



by Delphi Economic Forum & Institute for Sustainable Development of EPLO

March 2, 2021

Agenda

13.00-13.05 Welcome notes

Symeon Tsomokos, Delphi Economic Forum

Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis, Director of EPLO

13.05-13.35 Opening Session **Policy Orientations**

In light of the new reality set by the corona virus pandemic, the EC 2020 Blue Economy Report highlights that the Blue Economy sectors will “contribute to the recovery and pave way for [the] EU Green Deal”, albeit some of them having taken a hard blow in recent months. How will policy-makers in the EU and its neighbouring regions focus on reigniting such Blue Economy sectors, with a view to implementing the EU Green Deal and achieving the UN Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals?

H.E. Ioannis Plakiotakis, Minister of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy, Hellenic Republic

H.E. Spilios Livanos, Minister of Rural Development and Food, Hellenic Republic

H.E. Ricardo Serrao Santos, Minister of Maritime Affairs, Portuguese Republic

Virginijus Sinkevičius, EU Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries

Nasser Kamel, Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean

Moderated by **Spyros Kouvelis**, Director, EPLO/ISD

13.35-14.20 Session 1 **Fisheries and Aquaculture**

With the EU Commission and FAO having highlighted the need for more protein as the global population rises, fisheries and aquaculture have been at the forefront of this discussion. From combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and providing sustainable livelihoods for fishers to organic feeds and the wellbeing of fish in aquaculture, sustainability and most SDGs are set to be embedded in these sectors.

Fireside Chat (20')

Is Sustainability the key challenge and opportunity for EU Aquaculture in COVID times

Faazi Adam, Research & Engagement Manager, FAIRR Initiative

Lara Barazi-Yeroulanos, President, Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP)/ CEO, Kefalonia Fisheries

Discussion (25')

Abdellah Srour, Executive Secretary, UN FAO, GFCM

Christian Lim, Founding Partner, Blue Ocean Partners

Ismini Bogdanou, Director Marketing and Communications at Hellenic Aquaculture Producers Organization

Moderated by **Philippos Papageorgiou**, National Fisheries Development Program, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture of Saudi Arabia

14.20-14.50 Session 2 Shipping and Ports

The discussion on mandatory energy efficiency requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from shipping, an increasing polluter even during corona times, has been ongoing and is linked to incorporating sustainability and greening shipping. Added to this is the trend to create “green ports” to further reduce the carbon footprint and pave the way for a sustainable future.

Nico Suys, Senior Consultant at Port of Antwerp International

presents the example of the Sustainability program of the Port of Antwerp International (10’)

And discusses How sustainability shapes the future of shipping and ports with: (20’)

Ilias Salpeas, Blue Lab Piraeus, Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Blue Growth

Athanassios Polychronopoulos, Executive Chairman, POLYECO Group

Sophie Delair, Secretary General, EUROSHORE

Robert Coustas, CEO, Deepsea

Moderated by **Christina Deligianni**, Policy Officer, Institute for Sustainable Development, EPLO

14.50-15.50 Session 3 Marine Renewable Energy: An Ocean of Opportunities

The Blue Economy includes emerging, innovative sectors of Marine renewable energy with great potential, such as offshore wind, tidal, wave energy, floating solar energy and offshore hydrogen generation. The EU, being the world leader in ocean energy technology as it hosts 70% of global ocean energy (wave and tidal) installed capacity in its waters, is set to produce up to 35% of its electricity from offshore sources by 2050.

Discussion (25’)

Marine Renewable Energy is visibly a strongly emerging sector. Plans and policies at EU and national level.

H.E. Konstantinos Skrekas, Minister of Environment and Energy of the Hellenic Republic

Christos Economou, DD & Head of Unit, DG for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, EC

Moderated by **Spyros Kouvelis**, Director, EPLO/ISD

Technologies & Investment (35’)

Guy Auger, Partner, Andera Partners/Board Member, GreenSolver

Panagiotis Papastamatiou, CEO, ELETAEN

Yair Rudick, Business development manager, Eco Wave Power

Moderated by **Haroula Apalagaki**, Secretary General, Hellenic Bank Association

15.50-16.00 **Amb. Michael B. Christides**, Secretary General, Permanent International Secretariat, Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, (BSEC PERMIS) talks on “Blueing the Black Sea”

16.00-16.20 **Break**

Ricardo Mourinho Félix, Vice-President of the EIB for Blue Economy

Discusses with **Spyros Kouvelis**, Director, Institute for Sustainable Development, EIB’s policy on energy investments

16.20-17.00 **Session 4 Maritime and Coastal Tourism**

Identified with idyllic landscapes, maritime and coastal tourism represents a good part of the Blue Economy, with hotels by the sea accounting for more than half of hotels occupancy and with growth prospects including of the cruise and yacht industries, albeit temporarily halted by the coronavirus pandemic, set to increase. Yet, this growth potential should go hand in hand with sustainable and smart growth, policy-makers have been advising.

Fireside Chat

H.E. Harry Theoharis, Minister of Tourism of the Hellenic Republic

Alexandros Angelopoulos, CEO, Aldemar Resorts Hotels

Discussion

Felix Leinemann, Head of Unit for Blue Economy Sectors, Aquaculture and Maritime Spatial Planning, DG for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, EC

Odysseas Spyroglou, International Consultant, BlueInvest Coach

Olivier Vardakoulis, Lead Economist, WWF Greece

Moderated by **Dr. Angeliki Kosmopoulou**, Executive Director of the A.C. Laskaridis Charitable Foundation

17.00-17.05 **Closing Remarks**

Spyros Kouvelis, Director, EPLO/ISD

17.05-17.10 **Wrap-up**

Symeon Tsomokos, Delphi Economic Forum
