

# INFORMATION FILE ON CIRCULAR ECONOMY NETWORK OF PORTS (LOOP-Ports)

## *PROPOSAL UNDER THE CLIMATE INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS of the EU EIT Climate-KIC SGA 2018 call*

### 1. CONTEXT

Ports are strategic infrastructures in international trade. In addition to playing a key role in freight traffic, as modal interchanges between the maritime and land environments, ports are increasingly integrated into the production, transport and distribution logistics chains, becoming centres of added value, creating a productive and logistical environment and energising the areas in which they are located.

In this sense, ports are therefore catalysts for development and can play a very important role in the transition towards new, more sustainable, more innovative and more creative development models, capitalizing on the progress of the circular economy and industrial ecology.

On the other hand, taking into account the main environmental priorities identified by European ports in the annual reports prepared by ESPO, many of them can be addressed through Circular Economy initiatives. Accordingly, it could be very convenient to include Circular Economy in the Agendas of EU Ports and under the working groups of ESPO

### 2. OBJECTIVES

The main goal of this proposal is to develop a **cross-EU Network of ports focusing on Circular Economy activities**. This will provide an **innovation ecosystem** around the **port activity** that stimulates circular economy in the port sector in order to transform the current system to a new paradigm, by working on the most important drivers of system change in the ports context.

The different actions envisaged in this proposal are intended to:

- Build a port network and related organisations committed to work on Circular Economy around EU
- Understand the port sector particularities and innovation needs
- Understand the policy obstacles and provide recommendations
- Develop pilot professional education courses that will transform system and foster skills, knowledge and innovation capacity both within and between the ecosystem/clusters.
- To develop business models that can quantify the effects that the project would have on the port network
- Generate a reliable and contrasted information point that compiles the best practices analysed during the project.
- Establish a stakeholder group bringing together all the ports that are interested in this initiative. The main motivation is to share experiences, generate debates highlighting future needs and possibilities and formulate recommendations that may contribute to a change in the waste management model towards a more sustainable model.

In addition, this network will attempt to catalyse a switch to a circular economy and transform production for high-emitting materials such as metals, plastic, cement and bio-materials.

This proposal will be submitted on 28<sup>th</sup> May under the call CLIMATE INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS, whose main objective is to create networks of places with high ambitions for climate innovation.

### 3. PARTNERSHIP

- FUNDACIÓN VALENCIAPORT (LEADER PARTNER)
- CLIMATE-KIC
- TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF DENMARK (DTU)
- NTU INTERNATIONAL DENMARK
- NETHERLANDS ORGANISATION FOR APPLIED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (TNO)
- UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA
- UNIVERSITY OF HAMBURG
- POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF MADRID
- UNIVERSITY OF VALENCIA
- VEOLIA

### 4. BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE ACTIVITIES TO BE IMPLEMENTED:

The project is structure in six work packages, which are:

- **WP1: Mapping present state in ports in relation to circular economy**
  - 1.1 Mapping of EU ports - The main goal of this subtask is to draw a map showing a taxonomy of ports and identify where is most favourable for launching initiatives linked to circular economy
  - 1.2 Mapping of CE activities in ports/case studies – The main objective is to compile circular economy activities at ports around the world.
  - 1.3 Highest emitting activities identification in ports environment – Main focus in specific case studies will be carried out related to plastics, cement, metals and bio-materials
- **WP1: Looking at the future: Opportunities for intervention and concrete innovation recommendations**
  - 2.1 Opportunities of intervention with innovation on the most important system drivers
  - 2.2 Innovation recommendations (based on system drivers- prioritize policy)
- **WP3: Ports circular economy professional education pilot**
  - 3.1 Development/adaptation of training modules
  - 3.2 Implementation of the training at EU ports – 3 pilots in 3 different EU ports locations in different countries will be done
- **WP4: Circular ports network development and stakeholders interaction**
  - 4.1 Mapping of stakeholders and network development
  - 4.2 Stakeholder interaction through workshops at ports
  - 4.3 Communication of results to appropriate audiences (Institutional) – Mainly EU and National Ports Agencies
- **WP5: Financial sustainability /business development**
  - 5.1 Public/private funding identification of activities identified in WP 1, 2 and 3
  - 5.2 Business models – Different business models will be developed to enable their implementation in ports.
  - 5.3 Identification of supporting activities from CKIC to match innovation recommendations
- **WP6: Project management and communication**
  - 6.1 Project management (financial, administrative and technical)
  - 6.2 Communication and dissemination – maps, reports, training modules, web tool, etc.)