European Commission

Boosting skills and career development in the blue economy

"Atlantic Strategy in Action"
Committee of the Regions

Brussels, 8 June 2016

Alessia Clocchiatti, DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Maritime Affairs

European Commission

The human resources of the Blue Economy

Blue growth → **Highly skilled and qualified workforce is needed!!**

Communication on Innovation in the Blue Economy (2014)

THE BLUE ECONOMY

European Commission

The key questions

1. **Where is the gap and what can the EU do?**

2. **How to increase awareness of career opportunities in the blue economy?**

Gap between education offer and labour market needs

1. **Significant differences** according to the economic sector and the geographical area
2. Fast technological development >> difficulty for education to **adapt curricula** quickly
3. Relevance of **soft skills** + ICT skills + foreign languages
4. **Industry** to play a more prominent role (i.e. by offering more trainings during the studies)
5. **VET** to be considered not as a second choice
6. **Maritime clusters** as suitable bodies to facilitate the business-education cooperation process

European Commission

How to increase attractiveness of careers in the blue economy?

The pupils of today are the workforce of tomorrow!

1. **Ocean literacy** activities should be better promoted across Europe
2. Schools leavers are often **not aware of careers** in the blue economy (they often know only the traditional sectors)
3. Secondary schools should offer better **career guidance** as regards future studies and jobs + activities to **promote blue careers**

European Commission

Commission's policy reply - 1

Call for proposals on "Blue Careers"
Work Programme 2016 (EMFF)

Strengthening cooperation between industry and educational providers, at local/regional/cross-regional level

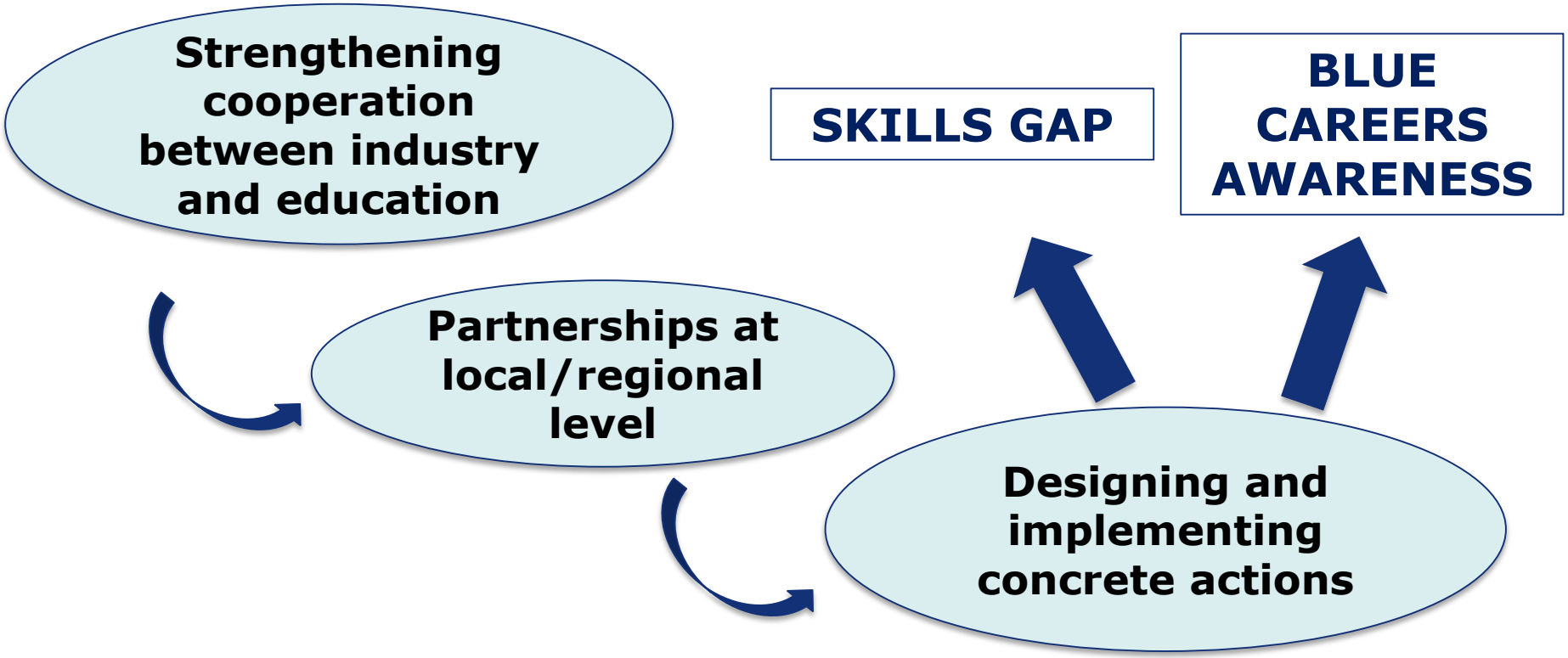
- *To design and implement concrete actions, to:*

1) Fill the skills gap
2) Raise awareness of careers opportunities in the blue economy

European Commission

Call for proposals on "Blue Careers"

Work Programme 2016 (EMFF)



European Commission

Commission's policy reply - 2

Expert Group on Skills and Career development in the Blue Economy

- To advice the Commission on matters pertaining to the education, training and career development within the blue economy
- Up to 40 members
- Appointed for 3 years

Deadline: 10 June! >>> APPLY!!

Commission's policy reply - 3

A New Skills Agenda for Europe
>> Blueprint on sectorial skills cooperation

To translate the sectoral strategy into forecasts and actions on jobs and skills needs for the next 5 to 10 years, identifying current and anticipated skills gaps and developing solutions (industry-led!)

Maritime technology*: one of the 6 sectors selected for the pilot*

3 phases:

1. Decision on implementing the Blueprint in a given sector
2. Set-up of sectorial skills platforms at EU level
3. Roll-out at national/regional level

European Commission

Blueprint on sectorial skills cooperation

What for?

- More **systematic approach** at EU level and impactful results at national/regional level
- To facilitate mobilisations and coordination of **key players**, involving both education, industry and governments at all levels
- To stimulate a more strategic use of EU and national **funding programmes**, including structural funds

European Commission

Thank you!

More information:

Alessia Clocchiatti (alessia.clocchiatti@ec.europa.eu)