ANNEX 1: TEMPLATE FACILITY POINT PLUS

APPLICATION FORM FOR PROJECT IDEA[1]

Mandatory fields[2]:

Proposed project idea title	**WATERBORNE Adriatic-Ionian Technology Platform**
Proposed acronym (if available)	**WAI-TP**
General objective of project idea	*(max. 500 characters)* WAI-TP aims to implement tools to support the creation of an Adriatic Ionian macro-regional cluster within the broad blue economy field, focused on enhancing innovation in the maritime technologies sector (mainly ship & boat building, boating, maritime transport, offshore, logistics, marine robotics). According to the features of the involved territories, the most adequate governance model for creating a transnational platform in the Adriatic Ionian region will be jointly evaluated in detail and implemented. The idea, fully in line also with the BLUEMED Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, intends to support and strengthen both the smart specialization strategies- S3 dealing with Blue Growth already in place in the EUSAIR Member States at national and regional level and the Innovation Strategic Plans/Programmes adopted by the non EU Countries.
Short description of the project idea	*(max. 500 characters)* The project envisages a review and analysis of the available reports/outputs of implemented projects to be finalized in an updated survey on a Country profiles targeted at the existing innovation policies in the maritime sector and the forms of cooperation involving innovation- research and industry actors. Specific training sessions will be planned to support the "clusterization" process, in order to reach a standard level of knowledge of clusters and the commitment of key stakeholders in each EUSAIR Country. In the final phase, the governance model for the macro-regional cluster will be analyzed during a first round of meetings and a road map will be delivered for concrete specific actions and initiatives to be implemented in the short and medium period. In parallel, a pilot action for the involvement of the relevant stakeholders will be carried out.
Project status	Mature idea, based on the experiences of cooperation between

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[1] Supported within the project "Additional support to the Governance of the EUSAIR - Facility Point Plus" which has received funding from the European Union.
[2] In the elaboration phase, the Facility Point Plus Management may ask for additional information in order to better understand the project idea.

	enterprises and research-innovation actors in Blue economy field, already shared with some EUSAIR Countries and ready to be scaled up.
Targeted area (countries/regions covered)	*Please, specify the territory where the project would be implemented. In case not all EUSAIR area is covered, please provide the rationale behind.* Italy (Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto, Emilia Romagna, Marche, Puglia, Sicily Regions,), Slovenia, Croatia, Greece, Albania, Montenegro, Serbia
Relevance to following EUSAIR priorities: **1. BLUE GROWTH** **Topic 1 - Blue technologies;** **Topic 2 - Fisheries and aquaculture;** **Topic 3 - Maritime and marine governance and services.**	*Please, shortly describe (max. 50 characters) the relevance with the Pillars – how the project would affect the objectives within the Pillars?* Topic 1.1 The project will contribute to the assessment of relevant maritime technologies in the Adriatic Region, firstly through the assessment of Country features and later with the development of common strategic paths. In addition, specific sessions and workshops will be organized to deepen new challenges offered by disrupting technologies to tailored target groups. Topic 1.3 A precise recon will be made in the concerned Countries to investigate possible scenarios in terms of aggregation, collaboration and clustering. Specific capacity building sessions will be implemented on each territory and a common governance model for a transnational cluster will be defined and implemented.
2. CONNECTING THE REGION **Topic 1 - Maritime transport;** **Topic 2 - Intermodal connections to the hinterland;** **Topic 3 - Energy networks.**	Topic 2.1 The assessment carried out in the first project phase will cover key issues related to maritime transport and, in particular, common practices and innovation and technological needs and priorities for sustainable ports and infrastructures. The main goal will be developing technological trajectories and innovation policies for a sustainable maritime transport characterized by high safety standards and increase environmental protection. Topic 2.3 Allow the applicability of alternative fuels and the best technological solutions for the alternative infrastructures.
3. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY **Topic 1 - The marine environment;** **Topic 2 - Transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity.**	Topic 3.1 The assessment made in the initial phase will consider innovation and technology developments in the blue sector taking into account also the most updated environmental issues, like pollution of the sea (litter pollution and oil spills on surface). The specific workshops that will be implemented will deepen emerging technologies to deal with pollution of the sea involving cross-cutting technologies from different fields and production chains.
4. SUSTAINABLE TOURISM **Topic 1 - Diversified tourism offer** *(products and services)*; **Topic 2 - Sustainable and responsible tourism management** *(innovation and quality).*	Topic 4.2 The identification of the common needs and priorities will consider even the maritime tourism: the main related fields are leisure boating, marina (touristic ports) and coastal tourism related activities. In this sense technologies and innovation solutions and practices will be included focusing on protection of the environment and new concepts and processes.
Cross-cutting aspects: - **Research, innovation and SME's development**	*Please, describe the relevance with the cross-cutting aspects – how the project idea incorporates or affects those issues?* WAI-TP Project envisages an initial assessment of priorities and needs

