

# REGIONE EMILIA-ROMAGNA

## Atti amministrativi GIUNTA REGIONALE

Delibera Num. 687 del 31/05/2017

Seduta Num. 20

**Questo** mercoledì 31 **del mese di** maggio

**dell' anno** 2017 **si è riunita nella residenza di** via Aldo Moro, 52 BOLOGNA

**la Giunta regionale con l'intervento dei Signori:**

1) Bonaccini Stefano	Presidente
2) Gualmini Elisabetta	Vicepresidente
3) Caselli Simona	Assessore
4) Costi Palma	Assessore
5) Donini Raffaele	Assessore
6) Gazzolo Paola	Assessore
7) Mezzetti Massimo	Assessore
8) Petitti Emma	Assessore
9) Venturi Sergio	Assessore

**Funge da Segretario l'Assessore:** Costi Palma

**Proposta:** GPG/2017/803 del 25/05/2017

**Struttura proponente:** SERVIZIO COORDINAMENTO DELLE POLITICHE EUROPEE,  
PROGRAMMAZIONE, COOPERAZIONE, VALUTAZIONE  
DIREZIONE GENERALE RISORSE, EUROPA, INNOVAZIONE E ISTITUZIONI

**Assessorato proponente:** ASSESSORE A COORDINAMENTO DELLE POLITICHE EUROPEE ALLO  
SVILUPPO, SCUOLA, FORMAZIONE PROFESSIONALE, UNIVERSITÀ,  
RICERCA E LAVORO

**Oggetto:** PANORAMED - ASSE 4 GOVERNANCE PROGRAMMA DI COOPERAZIONE  
TERRITORIALE TRANSNAZIONALE MED 2014/2020. ADESIONE DELLA  
REGIONE EMILIA-ROMAGNA IN QUALITÀ DI PARTNER.

**Iter di approvazione previsto:** Delibera ordinaria

LA GIUNTA DELLA REGIONE EMILIA-ROMAGNA

Visti:

- il regolamento (UE) 1303(2013) del 17 dicembre 2013 e successive modifiche e integrazioni recante disposizioni comuni sul Fondo europeo di sviluppo regionale, sul Fondo sociale europeo, sul Fondo di coesione, sul Fondo agricolo per lo sviluppo rurale e sul Fondo europeo per gli affari marittimi e la pesca e che abroga il regolamento (CE) n. 1083/2016;
- il regolamento (UE)1301/2013 del 17 dicembre 2013 relativo al Fondo europeo di sviluppo regionale e a disposizioni specifiche concernenti l'obiettivo "Investimenti a favore della crescita e dell'occupazione" e che abroga il regolamento (CE) 1080/2016;
- il regolamento (UE) 1299/2013 del 17 dicembre 2013 recante disposizioni specifiche per il sostegno del Fondo di sviluppo regionale all'obiettivo cooperazione territoriale europea;
- il regolamento delegato (UE) n. 240/2014 della Commissione del 7 gennaio 2014 recante un codice europeo di condotta sul partenariato nell'ambito dei fondi strutturali e d'investimento europei;
- il regolamento delegato (UE) n. 481/2014 del 4 marzo 2014 che integra il reg.(UE) n.1299/2013 per quanto concerne le norme specifiche in materia di ammissibilità delle spese per i programmi di cooperazione territoriale europea;
- il regolamento di esecuzione (UE)n. 288/2014 di esecuzione della Commissione del 25 febbraio 2014 recante modalità di applicazione del Regolamento (UE) n. 1303/2013 del Parlamento europeo e del Consiglio e recante modalità di applicazione del Regolamento (UE) n. 1299/2013 del Parlamento europeo e del Consiglio recante disposizioni specifiche per il sostegno del Fondo europeo di sviluppo regionale all'obiettivo di Cooperazione territoriale europea per quanto riguarda il modello per i programmi di cooperazione nell'ambito dell'obiettivo di Cooperazione territoriale europea;
- la Decisione di esecuzione 2014/366/UE della Commissione del 16 giugno 2014 che istituisce l'elenco dei programmi di cooperazione e indica l'importo globale del sostegno complessivo del Fondo europeo di sviluppo regionale per ciascun programma nell'ambito dell'obiettivo Cooperazione

territoriale europea per il periodo 2014-2020 e indica quale contributo complessivo FESR per il Programma MED euro 224.322.525,00;

- la Decisione di esecuzione 2014/388/UE del 16 giugno 2014 che stabilisce l'elenco delle regioni e delle zone ammissibili a un finanziamento del Fondo europeo di sviluppo regionale nel quadro delle componenti transfrontaliere e transnazionali dell'obiettivo di cooperazione territoriale europea per il periodo 2014/2020;
- la Decisione della Commissione Europea 3756 del 2 giugno 2015 che approva il Programma di Cooperazione Territoriale "INTERREG V-B Mediterranean (MED) 2014-2020 (d'ora in avanti PC MED);

Richiamate le proprie deliberazioni:

- n. 571 del 28 aprile 2014 "Documento Strategico Regionale dell'Emilia-Romagna per la programmazione dei Fondi Strutturali e di Investimento Europei (SIE) 2014-2020 - Strategia, approccio territoriale, priorità e strumenti di attuazione", adottata dall'Assemblea Legislativa con Deliberazione Assembleare n. 167 del 15 luglio 2014 dove, fra l'altro, si specifica che, per quanto riguarda la Cooperazione Territoriale Europea, la Regione si propone di dare continuità e consolidare la propria azione di governo dell'attuazione dei programmi CTE;
- n. 330/2015 avente ad oggetto "Programmi di cooperazione territoriale europea 2014/2020 - Indicazioni operative per la partecipazione della Regione Emilia-Romagna" e che stabilisce, fra l'altro le procedure e i principi generali per la presentazione e l'attuazione dei progetti di cooperazione territoriale per il periodo 2014/2020;
- n. 690/2015 avente ad oggetto "Programmi di cooperazione territoriale Interreg Europe 2014/2020 e Urbact III - sostegno a progetti del territorio regionale;

Richiamata altresì la propria deliberazione:

- n. 190 del 27 febbraio 2017 avente ad oggetto "Costituzione del Comitato Nazionale del Programma di Cooperazione Territoriale Europeo Interreg V B Mediterranean (MED) 2014/2020" dove, fra l'altro, si demanda alla Regione co-Presidente l'adozione dei successivi atti resisi necessari per l'implementazione delle attività del Programma MED, ivi compreso il regolamento di funzionamento del Comitato Nazionale MED;

Considerato che:

- la partecipazione ai progetti può avvenire in qualità di Capofila di progetto (Lead partner), di partner di progetto (Project partner) o di partner associato e che i progetti approvati saranno cofinanziati dal Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo regionale e da quote nazionali assicurate, ai soli beneficiari pubblici, dal Fondo di Rotazione ex legge 183/1987 così come stabilito dalla Legge 27 dicembre 2013, n. 147 "Disposizioni per la formazione del bilancio annuale e pluriennale dello Stato" all'articolo 1 commi 240-241 e relativa Tabella finanziaria "E" Missione 4. "L'Italia in Europa e nel mondo" che ha definito le risorse totali messe a disposizione per il cofinanziamento dei programmi cofinanziati dai Fondi strutturali 2014-2020 e le quote di contribuzione del Fondo di rotazione di cui alla legge n. 183/1987, Delibera CIPE n.10/28-01-2015 con riferimento all'intero periodo di programmazione 2014-2020;

- la sottoscrizione degli accordi preliminari, con il Capofila di progetto e/o fra partner, finalizzati alla presentazione delle singole proposte e, in caso di selezione e approvazione del progetto, i contratti e/o gli atti convenzionali relativi ai singoli progetti è demandata ai Direttori Generali competenti o degli organi competenti nel caso di Agenzie e Istituti e Società regionali;

Considerato inoltre che:

- il Monitoring Committee del PC MED ha approvato, nella riunione tenutasi a Marsiglia il 28 settembre 2016 la composizione del partenariato del progetto piattaforma di cui all'Asse IV - "Una governance condivisa nell'area mediterranea" del PC MED (in seguito denominato Progetto PANORAMED) per un importo totale di 9.000.000 €;

- il progetto PANORAMED vede la partecipazione di:

- a) Country Coordinators (Coordinatori Nazionali) dei 13 stati del PC MED, come segue: Cipro, Croazia, Francia, Grecia, Italia, Malta, Portogallo, Slovenia, Spagna, Gran Bretagna, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro;

- b) partners di progetto, con ruolo rispettivamente di Capofila (Lead), WP (work package) leader, WP co-leader, e di coordinatore di Cross Cutting Task, secondo lo schema seguente:

- 1. SPAGNA (Capofila di progetto con ruolo di leader WP4 "Comunicazione" e WP5 "Gestione");

2. REGIONE EMILIA ROMAGNA (leader del WP1 "Metodologie e Valutazione");
3. CROAZIA (leader del WP2 "Turismo costiero");
4. REGIONE TOSCANA (co-leader del WP2 "Turismo costiero");
5. SECRETARIAT GENERAL FOR THE SEA (FR) (Leader WP 3 "Sorveglianza marittima");
6. CIPRO (Leader Cross Cutting Task "Collegamento" con i programmi finanziati dai Fondi strutturali);
7. GRECIA (Co-Leader Cross Cutting Task "Collegamento" con i programmi finanziati dai Fondi strutturali);
8. REGIONE MOLISE (Leader Cross Cutting Task "Migrazione")
9. PROVENCE-ALPES-COTE D'AZUR REGION (FR) (Leader Cross Cutting Task Fondi strutturali - MAIN STREAMING)

Dato atto che:

- la partecipazione della Regione Emilia-Romagna al progetto PANORAMED nel ruolo di leader del WP1 metodologie e valutazione, insieme alla Regione Marche e all'Agenzia per la Coesione Territoriale (ACT) con ruolo di country coordinator, alla Regione Toscana come co-leader del WP 2 per la tematica del Turismo costiero sostenibile ed alla Regione Molise come leader per la tematica trasversale "Migrazione" garantisce la partecipazione del Sistema Italia al progetto PANORAMED, come concertato in occasione degli incontri del Comitato Nazionale MED in data 5/05/2016, 21/09/2016, 17/10/2016, 11/11/2016 21/12/2016 7/03/2017 e 27/04/2017;

Preso atto che:

- la quota di competenza della Regione Emilia-Romagna su tale progetto, laddove lo stesso fosse approvato, è stata in via presuntiva (nel corso delle sedute rispettivamente del PC MED Monitoring Committee e del Comitato Nazionale MED citate in precedenza) predeterminata in euro 504.816 e sarà finanziata per l'85% con risorse FESR e per il 15% con risorse nazionali (fondo di rotazione IGRUE), pertanto non vi saranno oneri a carico del bilancio della Regione;

Preso altresì atto che:

- anche l'Autorità di Gestione del Programma di cooperazione Transnazionale ADRIION - Regione Emilia-Romagna identificata con Delibera n.1532 del 20/10/2015 - INDIVIDUAZIONE DELLE STRUTTURE COMUNI CON RUOLO DI AUTORITA' DI GESTIONE, AUTORITA' DI AUDIT E AUTORITA' DI CERTIFICAZIONE, partecipa al progetto PANORAMED in qualità di partner associato, e che detta partecipazione è

esclusivamente intesa per fornire sinergia all'attuazione di azioni congiunte nell'area Adriatico-Ionica e quindi Mediterranea;

Considerato inoltre che:

- il Segretariato Congiunto del PC MED ha comunicato nel corso della riunione preparatoria svoltasi a Madrid il 20 e 21 marzo 2017 che provvederà al caricamento sulla piattaforma "Synergie" del progetto PANORAMED, inserito nell'ambito del programma di cooperazione transnazionale INTERREG MED - ASSE 4 "Rafforzare la governance mediterranea"; PI 11. "Rafforzare la governance nel Mediterraneo"; OS 4.1:" Sostenere il processo di rafforzamento e sviluppo del quadro di coordinamento multilaterale nel Mediterraneo per una risposta congiunta alle sfide comuni", che verrà approvato nel corso del prossimo Comitato di Sorveglianza, previsto per il mese di giugno 2017;

