Call: EMFAF-2023-BlueCareers
Type of Action: EMFAF-PJG
Project number: 101124841
Project acronym: BOUTCAR

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Through EMFAF 2023 BlueCareers call

"Blue careers for a sustainable blue economy"

Project full title:	**BLUE JOBS THROUGH BLUE CAREERS**
Project Acronym:	**BOUTCAR**
Deliverable number:	**D8.6**
Deliverable title:	**Project Factsheet**
Work package:	**WP.8 Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation of Results.**
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BOUTCAR PROJECT FACTSHEET

Project Title
Blue Jobs through Blue Careers (BOUTCAR)

Project Summary
BOUTCAR is a European cooperation project funded under the EMFAF Blue Careers call (2023), bringing together industry organisations, education providers, research institutions, and training experts to strengthen skills development in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

Over three years, the project has developed innovative, modular training pathways, identified emerging professional profiles, piloted new learning programmes, and produced policy recommendations to support the green and digital transitions of Europe's blue economy. BOUTCAR contributes to making fisheries and aquaculture careers more attractive, resilient, and future-oriented while supporting lifelong learning and workforce mobility across the European Union.

Project Objectives
- Identify current and future skills needs in fisheries and aquaculture.
- Develop modular training curricula for emerging blue economy professions.
- Pilot and validate innovative training courses with students and sector professionals.
- Promote lifelong learning, upskilling, and reskilling opportunities.
- Support EU-wide recognition of blue economy skills and qualifications.
- Contribute to European policy initiatives including BlueComp, the European Ocean Pact, the Union of Skills, and the Energy Transition of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Main Results
- Skills needs assessment for fisheries and aquaculture.
- Development of three innovative training curricula: Digital Aquaculture Specialist (EQF 6); Marine Policy, Trade and Compliance Advisor (EQF 5); and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Officer (EQF 6).
- 3 pilot training activities implemented in Italy, Spain and Greece, with 43 students and 21 fisheries professionals.
- Policy Feedback Report containing recommendations for EU institutions and Member States.
- Online repository of training resources and learning materials.
- Increased cooperation between education providers, industry, and public authorities.

BOUTCAR supports the implementation of several key European policy initiatives by:

- contributing practical experience to the BlueComp Competency Framework;
- promoting modular learning, micro-credentials, and lifelong learning;
- supporting generational renewal and workforce attractiveness;
- strengthening links between fisheries, aquaculture, offshore renewable energy, and the wider blue economy;
- encouraging inclusive and future-oriented skills policies.

Project Impact

BOUTCAR has helped strengthen cooperation between education providers, industry, policymakers, and social partners while promoting innovative approaches to blue skills development. The project contributes to improving workforce resilience, supporting sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, and preparing coastal communities for the opportunities created by the green and digital transitions.

Duration

September 2023 – August 2026

Funding

The project is funded by the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) under the EMFAF-2023-BlueCareers call.

Contact Information

Project Coordinator: Laura Zambrini, DEMETRA Formazione (Italy)
Email: progettazione@demetraformazione.it

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Website: https://boutcar.eu/
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