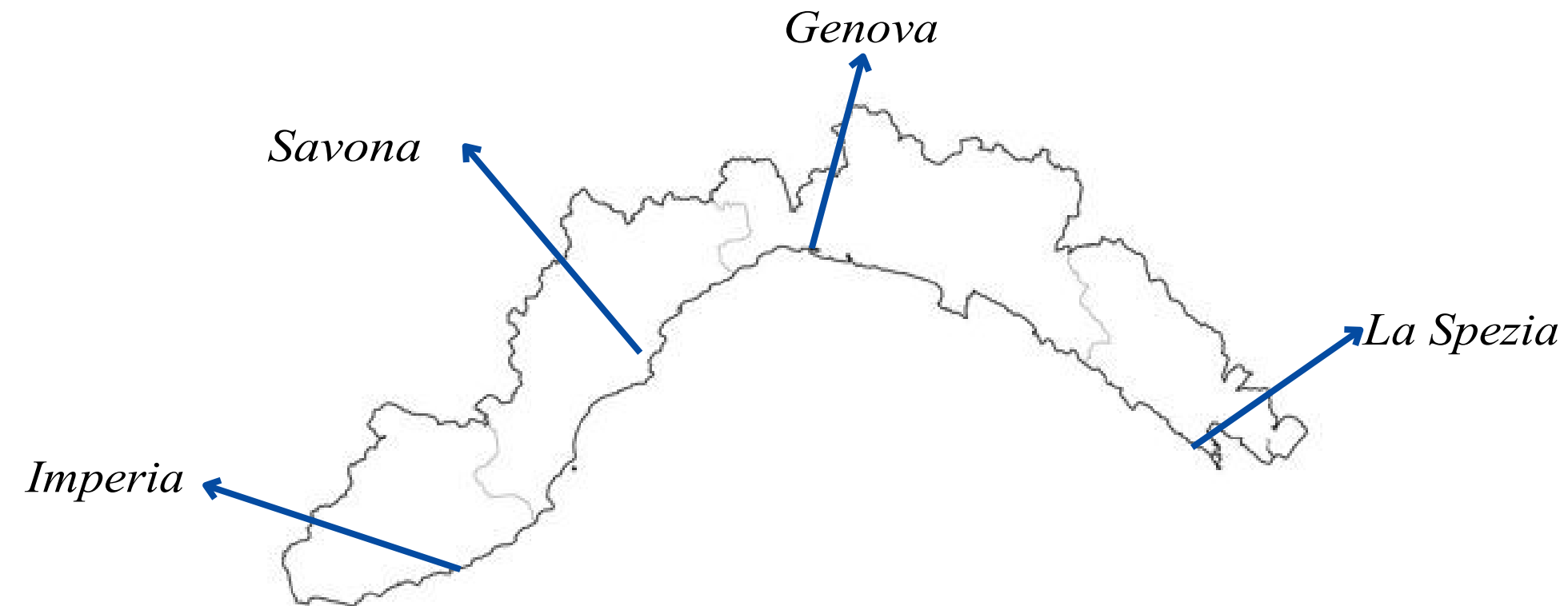




Participatory Local Development Strategy 2021-2027

GAL FISH Liguria

GAL FISH Liguria is financed by Objective 3 of the National Program FEAMPA and represents a virtuous model of local development in the fishing and aquaculture sector, focusing on sustainable and future-oriented practices. The 2021-2027 Local Development Strategy, accompanied by the Action Plan, aims to achieve ambitious goals that cover various essential aspects:

- Enhancement of Fishing and Aquaculture: Promoting local excellences by supporting fishermen and operators through initiatives that improve competitiveness and visibility.***
- Diversification of Activities: Offering new job prospects and integrating fishing with complementary activities such as fishing and aquaculture tourism.***
- Environmental Protection: Safeguarding marine biodiversity and reducing the environmental impact of sector-related activities.***
- Ecological and Digital Transition: Encouraging the adoption of innovative technologies and eco-friendly solutions to modernize operations, reducing waste and pollution.***
- Development of Sustainable Tourism: Integrating local resources into the tourism landscape, promoting itineraries that highlight Liguria's natural, cultural, and gastronomic heritage.***

This integrated approach aims to balance economic growth with environmental conservation, fostering the well-being of local communities and encouraging sustainable economic opportunities. GAL FISH Liguria's commitment is a concrete example of how territorial development can balance innovation, tradition, and sustainability.

GAL FISH Liguria is a partnership of 9 members: Camera di Commercio Riviera di Liguria, Camera di Commercio di Genova, Autorità di Sistema Portuale del Mar Ligure Orientale, Coldiretti Pesca Liguria, Confcooperative Fedagri Pesca Liguria, Lega Ligure delle Cooperative e Mutue, Università di Genova, Fondazione CARIGE and Centro Ligure per la Produttività, representing both businesses operating in the 41 landing points and businesses from other sectors that can foster interactions between fishing/aquaculture and other categories in order to promote and enhance local fish productions. This inclusion aims to involve a wide range of local stakeholders, extending beyond the fishing sector, to foster synergies and development opportunities integrated into the local context. Lead partner is the Camera di Commercio Riviera di Liguria – Imperia, La Spezia, Savona.

The territory:

Local Development Strategy 2021-2027

The area covered by the Local Development Strategy (LDS) includes 63 coastal municipalities. Liguria has a long-standing tradition of fishing and aquaculture, both of which play a significant role in the region's economy and culture. Fishing has historically been one of Liguria's main economic activities. Ligurian fishermen catch a variety of fish species in the coastal waters of the Ligurian Sea, including anchovies, sardines, swordfish, squid, and shrimp.

