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| **Name of the session** | **Futures Bootcamp** |
| **Hosting Institution** | University of Malta (Valletta campus) |
| **Starting –ending date of the training** | 21st – 25th September 2020 (five full-days) |
| **Language** | English |
| **Profile of expected participants (at least precise if teaching staff, supporting staff, student) / prerequisite** | **Researchers, academics,** **PhDs and Masters students** in Marine and Maritime research areas involved in research activities related to the blue bioeconomy (maritime services, marine and ocean monitoring, blue energy, aquaculture, blue biotechnology, bioengineering, etc.).  **Early-stage researchers and post-graduate students** who have embarked on entrepreneurial activities in areas related to the blue bioeconomy. |
| **Maximum number of participants** | 30 academics and researchers  (2 academics/researchers + 3 postgraduate students per partner institution)  The participants will be selected and nominated by the partner institutions.  Selected participants are NOT to book their own travel and accommodation. If you are selected for the bootcamp, you will be contacted by your partner institution who will take care of organizing the travel and accommodation logistics. |
| **Contact person for details:** | Dr. Lisa Pace, [lisa.a.pace@um.edu.mt](mailto:lisa.a.pace@um.edu.mt), University of Malta |
| **Contact person for application:** | A **signed and scanned copy of the application form** is to be sent to the technical manager/local coordinator in the partner institutions:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | University of Cádiz | technicalmanager.seaeu@uca.es | | Université de Bretagne Occidentale in Brest | gwenaelle.goyat@univ-brest.fr | | University of Split | seaeu@unist.hr | | University of Gdańsk | marlena.rutkowska@ug.edu.pl | | University of Kiel | [nina.keul@ifg.uni-kiel.de](mailto:nina.keul@ifg.uni-kiel.de) | | University of Malta | giuliana.longworth@um.edu.mt | |
| **Application details:** | Please use the application form to apply. |
| **Application Deadline:** | **12th June 2020** |
| **General objectives of the week** | The futures bootcamp aims to create a space for scholars to discuss the future of a sustainable blue bioeconomy and identify innovative solutions for advancing the blue bioeconomy in the regions.  The blue bioeconomy offers regions the opportunity to develop innovative bio-based products and services across diverse sectors of economic activity related to the oceans, seas and coasts. Realizing the blue bioeconomy requires knowledge, research and development and innovation as its main cornerstones. A challenge is to harness this opportunity whilst understanding the socio-economic implications of ocean-based activities and safeguarding the sustainable functioning and development of the natural and biophysical activities in the marine environment.  At present, the pathways towards achieving a sustainable blue bioeconomy remain open. A vision for the blue bioeconomy needs to be underpinned by common priorities about its strategic objectives and a clearly defined research agenda. To this end, universities have a relevant role to play by developing research capacity in marine and maritime areas and identifying the skills and research infrastructures needed to exploit the opportunities for innovation.  The future is unpredictable. Futures tools and approaches can help us understand the dynamics of change and provide a systematic framework to think about future pathways for the blue bioeconomy, enabling us to challenge current assumptions and explore the consequences of choices made. Foresight is used to inform strategy and prioritize research and innovation agendas in governments, corporations and businesses throughout Europe and beyond. In the bootcamp, we use a futures toolkit to better scope the issues pertaining to a transition to the blue bioeconomy and evaluate possible future pathways.  **What to expect?**  Throughout the program, participants will learn and practice a variety of futures and foresight tools and methods that will be used to:   * Analyse conflicts, opportunities and risks associated with developing a sustainable blue bioeconomy. * Develop scenarios to explore innovative solutions for research to advance the blue bioeconomy applicable to the regions. * Prioritize opportunities and think strategically on how to build inter-regional partnerships to exploit these innovation opportunities.   **Learning Experience**  The bootcamp aims to be an interactive learning experience during which participants are expected to take up an active role in the lectures and workshop sessions and work towards elaborating different future pathways for blue growth and develop innovative solutions. Participants commit to be actively involved in the discussions and plenary sessions, such as by taking up the role of rapporteur. On the last day, participants will pitch their futures work to a panel making the case for a future vision for research on the blue bioeconomy. The bootcamp is being organised back to back with the 'Science in the City' event on the 25th September that attracts hundreds of local scientists, researchers and the lay public to our capital city Valletta. |

**Draft Programme Outline:**

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| **Monday 21st September 2020** | |
| Morning sessions | Registration |
|  | Welcome |
|  | Lecture: Foresight and the marine environment – an overview |
|  | Workshop: Scanning Trends & Drivers of Change |
|  | **Lunch** |
| Afternoon Sessions | Workshop: Ideation session |
|  | Workshop: Innovation speed dating |

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| **Tuesday 22nd September 2020** | |
| Morning sessions | Lecture: Smart specialisation - opportunities and challenges for regional innovation |
|  | Presentation: Towards a research agenda for the blue bioeconomy |
|  | Lecture: Science Fiction Futures |
|  | Lunch |
| Afternoon Sessions | Workshop: Futures Wheels to analyse impacts of trends and drivers |
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|  | Dinner |

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| **Wednesday 23rd September 2020** | |
| Morning sessions | Lecture: Blue technologies |
|  | Lecture: Scenarios, wild cards and weak signals |
|  | Lunch |
| Afternoon Sessions | Teamwork: Developing scenarios for the future of the blue bioeconomy |
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| **Thursday 24th September 2020** | |
| Morning sessions | Morning tour |
|  | Lunch |
| Afternoon sessions | Teamwork: Developing scenarios for the future of the blue bioeconomy |

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| **Friday 25th September 2020** | |
| Morning sessions | Team presentations: Future scenarios for research collaboration |
|  | Panel feedback |
|  | Lunch |
| Afternoon Sessions | Learning Experience, Participant Feedback & Evaluation |
|  | Testimonials on bootcamp experience |
| Evening | *Science in the City Event* |