



## **BCThubs: Blue Culture Technology Excellence Hubs in EU Widening Member States**

Project Data: Call: WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-04-01: "Excellence Hubs" Duration: 1/1/2023 – 31/12/2026 Budget: 4.997.562 € Partners & Countries involved: 15 partners from Greece, Malta, Bulgaria and Italy

**BCThubs** will establish in Greece, Bulgaria and Malta, Blue Culture Technology Excellence Hubs, as permanent structures supporting with new innovative solutions and products, the sustainable protection, restoration, valorisation, management, accessibility and promotion of Underwater Cultural Heritage (UWCH). Although the new Hubs will be scoped regionally, they will be interconnected and oriented towards national & international synergies pursuing cross-border collaborations on common strategic goals and alongside value adding chains.



Each Excellence Hub will bring together all regional/national actors related to Blue Culture and UWCH. including research/academia, businesses, public sector, and societal actors, which will mutually reinforce their capacities and effectiveness, towards raising innovation excellence sustainable Blue in Economy/Culture in respective regions.



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## The Excellence Hubs will:

(a) provide access to excellence for R&I actors (e.g. trend watching, technology scouting & uptaking support, value-chain reinforcement);
(b) support knowledge transfer (e.g. training, secondments) and enable the development of entrepreneurial skills (e.g. new competencies and skills for researchers, entrepreneurs and professionals in Blue Culture R&I, business opportunities for SMEs);
(c) develop a joint R&I Strategy, coupled with an Investment Strategy to ensure the durability of the Hubs and their long-lasting impact;
(d) implement specific R&I prototype solutions, critical for UWCH in the Hub's regions; and plan for future pilots and demonstrations;
(e) offer a paradigm of new European strategic value chain in the domain of Blue Culture Technologies (BCT) within the Blue Economy.

## For more, pls. visit our website: <u>https://bcthubs.eu/</u>





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