Ritenuto pertanto opportuno approvare la partecipazione della Regione Emilia-Romagna Direzione Generale Risorse, Europa, Innovazione e Istituzioni come Partner, e più precisamente con il ruolo di leader della componente di progetto denominata WP 1 "metodologie e valutazione" alla proposta progettuale PANORAMED (descritta sinteticamente nella scheda progettuale di cui all'allegato A alla presente delibera, che ne costituisce parte integrante e dal documento progettuale "Platform Project" che illustra il piano di lavoro e ne descrive i contenuti tecnici di cui all'allegato B alla presente delibera, che ne costituisce parte integrante), da inoltrare come candidatura nell'ambito del programma di cooperazione transnazionale INTERREG MED ed in particolare dell'Asse 4;

Richiamate:

- la Legge 26 novembre 2001, n. 43 "Testo unico in materia di organizzazione e di rapporti di lavoro nella Regione Emilia-Romagna" e succ. mod;
- le proprie deliberazioni n. 1057 del 24 luglio 2006 e s.m.i., n. 1663 del 27 novembre 2006 e s.m.i., n. 1222 del 4 agosto 2011, n. 99 del 28 gennaio 2008 "Riassetto interno delle Direzioni generali", n. 2416 del 29 dicembre 2008 e s.m.i. e n. 2060 del 20 dicembre 2010;

Visti:

- il D.Lgs. 14 marzo 2013, n. 33 "Riordino della disciplina riguardante gli obblighi di pubblicità, trasparenza e diffusione di informazioni da parte delle Pubbliche Amministrazioni";

- la D.G.R. n. 1621 del 11 novembre 2013 avente per oggetto "Indirizzi interpretativi per l'applicazione degli obblighi di pubblicazione previsti dal D.Lgs. 14 marzo 2013, n. 33";
- la D.G.R. n. 270 del 29 febbraio 2016 avente per oggetto "Attuazione prima fase della riorganizzazione avviata con delibera 2189/2015";
- la D.G.R. n.622 del 28 aprile 2016 avente per oggetto "Attuazione della seconda fase della riorganizzazione";
- la D.G.R. n. 89 del 30 gennaio 2017 avente ad oggetto "Approvazione piano triennale di prevenzione della corruzione 2017-2019";

Dato atto del parere allegato;

Su proposta dell'Assessore a Coordinamento delle politiche europee allo sviluppo, scuola, formazione professionale, università, ricerca e lavoro della Giunta regionale;

A voti unanimi e palesi

D E L I B E R A

1. di approvare per i motivi esposti in premessa, la partecipazione della Regione Emilia-Romagna alla proposta progettuale PANORAMED descritta nell'allegato A e B parte integrante alla presente delibera, nell'ambito del Programma di cooperazione Interreg V - B Mediterranean (MED) ed in particolare dell'ASSE 4. "Rafforzare la governance mediterranea", PI 11, OS 4.1 "Sostenere il processo di rafforzamento e sviluppo del quadro di coordinamento multilaterale nel Mediterraneo per una risposta congiunta alle sfide comuni";

2. di approvare per i motivi esposti in premessa, la partecipazione dell'Autorità di Gestione del Programma di cooperazione transnazionale ADRION 2014/20 - Regione Emilia-Romagna alla proposta progettuale PANORAMED in qualità di partner associato;

3. di dare atto che l'adesione al progetto non comporta alcun onere finanziario a carico del bilancio regionale;

4. di dare mandato al Direttore generale Risorse, Europa, Innovazione e Istituzioni di porre in essere tutti gli adempimenti amministrativi necessari, in quanto partner di progetto, alla presentazione della candidatura del

progetto PANORAMED, nonché tutte le attività successive per l'attuazione del progetto stesso, anche avvalendosi del Servizio competente Coordinamento delle politiche europee, programmazione, cooperazione, valutazione, che assicurerà il necessario raccordo e monitoraggio delle attività, costituendo un apposito gruppo di lavoro.



## Allegato A

### IL PROGETTO PIATTAFORMA PANORAMED – PROGRAMMA MED 2014-2020 - SINTESI

Al fine di supportare la costruzione di un approccio strategico sul Mediterraneo, il Programma MED ha deciso di destinare risorse tramite l'Asse 4, prevedendo la realizzazione di un progetto denominato Progetto Piattaforma (a cui è stato attribuito l'acronimo di **PANORAMED**), che non è altro che un sistema di dialogo interattivo tra gli attori chiave del Mediterraneo, strutturato sulla base di Gruppi di lavoro.

Il Progetto dovrà portare alla definizione di strategie condivise sull'area mediterranea su temi prevalenti e fungere da complemento al mainstream.

Concretamente, l'**obiettivo** di PANORAMED è quello di definire e promuovere **progetti strategici** sulle tematiche definite come prioritarie per l'area: Turismo marittimo e costiero (crocierismo, turismo costiero e marittimo integrato, offerta turistica innovativa e sostenibile) e Sorveglianza marittima (sicurezza marittima, ambiente marino, trasporti marittimi multimodali).

A questi due temi strategici si aggiunge quello dell'Innovazione (blue technology e imprenditoria sociale). Trasversali risultano le tematiche afferenti i cambiamenti climatici e le questioni migratorie.

PANORAMED è strutturato attraverso Work Packages (WP), che svilupperanno le proprie attività attraverso Thematic working Groups, e specifiche attività trasversali denominate Cross Cutting Tasks – CCT; nello specifico:

1. **WP 1 Metodologie e Valutazione**
2. **WP 2 Thematic group Turismo marittimo e costiero**
3. **WP 3 Thematic Group Sorveglianza marittima**
  - i. **Cross Cutting Task Liasing**
  - ii. **Cross Cutting Task Migration**
  - iii. **Cross Cutting Task Mainstreaming**
2. **WP 4 Comunicazione**
3. **WP 5 Project Management**

I Thematic working Groups dovranno verificare lo stato dell'arte sulle opportunità di sviluppo dei settori identificati, garantire l'integrazione a livello locale, riferire delle opportunità durante eventi transnazionali in cui verranno proposti policy papers o action plans, per promuovere progetti strategici (ne saranno finanziati presumibilmente 3/4).

L'organismo di gestione di PANORAMED sarà uno **Steering Group (SG)** formato dalle 12 strutture (denominate **Country Coordinator Units**) in rappresentanza degli Stati MED<sup>1</sup>; lo SG avrà il compito di verificare la rilevanza dei temi trattati dai progetti strategici e della partnership, proporre modifiche e nel caso prendere una decisione sul finanziamento.

I **Partner** di PANORAMED sono i 12 Country Coordinators e alcune strutture con il ruolo di leader di alcuni Work Packages e Cross Cutting Tasks (le Regioni Emilia-Romagna, Toscana, Molise e Provence Alpes Cote d'Azur e il Segretariato Generale del Mare francese), ai quali si aggiungono i partner associati (l'Unione per il Mediterraneo, INTERACT e EUSAIR ad esempio).

Il **Lead Partner** del progetto è la Spagna – Ministero dell'Economia, Direzione Generale per i Fondi Europei – Unità di Cooperazione Territoriale.

Il **budget complessivo** del progetto è di 9 milioni di euro; le risorse residue in dotazione all'Asse 4 saranno destinate all'attuazione dei progetti strategici (circa 13 milioni di euro, incluso il co-finanziamento nazionale).

<sup>1</sup> Nell'ambito di PANORAMED, gli SM coinvolti sono 12, avendo la Gran Bretagna (con Gibilterra) deciso di non partecipare al progetto, a seguito della BREXIT.

La **durata** di PANORAMED è di circa 5 anni. L'avvio è previsto a giugno 2017 e la conclusione a Marzo/Aprile 2022.

La **Regione Emilia-Romagna**, con un budget di 504.816€, sarà leader del WP1 Metodologie e Valutazione e avrà il compito di coordinare la definizione di metodologie che saranno applicate nell'ambito dei Thematic Working Groups, al fine di supportare lo sviluppo delle attività e quindi la definizione di progetti strategici.

Il coinvolgimento della Regione Emilia-Romagna nel progetto nasce dalla sperimentazione del modello di valutazione del contributo dei progetti di Cooperazione Territoriale alla programmazione regionale sviluppato da ERVET (che funge da soggetto attuatore nell'ambito del progetto), realizzata nel corso della precedente fase di implementazione del Programma MED (2007-2013).

Nell'ambito di PANORAMED, l'intento della Regione sarà anche quello di incrementare e mettere a valore la partecipazione ad alcune delle principali reti ed iniziative attive sul Mediterraneo (CRPM, Bluemed Initiative, ecc.), di concerto con quanto previsto dal Programma ADRION e dalla strategia EUSAIR.

## **INTERREG Mediterranean 2014 - 2020**

### **Axis 4 - Enhancing Mediterranean Governance**

## **PLATFORM project**

### **Technical elements**

#### **Contents of the document**

*Based on the results of the Axis 4 meeting among member states held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015 in Paris and the outcomes of previous meetings and exchanges, the document elaborates the technical elements of the platform project in order to launch a written procedure that will be open between **10<sup>th</sup> February and 23<sup>rd</sup> March**.*

#### **Objective of the document**

- ✓ *To support the member states in the process of internal consultation*
- ✓ *To ease the exchanges between the member states and the JS in the further development of project proposal contents and its finalization for the submission to the programme Monitoring Committee*
- ✓ *To facilitate the project approval procedure*

#### **Information to be provided by the member States**

*Please note that the parts in a blue framework and highlighted with an exclamation mark are specific requests for each member state to provide the JS with the requested information, **within the closure date of the written procedure (23<sup>rd</sup> March)***



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**Axis 4 Total Budget (ERDF/IPA+ national co-financing):** 21.993.252 € - (17.945.801 € ERDF; 748.462 € IPA)

**Specific objective:** To support the process of strengthening and developing multilateral coordination frameworks in the Mediterranean for joint responses to common challenges.

As the INTERREG Mediterranean programme aims to benefit from and contribute to the framework of already existing macro-regions and other possible strategic frameworks emerging in the future, it is opting for specific projects which **can facilitate appropriate tools and mechanisms to ease the implementation of better governance and thematic integration in the Mediterranean.**

This objective will be reached by a “**Platform of national authorities project**” programmed under the **Axis 4**, and with the financing of specific projects emanating from the work of intergovernmental and interregional Working groups under the Platform initiative.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Context

The Mediterranean area is one of the most heterogeneous cooperation areas. Geographical, socio-economic and political contexts can vary significantly from one region to another thus the identification of shared policy approaches and operational plans in key sectors is definitively challenging. Not to mention the issue of migration that concerns the Mediterranean since decades and that will continue also after the current dramatic emergency has diminished. Despite numerous efforts at different levels the persistence of several dimensions of governance gaps heavily jeopardize an eco-systemic dialogue, relevant integrated policy decisions at different levels and, by consequence, the prosperity of the area.

There is a need to coordinate different activities and policies contributing to the sustainable socio-economic development and protection of the Mediterranean, by improving institutional capacity of the concerned stakeholders and by involving them and their networks to an effort of integrated discussion and planning at transnational level.

The region is also characterized by a concentration of various EU and internationally funded programmes/projects, financial channels, sector and institutional networks, organizations and platforms which prove the major economic and political endeavor devoted by the concerned states and stakeholders.

In particular within the cooperation area of the MED programme, many transnational cooperation initiatives as well as sectorial networks and platforms already exist. Most of them are informal but there are also some inter-governmental and institutional frameworks. The most relevant to the platform project are those who are concerned by the objectives financed by the thematic Axis of the MED programme.

However this important efforts are inadequately backed by a shared governance framework which results to be essential namely in terms of **definition of joint policy approaches on defined transnational thematic priorities, use of already produced data evidence, effective and complementary use of EU and national/regional public funds.**

### 1.2. Main results and lessons learned of MED Programme 2007 2013

During the period 2007-2013 the MED projects delivered a lot of **significant evidence in terms of outputs** on the set thematic priorities.

In fact the projects produced an enormous amount of databases, analysis, studies, pilot projects, etc. that represent a massive source of thematic data and information.

Notwithstanding this important production and related public financial effort, the lack of a **permanent and structured methodology - at programme level - enabling thematic and eco-systemic synergies among this evidence** has led to the development of a fragmented ‘population’ of projects with very limited or no impact at all beyond their closure, except some specific exceptions. The produced results were not exploited in terms of **bottom-up evidence for the elaboration of transnational, national/regional policies and decision making processes as well as mainstreaming actions.**

To face this gap the programme evolved towards strategic, capitalization and thematically targeted calls that eased and tested an early process of clustering and capitalizing projects results. This development facilitated the exploration and exploitation of synergies and complementarities therefore it enabled a sounder understanding of the achievements and gaps at transnational level per thematic priority. However,

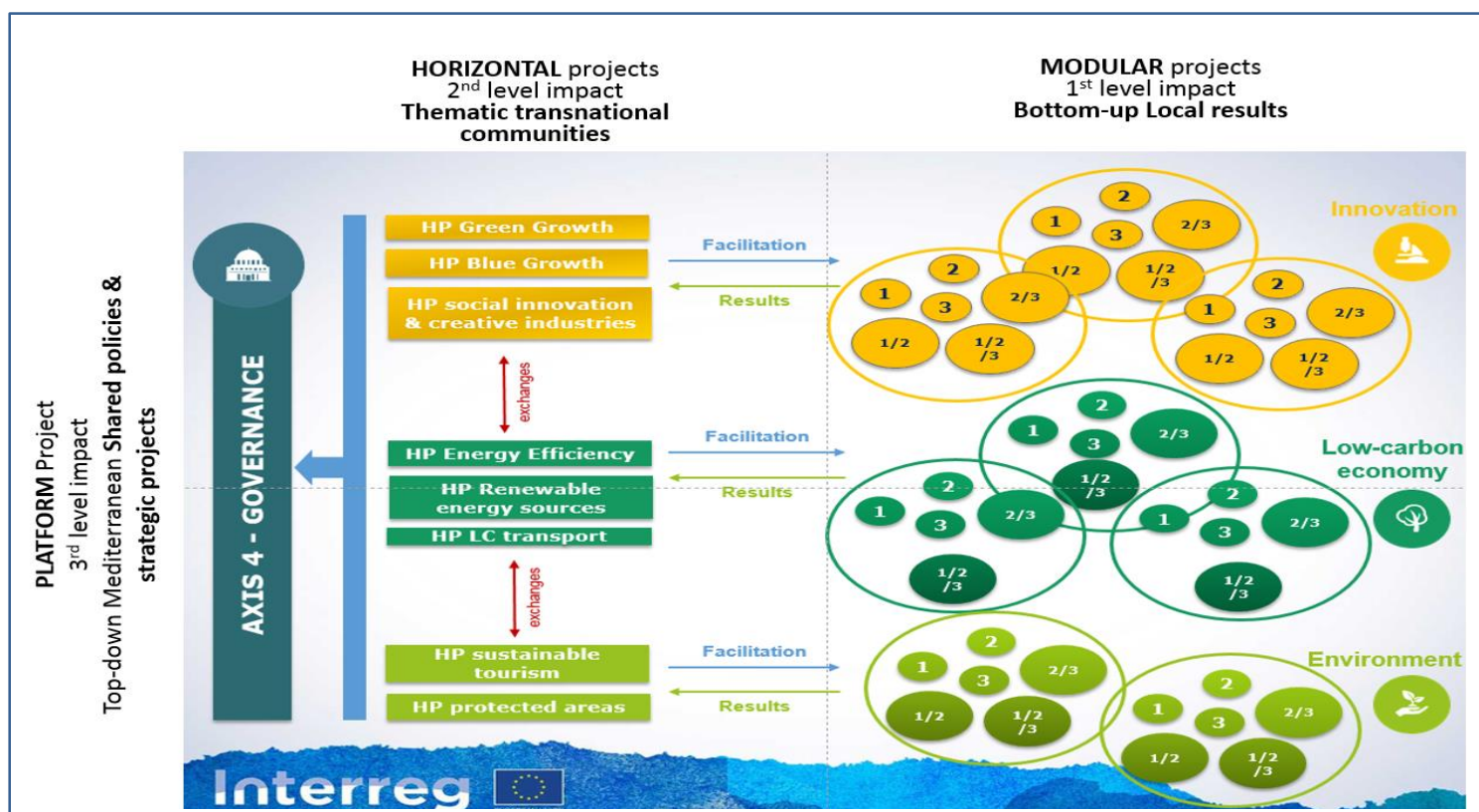
despite representing an important evolution within the Programme, it still lacked a more structured and integrated framework linking systematically projects' results to policy and actors making at transnational and national level as well to mainstreaming actions with national and regional structural funds programmes.

### 1.3. New approach of Mediterranean PROGRAMME 2014 2020

The above-mentioned considerations have accompanied all along the work of the member states in the process of drafting and finalizing the new INTERREG Mediterranean Programme 2014 2020.

The new Programme approach in fact foresees **3 levels of impact integrating bottom-up and top-down approach:**

- ✓ **1<sup>st</sup> level: local** through the **modular projects**.  
THE modular projects will ensure the elaboration of **bottom-up data and outputs**.
- ✓ **2<sup>nd</sup> level: transnational thematic communities** through the **horizontal projects**.  
Horizontal projects, will cluster, analyze, synthetize, disseminate and capitalize the bottom-up data and outputs of the modular projects at **transnational thematic communities level**<sup>1</sup>. This means that the results of the modular projects will be integrated into an eco-systemic transnational thematic framework thus their impact will be optimized at a higher transnational level.  
In parallel the HPs will represent the tool conveying systematically the clustered results of the modular projects to the **top-down platform project of the axis 4**.
- ✓ **3<sup>rd</sup> level: the Axis 4 top-down platform project** is an evidence based **permanent multi-level dialogue forum of national and regional authorities** as well as relevant stakeholders, Programmes and initiatives active in the Mediterranean. The exercise will contribute to the definition and implementation of **shared policies and strategic projects at Mediterranean level**.



<sup>1</sup> Based on the Specific Objectives the INTERREG Mediterranean programme has declined its Axis 2 – Low Carbon economy - and Axis 3 - Environment, transnational thematic communities have been identified accordingly.  
Axis 1 - Innovation has no Specific Objectives and 3 transnational thematic communities have been identified: Green growth, Blue growth and social innovation/creative industries.

#### 1.4. Programme capitalization and platform project activities

It is useful to underline the difference between programme capitalization and the platform project in order to fully understand, through the following sections, the complementarities between capitalization activities and the Axis 4 platform.

The main goal of the capitalization is to organize data, based on identified criteria, concerning the implementation of programme, projects and their impact in order to make the relevant synthesized information comparable, transferable and usable by other projects, stakeholder and other programmes. This exercise can be implemented through different ad hoc tools.

The Axis 4 platform it is not a capitalization tool. Instead it tries to **integrate and enhance the results of the capitalization itself into a wider transnational dynamic** that will provide national and regional authorities with additional information to support a sounder elaboration of transnational/national/regional policies and decision making processes on set priorities.

In these terms programme capitalization and platform project activities do not represent a duplication but rather a **complementarity**.

## 2. OVERALL GOAL, SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

### 2.1. Overall goal

The overall goal of the initiative is to support institutional capacity of the concerned public authorities and stakeholders in the **definition of a transnational governance joint framework for the identification and implementation of shared approaches, policies and strategic projects on set themes**.

Within the limits of programme competences and funds, the platform represents a tool **to complement and give its contribution** to other relevant initiatives tackling the challenging 'governance exercise' as well as to public authorities in charge of EU structural funds management at national and regional level.

### 2.2. Specific objectives

The abovementioned overall goal is declined into the following specific objectives:

- ✓ Exploitation of the **impact of MED projects data evidence/results** - thus by consequence the **Programme funds** - at transnational, national and regional level
- ✓ Reinforcement of the **institutional capacity of public authorities** in transnational and national **policy definition and strategic planning**
- ✓ Identification and implementation of **strategic projects** with a top-down approach
- ✓ Enhancement of the **institutional capacity of public authorities** in the efficient implementation of EU/national public funds through **mainstreaming actions**
- ✓ Support a structured **dialogue and complementarity** with other relevant EU Territorial cooperation and Thematic Programmes, EU Commission Directorates-General, EU Macro-strategies, EU Sea basin strategies, Organisations, Networks, etc.
- ✓ Contribution to the improvement of a **reinforced cooperation with the South shore of the Mediterranean**<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> It is worth mentioning that with the **Ministerial declaration of the Union for the Mediterranean issued on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015** from the conference on **Blue economy**, with reference to maritime governance, the **Ministers call "all concerned authorities for enhancing the synergies between the programmes concerning the Northern and Southern shores of the Mediterranean, notably the Programme "Interreg Mediterranean (MED) and the Programme ENI Cross Border Cooperation Mediterranean Sea Basin (ENI-CBC-MED) by ensuring the sharing of project results, as much as appropriate, and a sound coordination regarding the definition of the content of calls for projects.**



### 2.3. Expected results

The expected results of the platform activities can be summed up as follows:

- ✓ **Reinforced transnational dialogue** - Improved institutional capacity of the public authorities in charge of the management of EU funds/Programmes at transnational, national and regional level, to liaise and exchange on identified strategic themes
- ✓ **Developed evidence based approach** – Enhanced institutional capacity of relevant public authorities to use data evidence produced by the projects as base for policy elaboration and strategy planning at transnational and national level
- ✓ **Sounder assessment of needs/gaps and potentialities of the Mediterranean** - Enhanced capacity for better assessment of needs/gaps and potentialities in the Mediterranean both at transnational level and national/regional level
- ✓ **Contribute to common strategic vision and consensus building** - Contribution to enhanced of functional relations between countries and between relevant national and regional authorities to define sector and cross-sector policies with a common strategic and long-term vision
- ✓ **Sustainable strategic initiatives** - Increased capacity of the relevant public authorities to jointly identify, plan and implement top-down strategic initiatives at transnational level
- ✓ **Mainstreaming** - increased impact of MED programme funds through a more fortified process of coordination and efficient complementarity with other structural funds financed programmes at national/regional
- ✓ **Potential reinforcement of the institutional capacity** of public authorities **to contribute to social emergencies affecting the area.**

### 2.4. Relevant Input

The main inputs to the platform working groups will be provided by:

- ✓ the 2007-2014 MED projects data evidence, until the results from modular projects are available
- ✓ the 2014-2020 modular projects
- ✓ the evidence provided by other programmes/initiatives/projects/networks active in the Mediterranean and relevant to the platform projects in terms of tackled themes.

## 3. PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

The partnership scheme foresees a differentiated composition: **partners, technical partners and associated partners.**

### ✓ PARTNERS

- Partners with **voting rights.**  
**INTERREG Mediterranean Programme member states** that will be **directly** and concretely involved through the **relevant national structures**
- Partners **systematically participating** to the Steering Group meetings but with **no voting rights.**  
**INTERREG Mediterranean Regions** as key institutional actors of the area. Representatives of the Regions will coordinate their participation with the member states (country coordinator) on a **rotation basis**, based on the specific knowledge/interest on the Steering Group agenda. Regions will coordinate their position on the agenda voting points with the member states (country coordinator). It is suggested a maximum of 2-3 participating Regions per member state per SG.  
Considering that not all member states have regional administrative level, Regions will not have voting rights to ensure to all member states the equal 'negotiation power' during the SG meetings.

### ✓ TECHNICAL PARTNERS

Partners providing **technical input**, with **no voting rights** and participating to the Steering Group meetings **punctually: relevant national/regional public/private entities & stakeholders with technical competences/know-how.** They are identified and proposed by the County coordinator and Regions, when relevant, in the framework of each SG meeting.



