



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط

# **ROADMAP TO SET THE PATH TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2021 UFM MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY**

**Grouping of identified initiatives: details for agreeing on next steps**

# Grouping of initiatives for implementing the Roadmap

## *Overview of the groupings as approved by the UfM WG*

### **Cross-cutting support**

#### **Support to blue skills, training and capacity building**

Training for project submission under relevant EU Programmes  
Twinning/Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX)  
Expand existing socio-economic observatories  
Continuation of webinars (e.g. Ocean Literacy?)  
Maritime renewable energy for a 'greener' blue economy  
Maritime safety/security / CB Exchange of information/expertise

### **Small-ports and marinas diversification**

- Transformative innovation for small-scale ports
- Fostering ports as 'hubs' of clean and renewable energy
- Foster ability of ports in adopting fully circular model

### **Innovation ecosystems for blue economy value-chains**

- Scale-up good practices on sustainable food value-chains
- Financing tourism diversification/digitalisation
- Cluster alliance to address the sector and investors
- Scale-up innovation practices across the sea basin

### **MSP as a sustainable blue economy 'enabler'**

- MSP for a proper planning of marine renewables zones/licensing
- Principal Areas (fisheries), Allocated Zones (aquaculture), and MPAs
- Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) multi-stakeholder working group

# Grouping of initiatives for implementing the Roadmap (1)

## *Details: Small-ports and marinas diversification*

### ***Need and opportunity to be addressed***

- Small ports and marinas have a high potential to play a role as 'regional/community hubs' for innovation/diversification
- They are too small and fragmented to be able to network adequately and require further support

### ***Support to project concept and funding identification (based on available options)***

### ***Activities foreseen in the initiative***

- Support greater coordination, networking and cooperation for small ports and marinas across the Mediterranean
- Pilot a possible concept and actions for the 'acceleration' of their sustainable innovation and diversification
- Make links with relevant 'blue' sectors such as pescatourism, underwater heritage, cultural routes, small-scale yachting and further support the land-sea interactions
- Consider the potentials for marine renewable energy as a booster for greener small ports and related activities

### ***Stakeholders to be potentially involved***

- Regional projects/initiatives that can provide know how on sustainable innovation and diversification of activities
- Relevant networks/associations that can bring and coordinate actions in a number of small ports and/or marinas
- Other stakeholders interested in experiencing sustainable innovation potentials for small ports and marinas

### ***Next steps for moving ahead with the initiative proposed***

- Identify relevant actors who can have a catalyst role towards aggregating small ports and marinas
- Build on existing opportunities to foster exchange with relevant stakeholders willing to drive the initiative
- Develop a concept note in support to valuable project leaders that could submit a successful proposal

# Grouping of initiatives for implementing the Roadmap (2)

*Details: Innovation ecosystems for sustainable blue economy value-chains*

## ***Need and opportunity to be addressed***

- Innovation ecosystems are essential drivers for transformative change in coastal and maritime regions
- A number of innovative financing actions and support initiatives are available through the EU and regional actors
- Southern Mediterranean Countries may require greater support in being aware of such potentials

## ***Dedicated webinars (e.g. 2 sessions)***

### ***Activities foreseen in the initiative***

- Capitalise on the initiative at disposal (Blue finance, etc.) and raise awareness of southern stakeholders
- Build greater synergies and raise awareness for southern financing actors and innovation 'enablers'
- Support dedicated events, webinar and actions to foster greater networking and awareness in this area

### ***Stakeholders to be potentially involved***

- 'Quadruple helix' actors involved in blue-economy value-chains (research, industry, policymakers, end-users)
- Financial bodies acting in supporting innovation in the Mediterranean and particularly for southern countries
- Innovation 'enabled' such as clusters, accelerators, incubators that are growingly active across the Mediterranean

### ***Next steps for moving ahead with the initiative proposed***

- Follow-up on the main results of the Blue Finance initiative and identify a concrete action-plan

# Grouping of initiatives for implementing the Roadmap (3)

*Details: MSP as a sustainable blue economy 'enabler'*

## ***Need and opportunity to be addressed***

- MSP is a prerequisite for sustainable development of blue economy activities (including fisheries/aquaculture)
- MSP is also essential for an effective licensing of marine renewable energy infrastructures
- MSP is critical for northern and southern Mediterranean countries and as such requires greater seabasin support

***Support the activation of dedicated Technical Group under the UfM Blue Economy WG***

## ***Activities foreseen in the initiative***

- Engaging with relevant sub-regional projects initiatives (EU, western Mediterranean, etc.)
- Favouring seabasin dialogue and cooperation towards greater Mediterranean support
- Setting up a dedicated Technical Group focusing on practices that could report advancements to the UfM WG (tbc)

## ***Stakeholders to be potentially involved***

- Existing and recent projects/initiatives supporting MSP/ICZM across the Mediterranean
- Relevant regional bodies involved in supporting MSP capacity building across the seabasin
- Key national and regional experts including those involved in the south

## ***Next steps for the initiative***

- Build on existing opportunities to foster exchange with relevant stakeholders willing to drive the initiative
- Support the set-up of a TG that could periodically report advancements of this initiative to the UfM Secretariat / WG

