

FLAG resources for the new period: the Barcelona toolkit



SW.FLAG.Lab

New material is available on the FARNET website to help FLAGs improve their activities and strengthen their impact in the 2014-2020 period.

Based on the discussions of 40 FLAG representatives at the [Barcelona FLAG lab](#) in 2014, a series of five [action fiches](#) has been produced, presenting ideas and recommendations for improving the effectiveness of FLAG activities in the areas of animation, project development support, project selection, monitoring and evaluation, and communications. The fiches form part of an over-

all resource pack from the event, which also includes recommendations on the resources and skills needed in an ideal FLAG team, or FLAG “dreamteam”, and a document with ideas and inspiration on [measuring results](#), a new priority for many EU funding programmes.

The FARNET key and other online resources



The “Sailing Towards 2020” conference also provided some new content to add to the wealth of material already available online. This includes a [catalogue of posters](#) developed by FLAGs participating in the event, and a new online version of the “[FARNET key](#)”: a legacy resource, which presents all the FARNET knowledge in a compact format that is easy to navigate and share.

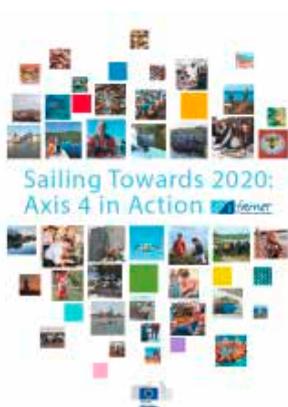
Blue growth in the Black Sea



The second [Black Sea Stakeholder Conference](#) took place in Sofia (Bulgaria) on the 24 March. The event brought together Romanian and Bulgarian FLAGs, maritime practitioners, researchers and entrepreneurs to discuss the opportunities offered by the smart, blue economy in the region, and how to advance cooperation in this

area to create synergies between stakeholders. The Danube Delta FLAG presented its strategy for promoting local action on the blue economy, highlighting in particular FLAG support for linking the fisheries and tourism sectors. European Commissioner, Mr. Karmenu Vella, also participated in the event, which established a basis for cooperation among maritime stakeholders in the Black Sea region. [More information on the conference.](#)

Ideas, inspiration and one FLAG's wow moment!



FLAG participants in the 'Sailing towards 2020' conference have reported a number of practical benefits. Here is what three FLAG representatives had to say: [For Theodoros Giavasis of the Dodecanese FLAG, Greece](#), the conference was a unique opportunity to experience an incredible range of ideas from across Europe. "Our post-conference actions focused on promoting some of these projects and practices to the local fisheries community. As our FLAG is now running the last call for applications, we have an excellent opportunity to attract new beneficiaries. We consider both direct online sales and pesca-tourism as prominent examples of initiatives that could readily be adapted to our local context. Our call for cooperation concerns FLAG networking in order to raise awareness of the crucial issue of climate change impacts on fisheries."

Simona Matuseviciute, [manager of the Zarasai & Visaginas FLAG, Lithuania](#) said: "attending the 'Sailing Towards 2020' conference gave me more than a kick to go deeper with plans and projects. The conference was so inspiring; all you need is hard work and positive thinking. The Zarasai and Visaginas FLAG is really interested in cooperation. We are always open to new projects and ideas and all those presented during the conference seemed novel and exciting. We were particularly impressed by [the Arrainetik](#) project from the Sud Landes Basque FLAG. This was a "wow" moment, such a great idea!"

Michael Gerber, the [Bremerhaven FLAG](#) manager (Germany) used the event as an opportunity to promote his FLAG's call for transnational partners for a 'European fisheries culture' project: "across Europe, there are many different regional fish museums, exhibitions, festivals, etc,... this project would enable joint promotion, exchange and better cooperation in developing this European heritage. It would be the 'European Trail of Fish – The cultural heritage of Fishing (ET FISH)'".

Telling the story online



In France, [the Cotentin & Bessin FLAG](#) supported an ambitious project to preserve and share local stories and knowledge from the fisheries community. Led by the local fisheries and maritime school, the "Port-la-Mer" project developed an online resource that includes interviews, interactive maps and other content that allows visitors to learn more about local fishermen, discover the area's D-Day heritage, or better understand how prices are fixed at the auction. The website was co-created with the local fisheries and shellfisheries committee and a number of local fishermen who agreed to share their stories. The total cost came to €38 000, of which 50% was financed by Axis 4.

Small is beautiful... and smart



Two Axis 4 supported seafood processing projects in Belgium and Spain show how innovative and imaginative ideas developed in a local context could have global application. In Belgium, a [new preservation system](#) is helping shrimp fishermen to extend the shelf life of their product, while in Galicia, Spain, a [new technique for preserving goose barnacles](#) has been developed, greatly expanding the marketing potential of this typical Galician delicacy.

