

INNOVABLUE ADRION: Shaping the Future of Blue Innovation in Skopje

PoC workshop, 1st Hackathon and Blue Adrion Fund ideation workshop

Date: 30th June – 2nd July 2026

Place: Skopje, N. Macedonia

Venue: INNOFEIT, Rugjer Boškovič 18, Skopje

About the event

The INNOVABLUE PoC Workshop, 1st Hackathon, and Blue Adrion Fund Ideation Workshop is a three-day international event taking place in Skopje, N. Macedonia, bringing together project partners, researchers, startups, students, industry representatives, innovation experts, and public institutions from across the ADRION region.

Conceived as a collaborative and interdisciplinary platform, the event aims to strengthen innovation capacity, technology transfer and cross-border cooperation in the areas of sustainable blue economy and blue technologies. Through a dynamic programme combining educational sessions, hands-on workshops, hackathon activities, and networking opportunities, participants will exchange knowledge, co-develop innovative ideas and prototypes, and explore new avenues for collaboration, commercialization, and investment.

The programme features the Blue Adrion Fund Ideation Workshop, including expert-led discussions on the regulatory and legal frameworks required for establishing the Blue Adrion Fund, as well as ideation sessions focused on developing and proposing two potential business models for its future operation. In parallel, participants will engage in Proof of Concept (PoC) development workshops and a transnational hackathon dedicated to addressing real-world challenges through collaborative teamwork, mentoring, prototyping, testing, and pitching.

The event will conclude with strategic recommendations and next steps toward the establishment of the Blue Adrion Fund, alongside final PoC presentations that will connect innovators, startups, researchers, industry stakeholders, and potential investors. By fostering dialogue and cooperation among key actors, the event aims to create lasting partnerships, stimulate future projects, and support investment in innovative blue economy solutions.

Agenda

DAY 1 – Setting the scene	
9:30 - 10:00	Registration of the participants
PoC Workshop	
10:00 - 12:00	3 PoC development
12:00 - 13:30	Break
Blue Adrion Fund Ideation Workshop	
13:30 - 14:00	“Mapping blue innovation opportunities in the ADRION region: Key findings”
14:00 - 14:10	Break
14:10 - 15:15	“Panel discussion on regulatory and legal confines for future Blue Adrion Fund”
15:15 - 15:30	“Summary of day 1”
Hackathon	
15:15 - 18:00	<p>Team alignment and solution refinement</p> <p>15:15 - 15:45 Team onboarding and integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> teams present their initial idea (1 min per team) <p>15:45 - 17:05 Solution refinement sprint ¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> clarify problem and users define value proposition identify key assumptions <p>17:05-17:15 Break</p> <p>17:15 - 18:00 Team checkpoint ¹</p> <p>Each team defines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What problem are we solving? What is our solution? What needs to be validated tomorrow?
DAY 2 – Conceptual design	
Blue Adrion Fund Ideation Workshop	

09:00 - 09:45	“A regional fund for blue innovations: Why and How?”
09:45 - 9:50	Break
9:50 - 10:35	“Finding the best business model for a Blue Adrion Fund”
10:35 - 10:45	Break
Hackathon	
10:45 - 17:20	<p>Prototyping and validation</p> <p>11:00 - 13:00 Prototype development (sprint 1)²</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build or refine prototype • define technical and business logic <p>13:00 - 14:00 Break</p> <p>14:00 - 15:30 Testing and iteration (sprint 2)²</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • validate assumptions • improve solution • work with mentors <p>15:30 - 15:30 Break</p> <p>15:40 - 17:00 Refinement and pitch preparation¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthen value proposition • prepare mid-review <p>17:30 - 18:30 Mid-review presentations (3 min per team)¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • problem • solution • progress • key challenge
DAY 3 – Business models	
Blue Adrion Fund Ideation Workshop	



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09:00 - 9:45	“Visioning exercise: Identifying strategic goals for the Blue Adrion Fund”
9:45 - 9:50	Break
9:50 – 10:35	“Proposing 2 business models for the future Blue Adrion Fund”
10:35 - 10:45	Break
Hackathon	
10:45 - 12:30	Final pitch session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5-7 min per team• Jury evaluation• 3 PoC presentation
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch