The MENTOR project:
Blue Career Center for the Eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea

Georgios Georgiou
Oceanography Center, University of Cyprus

Call for Proposals EASME/EMFF/2016/1.2.1.2: "Blue Careers in Europe“
Proposal N° EASME/EMFF/2016/1.2.1.2/002

Green Energy & Blue Growth: drivers for development across the Black Sea, Athens, October 14, 2019
• Duration: 24 months (1/3/2017-28/2/2019)
• Total cost: 689,762€
  [EC financial contribution: 551,810€ (80%)]
• 7 partners, 4 countries participating
1. University of Cyprus (UCY) Cyprus
3. Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) Cyprus
4. National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) Greece
5. Agricultural University of Athens (AUA) Greece
6. Marine Cluster Bulgaria (MCB) Bulgaria
7. Constanta Maritime University (CMU) Romania
1. Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (Egypt)

2. Jordan Academy for Maritime Studies (Jordan)

3. Al-Manar University of Tripoli (Lebanon)

4. Istanbul Technical University (Turkey)
Blue Career Center - Motivation

- Base: Cyprus
- Representations: Greece, Bulgaria, Romania
- Observers: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey

Aim:
- to provide prospects for young jobseekers in blue economy
- to support businesses in finding the right staff with proper qualifications.

Objectives

- Attract higher education graduates or persons with vocational/technical qualifications for maritime professions through targeted and innovative education and/or training initiatives (including career guidance);
- Offer mentoring and career guidance to students (age 15-18) for Key Blue sectors of the region;
- Re-train and up-skill workers employed in other sectors and/or people currently unemployed for a job in the blue economy;
- Expand the skills of people currently employed in the blue economy to progress in their careers and/or to facilitate their mobility to other maritime jobs.
Important Blue Economy Sectors

Marine and Maritime Economic Activities (MEAs) as of strategic importance in the EM & BS region:

1. **Maritime Transport** (i.e. shipping, ports, shipbuilding and ship-repairs)

2. **Cruise Tourism**

3. **Marine Aquaculture** (mainly in the EM)

4. **Offshore oil and gas**
Results

1. Establishment of the Blue Career Centre Secretariat in Cyprus with representations in Greece, Bulgaria and Romania, which may later extend to other countries in the area. **1 Secretariat, 3 representations, 3 observers**

2. Mapping of the provided maritime education and training in the EM and BS region, including availability of infrastructure. **4 catalogues (CY, GR, BG, RO)**

3. Development of re-training schemes for blue professionals in the maritime sector, fisheries and offshore oil and gas.

4. Mentoring and career guidance to students (age 15-18) for the Blue sectors in schools in Cyprus, Greece, Bulgaria, and Romania.

5. Re-train blue professionals in the maritime sector, cruise tourism, fishing tourism and ichthyotourism, and offshore oil and gas sectors.

6. Establish introductory e-learning courses for the maritime transport sector, for offshore oil and gas sector, for marine aquaculture sector, cruise tourism and for fishing tourism and ichthyotourism. **5 introductory e-learning courses**
7. Sharing and pooling of resources, such as maritime simulators and possibly a training vessel from the EM & BS area.

8. Organise Blue Career Fairs (Days) in the Eastern Mediterranean and Black Seas. 8: 2 in each participating country (CY, GR, BU, RO). To be continued!

9. Promote the mobility of students and staff within the region.

10. Balance the demand and supply of maritime, aquaculture, cruise tourism and offshore oil and gas professionals in the region.

11. Promote the harmonisation of Maritime Education and Training

1st Regional Conference of Maritime Education & Training Providers, 18.2.2019
Blue Career Fairs (1st year)

1st Blue Career Fair, Constanta, 27.10.2017

1st Blue Career Fair, Athens, 5.12.2017


1st Blue Career Fair, Varna, 31.1-1.2.2018
Blue Career Fairs (2\textsuperscript{nd} Year)

2nd Blue Career Fair, Constanta, 18.10.2018

2nd Blue Career Fair, Varna, 15.10.2018

2nd Blue Career Fair, Athens, 30.11.2018

Blue Career Fairs 2019

Blue Career Fair, Constanta, 8.11.2019

Blue Career Fairs: Varna, 28.11.2019; countryside, date to be fixed.

Blue Career Fair, Athens, December 2019

Resources developed

- Leaflets, posters, presentations (Blue jobs, maritime, cruise tourism etc)
- 5 E-learning courses
- BCC webpage  www.bluecareers.org
- Social media (FB, twitter, Linkedin)
- Videos for the four BE sectors
- Videos from Blue Career Fairs
Thank you very much for your attention!

MENTOR was co-funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund under grant agreement EASME/EMFF/2016/1.2.1.2/06/SI2.749365-MENTOR