



BLUACT (provisional)

Programme: URBACT III

Topic/Keywords: Blue Economy, Capacity building, Entrepreneurship, knowledge economy, Local economic development

The project: The Municipality of Piraeus participated as a leading partner in the European project BLUACT during the period from the 12th / 2018 to the 6th / 2021. The aim of the project was to introduce and integrate the BlueGrowth initiative, an innovation competition for Blue Economy, to strengthen traditional economic activities related to the maritime sector with innovative business ideas related to the shipping sector and the Blue Economy implemented by the Municipality in other European ports and coasts. In this way the Municipality of Piraeus transferred this good practice to Mataro in Spain, Ostend in Belgium, Matosinhos in Portugal, Burgas in Bulgaria, Galati in Romania and Salerno in Italy.

In April 2021, the European URBACT III program published an invitation to lead partner cities to resubmit a proposal to transfer their good practice to other cities.

The Municipality of Piraeus responded to this invitation and submitted a proposal, which was approved on June 14, 2021. According to this good practice, the Bluegrowth competition will be transferred to the port cities: Boulogne sur Mer (France), Gdansk Entrepreneurship Foundation (Poland), Liepaja (Latvia) and Regional development center Koper (Slovenia).

Role of Municipality of Piraeus:

Municipality of Piraeus is the key stakeholder of the following project tasks:

- Network management: set-up of a strong project management team that will ensure the sound project and financial management.
- Transnational Exchange and Learning Activity: It concerns the methodology for the exchange and learning activities at transnational level for the transfer of the good practice to partner cities as well as the amelioration / upgrading of the good practice itself.
- Promotion of the Local Dimension: it concerns the implementation of local transfer and learning activities. The general framework for these local activities is built around the early establishment and operation of an effective URBACT Local Group (ULG) in each partner city that will capture the details throughout the project learning process and the individual opinion of different stakeholders' experience during the transfer journey.

- Communication and Dissemination actions: it concerns the development and implementation of a concrete communication plan that constitutes the framework of tasks which have to be undertaken by the partners, in order to communicate effectively the project's key messages, purposes and results.

Lead partner: Municipality of Piraeus

Other partners:

Regional development centre Koper SLOVENIA

Liepaja LATVIA

Gdansk Entrepreneurship Foundation POLAND

Boulogne sur mer FRANCE

Duration: 18 months, June 2021 – December 2022

Total Budget: 549.668,00 €

Municipality of Piraeus: 190.444,00 €