

## PRESS RELEASE

## **Blue Research and Innovation Days**

19-23 April 2021 | Online Event

## **#BlueRIDays**

"Athena" Research Center proudly presents **Blue Research and Innovation Days,** a new initiative aiming to bring European and National Projects working on Blue Economy together, for the first time. The **online event** will take place on **19-23 April 2021** and will provide a platform for Blue Economy innovators from academia and industry to present ongoing cutting-edge projects and pursue modern technological solutions through a hackathon, whilst promoting synergies to shape ambitious future activities to support Blue Economy.

The event will give the opportunity to the participating projects to present their objectives, current results and services, with a special focus on **Open and Big Data research**, along with relevant business cases, encouraging the participants to investigate common approaches to specific problems, and explore complementarities, synergy perspectives and future collaborations. A specially designed **hackathon** at the end of the week will integrate challenges from three specific projects, to provide the participants with access to real world scenarios, business cases and open issues, in an effort to promote the design and development of new approaches and novel solutions related to various Blue Economy aspects.

Blue Research and Innovation Days will feature **8 European Projects** (Blue-Cloud, Cos4Cloud, EuroSea, NFORE, MASTER, NEANIAS, RAMONES, VesselAI) and **2 National Projects** (i4Sea, Virtual Diver), with workshops aiming to appeal to a diverse international audience of Blue Economy enthusiasts, including researchers, Industry and SMEs representatives, scientists, students, start-up owners active in aquaculture, fisheries, marine, ocean, underwater, socioeconomics and ICT sector.

The project workshops and presentations will be followed by a **2-day hackathon (21 -23 April)** on modern technological solutions on Blue Economy, steered towards students, (Bachelors, MSc, PhD levels), early career researchers, SMEs, scientists and experts from start-ups. The hackathon is co-organised by the NEANIAS, I4Sea and INFORE projects, and participants will be invited to join forces to address challenges related to Machine Learning techniques and prediction models in marine traffic, detection models in vessels of similar characteristics, interaction tools for Blue Economy resources and potential business models in energy sector, by utilising relevant real-life datasets kindly provided by the participating projects.

Join us for an exciting Blue Economy week, full of vibrant discussions and stimulating challenges!

For more information and detailed program of Blue Research and Innovation Days, please visit the event website: https://blueinnovation2021.athenarc.gr

