



Sinergie per la Blue Economy nell'Area Mediterranea.

Il Programma ENI CBC MED.

Roma – 4 ottobre 2022

Le priorità della Strategia WestMED



WestMED Strategic Initiative

Contribute to the development of a
sustainable blue economy in the
western Mediterranean region

WESTMED
blue economy initiative

ALGERIA

FRANCE

ITALY

LIBYA

MALTA

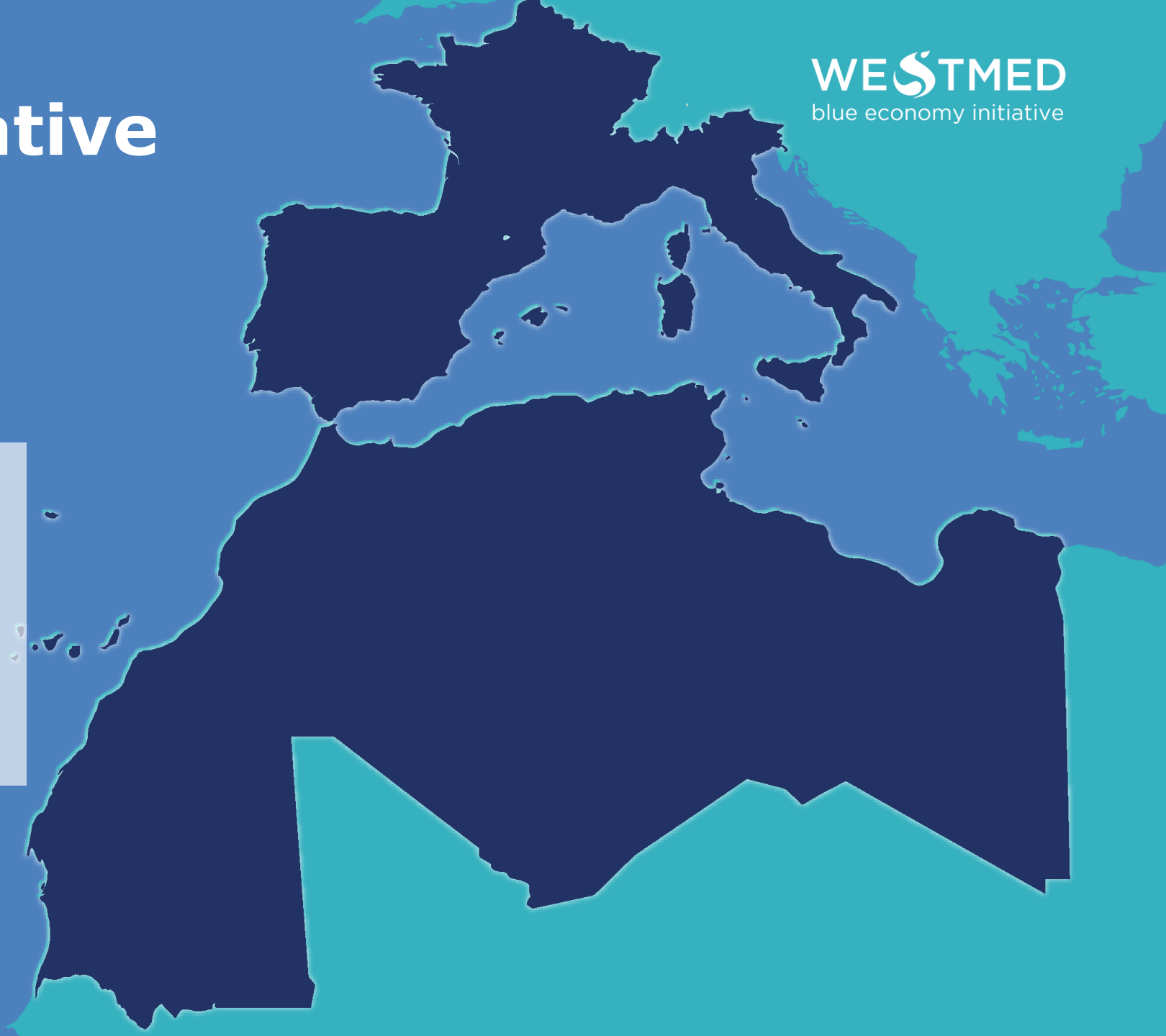
MAURITANIA

MOROCCO

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

TUNISIA



Objectives



**A safer and more
secure maritime space**



**A smart and resilient
blue economy**



**A better governance
of the sea**

Priorities



**Maritime safety
and security**



**Environment,
biodiversity and
climate change**



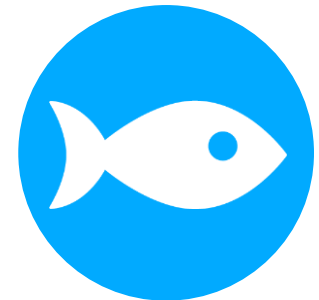
**Maritime clusters
and networks**



**Skills development
and circulation**

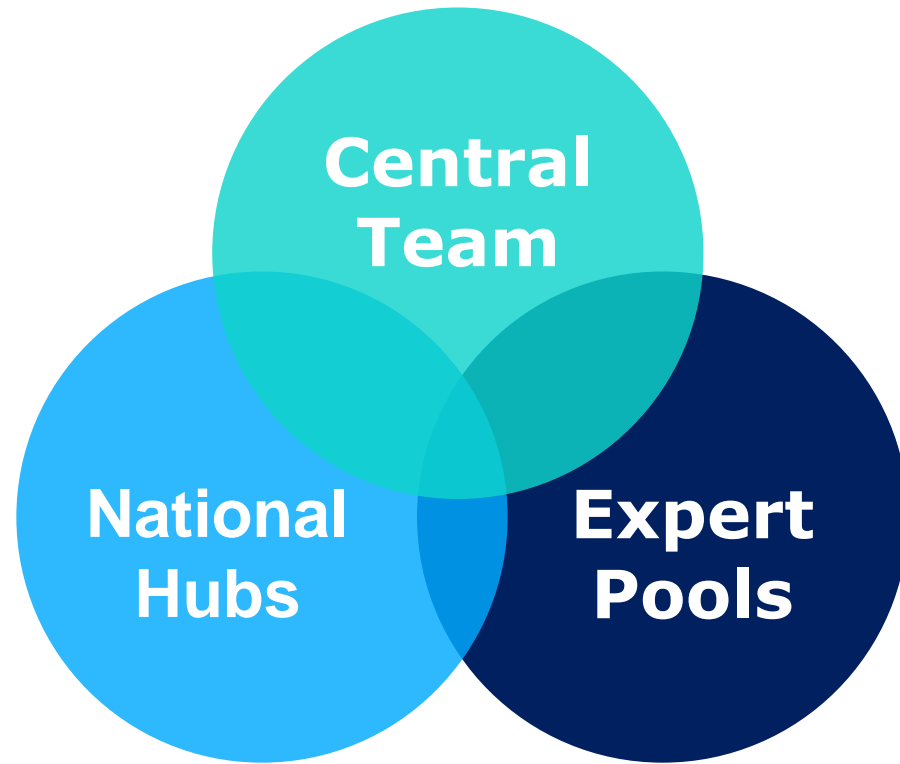


**Sustainable tourism,
transport and fight
against pollution**



**Fisheries and
Aquaculture**

Assistance Mechanism



29+ Experts



Your 29⁺ expert team

Portugal

Rui Manuel Azevedo
Pereira da Silva
Frederico Manta

Morocco

Mohamed Malouli Idrissi
Ayman Jghab

Algeria

Samir Grimes
Samir Bachouche

Tunisia

Salem Miladi
Slim Jerbia

Libya

N/A

France

Frédérick Herpers
Colin Rue

Italy

Leonardo Manzari
Laura Parducci

Malta

Gordon Cordina
Stephanie Vella

Mauritania

Dedah Babou
Mohamed Lemine Tarbiya

National Hubs

Areas of support of the WMAM



Project development

Provide clear guidance and pro-active project development support to local stakeholders.



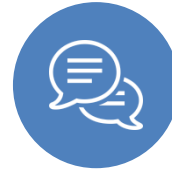
Funding opportunities

Ensure sound monitoring of funding/financing opportunities to support project ideas and development.



Communication strategy

Implement an effective and comprehensive communication strategy for the WestMED Initiative.



Outreach

Improve outreach of the Framework for Action through effective engagement activities.



Governance structure

Improve governance structure by offering operational, logistical and administrative support to the (WMSC) and the Technical Groups that may be created within the WMSC.



Interface Med-VKC

Establish effective interface with existing Virtual Knowledge Centre (VKC).

