



### VENUE

- Burgas Free University – 62, San Stefano Str. - Burgas

### HOW TO GET THERE

- Flights to Burgas, Varna and Sofia
- Shuttles from and to Varna airport (2 hrs) and Sofia airport (4 hrs) will be provided

### LANGUAGES

- Interpretation is provided only in the Plenary room: Bulgarian and English
- No interpretation provided in workshops

**REGISTRATION IS COMPULSORY** – [PLEASE REGISTER ON EMD WEB SITE](#)



## Day 0 (WED-30/5)

20.00 – 22.00  
BLUE APERO

**Pre-event networking drink Hosted by DG MARE**  
Sea Casino Culture Centre

## Day 1 (THU-31/5)

From 8.30

Registration & Welcome Coffee  
Moderator: Oleksandra VAKULINA, Euronews

9.00–10.30  
BLUE PRACTICE

**Parallel Stakeholders' Workshops I**

10.30 - 11.15  
BLUE NET

Networking coffee - **Exhibition, Pitch Stage 'Research/Blue Growth' and Networking Village**

11.15–12.45  
BLUE PRACTICE

**Parallel stakeholders' workshops II**

12.45–13.45  
BLUE BITE

Lunch buffet

13.45–14.45  
BLUE STAGE

**Welcome and Political Opening - Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea**

Welcome in Burgas: Dimitar NIKOLOV, Mayor of Burgas  
Karmenu VELLA, European Commissioner for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs  
Iskra MIHAYLOVA, European Parliament, Chair, Regional Development Committee  
Ivaylo MOSKOVSKI, Minister for Transport, Information Technology and Communications, Bulgaria  
Ministers from Black Sea countries

14.45–16.15  
BLUE STAGE

**Big Bang Black Sea? achievements and challenges for investing in sustainable blue growth and regional cooperation in the Black Sea region**

Michael CHRISTIDES, Secretary General, Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation  
Ivelina VASILEVA, Chair Environment and Water Committee, Parliament of Bulgaria  
Christophe CLERGEAU; Member, European Committee of the Regions  
Abdellah SROUR, Executive Secretary of General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean  
Mihaela CANDEA, Executive Director, Mare Nostrum, RO  
Sigi GRUBER, European Commission, DG Research & Innovation, Head of Unit, Marine Resources

16.15 – 17.00  
BLUE NET

Networking coffee - **Exhibition, Pitch Stage ' Ecosystems/Environment' and Networking Village**

17.00 – 18.30  
BLUE PRACTICE

**Parallel stakeholders' workshops III**

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 19.00 – 21.30<br>BLUE CURACAO | Networking cocktail<br>Hosted by Burgas Municipality, Burgas Harbour |
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## Day 2 (FRI 1/6)

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|--------------------------------|--|
| From 08.30                     | Welcome Coffee   |
| 09.00 – 10.30<br>BLUE PRACTICE | <b>Parallel DG MARE Info Sessions</b><br>Measuring the EU Blue Economy<br>Turning marine litter into a sustainable business<br>Financing strategic cooperation for Blue Growth   |
| 10.30– 11.15<br>BLUE NET       | Networking coffee - <b>Exhibition, Pitch Stage ' Ambassadors - EMD in my Country ' and Networking Village</b>  |
| 11.15 – 12.15<br>BLUE FUNDS    | <b>European Funds post 2020 – What's new?</b><br>Presentations by:<br>Dora CORREIA, European Commission, DG Maritime Affairs & Fisheries, Director, General Affairs and Ressources<br>Sigi GRUBER, European Commission, DG Research & Innovation, Head of Unit, Marine Ressources<br>Respondents:<br>Ana Paula VITORINO, Minister of the Sea, Portugal<br>Gesine MEISSNER, Member of European Parliament, Chair of Seas, Rivers, Islands & Coastal Areas Intergroup<br>Eleni MARIANO, Secretary General, Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions |
| 12.15 - 12.45<br>BYE-BYE BLUES | <b>Closing and handover to Lisbon 2019</b><br>Panel above plus Antidia CITORES, Campaign Manager Surfrider Foundation Europe;<br>Ruska Boyadzhieva, Vice-Mayor of Burgas and Duarte Cordeiro, Vice-Mayor of Lisbon   |
| 12.45                          | Lunch and End of the Conference  |

