

BLACK SEA Stakeholder Conference 2023

Joining Efforts for a Sustainable, Modern and Competitive Blue Economy

22-23 November - Bucharest

National Bank of Romania, Doamnei street no. 8, Bucharest

**Common Maritime Agenda
for the Black Sea**



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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Day 1, 22 November 2023, EET

Policy exchange: A sustainable, modern, and competitive Black Sea

13:00-13:30

Registration and welcome coffee

13:30-14:00

Opening session

Podium on stage. Moderated by Mihaela Mirea (BSAM)

Plenary Conference room Mitiță Constantinescu

Official welcome

Romania: Traian Hristea, Secretary of State for Global Affairs and Diplomatic Strategies (Ministry of Foreign Affairs Romania)

EU Commission: Charlina Vitcheva, Director General, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE)

Overview of the 2-day agenda – Moderator

Scene-setter to the Opening panel: Geopolitical developments in the Black Sea Region

Plenary Conference room Mitiță Constantinescu

EU External Action Service: Michael Siebert, Managing Director for Eastern Europe, Russia, Central Asia, Regional cooperation and OSCE

14:00-14:45

Opening panel: The Common Maritime Agenda as a key opportunity for the Black Sea sustainable blue economy

Moderated roundtable. Moderated by Mihaela Mirea (BSAM)

Plenary Conference room Mitiță Constantinescu

- Common Maritime Agenda in the context of the EU sea-basin strategies – Iglia Yakova, Deputy Head of Unit (DG MARE)
 - Priorities and progress at the regional level: Common Maritime Agenda 2023 implementation – Alexandra Bogdan, Director (Ministry of Foreign Affairs Romania)
 - Regional Cooperation and Black Sea Partnerships - Amb. Lazar Comanescu, Secretary General (Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation)
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- Priorities and progress at the national level: Common Maritime Agenda national roadmaps – National Hubs of the Black Sea Assistance Mechanism (BG, GE, MD, RO, TR, UA)

14:45-15:30

1st thematic session: Healthy marine and coastal ecosystems

Moderated roundtable: Moderated by Thanos Smanis (BSAM)

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- Finding solutions to restore the water system in the Danube and Black Sea basin – Danube-Black Sea Lighthouse, Nadja Schlichenmaier (EcoDalli project)
- Challenges and opportunities for a healthy and resilient marine and coastal ecosystem - SRIA Implementation Plan, Baris Salihoglu (Black Sea CONNECT and BRIDGE-BS and DOORS projects)
- Support for marine pollution prevention and reduction - Blueing the Black Sea Programme, Alexandru Cosmin Buteica (World Bank)
- Ensuring the sustainable exploitation of living resources - GFCM FAO, Konstantin Petrov (GFCM)

- Reaction from the floor

Q&A – gathered on sli.do, most voted questions answered in plenary

15:30-16:00

Coffee break

Alexandru Ottulescu room

16:00-16:45

2nd thematic session: Fostering investment for entrepreneurship

Moderated roundtable. Moderated by Matteo Bocci (BSAM)

Plenary Conference room Mitiță Constantinescu

- Adelaide Cracco, Head of Climate and Environmental Impact, European Investment Fund (EIF)
- Daniela CEDOLA, Partner, PwC (BlueInvest)
- Victoria HRISTOVA, Executive Director and Board member, Fund of Funds in Bulgaria (FMFIB)
- Lazar PETROV, Partner, Morningside Hill Capital

Q&A – gathered on sli.do, most voted questions answered in plenary

16:45-17:15

3rd thematic session: Boosting Innovation and Blue skills

Moderated by Alexandra Visalom (Ministry of Foreign Affairs Romania)

Plenary Conference room Mitiță Constantinescu

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- Supporting innovation and accelerating business - Black Sea Accelerator, Eleni Manousiadi (BRIDGE-BS and DOORS projects)
 - Boosting a Smart Specialization approach to regional investment in innovation - Silvia Stumpf (Business Agency Association, Varna)
 - Blue skills and blue careers as an engine for innovation and competitiveness - ISOL-met project, Valentin Moldoveanu (CPMR)
 - EU funding in support for blue economy innovation, entrepreneurship and skills – Gema San Bruno Feio (CINEA)
- Reaction from the floor
- Q&A – gathered on sli.do, most voted questions answered in plenary
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17:15-17:30

