



THE BLUE ECONOMY: A BRIDGE ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN



Roberto Cimino

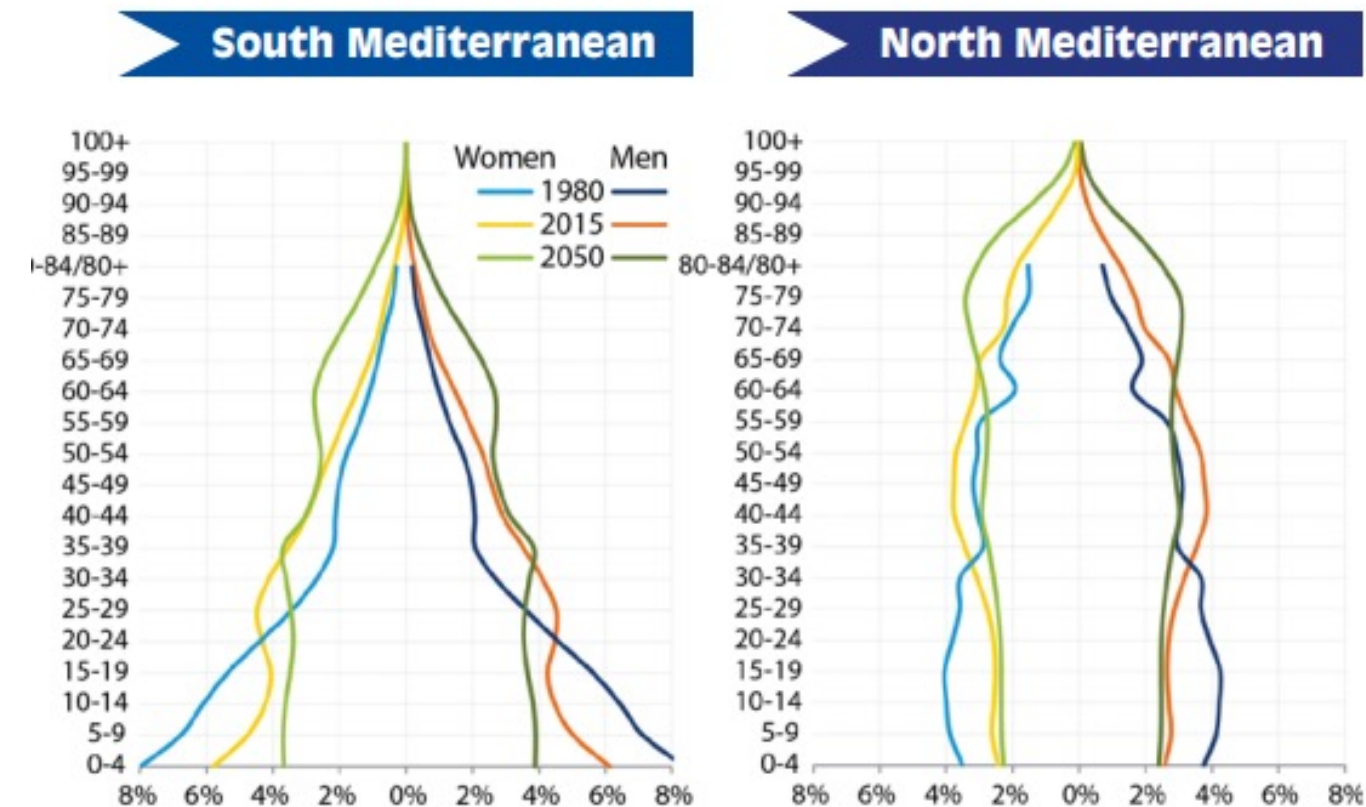
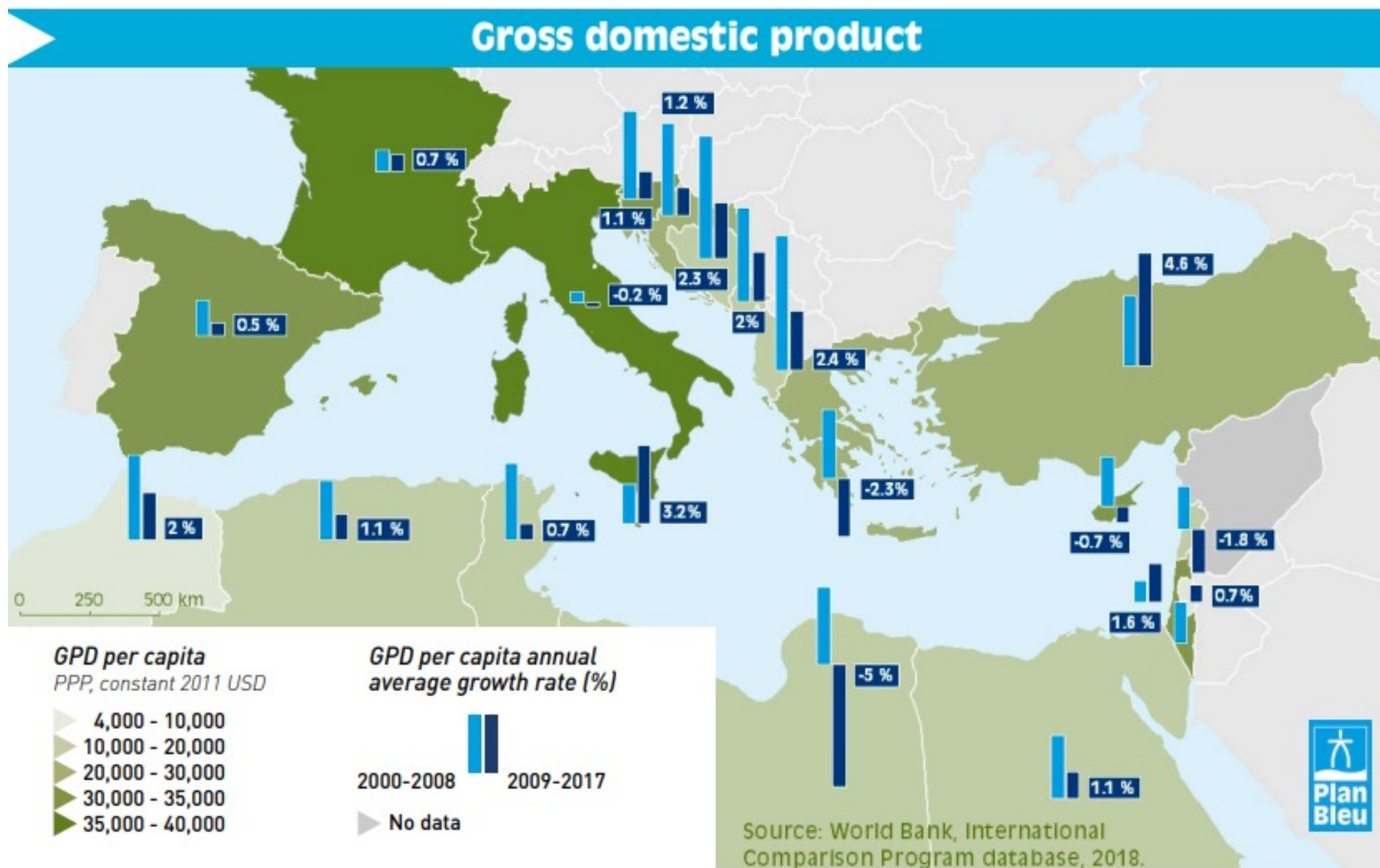
Vicepresidente, Cluster BiG

