

BLUE SEA LAND

International Blue Economy Expo



DISTRETTO DELLA PESCA
E CRESCITA BLU



OSSERVA
TORIO
MEDI
TERRANEO



TRANSITIONS

a bridge towards a changing sea

18 - 22 OCTOBER 2023 Mazara del Vallo



The District of Fisheries and Blue Growth - COSVAP has always looked at those activities connected to the blue economy through the lens of sustainability and considered them as a system that transcends territorial borders so that the sea may be a link between peoples and an engine of shared prosperity.

This is the premise from which Blue Sea Land - International Blue Economy Expo was born. The event is held every year in the Sicilian municipality of Mazara del Vallo, which, due to its history, represents an extraordinary example of integration and peaceful coexistence between peoples that differ for ethnicity, culture and religion.

Considering its territorial relevance and its international orientation, Blue Sea Land is organised by the District of Fisheries in close cooperation with territorial, regional, national and international institutions, including the Sicilian Region, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry, the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Energy Security and the European Union



Through high-level conferences and a multiethnic fair, the event constitutes a platform to renew dialogue among European and African Countries in a bid to find shared solutions to issues of common interest. In the last editions, Countries from IORA (Indian Ocean Rim Association), IILA (Italian-Latin American International Organisation) and ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) were also involved.

Blue Sea Land is a unique occasion to establish partnerships on different fronts between government authorities, diplomatic representatives, officials from International Organisations, national and mediterranean maritime and agri-food clusters, researchers and economic operators. The objective is to systematise territorial enhancement, the mounting pressure towards more sustainable policies and the recommendations from the most recent scientific literature in the field of fisheries and agriculture so as to promote a synergic action towards a more responsible and fair management of sea and earth resources.



This year's edition will take place from 18 to 22 October and will have as its main theme "Transitions: a bridge towards a changing sea". The concept of transitions has been widely discussed lately, especially with reference to the idea that switching to a more sustainable economy from an environmental point of view must not leave anyone behind. Therefore, environmental sustainability cannot be divided from economic and social sustainability.

The District wanted to combine the concept of transitions with the change that the seas, the ocean and all waters have been going through due to environmental pressure stemming from human activity. A changed sea imposes us to change: it is crucial to raise awareness between blue economy operators so that they may adopt more sustainable practices that minimise their impact on the environment. It is only when all Countries share sustainability principles that we can build a bridge to unify all communities to preserve a good common to everyone: water. The sea is thus intended as economic, cultural, environmental, energetic, historical, artistic and identity resource





The topics to be covered in this's year conference programme include circular bioeconomy, blue economy, maritime security, ocean economy, the safeguard of sea resources, maritime spatial planning, sustainable agriculture, food security, the initiatives by foreign countries in the fishery and agriculture sectors, coastal and sustainable tourism and much more.

Beyond a rich conference programme, Blue Sea Land also includes institutional meetings, B2B meetings and exchanges between national and international agri-food and maritime clusters.

Blue Sea Land is also an occasion to enhance cultural diversity in its multifaceted aspects. The fair will indeed present an exhibition area entirely dedicated to foreign Countries, which will show typical uses, customs and traditions of participating communities.



The fair will take place through the squares and streets of the Casbah of Mazara del Vallo, a maze of alleys where communities that differ for ethnicity, culture and religion coexist peacefully. Exhibitors will include institutional and regional bodies as well as local companies willing to promote their best agri-food products and wines.

Last but not least, Blue Sea Land includes a rich calendar of events that will animate the historic centre of Mazara. Concerts, artistic performances, cooking demos and book launches will take place every day during Blue Sea Land. The events will be an occasion to enhance local talents and to promote uses and traditions of foreign Countries in a spirit of cultural exchange, mutual respect and integration.





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