- **communication, capacity building and blue skill development**	addressing current economic and social challenges of each territory and Country as a whole involving key stakeholders and target groups. Such assessment aims at enhancing the potential of the maritime sectors as outlined in smart specialization strategies and national strategic documents. The outcomes will be grouped as ground for the development of common initiatives, tailored practices and tools for technology and innovation. Specific blue policies and implementation of a transnational cluster will rely on the initial assessment and will benefit from the capacity building sessions focusing on common issues, features and needs. Moreover, the project will represent the ideal framework on which building a strategy of alignment of relevant skills in the maritime sector, deepening the experiences realized in different countries with potential impact on the entire Adriatic and Ionian Region. Project activities will drive towards: - an integrated transnational strategy including actions and pilot initiatives for the sustainable blue growth and jobs in EUSAIR area. The activities will envisage the contribution of all the partners to develop a reliable cluster governance model with a short- and long-term perspective, giving priority to emerging topics close to environment protection and sustainability in maritime traditional sectors; - a diffused training of each aggregation player/cluster in each territory with tailored competences in order to set a baseline in cluster management; - the consideration of all cross-cutting fields that could be involved in the production and technology chain, like: energy efficiency, education and training, bio-hightech, renewables, advanced automation. In addition, the project will widen its perspective including other emerging and/or complementary maritime sectors, like coastal tourism, and will include green solutions and key enabling technologies (ICT, materials, nanotechnologies, microelectronics, advanced manufacturing); - the realization of concrete pilot actions that will foster the technology capacity development involving aggregation players, clusters and institutions and enterprises on the other side. The goal is to work simultaneously on the realization of a transnational cluster and on the preparation and support of businesses in order to let them rise their competitiveness and improve their innovation performances.
Impact for the Adriatic and Ionian macro-region	*Please, describe what is the long term objective of the project idea? What would you like to change with the project to be developed on a long term in Adriatic and Ionian region? Be as concrete as possible, for example "The project will influence the attitude of the tourism providers and tourists towards the environmental issues which will on a long term bring less plastic and other waste."* The objective is to create a macro-regional maritime cluster/platform with the most adequate structure and governance in relation to

	production and innovation chain, administrative constraints and aggregation tools in use. The cluster will be able to maintain the features of each territory, but at the same time to increase innovation and commercial opportunities of key stakeholders. In particular, activities will shed light on most promising innovation fields and topics.
	The cluster/platform will represent the ideal tool to support the future development of policies, strategies and measures at local level with a transnational effect thanks to a coordinated design. Moreover, a strong correlation with the future cohesion policy and IPA III is expected. In particular, within the cluster/platform new actions of priority relevance could emerge to be possibly included in the financial framework 2021-27 (such as under ERDF and ESF Fund/Programmes and national thematic Programmes for IPA Countries).

Complementarity and synergies with already existing projects (if any)	*Please, describe briefly (up to 500 words) if there is a similar project implemented on a national/regional level?* The project is a natural outcome of a path already started for progressing in the creation of a transnational cluster in the Adriatic Ionian Macro Region (WAITC initiative financed directly by Friuli Venezia Giulia Region; Blue NET project (DG MARE EMFF 2014-20), Blue TECH project (ADRIATIC IPA 2007-13), BEAT project (Interreg Italy Croatia 2014-20) and can capitalize on various experiences including the ones underway (OIS-AIR project financed under Interreg ADRION 2014-20 and ClusterACT project funded under EMFF 2017). Some of the partners involved have already carried out actions to support this path which were developed at bilateral and multilateral level within the Adriatic and Ionian Region. Best practices developed at EU level (for instance under BlueMED strategy, Waterborne Platform, Cluster Observatory) could be implemented in a territorial perspective specifically linked to EUSAIR in order to establish an integrated macroregional cluster. WAI-TP focuses on Pillar 1. "Blue Growth" with reference to maritime technologies and maritime governance topics through the development of specific actions to support the creation of a macro-regional cluster and the implementation of capacity building sessions dedicated to clusters, aggregation players and enterprises. The project idea includes different maritime sectors and related innovation fields and production chains. There is concrete involvement of all the other pillars: maritime transport for clustering policies and development of specific sustainable solution for ports and related infrastructures (Pillar2), pollution of the sea with development of solution for marine litter and oil spills (Pillar3) and sustainable and responsible tourism management through involvement of tourism maritime related issues in the cluster and involve the stakeholders in upcoming innovation solutions (Pillar4).
Maturity of the project idea among the EUSAIR countries	*Please describe, if part of the territory has already developed project idea into project concept.* Leading regions/countries have already established respective

