

#### The 5+5 Dialogue

# FOURTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION

#### ROME, JUNE 10, 2019

Strengthening cooperation in research, innovation and higher education for promoting sustainable economic growth, social inclusion and creating new opportunities for youth in the Western Mediterranean Region

#### ROME MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

The Ministers in charge of Research, Innovation and Higher Education of the 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries of the Western Mediterranean Forum met on the occasion of the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Research, Innovation and Higher Education in Rome on June 10, 2019 in presence of the European Commission (EC), the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA) and the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM).

**Acknowledging** the recommendations of the previous conferences of Ministers of Research, Innovation and Higher Education of 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries: Rabat 2013, Madrid 2015 and Tunis 2017;

**Being aware** of the challenges and opportunities facing the 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries and convinced of the importance of strengthening cooperation in research, innovation and higher education for promoting economic growth, increase employability, social inclusion and creating new opportunities for youth in the Western Mediterranean Region in line with the main objectives of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Underlining** the importance of research, innovation and higher education for addressing challenges such as unemployment, economic underdevelopment, climate change, environmental degradation, shortage of natural resources, water, food and energy nexus, gender equality and displacement of population and migration;

**Taking into account** the importance of the mobility of students, teachers and researchers to reinforce the cooperation in the Western Mediterranean Region;

**Taking note of** the contributions of the Member Countries, the European Commission, the Arab Maghreb Union and the Union for the Mediterranean;

**Emphasizing** the common determination to strengthen collaboration for harnessing the potential of youth and reinforcing the access to higher education as fundamental to the development and prosperity of the Mediterranean region;

#### **REAFFIRM**

The consensus that all 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries maintain regular contacts and networks through the **Group of Senior Officials (GSO)** and ensure the implementation of the agreed conclusions, monitoring and evaluation of launched initiatives through leveraging synergies between different actors for promoting economic growth, social inclusion, circular mobility for students and researchers aiming at creating new opportunities for youth in the Western Mediterranean Region;

#### RECALL

The agreement during the First, the Second and the Third Ministerial Conference of the 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries on Research, Innovation and Higher Education held in Rabat (September 2013); Madrid (March 2015) and Tunis (March 2017) to organize the Fourth Ministerial Conference in June 2019 in Rome and to pursue the cooperation within the Western Mediterranean countries;

#### **WELCOME**

The existing complementary and forthcoming initiatives and programmes within the Mediterranean Region;

#### REITERATE

Support to the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area - PRIMA implementation, the BLUEMED initiative for growth and jobs in the Mediterranean and its Strategic Agenda for Research and Innovation Agenda - SRIA, and the WestMED Initiative, among others;

#### **ACKNOWLEDGE**

Initiatives of the European Commission mechanisms and financial schemes such as the European Neighbourhood Instrument Cross Border Cooperation – ENI CBC MED and the Mediterranean Interreg Programme; ERASMUS+; The European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST); Horizon 2020, among others;

#### **RECOGNISE**

The need to facilitate the setup of collaborative Western Mediterranean networks in view of the last round of EC Horizon 2020 calls for proposals and to build capacities for enhanced Western Mediterranean collaboration under Horizon Europe, the 2021-2027 EC framework programme for research and innovation;

#### **EXPRESS**

Political support to the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) labelled projects and initiatives on research, innovation, higher education, advanced training and capacity building;

#### **AGREE**

To implement the annex Work Plan prepared by the Group of Senior Officials during the preparatory meetings with the aim to strengthen cooperation in research, innovation and higher education for promoting economic growth, social inclusion and creating new opportunities for youth and attracting talent in the Western Mediterranean Region.

**The Ministers** congratulate Italy for the work accomplished during its presidency of the 5+5 Dialogue and congratulate Tunisia for its role as co-president.

**The Ministers** express their deep appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Italy for the warm welcome and hospitality and all arrangements that contributed to the success of this Conference.

**The Ministers** welcomed with pleasure the request by Mauritania to host the **Fifth Conference of Ministers** in charge of Research, Innovation and Higher Education in the 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries (Western Mediterranean Forum) that will be held in 2021 in **Nouakchott** chaired by Mauritania (new president) and co-chaired by Italy (former president).

