



MED-HUBS ACCELERATION PROGRAM

Driving Blue Innovation in the Mediterranean



#EMFAF



Co-funded by
the European Union

Are you a startup
passionate about
saving our oceans?

Are you looking for
ways to accelerate your
growth and amplify
your impact?

If yes, this
programme is the
perfect fit for you!

What we offer?

- **Tailored Coaching:** Customized 1:1 advisory and mentoring delivered by international experts designed around your specific needs and requirements, helping you navigate the challenges of scaling your blue venture and readying you for success.
- **Access to Public Funding:** Unlock the potential to apply for European R&D and growth funding, fuelling further development of your innovative venture.
- **Minimum Viable Product Pilots:** Minimum Viable Products (MVP) piloted between Spain and Italy at one of our partners sites. The pilots include scientific and technical advice from our testbed partners.
- **Business Development Support:** Benefit from comprehensive support in reaching international markets, enabling you to develop new sales channels, reach wider target markets and boost business growth.
- **Introduction to Equity Investors:** Review your business proposition and pitch deck, make them shine and maximise the attractiveness of your venture. Showcase your breakthrough solution to our investors' global network via pitching one-to-one and at our Demo Day.
- **Post-program Support:** Investors negotiations, public funding applications and MVP pilots run past program completion.
- **Demo Day Showcase:** Demo Day to be held at the end of the project as part of the MED-Hubs International Conference, Naples (Italy), September 2027.
- **International Partnerships:** Access our international stakeholders' network, including corporates, public sector, SMEs and academia, to develop joint-project and R&D collaborations.
- **Exclusive Workshops:** Engage in exclusive workshops covering topics such as IP and commercialisation, fundraising strategies, public funding and much more.
- **Solutions' Showcase:** Opportunity to showcase your solution at the [Global Sustainable Island Summit](#) (April 2026, Gran Canaria), engaging directly with key stakeholders and government representatives from island states around the world.

The MED-Hubs program is free of charge, equity free, designed to support blue economy start-ups from prototype stage above (Technology Readiness Level 4-8 startups).



Programme Duration

From April to June 2026: Online delivery

From July 2026 to August 2027: MVP pilots and post-program support

September 2027: Demo Day and pitching at the International MED-Hubs Conference

We welcome startups developing blue solutions in the following areas:

- Sustainable fisheries
- Aquaculture & fish farming
- Marine renewable energy
- Sustainable and green maritime transport
- Smart ports and marinas

Impact on Start-ups

- Piloted technologies and solutions.
- Validated business models.
- Founders' skills development.
- International partnerships creation.
- Go-to-market strategy and roadmap.
- Investment readiness.
- Impact on West-Mediterranean ecosystems.
- Strengthened collaboration between startups and academia / universities R&D centres.

Eligibility criteria:

- Development level: Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 4 to 8.
- Sectors: Sustainable fisheries, Aquaculture and fish farming, Marine renewable energy, Sustainable and green maritime transport.
- Scalability potential: Scalable solutions with potential to be applied internationally and grow global.
- Market potential: Solutions (product / services) with potential to generate income from various international markets.
- Founders' skills and expertise.
- Country of origin: Incorporated in any country part of the EMFAF-2025-PIA-FLAGSHIP I3 topic 1 eligible countries. Specifically, EU member states and non-EU countries that are part of the EU sea basin strategies, i.e. Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia and Turkey, Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) i.e. Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, French Polynesia, French Southern and Antarctic Lands (TAAF), Greenland, New Caledonia, Saba, Saint Barthélemy, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, Saint Eustatius, Saint Marten, and Wallis and Futuna.
- Year of incorporation: From 2019 onwards.



Join the MED-Hubs Acceleration Program journey to blue-tech success and shape a sustainable future for the Mediterranean Sea and beyond.

**Apply here
by March 28, 2026**

For more information about the program, please visit our website:

<https://www.deep-ecosystems.com/med-hubs>

or contact us directly via email:

boost@maltaccelerate.com

Together, let's make a lasting impact in the fight against climate change and improve the health and future of our oceans.



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