	clusters that today are networking on the basis of single initiatives, creating the fertile field for the implementation of a common platform to build up next level of cooperation involving all actors within the sea basin. Policy makers are working closely with the existing Clusters.
Possible indicators	*Please provide proposed indicators aiming the objectives of the project idea (output, result and impact). Indicate the baselines and planned values, if possible.* - *Number of Joint innovation paths* - Identification of common innovation needs and priorities and development of common roadmap (s) in terms joint strategy and action plans; - *Number of Capacity Building initiatives* - Transfer of best practices and expertise to target groups and allow them to deal with and tackle most relevant issues in the blue sector; provide expertise to participate actively in the definition of national and international policies; - *Number of Tutoring actions* - Establishment of clusters or aggregation organizations in the reference countries following the implementation of capacity building activities dedicated to different stakeholders' categories; - *Number of Pilot Actions* - Supporting enterprises with concrete actions to improve their value added in relation to research and development and business opportunities and practices. This initiative should be performed also in view of the next EU cohesion policy programming period 2021-27 and IPA III programming in order to agree on a shortlist of priorities to be implemented also through Regional/National Operational Programmes; - *Number of Guidelines* – in order to set up and implement the most adequate governance model for a macro-regional maritime technology platform in the Adriatic Ionian region.
Indicative time frame	*Please indicate, if possible, in what time frame the project would need to be implemented.* Tentative Preparation time of the proposal: January 2019 – December 2019 (to be confirmed in accordance to the timeline linked to the financial instruments to be activated in the framework of the current programming period and/or in preparation of the future programming period 2021-27)
Potential funding sources (EU funds/National funds/International Financial Institutions)	EU Funds (Interreg, ERDF and ESF Mainstream Programmes, EMFF, H2020), IPA II-III, National and Regional Funds.
Partners (Lead applicant, partners, national partners/key stakeholders involved or to be involved)	*Please indicate potential partners, if known.* The partnership will be reviewed and completed with the necessary integration starting from the potential Partners preliminary identified and to be involved in accordance to the effective timeframe and objectives to be further developed during the preparatory phase once the idea will be approved. Italy – Maritime Technology Cluster of Friuli Venezia Giulia, Nautical Cluster of Apulia Region, Maritime Transport Cluster of Sicily, Regional Union of the Chambers of Commerce of Veneto Region; Slovenia – Development Agency Region Koper (RCC), Faculty of Transport and Maritime Studies Croatia – University of Zagreb/Croatian Maritime Competitiveness Cluster (MarC),

	Greece – Centre for Research and technology(CERTH)/Si-Cluster/STRATEGIS, Albania – Agency for Research Technology and Innovation (AKTI), Serbia – Institute Mihajlo Pupin (RDI Centre of Belgrade), Montenegro – University of Podgorica
Additional information	*Please, provide any additional information that could help understand the state of play of the project idea related topics (existing studies, feasibility studies, EU, national legislation,…)* See the above mentioned information. It is worth mentioning that in 2012 the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research launched a national policy for the establishment and reinforcing of national clusters which is now fully operational. At present 14 national technological clusters exist covering the most relevant thematic industrial sectors and playing the role of advisory bodies towards the line Ministries. These bodies are complemented by Italian regional technology clusters active in the same sectors and which operate concretely towards the private sector, research centers and universities and have a tight and continuous dialogue with respective Regional Governments. The competent Italian National Clusters linked and to be potentially involved in the development of the project idea are respectively "Trasporti Italia 2020" (sector of surface mobility) and "Blue Italian Growth".

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION RELATED TO THE TYPE OF COOPERATION:

TSGs proposing the project idea / minutes	TSG1/TSG2/TSG3 As concerns TSG1, the project was presented during the 7th TSG1 meeting (Athens, 7-8.5.2018) and due to the lack of quorum at the 8th TSG1 meeting (Podgorica, 13-14.11.2018) decision was taken by written procedure launched on 28.1.2019 (with deadline on 11.2.2019). Communication on the results was sent on 6.3.2019. Regarding TSG2, the written procedure for the approval of the project idea was launched by Pillar 2. Coordinators on 18th February (term fixed to react on 27 February) and closed with the communication of Pillar 2 Coordinators to the TSG2 members on 7th March concerning the approval of the project idea.
Proposed type of cooperation between Facility Point Plus Management and TSGs	Cooperation between TSG1, TSG2, Facility Point Plus Management and the expert through mandated TSG members and thematic experts who will elaborate on the ToR and further cooperate with the expert.
Name and surname of the appointed member of the TSG 1	Anna Flavia Zuccon (TSG1 member)
Name and surname of the appointed member of the TSG 2	Elisabetta Reja (TSG2 Technical Support Unit)

Filled in Application Form for project idea should be submitted to the e-mail address: eusair.point.svrk@gov.si and in copy to another appointed member of the outfit of TSGs. In the subject of the submitted e-mail it should be written: "FACILITY POINT PLUS-PROJECT IDEA SUBMISSION".