#### **Signatures:**

Algeria	France
Tayeb BOUZID	Denis DESPRÉAUX
Minister of Higher Education and	
Scientific Research	Affairs, Ministry for Higher Education,
Italy	Research and Innovation Libya
Marco BUSSETTI	Faisal A. Mohamed ELABDLI
Minister for Education, Universities and Research	Director General, Authority of Natural Science Research and Technology
Malta	Mauritania Technology
C.I. CCHEMBDI	G. F. G. I. M. I. LELADO
Silvio SCHEMBRI   Parliamentary Secretary for Financial	Sidi Salem Mohamed EL ABD Minister for Higher Education and
Services, Digital Economy & Innovation	Scientific Research
Morocco	Portugal
Saaïd AMZAZI	Manuel HEITOR
Minister of National Education,	Minister for Science, Technology and
Vocational Training, Higher Education	Higher Education
and Scientific Research  Spain	Tunisia
	au
Pedro DUQUE   Minister of Science, Innovation and	Slim KHALBOUS   Minister of Higher Education and
Universities Innovation and	Scientific Research

This declaration is originally written in English and French. In case of discrepancies in interpretation the English version will prevail.

#### **Annex**

#### WORK PLAN 2019-2020

# FOURTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION

**ROME, JUNE 10, 2019** 

Strengthening cooperation in research, innovation and higher education for promoting sustainable economic growth, social inclusion and creating new opportunities for youth in the Western Mediterranean Region

#### **WORKPLAN 2019 – 2020**

#### Rationale

As a Trans-Mediterranean initiative in the Western Mediterranean, the "raison d'être" of the 5+5 Dialogue is to ensure closer cooperation between the five EU Member states and the five Arab Maghreb countries through political dialogue and cooperation and by encouraging more effective resource management as a means of strengthening interdependence and regional development.

To stimulate growth and employment, the 5+5 Dialogue countries should deploy more efforts to promote entrepreneurship, a powerful engine of shared prosperity. In fact, the creation and growth of enterprises promotes employment and development of new skills, reinforces innovation and increases market potentials.

Many countries are engaged in processes of reforming their political, economic and social systems to stimulate investment, to encourage initiatives and to foster strong economic partnerships that are essential throughout the Western Mediterranean region.

The 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries need to revitalize their economies to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for the purpose of developing disadvantaged regions and enhancing job creation in line with international labour market standards. Research, innovation and higher education play a key role in job creation. There is a need for a framework of cooperation and synergies among the ten countries. Confronted with several challenges, the 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries are invited to deepen their partnership to further stimulate economic growth and social stability.

The Work Plan calls for cooperation amongst all involved stakeholders in the fields related to research, innovation and higher education for promoting economic growth, social inclusion and creating new opportunities for youth in the Western Mediterranean Region by ensuring the necessary economic and human resources needed to implement them.

The main objectives of the Work Programme 2019-2020 are:

- 1. Strengthen partnership and scientific and technological cooperation among Member Countries of the 5+5 Dialogue;
- 2. Consolidate the actions identified in the previous Work Plan and its reorientation or merging when needed;
- 3. Improve scientific and technological cooperation, promote creating new opportunities and the quality of higher education with particular interest on youth involvement;
- 4. Develop activities in the 5+5 Dialogue priority research areas and higher education sectors with additional actions.

These objectives are structured into specific actions that are detailed in the following sections, considered the main three pillars of the 5+5 Dialogue Action Plan.

#### **NETWORKING**

#### A1. Networking and fundraising

The 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries encourage and support the links between the training and research centres of the Northern and Southern shores of the Western Mediterranean. The partner-countries hereby promote the role of Science and Research Diplomacy in strengthening international scientific cooperation as a mean to improve relations and partnerships.

