



SEA-EU STAFF WEEK

Name of the session	Interdisciplinary Workshop: Navigating a Bright, Blue Future for the Marine and Maritime Sectors
Hosting Institution	University of Malta
Starting –ending date of the training	28 th – 29 th May 2020
Language	English
Profile of expected participants (at least precise if teaching staff, supporting staff, student) / prerequisite	Researchers in the Marine and Maritime areas Academics/Teachers of Marine and Maritime Studies and related disciplines (including Engineering, Biology and Law) Administration Staff are also welcome to shadow administrative team and join in with different activities
Maximum number of participants	10 academics/researchers + max. 5 administration staff (2 academics/researchers + 1 admin staff per partner) <i>First come first served; however, we will seek to have a range of participants from different universities</i>
Contact person for details:	Maria Calleja, maria.calleja@um.edu.mt
Contact person for application :	Maria Calleja, maria.calleja@um.edu.mt
Application details:	Please use the following application form to apply for Marine & Maritime Staff Week + Interdisciplinary workshop: https://forms.gle/KaAq9SViaZDmf5yQ8
Application Deadline :	Friday, 27th March 2020
General objectives of the week	The OECD report on the ocean-based economy into the coming decade points to a potential growth in terms of value added and employment that may outperform the global economy as a whole. Even on a “business-as-usual” basis, the ocean economy could more than double its contribution to global value added, reaching over USD 3 trillion. In Europe, Blue Growth provides an implementation framework towards an integrated approach to stimulate excellence in the marine and maritime economy. The coastal oceans, including coastal zones, nearshore waters and the adjoining open sea areas, are important economic zones





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constituting the key areas for Blue Growth. A third of the EU population lives within 50 km of the coast, and GDP generated by this population exceeds 30% of the total EU GDP. The economic value of coastal areas within 500 m of the European shores is worth between 0.5 and 1 trillion USD per annum (European Commission, http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/state_coast.htm)

This is naturally also fitting to maritime Malta with its 266-km-long shoreline, a marine territory up to the 25 nautical mile limit amounting to 20 times the extent of the land area, and the economic, social and scientific dimensions of human activity that are inextricably linked to the sea.

Such projections are made in the light of the fast strides in technological development, and most critically through the convergence of key technologies like ICT, sensors, robotics, nano- and bio-technology that lead to disruptive changes, and drastically challenge the ways by which we are used to doing things today. We need to be ready to review trade patterns, revisit business models and work with altered labour markets in the very near future. Innovation, smart entrepreneurship, bottom-up approaches and value chains are key ingredients to feed economic excellence in such fast evolving scenarios. Most critically, this is mandating the educational and academic establishments to match the human resource needs in the marine realm, and to provide professionals with wide ranging skills and qualifications to handle upcoming disruptive and transformative changes.

This SEA-EU workshop is intended to bring forth these concepts, and to provide the forum to discuss and brainstorm solutions to exploit the outcomes of marine research and innovation in favour of the competitiveness of the industry and related service sectors. The 6 partner universities in SEA-EU will pool resources, create synergies





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	<p>and produce critical mass to address and meet such challenges. The “New Skills Agenda for Europe” and the European Commission’s mission on Blue Careers, Blue Labs and grants for the blue economy are setting the foundations for this endeavour.</p> <p>The workshop will also highlight the skills gap that persists between the education offer and the needs of the labour market, seek to activate stronger links between academia and industry, and look at measures (such as practice-oriented and flexible training, apprenticeships, e-mentoring, innovation hubs and networks, social enterprises, incentives for SMEs and start-ups) to boost the blue economy sectors. Further reflections will be sought from the “European Strategy for more Growth and Jobs in Coastal and Maritime Tourism”, the BlueMed goals, the Westmed Initiative priorities and other local and regional initiatives, including openings towards the non-EU and neighbouring countries.</p> <p>The 1.5-day Interdisciplinary Workshop on the future education and research agenda in the blue economy (WP5 Task 5.1) will be preceded by the 2.5-day Marine and Maritime Staff Week organised by the University of Malta. Participants are encouraged to attend and participate in both events.</p>
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Programme details (in progress):

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Erasmus+ Programme
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Thursday, 28 th May 2020 (Room 6, Valletta Campus, University of Malta)	
13:30 – 19:00	<p>The future education and research agenda in blue economy: Setting the Agenda</p> <p>Introductions:</p> <p><i>Prof. Aldo Drago, Coordinator, Physical Oceanography Research Group</i> <i>Prof. Alan Deidun, Department of Geoscience</i> <i>Speaker from Blu-Med (to be confirmed)</i> <i>'Exploring alternative futures for the marine environment: the role of foresight',</i> <i>Dr Lisa Pace, The Edward de Bono Institute for the Design & Development of Thinking</i></p> <p>Participants will then divide into two working groups - one for research, one for education - and brainstorm around a series of prepared questions and suggestions.</p>
19:30	Social Event / Dinner (at your own expense: approx. 30 euros per person)

Friday, 29 th May 2020 (Institute of Sustainable Energy, Marsaxlokk)	
9:30	Visit to Marsaxlokk and Malta Aquaculture Research Centre (tbc)
11:00	<p>Observing the Challenges of the Marine and Maritime from a Human Geography Angle</p> <p>- A Walk through Marsaxlokk Village</p> <p><i>Dr Ritienne Gauci, Academic, Department of Geography</i> <i>(Possible involvement of Mayor of Marsaxlokk)</i></p>
12:30	Lunch (set menu - let us know if you have allergies or preferences)
13:30	<p>Further deliberation by Working Groups</p> <p>Presentations of Reports and Recommendations for Future Action and reflection by Rapporteurs</p>
15:00 – 16:00	<p>Reaction by Panel including academics, practitioners and policy makers.</p> <p>Conclusion and Next Steps</p>

If you are interested in joining this Interdisciplinary Workshop, please contact:

- the people in charge of the event in the Hosting Institution or fill the form
- the people in charge of mobility within your own institution in order to apply for an Erasmus mobility grant.