Areas of achievements of the WMAM



Different types of achievements which are pursued and already reported by the WestMED Initiative:

- **Project support** – one of the core area of support (financing, partnerships, conceptualisation)
- **Improved regional cooperation** – direct effect of AM work (roadshows, national events, hackathons, TGs, webinars, stakeholder conference, etc.)
- **Broader results through the WMAM contribution** – National Blue Economy Strategies, National Programmes and financing mechanisms, cluster cooperation, etc.



SUPPORTED PROJECTS

Project proposals developed with WMAM support

More than 80 project proposals supported by the WestMED Assistance Mechanism

Italian NH has supported 33 project proposals (5 under evaluation) for a total budget of Euro 60,4 mln

Out of 33, 15 project proposals approved for a total budget of Euro 25,2 mln (11 mln in evaluation)

Thanks to the TA to the Partnership btw ITA & TUN national clusters, 13 projects have involved Tunisian partners



The Santa Giulia – Oristano GNL project



Online meetings

Technical Groups (TGs) in the WestMED Initiative

WestMED initiative Steering Committee can establish temporary Technical Groups and define their mandates, objectives, deliverables and ensure interactions between them.

- The rules of procedure stipulate that Technical Groups should be **established on the basis of a specific priority and focused on results**
- They need to be **time-bound** (reaching the target in a timely manner)
- They **involve relevant experts and stakeholders** (including from the research and business sector) in order to **define and implement specific measures and projects**.



Fostering (sub)regional cooperation towards concrete projects

Looking ahead: proposals for actions in 2021

○ Set-up and management of working groups in key areas

- *Green Shipping* – continue support funding and coordination (REMPEC, DG MOVE, etc.)
- *Aquaculture* – clear focus to “federate” southern actions for transfer of knowledge
- *Clusters* – “light” approach to support “WestMED alliance” to attract/support financing

○ Support a range of regional project initiatives (also emerging from the TGs)

- *Green Shipping* – two Pilot Actions and the Feasibility Study
- *Clusters Alliance* – WestMED clusters to attract existing financing streams (SMEs, etc)
- *Blue Skills* – **systematize the higher education and VET initiatives on the Blue Economy in the western Mediterranean, to ensure a generation of executives, policy makers, academic & research class, technical experts, civil society actors, with a basin-based view and priority.**
- *Sustainable Aquaculture* – Federated southern programmes for knowledge transfer
- *Tourism Accelerator* – See opportunity to scale-up the UfM Proposal (Palermo concept)
- Support ‘bottom-up’ cooperation between NHs – coordinate and accelerate NHs support

WESTMED ALLIANCE OF MARITIME CLUSTERS

Coordination Group of National Hubs: IT, FR, PT, TU

WestMED Alliance Maritime Clusters

Capacity building
North-South
and South-South

Arab
Maghreb
Maritime
Cluster

Blue Economy Business
and Innovation
Accelerator -
Investment Attraction

Cross-sectoral cluster
matchmaking



The Santa Giulia – Oristano GNL project



Online meetings

Technical Group SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT & GREEN SHIPPING

National Groups of stakeholders coordinated by the National Hubs



WestMED countries National delegates

Technical Group on

Sustainable Transport Green Shipping

Medium
Term
Scenarios

Common
Initiatives

Cross
Border
Projects



The Santa Giulia – Oristano GNL project



Online meetings

Technical Group

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT & GREEN SHIPPING

Technical Group on

Sustainable Transport Green Shipping

Feasibility Study:

*Boosting Green Shipping:
maximising investments
in sustainable energy;*

Pilot Action 1.

*Network of WestMED
Maritime Ports as
Energy Communities;*

Pilot Action 2.

*Boost adaptation
of WestMED
commercial vessels
(ferries and service).*



The Santa Giulia – Oristano GNL project




Online meetings

Green Shipping Technical Group – identified projects

- **Study: WestMED assessment and country feasibility (south)**
Analyse the foreseen trends in energy consumption, the **opportunities for strategic development of the infrastructure to boost renewable energy sources for green shipping.**
- **Pilot Action 1: Network of WestMED ports as energy communities**
Western Mediterranean ports can play a leading role in **piloting the transformation of green ports into active 'energy communities'** (by accelerating the transition from LNG towards a wider choice of alternative fuels and technologies, including hydrogen, electrification, etc.).
- **Pilot Action 2: Adaptation of WestMED commercial vessels**
It aims at **testing the potentials for adaptation of small-scale commercial vessels (including local ferries and service vessels) in accelerating their transition to sustainable energy** – from LNG towards a wider choice of alternative fuels/technologies, including hydrogen, electrification, etc.