A1.1. SUPPORTING WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP, CONSORTIUM AND INITIATIVES THROUGH EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FUNDING RELATED TO RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Lead country: Italy, Algeria Partnering countries: All

- Promoting, supporting, sharing funding programmes across 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries, aiming at applying to available financial schemes;
- Strengthen Western Mediterranean higher education institutes and research centres networks through specific networking instruments;
- Integrate and lead specific initiatives in the Western Mediterranean for the benefit of the 5+5 Dialogue;
- Host, manage and develop the official 5+5 Dialogue website www.fiveplusfiverihe.org

The objective of this instrument is to encourage researchers of the 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries to develop North-South networks dedicated to the public and private research through the formation of panels of experts on skills and disciplines defined according to the theme. These networks will address priority issues with anticipated scientific, technological and societal impact.

This instrument enables researchers from both shores of the Mediterranean to formulate European collaborative research projects and submit them successfully. Such instrument aims to strengthen academic and innovative leadership, facilitating researchers' access to European funding schemes, namely H2020, ERASMUS+, EASME and COST, as well as the participation in international programs of higher magnitude and multilateral initiatives involving countries of the Western Mediterranean Region.

In addition, it is essential to seek for financial support to organize specific meetings and workshops dedicated to the design and formulation of project proposals and the development of research strategies. This is to increase the success of submitted projects in terms of planning, resources and indicators. These meetings and workshops will enable the attraction of new partners to reinforce partnership.

This action is supported by the UfM Secretariat.

#### A1.2. SET UP A NETWORK OF NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS

Lead country: Morocco, Malta Partnering countries: All

The aim of this network is to encourage researchers from Dialogue 5+5 Member Countries to participate in European and international calls for projects (Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe, PRIMA Program, ERASMUS +, COST, etc...). This network would help and facilitate interaction and cooperation between researchers in these countries for the preparation and submission of proposals in framework of these calls.

#### Implementation of the action

- Identification by this network a call for projects on themes of common interest between Dialogue 5+5 Member Countries (water, energy, environment, food, agriculture, health, human and social sciences, etc.) as well as calls for projects relating to the mobility of researchers and doctoral students (Marie Sklodowska-Curie actions, Erasmus + Staff Mobility, etc.);
- Dissemination by each national contact point of these calls for projects to researchers interested in his country;
- Identification by each national contact point of the research teams interested by these calls in order to build the consortium for the drafting and submission of proposals. Brokerage events could be organized between researchers interested in preparation and submission of proposals.

#### Expected results

- Increase the number of projects funded under European and international calls for projects;
- Increasing contacts between research communities on both sides of the Mediterranean, promoting the development of networks;
- Establishment of thematic networks between researchers.

#### RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

#### A2. CREATING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

Lead: Spain, Algeria Partnering countries: All

The Dialogue 5+5 Member Countries have agreed on opening new opportunities for youth people, researchers, technicians, etc., in relation to technology entrepreneurship, in close alignment with the general objective of the 4th Ministerial Conference.

From this perspective, the pre-existent Action A2 has been reoriented to address the following action lines:

- To assess the ongoing activities on entrepreneurship in the region, with specific emphasis on youth entrepreneurs;
- To provide support for training higher education students on entrepreneurship related concepts in higher education curricula;
- To train teachers on mechanisms to promote entrepreneurial mentality in students;
- To promote entrepreneurship programs in higher education establishments in the region;
- To discuss, assess and recommend on the adequate policy measures to support institutions in entrepreneurship activities.

The implementation of this action will be based upon a set of specific events with the participation of relevant stakeholders of participating countries in this Action as a useful mechanism of mutual learning. More specifically, the intention is to organise two workshops: the first one at the end of 2019 and the second one mid-2020 to generate a report and a set of recommendations to be submitted for endorsement at the 5th Ministerial Conference

This action may also benefit and benefit from the work done under the Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs (Med4Jobs) Initiative promoted by the Union for the Mediterranean.

### A3. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND IMPROVING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

Lead: Tunisia, Spain Partnering countries: All

The primary purpose of this programme is to strengthen the intellectual property management capacity at national and international level, and to promote intellectual property culture in "5+5 Dialogue countries". Through this program, the specific objectives are:

- Promoting good practices in intellectual property management;
- Stimulating a culture of protection technologies, inventions and innovations in research structures;
- Providing researchers, inventors and innovators on the protection mechanisms, and developing their reflex to protect their works;
- Disseminate the intellectual property culture among socio-economic actors.