### Side-events/activities

Detailed information on the web site

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 29/05    | Let's talk about Europe Dialogue (Committee of Regions)  |
| 30/05    | The 5 <sup>th</sup> meeting for developing a Blue Growth Initiative for Research and Innovation in the Black Sea |
| Date tbc | Beach-cleaning involving students (Surfrider)  |
| 01/06    | Film screening (Sky Media/Surfrider)   |
| 01-02/06 | Blue Economy and development conference (Burgas Free University)   |



## Workshops I (9:00-10:30)

### **Supporting Internationally Accepted MSP Guidance**

*Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO.*

Burgas

The workshop will discuss improvements of planning sustainable economic activities at sea by promoting the establishment of Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) schemes and by creating an environment conducive to transnational cooperation through the development of international guidance for cross-border and transboundary MSP. The workshop will build on the results and experiences from a series of cross-border MSP-related projects in the European Union in order to identify the need to establish frameworks for cross-border cooperation and the development of approaches and tools at regional level to contribute to a coherent MSP process by improving participation and transparency on data and information.

### **The Collection of Ship Generated Waste and Cargo Residues: an EU Approach**

*Euroshore International VZW.*

Varna

The European Commission has launched a new draft proposal to revise the EU Directive 2000/59. The objective of this is to bring more Ship Generated Waste to the shore. This will mean that the charges for delivering plastic waste to ports will be independent of the amount of waste delivered, thus reducing the incentive to dump it at sea.

### **Regional Strategies and Maritime Cooperation: Now and in the Future**

*Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), Interact/Knowledge of the Seas Network..*

Pomerie

Participants will be seated at round tables that will discuss the following questions: Why should actors or territorial cooperation programmes care about sea-basin or macro regional strategies? How to organise better support sea-basin or macro-regional strategies? Which projects can demonstrate the added value of linking cooperation across maritime borders with a strategic framework? How could synergies between sea-basin or macro-regional strategies and programmes be improved?

### **Digitalisation & Big Data for Maritime Applications**

*Sea Traffic Management Validation Project, Sea Traffic Management Validation Project (STM), Swedish Maritime Administration European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet).*

Nessebar

The roundtable-workshop will demonstrate the power of cross-sector marine data initiatives such as Sea Traffic Management real-time information sharing and the Open Sea Lab hackathon. It will establish the basis for future cross-industry co-operations in the context of Blue Growth. With experts from the shipping, security, fisheries and tourism sectors, you will exchange knowledge and views about challenges, best practices and help create 10+ project ideas to strengthen cross-industry collaboration.

### **Between Green and Blue: Sustainability in Marine and Coastal Tourism**

*Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, Bologna University, Center for Advanced Studies in Tourism (CAST UNIBO).*

Sozopol

Tourism represents a key economic sector and is a pillar of the Blue Economy. Tourism can represent a seriously impactful human activity with a large footprint when not managed in a sustainable and equitable fashion. The aim of this workshop is to identify best practices and innovative solutions that reduce the impacts of mass tourism on environment and societies, maximizing its benefits and improving the relationship between visitors and residents in Marine and Coastal areas.

### **Towards A Shared Vision for the Blue Bioeconomy**

*Join Programming Initiative Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans.*

Kiten

The workshop invites stakeholders to discuss their needs and find ways for them to contribute to the Blue Bioeconomy with the purpose to understand the opportunities within the Blue Bioeconomy and collaborate and add value to marine bioresources. These outcomes will feed into the proposed co-fund for the Blue Bioeconomy, forming the starting point for future collaborations.

## **Workshops II (11:15-12:45)**

### **Towards 2030: Foster a Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector**

*The Atlantic Arc Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR).*

Burgas

The workshop will address the issues of 'How to improve the synergies between regions and the EU to support the Fisheries and aquaculture sectors through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)', 'How to develop further the Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) approach for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in European sea basins' and 'How to strengthen the sea-basin dimension within the Common Fisheries Policy and the EMFF.

