

BCThubs 1-paragraph abstract

Basic data:

- ✓ Horizon Europe Call: WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-04-01: “Excellence Hubs”
- ✓ Project duration: 1/1/2023 – 31/12/2026
- ✓ Project budget: 4.997.562 €
- ✓ Partners & countries involved: 15 partners from Greece, Malta, Bulgaria and Italy.

Short abstract:

BCThubs aims to build R&I capacities in a specific Blue Economy sector, that of Blue Culture technologies (BCT). BCT is a rather newly introduced technological field, supporting Underwater Cultural Heritage (UWCH) in terms of scientific research, sustainable protection, restoration, accessibility, and valorisation/promotion. BCThubs wants to bring together the 4-helix actors working on UWCH that are scattered around Europe, and build strong long-term partnerships among them through the establishment of Excellence Hubs in Greece, Malta and Bulgaria. Although the new Hubs will be scoped regionally, they will be interconnected pursuing cross-border collaborations on common strategic goals and new value chains aligned with RIS3 and other EU policies (e.g. Green Deal). These will be reinforced through the development of a cross-border joint R&I Strategy for the Hubs' operation; and the implementation of specific innovative R&I prototype solutions (UW assets safeguarding, UW health & safety, etc.), critical for UWCH in Hub regions.