

## Abstract

This presentation will introduce projects relevant to marine technologies for blue economy sectors where the application of robotics is essential. The project 'Croatia-Cyprus Excellence Hub on Eco-Innovative Technologies for Healthy and Productive Seas' with the acronym 'SeaTechHub' will run from 2023 to 2027. The main goal of the SeaTechHub project is to strengthen Croatian and Cypriot place-based innovation ecosystems and improve access to excellence for research and innovation (R&I) actors by cross-border collaboration on a common strategy and alongside value-adding chains within the area of eco-innovative technologies for healthy and productive seas. The project focuses on five sectors: 1. Aquaculture and fisheries, 2. Smart ports, 3. Maritime security and protection, 4. Maritime technologies, and 5. Research and Education. These sectors are aligned with the Croatian and Cypriot Smart Specialization Strategies and are emerging or established sectors in the EU Blue Economy Report 2021. Another running project has the title 'Open Sea Aquaculture in the Eastern Mediterranean' with the acronym 'OS Aqua' and has been running since 2019. The OS Aqua project will deliver a roadmap enabling the creation of an Open Sea Aquacultural industry in Cyprus by developing the technical, regulatory, and financial framework. OS Aqua will design and identify suitable facilities that include cage, mooring, and monitoring equipment and areas for open sea aquaculture installation based on environmental, social, economic, and technological factors.