The central importance of Blue Skills development and circulation



Considering that the **North-South and South-South** synergies are at the core of the WestMED Initiative and its Assistance Mechanism, the focus on Blue Skills is the most urgent priority to ensure a common action towards **Sustainability, Circularity, Climate Change, Bio-economy**, etc., through **specialization, entrepreneurship and employability opportunities** on the territories.

In a framework of capacity building initiatives, Blue Skills represent the first area of co-operation required by southern shore countries, whose educational system offers a large potential of modernization and development.

The demographic dynamics and the consolidated role of remote learning modes, are increasing the importance of local characteristics and specificities, which can only be experienced on the territories. This model may become the suitable way to develop a detailed knowledge on local species and marine ecosystem.

The central importance of Blue Skills development and circulation

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- Fostering **networking in a common system of competence and specialization hubs** across the Western Mediterranean, avoiding overlaps, and encouraging development of **complementarity** of wider and deeper knowledges, also on local eco-systems;
 - Adopt **the best practices of education-work (permanent and temporary) exchanges** as a way to enrich and update continuously the ecosystem with the most modern contents;
 - **Reducing brain-drain from southern countries**, as a result of supporting the birth and establishment of local entrepreneurship and employment initiatives, with international view and skills, to ensure countries with suitable capacities.
 - **Availing on/Optimizing the existing EU and non-EU platforms and networks** of universities, research institutes, technological centers, laboratories. Building on proven positives experiences **and services**.

The central importance of Blue Skills development and circulation

Some priority areas expressed by southern ecosystem of Blue Growth stakeholders

- 
- **Merchant Navy;**
 - **Naval Architecture & Engineering;**
 - **Marine Bio-technology;**
 - **VET;**
 - **Marine Renewable Energies;**
 - **Water Management, Quality of Waters; Desalination;**
 - **MPAs management;**
 - **Marinas management;**
 - **Sustainable Aquaculture.**



Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale



Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri
Dipartimento delle Politiche di Coesione

WESTMED
blue economy initiative

Supported
by the



WESTMED STAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE - 2021

300 registrations | 30 speakers | 5 project winners



BEST PROJECT WINNER 2021 Biodiversity, Marine Habitat Conservation

and Response to Marine Pollution

SICOMAR plus The logo for SICOMAR plus, featuring the word "SICOMAR" in blue and "plus" in a lighter blue, with a stylized wave graphic integrated into the "O".

*SICOMAR plus is a cross border cooperation project funded under the
2014-2020 France – Italy Maritime Programme.*

The project objectives are fully aligned with the scope of the present Category, addressing the challenge of maritime safety, with an interesting focus on the collisions with cetatians, and the quality of cross-border marine environment.



BEST PROJECT WINNER 2021

Sustainable Consumption and Production

BIOVecQ



BIOVecQ is led by a Tunisian organisation (INSTM) that promotes bilateral cooperation between Italian and Tunisian research centres on the topic of blue biotechnology, showing North-South cooperation.

The project is highly relevant and is considered to have a substantial potential impact, especially in economically deprived areas."



BEST PROJECT WINNER 2021

Sustainable Fisheries, Aquaculture
and Coastal Community Development

STARFISH 4.0  **starfish**

This project focusses on small-scale fisheries (SSF) in three Mediterranean countries (France, Mauritania and Greece).

It offers innovative solutions for the modernization and digitalization of the sector, which are considered to have a high impact potential due to their special focus on the end users, leading to high levels of impact and effectiveness



BEST PROJECT WINNER 2021

Skill Development and Circulation

BLUESKILLS

BlueSKILLS is a flagship project bringing together all WestMED countries (including Libya) and with a North-South balance. Its main goal is to promote blue jobs and responsible growth through capacity development and enhancement.

The project provides an innovative approach rooting on filling the gap between demand and supply of labour in the Blue Economy



BEST PROJECT WINNER 2021

Skill Development and
Circulation

Algeria Startup Challenge



This is a highly relevant, innovative and impactful project aiming to support Algerian startups in the field of aquaculture, environmental protection, etc.