The programme comprises four closely related stands:

- Training activities on the procedures of national and international invention protection for structures in charge of scientific research, innovation and intellectual property (administrative executives and researchers) in Tunisia, Spain and the other interested "5+5 Dialogue countries";
- Actions for supporting and involving researchers at every stage of the intellectual property valorisation process in Tunisia, Spain and the other interested "5+5 Dialogue countries";

- Establish an international committee for monitoring and evaluation of the intellectual property generated in public research activities;
- Sharing good practices in the matter of the establishment of intellectual property agreements between academic institutions and industrials (companies and private investors).

A workshop involving the co-leaders has been organized on July 2018 in Spain to establish a document containing a preliminary analysis of the situation on TT/KT and a proposition of a set of recommendations with the aim of serving as a basis for institutions and governments in the region. The intention is to move from problems to recommendations taking into account the specificities of each country or region, and then move to actions. The following actions may start:

- Nominate training modules (face to face or e-learning) in order to insure cascade training;
- Organize a workshop of all Member Countries to present regulatory laws of IP and extract to most common critical points;
- Train brokers for the Member Countries in charge of IP valorisation negotiations with industrials;
- Harmonize licensing practices between Member Countries.

## A4. DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF OPEN INNOVATION AND SMART SPECIALIZATION STRATEGIES IN THE DIALOGUE 5+5 MEMBER COUNTRIES

Lead country: Tunisia Partnering countries: All

The Regional Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialization (RIS3) is an initiative of the European commission that sets priorities at national and regional levels. It is an innovative approach aimed at stimulating economic growth and jobs and awards regions the identification and development of their competitive advantages.

Through its partnership approach - based on demand - smart specialization mobilizes local authorities, academia actors, the economic sphere and civil society to work together for the development and implementation of long-term regional development strategies.

The 5+5 countries are aware of the necessity to adopt this model of development to face social and economic challenges. Some of them already have made significant steps in this respect.

In this context, and as agreed in the previous work programme, the Tunisian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research through the National Agency for Scientific Research Promotion (ANPR) took in charge the implementation of the A4.

As part of this action, the leading country will continue to work on ongoing activities for:

- Establishment of common platforms for open innovation and social innovation to exchange the experiences of the different partner countries
- Continuing the awareness and dissemination program of different partners
- Setting up pilot projects on open innovation strategies.

- Creating an Innovation and Research Institute like the EIT (European Institute of Innovation and Technology) with the aim of becoming a facilitator of innovation in the 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries.

In addition, new actions will be scheduled:

- Organization of training activities on research and innovation strategies for intelligent specialization and open innovation.
- Establishment of a Network to sustain the 5+5 countries partnerships around Smart specialisation and open innovation.
- Following up pilot projects already launched on smart specialisation
- Elaboration of a guideline of good practices which sets out the concept and provides orientations on how to develop research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation in order to contribute to the achievement of UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## A5. STRENGTHENING THE INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF RESEARCH STRUCTURE

Lead country: Portugal, Morocco

Partnering countries: All

This action intends to strengthen the capacity of research structures from 5+5 Member Countries, by stimulating the discussion of qualitative and innovative aspects on effective management and institutional capabilities.

Initiatives within this Action will cover, among others:

- Creation of thematic clusters of research structures, also including innovation and knowledge transfer units on D5+5 website;
- Collection of accurate information on opportunities for young post-graduated and post-doc on research structures and for qualified employment
- Creation of two virtual thematic hubs/clusters of research structures, also including innovation and knowledge transfer units targeting the domain of PRIMA and BlueMed

#### Description of the work

In continuation with the previous work plan of action A5 and its achievements, a study will be conducted in order to understand the ecosystem between research structures with the private sector and opportunities available for job creation of young post-graduated and post-doc.

Task 5.1 Creation of an online thematic cluster of Research Structures within Dialogue 5+5

Based upon the results of previous actions A5, research structures from Dialogue 5+5 emerged in different thematic areas. Within this task a list, description and contacts of research structures by scientific and technological domain, also including innovation and knowledge transfer units, will be provided on Dialogue 5+5 website to the research community in order to strengthen the cooperation within 5+5 Dialogue countries.

