

MedLab Annual Meeting 2026

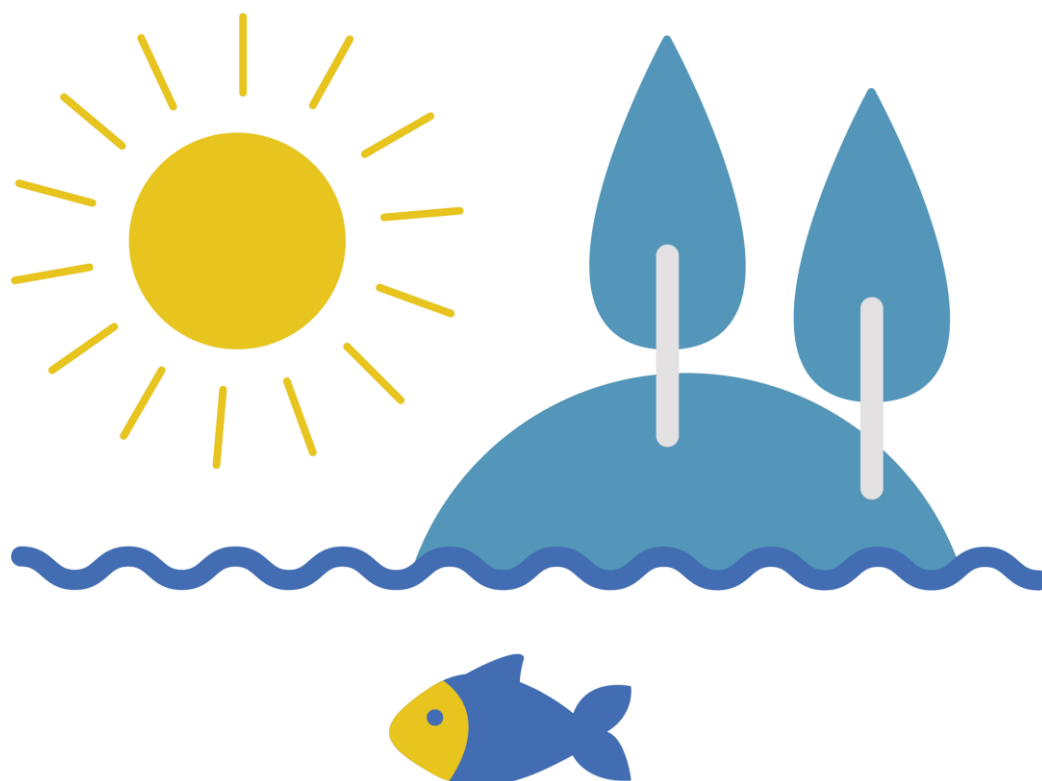


1-2 October 2026.

MedLab Annual Meeting 2026: Synergies for impact

Location: UNA HOTEL - T Hotel Cagliari

Via dei Giudicati, 66, 09131 Cagliari CA, Italia





Agenda_MedLab Annual Meeting: Synergies for Impact.

1-2 October 2026. Cagliari. Italy

Background

The MedLab Annual Meeting 2026 takes place in Cagliari on 1 - 2 October, structured as a day and a half meeting. The programme covers five sections: an EC briefing, a Mediterranean policy mapping exercise, a Post-2027 synergies stocktaking, a thematic priority-setting discussion.. The meeting opens the evening before (30 September) with an informal get-together dinner.

The timing of the meeting is particularly relevant. The 2021–2027 period is at full speed, with projects delivering results and several cooperation mechanisms taking place across the Mediterranean. At the same time, the Post-2027 regulatory framework is gaining momentum: The Commission regulatory proposal COM (2025) 552) places Interreg outside the National and Regional Partnership Plans in a distinct Interreg Plan, structured as individual Chapters to be submitted within nine months of the regulation's entry into force.

Most Mediterranean programmes are still at an early stage of Post-2027 preparation. The meeting is practical and evidence-based. It aims to give programmes a common picture of synergies — what already exists, what works better, and what ambition programmes want to set collectively for 2028–2034.

Objectives

The overall objective of the session is to help Mediterranean Interreg programmes reflect on the synergies developed during 2021-2027 and lessons learnt, as well as discuss the cooperation across programmes in the Post-2027 context, build a shared understanding of key Mediterranean cooperation dynamics, and identify common messages and opportunities for stronger synergies in the next programming period.

