

# CITIZEN AND YOUTH

## KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE 1ST BLUEMISSIONMED STAKEHOLDER FORUM



### CHALLENGE #1

Gap between citizens - especially children and young people - and science/scientific knowledge/research findings.



### SOLUTION

Boost formal and informal ocean literacy by developing school programmes, study visits, public events, experiential learning to inform, raise awareness and engage students, young people and citizens.

### CHALLENGE #2

Curriculum restraints, with limited time to add new and dedicated topics to ocean literacy and protection in schools.



### SOLUTION

Ocean literacy should be introduced in national school curricula, since the very early stages (kindergarten).

## CHALLENGE #3

Educators and multipliers are not equipped with specific knowledge and tools to convey ocean literacy.



## SOLUTION

Need to invest in training educators and multipliers, creating and providing the right educational tools in order to make them more confident in conveying ocean literacy.



## CHALLENGE #4

Lack of knowledge and skills for youth employment in the blue economy, including entrepreneurship.



## SOLUTION

New educational programs for youth and professionals, integrating vocational education on the blue economy.

## CHALLENGE #5

Citizen and youth are willing to take an active role doing for example beach clean-ups, citizens science actions, advocacy, etc., but there is a lack of awareness on inspirational examples.





## SOLUTION

Promote networking and exchange good practices (e.g. through Mediterranean school/university exchange programmes and visits and regional events)

## CHALLENGE #6

Fragmentation and multi-lingual basins.



## SOLUTIONS

-  Create a global roadmap for ocean literacy, and support countries in national implementation;
-  Engage citizens in their own language.

## CHALLENGE #7

Gap between citizens and governance at different levels, with lack of trust from both sides. Lack of participatory decision-making frameworks that engage and empower citizens and youth.



## SOLUTION

Facilitate interaction between youth, citizens and decision-makers for the co-design and co-implementation of solutions through social innovation practices and participatory governance.

This document collects the main takeaways emerged during the 1st BlueMissionMed Stakeholder Forum and has been elaborated by the facilitators of the session to be used as a starting point for future activities.



*Funded by the European Union through its Horizon Europe Program, Grant No. 101094073 (BlueMissionMed). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or of the granting authority, the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.*