Fresh seafood is a fundamental component of Ligurian cuisine and is used in traditional dishes such as “cappon magro” and “pesce alla ligure” (fish fillet served with toasted pine nuts and Taggiasca olives). Aquaculture primarily focuses on the farming of shellfish, such as mussels, clams, and oysters, though fish species like gilthead sea bream and sea bass are also cultivated. These aquaculture products are highly valued for their quality and freshness and are often served in local restaurants.

Aquaculture businesses in Liguria are committed to ensuring sustainable practices by monitoring water quality and the well-being of farmed organisms to minimize environmental impact. Both traditional fishing and aquaculture play a crucial role in Liguria's food production and economy, while also contributing to its rich culinary heritage.



63 Coastal municipalities

1.209.568 inhabitants

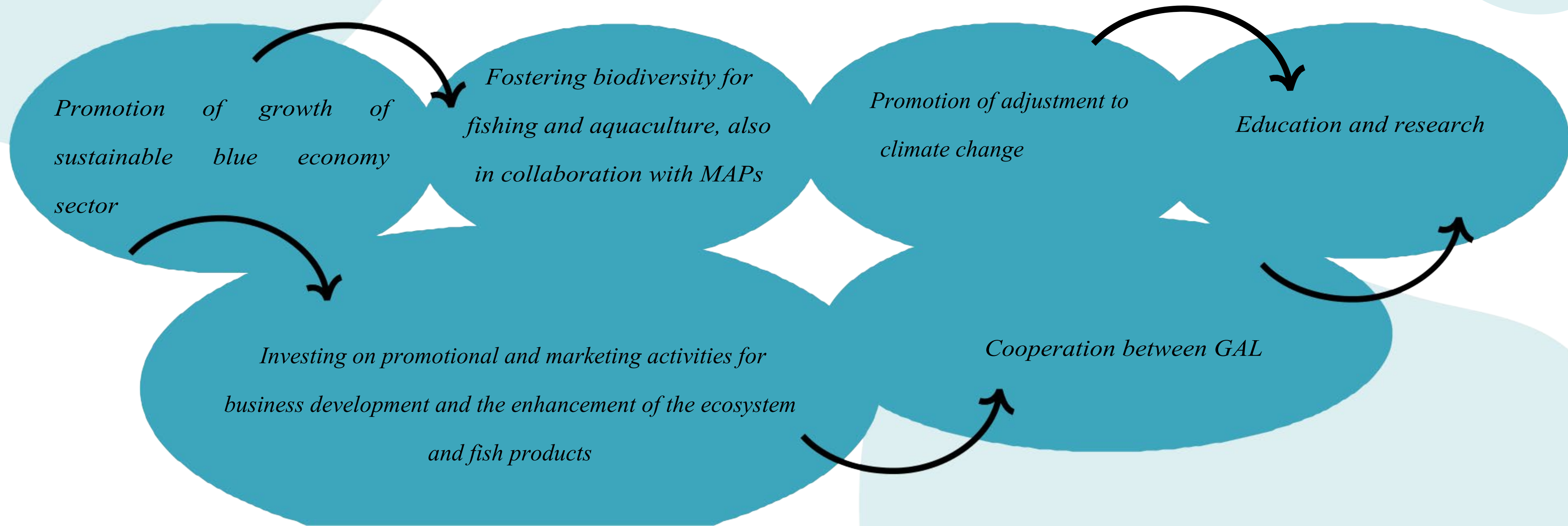
904,50 inhabitants/km²

41 landing points

Needs and Planning Ability

GAL FISH Liguria

Based on the needs, criticalities and planning of the territory of GAL FISH Liguria, which are a result of consultations with the stakeholders, six “strategic objectives” have been identified and they often intersect because they are considered as “transversal actions” to achieve the goal of change, from being a declining sector to being a factor of economic and employment growth for the territory. The interventions are characterized by the “interdependence” between the economic sectors, local authorities, businesses and services to the territory, as well as by the vision that fishing and aquaculture, along with the protection of the marine environment, cannot be limited to the territory of GAL Fish Liguria alone. Consequently, the challenge will be that of working on different sectors/environments through interconnected projects, in order to achieve the overall goal of a smart, inclusive and sustainable growth.



THE STRATEGY

Local Development Strategy 2021-2027

*GAL FISH Liguria has found **5 areas** that are considered necessary in priority assessment: **ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM, GOVERNANCE, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION, SOCIAL INCLUSION.***

This decision comes from a will to promote a strategy that creates synergy for the development of the fishing sector. GAL FISH Liguria has hence considered that these specific thematic areas have a correlation between them that has to be enhanced since a synergistic intervention in the 5 areas means creating an undoubted exchange of benefits that lead to the reach of targets explained in the Local Development Strategy. The environment is considered for the ecological and landscape significance, as well as that of the productivity. In this conceptual framework it is possible to understand the operations of energy efficiency and circular economy in the ports, the pilot projects for disposal and recycling of recovered materials during fishing operations or aquaculture activities, research programs aimed at safekeeping different fish species (deep sea shrimp, whitebait and transparent goby, blue fish), the implementation of research on the proposition of PDG on the seine, the agreement with MAPs for the management trials of protected areas for the common bottlenose dolphin, the research and pilot project aimed at finding a solution to contingent problems such as predators and/or presence of alien species in mussel farming and aquaculture facilities and the use of new technology.

Due to a large tourist flow, there is the opportunity to have a new and original way of promoting the fishing world and the Ligurian territory as well, such as communication and promotion regional, national and transnational campaigns, environmental informational and educational activities that promote social inclusivity and non-discrimination, even in specific moments focused on people with disabilities and/or people at risk of social exclusion.

Work Groups have been established with the aim of guaranteeing the fishing and aquaculture sector greater involvement in local governance and they also have the function of coordinating an open discussion between different local disputes. The Strategy is aimed at completing the 5 general goals: every general goal has specific ones that are explained through different actions aimed at pursue specific results.