«L'ECONOMIA BLU PER LA TRANSIZIONE ECOLOGICA DEL PAESE»

**ROTARY Bologna - Fondazione
Golinelli, 15 Aprile 2023**



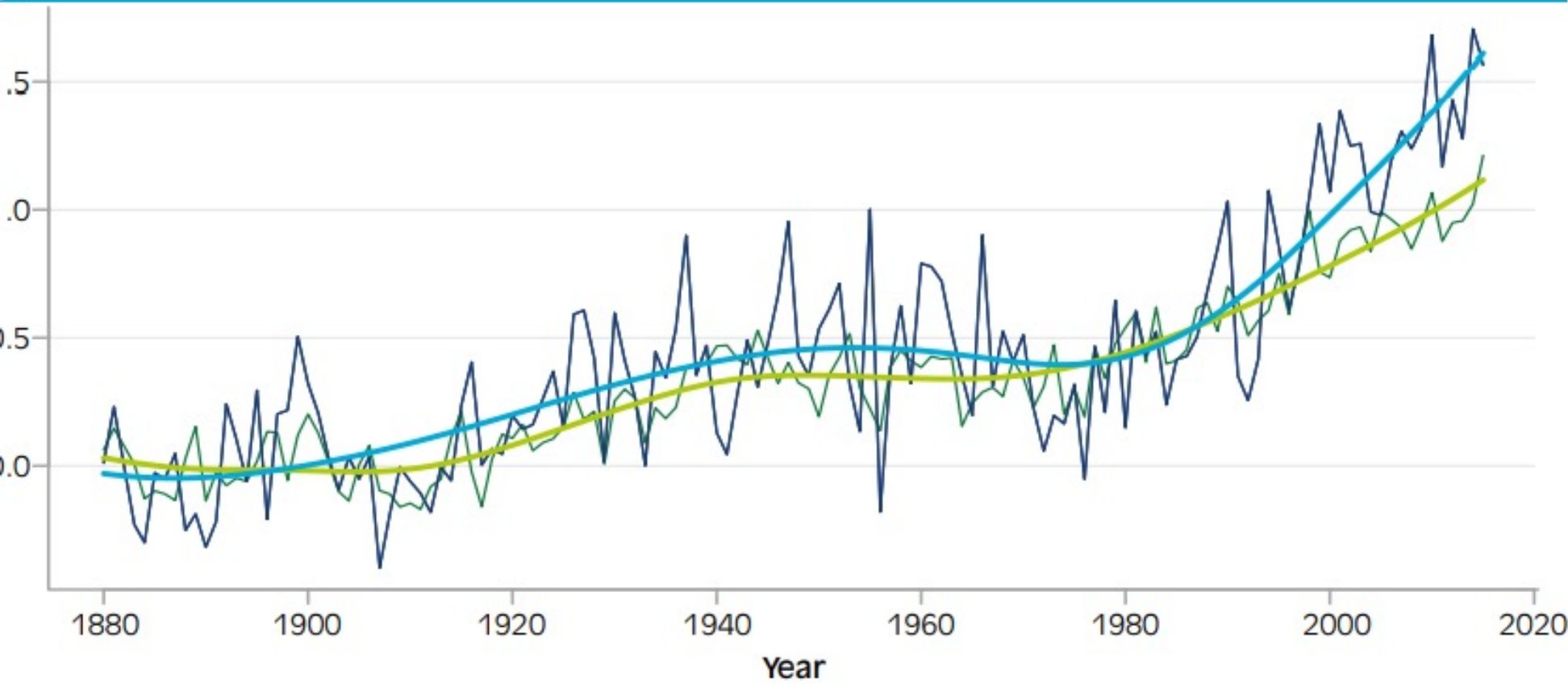
THE MEDITERRANEAN: AN AREA WITH PERSISTING GAPS....