Since the identification of the relevant national/regional public/private entities & stakeholders might take a while, their involvement can be envisaged from the 2<sup>nd</sup> SG meeting onwards.

The country coordinators, in coordination with the Regions when relevant, will be in charge for the identification of the relevant technical partners per identified themes.

#### ✓ **ASSOCIATED PARTNERS**

Partners participating to the work of the SG based both on their **knowledge/experience in terms of Mediterranean governance** as well as on the need to develop **coordination/complementarity with the platform project**.

Associated partners shall be: Union for the Mediterranean, UNEP MAP, Center for the Integration of the Mediterranean, EU (DG REGIO, DG MARE, DG NEAR), transnational territorial cooperation Programmes in the Region (SUDOE, ENI MED, ADRION, MED BALKAN), INTERACT, representatives of EUSAIR and of the initiative BLUEMED<sup>3</sup>. Associated partners have no voting rights however they are called to follow the developments of the platform projects and give their input when relevant.

This broader composition will ensure a **multi-level and completer representation** of the relevant stakeholders in terms of **geographical** competences, **thematic** knowledge, know-how in **Mediterranean governance issues** as well as long track experience in **structural funds programmes management**.



The member states are kindly requested to indicate if they agree with the identified associated partners

The **MA/JS of the programme** will participate to the Steering Group meetings to ensure **the administrative aspects of the project management and related support** if needed, but with no voting rights.

## 4. THEMES

During the initial start-up and test phase<sup>4</sup> of the platform it is recommended to adopt a simple approach with reference to the themes in order to facilitate the commencement and implementation of the project activities.

To this extent it is suggested to:

- ✓ identify 1 or 2 relevant **strategy themes** – based on the **strong maritime dimension** of the INTERREG Mediterranean Programme - and decline them into **specific sub-themes** where evidence based approach can be applied thus allowing the exploitation of the results delivered by the projects.  
*Please refer to the proposals here after for the strategy themes and the specific sub-themes.*
- ✓ integrate **the migration theme**<sup>5</sup> in the exercise.

<sup>3</sup> The BLUEMED initiative, **jointly developed and agreed between Cyprus, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, and Spain, facilitated and supported by the European Commission**, aims to advance a **shared vision and joint framework** for a more healthy, productive, resilient, as well as a better known and valued Mediterranean Sea. This initiative seeks to promote the social well-being prosperity of both local and EU citizens now and for future generations and to boost economic growth and jobs. The foundation the success of the BLUEMED initiative is a strong coordination between research, industry and policy at national, regional and EU level.

Several meeting during 2014 **supported discussion and consensus building among the countries and regions involved as well as consultation with stakeholders including industry representatives private and public associations**. The initiative addresses cross-cutting marine and maritime strategic research themes, **around which joint innovation programmes can be constructed**. Explicit reference is made to the principles of the European Union's Integrated Maritime Policy, as well as the sea-related European Directives, and it is fully consistent with the aims of the EU Blue Growth strategy and other relevant policies adopted by the European Union.

The initiative is also coherent with the EurOCEAN 2014 Rome Declaration which supports the vision and the objectives of the BLUEMED initiative as a regional action which promotes an integrated approach to managing maritime space and resources.

<sup>4</sup> Please see Section 5.2 – Project work plan and project scheme

<sup>5</sup> The note of Commissioner Crețu of 21st October 2015 brought the attention on the role that Cohesion Policy can play on the integration of migrants and refugees.

Migration is not a new aspect of the dynamics that characterise the Mediterranean region, however the current escalation is a dramatic novelty that a Programme as INTERREG Mediterranean cannot ignore since it involves directly all the geographical area covered by the Programme itself. Moreover, once the current situation will appease, migration will continue.

On the other hand the theme does not fall under the competences of ERDF in fact it is not present in the INTERREG Mediterranean Programme thus it cannot be treated as a strategy theme or sub-theme of the platform. Moreover no MED projects have tackled the issue before neither will do the projects submitted within the 1<sup>st</sup> call for modular projects. This means that the evidence based approach cannot be applied to the theme of migration, at least in the initial phase of the platform project.

However, in the framework of a flexible scheme, migration can be treated with a **transversal approach** since migration affects the themes INTERREG Mediterranean directly deals with such as, for example, environment, maritime security and tourism among the others.



Following the suggestions of the MS expressed during the meeting held in Paris on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015, hereafter the proposals of strategy themes and relevant sub-themes are elaborated. The choice of the themes will be determined by the written procedure and related consultation process. Based on relevant results the member states are kindly **requested to indicate their priority among the strategy themes proposed** in order to ease the joint identification of **maximum 2 strategy themes the platform project will kick-off the activities with**. In the successive phase of the platform project, the other strategy themes might be integrated and/or additional ones will be identified, based on the work and results of the platform.



In case the member states wish to propose additional themes at this stage, they are kindly requested to briefly elaborate the strategic elements of the proposed theme at Axis 4 platform project level as well as the indicative sources for the collection of relevant data evidence/information.



While indicating the chosen themes, the member states are kindly requested to indicate their preference in terms of **leading the relevant Thematic Work package**.

Member States are also kindly requested to express their **interest in leading the Tasks of LIAISING and MAINSTREAMING**

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*On the same line the European Council conclusions on the 25 years of INTERREG and its contribution to the cohesion policy goals of November 2015 stressed that INTERREG Programmes, may support to help respond to migration related challenges, where necessary and justifies and in complementarity with other appropriate funding streams.*

*DG REGIO, that took part to the 18th December Axis 4 meeting held in Paris among member states, mentioned that with reference to migration the programme INTERREG Mediterranean needs to be flexible and adjust to the challenges the region faces. The Axis 4 seems to offer the appropriate tool and the Commission is ready to support any change of the Programme, if needed.*

Please note that in the following tables the Axis/Specific Objective(s) corresponding to each proposed strategy theme/sub-theme has been indicated in order to highlight the linkage with the INTERREG Mediterranean Programme to ensure the evidence based approach.

STRATEGY THEME 1	SUB-THEME		CORRESPONDING AXIS – S.O	<p><b>TRANSVERSAL MIGRATION</b></p> <p><b>With reference to the sub-themes, <u>not to migration per se</u>, the following activities can be implemented :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ identification of the specific aspects of the sub-theme that are concerned by migration</li> <li>✓ elaboration of the criteria to identify related relevant <b>best practices</b></li> <li>✓ identification of best practices and comparative analysis</li> <li>✓ identification of the <b>transferability</b> of best practices to other MED territories</li> <li>✓ identification of the <b>relevant gaps</b>: aspects of migration that affect the sub-theme where there is an identified not yet addressed need</li> <li>✓ analysis of the gaps</li> <li>✓ identification of <b>potential actions</b> to be implemented by the INTERREG Med projects (from 3<sup>rd</sup> call for modular projects - indicative)</li> <li>✓ potentially, elaboration of the relevant <b>suggestions</b> to be included in the <b>specific TORs for modular projects</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>MARITIME SURVEILLANCE</b></p> <p>The aim of integrated maritime surveillance is to generate a situational awareness of activities at sea impacting on maritime safety and security, border control, maritime pollution and marine environment, fisheries control, general law enforcement, defence as well as the economic interests of the EU, so as to facilitate sound decision making</p> <p>The guiding principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Interlinking all relevant user Communities</li> <li>✓ Building a technical framework for interoperability and future integration</li> <li>✓ Information Exchange between civilian and military Authorities</li> <li>✓ Specific legal provisions<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>	<b>MARITIME SECURITY</b>	<p>Exchange of data and information on sea activities, impacting maritime safety and security: contribute to providing authorities with innovative common tools/procedures to exchange them.</p> <p>Generate relevant awareness among concerned transnational/national/regional competent authorities and stakeholders.</p> <p>Harmonisation of standards and regulations</p>	<b>AXIS 1</b>	
	<b>MARINE ENVIRONMENT</b>	<p>Monitoring and sharing information/data on pressures and impacts on marine environment, protected areas.</p> <p>Early warning/identification of incidents/accidents that may have an environmental impact; support of pollution response operations.</p> <p>Pressures from human activities: tourism, fishing, land industrial and agriculture waste/chemicals, cargo ships, coastal urbanization, etc.</p> <p>Generate relevant awareness among concerned transnational/national/regional competent authorities and stakeholders.</p> <p>Harmonisation of standards and regulations</p>	<b>AXIS 3 S.O 3.2</b>	
	<b>MULTIMODAL/MARITIME TRANSPORTS</b>		<b>AXIS 2 S.O 2.3</b>	

<sup>6</sup> Integrating Maritime Surveillance – Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) European Commission - 2010

STRATEGY THEME 2	SUB-THEME		CORRESPONDING AXIS – S.O	<p><b>TRANSVERSAL MIGRATION</b></p> <p><b>With reference to the sub-themes, <u>not to migration per se</u>, the following activities can be implemented :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ identification of the specific aspects of the sub-theme that are concerned by migration</li> <li>✓ elaboration of the criteria to identify related relevant <b>best practices</b></li> <li>✓ identification of best practices and comparative analysis</li> <li>✓ identification of the <b>transferability</b> of best practices to other MED territories</li> <li>✓ identification of the <b>relevant gaps</b>: aspects of migration that affect the sub-theme where there is an identified not yet addressed need</li> <li>✓ analysis of the gaps</li> <li>✓ identification of <b>potential actions</b> to be implemented by the INTERREG Med projects (from 3<sup>rd</sup> call for modular projects - indicative)</li> <li>✓ potentially, elaboration of the relevant <b>suggestions</b> to be included in the <b>specific TORs for modular projects</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>COASTAL AND MARITIME TOURISM</b></p> <p>As part of EU's Blue Growth strategy, the coastal and maritime tourism sector has been identified as an area with special potential to foster a smart, sustainable and inclusive Europe. It is the biggest maritime sector in terms of gross value added and employment. However it is facing numerous challenges exacerbated by business fragmentation, difficulties in accessing finance and investment, and by environmental pressures. A European strategy can help businesses to overcome these difficulties. Destinations should build on their strengths and enhance cooperation, best practice sharing and create transregional and transnational partnerships. Together, they can help develop innovative and attractive offerings, in order to appeal to tourists travelling also in low season.<sup>7</sup></p>	<p><b>MARITIME TRANSPORT LINKED TO TOURISM CRUISES</b></p>	<p>Support public transport services for multimodal passengers (urban transport, rail/maritime/cruise passengers)</p>	<p><b>AXIS 2</b> <b>S.O 2.3</b></p>	
	<p><b>INTEGRATED COASTAL AND MARITIME TOURISM</b></p>	<p>Improvement of policies and planning for the development of a more sustainable coastal and maritime tourism through actions supporting the sound integration in the framework of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)</li> <li>✓ Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)</li> <li>✓ Regional development policies</li> </ul>	<p><b>AXIS 3</b> <b>S.O 3.1</b></p>	
	<p><b>INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE OFFER</b></p>	<p>Explore creation of new offers adapted to new target groups. Offers to cover a period longer than the traditional high seasons. Innovative financial mechanisms/instruments to sustain the fragmented business system and young start-ups that want to invest in the sector.</p>	<p><b>AXIS 3</b> <b>S.O 3.1</b></p>	

<sup>7</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European economic and social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - A European Strategy for more Growth and Jobs in Coastal and Maritime Tourism - 2014

