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Book of Abstracts



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From digital collaboration to demonstration centres: BLUECONNECT's integrated infrastructure for sustainable Adriatic aquaculture and fisheries

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Abstract

The BLUECONNECT project strengthens cross-border cooperation, knowledge exchange and innovation capacities in the Adriatic blue economy through an integrated set of digital and physical infrastructures. This poster presents four key project outputs designed to support sustainable aquaculture, fisheries, freshwater processing and regional collaboration.

The Blue Growth Digital Collaboration Platform provides a shared online environment for networking, knowledge transfer, joint initiatives, training, business cooperation and the promotion of blue-economy products and services. It connects research institutions, public authorities, enterprises, clusters and other stakeholders across the programme area.

The platform is complemented by three specialised demonstration and advocacy centres. The IBM Aquaculture Demonstration Center in Montenegro supports applied research, practical training and the testing of innovative and sustainable aquaculture solutions. The IOR Eastern Adriatic Fishery Advocacy Center in Croatia promotes science-based fisheries management, stakeholder dialogue and the transfer of research results to fishing communities and decision-makers. The CEFBH Freshwater Fish Processing Center in Bosnia and Herzegovina demonstrates improved processing methods, product development and value-chain opportunities for the freshwater fisheries sector.

Together, these outputs establish a cross-border ecosystem that links digital collaboration with practical demonstration, capacity building and market-oriented innovation. By integrating marine and freshwater expertise, BLUECONNECT contributes to stronger institutional cooperation, improved skills, increased technology uptake and more sustainable blue-economy value chains across the Adriatic region.

Keywords: Adriatic Blue Growth Cluster, digital platform, blue economy, cross-border cooperation, blue skills

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