



## PRESS RELEASE

### **NUNZIANTE: BLUE ECONOMY IS A DEVELOPMENT KEY FACTOR IN APULIA**

***During the event hosted by Apulia Region within Blue\_Boost European project, forty representatives of SMEs, business support organizations and academia coming from the Adriatic - Ionian region visited innovative Apulian success cases in aquaculture sector***

A success case in circular economy dealing with sea aquaculture, an experimental aquaculture laboratory and a startup for selling fishes directly from the fishing vessel through social media. They are some experiences met by forty foreign participants to the cross-fields visits hosted on July 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> by **Apulia Region** and **ARTI** - Regional Agency for Technology and Innovation within the European Blue\_Boost project.

Blue economy is an increasingly growing sector also in Apulia: during the visits of the delegation coming from the Adriatic-Ionian region, the vice president of Apulia Region Antonio **Nunziante**, highlighted the importance of innovative activities that are developing in this area.

Apulia Region, partner of the Blue\_Boost project, and ARTI organized a meeting in Giovinazzo (BA), where seven partners from four Countries (Italy, Greece, Albania and Croatia) met to discuss about the implementation of the project, which aims at boosting the innovation potential of traditional and emerging Blue Growth sectors in the Adriatic-Ionian region.

The initiative has been devoted also to the storytelling of innovative experiences, such as the one of the startup **Fish All Days**, and to the cross-fields visits to innovative companies in the aquaculture sector, addressed at foreign representatives of SMEs, research and BSO selected by the project partners. On July 17<sup>th</sup> in Manfredonia (FG), the delegation of the Adriatic-Ionian region visited the premises of Gargano Pesca Consortium and some of its companies, **Tortuga** and **Algesiro**, which deal with sustainable sea aquaculture, sea breeding of breams, sea bass, oysters and clams, production of phytoplankton and reuse of by-products for production of plastic materials, cosmetics and products for agriculture and animal husbandry, in the perspective of a circular economy.

On 18<sup>th</sup> July the participants to the cross-field visits visited the operational headquarter of COISPA in Torre a Mare (BA) and its Experimental Aquaculture Laboratory dealing with the progress of sustainable aquaculture models, organic aquaculture and the conservation of aquatic organisms at risk.

The goal of the visits is to provide “in loco understanding” experiences and to promote transnational networking inspiring solutions and new concepts of transboundary and cross-sectoral fertilization, bench learning and best practices sharing.

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