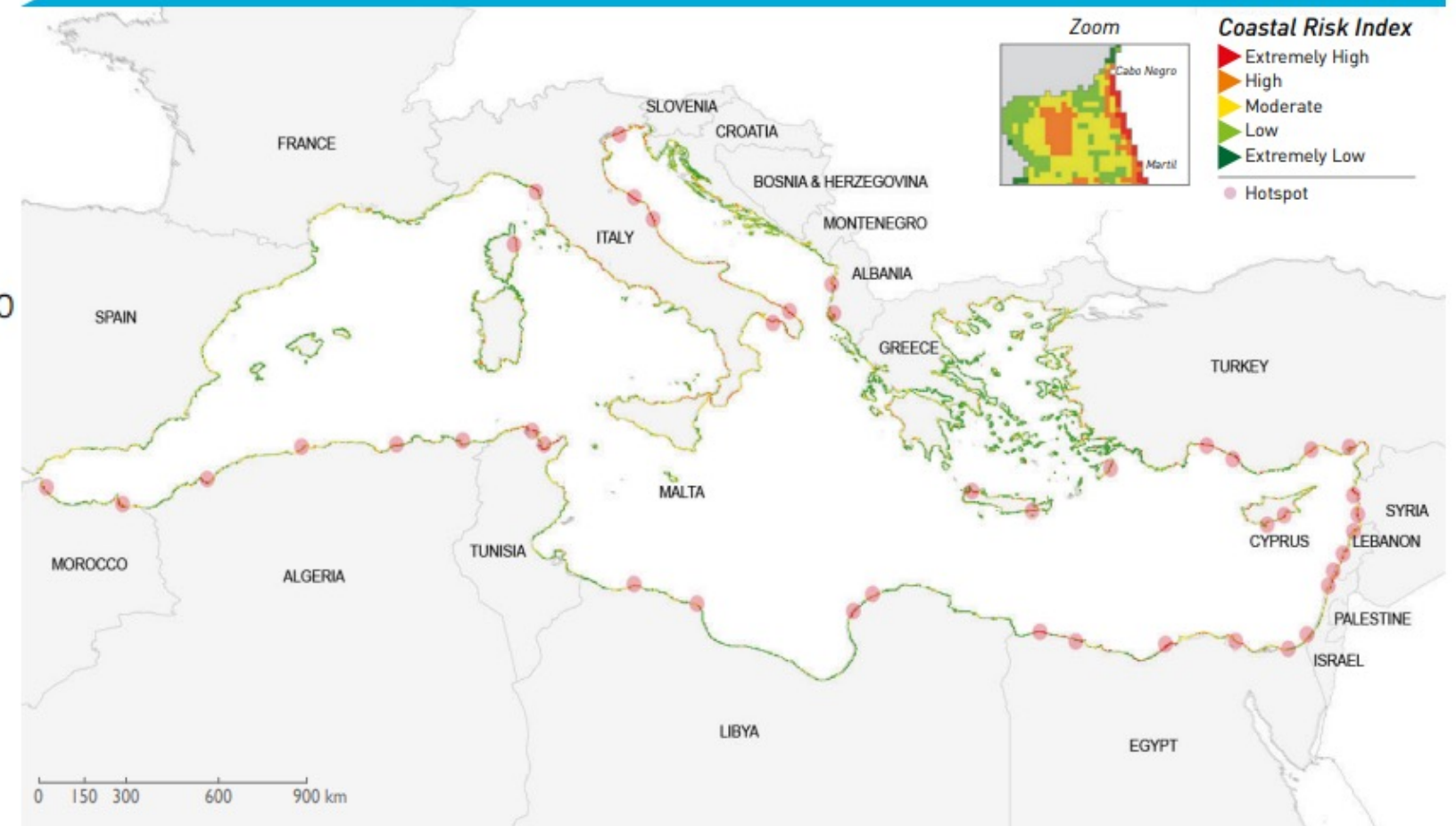
Source: State of Environment and Development in the Mediterranean- SOED 2020- UNEP & PlanBleu

....AND INCREASING CHALLENGES

Mean temperature anomalies (°C)