All foreseen Actions are owned by GAL FISH Liguria.

The Strategy

Objectives and Actions



The Strategy

1.B Objectives and Action Azioni

2

Fostering biodiversity for fishing and aquaculture activities in collaboration with AMP

1.B

Actualization and monitoring of the Marine Protected Areas, included Natura 2000

1.B.1

Experimentation management new marine pSIC IT1312392 named "Tutela del Tursiope Mar Ligure"

3

To foster the adjustment to climate change

1.D

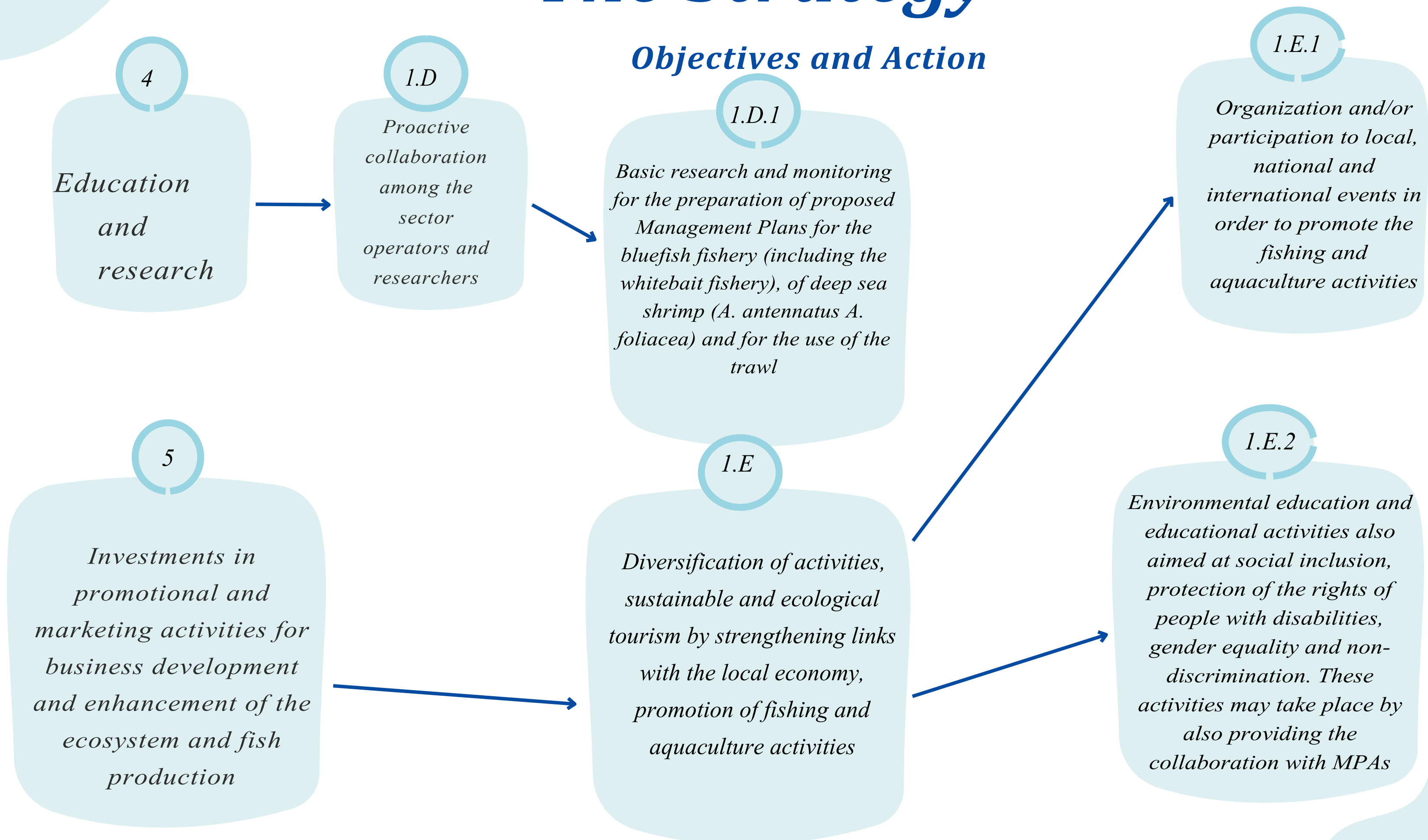
Proactive collaboration among the operators of the sector and the world of research

1.D.2

Studies and pilot projects to solve contingent problems such as predators and/or presence of alien species in mussel and aquaculture facilities, application of new technologies in aquaculture

