



Innovative Sustainable Economy Mission 3rd Innovation Camp

Connecting place-based innovation ecosystems and interregional networks to deliver more effective responses to climate change in the Mediterranean

23-24 October 2025 | Olhão, Faro (PT) | In-person only
(Real Marina Hotel & SPA, Avenida 5 de Outubro 8700-307)

The Mediterranean is at a crossroads. Water scarcity, soil degradation, biodiversity loss and high-emission agri-food systems threaten its resilience and prosperity. Facing these challenges requires new forms of collaborative innovation for place-based transformation.

The third Innovation Camp of the Innovative Sustainable Economy (ISE) Mission brings together actors from across the Mediterranean to explore how local innovation ecosystems can be better connected to interregional collaboration networks to deliver more effective responses to the following challenges related to climate change:

- Degraded soil health and declining biodiversity leading to reduced climate resilience
- Water scarcity intensified by extreme weather events and unsustainable management
- High emissions and limited circularity in agri-food value chains

Over two days, participants will work on real case studies to explore how to design and support local innovation environments through collaborative experimentation spaces, novel governance frameworks, and policy instruments, to foster localised systemic responses to these challenges.

The programme includes:

- Thematic parallel sessions and group work on three case studies
- A showroom of solutions, where projects will present their innovations
- Joint reflection on how to design, implement and scale experimentation spaces, including policy and regulatory sandboxes, to connect local action with Mediterranean and European strategies

The Innovation Camp contributes to the broader objective of promoting place-based innovation approaches that can deliver systemic change—combining innovative technological solutions with new models of participatory multi-level governance, policy and regulatory innovation, and interregional cooperation.





The Innovation Camp is directly connected to:

- The **Transformative Innovation Policy Labs (TIPLabs)** promoted by the ISE Mission in the Mediterranean region
- The **EU Preparatory Action Innovation for place-based transformation** implemented by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission and funded the European Parliament
- The **portfolio approach** promoted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

This is an invitation to all — public and private actors, researchers, practitioners, and civil society — to take responsibility for shaping systemic alternatives and accelerating green and just transitions in the Mediterranean Region.





AGENDA

Thursday 23rd October (Day 1)

Registration	
09:00-9:30	
Opening and welcome	
09:30-10:00	Institutional welcome and opening - José Apolinário, President of Algarve Coordination and Development Commission - Isabelle Nobio, Joint Secretariat Interreg Euro-MED Programme - Alessandro Daraio, Lead Partner Dialogue4Innovation - António Sampaio Ramos, Technopolis Group Portugal
Methodological framework and agenda overview	
10:00-10:30	Objectives, methodological approach and agenda of the Innovation Camp
Parallel sessions: Presentation of the three challenges	
10:40-11:00	Introduction to the three case studies: - Reimagining periurban agricultural spaces - Redesigning water governance models - Articulating circular -bioeconomy value chains
Group Work: Understanding and framing the challenges	
11:15-13:00	Collaborative work for each case study: - Identification and prioritisation of key obstacles and enablers - Identification of relevant actors and instruments at local and interregional levels - Exploration of possible solutions
Lunch break (13:00-14:15)	
Plenary: Sharing results	
14:15-15:00	Presentation of group results: key obstacles and enablers, relevant actors, and possible solutions
Roundtable: Complementary approaches to enabling innovation for place-based transformation in the Mediterranean	
15:00-16:00	- Ayman Moghnieh, <i>Living Labs network</i> - Milica Begovic, <i>United Nations Development Programme</i> - Michal Miedzinski, <i>Joint Research Centre</i> - Tatiana Fernández Sirera, <i>Dialogue4Innovation</i> Moderator Cynthia Echave, <i>Dialogue4Innovation</i>
Session: the EU Preparatory Action and regulatory experimentation spaces	
16:10-17:30	<i>Session led by the Joint Research Centre and Climate KIC.</i> This session includes a presentation of the EU Preparatory Action and collaborative work on the design, implementation and scaling-up of experimentation spaces, including policy and regulatory sandboxes
ISE Mission Working session (by invitation)	
16:10-17:30	ISE Mission working session ISEC Hub contest

18:00 - Optional Guided Tour: An informal opportunity to meet your peers and explore Olhão's local scene.





Friday 24th October (Day 2)

Registration

09:00-9:30

Innovation showcase: MED projects' solutions

09:30-11:00

Coordinated by the ISE Mission, Community4Innovation project.

This session includes a presentation of innovations addressing the challenges discussed in the Innovation Camp, with pitches of the projects and stands showcasing the solutions. Participants will be asked to identify the most relevant solutions for the challenges identified in the case studies

Working Groups: Designing next-generation experimentation spaces

11:15-13:00

Parallel sessions to co-design experimentation spaces at local and interregional level addressing the Innovation Camp's challenges across technological, social, policy, and regulatory dimensions

Lunch break (13:00-14:15)

Plenary: Presentation of experimentation space proposals

14:15-15:00

Sharing the proposals of the experimentation spaces for reimagining periurban agricultural spaces; redesigning water governance models; articulating circular -bioeconomy value chains

Conclusions and next steps

15:00-15:15

Wrap-up and next steps

TIPLabs working session (open)

15:30-17:00

Interactive working session developing the concept and methodology of the TIPLabs promoted by the Dialogue4Innovation Project

Preparatory Action Food Security Journey working session (by invitation)

15:30-17:00

Working session dedicated to the participants of the Preparatory Action