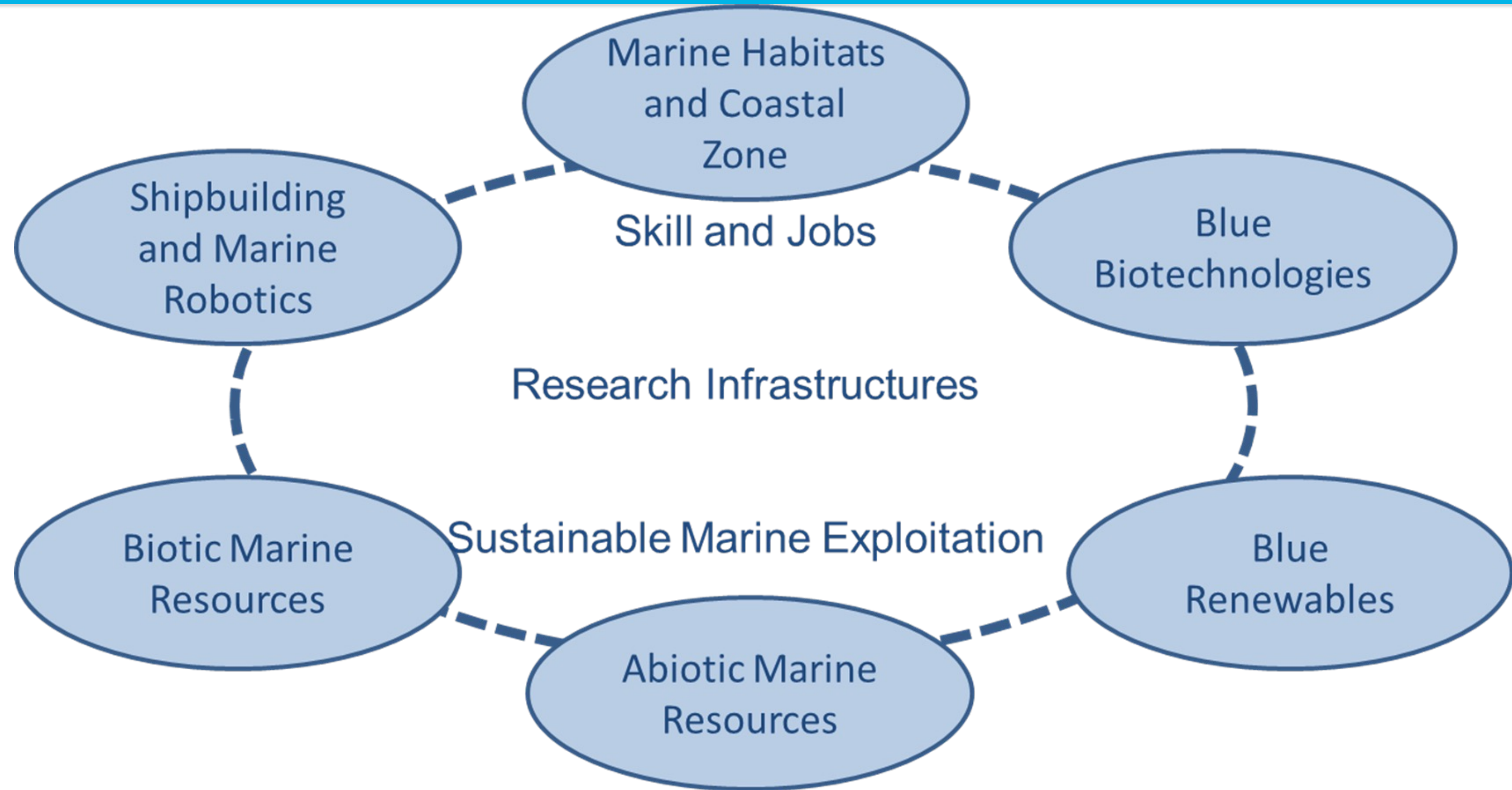
Regional risk assessment map



Source: State of Environment and Development in the Mediterranean- SOED 2020- UNEP & PlanBleu



THE BLUE ECONOMY TECHNOLOGICAL TRAJECTORIES



BLUE ECONOMY IN FOUR KEY MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES



Aquaculture

Data Collection,

Sustainable
Maritime
Transport

Sustainable
Tourism

Marine
Renewables/
Desalination

Blue Skills

Source: Blue Economy in the Maghreb – Cluster BIG (2022)

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MAIN FINDINGS: STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT AND GAPS

Performance	Tourism	Aquaculture	Transport	Marine Renewables Desalination	Digitalisation	Blue Skills
Algeria	Effort to innovate but limited local/private engagement/capacity	Main political focus with a lot of action but need for scale-up	Ongoing policy efforts requiring greater investment	Increasing interest from research but needs for pilots	Increasing capacity, including through observatories, need to scale-up capacities	Increasing capacity (e.g. university), need more engage with the industry
Tunisia	Traditionally well-performing, need to diversify into 'niches'	Strong policy support with networkign and pilot actiosn ongoing	Strong national expertise, need to ridefine models	Leading the piloting of 'renewables' through large EU invesments	Increasing capacity, including through clusters/programme, need to scale-up	Increasing capacity (e.g. university), need more engage with the industry
Libya	Potentials to be exploited requiring political stability	Need to raise awareness on the importance of the sector, beside an existing national project	Potentials to be exploited requiring political stability	Large potential vs missing regulatory and financial framework. Desalination plants, to be converted to photovoltaic technology	Existing and increasing capacity, through telecoms and geospatial technology, need to scale-up governance capacities	Potentials to be exploited requiring political stability
Egypt	Strong efforts to increase capacity, attractiveness and sustainable offer	Strong efforts to increase production capacity, employing innovative and sustainable solutions	SCCP project has boosted investments in many fields, digitalization of ports & traffic in primis	SCCP project has boosted investments in renewables too. Huge investments and R&I efforts in desalination	At the core of all national development plans & investment funds. Need to ensure a uniform coverage across the country	Many top-down programmes, despite need to enlarge impact, to compensate lack of skills in the Blue Economy