Closing remarks

Plenary Conference room Mitiță Constantinescu

Moderator

17:30-18:00

Free Tour of the Romanian National Bank Museum (optional)

18:00-20:30

Networking cocktail (kindly offered by Romania)

Alexandru Ottulescu room

Day 2, 23 November 2023, EET

Practitioner exchange: hackathons and matchmaking sessions

9:00-9:30

Registration and welcome coffee

9:30-12:30

BlueInvest dedicated workshop

Plenary Conference room Mitiță Constantinescu

Opening session

Moderated by BlueInvest

- Charlina VITCHEVA, Director General, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE)
 - Alexandru-Mihai GHIGIU, Head of Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Romania
 - Eleni MANOUSIADI, Senior Consultant, Black Sea Accelerator
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Short presentation of the Black Sea Accelerator - (BRIDGE-BS and DOORS projects)

Spotlight: Black Sea Investors

Pitches from investor profiles from the Black Sea.

- Pavel VELKOV, Morningside Hill Capital Management (BG)
- Anne Lebreton-Wolf, Partner, Good Only Ventures (FR)
- Mihai SFINTESCU, Managing Director, Abilito Capital (RO)

Spotlight: Sustainable blue technologies from the Black Sea

5-minute pitches from companies with sustainable technologies from the Black Sea, followed by 5-minute Questions and Answers.

- Mark FORTNUM, Non-Executive Director, 13 Mari (BG)
- Dimitar FILIPOV, Co-Founder & CTO, Aqualid (BG)
- Florin IRIMESCU, CEO, Bluana Foods (RO)
- Andrei DROGOBYTSKY, CEO, Seadora (UA)
- Roger PRESTON, CEO, Trésoil (RO)

11:00-11:20- Break

BlueInvest in Action

Coaching session for attending companies: investment/market readiness self-assessment and gap analysis, and action-planning exercise. BlueInvest and the Black Sea Accelerator present market pathways for participants.

9:30-12:30

CMA Technical Group on Sustainable Aquaculture: kick-off meeting (parallel)

Costin Kirişescu room

Dedicated room, closed doors. Moderated by BSAM and DG MARE.

- country experts (on invitation only)

12:30-14:30

Buffet lunch

Alexandru Ottulescu room

13:30-14:30

Interactive exhibition: regional projects and initiatives

Dedicated passageway room

Alexandru Ottulescu room

Black Sea projects or initiatives show a poster about their activities in an interactive exhibition area.

- Dedicated space for networking & matchmaking
- Presentation of the 2 new EMFAF Black Sea flagship projects (CINEA + project coordinators)

14:30-16:00

These participative sessions allow for stakeholder exchange to foster project ideas on specific topics.

Hackathons sessions

Separate rooms (roundtable discussions)

- **Blue Skills:** gaps and needs for a resilient Black Sea blue economy community – *Moderated by NH*
Plenary conference room Mitiță Constantinescu
- **Maritime Transport and Ports:** perspectives and opportunities for decarbonisation – *Moderated by NHs*
Anton Carp B room
- **Coastal and Maritime Tourism:** underwater cultural heritage and other forms of tourism in the current geo-political context – *Moderation by NHs*
Costin Kirițescu room

13:45-16:00

SRIA Operational Network of Funders (parallel)

Bucharest Regional Branch, the Florentine Hall.

Dedicated room, closed doors – by DG RTD

- ONF representatives (on invitation only)

16:00-16:15

Coffee break

Alexandru Ottulescu room

16:15-16:45

Black Sea Project Award

Podium on stage. Moderated by Mihaela (BSAM)

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- Announcement of the winners of the project award categories
- Pitching of category winners to a selection panel, competing for overall 2023 Black Sea Project Award.
- Voting for the Black Sea Project Award 2023.
- Announcement of the winner (Romania and DG MARE)

16:45-17:00

Final remarks and closing

Podium on stage

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- EU Commission (DG MARE)
 - Romania (CMA coordinator)
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