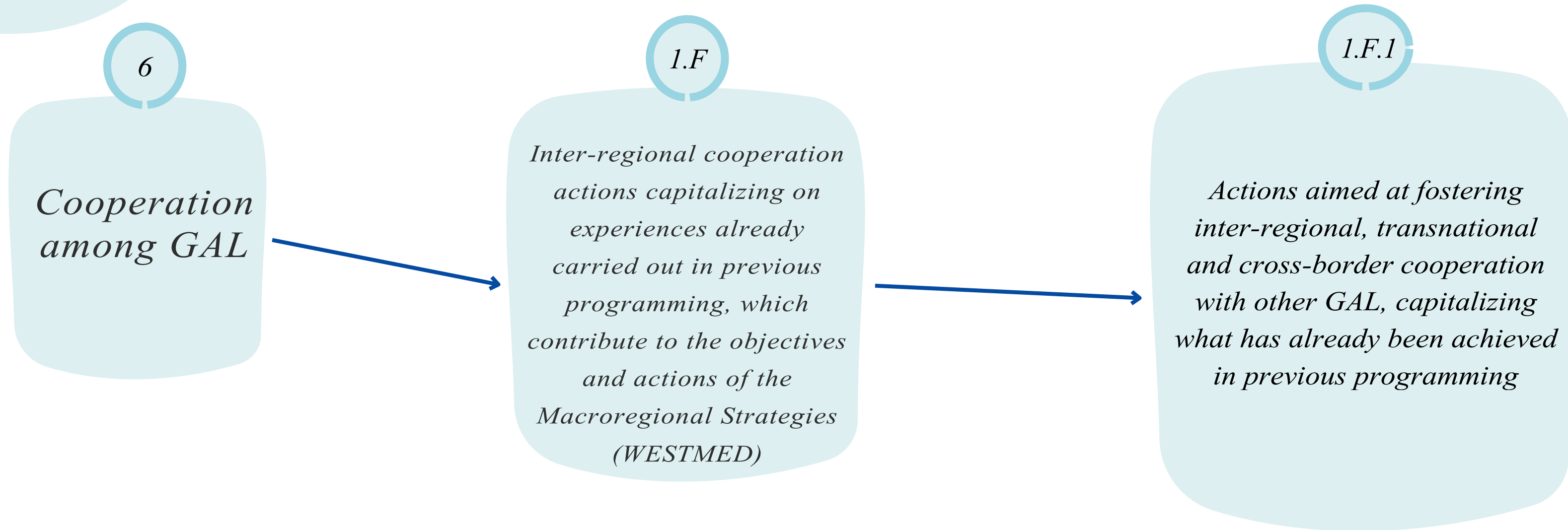
The Strategy

Objectives and Action



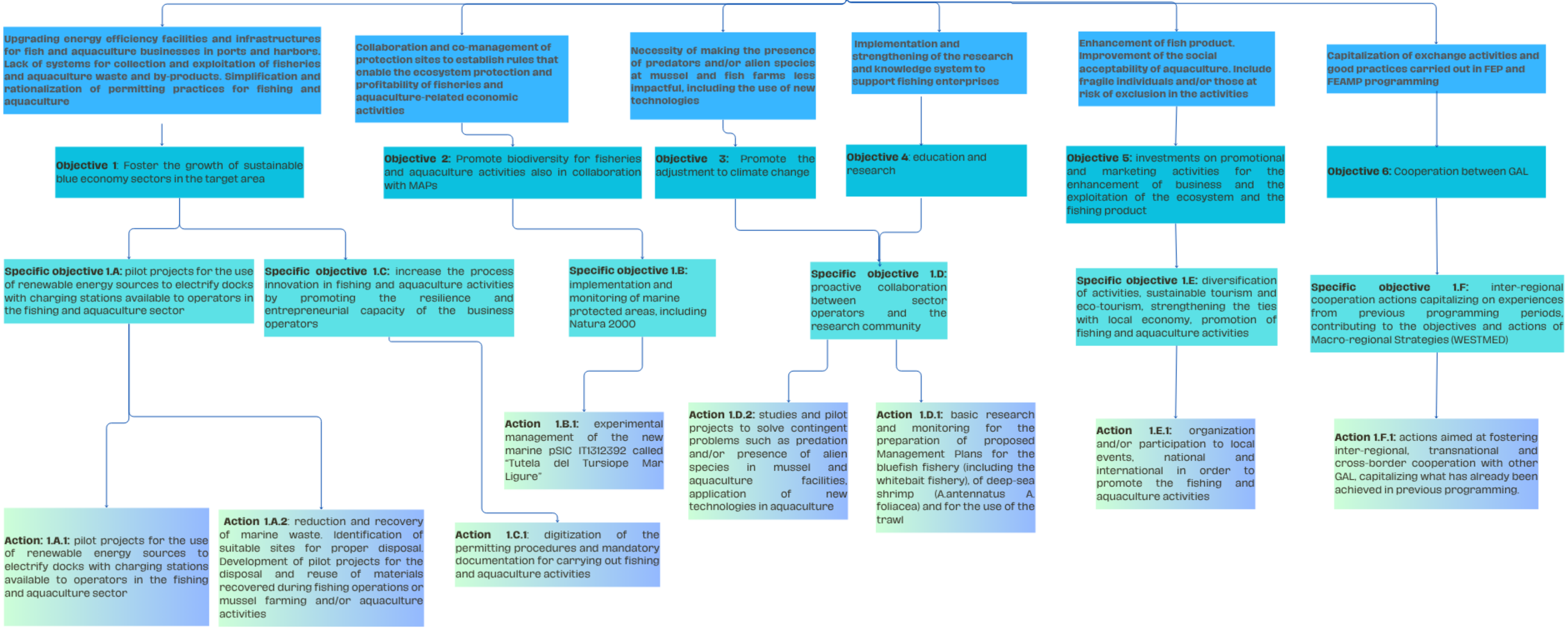
The Strategy

Objectives and Action



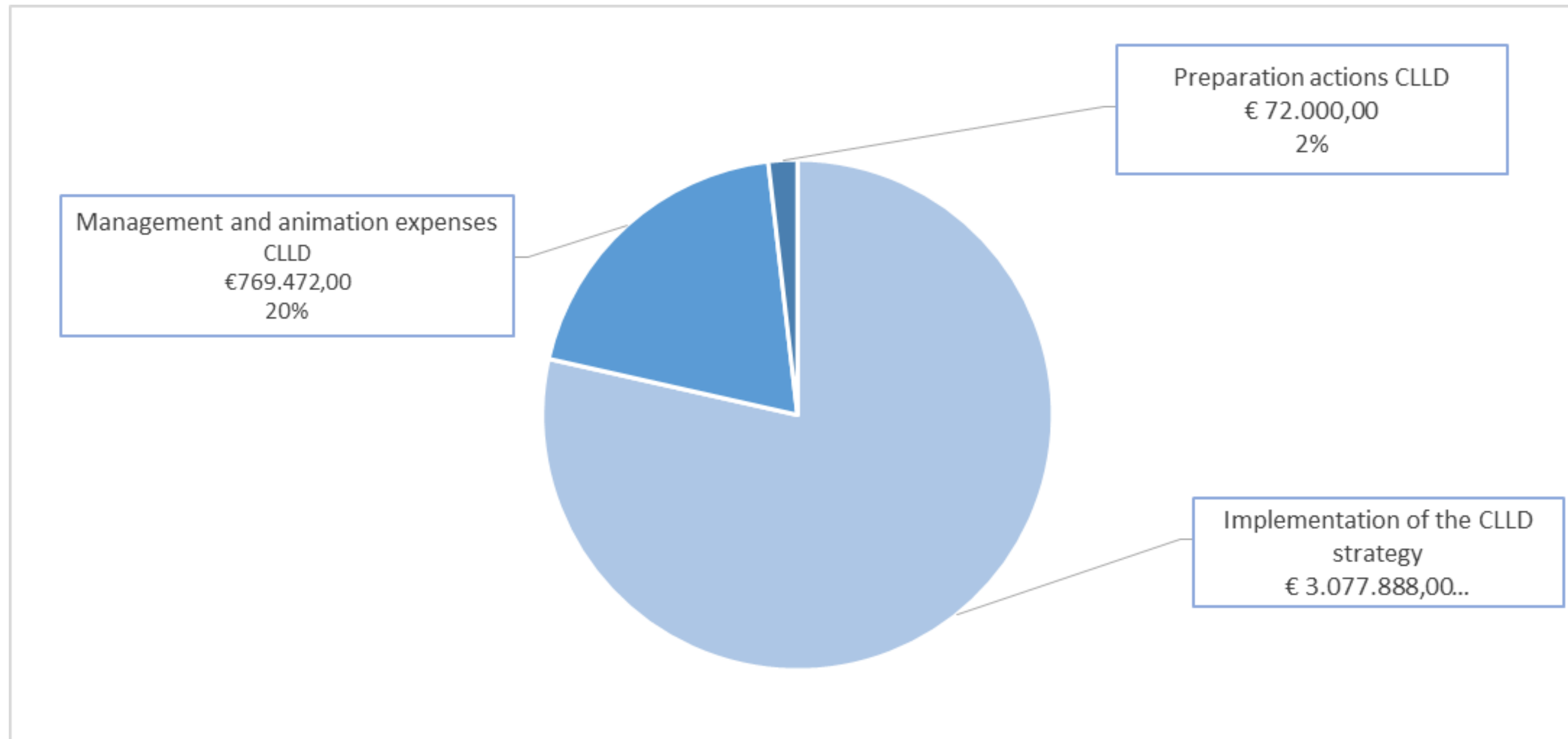
PRIORITY 3 To allow a sustainable blue economy in coastal, island and inland areas and promote the development of fishing and aquaculture