### **Added Value of Cross-Regional Cooperation**

*BONUS, the joint Baltic Sea research and development programme, BLUEMED Coordination and Support Action, National Research Council of Italy.*

Varna

The workshop will showcase what Research, Technology, Development and Innovation (RTDI) in regional seas can provide in support of sustainable blue growth in Europe. The RTDI activities in the regional seas create a strong European added value and contribute significantly to a broad spectrum of regional and European agendas as well as to alignment of strategies at international level. Presentation of the the case-studies from 3 European regional seas: the Baltic Sea, the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.

### **Achievements of the CISE's Reference Implementation**

*Italian Space Agency, Laurea University of Applied Sciences, Secretariat General de la Mer.*

Pomerie

The workshop will explain the added value of Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) in the progress of the EUCISE2020 project. The project aims to create a test-bed network of nodes connecting participating maritime authorities for cross-sector and cross-border information exchange; the first five nodes of the network are already operational. Information will be presented on the results already achieved and evidence of improved Maritime Situation Awareness.

### **Data Availability for MSP: from Jungle to Structure**

*Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea (VASAB).*

Nessebar

Successful implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) depends on the quality of information. Data quality, accessibility and availability is crucial when considering transboundary context where consistent use of data is an important prerequisite for creating a coherent network of maritime spatial plans. The main goal of the workshop is to share and discuss the practice and regional approaches on MSP data availability from international and European sea-basin perspective. Extended Panel discussion on the the topics of: Is it beneficial to coordinate MSP data on transnational level? What should be overcome to gain a better data availability across the borders? Who are the main players?

### **The Landing Obligation and the EMFF Programmes**

*Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG-MARE, )Fisheries and Aquaculture Monitoring and Evaluation Support Unit.*

Sozopol

The Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) includes a landing obligation (LO) which requires all catches of regulated commercial species brought on-board vessels to be landed. The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) supports these efforts with specific measures to monitor the reduction of discards, which poses a methodological challenge for authorities and fishers. The workshop discusses how the EMFF supports and monitors its contribution to the LO and what options exist to valorise discards to promote their landing.

### **Nautical Routes: Championing Marine Ecotourism in Europe**

*Travelecoology (Breakaway Travel SL).*

Kiten

Nautical Routes are a unique opportunity to tap into the emerging 'Eco' and 'Cultural' market segments of nautical tourism. The Workshop will address sustainable product development around innovation (How can natural and cultural heritage interpretation be successfully built into the value proposition of nautical tourism?), Sustainability (How can environmental stewardship contribute to build greener portfolios, commercially viable?) and Governance (How can stakeholder engagement be maximized?).

## **Workshops III (17:00-18:30)**

Burgas

### **Ports and Clusters as Drivers for Economic Growth in European Territories**

*Pole Mer Mediterranee - Toulon Var Technologies, Marine Cluster Bulgaria.*



|          |  |
|----------|--|
|          | <p>The workshop will discuss how clusters can strengthen economic development in territories through innovation. It will Identify best practices for strengthening innovative SMEs in Blue Growth and port activities and highlight the need for the creation of long networks and interclustering.</p>  |
| Varna    | <p><b>Floating Offshore Wind Turbines, a Key for Blue Economy and Renewable Energy</b><br/> <i>Region Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur.</i></p> <p>Floating offshore wind turbines (FOWT) is an emerging technology in maritime renewable energies. It will contribute to the EU's objectives against climate change with innovative industries and local jobs.</p> <p>The French mediterranean Regions Occitanie and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur provide a strong support to FOWT development. Three pilot farms will be built by 2020. The workshop aims to identify good practices of institutions, clusters and FOWT companies to foster industrial deployment in the EU and outside.</p> |
| Pomerie  | <p><b>Marine Litter Solutions: from Policies to Action</b><br/> <i>Black Sea NGO Network, Rethink Plastic Alliance.</i></p> <p>Marine litter is an increasing concern worldwide which should be addressed through effective policies, prevention and reduction measures implemented at source on all levels. The workshop aims to outline the EU legal and policy framework and highlight new initiatives aimed at reducing waste and plastics in the environment. Issues discussed include policies and realities, the challenges of producing sound scientific evidence, citizen engagement and campaigns to reduce single use plastic items.</p>                                    |
| Nessebar | <p><b>Ocean Literacy to support Blue Growth: The Way Forward</b><br/> <i>ACTeon.</i></p> <p>Improving Ocean Literacy (OL) in all parts of European society can support behavior changes expected from all actors of the blue economy to achieve SDG14. The workshop will focus on different approaches to OL in sectors of blue growth and provide 'hands on experiences' with OL approaches and products. Mobilising participants' contributions using interactive facilitation, the workshop will identify opportunities in existing policies and pre-conditions for supporting OL in maritime sectors.</p>  |
| Sozopol  | <p><b>MSP in the Med: A Vision from Southern Europe</b><br/> <i>Consortium for Coordination of Research Activities Concerning the Venice Lagoon System (CORILA).</i></p> <p>MSP in the Mediterranean is still at an early stage of implementation. The workshop will address the main issues and best practices of MSP in the Mediterranean giving a holistic view of the current level of implementation of the Directive in the Mediterranean and having interactive discussion on on-going projects (SUPREME/SIMWESTMED). The aim is to discuss the key messages and future challenges of MSP implementation in Southern Europe.</p>  |