The project has had very important national impact with over 185 participating projects and 24 supported startups, with a focus on youth.

NATIONAL HUB - ITALY



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WestMed_Italy



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**Leonard
o**



**Laura
Parducci**

Online presence



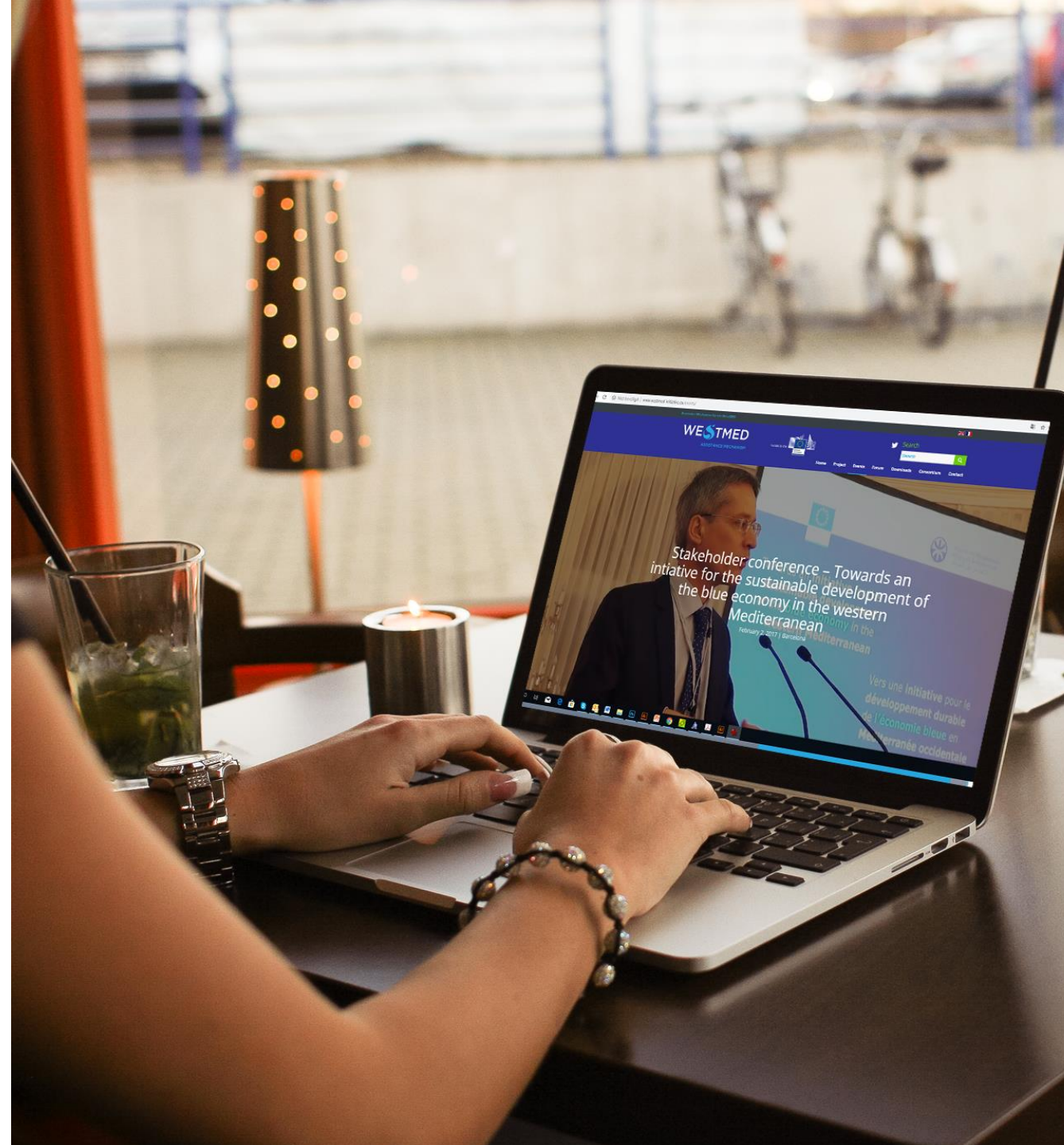
www.westmed-initiative.eu



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To be developed



WESTMED

Your Portal to Blue Growth opportunities
in the western Mediterranean



Funded by the



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Pesceres
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MER ET LITTORAL