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 3.1 To allow a sustainable blue economy in coastal, island and inland areas and promote the development of fishing and aquaculture

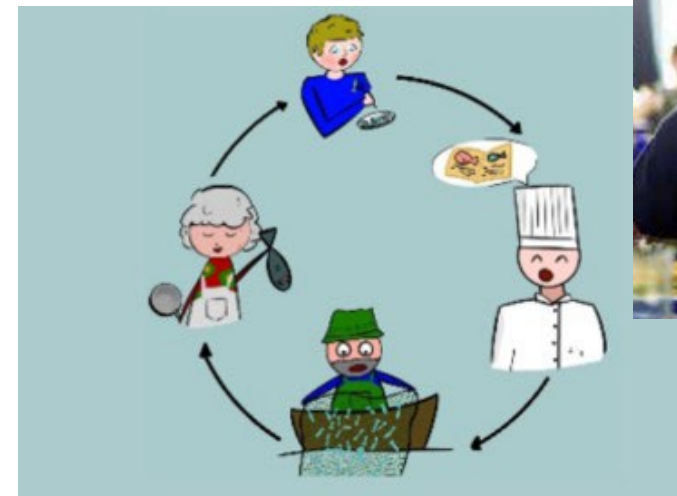
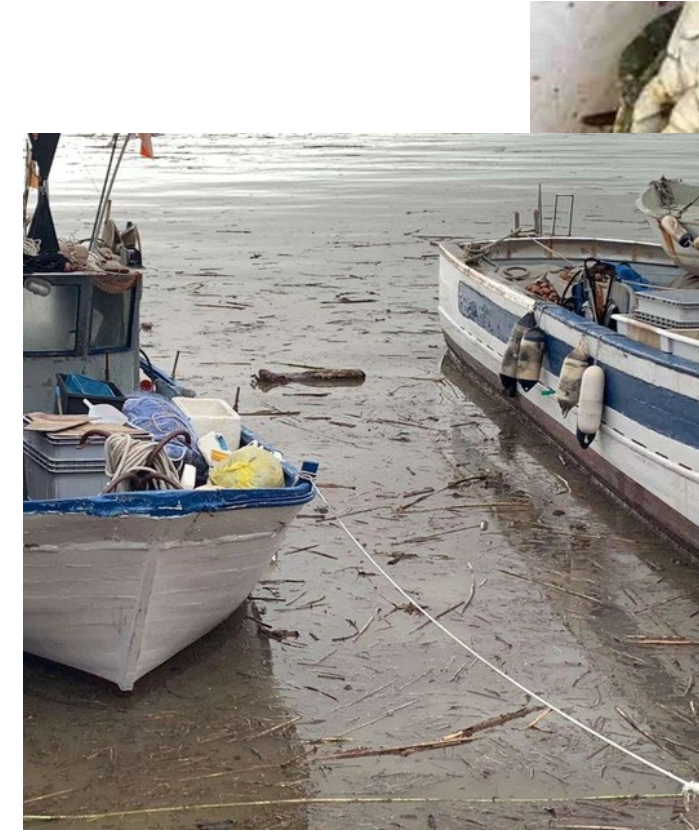