Citizen science: FLAG partners with LIFE project



In February, the [Lagune di Gargano FLAG](#) joined the [CSMON LIFE project](#) (Citizen Science Monitoring for Biodiversity), which is led by the Life Sciences Department at the University of Trieste. CSMON LIFE is an 'citizen science' project, which uses a large network of citizens to record and report data on biodiversity, thereby helping in the identification of risks and in the design of more effective and participative environmental policies. The project has developed an [App](#) which allows users

to log relevant data, which is then scientifically validated. Through its involvement in the project, the FLAG will promote citizen involvement in coastal areas, thereby helping to improve the data on marine and coastal biodiversity.

World Oceans Day: Fisch vom Kutter

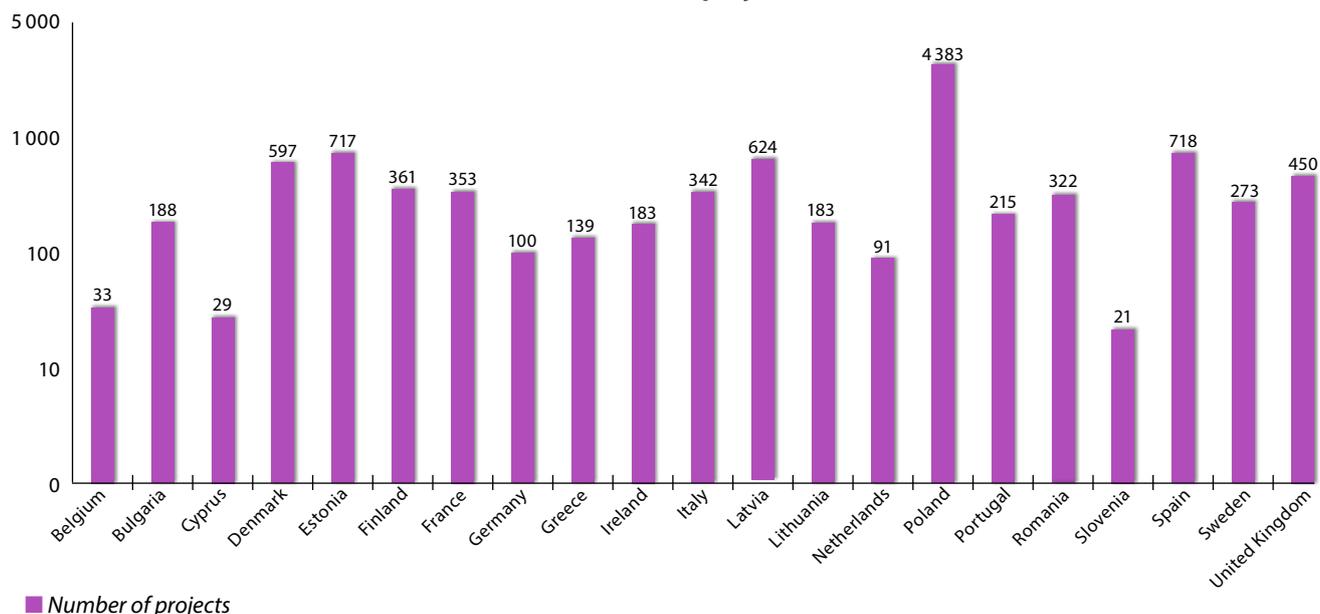


As part of the [World Oceans Day](#) celebrations on June 8, the Axis 4 supported Fish vom Kutter project (Germany), in cooperation with the Museumshafen Probstei, is organising an event to promote awareness among students of sustainably caught fresh fish. The students will be shown around the port of Wendtorf, where they will be able to buy fish directly from the boat. A local fisherman will then show them how to gut and fillet the fish, which they will cook together. The event will seek to promote direct sales and healthier eating habits. Students will also learn about the important ecological impact of buying sustainably caught fish. More information [here](#).

State of play: 10 322 projects and counting!

By May 2015, the 312 FLAGs now active across 21 Member States had supported an estimated 10 322 projects¹.

10 322 Axis 4 projects



¹ This figure is based on information provided voluntarily by managing authorities up to April 2015.

Forthcoming events and activities

28-29 May 2015	European Maritime Day	Piraeus (EL)
2-3 June 2015	Growth in the Blue Bio Economy	Tórshavn (DK)
3-5 June 2015	Green Week	Brussels (BE)
8 June 2015	World Oceans Day	Various venues
20-22 Oct. 2015	Innovate, Connect, Transform	Lisbon (PT)

Other news

Online course: developing a new seafood product



This [online course on seafood product development](#) was developed through a collaboration of AquaTT and BIM, the Irish Sea Fisheries Board. It was funded with support from the EU-funded 2FISH project under the Leonardo da Vinci Programme. The course includes modules on: setting up a lab-scale project to develop a working Prototype; selecting the right ingredients and packaging; scale-up; and post launch.

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Send us your news

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