

Interreg
Mediterranean



PROGRAMME MANUAL

AXIS 4 PLATFORM PROJECT

Programme cofinancé par le Fonds Européen
de Développement Régional (FEDER)

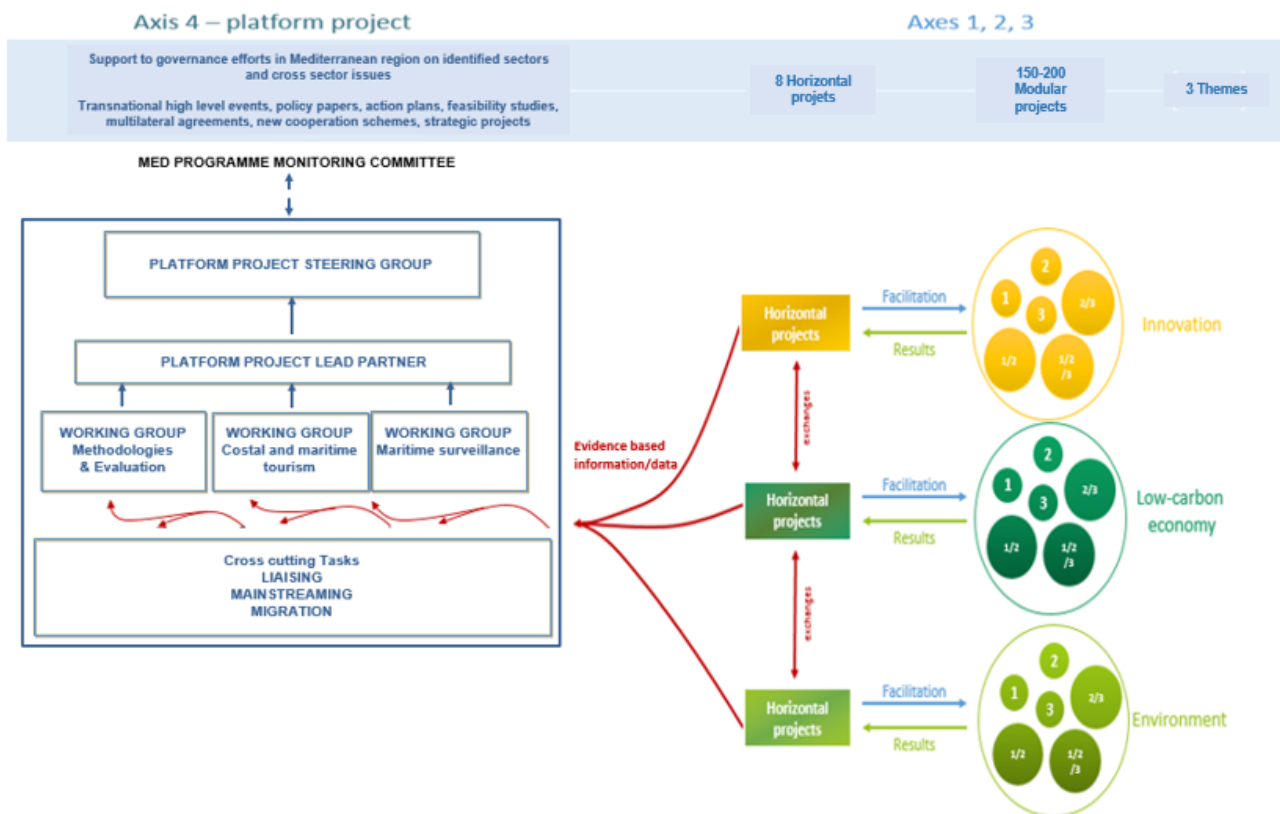
Programme cofinanced by the European Regional
Development Fund (ERDF)

MED Projects architecture

The Interreg MED architecture is composed of **three typologies** of projects:

- Modular projects
 - Horizontal projects
 - Platform project
- } In Axis 1, 2 and 3
- ⇒ In Axis 4

The Interreg MED Programme architecture, with its links between the different types of projects, can be represented with the following scheme:



Axis 4 Platform Project

In complement to the three thematic priorities – **innovation, energy and environment** - the 13 MED programme participating States have decided to integrate the programme architecture with a 4th cross-sector axis specifically supporting the **capacity of programme national and regional authorities to concretely contribute to the governance processes in the Mediterranean Region:** the Axis 4 – Enhancing Mediterranean Governance.

This will be achieved through a **specific platform project of national and regional authorities** that adopts and **evidence based approach** to support informed policy and decision making processes. The platform project will analyse the results produced by MED projects and by other Mediterranean programmes/initiatives/organisations, to provide a **scientific base to a sounder contribution to strategic policies and initiatives in the area on identified sectors and cross cutting issues.**

During an initial phase the results produced by the MED projects and by other Mediterranean programmes/initiatives, will be thematically clustered and analysed by **transnational thematic working groups**. The objective of this work is to identify relevant **policy, legislative, technical gaps and potential opportunities to be exploited.**

This kind of analysis will be used as evidence to support the definition of draft **policy approaches, strategic initiatives, multilateral agreements** that will be discussed in the framework of **thematic/cross-sectorial transnational high level events** that will be organized.

