



Advanced Specialized Course in **Sustainable Development of Coastal Communities** 6 May – 12 July 2024

CIHEAM Bari is launching the fifth edition of the high-level Advanced Specialized Course funded by the Italian Cooperation on Sustainable Development of Coastal Communities.

Objectives

The fifth edition of the course aims to provide trainees with an integrated approach and innovative tools for designing, managing, and implementing strategic actions fostering the best sustainable interactivity among all development drivers within coastal communities.

The training programme is meticulously designed to transfer knowledge on opportunities and challenges associated with the Blue Economy through a cross-sectorial approach.

The course will explore the interconnectedness of different sectors and activities within coastal communities through a blend of theoretical knowledge and hands-on experiences at the CIHEAM Bari campus, building on various cooperation programs and activities and creating a comprehensive learning experience.

Furthermore, the programme aims at building institutional networks and enhancing regional cooperation across Mediterranean and African Countries by fostering policy development and multi-sectorial synergies for the sustainable development of smart and resilient coastal communities.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, participants will:

- Foster an interdisciplinary and integrated approach to address economic, social, and environmental issues in the context of coastal development.
- Strengthen trainees' capacities in the design, management, and implementation of integrated and smart policies and strategies for territorial planning.
- Develop skills necessary for empowering stakeholders to contribute to sustainable development actively.



- Gain a comprehensive perspective on the Blue Economy, following the Blue Transformation concept, explored through a cross-sectoral approach.
- Apply principles that promote environmental conservation, cultural preservation and community engagement, promoting eco-tourism initiatives.
- Gain knowledge on international best practices in fisheries management, aquaculture, and sustainable coastal activities, promoting local cooperation.
- Understand the importance of research to develop strategies to mitigate the environmental impact of coastal activities.
- Have developed their knowledge on the main innovations and management models for improving blue food and correlated value chains, increasing the competitiveness of the coastal and maritime sectors.
- Build new institutional networks promoting regional cooperation and developing policies for the sustainable growth of smart and resilient coastal communities in the Mediterranean region and Africa.

Course structure

The course will be organized in weekly units for a total duration of **10 weeks**.

Classes will include frontal lectures and interactive activities integrated with field visits, study tours and discussion sessions with private stakeholders.

The course will be held at the Tricase branch of CIHEAM Bari (Lecce) where the activities will be carried out.

Beneficiaries & Admission Procedures

The course is designed to assist a maximum of 14 officials from the Ministries of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries, comprising all those Ministries involved in the Blue Economy of Mediterranean and African Countries, as well as technicians, researchers, agents and experts from National Agencies, Research Institutes and other governmental bodies, who are directly involved in the planning of coastal uses, such as:

- Policy makers or advisors.
- National fisheries administration officials.
- Mid-level managers, technical staff, field personnel who are involved in the planning and development of coastal zones.
- Planners, policy formulators and programme managers who are involved in marine spatial planning.



They will be nominated by the competent Ministries or government body in which they are employed, who will authorize the pre-selected candidates to apply for this course through the online procedure of the CIHEAM Bari. After the selection made by CIHEAM Bari staff, through the evaluation of files and a personal interview (call conference), approx. one participant per country will be chosen. The 14 final participants will benefit of full scholarships covering all course expenses (travel expenses, board and lodging, insurance and pocket money).

Language Requirement

The programme will be entirely taught in English.

Certificate

At the end of the course, successful participants will be awarded with a Certificate of Attendance along with a transcript of records.



OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE PROGRAMME 2024

UNIT A. INTRODUCTION TO THE PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF COASTAL COMMUNITY

The module represents the introduction to the course rationale, following the Blue Transformation concept, the presentation of best practices for the coastal community economy and the regional strategies and action plans for sustainable use of marine resources in the Mediterranean Sea.

UNIT B. METHODOLOGIES AND TOOLS FOR DESIGNING AND PLANNING DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS IN THE COASTAL AREAS

The module is specially built on the principles of team building, stakeholders' identification and involvement in the participatory process. Furthermore, the module focuses on the transfer of methodologies for project design, management and planning.

UNIT C. STRATEGIES AND COMMON PLANS FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT AND INTEGRATION OF COASTAL ACTIVITIES

The module is focused on the transfer of several strategies for the integration of rural and coastal activities such as eco-tourism and valorisation of community production, heritage and services, the principle of co-management of natural resources, the conservation strategy of the Marine Protected Areas and the responsible and innovative vision for the professional fishing and aquaculture sector.

UNIT D. FOOD SECURITY AND QUALITY, FISH PROCESSING, TECHNOLOGIES AND VALUE CHAIN

The module is specially built on the principles and practices of the enhancement of the blue food value chain starting from the approach and analysis, passing to the principles of food security and nutrition, food loss and waste and arriving to the market.

UNIT E. COASTAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCE: THREATS AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

The module is focused on innovation tools and resilient approaches for coastal communities, following the principles of the Circular Economy and the concept of Smart coastal villages (biodiversity adaptation and mitigation strategies, green energy, internet for the community, water resource management, and so on). It includes also important activities concerning marine litter pollution monitoring and management.