Sector development

None

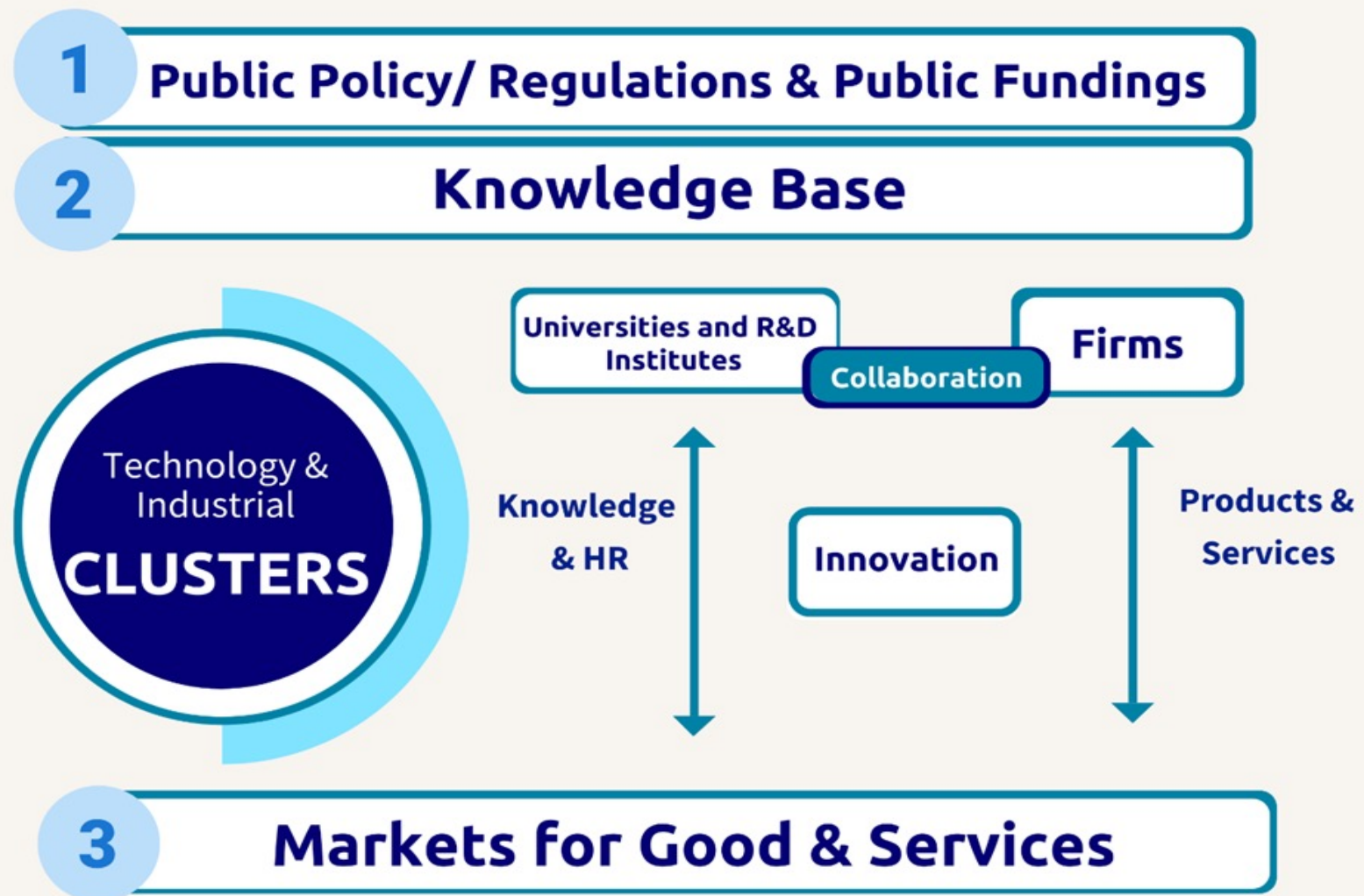
Mild

Growing

Strong

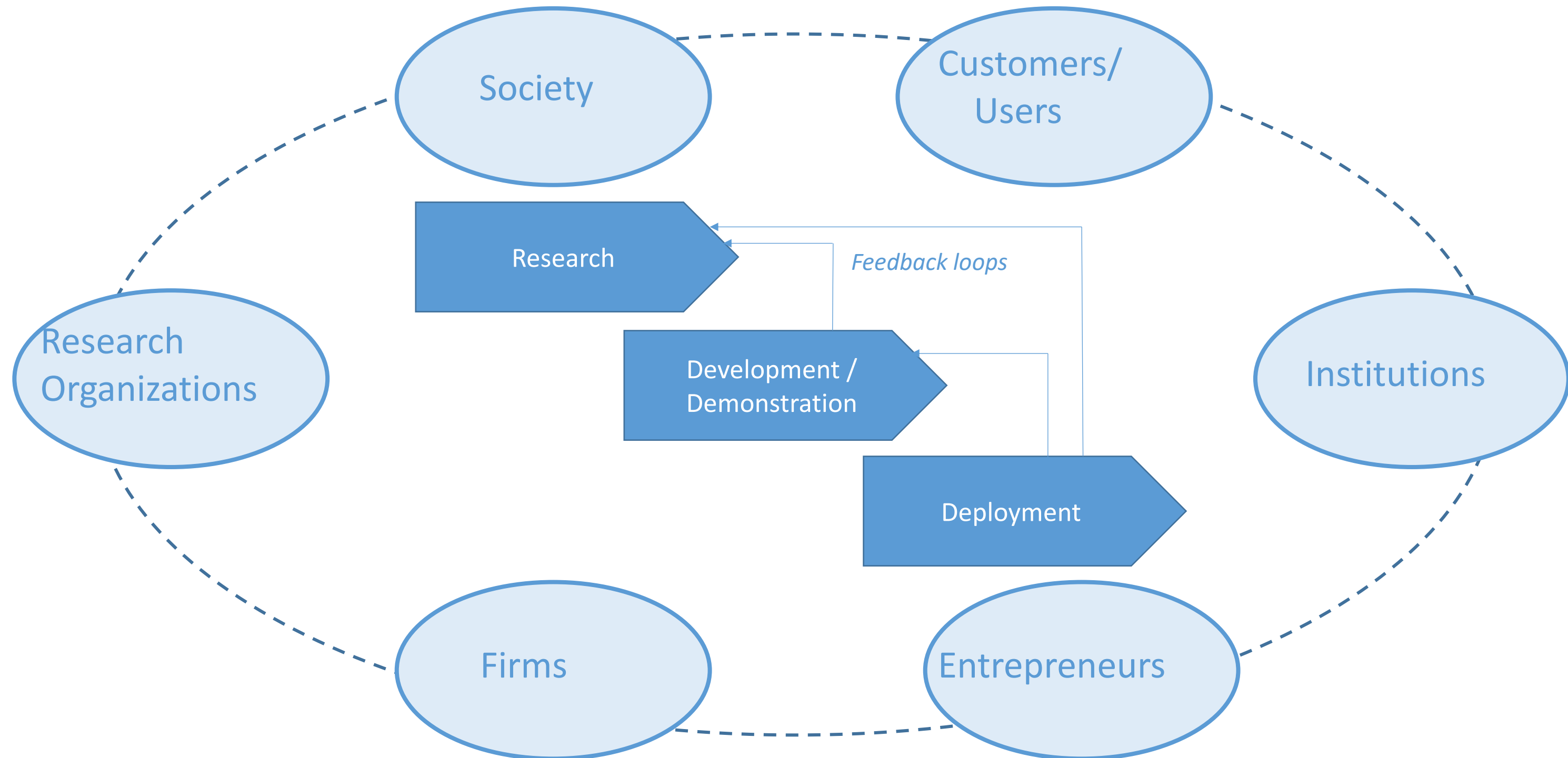
THE ROLE OF INDUSTRIAL CLUSTERS

The National System of Innovation



Source: adapted from M. Mazzucato, 2017

PROMOTING THE ACCELERATION OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER



Source: adapted from «Energy Technology Perspectives 2015», International Energy Agency

