

Blue Synergies: Maximising Funding Impact in the Atlantic Sea Basin

Thursday 19.10.2023 from 15:00 to 18:00

Porto Leixões Cruise Terminal in Porto, Portugal

Event co-organised by DG Regio and DG Mare, with the support of Interreg Atlantic Area, the Atlantic Strategy Mechanism and Interact



Blue Synergies: Maximising Funding Impact in the Atlantic Sea Basin 19

October 2023

Porto, terminal do Porto de Leixões | Portugal

Agenda (PT time)

15.00 – 15.30

Welcome Coffee / Tea and visiting stand exhibition

15.30 – 16.20

Setting the Scene – Better Together

António Cunha, President of The Norte Portugal Regional Coordination and Development Commission (CCDR-Norte, I.P.), Managing Authority of Interreg Atlantic Area

Marisa Lameiras da Silva, Chairperson of the Atlantic Strategy Committee

Iglika Yakova, Deputy Head of Unit, Sea basin strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security, DG Mare, European Commission

Slawomir Tokarski, Director, European Territorial Cooperation, Macro-

regions, Interreg and Programmes Implementation, DG Regio, European Commission

16.20 – 17.10

From ideas to action for the Atlantic Region – synergies potentials

Roundtable: thematic synergies

- *Gerardo Gonzalez, Pillar I (Ports as gateways and hubs for the blue economy) coordinator representative, Atlantic Strategy*
- *Ana Noronha, Pillar II (Blue skills of the future and ocean literacy) coordinator, Atlantic Strategy*
- *Pilar Maza Rodríguez, Head of Joint Secretariat, Interreg POCTEFA*
- *Ismael Morán-García, Head of Joint Secretariat, Interreg Atlantic Area*
- *Susana Pinto, Managing Authority Secretariat, Norte Region, CCDR-Norte*
- *Moderated Q&A with the audience*
- *Moderator: Javier Fernandez and Matteo Bocci, Seabasins Assistance Mechanism*

Objectives of the session: The need to build stronger synergies across funding programmes has been highlighted in the Cohesion Policy documents for the 2021-2027 period. How does it work in practice? What are the main outcomes of the Atlantic Pillars so far and foreseen in the near future? Which complementarities are foreseen with the funding programmes? What are the challenges preventing further synergies and how such challenges could be overcome? These points will be discussed in an interview-style session.

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17.05 – 17.50

From ideas to action for the Atlantic Region – making it happen

Interactive exchange: actions at seabasin, international, regional level

- *Members of the previous panel*
- *Frédéric Herpers: National Hub of the Assistance Mechanism, France*
- *Liz Gavin: National Hub of the Assistance Mechanism, Ireland*
- *Frederico Ferreira: National Hub of the Assistance Mechanism, Portugal*
- *Broader public*
- *Moderator: Matteo Bocci and Javier Fernandez, Seabasins Assistance Mechanism*

Objectives of the session: Building on the identified potentials for synergies, related challenges and actions needed to address those, this session will look at practical solutions and ways to design and deliver joint initiatives at different governance levels, with the aim to strengthen the overall support for a sustainable blue economy in the Atlantic Area. Which role for both the Assistance Mechanism and the Programmes in the synergies process and overcoming those challenges? This session will allow for a broader interaction and engagement of participants, as to identify concrete and feasible actions at different governance level.

17.50 – 18.00

Closing of the event

Orlando Costa, Head of Cooperation Unit · DGPM - Directorate General for Maritime Policy

Sandra Tavares da Silva, Executive Director, Managing Authority of the Interreg Atlantic Area Programme