Financial Resources

On April 30, 2024, with Resolution No. 408, the Regional Council of Liguria, Intermediate Body, completed the funding for the Strategy presented by Gal Fish Liguria, approved on October 27, 2023, with a total amount of € 3.919.360,00



Objectives and Actions



Objective 1 – Encourage the growth of sustainable blue economy sectors in the reference area

*In order to meet the needs of strengthening and energy efficiency of structures and infrastructures in favor of fishing and aquaculture businesses in ports and landing sites, provide for the lack of a system for collecting and valorizing fishing and aquaculture waste and by-products within the port areas, and reach a simplification and a rationalization of the authorization procedures for fishing and aquaculture, the objective 1 has led to the creation of two **Specific Objectives**:*

1.A Pilot project for exploiting renewable energy sources for the electrification of docks with charging stations available to fishing and aquaculture operators

1.C Enhance process innovation in fishing and aquaculture activities by promoting the resilience and entrepreneurial skills of sector operators.

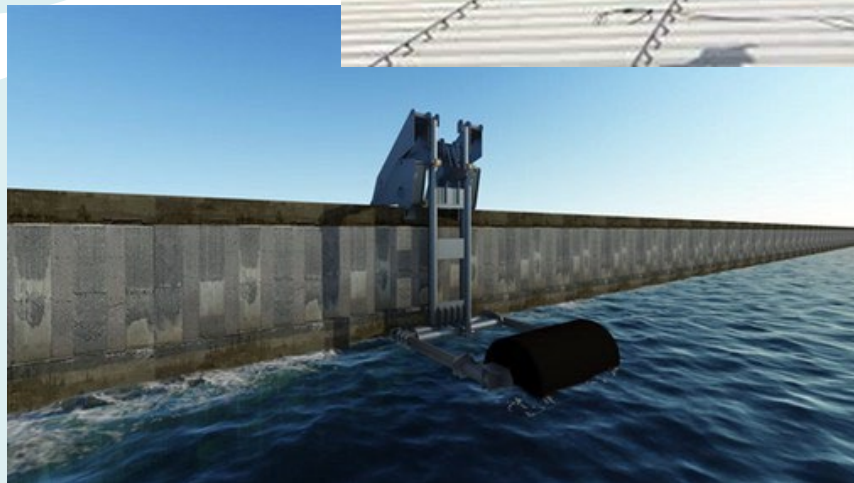
Specific objective 1.A: Pilot projects for exploiting renewable energy sources for the electrification of docks with charging stations available to fishing and aquaculture operators

Action 1.A.1: Pilot projects for exploiting renewable energy sources for the electrification of docks with charging stations available to fishing and aquaculture operators €620.000,00



PdA:

- 1- 04/08/2024: establishment of the **Working Group** – preparation of monitoring sheet for Ligurian fishing ports (number of boats, energy needs, customs etc.)
- 2- **Selection** of entity for identification of suitable sites and applicable renewable energy sources
- 3- **Expression of interest** to Municipalities and Port Authorities for pilot project.



Objective 1 – Promote the growth of sustainable blue economy sectors in the target area

Specific project 1.A: Pilot projects for the use of renewable energy sources for the electrification of docks with charging stations available to operators in the fishing and aquaculture sectors

***Action 1.A.2:** Reduction and recovery of marine waste. Identification of suitable sites for proper disposal. Development of pilot projects for the disposal and reuse of materials recovered during fishing and mussel farming and/or aquaculture operations. € 400.000,00*



PdA:

- 1 – 04/08/2024: **establishment of the Working Group** – preparation of monitoring sheet for Ligurian fishing ports (number of boats, volume and types of waste, existing management methods, etc.)
- 2 – **Selection** of entity for identification of suitable sites
- 3 – **Expression of interest** to Municipalities and Port Authorities for pilot project
- 4 – **Material reuse** – expression of interest for the creation of handcrafted products



Fig. 6. Manufatti a base di gusci di cozze e vongole e resina colorata

Objective 2 – Promote the biodiversity for fishing and aquaculture activities, also in collaboration with MAPs

Regarding the need for collaboration and co-management of protected sites to define rules that ensure both the protection of the ecosystem, and the profitability of economic activities related to fishing and aquaculture, the following has been identified:

Specific Objective 1.B: Implementation and monitoring of marine protected areas, including Natura 2000, to be achieved through

Action 1.B.1 Experimentation management of the new marine pSIC IT1312392, named “Protection of the bottlenose dolphine in the Ligurian Sea”

€ 500.000,00

PdA:
1 – 04/08/2024: establishment of the Working Group: fishing association – Ligurian MAPs – Ligurian Region, Departments of Environment and Agriculture, Universities, Anton Dohrn Zoological Station, ISPRA – preparation of a biological monitoring form.
2 – **Regional Memorandum of Understanding – GAL – MAPs for:**
- Guidelines for monitoring management
- Drafting of the final PdG proposal
- Communication and awareness plan
3 – **Selection** of entities for active biological monitoring
4 – **Communication and awareness activities**



Objective 1 – Promote the growth of sustainable blue economy sectors in the target area

Specific objective 1.C: Increase the process innovation in fishing and aquaculture activities by promoting the resilience and entrepreneurial ability of sector's operator

Action 1.C.1 Digitization of authorization procedures and mandatory documentation for carrying out fishing and aquaculture activities acquacoltura € 500.000,00

PdA:

1 – 04/08/2024 **Establishment of a working group: trade association, Ligurian Region**

