

## BULGARIA'S BLUE ECONOMY INNOVATION AND DIGITALISATION – TOWARDS HIGHER RESILIENCE

National Event, June 22, 2022

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS CENTER BURGAS, Bulgaria

Hybrid event (link to ZOOM will be provided additionally) - 13:30-17:00 (EEST)/12:30-16:00 (CET)

12.30 – 13:30	<b>Registration of participants, Networking lunch</b>
13:30 – 13:50	<p><b>Opening</b></p> <p><b>Video opening address from Charlina Vitcheva</b>, Director General, DG MARE, EC  <b>Vladimir Varbanov</b>, Deputy Minister of Transport and Communications  <b>Ilze Atanasova</b>, Chair of the Board, Marine Cluster Bulgaria</p> <p><i>Moderator: Prof. Milen Baltov, PhD, Rector of Burgas Free University</i></p>
13:50 – 15:10	<p><b>Session 1 – Smart Specialization Strategy, financial support instruments and European good practices for enhancing Blue Economy resilience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Magdalena Andreea Strachinescu Olteanu, DG MARE, EC</li> <li>● Karel Haegeman, Joint Research Center, EC</li> <li>● Kalin Marinov, Ministry of Innovation and Growth</li> <li>● Lazar Petrov, Fund of Funds</li> <li>● Marjolein van Noort, European Network of Maritime Clusters</li> <li>● Martina Rossi, Maritime Technology Cluster FVG, Italy</li> </ul> <p><i>Questions and Answers session</i></p>
15:10 – 15:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
15:30 – 16:50	<p><b>Session 2 – Innovative maritime solutions, opportunities and challenges of the Business towards higher resilience of the Blue Economy in Bulgaria</b></p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yana Popova, Marine Cluster Bulgaria</li> <li>● Georgi Sakaliev, Burgas Municipality</li> <li>● Milen Todorov, Bulgarian Port Infrastructure Company</li> <li>● Plamen Aleksandrov, Caddie Engineering/Solumar</li> <li>● Nikola Nikolov, Technical University – Varna</li> <li>● Yavor Ivanov and Desislava Vezenkova, EMH Systems Ltd.</li> </ul>
16:50 – 17:00	<b>Conclusions/ Closing</b>