STRATEGY THEME 3	SUB-THEME	CORRESPONDING AXIS – S.O	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRANSVERSAL MIGRATION</b></p> <p><b>With reference to the sub-themes, <u>not to migration per se</u>, the following activities can be implemented :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ identification of the specific aspects of the sub-theme that are concerned by migration</li> <li>✓ elaboration of the criteria to identify related relevant <b>best practices</b></li> <li>✓ identification of best practices and comparative analysis</li> <li>✓ identification of the <b>transferability</b> of best practices to other MED territories</li> <li>✓ identification of the <b>relevant gaps</b>: aspects of migration that affect the sub-theme where there is an identified not yet addressed need</li> <li>✓ analysis of the gaps</li> <li>✓ identification of <b>potential actions</b> to be implemented by the INTERREG Med projects (from 3<sup>rd</sup> call for modular projects - indicative)</li> <li>✓ potentially, elaboration of the relevant <b>suggestions</b> to be included in the <b>specific TORs for modular projects</b></li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>INNOVATION</b></p> <p>R&amp;D and innovation is one of the core driving factors of and job creation and sustainable development of the Mediterranean, nevertheless it has not been fully exploited yet.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BLUE TECHNOLOGY</b></p> <p>Blue biotechnology is concerned with the exploration and exploitation of the resulting diverse marine organisms in order to develop new products thus new business/economy.</p> <p>An example might be the discovery of new proprieties of a specific seaweed that thought the application of technology can be used, for the example, in the health, cosmetic or food sector and thus enhancing the competitiveness of the related industries. Such examples already exist however they are limited while Blue biotechnology presents potentialities still untapped to enhance growth in the Mediterranean region. Accelerating this process requires a combination of blue R&amp;D and innovation and applied results on possible industrial applications for market commercialization.</p> <p>The sub-sector should tackles as well:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Filling the gap between the results of the research and the industrial applications for market commercialization</li> <li>✓ Blue skill - Blue jobs: while estimated current employment in the sector in Europe is still relatively low, the growth of the sector will offer high-skilled employment.</li> </ul>	<p><b>AXIS 1</b></p>	

	<p><b>SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP</b></p>	<p>A social enterprise is an operator in the social economy whose main objective is to have a social impact rather than make a profit for their owners or shareholders. It operates by providing goods and services for the market in an entrepreneurial and innovative fashion and uses its profits primarily to achieve social objectives</p> <p>This sub-theme might explore and develop new approaches to tackle social problems affecting youth, <b>migrants</b>, the elderly, socially excluded etc.</p> <p>Innovative and specific financial mechanisms/instruments to sustain this business sector shall be explored.</p>	<p><b>AXIS 1</b></p>	
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STRATEGY THEME 4	SUB-THEME	CORRESPONDING AXIS – S.O	TRANSVERSAL MIGRATION
CLIMATE CHANGE	<p>The programme does not tackle specifically climate change causes, risks and related actions thus it will not be possible to obtain evidence based data from the modular projects.</p> <p>Despite some complementary data that might be provided by modular projects focused on eco innovation in Axis 1 and energy management in public buildings, multimodal urban transport in Axis 2, and Axis 3 biodiversity and costal tourism, the information on climate change theme needs to be soundly integrated with data coming from other sources/programmes/initiatives.</p>		<p><b>With reference to the sub-themes, <u>not to migration per se</u>, the following activities can be implemented :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ identification of the specific aspects of the sub-theme that are concerned by migration</li> <li>✓ elaboration of the criteria to identify related relevant <b>best practices</b></li> <li>✓ identification of best practices and comparative analysis</li> <li>✓ identification of the <b>transferability</b> of best practices to other MED territories</li> <li>✓ identification of the <b>relevant gaps</b>: aspects of migration that affect the sub-theme where there is an identified not yet addressed need</li> <li>✓ analysis of the gaps</li> <li>✓ identification of <b>potential actions</b> to be implemented by the INTERREG Med projects (from 3<sup>rd</sup> call for modular projects - indicative)</li> <li>✓ potentially, elaboration of the relevant <b>suggestions</b> to be included in the <b>specific TORs for modular projects</b></li> </ul>



## 5. PLATFORM PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

### 5.1. Overall process

The Axis 4 platform project is conceived **as an evidence based methodology** that will support the governance exercise effort of the programme member states. They will **lead the initiative** for the whole duration of the current programming period.

**The member states will be directly involved as project partners through the relevant national and regional authorities.** In parallel the platform will integrate the **active contribution of the identified pertinent public and private stakeholders.**

The **key figure** of the platform project is the **country coordinator** that each member state will appoint as member of the deciding body of the platform, **the Steering Group**. The country coordinator will animate/coordinate the work both at national and at transnational level.

The overall process consists in the following development:

- ✓ initially the bottom-up outputs and data evidence produced by the MED projects will be synthesized and clustered under the umbrella of **transnational thematic communities** through the **Horizontal projects**. The Horizontal projects will then convey the clustered bottom-up data evidence to the platform **relevant thematic working groups**. During the start-up/stabilization phase MED 2007-2013 projects data evidence will be used until the data evidence from 2014-2020 modular projects is available.
- ✓ in parallel a **liaising exercise** with other programmes/projects, initiatives/networks active in the Mediterranean region will allow the collection of relevant data evidence produced on the identified platform themes.  
The liaising exercise will also support, **in line with the indications of DG REGIO, DG NEAR and DG MARE<sup>8</sup>**, a more structured **dialogue and complementarity** with other relevant EU Territorial cooperation and Thematic Programmes, EU Commission Directorates-General with reference to the themes tackled by the platform, EU Macro-strategies, EU Sea basin strategies, Organisations, Networks. This synergic approach will ease the development of a wider consensus during the identification and definition of feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation schemes as main outputs of the platform
- ✓ the thematic working groups will analyze the MED programme data evidence and **benchmark** it with the data evidence produced by other programmes/projects, initiatives/networks active in the Mediterranean region. The produced analysis will consist in a **sound state of the art in terms of gaps and potential opportunities** in the tackled sectors.  
**Migration** will be tackled with **transversal approach** in the framework of the working groups' activities, not as a platform theme per se. To this extent specific aspects of the platform themes concerned by migration will be detected, relevant **best practices** identified and compared to define potential **transferability to other MED territories**. In parallel **relevant gaps** will be delineated and potential corresponding approaches will be taken in consideration in the framework of the elaboration of the terms of reference of the upcoming modular projects calls.
- ✓ in parallel, the results of the MED programme 2007 2013 and those from the modular projects, when available, will be used to support the mainstreaming exercise **at national/regional level** through a specific methodology. The mainstreaming action will support the process of coordination of structural funds and related strategic

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<sup>8</sup> On 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015, on behalf of the European Commission, INTERACT organized the **First meeting of Transnational Programmes in the Mediterranean area**. The following Managing Authorities and Joint Secretariats of the Interreg ERDF and ENI Transnational programmes in the Mediterranean area were present: Interreg Mediterranean (MED), Interreg Adriatic-Ionian (ADRION), Interreg Balkan-Mediterranean (Balkan-Med), Interreg South West Europe (SUDOE), ENI-CBC-Mediterranean Sea Basin (ENI-CBC-MED). Representatives of **DG REGIO, DG NEAR and DG MARE** attended the meeting as well.

The aim of the meeting was to **enhance the dialogue among** programmes that share the same geographical area, prepare the basis for better co-ordination during the current programming period, share solutions and effective approaches to improve the synergies and complementarities among and between the programmes.

To this extent the DG REGIO mentioned that the platform project of Axis 4 of Interreg Mediterranean seems to offer the good framework in this direction that should be explored further with the abovementioned Programmes and INTERACT.

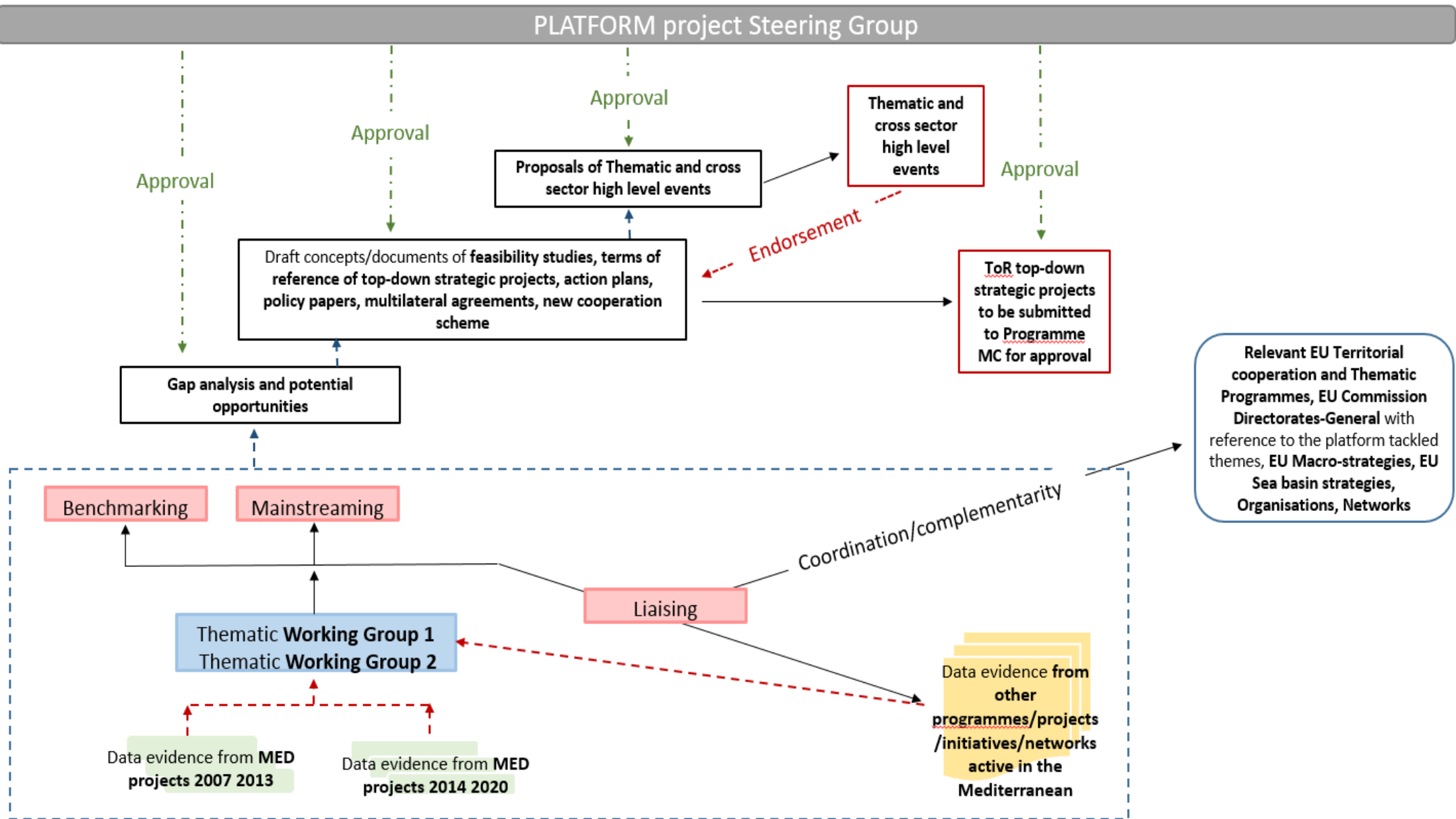
In the same line, DG MARE is interested in a stable cooperation with the platform project for the development of coordination and complementarities.



- planning activities **at national/regional level** while, in parallel, integrating the MED projects' results into the process therefore supporting an effective and complementary use of EU and national/regional public funds.
- ✓ based on the gaps and potential opportunities identified per tackled theme, **thematic and cross-sector high level events** will be proposed to the platform **Steering Group** for approval
  - ✓ the high level events will be planned and organized by the concerned working groups
  - ✓ the working groups will also define and submit to the Steering Group for approval the **draft** concepts/documents of **feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation schemes**, etc. to be discussed and endorsed during the abovementioned high level events
  - ✓ in line with the INTERREG Mediterranean programme procedures, the **terms of reference of top-down strategic projects** will be **approved by the programme Monitoring Committee** after the approval of the platform Steering Group and before the presentation in the framework of **thematic and cross-sector high level events**
  - ✓ **thematic and cross-sector high level events** will be implemented – discussion approval of feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation scheme
  - ✓ **top-down strategic projects** will be prepared and **implemented**.

With reference to top-down strategic projects financing, the member states might consider also a **parallel process** where strategic proposals/draft projects among Mediterranean high level partners already exist but have not been financed yet.  
The platform might evaluate the relevance of the theme and the partnership, suggest relevant modifications if needed, and take a decision in terms of financing.

