take up actions and policy shifting

BLUEfasma Policy recommendations



KEY ISSUES

1. Funding
2. Governance
3. Review and harmonisation of legislation
4. Sea waste collection
5. Innovation to turn waste into profit
6. Qualification and quantification of waste
7. Collective organisation and action
8. Eco-labelling and certification schemes
9. Technology transfer
10. Knowledge dissemination
11. Generational turnover
12. Gender equality

BLUEfasma Policy recommendations

And now?

- ✓ Support and engage in making these recommendations happen by:
 - Letter of commitment
 - BLUFasma agreement

Thank you for your attention

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