



## Seminar "Blue Invest - EU support to maritime regions"

The European Commission, Borschette Building (CCAB)  
Brussels, 22 September 2015

### DG MARE

In collaboration with

## The Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions

Invites you to the conference

## BLUE.INVEST – EU SUPPORT TO MARITIME REGIONS

Brussels, 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

CCAB - Brussels - Room AB-OA

The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIFs) will provide a major contribution to blue growth and jobs creation in European regions during the current programming period (2014-2020). This conference will provide an occasion to anticipate to which extent this might be the case, as well as to present and discuss concrete maritime priorities and initiatives that will be supported through these funds.

Interpretation will be available in the following languages: FR-DE-EN-IT-ES-PT-EL-PL

**9.00-9.30**      **Arrival and welcome of participants**

**9.30-10.30**    **OPENING SESSION**

Moderator: **Eleni MARIANO**, CPMR Secretary General

- Commissioner **Karmenu VELLA**
- CPMR President **Vasco CORDEIRO**
- MEP **Gesine MEISSNER**, Chair of the EP Intergroup "Seas, islands, rivers and coastal areas"
- **Mario AYMERICH**, Managerial Advisor, Environment and Regional Development Department, European Investment Bank

**10.30-11.00**    **Coffee break**

**11.00-13.00**    **MARITIME INVESTMENTS AND SKILLS AS A CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITY**

This session will focus on blue growth as a cross-cutting priority in smart-specialization strategies and operational programmes for the 2014-2020 programming period, on the basis of analysis developed so

far by the European Commission and the CPMR, and of examples of regional strategies covering a wide range of maritime topics. The development of skills and qualifications as a key priority for the development of the blue economy will in particular be highlighted.

Moderator: **Colin WOLFE**, Head of Unit, Competence Centre, Smart and Sustainable Growth, DG REGIO

- **Damien PERISSE**, CPMR Director for maritime affairs
- **Pierre KARLESKIND**, Vice-President of the Regional Council in charge of European Affairs , the Sea and Coastal Regions, Brittany
- **Sylvie FLEURY**, 7ci bW^cfzG YhUbX-gUbXg7ci bW
- **Yfjlb'6FI BBGFCA**, FY| jcbU`7ci bW^cfzJ UgfU; chUbX`

Discussion with participants

**13.00-14.30 LUNCH**

#### **14.30-16.00 TAPPING INTO BLUE GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES: MARINE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MARITIME INDUSTRIES**

This session will focus on regional strategies and initiatives supported by the ERDF , in the areas of maritime renewable energies, including synergies with other maritime industrial sectors such as shipbuilding.

Moderator: **Alain ALEXIS**, Head of Unit, Defence, Aeronautic and Maritime Industries, DG GROW.

- **Caroline PRIVAT**, Bremen Ministry for Economy, Labor and Ports
- **Christophe CLERGEAU**, First Vice-President of the Regional Council, Pays de la Loire
- **Tiina PERHO**, Member of Managing Board, Regional Council of Southwest Finland
- **Marc PONS I PONS**, Regional Minister of Presidency (Government of the Balearic Islands)

Discussion with participants

**16.00-16.30 Coffee Break**

#### **16.30-18.15 BOOSTING BLUE GROWTH: MARINE LIVING RESOURCES**

The reformed CFP has led to new opportunities to add value to seafood products. This session will focus on regional strategies and initiatives supported by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) and other ESIFs to generate growth and jobs in aquaculture and biotechnology.

Moderator: **Bernard FRIESS**, Director, DG MARE

- **Eoin MAC AOIDH**, DG MARE, Common Fisheries Policy and Aquaculture
- **Rosa María QUINTANA CARBALLO**, Regional Councillor in charge of the Sea and of Rural Policy, Xunta de Galicia
- **Manuela BORA**, Regional Councillor, Marche
- **GjM `]bXY; FI 69F**, Head of Unit, Marine Resources, DG RTD

Discussion with participants

**18.15-18.30 CONCLUSIONS**

- **George ALEXAKIS**, Regional Councillor of Crete, Vice-President of the CPMR in charge of maritime affairs
- **João AGUIAR MACHADO**, Director General, DG MARE