OVERALL PROCESS



## 5.2. Project work plan and project scheme

The platform project foresees a flexible scheme of **2 main periods**: the initial one of **start-up & test** of indicatively **18/24 months**, and a second one of **stabilisation** that will integrate the results of an **initial evaluation exercise** and that will last indicatively **52/46 months**.

The total project duration is ~ **5 years and a half**. ~ **begin 06/2016 end 04/2022**

The evaluation step will assess the test period and address the **needed adaptations** to ensure the soundness of the subsequent **stabilisation** period.

In addition during the stabilisation period an **additional in-itinere evaluation exercise** will be implemented to provide the steering group with relevant information on potential corrective actions needed.

It is worth to specify that while the start-up & test period is easier to plan, the stabilisation period and related budget, at this stage of the project design, will necessarily remain less detailed.

Once the project commenced, the work plan and the budget will be **adapted timely and periodically**.

The project scheme foresees also **2 thematic working groups** (corresponding to the identified strategy themes).

In successive phases of the platform project implementation, **additional themes will be identified and relevant working groups added**.

The thematic working groups do not work separately, on the contrary they **develop many tasks jointly** in order to ensure **cross-dialogue and coherence** of the overall process and deliverables.

The cross-dialogue between working groups is a **central and a permanent** aspect of the platform.

The thematic working groups define jointly all methodologies scheduled in WP 1 - Methodologies & Evaluation - as well as those tasks related to mainstreaming exercise, proposal to the steering group of transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events and liaising.

Moreover the working groups will jointly **implement the mainstreaming and liaising tasks** that represent an **on-going process all along the project duration**.

The working groups involve, according to the specific needs, the main key players and stakeholders. Regional and national authorities, concerned academic actors, research centers, business representatives, civil society, environmental players, concerned international organizations, representatives of diverse financial mechanisms targeting the Mediterranean Region as well as representatives of the main relevant programmes/initiatives/networks/projects in the MED Region.

The country coordinators, based on their interest on the tackled themes, participate to the WGs activities and they can lead WG as well.

Specifically the following 5 work packages are proposed.

- ✓ **WP 1 - METHODOLOGIES & EVALUATION**
- ✓ **WP 2 (Thematic) - STRATEGY THEME 1**
- ✓ **WP 3 (Thematic) - STRATEGY THEME 2**
- ✓ **WP 4 - COMMUNICATION**
- ✓ **WP 5 – PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

### WP 1 - METHODOLOGIES & EVALUATION

The objective of the Work Package 1 - Methodologies & evaluation is to define the **main methodologies** that will be applied during the project implementation in terms of **benchmarking, mainstreaming, exploitation of MED programme data evidence produced by the projects**.

Methodology on how **migration can be tackled by the thematic working groups with a transversal approach** will be defined as well and implemented in the framework of the thematic work packages 2 and 3. Migration will no thus be tackled as a platform theme per se.

With reference to the evaluation exercise, external experts will define and implement the initial and in-itinere evaluation.

THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS		WORK PACKAGE 1 METHODOLOGIES & EVALUATION		DELIVERABLES
Joint work	Specific Thematic work			
✓		TASK 1.1	A. Definition of objectives, per tackled sector, of <b>methodologies for Benchmarking and Mainstreaming</b> actions B. <b>Collection of the data</b> for the elaboration of methodologies for Benchmarking and Mainstreaming based on the defined objectives	
✓		TASK 1.2	Elaboration of <b>methodologies for Benchmarking and Mainstreaming</b> . <b>Methodologies adapted to specific themes however elaborated with the same approach to ensure coherence and efficient subsequent evaluation actions</b>	Methodologies for Benchmarking and Mainstreaming
✓		TASK 1.3	Based on the methodologies for Benchmarking and Mainstreaming, and having in mind the <b>Horizontal projects</b> role, elaboration of <b>methodology</b> on how to <b>use the data evidence produced by MED projects</b> for evidence based approach. Initial test exercise with data evidence produced by the 2007 2013 period	Methodology on how to collect and use the data evidence produced by MED projects for evidence based approach
✓		TASK 1.4	<b>Methodology</b> on how <b>migration</b> can be tackled by working groups with a <b>transversal approach</b>	Methodology to tackled migration with a transversal approach
		TASK 1.5	A. Definition of <b>objectives of initial evaluation</b> B. Elaboration of the <b>methodology</b>	Initial evaluation methodology
		TASK 1.6	Initial evaluation <b>implementation</b>	Initial evaluation implementation report
		TASK 1.7	A. Definition of <b>objectives of In-itinere evaluation</b> B. Elaboration of the <b>methodology</b>	In-itinere evaluation methodology
		TASK 1.8	In-itinere evaluation <b>implementation</b>	In-itinere evaluation implementation report

## WP 2 (thematic) - STRATEGY THEME 1

## WP 3 (thematic) - STRATEGY THEME 2

Please note that at this stage of planning phase the thematic work packages develop the same tasks since the approach adopted is the same thus here below only the details of the WP 2 (thematic) are reported. However the specific tasks of WP2 and WP 3 might be adapted based on the specificities of each theme.

The overall work plan table at pag.20 includes all WPs.

As mentioned some of the tasks are developed jointly in order to ensure cross-cutting dialogue/exchange.

The main expected outputs of the thematic work packages are related to:

- ✓ exchange of mainstreaming best practices and related implementation
- ✓ matrix of the collected data from other projects/best practices/actions/organisation/networks/initiatives active in the Mediterranean in the tackled sector
- ✓ delineation of gap and growth potentialities in the Mediterranean on tackled themes
- ✓ draft concepts/documents of feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation schemes
- ✓ transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events. 6 events have been indicated (3 per theme and 1 per year) however the number is indicative since it is necessary to adapt this prevision to the actual developments/needs of the project during its overall duration. It is estimated that it would be difficult to organise more than 1 high level event per year unless some of them are planned in parallel with other similar events organised by other structures/programmes/organisations.
- ✓ terms of reference of top-down strategic projects
- ✓ approval of 4 top-down strategic projects (2 per theme). The number is indicative as it will depend on the budget available on Axis 4 as well as the potential availability of additional funds reallocated to Axis 4 during the second period of the INTERREG Mediterranean Programme implementation.

**The project work plan and budget will be adapted timely during the project implementation.**

Task 2.11 and 3.11 are related to the **liaising exercise** to facilitate and enhance **dialogue and complementarity** with other relevant EU Territorial cooperation and Thematic Programmes, EU Commission Directorates-General, EU Macro-strategies, EU Sea basin strategies, Organisations, Networks.

**Cyprus, during the multilateral meeting held Athens on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015, has expressed the will to lead this task.**

Joint work	Specific Thematic work	WORK PACKAGE 2 STRATEGY THEME 1		DELIVERABLES
	✓	TASK 2.1	Based on the methodologies for Benchmarking <b>Mapping and collecting</b> A. Projects/best practices/actions planned by other ETC programmes B. Legislation in the sector C. Transnational/national/regional main stakeholders D. Relevant organisation/networks/initiatives active in the Mediterranean Elaboration of relevant <b>matrix including all mapped elements</b>	Matrix of mapped A. Projects/best practices/actions planned by other ETC programmes B. Legislation in the sector C. Transnational/national/regional main stakeholders D. Relevant organisation/networks/initiatives active in the Mediterranean in the tackled sector
	✓	TASK 2.2	Application of the methodology to use the data evidence produced by <b>MED projects for evidence based approach</b> . Initial test exercise with data evidence produced by the 2007-2013 period in case data evidence from 1st call modular projects are not available	
	✓	TASK 2.3	Based on the matrix and on the collected results from MED projects, application of the <b>benchmarking methodology</b>	Benchmarking report
✓		TASK 2.4	Based on the <b>collected results from MED projects</b> and of the <b>mainstreaming methodology</b> , implementation of the <b>mainstreaming exercise</b> . <b>Exchange of national relevant best practices</b> . Assessment of the exercise and adaptation	Mainstreaming best practices
	✓	TASK 2.5	Based on benchmarking results, elaboration of the <b>gap analysis and growth potentialities</b> at Mediterranean level in the tackled sector	Gap and growth potentialities analysis
✓	✓	TASK 2.6	Based on the gap analysis and growth potentialities, <b>proposal to Steering Group transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events: objectives/contents/modality/structure/participants/date/place</b>	Transnational thematic or cross-sector high level proposal
	✓	TASK 2.7	A. based on the gap analysis and growth potentialities, preparation of relevant <b>draft concepts/documents of feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation schemes</b> , etc. to be discussed and adopted during the high level events B. Approval of the terms of reference of top-down strategic projects <b>by the Programme MC before presentation to the high level events</b>	Draft concepts/documents of feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation schemes
		TASK 2.8	Transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events <b>preparation</b>	
	✓	TASK 2.9	Transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events <b>implementation</b> . Adoption of <b>feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation schemes</b>	3 Transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events (indicative)
	✓	TASK 2.10	Support to the preparation of the top-down strategic project	2 top-down strategic project approved (indicative)
✓		TASK 2.11	<b>Liaising activity:</b> A. support a structured dialogue and complementarity with other relevant EU Territorial cooperation B. Thematic Programmes C. EU Macro-strategies D. EU Sea basin strategies E. Organisations, Networks	Liaising report

#### WP 4 - COMMUNICATION

The communication will be ensured partly by the programme and partly by the member states based on the **specific objectives and target groups identified** both at transnational and national level.

The communication tasks are carried out in cooperation and in complementarity with the programme communication and with Horizontal projects.

Specific tasks will be proposed in the framework of the further development of the project contents.

#### WP 5 – PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Important elements to underline in this WP are the following:

- ✓ the lead partner of the project is responsible for the efficient and timely implementation of the project management tasks (with the support of the MA/JS), efficient and timely budget management and expenditure
- ✓ all project partners (member states) are responsible for the efficient and timely participation to project activities, support the LP in the coordination efforts and efficient own budget management and expenditure
- ✓ all partners, LP included, are responsible for the timely certification of their own expenditures
- ✓ the indicated number of steering group meetings is indicative and it will be adapted in the framework of the yearly update of the project overall work plan

WP PM	WORK PACKAGE 5 PROJECT MANAGEMENT	DELIVERABLES
TASK PM.1	Preparation of the kick-off Implementation of the Kick-off	1 kick-off
TASK PM.2	Set up the thematic working groups Definition of working procedures - communication processes	Working procedures & communication processes
TASK PM.3	Elaboration of project quality management plan	1 project quality management plan
TASK PM.4	Elaboration of semestrial detailed working plans - Verifiacion and updated of overall project work plan and budget	11 semestrial detailed working plans
TASK PM.5	Semestrial reporting (activity and financial + certification of expenditures)	11 progress reports/ payment claims
TASK PM.6	Steering Group meetings	12 SG meetings

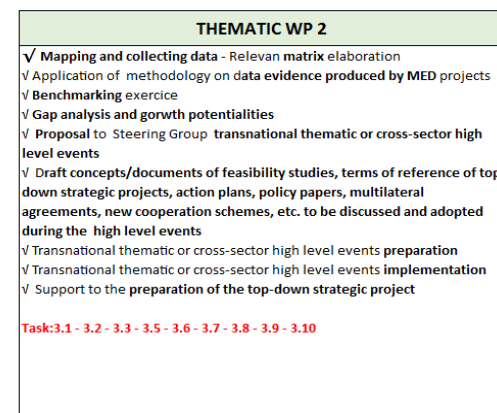
Please find here below the **overall project work plan** and the **project scheme**, including all the elements elaborated in this section.

Please note that in the following project work plan table the **1<sup>st</sup> period of start-up and test** has been planned on **2 months base** while the **2<sup>nd</sup> period of stabilisation** has been planned on **4 months base**.



