

BLUE GROWTH WG

ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2019

The Blue Growth Working Group is focused on providing support to R&I regional strategies and priorities on blue growth. The group also works to foster participation in EU initiatives and programmes, taking into account S3, KET, and sea basin strategies.

Planning for 2019

LeaderSHIP strategy – skills and innovation in the maritime sector

April

An information session on the state of play and future thinking regarding skills and innovation in the maritime sector with a particular focus on the implementation of the LeaderSHIP 2020 strategy and the preparations for the LeaderSHIP 2030 strategy.

EU Maritime Day 2019, Lisbon, Portugal

16-17 May

Together with the MISTRAL Interreg project leaders (Emilia Romagna Region, IT) and the Baltic Sea & Space Cluster (Pomorskie Region, PL), the WG will organise a stakeholder workshop with the title “Acting together in a regional ecosystem”. The objective of the workshop is to show how – building on the competence of a whole region – investments in blue growth have a positive cross-sectorial impact on the entire regional innovation ecosystem. We will also present strategies and gaps in RIS3 as well as tools and methods for knowledge transfer in the blue economy.

Blue Bioeconomy Forum - a roadmap for the development of the blue bioeconomy of the EU

June

In October 2018 the European Commission launched the Blue Bioeconomy Forum as a new tool to boost the blue bioeconomy in Europe. One of the objectives of the BBF is to develop a roadmap where they will “collectively identify strategic developments, market opportunities, appropriate financial assistance, regulatory actions and research priorities to advance the blue bioeconomy in Europe”. With this meeting the draft document will be presented, and members will be able to discuss and give input on the design of the roadmap.

Innovative solutions to tackle marine litter

Late September/beginning of October

With the *European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy* and the *Circular Plastics Alliance* as a starting point this meeting will inform about the European Commission’s and the industry’s



thinking regarding marine litter. There will also be presentations on innovative regional examples tackling the problem of marine litter.