



*Proposal to establish a **Regional Scale Partnership**, under the **EU Pact for Skills** initiative, on **Blue Skills** in the **EUSAIR***

*10th EUSAIR Annual Forum, TSG1 Sustainable Blue Economy Workshop
Crete, Greece 6 April 2025*

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10th EUSAIR Forum

Georgioupolis, Crete

6-7 May 2025



EU C.P. Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 on Skills

The ESF+ (EU Reg. 2021/1057 Skills for a smarter and greener Europe), the ERDF, the Cohesion Fund and the EMFAF shall support the following policy objectives:

- **Policy Objective 1: 'a smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation'**
By SO (iv) developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship;

- **Policy Objective 4: 'a more social Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights'**
By SO (i) enhancing the effectiveness of labour markets and access to quality employment through developing social innovation and infrastructure;
By SO (ii) improving access to inclusive and quality services in education, training and lifelong learning through developing infrastructure;

EUSAIR revised Action Plan towards 2030

Activities on Skills and Partnerships and promoting **the EU Pact for Skills**:

Pillar 1: Sustainable Blue economy

Topic 1.1 – Blue and green technologies

Through Pact for skills - upskilling shipbuilding and maritime technology workers in Europe

Topic 1.2 – Fisheries and aquaculture

Through Sustainable growth of a more efficient and circular aquaculture production, capitalising on innovation, digitalisation, and knowledge sharing.

Topic 1.3 – Maritime and marine governance and services

By establishing Networks and Clusters of training/education centres/technological and higher education institutes/industry to cooperate in development/sharing of blue skills programmes.

Pillar 4: Sustainable Tourism through the Transition Pathway and industrial ecosystem for Tourism

Pillar 5 Improved Social Cohesion **Topic 5.2 – Promoting skills acquisition for future labour markets**

Also: Skills for the digital ecosystem is a cross-cutting topic for all Pillars in the EUSAIR



- European Skills Agenda flagship initiative: large and Regional-scale skills partnerships across all ecosystems *Aim to upskill and reskill the European workforce in **green, digital and social skills***
- Support to the Pact for Skills through ERDF +ESF+EMFAF+ other EU funds to ensure coordination over the next years by submitting concrete action pledges with expected results (EU umbrella associations, trade unions, higher education bodies, regional authorities and clusters)
- **The RSP on Skills in cooperation with DG Empl., Grow, Mare, Regio:** To examine the potential and feasibility to establish a Transition Pathway for Sustainable Blue Economy including all economic, environmental and social UN and EU and MS Policies and scientific aspects in the SBE
- Open to all stakeholders of MS and IPA countries committed to the agreed objectives
- 10 December 2024 “Blue Skills event” in Pireaus, Greece to initiate and establish a Regional Scale Partnership in EUSAIR in Sustainable Blue economy sector
- All members of the Pact can benefit from three dedicated services: Through the **Networking Hub**, The **Knowledge Hub** In the **Guidance Hub**

What does the EU Pact for Skills offer?

All members of the Pact can benefit from three dedicated services:

- Through the **Networking Hub**, members can find partners and relevant EU tools (like Europass, Skills Panorama, EURES and the European Network of Public Employment Services). They can also promote their activities.
- The **Knowledge Hub** organizes webinars, seminars and peer learning activities for members. It also provides updates on EU policies and instruments, as well as information on projects, tools, and best practices.
- In the **Guidance Hub**, members can find information about EU and national funding opportunities, and guidance to partnering with national and regional authorities.

https://pact-for-skills.ec.europa.eu/about/regional-skills-partnerships_en

Indicative list of relevant **EU funding sources** in the revised Action Plan of the EUSAIR supporting the **Skills and Partnerships in Sustainable Blue Economy**:

1. Indicative list of EU funds accessible to EU Member States only: ERDF & CF, Interreg, RRF, Just Transition Fund, ESF+, EAFRD, EMFAF
2. Indicative list of EU funds accessible to EU candidate countries and potential candidates, in cooperation with EU Member States: Interreg IPA, LIFE, Horizon Europe, Digital Europe
3. Indicative list of EU funds accessible to EU candidate countries and potential candidates: IPA, IPARD, IPA-IPA CBC, New Growth Plan for WB 2024-27
4. The EUSAIR Strategy also aims at stimulating an inclusive financial dialogue with financial vehicles like the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF), banks like the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) or the European Investment Bank (EIB), development agencies, etc.

Why submit pledges?



Upskilling, reskilling via partnerships

- ✓ Show your commitment to a blue, greener, innovative and digital Sustainable Blue Economy
- ✓ Get visibility and lead the way
- ✓ Contribute to policy-making
- ✓ Be part of the Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine governance Communities
- ✓ Help identify where EU support should go 57 RSP of which 10 RSP on Skills