PROJECT WORK PLAN

PROJECT WORK PLAN				RESP.		1st PERIOD - START-UP & TEST												2nd PERIOD - STABILIZATION PERIOD												DELIVERABLES				
						2016		2017				2018				2018				2019				2020				2021				2022		
						6/8	9/10	11/12	1/2	3/4	5/6	7/8	9/10	11/12	1/2	3/4	5/6	7/8	9/10	11/12	1/4	5/8	9/12	1/4	5/8	9/12	1/4	5/8	9/12	1/4				
THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS		EXTER EXP.	WORK PACKAGE 1 METHODOLOGIES & EVALUATION		tbd																											WORK PACKAGE 1 METHODOLOGIES		
Joint work	Specific Thematic work		TASK 1.1	A. Definition of methodologies for Benchmarking and Mainstreaming. Data collection	tbd		X	X																								Methodologies		
✓			TASK 1.2	Elaboration of methodologies for Benchmarking and Mainstreaming.	tbd			X																								Methodology		
✓			TASK 1.3	methodology on how to use the data evidence produced by MED projects	tbd					X																							Methodology	
✓			TASK 1.4	Methodology on how migration can be tackled by working groups with a transversal approach	tbd				X	X																							Methodology	
		✓	TASK 1.5	A. Definition of objectives of initial evaluation - B. Elaboration of the methodology	tbd												X															methodology		
		✓	TASK 1.6	Initial evaluation implementation	tbd													X	X													implementation report		
		✓	TASK 1.7	A. Definition of objectives of In-itinere evaluation - B. Elaboration of methodology	tbd															X	X											methodology		
		✓	TASK 1.8	In-itinere evaluation implementation	tbd																X	X										implementation report		
Joint work	Specific Thematic work	EXTER EXP.	WORK PACKAGE 2 STRATEGY THEME 1		tbd																											WORK PACKAGE 2 STRATEGY THEME 1		
	✓		TASK 2.1	Mapping and collecting:matrix including all mapped elements	tbd			X	X								X	X							X	X						Matrix		
	✓		TASK 2.2	use the data evidence produced by MED projects for evidence based approac	tbd			X	X					X					X					X			X							
	✓		TASK 2.3	Application of benchmarking methodology	tbd					X																						Benchmarking report		
✓			TASK 2.4	Implementation of the mainstreaming exercise	tbd					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Mainstreaming best practices		
	✓		TASK 2.5	Based on benchmarking results, elaboration of the gap analysis and gorwth potentialities	tbd						X									X							X					Gap/ growth potentialities analysis		
✓	✓		TASK 2.6	proposal to Steering Group transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events	tbd							X									X							X				Proposal		
	✓		TASK 2.7	Draft concepts/documents of feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation scheme	tbd							X									X							X				Draft documents		
			TASK 2.8	Transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events preparation	tbd							X	X								X	X						X	X					
	✓		TASK 2.9	Transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events implementation	tbd									X										X							X	3 events (indicative)		
	✓		TASK 2.10	Support to the preparation of the top-down strategic project	tbd									X										X								2 top-down strategic project approved (indicative)		
✓			TASK 2.11	Liaising activity	Cyprus: proposal of leading liaising exercise			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Liaising report	
Joint work	Specific Thematic work	EXTER EXP.	WORK PACKAGE 3 STRATEGY THEME 2		tbd																											WORK PACKAGE 3 STRATEGY THEME 2		
	✓		TASK 3.1	Mapping and collecting:matrix including all mapped elements	tbd			X	X								X	X							X	X						Matrix		
	✓		TASK 3.2	use the data evidence produced by MED projects for evidence based approac	tbd			X	X					X					X					X			X							
	✓		TASK 3.3	Application of benchmarking methodology	tbd					X																							Benchmarking report	
✓			TASK 3.4	Implementation of the mainstreaming exercise	tbd					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Mainstreaming best practices	
	✓		TASK 3.5	Based on benchmarking results, elaboration of the gap analysis and gorwth potentialities	tbd						X										X							X					Gap/ growth potentialities analysis	
✓	✓		TASK 3.6	proposal to Steering Group transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events	tbd							X									X								X				Proposal	
	✓		TASK 3.7	Draft concepts/documents of feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation scheme	tbd							X									X								X				Draft documents	
			TASK 3.8	Transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events preparation	tbd							X	X								X	X						X	X					
	✓		TASK 3.9	Transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events implementation	tbd									X												X						X	3 events (indicative)	
	✓		TASK 3.10	Support to the preparation of the top-down strategic project	tbd									X											X								2 top-down strategic project approved (indicative)	
✓			TASK 3.11	Liaising activity	Cyprus: proposal of leading liaising exercise			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Liaising report	
			WORK COMMUNICATION		Contribution of all pp																											WORK PACKAGE COMMUNICATION		
			WORK PACKAGE PROJECT MANAGEMENT		Rotation each 2 years																											WORK PACKAGE PM PROJECT MANAGEMENT		
			TASK PM.1	Preparation of the kick-off - Implementation of the Kick-off			X	X																								1 kick-off		
			TASK PM.2	Set up the thematic working groups - Definition of working procedures - communication processes			X	X																								Working procedures & communication processes		
			TASK PM.3	Elaboration of project quality management plan				X																								1 project quality management plan		
			TASK PM.4	Elaboration of semestrial detailed working plans - Verifiaction and updated of overall project timeplen and budget			X		X			X					X				X	X		X		X		X				12 semestrial detailed working plans		
			TASK PM.5	Semestrial reporting (activity and financial + certification of expenditures)				X			X						X				X	X		X		X		X		X		12 progress reports / payment claims		
			TASK PM.6	Steering Group meetings			X		X		X			X			X				X	X		X		X		X		X		12 SG meetings		



WP METHODOLOGIES & EVALUATION - B		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Initial evaluation - methodology</li> <li>✓ In-itinere evaluation - methodology</li> <li>✓ Evaluations - implementation</li> </ul>	Task: 1.5 - 1.6 - 1.7- 1.8	
WP COMMUNICATION		
WP PROJECT MANAGEMENT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Kick-off</li> <li>✓ Set up the thematic working groups working procedures</li> <li>✓ quality management plan</li> <li>✓ Semestrial detailed working plans</li> <li>✓ Verifiacion and updated of overall project timeplan and budget</li> <li>✓ Semestrial progress reporting</li> <li>✓ Steering Group meetings</li> </ul>	Task: PM.1 - PM.2 - PM.3 - PM.4 - PM.5 PM.6	



## PROJECT INTERVENTION LOGIC

### OVERALL GOAL:

To support institutional capacity of the concerned public authorities and stakeholders in the definition of a transnational governance joint framework for the identification and implementation of shared approaches, policies and strategic projects on set themes.  
Within the limits of programme competences and funds, the platform will represent a tool to complement and give its contribution to other relevant initiatives tackling the challenging 'governance exercise' as well as to public authorities in charge of EU structural funds management at national and regional level

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES :

- ✓ Exploitation of the impact of MED projects data evidence/results - thus by consequence the Programme funds - at transnational, national and regional level
- ✓ Reinforcement of the institutional capacity of public authorities in transnational and national policy definition and strategic planning
- ✓ Identification and implementation of strategic projects with a top-down approach
- ✓ Enhancement of the institutional capacity of public authorities in the efficient implementation of EU/national public funds through mainstreaming actions
- ✓ Support a structured dialogue and complementarity with other relevant EU Territorial cooperation and Thematic Programmes, EU Commission Directorates-General, EU Macro-strategies, EU Sea basin strategies, Organisations, Networks, etc.
- ✓ Contribution to the improvement of a reinforced cooperation with the South shore of the Mediterranean

**RESULT 1 – Reinforced transnational dialogue**  
Improved institutional capacity of the public authorities in charge of the management of EU funds/Programmes at transnational, national and regional level, to liaise and exchange on identified strategic themes

**Task 2.11 & 3.11** Liaising

**Task 2.9 & 3.9**  
Transnational thematic and cross-sector high level events

**RESULT 2 – Developed evidence based approach**  
Improved institutional capacity of the public authorities in charge of the management of EU funds/Programmes at transnational, national and regional level, to use data evidence produced by the projects as base for policy elaboration and strategy planning

**Task 1.1 & 1.2**  
Methodology for benchmarking

**Task 1.3** - Definition of methodology on how to use data evidence of MED projects

**Task 2.11 & 3.11** Liaising

**Task 2.1, 2.2 & 2.3**  
**Task 3.1, 3.2 & 3.3**  
Mapping/collecting data; application of methodology how to use MED data evidence. Application of benchmarking methodology

**RESULT 3 – Sounder assessment of needs/gaps and potentialities of the Mediterranean**  
Enhanced capacity for better assessment of needs/gaps and potentialities in the Mediterranean both at transnational level and national/regional level

**Task 2.5 & 3.5**  
Gap analysis and growth potentialities identification

**Task 1.1 & 1.2**  
Definition and elaboration of methodology for mainstreaming activity

**Task 2.4 & 3.4**  
Implementation of mainstreaming activity

**RESULT 4 – Contribute to common strategic vision and consensus building**  
Contribution to enhanced of functional relations between countries and between relevant national and regional authorities to define sector and cross-sector policies with a common strategic and long-term vision

**Task 2.6 & 3.6** - Proposals to SG of transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events

**Task 2.7 & 3.7**  
Draft concepts/documents of feasibility studies, ToR of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation schemes

**Task 2.8, 2.9 & 3.8, 3.9**  
Implementation of transnational thematic or cross-sector high level events

**RESULT 5 – Sustainable strategic initiatives**  
Increased capacity of the relevant public authorities to jointly identify, plan and implement top-down strategic initiatives at transnational level

**Task 2.10 & 3.10**  
Support to the preparation of ToR for top-down strategic projects

**RESULT 6 – Mainstreaming**  
Increased impact of MED programme funds through a more fortified process of coordination and efficient complementarity with other structural funds financed programmes at national/regional, thus facilitating sounder mainstreaming actions.

**Task 1.1 & 1.2**  
Definition and elaboration of methodology for mainstreaming activity

**Task 2.4 & 3.4**  
Implementation of mainstreaming activity

**RESULT 8 – Potential reinforcement of the institutional capacity of public authorities to contribute to social emergencies affecting the area.**

**Task 1.4**  
Definition of methodology on how migration can be tackled by the thematic work packages with a transversals approach

Relevant Tasks within the thematic work packages

COMMUNICATION Tasks

PROJECT MANAGEMENT Tasks

## 6. PROJECT STEERING

### 6.1. Political commitment

The flexible scheme mentioned in previous section of **2 main periods** provides a solution also to the different approaches the members states are willing to adopt at the beginning of the initiative in terms of political commitment. In fact a top-down governance project at Mediterranean level in the terms elaborated in this document indubitably implies a minimum level of political commitment in order to ensure a concrete impact at transnational and national policy level as well as its **sustainability in the medium-long term perspective**.

Notwithstanding the initiative is for the first time planned and implemented thus the member states, for diverse reasons, adopt different approaches. Some of the member states have already initiated the process of political commitment verification, while others prefer to verify the results the platform project will produce in the initial phase before investigating the potential political interest.

During the 1<sup>st</sup> period the member states that initially prefer to adopt a more technical approach will thus have the possibility to evaluate the processes and results engendered by the platform project and accompany the political commitment verification process with concrete contribution.

### 6.2. Project lead partner

It is proposed that the lead partner role is taken over, for the **2 initial years**, by those **countries that have initiated the process of political commitment and involvement of regions**.

The role implies the overall coordination of the initiative and the efficient implementation in terms of achieved results. It is proposed that the 2 member states take the co-lead. On a rotation base, each 2 years, the co-leadership will change.

The co-leadership following the 1<sup>st</sup> one, will be proposed within the relevant Steering Group and approved by the Programme Monitoring Committee.



The member states are kindly **requested to confirm which approach they are willing to adopt for the initial phase of start-up and stabilisation (indicative 18/24 months): technical** for all member states or **mixed** with some member states with an initial phase of political commitment verification/endorsement and other member states with a technical approach and the postponement of the political commitment verification/endorsement to the second phase of the project.