Task 5.2 Collection of accurate information on opportunities on young post-graduated and post-doc on research structures

Based upon the results of previous action A5 a new online survey will be conducted to the research structures, also including innovation and knowledge transfer units, in order to map the opportunities for young post-graduated and post-doc on those research structures on several jobs and services. The opportunities for qualified employment in the private sector will also be addressed.

Task 5.3 Creation of two virtual thematic hubs/clusters of research structures targeting the domain of PRIMA and BlueMed within dialogue 5+5

Based upon 5.1 two thematic clusters on research structures, also including innovation and knowledge transfer units, with collaboration with private sector will be established in order to support the two Euro-Mediterranean initiatives: PRIMA and BlueMed, which targets innovative solutions contributing to sustainable use of natural resources and the creation of new 'blue' jobs on the marine and maritime sector, important for the economic growth and stability in the Euro-Med region.

Webinars will be organised with the persons responsible for the research structures in order to network each hub/cluster, connecting and knowledge sharing on the research structures and synergies for a better research impact involving young researchers.

#### **HIGHER EDUCATION – YOUTH**

## A6. CREATION OF A NETWORK OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THE 5+5 DIALOGUE

Lead country: Portugal, Tunisia

Partnering countries: All

This action intends to strengthen the network of Higher Education Institution within Dialogue 5+5 Member Countries, by stimulating the discussion of qualitative and innovative aspects on effective management and institutional capabilities.

Initiatives within this Action will cover, among others:

Task 6.1 Creation of an online thematic cluster of HEIs within Dialogue 5+5

Based upon the knowledge gathered on the mapping the HEIs and Its Research Centres, previous A6 action, a list of HEIs and/or of their formation programmes at all levels could be clustered by scientific domains in Dialogue 5+5 countries and available on Dialogue 5+5 website. This action will allow the HEIs to strengthen new cooperation/collaboration in order to answer to global challenges and to develop joint HE actions. Opportunities for joint PhD programmes, with

joint supervision and across countries research work will be searched together with potential funding mechanisms.

A special effort will be added in order to specific thematic network of HEIs and of Research Centres, also including innovation and knowledge transfer units on the thematic of PRIMA and BlueMed.

Task 6.2 Collection of accurate HEIs information on actions to support students beyond their academic cycle

During the current work programme, a new approach to the HEIs through a survey will be conducted in order to get information from the HEIs on the actions to support students, end year and newly graduated, in their learning enrichment and transition from school to the workforce and integration to its students beyond their academic cycle, namely in the workforce integration of its own graduates. A report on good practices will be produced based upon the survey.

This action is supported by the UfM Secretariat.

#### A7. BLENDED LEARNING FOR INCREASING YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Lead country: Spain, Morocco Partnering countries: all

Blended learning refers to a wise combination of face to face and on-line education models trying to capture the best of the two worlds. The development and used of blended learning models for technological areas where technology evolution is very fast, has expanded in the last decade.

This process is driven by the wide availability of faster and cheaper fixed and mobile networks, the use of smartphones by higher percentages of students' population, and the diffusion of specific digital applications and platforms for education services. The combination of these factors is playing a prominent role in education innovation.

Blended learning also addresses some barriers found today to offer face-to-face specialized technical courses for students located in remote areas where the access to labs is a hard requirement. The concentration of face-to-face activities in some locations and periods of time where teachers were available, and higher flexibility to accommodate individual constraints combined with costs reduction in curricula implementation made attractive this approach.

Current efforts in the EIT DIGITAL KIC of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology and ERASMUS+ reflect the interest in the EU context that will be even higher in the next period 2021-2027.

The Action will have the following objectives:

- To increase the use of blended learning approaches in the Western Mediterranean region.
- To share experiences, educational material and IT support among some higher education institutions and ministries in the region.
- To extract a set of practical recommendations.

Based on the above-mentioned objectives, the Action will be implemented through a set of workshops to understand current efforts, drivers and barriers, and opportunities for youth, the development of short pilot courses by sharing on-line modules and teachers in specific domains, and a final workshop to agree on recommendations for the future.

#### A8. QUALITY ASSURANCE, GOVERNANCE AND ACCREDITATION

Lead: France, Mauritania Participating countries: all

The aim of this action is to draw the state of the art of Quality assurance in Higher education and research as well as the way of organizing the Governance of HE&R institutions and Accreditation processes followed in each 5+5 countries.