TOWARDS A MAGHREB CLUSTER: MOU WITH TUNISIAN BLUE CLUSTER

WESTMED
blue economy initiative



Ambasciata d'Italia
Tunisi



سفارة الجمهورية التونسية بروما
AMBASCIATA DI TUNISIA A ROMA

BiG
Blue Italian Growth
Technology Cluster



FEDERAZIONE DEL MARE
FEDERAZIONE DEL SISTEMA MARITTIMO ITALIANO

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE MEDBLEU 2022

- Ports digitalization and greening;
- Artisanal fishing and aquaculture;
- Ports-de-plaisance;
- Renewable energies;
- Blue skills: new professional profiles/Cluster PM;
- Study on the «Blue Economy in the Maghreb»;
- Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP);



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BOLOGNA, 15 Aprile 2023

**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN: CLUSTER BIG ACTIONS

Founding Member of the **WESTMED MARITIME CLUSTER ALLIANCE (WCMA)**



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- ✓ Cluster Maritime Tunisien
- ✓ Fórum Oceano – Associação da Economia do Mar (FO)
- ✓ Clúster Marítimo Español (CME)
- ✓ MedBan Consortium

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS: Italian Embassy in Cairo, Italian Embassy in Tunisi

EUROPEAN PROJECT PARTNERS



PORTUGAL



METROPOLITAN COLLEGE

GREECE



UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS



FRANCE



MALTA CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION

MALTA



CATALAN WATER PARTNERSHIP



SPAIN



CLÚSTER MARÍTIMO Y LOGÍSTICO de les Illes Balears



OGS

Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale



FEDERAZIONE DEL SISTEMA MARITTIMO ITALIANO

ITALY



forMare

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IMAGINE ROTARY

MEDBAN PROJECT (COSME FUND)

BLUE ECONOMY AREAS

AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES

- **New technologies low environmental impact plants and optimal production systems**
- **Decarbonisation**, reduction of fossil fuels and CO2 pollution.
- New transformation processes use and applications recovering **fish wastes and residues**

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

- **New technologies** for local authorities to mitigate risks and offer products and services towards **CO2 emissions reduction**.

PORTS

- Development of **green ports**: reduction of **CO2 footprint**, **pollutants waste**, increase **energy efficiency** and development of new **circular economy approaches**
- New design of **ships and vessels** to be **more sustainable, safe, connected, autonomous energy sources** and in a circular economy perspective

MARINE RENEWABLE ENERGIES (MRE)

- Support in development of **MRE projects**
- Design and optimization of **devices of energy exploitation**
- New **Ocean Renewable Energy storage solutions**
- Environmental monitoring, ecosystem protection and biodiversity conservation through **robotics solutions** (...)

MAIN ACTIONS

Financing services to SMEs to tackle the challenges:

- **Open innovation**
- **Twin transformation**
- **Idea Generation**
- **Acceleration**
- **Consulting**
- **Training**
- **Internationalisation & matchmaking**

TARGET COUNTRIES

Direct impact

Italy
Portugal
France
Greece
Spain

Indirect impact

Tunisia
Algeria

IKAT PROJECT (COSME FUND)

BLUE ECONOMY AREAS

COASTAL AND MARITIME TOURISM SECTORS

- innovative solutions and products for water and energy saving for hotels, camping and/or touristic facilities
- Innovative solutions and products to guarantee water quality to coastal and insular facilities

MAIN ACTIONS

Financing services to SMEs to tackle the challenges:

- Open innovation
- Twin transformation
 - Ideation
 - Acceleration
 - Consulting
 - Training
- Internationalisation & matchmaking

TARGET COUNTRIES

Direct impact

Italy
Portugal
Greece
Spain

Indirect impact

Tunisia
Morocco
LATAM

MARMED PROJECT (ERASMUS+ FUND)

BLUE ECONOMY AREAS

BLUE & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Increase education and employment to reach and empower NEETs and young women by providing expendable skills in the labor market, with focus on blue & circular economy
- Develop increasing knowledge of maritime clusters manager to tackle issues related to blue economy sectors, with positive impacts on the bioeconomy

MAIN ACTIONS

- Gaps analysis of maritime clusters managers' skills
- Training of new maritime clusters manager

TARGET COUNTRIES

Direct impact

**Italy
Portugal
Greece
Malta**

**Indirect impact
Southern shore
countries**

THANK YOU

Write to: info@clusterbig.it