

WestMED Stakeholder Conference 2023

Draft Agenda

22 June 2023

Villa Arrigo, Naxxar (Malta)

Preliminary draft agenda

22 June 2023

09:00-09:30 **Registration**

09:30-10:00 **Welcome and opening remarks**

Setting the scene: The political/institutional framework for the development of sustainable blue economy in the WestMED

Official welcome: Malta

- WestMED Initiative Co-Presidency: main features and highlights (WestMED Initiative Co-Presidency: Malta and Mauritania)
 - UfM Roadmap towards implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Blue Economy and Blue Mediterranean Partnership (UfM)
 - Commission report on the WestMED Implementation: key outcomes and recommendations for the future (DG MARE)
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10:00-11:30 **Building up on the success so far of WestMED's outcomes**

- **Offering a holistic overview of the existing projects contributing to WestMED's priorities**
 - **Blue skills and ocean literacy**
 - Network of Blue Schools: experience at Mediterranean level and replicability in southern countries
 - Upcoming developments in blue careers: EMFAF project Blue Careers call
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- Strengthening synergies with the Atlantic Strategy (Pillar II) to boost blue skills and ocean literacy in the western Mediterranean
 - **Blue tourism**
 - Building a regional framework to boost sustainable coastal and maritime tourism in the Mediterranean (WestMED Co-Presidency)
 - Successful case study: EMFAF awarded flagship projects

11:30-12:00 **Coffee Break**

12:00-13:30 **Thematic parallel sessions**

Session 1: Green shipping

- Priorities and main highlights of the technical group
- Discussion about existing and upcoming funding opportunities
- Discussion about future projects' ideas

Session 2: Maritime Clusters

- Priorities and main highlights of the alliance
- Discussion about existing and upcoming funding opportunities
- Discussion about future projects' ideas

Session 3: Sustainable Aquaculture - AquaWEST

- Priorities and main highlights of the technical group
- Discussion about existing and upcoming opportunities
- Discussion about future projects' ideas

Session 4: Community of Practice on Marine Spatial Planning in the Med

- Priorities and main highlights of the Community of Practice
- Discussion about existing and upcoming funding opportunities
- Discussion about future projects' ideas

13:30-14:30	Network lunch
14:30-15:30	Continuation parallel sessions
15:30-16:00	Emerging findings from parallel sessions: What concrete opportunities for further cooperation have emerged?
16:00-16:45	Corridors for project impact cooperation (WestMED Initiative Project Awards) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Announcement of the winners of the 4 different project award categories• Pitching of the category winners to a selection panel with a focus on transferability/ replicability – to compete for the overall 2023 WestMED Initiative Award• Q&A with selection panel• Voting for the WestMED Initiative Project Award 2023• Announcement of the best 2023 WestMED project award winner
16:45-17:00	Final remarks and closing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DG MARE/CINEA• Maltese Co-Presidency