The objective of the action is the setup of network of QA agencies allowing a benchmark on the issues of QA Governance and Accreditation processes followed by each 5+5 countries.

It must also identify results gained from passed projects dedicated to these issues where each 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries is involved in the past (Tempus, Erasmus, Twinning instruments...) and future calls for projects relating to the Quality assurance and Governance funded by the EU. The action will also identify results gained from bilateral cooperation between national QA agencies and ministries and any future plans of cooperation at the national level.

The proposed format is to improve the network of correspondents existing already on QA Governance and Accreditation; setup regular exchanges between the participants with the objective of building a future report on QA, Governance and Accreditation that could be presented during a seminar gathering all 5+5 countries.

Participants should be made up of Directors in charge of Quality assurance agencies if any (or any entity acting as QA agency) and delegates of the HE&R ministries in charge of implementation of QA and Governance scheme in a dedicated country. Each 5+5 country is entitled as well to nominate a delegate coming from a Higher Education and research entity where QA and Governance plans have been implemented with aim of sharing good practices that could be extended to other entities in neighboring countries.

The expected outcomes are the following ones:

- Increased exchange of knowledge between agencies in charge QA as well as ministries on both sides of the Mediterranean with the aim of creating a network;
- Promote common tools of evaluation of HE&R institutions; Guidelines for Governance.
- Identification of case studies in each country involved in the action on implementation of Quality assurance, Governance;
- Identification of experts on QA and Governance;
- Facilitate the mutual recognition of diplomas between the 5+5 countries based on common evaluation references;
- Improve mobility of researchers and student at the regional level and between the countries beyond the Mediterranean basin.

### A9. BUILDING CAPACITIES AND DEVELOPING SKILLS ON BLUE ECONOMY

Lead country: Italy Partnering countries: All

Italy supports the initiative on enhancing capacities and developing skills in sustainable blue growth. The action aims at promoting socio-economic development and creation of blue jobs in Member Countries of the 5+5 Dialogue and the entire Mediterranean Region.

#### The initiative is focused on:

- Advanced Master Programme on Sustainable Blue growth (2<sup>nd</sup> Level) (English language) Yearly edition;
- Summer School on Sustainable Blue Economy in the Euro-Mediterranean Region;
- Research Mobility: multi-lateral scholarships for researchers and talents, mainly for PhD and Post-Doc researchers;
- Professional Traineeship: multi-lateral scholarships available for students and/or researchers hosted by partner countries (Training and Research in Partner's Labs);
- Specific Workshops (Organization of minimum one thematic workshop on one main issue identified), Conferences (Organization of minimum one event per year related to blue topics; general outreach);
- Further contributions in particular for awareness and divulgation besides publications;
- Online Portal Management: content creation on the official portal www.bluegrowth.inogs.it

The advanced master for Sustainable Blue Growth is jointly organized with the University of Trieste and provides 60 European Credit (ECTS).

Specific fellowship programme is available for young researchers from the Southern shore countries of the 5+5 Dialogue in joint collaboration with the ICTP (UNESCO International Centre for Theoretical Physics) and OGS (National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics) within the framework of the TRIL (Training and Research in Italian Labs) fellowship programme.

Moreover, fellowship programme available for young researchers from the Southern shore countries for a PhD programme in "Science and Management of Climate Change" jointly organized by Ca' Foscari University of Venice in collaboration with the Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change (CMCC) and OGS. A PhD fellowship programme in "Earth Science, Fluid Dynamics and Mathematics" is also available for young researchers from the Southern shore countries of the Mediterranean in collaboration with the University of Trieste and OGS.

These actions are fully supported by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) and implemented by the Italian National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics (OGS).

Every 5+5 Dialogue Member Countries will guarantee every year one to two scholarships for national students attending the Summer School.

This action is endorsed by the UfM through the label awarded on March 2019 to the project "BlueSkills: Blue Jobs and Responsible Growth in the Mediterranean throughout Enhancing Skills and Developing Capacities". A project financially supported by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) and implemented by the National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics (OGS).