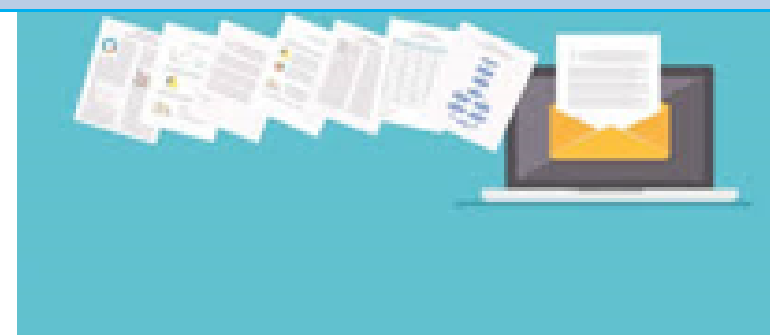
Department of

State property and agriculture, Maritime Authority, USMAF, ASL, Port Authority -

preparation of a survey reconnaissance procedures and needs fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

2 – **Assignment** to an entity for the schematization of existing procedures and implification proposal

3 – The Working Group will analyze **the training needs to attract new operators in the fishing and aquaculture sectors**, implementing the training program with immersive digital contents in VR and IR, thus, to simplify and optimize the practical hours required to obtain the professional qualification.



Objective 3 – Promote the adaptation to climate change

*Recognizing the need to reduce the impact of predators and/or non-native species in mussel and fish farming facilities, including through the use of new technologies, the **Specific Objective 1.D** has been identified: **proactive collaboration between sector operators and the research community**, but also the **Action 1.D.2: Studies and pilot projects to address contingent issues such as predation and/or the presence of alien species in mussel and aquaculture facilities, as well as the application of new technologies in aquaculture** € 150.000,00*

Action 1.D.2 Studies and pilot projects to solve contingent problems in AQUACULTURE:

- Predation and/or presence of alien species
- Application of new technologies

PdA:

1a – 04/08/2024: establishment of the **Seabream Predation working group**

1b – **Manifestation of interest** in the **active defense pilot project**

2a – 04/08/2024: establishment of the **gilthead bream facility working group**

2b – **Manifestation of interest** in the **offshore facility pilot project**



Objective 4 – Training and research

The need to enhance and strengthen the research and knowledge system to support fisheries enterprises is met through
Specific Objective 1.D: proactive collaboration between sector operators and the research community, via
Action 1.D.1: basic research and monitoring for the development of Management Plans proposals for the fishing of small pelagic fish (including juvenile anchovies), deep-water shrimp (*A. antennatus*, *A. foliacea*), and the use of the trawl.
€ 250.000,00

Action 1.D.1 –Basic research and monitoring for the development of **Management Plans** proposals: small pelagic fish (including juveniles), European hake, deep-water red shrimp, midwater pair trawling

PdA:
Agreement with UNIGE



Objective 5 – Investments in promotional and marketing activities for business development and the enhancement of the ecosystem and fishery products

*Regarding the need for the valorization of fishery products and the improvement of the social acceptance of aquaculture – particularly by including vulnerable groups and those at risk of exclusion – **Specific Objective 1.E has been established: diversification of activities, sustainable tourism and eco-tourism, strengthening ties with the local economy, and promoting fishing and aquaculture activities**, this includes two key actions*

Action 1.E.1: organization and/or participation in local, national, and international events to promote fishing and aquaculture activities: € 347.888,00

Action 1.E.2: environmental education and educational activities also aimed at social inclusion, protecting the rights of people with disabilities, gender equality, and non-discrimination. These activities may also involve collaboration with MAPs. € 150.000,00

Action 1.E.1 PdA:

- 1 – 04/08/2024: **Establishment of a working group with all partners**
- 2 – Implementation of a promotion and communication plan
- 3 – Creation and/or participation in high-impact media events
- 4 – Monitoring of achieved results.

Actione 1.E.2 PdA:

- 1 – 04/08/2024: **Establishment of a working group with all partners.**
- 2 – Creation and organization of environmental education and teaching
- 3 – Monitoring of achieved results



Objective 6 – Cooperation between GAL

*The need to capitalize on exchange activities and best practices implemented in the FEP and FEAMP programming periods led to creation of **Specific Objective 1.F: inter regional cooperation actions capitalizing experiences already carried out in previous programming, contributing to the objectives and actions of Macroregional Strategies (WESTMED)** from which derives the*

Action 1.F.1** Actions to foster interregional, transnational and cross-border cooperation with other GAL capitalizing on what has already been achieved in previous programmingigitalization of authorization procedures and of mandatory documentation for carrying out fishing and aquaculture activities **€ 160.000,00

PdA:

- 1- Creation of inter regional and/or international cooperation projects
- 2 – Monitoring of achieved results



INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND ANIMATION ACTIVITIES

The information, communication and animation activities of GAL FISH Liguria aim at:

Promote the Gal Fish and the Local Development Strategy: *present the role of Gal Fish Liguria, its expertise, its operational tools and the contents of the participatory strategy for fisheries and aquaculture.*

Raise awareness about the impact of the interventions: *to highlight how initiatives can positively influence the lives of local communities.*

Encourage dialogue and engagement: *to create a collaborative relationship between GAL, public and private operators, through public policies and private investments.*

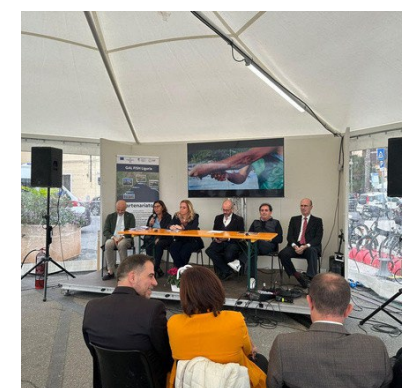
Inform the beneficiaries: *to provide support on calls for proposals, participation procedures and the state of progress of interventions.*