These events will involve Mediterranean authorities, principal stakeholders and other relevant actors. The main aim of these high level events is to **share and compare the outcomes of the thematic working groups to contribute to a better coordination on strategic initiatives for the Mediterranean area.**

The transnational thematic working groups will integrate in their work also the **liaising, mainstreaming and migration** as cross cutting tasks of the identified platform project themes. **Systematically liaising** with other programmes/projects and initiatives/networks active in the Mediterranean Region will allow larger collection of data evidence while supporting a permanent dialogue, sounder cooperation and an easier identification of **synergies and complementarities with the other ETC Programmes in the area.**

The **mainstreaming** exercise will support the transfer at national and regional level of innovative approaches on issues that necessarily go beyond national borders. In parallel it will **integrate the results produced by MED projects in the national/regional process** of efficient use of public funds. The cross cutting task **migration** will allow the national and regional authorities to identify elements to be included, potentially, in new MED programme calls.

In addition to the described aspects, the added value of such a pioneer operation lies in the possibility of the Programme States and Regions to **actively participate and contribute, with a long time and strategic perspective, to the dynamics in the Mediterranean basin beyond the Programme MED.**

For instance, the **EU macro regional strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian (EUSAIR)**, the process initiated by DG MARE for the **WEST MED Maritime initiative** for the Western Mediterranean, the **Mediterranean strategy on sustainable development of the UNEP/MAP**, the **Blue economy forum** of the Union for the Mediterranean, the **BLUEMED initiative**, and others.

This result oriented approach, that enhances also coordination and complementarity between ETC objectives and Investment for Growth and Jobs goals, is in line with EU Regulations and it is **backed by the European Commission.**

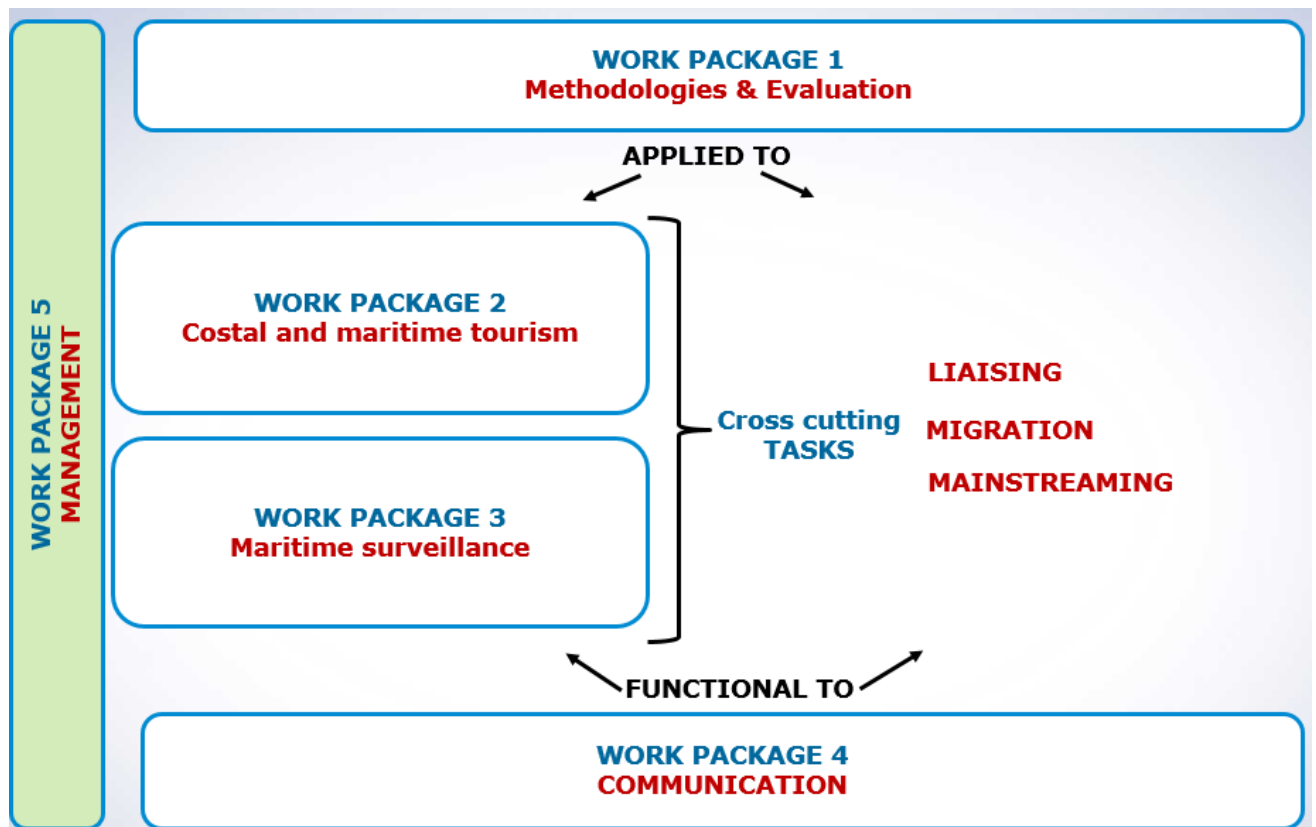
The Axis 4 platform project is a "**top-down**" initiative of MED Programme participating countries. The project contributes to **governance processes** in the Mediterranean with reference to **strategic themes**. The project adopts an **evidence based approach**

Through a **rich top down process** started in late 2014 the Programme participating States have identified the initial **strategic themes** of the Axis 4 platform project - being **coastal and maritime tourism and maritime surveillance**, the partnership – composed on ministerial and regional authorities, as well as the main elements of the project work plan.

Additional strategic themes might be identified in the course of project implementation.

The project will kick off its activities in the first semester 2017 and it will develop its actions during the 5 years of project duration.

The following figure summarizes the Axis 4 platform project architecture



This section will be developed further after final validation of the Axis 4 platform project by the MED Programme Monitoring Committee.