



Blue Bio Techpreneurs

PROJECT DURATION

30 months

PROJECT BUDGET

1,149,932.21€

MAIN POLICY AREA

Blue Careers and Skills

SEA BASINS

Atlantic

Baltic

North Sea

Outermost Regions

SUMMARY

Blue Bio Techpreneurs addresses EMFAF-2023-Blue Careers goal to 1) boost collaboration between academia and the private sector, 2) encourage students, young graduates and professionals to embrace blue careers, and 3) support companies in accessing cross-sectoral talent, fostering innovation and closing the skills gap in the blue biotech sector.



Co-funded by
the European Union

CONTEXT

Research indicates a weak link between industry and academia. Companies struggle to find innovative technology solutions and young talents with transversal skills, while masters' and PhD students and graduates in marine sciences lack the necessary business knowledge and skills to be attractive to the market. As highlighted by the European Strategy for Universities, there is a need for higher education to take a more active role in the green and digital transition by fostering entrepreneurship and innovation. This is especially true in the case of knowledge-intensive and highly specialised fields like marine biotechnology.

ACTIVITIES

MOOC

The BBT MOOC, Blue Bio DNA · Entrepreneurial & Transversal Skills for Innovators, which comprises 5 courses, will promote competencies, knowledge, skills, and attitudes to foster careers in the sustainable blue transition.

WEBINAR SERIES

The webinars will inspire the target group with inspirational entrepreneurs and mentors telling their stories about failure, successes and making a positive difference.

HACKATHONS

The NORDIC, BALTIC and ATLANTIC hackathons feature direct interaction between actual startups, companies and institutions with master's, PhD students and recent graduates.

BLUEBIOMATCH

The Blue Bioeconomy HUB is the space to share ideas and job opportunities. It connects students and young graduates with companies, startups, and mentors in the blue bioeconomy field.

OUTCOMES

5 ONLINE COURSES

The BBT MOOC, Blue Bio DNA · Entrepreneurial & Transversal Skills for Innovators, will serve as a free educational and training resource, increasing knowledge and awareness of the blue economy and blue biotechnology sector while highlighting key transversal skills in high demand.

6 WEBINARS

1. From Academia to Entrepreneurship
2. How to Build a Startup
3. Sustainable and Circular Economy Approaches
4. Women Entrepreneurship
5. Emerging Opportunities
6. Blue Bio Techpreneurs Trailblazers

3 HACKATHONS

The BBT Hackathons will stimulate solutions, promote networking and reinforce the ties between universities and industry.

BLUE COMMUNITY

BBT engages a wide community online with questions around entrepreneurship in the blue bioeconomy.

POLICY CONTRIBUTION

Blue Bio Techpreneurs will strongly contribute to the execution of the European Skills Agenda for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience, the European Strategy for Universities, and the Strategy of Transforming EU's Blue Economy for a Sustainable Future by upskilling and reskilling higher education students, young professionals and other stakeholder groups on the entrepreneurial opportunities available in the blue biotech sector. The project will contribute to the EU Mission Ocean: Restore our Ocean & Waters by 2030 and the EU Green Deal by creating resources that promote a sustainable, carbon-neutral and circular economy.

SYNERGIES WITH OTHER PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Blue Bio Techpreneurs seeks reinforced and continued collaboration with the HEU CSA [BlueBioClusters](#), bringing together 13 organisations from 9 European regions, which assist startups, companies and policymakers in advancing blue innovations and creating a long-lasting impact by engaging directly with hundreds of regional actors to stimulate collaboration and positive change. In addition, BBT works on building up synergies with other blue economy projects, such as [EU4Algae](#), [H2020 GoJelly](#), [Women in Blue](#), [AlgaeProBANOS](#), [Cool Blue](#), [Seamark](#), [TET-RAS](#) and many more to combine project results and activities to reach a comprehensive concept for the target group.

BBT VOICES



“ As marine scientists at the University of Southern Denmark, we are honoured to serve as a key university partner in the Blue Bio Techpreneurs project. With our extensive experience, we recognise our obligation to cultivate transferable skills in our students, bridging the gap between scientific research and entrepreneurial ventures. Our involvement in this project underlines our commitment to advancing education and innovation within the blue biotechnology sector and promoting sustainable practices, biodiversity conservation, and the enhancement of ecosystem services. We are dedicated to training the next generation of entrepreneurs to think critically about long-term sustainability and develop innovations supporting a sustainable future for our oceans and marine life.

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Jamileh Javidpour | University of Southern Denmark

“ As a maritime cluster that fosters collaboration between academia and industry, the Pôle Mer Bretagne Atlantique saw tremendous potential in the Blue Bio Techpreneurs project. It brings concrete solutions to a growing sector helping to build a prosperous and sustainable future. I am a former educator myself, and I love working with partners to connect students and graduates with the tools they need to move confidently to the next stage of their careers.

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Ethan Holaday | Pôle Mer Bretagne Atlantique