## ***Transversal:***

### *Training for project development under EU funding Programmes*

#### ***Need and opportunity to be addressed***

- A wide range of funding opportunities across the seabasin and increasingly open to southern partners
- At the same time the understanding and ability to respond to such opportunities is unevenly distributed

#### ***Dedicated webinar (1 session)***

#### ***Activities foreseen in the initiative***

- Provide under UfM a follow-up to the webinar offered by WestMED open to all Mediterranean stakeholders
- Identify funding complementarities, both in terms of geographical dimension as well as thematic focus

#### ***Stakeholders to be potentially involved***

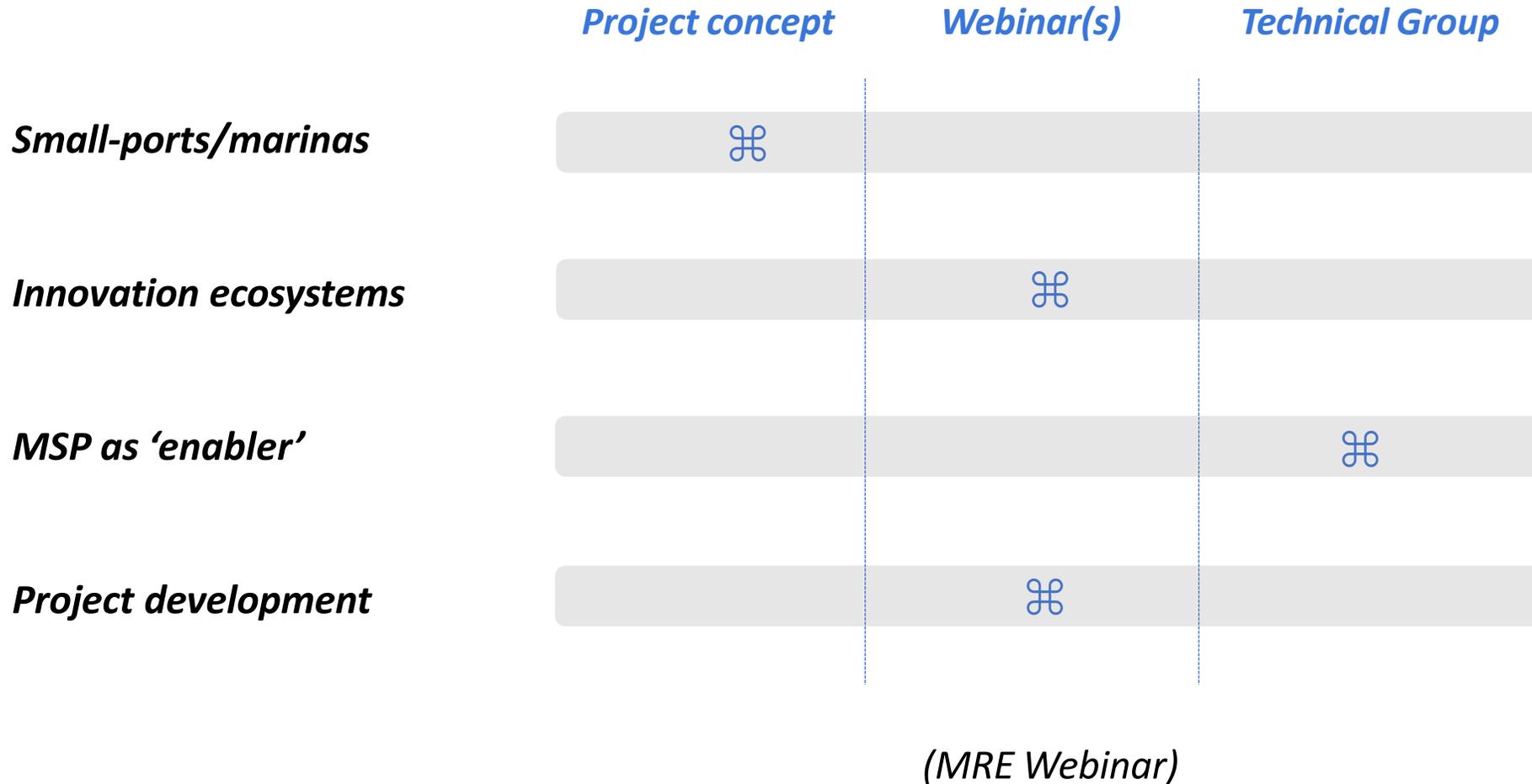
- All relevant stakeholders, public and private, can be invited and attend the online webinar
- As an option, some selected stakeholders can also attend in presence (if held back-to-back to the UfM WG)
- Successful stakeholders to promote their experiences

#### ***Next steps for the initiative***

- Discuss and agree upon a more detail concept that can already be presented and discussed with the WG
- Agree on the approach for the delivery of the training (fully online, hybrid or fully in presence)
- Identify a concrete action-plan based on the concrete delivery approach being agreed with the WG

# Grouping of initiatives for implementing the Roadmap

*Overview of the actions foreseen until December 2022*



# Grouping of initiatives for implementing the Roadmap

## Overview of the overall planning and key milestone in 2022