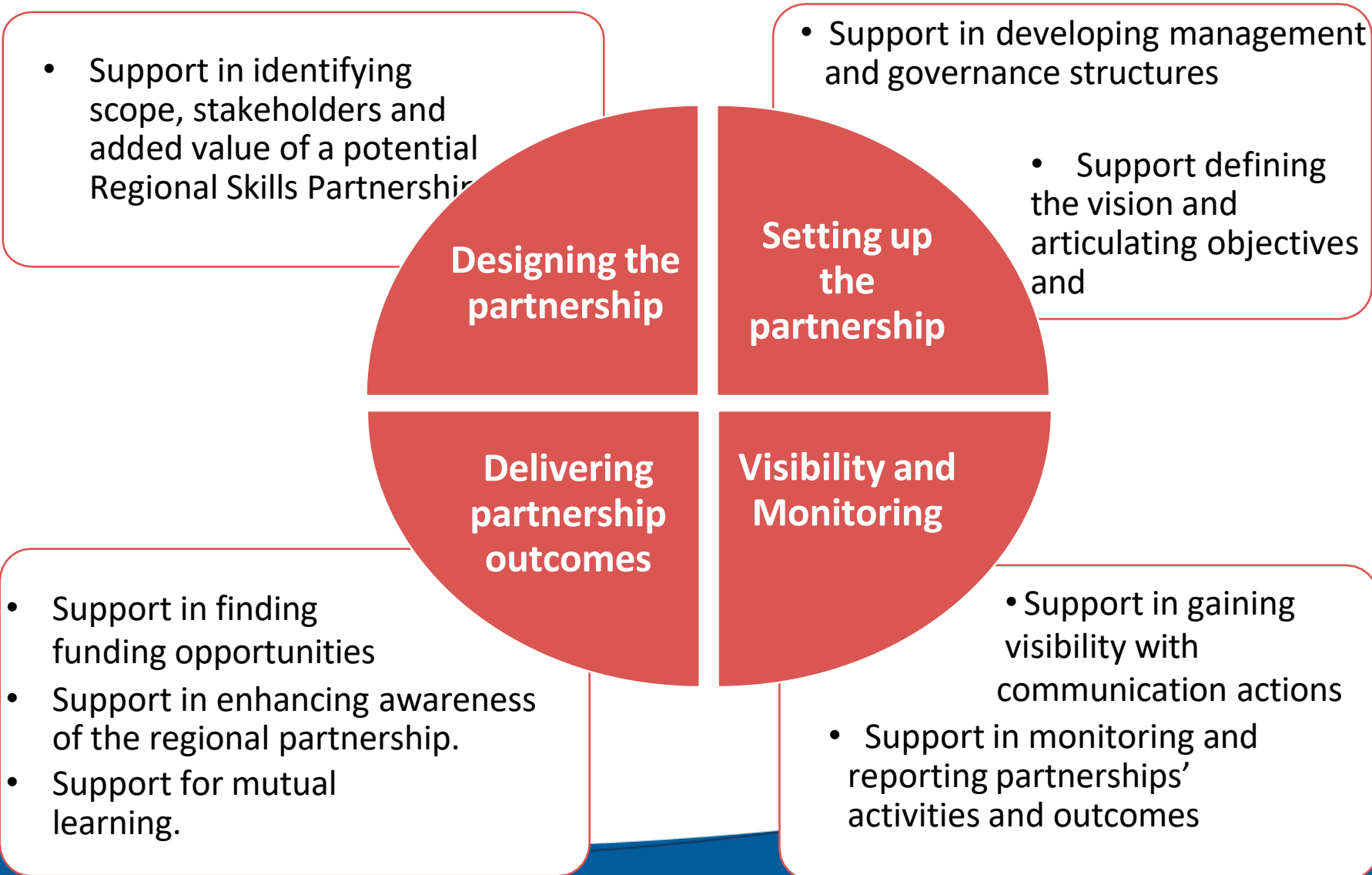
NEW **What Pledges towards 2030?**

- Best practices capitalisation
- Regular Webinars
- Formulate joint Platform in SBE
- Develop joint flagship and common projects for Funding and more!

Who can submit?

- Academic and research institutions
- Clusters in SBE
- Business and Marketing associations
- Groups of Growers
- Microenterprises, SMEs, and SBE companies
- Consumer and Environmental organisations
- International organisations
- Networks of organisations
- EGTCs
- NGOs
- Local, regional and national administrations
- Trade unions, etc.

Regional partnerships and Tailored support



Principles of the support:

- **Tailored** to the needs of each partnership.
- Focused on **developing the partnership** and supporting **outcomes**.
- Foundations for longer term **sustainability**.

The EU Pact for Skills – Regional Skills Partnerships for *Sustainable Blue Economy in EUSAIR region*

EUSAIR RSP on Blue Skills Working Group establishment

Draft Blue Skills Partnership indicative content (<5 pages):

A) The Challenges (Climate change, Green Deal, Enlargement, demographic trends in coastal communities, brain drain, digitalised economy in fisheries and maritime services, ecotourism and MSP etc)

B) The Proposal (transformation of the comparative advantages to competitive advantages for better performance objectives through green and digital transition, etc)

C) The planned activities (Networking activities of pledges promoters, joint EUSAIR flagship interpillar projects P1+P4+P5, targeted VET, postgraduate studies, research, study visits, policies recommendations etc)

D) Targets and Key milestones (by year 1,2,3: good practices shared in online training webinars, seminars and guides for EU policies and funding for skills, TSG1, regions, academics and clusters participation in a joint platform, number of Blue skills promoters, etc)

E) Partnership rules and arrangements (online meetings every 3 months and rotational annual presidency of the working group, etc)

Establishing a Regional Skills Partnership in the EUSAIR SBE

We are interested in setting up a regional partnership. Where do I start?

Start with:

Expression of Interest to open call for establishing regional skills partnership in SBE TSG 1 Of the EUSAIR region.

You can: through PCs

Show your interest by filling this online form:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/PfSRegionalPartnershipsEOI>

or contact the PfS Support Services (PactforSkillsPartnerships@ecorys.com)

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For more info: <https://www.adriatic-ionic.eu/> TSG 1 Pillar Coordinators SBE
https://pact-for-skills.ec.europa.eu/index_en

THE EU IS BUILT WITH Constructive Cooperation and Solidarity

Thank you!

Georgios EMMANOUIL / E.C. DG REGIO D1