

# GREEN ECONOMY as DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY for EU ISLANDS

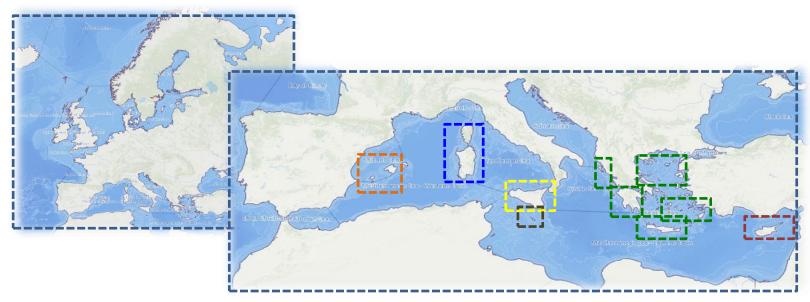


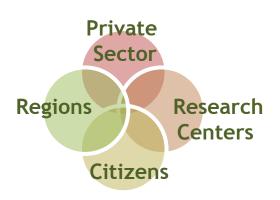
REGION OF CRETE: Cross Regional Synergies among Mediterranean Islands

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Interreg MED 2014-2020 COOPERATION AREA









## The Smart Framework of Cooperation:



## The Agrofood Complex

 linked to Crete's primary sector (growing, processing, commercialisation of agricultural products)

## The Culture-Tourism Complex

- the tourism sector (attraction, reception, hospitality, transportation...)
- the cultural sector (protection promotion of cultural resources, international cultural activities)

## The Environmental Complex

- decrease in CO2 emissions (energy saving, renewable energy applications in terms of sustainable development),
- rational use of Crete's natural resources
- tackling of climate change consequences

## The Complex of Knowledge

- research activities within the research and university institutions
- education and training activities based on research and university institutions of Crete



## The Power of Cooperation: Focusing on Public/Private/Partnerships, Business support

### Regions have:

- 1. Regulatory societal powers
- 2. Policies/strategies in addition to national ones
- 3. A role in seeking consensus among the actors at the territory
- 4. Links with stakeholders and key players for restoration policies

### That brings into attention:

- The key role of authorities at a regional level (European Regions)
- The direct involvement to European Strategies
- The cross-border cooperation for EU projects



## The Insularity:

## Circle2018: highlighting a few conclusions/recommendations

- **6**) Build **synergies among networks** of islands. A need for synergies and cooperation between islands was arisen, requiring the implementation of strategic plans related to energy, waste management, water, transport, at a **cross-islands scale**.
- 8) Join forces to increase islands' visibility in the next MFF and its implementation.
- **9**) Promote **insularity clause** so that islands are covered in all EC **impact assessments** and specific provisions or derogations are foreseen, as appropriate.
- **11) Capacity building & awareness raising** on a permanent basis as technologies and Know-how develop rapidly.
- **15**) Empower the role of **private sector**. Enhance the establishment of PPPs and provide incentives to the private sector so as to develop circular economy initiatives and in particular use clean recyclables for the benefit of the EU economy.
- **18**) Circular Economy as a new **business model**, including several sectors. CE becomes an economic driver and creates **green jobs**.



### **CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

### Successful projects for new collaborations





















































(Regional level)

How to identify crossregional Circular Economy **Synergies** 

(Operational synergies)

How to finance projects raising from cross-regional synergies

(Funding synergies)

How to assess the "circularity" of one project with respect to another one

(Assessment Criteria)

#### METHODOLOGY FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION

#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

for a synergic use of regional and European funds targeted to circular economy projects

THE SIGNATOIRES OF THIS DOCUMENT,

Having regard to the EU action plan for the Circular Economy

- (1) The transition to a more circular economy is an essential contribution to develop a sustainable and competitive economy, as well as an opportunity to generate new and sustainable competitive advantages for the European Regions.
- (2) Regional authorities have a key role to play in the transition towards Circular Economy and greater synergies; nevertheless, fragmentation of resources and implementation difficulties obstruct





## **CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

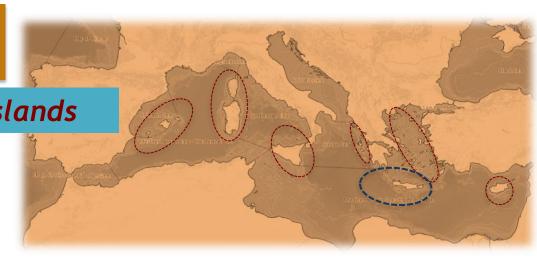
## A Challenge for the MED Islands

- Water
- Waste Management
- Agro food Sector
- > Tourism
- Energy











## **CLIMATE CHANGE**



#### **BLUE ECONOMY SECTORS:**

- COASTAL & MARITIME **TOURISM**
- **AQUACULTURE**
- MARITIME ENERGY
- MARITIME TRANSPORT













**Azores** 

Canary













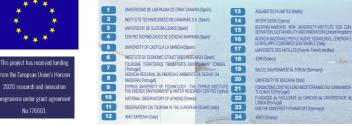
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#### OBJECTIVES of SOCLIMPACT

- Contributing to the improvement of the economic valuation of climate impacts and related policies for the EU's Blue Economy sectors
- Increasing the effectiveness of the economic modeling of climate impact chains, in the analysis of climate induced socioeconomic impacts in 11 EU islands case studies, under different climate scenarios.
- Facilitating climate-related policy decision making for Blue Growth, by ranking and mapping the more appropriate mitigation and adaption strategies.
- Delivering downscaled and accurate information to policy makers, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders, about the environmental and socio-economic consequences of global Climate Change in the EU Blue Economy.

http://soclimpact.org/





SOCLIMPACT PARTNERS

Modeling downscaled Climate Change effects and their economic impacts in European islands and archipelagos for 2030 - 2100 in the context of the EU Blue Economy



## SUSTAINABLE TOURISM



## The BLUEISLANDS

BLUEISLANDS
Seasonal variation of waste as an effect of tourism

2.751

BLUEISLANDS Charter highlights:



European Parliament, SEARICA Intergroup Brussels, 11 April 2018 Reduce waste generation by tourists and tourism service providers

Improve the management of waste generated by tourism and resource efficiency, by promoting short cycles and local, sustainable consumption.

Involve all relevant local and regional stakeholders in collaborative and mutual learning activities

Raise awareness on reducing marine litter

Raise awareness of tourists and help them to act responsibly and in a sustainable way

Share our vision and promote exchange of good practices with other touristic cities, regions and islands





ote





## Further Steps: At Regional, Cross regional, European Level

- Building consensus on a shared path towards material resource resiliency, circular economy and sustainable tourism on islands,
- ✓ Building capacity together with other insular Regions on circular economy regarding waste management, and marine litter, energy and water management
- ✓ Focusing on coordination between policies to achieve sustainable development results for islands, through interregional as well as cross-sectoral collaboration.



## Thank you!



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