The session aims to:

1. **Provide an update on the Post-2027 framework** and discuss what it may mean for Mediterranean Interreg programmes.
2. **Build a common picture of the current Mediterranean cooperation landscape**, covering key initiatives such as WestMED, EUSAIR, the Mediterranean Pact, MedCoopNet, the Multi-programme Mechanism and other EU and Mediterranean relevant Strategies and identify where Interreg programmes contribute to the bigger picture.
3. **Develop a shared Mediterranean ambition for synergies in Post-2027**, based on evidence, border profiles and lessons learned from 2021–2027, including what has worked and what is still missing.
4. **Support exchange among programmes on their Post-2027 programming processes**, with a view to identifying possible common messages or elements for their future programme chapters.



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Agenda

Day 1. Oct 1st	
9.00 – 9.30	Welcome Coffee and Registration
9.30 – 9.40	Opening: why this meeting, why now - The 2021-2027 period is in full implementation phase, with projects delivering results and cooperation mechanisms being tested across the Mediterranean . - The Post-2027 legal framework is being developed. The Interreg Plan and its Chapter template are the documents every programme will need to complete. - This is a right moment to take stock: what has worked, where synergies are already in place, and how to build on them in the next period. By Interact and TESIM
9.40 – 10.10	Section 1: Post-2027 framework and the Interreg Plan — EC briefing A briefing on the state of play of the Post-2027 regulatory process. Implications for the Mediterranean. Presentation and Q&A By Oana Dordain. DG Regio.
10.10 – 11.20	Section 2: Mapping the Mediterranean: Celebration on what has been achieved so far. and where it connects to the EU and Mediterranean policy landscape. Before discussing future ambition, the session will provide a shared picture of 17 programmes, €1.8 billion, one Mediterranean. Cooperation here produces effects no single programme, fund or policy can produce alone. Overall view. By Interact and TESIM. Updates from the MMM, MedcoopNet and Croatian and Italian National Authorities and round table discussion. Moderated by Interact and Tesim - MMM representative. Aldo Puleo. Interreg NEXTMed - MedcoopNet. Alessandro Daraio. Emilia-Romagna Region - Marko Opancar. Ministry of Regional Development ad EU Funds. Croatia - Luca Palazzo. Department for Cohesion Policies, Italy
11.20 – 11.45	Coffee Break.
11.45 – 13.15	Section 3: Mapping the Mediterranean: a mini policy-compass Session 2 continued with a focus on thematic priorities and programme possible contribution to the EU strategies and initiatives relevant to the Mediterranean Exercise moderated by Interact and TESIM
13.15 – 15.00	Lunch



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15.00 – 17.00 120 min	Section 4: Post-2027 synergies stocktaking: ambition and evidence [hands-on] World café style Building on 2021-2027 evidence of what synergies delivered, define a shared Mediterranean ambition for synergies in the Post-2027 period for the Mediterranean. Exercise moderated by Interact and TESIM
20.30-22.00	Networking dinner at Antica Cagliari Terrazza. V.le Poetto, 238, 09126 Cagliari CA,
DAY 2: Oct 2	
9.00 – 9.15	Morning Coffee and warming up
9.15 – 11.00	Programme Updates on the Post27 programming process. Focus on Orientation Papers. Informal discussion DG REGIO will introduce the main directions of the Orientation Papers. This will be followed by an interactive exchange moderated by Interact and TESIM on where programmes stand in the post-2027 preparation process — continuity or evolution? Discussion will cover territorial needs and gaps, possible specific objectives, the Partnership Principle, stakeholder consultation, and key challenges.
11.00 – 11.15	Closing remarks from DG REGIO
11.15 – 11.30	Closure and agreements: from Cagliari to the next MedLab steps. By Interact and Tesim
11.30 – 12.30	Brunch. End of the meeting

Practicalities

Suggested Hotels

- UNA HOTEL - T Hotel Cagliari <https://www.thotel.it/es/index>
- Casa Clàt boutique hotel <https://www.casaclat.it/>
- Hotel Aristeo <https://www.hotelaristeocagliari.com/>
- Hotel Flora <https://www.hotelfloracagliari.it/>
- Palazzo Tirso <https://www.palazzotirsocagliari.com/>
- Palazzo Doglio [Palazzo Doglio Cagliari - membro di Leading Hotels of the World](#)
- Hotel due colonne <https://www.hotel2colonne.it/>
- Hotel Regina Margherita <https://www.hotelreginamargherita.com/>
- Relais del Porto <https://www.relaisdelporto.it/>