## Maritime Technology Skilling Strategy - Join MATES!

*Centro Tecnológico del Mar - Fundación CETMAR*

Kiten

MATES is aimed at bridging the gap between the skills needs and training offer addressing the value chains of shipbuilding and maritime renewable off-shore energy. The workshop will provide a general overview and discuss industry needs and technological challenges in both sectors, and highlight ocean literacy as an opportunity.

## MARE Info Sessions:

[List of speakers on the website](#)

### MARE-Sessions (9:00-10:30)

#### Turning Marine Litter into a Sustainable Business

*Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG - MARE).*

Burgas

This session will aim to combine best practices, workable solutions, innovative ideas to reduce the amount of marine litter entering ocean and to turn marine litter into a business. Such ideas and best practices could be further replicated into EU policy initiatives e.g. to implement 'European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy'.

#### Measuring the EU Blue Economy

*Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG-MARE).*

Varna

This session will present, discuss and collaborate inputs from participants on recent progress in defining and measuring the EU BLUE economy. It will provide an overview of topics related to methodologies better data and measurement tools to feed a better policy making.

#### Financing strategic cooperation for Blue Growth Supporting

*Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG-MARE).*

Pomorie

This session provides an overview of the financial sources available to support innovation in the Blue Economy. The increasing need for "blending" to maximise the financing capacity is discussed and concrete experiences of cooperation are presented by Managing Authorities in charge of EU funds, as well as enterprises and research bodies interested in financial support.

Pit

## ch Stage:

[List of speakers on the website](#)



## Research and Blue Growth (30 May 10:40-11.15)

### **EMODnet Open Sea Lab Best product winner: An R package for seaweeds aquaculture: “The best farming site locator”.**

*Vliz Vlaams Instituut Voor De Zee (VLIZ).*

To cope with the increasing demand of the aquaculture sector, an R tool was developed to select suitable locations for seaweed farming based on ecological niches of target species and environmental and human activities data from EMODnet web services.

### **MARINA Knowledge Sharing Platform: A Path Towards Blue Society**

*Nausicaa/Centre National de la Mer.*

The MARINA project has set up a socio-digital environment that brings together European researchers, businesses, policy makers and citizens to generate Responsible Research and Innovation actions in response to marine challenges and in view of Blue Society.

Atrium

### **DANUBIUS PP H2020 Project: Sharing Research Infrastructure on River-Sea Systems**

*Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.*

The DANUBIUS PP H2020 project plans a new distributed European Research Infrastructure to support interdisciplinary research on river-sea systems and fill the gaps in currently fragmented European research, and foster sustainable socio-economic development.

### **Blue Career Centre of the Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea**

*Marine Cluster Bulgaria.*

The Blue Career Centre is an intercluster platform that promotes the dialogue between business stakeholders, education & training institutions, research organizations, policy makers and civic society with the goal to develop and carry out joint measures for closing the skills gap, tackle unemployment and make blue careers” more attractive to young people of the Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea regions.