Please note that this choice has an impact also on the mandate/tasks of the Country coordinator/Unit



The member states are kindly **requested to indicate their will to lead the platform project for the initial 2 years** or if they prefer to assume such a role in a successive phase.

Please note that according to the INTERREG Mediterranean Programme, Programme IPA countries cannot take the lead or co-lead

### 6.3. Steering Group

The **Steering Group is the deciding body of the** platform project that will be composed by the **country coordinators** appointed by each programme member states.

It is responsible body for the overall implementation of the project and it takes relevant decisions on working groups proposals, high level thematic or cross-sectorial transnational events, proposals of feasibility studies, action plans, top-down strategic pilot-projects, multilateral agreements to be presented to the programme Monitoring Committee for approval.

The Steering Group proposes orientation to the programme Monitoring Committee on the global process, the transferability of results and the effective process taking place. The Monitoring Committee, as Programme decision making body, confirms or modifies the proposals.

The Steering Group evaluates and proposes **revision of the platform work plan and budget** during the project timeframe. Revisions are approved by the programme Monitoring Committee as well.

The smooth information flow between work packages activities and Steering Group is done through the Country Coordinators. As a matter of fact, they are part of both: they are involved in the work packages, as leaders or as participants, and they are member of the Steering Group.

The Steering Group proposals rely mainly on the activities developed by the various Work Packages.

The Steering Group:

- ✓ examines and takes over the conclusions/proposals of the thematic working groups in terms of top-down strategic projects, proposals of feasibility studies, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, potential new cooperation schemes
- ✓ decides which thematic or cross-sectorial high level events could be set up and which of the abovementioned proposal could be submitted for discussion
- ✓ organizes, distributes and delegates the activities related to the organization of the thematic or cross-sector transnational events
- ✓ takes over the conclusion /proposals of thematic or cross-sector transnational events in order to prepare specific terms of reference regarding feasibility studies, action plans top-down strategic projects and multilateral strategic for the Programme Monitoring Committee approval
- ✓ takes over policy paper finalization, multilateral agreements, and potential new cooperation schemes
- ✓ proposes revision of the project work plan and budget during the programme's timeframe

#### **6.4. Role of the INTERREG Mediterranean Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat**

The Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat will ensure the support to the administrative coordination of the platform project. The activity will include: budget provisions, timeline and respect of the subsidy contract, progress reports and payment claims, public tenders to carry out project activities, contracts with external experts, etc.

The Joint Secretariat Officer in charge of Axis 4, will support the consistency of the activities implemented within the various work packages in line with the overall project work plan.

Through a continuous coordination with the thematic project officers of the Programme Axis 1, 2 and 3, the project officer of Axis 4 will facilitate the Horizontal projects role in terms of channeling the clustered data of the modular projects to the thematic working groups.

The cost of the project officer of Axis 4 will be covered by the Programme Axis 5 Technical Assistance.

Specifically the **Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat will:**

- ✓ support to the global consistence and coordination of the activities implemented within the various work packages
- ✓ specific support to the platform Lead Partner as well as to the WPs Leaders
- ✓ support in terms of cross-dialogue among WGs and in terms of elaboration of proposals, documents/outputs to be submitted to the Steering Group for the validation
- ✓ coordination/liasing with the thematic project officers of the Programme Axes 1,2 and 3, to facilitate the Horizontal projects role in terms of feeding the WGs
- ✓ support in the definition of the detailed planning and implementation of the activities
- ✓ support to the liaising exercise with other relevant EU Territorial cooperation and Thematic Programmes, EU Commission Directorates-General, EU Macro-strategies, EU Sea basin strategies, Organisations, Networks.

## 7. COUNTRY COORDINATOR

### 7.1. Main characteristics

The key figure of the platform project, both at national and at transnational level, is the country coordinator that each Member State will appoint.

At **national and regional level** the country coordinator will liaise with the policy actors, concerned public/private stakeholders and thematic experts to channel the objectives and results of the platform and to seek for relevant input.

At **transnational level** the country coordinator will represent the member state within the **deciding body of the platform project, the steering group**. The steering group will take decisions about platform implementation and activities, including Mediterranean strategic projects and **thematic and cross-sector high level events**. In parallel the country coordinator will be involved in the implementation of the platform work packages as he/she will participate to the activities of the **platform thematic working groups**.

Each member state will appoint a **high ranked staff member** of the Ministry/structure representing the INTERREG Mediterranean Programme and in line with relevant administrative organization.

Alternatively member states can decide to identify and appoint an **external expert** to cover the role of country coordinator.

In both cases the country coordinator has to regularly report/coordinate with the respective INTERREG Mediterranean Programme Monitoring Committee member.

The modalities of reporting/coordination of is an aspect that has to be defined at national level however it shall not impact the capability of the country coordinator **to take decisions at transnational level in the framework of the platform project steering group**.

The country coordinator is **100% of his/her time** committed to the platform project activities.

The role cannot be covered by the Monitoring Committee members or by National Contact Point representatives.

### 7.2. Country coordinator minimum mandate

Regardless of the level of political commitment the members states are willing to engage in the initial phase of the project, **the country coordinator role relies on the following minimum mandate**:

- ✓ **activate and animate the dialogue** with the **national/regional** public/private authorities and stakeholders relevant to platform project activities with reference to the selected themes
- ✓ **make relevant proposals** in the framework of the platform activities based on the results of the activated dialogue above mentioned
- ✓ **take decisions** in the framework of platform steering group meetings according to the relevant agendas
- ✓ participate, as observer, to relevant and **transnational and national** coordination/decision making meetings/events of:
  - EU macro regional strategies EUSAIR, EUSALP and EUSDR
  - cross-border and transnational ETC programmes active in the Mediterranean
  - coordination/decision making meetings/events on ETC in general
- ✓ **participate, as representative of the INTERREG Mediterranean platform project**, to thematically relevant transnational/national/regional implemented or in planning phase projects financed by EU funds or other international donors
- ✓ **participate, as representative of the INTERREG Mediterranean platform project**, to thematic and governance event organized by the EU and by other organizations/networks/initiatives (i.e. Union for the Mediterranean, UNEP MAP, etc.)

### 7.3. Country coordinator functions

#### ✓ NATIONAL/REGIONAL LEVEL

- organize and implement events/workshops/meetings at national/regional with concerned public/private key players and relevant stakeholders
- collect, assess and elaborate related inputs to be transferred at platform level
- identify complementary links between regional and national policies in respective country and the work implemented in the framework of the platform project
- identify and propose **structures/institutions** to participate to the platform **steering groups as technical partners**. Liaise/work with them before and after the steering groups meetings
- identify and propose **experts** to participate the **platform thematic working groups**. Liaise/work with them before and after the thematic working groups meetings
- identify and propose relevant institutions/experts to participate the **thematic and cross-sectorial transnational events**
- organize and implement the **communication** about the platform activities and results to the relevant public/private key players and relevant stakeholders.

#### ✓ AXIS 4 PLATFORM PROJECT LEVEL

- **Steering group**
  - take active part to the preparation of steering group meetings
  - participate to steering group meetings and take relevant decisions
  - bring to the attention of the steering group and take decisions on proposals to launch and prepare thematic or cross – sectorial transnational events
  - decides, **for relevant submission and approval of the Programme Monitoring Committee**, on the draft concepts/documents of feasibility studies, terms of reference of top-down strategic projects, action plans, policy papers, multilateral agreements, new cooperation schemes prepared by the thematic working groups
  - coordinate, when relevant, with the regions participating to the SG meetings
  - **Lead country coordinator** (the country coordinator of the country (ies) covering the role of project lead partner/co-lead partner) will:
    - **steer and coordinate the partnership and the overall project processes and activities:** elaborate, with the support of all CCs, detailed working plans per semester with specific task, relevant activities and expected results. Coordinate relevant implementation and implement corrective actions when needed
    - ensure the proper **organization, implementation and follow up** activities of the Steering group meetings that will take place **twice a year** (each 6 months. Additional SG meetings, based on justified reasons, can be called as well)
    - **present and represent** the platform project and the partnership in relevant event/meeting/conference
    - **coordinate** and ensure the **correct administrative reporting** to the Programme MA/JS: overall project progress and financial reporting, through the Programme web based management system SYNERGIE, including certificates of expenditures.
- **Thematic working groups**
  - participate to the work of the thematic work packages
  - based on interest on a specific theme, coordinate one of the thematic work package

The country coordinator is **supported** by a person(s)/unit, in line with the administrative organization of the member states:

- ✓ for the **implementation of his/her functions:** support in the implementation of the activities linked to animation of the dialogue at national/regional level with policy actors, public/private stakeholders and thematic experts, preparation of the steering groups, work in the framework of the thematic work packages
- ✓ management of the **administrative tasks:** periodic reporting, financial reporting, certification of expenditures, etc.) both as partners and as Lead partner.





The member states are kindly requested to indicate their will to set up a Country Coordinator Unit.

Please note that due to the limited budget of axis 4 and the need to finance also strategic projects through the same axis, as agreed since the initial version of the platform project outline, the axis 4 can finance the cost of the country coordinator and potentially of 1 supporting person, the latest depending on the relevant cost and on the overall agreed budget per member state.

Axis 4 cannot finance the cost of the entire Unit.

The will to avoid heavy management costs has been confirmed during the meeting in Paris on 18th December.

## 8. PLATFORM PROJECT BUDGET – DRAFT

### Reminder

The total budget of Axis 4 is ~ 22M €

The Axis 4 budget covers

- ✓ the **platform** implementation costs
- ✓ **strategic projects**

The cost of the Axis 4 JS project officer is covered by the programme technical assistance.

The platform project duration is of ~ **5 years and a half (~ begin 06/2016 end 04/2022)**

An indicative allocation of costs is formulated, per type of activity.

The indicative cost of the platform project implementation should be maximum **7.5 M€/8 M€**.

The remaining **14 M€ shall be destined to strategic projects**.

ACTIVITY	CORRESPONDING BUDGET LINE	ERDF COUNTRIES	IPA COUNTRIES
Country Coordinator	Staff or External experts	3 000 000	330 000
Person/unit supporting the CC	Staff	1 000 000	50 000
External expert support to WGs, participation to high level events	External experts	500 000	30 000
Participation to SG, WGs, high level events, transnational national/regional meetings	Travel	1 500 000	350 000
Organisation of indicative 6 high level conferences	Services	300 000	
Organisation of meetings at national/regional level	Services	200 000	8 000
Communication	External experts/services	300 000	8 000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>6 800 000</b>	<b>776 000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7 576 000</b>	

To allow a more detailed definition of the budget, in parallel with the development of a detailed work plan, the member states are kindly requested to provide the JS with the following information:



Please kindly indicate the following:

- ✓ if the country coordinator will be a **staff member or an external expert**
- ✓ in case of a **staff member**, the **administrative level degree**
- ✓ in both cases, indicative **gross salary per year**, based on a full time work engagement
- ✓ if the country coordinator will be supported by **person(s)** or by a **specific unit**
- ✓ the planned % of work engagement of directly involved persons
- ✓ the indicative **gross salary per year** of the person(s) having a supporting role in the terms above mentioned

REGIONE EMILIA-ROMAGNA

Atti amministrativi

GIUNTA REGIONALE

Francesco Raphael Frieri, Direttore generale della DIREZIONE GENERALE RISORSE, EUROPA, INNOVAZIONE E ISTITUZIONI esprime, ai sensi dell'art. 37, quarto comma, della L.R. n. 43/2001 e della deliberazione della Giunta Regionale n. 2416/2008 e s.m.i., parere di regolarità amministrativa in merito all'atto con numero di proposta GPG/2017/803

IN FEDE

Francesco Raphael Frieri



**REGIONE EMILIA-ROMAGNA**

**Atti amministrativi**

**GIUNTA REGIONALE**

Delibera Num. 687 del 31/05/2017

Seduta Num. 20

OMISSIS

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L'assessore Segretario

Costi Palma

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Servizi Affari della Presidenza

Firmato digitalmente dal Responsabile Roberta Bianchedi