

BLACK SEA STORIES

Presented by the Black Sea Assistance Mechanism

Mentoring for greater employability and blue skills in the Black Sea

EUROPEAN MARITIME
AND FISHERIES FUND

BLUE CAREERS IN
EUROPE
BLUE CAREER
CENTRE OF EASTERN
MEDITERRANEAN
AND BLACK SEA
(MENTOR)

The Blue Economy offers countless opportunities. However, this potential can be unfulfilled if there is a mismatch between companies' needs and the workforce's skills. From 2017 to 2019, the Blue Career Centre of the Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea (MENTOR) endeavoured to attract young graduates, unemployed people, as well as established professionals in the Blue Economy, and provide them with the knowledge and skills to meet the needs of businesses in the maritime sector. The project promoted cooperation and the sharing of best practices between partners in the Black Sea (Romania, Bulgaria) and the Eastern Mediterranean (Cyprus, Greece), as well as observers from the wider region (Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt).

To achieve the outcomes mentioned above, MENTOR tailored its approach at each step of the career path. For instance, students received mentoring and career guidance, while experienced blue professionals were provided with retraining schemes to enable them to upskill and progress in their careers. This was supplemented by a catalogue of maritime education and training activities, e-learning courses, eight Blue Career Fairs and a database for maritime professionals.

Three years since the project's completion, MENTOR's approach to employment is still highly relevant and can be used as a key example for current and future initiatives to promote blue skills, especially in the context of economic recovery from COVID-19.

KEY INFO

Total budget:
€ 689,762

Funders:
European Union

Duration:
March 2017 –
February 2019

www.bluecareers.org

[@bluecareers](https://www.facebook.com/bluecareers)

[Blue Career Centre](#)

COUNTRIES & PARTNERS INVOLVED



Marine Cluster Bulgaria ([Bulgaria](#))



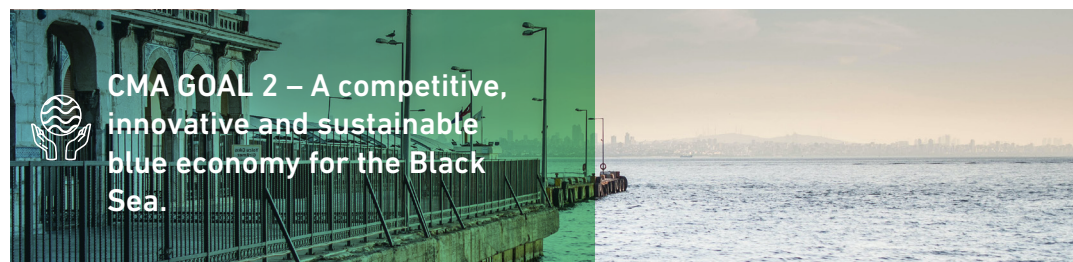
Constanta Maritime University ([Romania](#))



University of Cyprus - Maritime Institute of Eastern Mediterranean -
Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry ([Cyprus](#))



National Technical University of Athens - Agricultural University of
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Reference: *EASME/EMFF/2020/3.1.2*

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