

## Innovation camp on Strengthening innovation and smart specialisation for sustainability in the Adriatic and Ionian Macroregion

23-24 May 2023

Main venue: Hotel Holiday, Sarajevo

[Zmaja od Bosne 4, Sarajevo 71000, Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

### Draft agenda

The innovation camp is organised by the [Interreg Euro-MED 2021-2027 Mission Innovative Sustainable Economy institutional dialogue project](#), in collaboration with the [EUSAIR Presidency](#) and the Interreg [Interreg IPA ADRION 2021-2027 Programme](#) within the [8<sup>th</sup> EUSAIR Annual Forum](#).

The 2-days event focuses on exploring opportunities to strengthening smart specialisation for sustainability in the Adriatic and Ionian Macroregion. Participants will know about the approach proposed by the Interreg Euro-Med Mission Innovative Sustainable Economy institutional dialogue project to address complex environmental and social challenges. The results of the innovation camp will be used to define the basis for the collaboration between the Euro-MED Mission community and the EUSAIR stakeholder networks.

**Structure:** The innovation camp consists of a plenary session, with conferences on innovation policies for a sustainable economy, exploring opportunities for collaboration across the Adriatic Ionian and the wider Mediterranean region. The first workshop will explore the potential of the transformative innovation policy labs proposed by the Interreg Euro-MED Mission Innovative Sustainable Economy to support smart specialisation and territorial integrated strategies. The second one will focus on the challenge of depopulation in rural areas. Participants will work on this challenge with innovative methodologies and tools.

**Expected participants:** local, regional, national and macroregional policy makers, smart specialisation and territorial development researchers and practitioners, and other stakeholders from the Mediterranean innovation ecosystem.

**Registration:** There are limited seats available for the innovation camp. Registration is compulsory filling this [online form](#). Preference will be given to participants attending the plenary session and the two workshops. Confirmed participants will receive preparatory materials before the event.

Further information about the EUSAIR Annual Forum and practical info are available [here](#).

## Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - 9.00 - 17.00

9:00 Participants registration

9:30 **Welcome greetings and institutional speeches**

10.15 **Interreg Euro-MED Mission Innovative Sustainable Economy presentation**

10.35 **The EUSAIR perspective on innovation**

11.00 Coffee break

11:30 **Session 1: The smart specialisation strategies in the Mediterranean: exploring opportunities for reducing the innovation gap in lagging regions**

12.20 **Session 2: Opportunities for collaboration for innovation across the scale of multilevel governance in the Mediterranean: synergies between Interreg and other initiatives**

13.30 Lunch and networking

15.00 **Workshop 1: Exploring the potential of transformative innovation policy labs to support smart specialisation for sustainability in the Adriatic and Ionian Macroregion**

## Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May - 12.00 - 16.30



**12:00**      **Workshop 2 (first part): Addressing the challenge of depopulation in rural areas**

13.30      Lunch and networking

**15.00**      **Workshop 2 (second part): Addressing the challenge of depopulation in rural areas**



## Dialogue4Innovation project summary

*Dialogue4Innovation* project is an *Institutional Dialogue Project*. The aim of the project is contributing to a better governance and to a more innovative and sustainable economy in the Mediterranean, engaging with a large network of organizations from public sector, business, research, and civil society.

It works in pair with the respective thematic community project to steer the [Mission Strengthening Innovative Sustainable Economy](#) as part of the Interreg Euro-MED Programme.

The activities that will be implemented during the project have been designed by the partnership to tackle some common territorial challenges related to foster better governance in the MED area. These challenges, aligned with the results of the 2014-2020 programming period, can be identified in:

- ◇ Raising the overall impact of the Euro-Med Programme
- ◇ Promoting synergies among territorial cooperation actions funded by several cross-border and transnational Programmes (partially) overlapping in the same Mediterranean area.
- ◇ Creating an integrated policy value chain encompassing territorial cooperation in the structural policies for jobs and growth, either supported by EU funds for cohesion and resilience or by domestic funds.
- ◇ To enhance the territorial governance, particularly challenging in the MED region, an area where cohesion and neighbor policies are crucial.

Through activities of capacity building, the project wants to increase the skills of policy makers and stakeholders to address the Sustainable Development Goals more effectively. By working with territorial actors through Transformative innovation policy labs (TIPL), the project will promote the diffusion of more systemic and integrated approaches, which are necessary to tackle the urgent challenges of the ecological transition. The Project will contribute to improve the long-lasting conditions for a permanent institutional and social dialogue in the Mediterranean, bridging the transnational dimension with local solutions and increasing coordination, policy coherence and alignment of actions for an innovative sustainable economy.

### Partners:

1. Emilia-Romagna Region (LP)
2. Generalitat de Catalunya
3. Ministry or Regional Development and EU Funds of Croatia
4. Directorate for European Integration of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina
5. Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) – Inter Mediterranean Commission
6. Adriatic Ionian Euroregion
7. MedWaves, the UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Centre for SCP
8. The French Agency for Ecological Transition - ADEME
9. Open Space Collective