## Ecosystems and Environment (30 May 16:25-17:00)

### **Pioneering the Symbiotic Aqua-Industry**

*Sea Harmony.*

Atrium

A game changing combination between best AR and integrated aquaculture, ORTO technology (Ocean Reef Tower Oases) has enormous scale potential for offshore aquaculture, while helping to revive coastal ecosystems.

## **JPIO Munitions in the Sea**

*Joint Programming Initiative for Seas and Oceans.*

A joint European action to addresses science, technology, and exchange of practices to support intervention options, to evaluate and mitigate risks from munitions in the sea.

## **A Mobile Animal Ranging Assessment Model in Support of Ecosystem Based Marine Management**

*Delivering Higher Insight (DHI) Group.*

Conventional ecological modelling is based on a static concept, i.e. non-moving marine life. Yet, this assumption is unrealistic since a variety of marine life is continuously moving in relation to environmental variables and human impacts. MARAMBS considers these movements in a combination of hydrodynamic, habitat and agent based modelling, contributing to a more comprehensive Ecosystem Based Marine Management.

## **HERICOAST Toolbox for Improved Regional Policy Making in Coastal and Fluvial Regions**

*CIVILSCAPE.*

HERICOAST is an Interreg C Project, focussing on the improvement of policy making processes in coastal and fluvial regions. 8 Partners have developed a Toolbox for implementing a more evidence-based, stakeholder-oriented policy making for cultural heritage. It is a co-creational approach that utilizes experiences from 12 countries and offers a set of tools useful for the implementation on local and regional level.

### **Ambassadors 'EMD in my Country' (1 June 10:10-10:45)**

There is not just one European Maritime Day. A series of local EMD events are also organised all over Europe for the public at large, so that the many European regions with a maritime culture can join in the celebrations and highlight the vital role of the seas and oceans for our life and for the economy.

For the first time at EMD Conference 2018 in Burgas, five organisers of 'EMD events in my Country' (selected on a basis of geographical representativeness, innovation and added value to blue growth). The so-called '*ambassadors - EMD in my Country*' have been invited to present their own EMD events held this year in advance of EMD conference and share views and ideas with EMD participants for future actions.

## **Navigando: Sea Culture Action**

Atrium

*Maritime Technology Cluster FVG.*

“Navigando 2018” is an activity programme involving students and citizens into an education path with the purpose to get them close to the thematics of the International conference on Ship and Maritime Research – NAV2018, that will be held in Trieste, Italy, from June 20 to June 22. The programme will be articulated into conferences for citizens, high schools and universities, and into didactic activities for students, from primary and high schools.

### **Marine Microplastics: To Encounter, To Understand, To Act**

*University of Warsaw.*

This project focuses on the increasing problem of ubiquitous marine microplastics: to make people encounter it during the scientific engagement activities, to understand the scientific approach, to enable the proper impact on the situation.

### **Zero Marine Litter in the Azorean Sea: A Regional Coastline Clean-up**

*Regional Directorate for Sea Affairs.*

A public coastal clean-up will be held in the 9 islands of the Azores on the 26th May 2018, involving many sectors of society. It integrates the Azores Entre-Mares Campaign (20th may – 8th June) an initiative that aims raising marine environmental awareness on the local population. The clean-up is also part of a much broader initiative named Azores Action Plan to Marine Litter that support scientific studies and the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) to Azores marine waters.

### **Conoce tu Puerto: An Opportunity to Discover Your Port**

*Autoridad Portuaria Bahía de Algeciras.*

Port Authority of Algeciras Bay (APBA) is organizing its sixth 'Conoce Tu Puerto' ('Know Your Port') activity, which offers to local population and visitors of the area the opportunity to discover the port facilities from the sea. The activity will help to promote the "Blue Growth" strategy of the port through the information provided to the participants.

### **European Sea Days 2018 in Thermaikos, Greece**

*Municipality of Thermaikos.*

Participants are involved in activities such as the “Fishing Nets workshop - How to sew fishing nets in a traditional way”, the retrospective review “Fish Then and Now - informative speeches about fish in schools”, walks and visits to old lighthouses and narrations of sea stories by elderly mariners honoured for their participation in Greek maritime heritage.