

## MEDDIET FLAGSHIP

# Workshop rationale

**The Mediterranean Diet as  
an integrated driver of  
sustainable territorial  
development**

Sustainable food systems and health  
Biodiversity and cultural heritage  
Tourism and innovation

The Working Group Meeting will help turn a shared cross-regional EUSAIR vision into operational cooperation across the Adriatic-Ionian Region.



# MEDDIET key steps and milestones so far

- **May 2025 / Revised Action Plan adoption**

Pillar 4, Action 3: “Promoting the Mediterranean Diet and local, organic and origin production.”

- **May 2025 / 10<sup>th</sup> EUSAIR Annual Forum**

Pillar 4 highlighted the MEDDIET’s role in sustainable tourism.

- **September 2025 / Bari workshop**

Pillars 1, 4 and 5 created the MEDDIET flagship initiative.

- **May 2026/ 11<sup>th</sup> EUSAIR Annual Forum**

Morning Parallel Session: Advancing territorial development and -bio districts to drive the Mediterranean Diet flagship initiative.

- **December 2025, February and June 2026**

The dedicated cross-pillar Working Group met regularly online.

- **October 2026 / Ancona, the next step**

Further shape MEDDIET and strengthen cooperation across the three pillars.

## A shared cross- pillar asset

- **Pillar 1 Sustainable blue economy**

- **Pillar 4 Sustainable tourism**

- **Pillar 5 Social cohesion**

Local food systems and cultural heritage connect coastal and rural communities with sustainable economic development.

**EUSAIR governance can turn a shared vision into cross- pillar action.**





Presenter Notes  
2026-10-12 20:29:48

Mediterranean food culture:  
seasonal foods and olive oil on a  
coastal terrace. [Sources]  
AI-generated conceptual  
imagery, 12 October 2026.  
Illustrative scene, not  
documentary evidence or an  
identified location. [/Sources]

# A Mediterranean Diet Network and Ecosystem

The meeting will explore a potential mac-roregional innovation framework.

## The Network

**Connect the relevant actors  
across the Adriatic - Ionian  
Region.**

## The wider Ecosystem

Smart Specialisation priorities Research and  
higher education Businesses and public  
authorities

Territorial partnerships and proven local  
practices

Together, these could provide the first operational building blocks.



# A collaborative policy workshop

A working sequence that connects shared understanding with practical evidence.

**01**

## Inspiration talks

Short contributions establish a common framework.

The meeting will identify building blocks and implementation conditions. It will not formally establish the Network.

**02**

## Field- based pitches

Territorial experiences provide practical evidence.

**03**

## Cross- pillar dialogue

Participants translate the inputs into priorities and follow-up actions.



# Workshop objectives

- 1 Frame the Mediterranean Diet**  
Connect sustainable food systems, health, biodiversity, cultural heritage, tourism, innovation and territorial development.
- 2 Explore regional innovation capacity**  
Assess how Smart Specialisation priorities, regional capabilities and existing EUSAIR innovation ecosystems could support the Network and Ecosystem.
- 3 Identify the first building blocks**  
Surface relevant actors, potential pilot nodes, territorial experiences and transferable practices.
- 4 Set initial cooperation priorities**  
Address governance, knowledge transfer, skills development and lo-tnegrm macro-regional cooperation.





# Expected outcomes

Three initial outputs to support the operational development of MEDDIET.

- 1 An initial asset map**  
Relevant S3 priorities, innovation ecosystems, competences and territorial assets.
- 2 Preliminary selection criteria**  
A basis for selecting potential pilot nodes and transferable practices.
- 3 Shared priorities and follow - up**  
A concise set of common priorities and realistic actions for the MEDDIET Flagship.

S3: Smart Specialisation priorities