Actively involve local communities: *through territorial animation activities, meetings, events and exchange of experiences.*

Types of animation

Itinerant meetings: *territorial meetings to present the GAL and the available calls for proposals*

Participation in thematic events: *participatory workshops, fairs, conferences, educational tours and networking opportunities.*



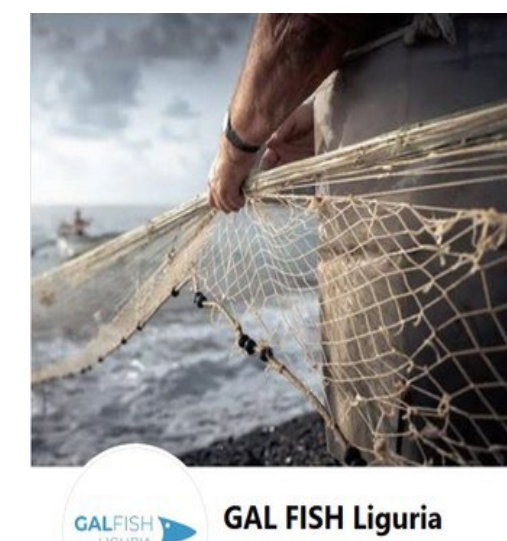
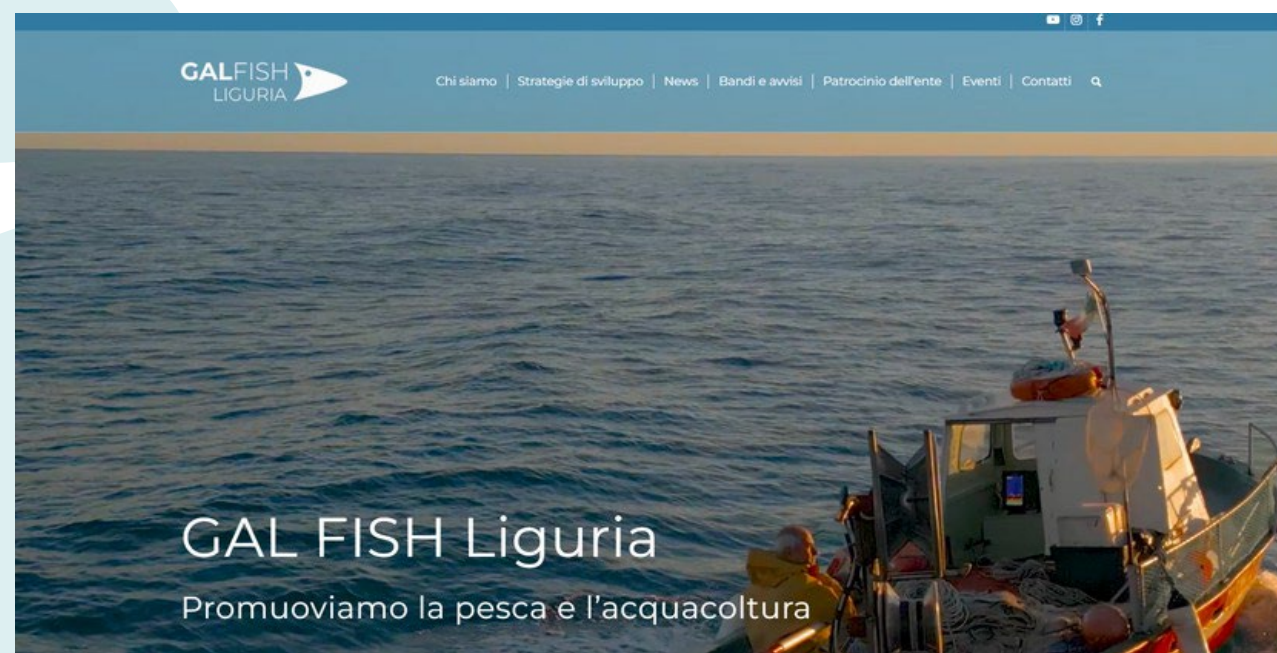
INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND ANIMATION ACTIVITIES

Communication:

The Communication Plan supports animation activities with both physic and digital tools, including:

- website
- Facebook and Instagram pages for constant and interactive updates
- Informational materials about GAL and its projects
- Publication of calls for proposals and promotion of events on dedicated channels

All the activities are monitored to ensure their effectiveness and make any necessary improvements. The final goal is to maximize participation, support beneficiaries from the planning to the realization, and to share the opportunities offered by the FEAMPA calls.



INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND ANIMATION ACTIVITIES

Here are some content examples for illustrative purposes.

Area of activity	Communication objectives	Target group	Activities	Timeline	Channel/tool
Web communication	Promote quick and transparent access to information related to SSL	Beneficiaries Local community Public opinion	Realization of the web page	1 month for the creation and implementation /continuous updates until 2029	Web Page
Social communication	Foster quick access to information and enable interaction with target groups	Beneficiaries Local community Public opinion	Realization of one Facebook page and one Instagram profile	1 month for the creation and implementation /continuous updates until 2029	Social Media, Web
"Traditional" communication	Encourage access to information about SSL	Beneficiaries Local community Public opinion	Creation and publication of informational posters about the GAL and SSL with possible actions	1 month for the creation and implementation /continuous updates until 2029	Press
Animation	Facilitate access to the state of the art of SSL carried out by the GAL	Beneficiaries	Periodic meetings with GAL operators	Every 6 months for the first 3 years, then annually to be repeated until 2029	In-person meetings and/or through web tools
Animation	Facilitate access to the state of the art of SSL carried out by the GAL	Local community Public opinion	Press conference for the project launch / mid-project updates, and final results presentation	First month of activities, midway through the process, end of the process	Participatory in-person meetings



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