

## ACTION LAB II LET'S DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR COMPLEMENTARITY

### FLAGSHIP 1.1

#### WORKING GROUP

#### INTRODUCTION

In the introductory presentation It has been shown a quick recap of the main contents of the Flagship 1.1 dedicated to FOSTERING QUADRUPLE HELIX TIES IN THE FIELDS OF MARINE TECHNOLOGIES AND BLUE BIO-TECHNOLOGIES. It has also been underlined what we intend for marine and blue-biotechnologies. **Marine technologies** may be considered as "technologies for the safe use, exploitation, protection of, and intervention in, the marine environment; marine engineering; ship building; oil and gas exploration, exploitation, and production; marine resources (including both renewable and non-renewable marine resources); transport and logistics. **Blue/bio-technologies** are the application of science and technology to living aquatic organisms for the production of knowledge, goods and services (OECD, 2016), especially in the fields of food, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, energy, packaging, and much more.

The European Commission Communication no 240 of this year on a new approach for a sustainable blue economy recalls on the need to move from the blue growth towards a sustainable blue growth as one of the cornerstones of the green deal. It also mentions EUSAIR as one of effective means for the blue growth stakeholder's cooperation.

The Flagship 1.1 is focused on one hand on innovation and blue/bio technologies and on the other hand on blue skills/careers. Specific actions concern:

- Encouragement & creation of clustering, especially adopting quadruple helix approach, also in line with Smart specialization strategies
- Research and innovation transfer on blue technologies
- Enhancement of competitiveness and sustainability of enterprises in the areas of blue economy
- development of eco-friendly end products serving circular economy –
- SMEs support
- Development of solutions to decarbonize fishing fleets
- Promotion of blue skills – knowledge sharing & creation of databanks, networking between researchers.

It has been presented **the mind-map** that has been built taking into account MAs' answers about the existing links between the Flagship 1.1 and the types of actions of each drafting Program. Five clusters have been identified:

- blue/biotechnologies
- digitalization
- competitiveness of SMEs in blue economy sectors
- blue skills/careers
- circular economy

For each cluster It has been reported the matching with the relevant types of actions, indicating the concerned Programs. The green flag shows the actions for which the link with the flagship is stronger. The light orange boxes specify the actions involving at least 4 Programs. The green arrows put the attention on the different actions that could be in synergy. On a methodological point of view, the types of actions have been summarized with a short description, also merging different actions among the Programs. The actions may refer to different clusters, one single action for example could be included in more clusters.

## Question No 1: Which are the complementarities emerging among the Programs?

The Programs generally confirm the design of the map. Many of them state that they are in the drafting phase of the fine-tuning of the types of actions and this is shared as an opportunity for the embedding work. Adrion Program, in particular, refers that it is currently on going the refining of the actions aiming at ensuring a closer link with Flagships also including specific keywords and creating a clearer intervention logic.

Going deeply into the content of the map, it has been noted that the only Flagship 1.1 action not included in the analysed draft Programs is **decarbonization of mobility**, also because it is a typical ERDF and EMFAF intervention. Adrion Programme specifies that instead, within PO 2, it is foreseen an action concerning this aspect: Support the environmental performance and energy efficiency for low carbon ports system and related infrastructures – such as noise reduction, air quality, decrease of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – through the adoption of innovative technology and energy sustainability measures. Also Greece-Italy Program affirms that for transport sector it has been foreseen a cross-cutting project mixing blue Economy, transport and climate change.

Discussing about complementarities, it is noted that the core activities (Blue technologies, SMEs support and skills) related to the Flagship involve a large number of Programs, also compared to other Flagships. There is a wide range of actions and all of them show a strong link to the Flagship.

It is very interesting the action of IT HR and IT SI promoting **synergies among ETC Programs** and with Horizon. IT-AL-ME would like to create synergies with other ETC Programs and COSME with regards to the digitalization, as a cross-cutting issue instead of defining a specific dedicated action.

Many Programs mention **quadruple helix approach**, while S3 is mentioned much more with reference to S3 skills.

With reference to **digitalization** there are much more Programs promoting ICT access for public administrations, citizens and enterprises and less Programs investing in interoperability and big data.

Reading third group of actions it can be noted how **support to competitiveness of SMEs** has a strong relevance into the new Programs and the majority of them make clear reference to blue economy sectors or sustainable sectors.

A very interesting experience that emerged was the action of IPA HR-BA-ME concerning SPF and sub-granting for SMEs.

With reference to blue skills/careers, only two cross-border maritime Programs (IT-GR and IT-HR) specifically mention **blue skills**, the other ones mention green, general, entrepreneurial or digital **skills**. Many Programs make specific reference to **S3 skills** that could be an important link between Programs and actions. Some Programs pay due attention to **young people**, especially IPA SR-BA and SR-ME. Few of them consider recognition of qualifications and mobility of students and researchers. A specific action is foreseen by Adrion to close the gap between EU and IPA ADRIAN Countries by raising competencies/skills.

Few Programs have considered specific actions for **circular economy** mainly facing technologies serving circular economy. On this aspect, the Programs specify they are defining actions related to green technologies, circular economy and green skills within PO 2 specific objectives.

## Question No 2: What is the role ADRIAN programme could play?

Adrion could play an important role as unique transnational Program of the area. Adrion representatives inform that there is under discussion MA's proposal to adopt quicker approaches for the launch of new calls, in order to speed up projects selection and approval processes. In this way approved projects can be considered the engine for further calls of the CBC and mainstream programs. These approaches include



the one offered by the capitalisation call for thematic clusters. It is also important to work at national level to build the partnerships participating to different Programs.