

## NEWSLETTER #1, JUNE 2022

# THE ENVIRONAUT PROJECT KICKS OFF!

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## THE ENVIRONAUT PROJECT IS NOW LIVE

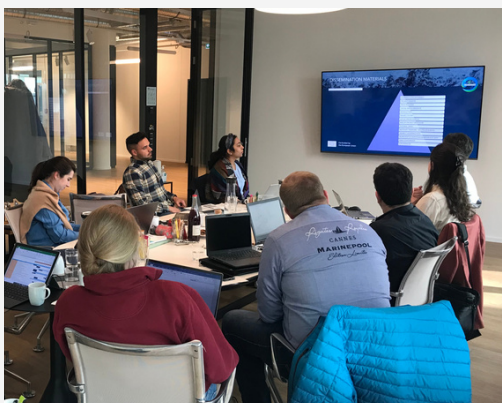
In recent years, protecting the environment has moved into the spotlight of policy discussions and rightly so! The nautical sector cannot stay out of this movement. As a sector deeply connected with the seas and the nature in general, boaters know and value the worth of our natural ecosystems and are willing to protect it, because of its proximity with the beauty of nature. Therefore, recreational boating is a tool that we have to protect our world, while enjoying it.

In order to protect the environment, we must promote good practices and sustainable nautical tourism. For this reason, the EU-funded Erasmus+ project "ENVIRonmental Officer in the NAUTical Tourism Industry" (EnviroNaut) was launched to develop the first ever Environmental Officer curricula, which once completed will be online, free and accessible to all. The figure of the Environmental Officer is much needed for the reasons mentioned above, as they will sustainably manage recreational boating and nautical tourism to become a means to protect marine and coastal ecosystems.

The project partners, the German Ocean Foundation, Sea Teach, the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), the European Boating Industry (EBI), the German Marine Federation (BVWW) and the Frederick University, aim to bridge the gap between the training and skills needed in the boating industry, while enhancing the positive environmental impact that the recreational boating sector can have.



## KICK-OFF MEETING



The first partner meeting under the EnviroNaut project took place on the 24th and 25th March 2022 in Hamburg, Germany. Partners were introduced to the general concept, objectives, and first steps of the project. During the meeting, important items of the agenda were discussed. The participants became acquainted with the prospect of the development of both project results and outlined plans for research; including the identification of national and EU environmental laws related to the nautical sector and the design of the research questionnaire to be sent to target groups.



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## ENVIRONAUT AT THE EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY

We made our first public appearance at the European Maritime Day (EMD) in Ravenna, Italy on the 19th May, 2022. We co-organised the workshop on: "Knowledge and Skills gaps in the blue sector: Towards sustainable blue growth", our experts were **Eirini-Asimina Stamatopoulou** - Ph.D. Candidate and Research Engineer at the National Technical University of Athens, **Frank Schweikert** - Founder & Director of German Ocean Foundation and **Stefano Pagani Isnardi** - Head of Research Department at Confindustria Nautica. The session provided a space for debate in which marine stakeholders discussed the challenges facing the next generation of marine professionals, as well as the skills and capabilities needed to meet the goals of the blue economy and deliver sustainable ocean businesses. The workshop was organized in a way that all participants were able to interact with the speakers by asking them questions, answering polls and providing feedback. The workshop had 267 registrations and we received valuable feedback from the attendees which will be used in the development phase of our project.



## DO YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Project partners have proceeded with the development of the following set of questions that will help us understand the day-to-day practices of the nautical sector labour and later identify skill gaps in the participating countries by comparing the answers of the target groups with the current legislation.

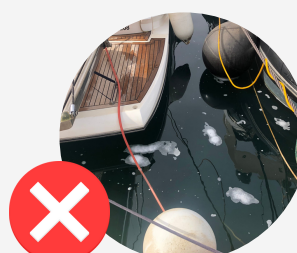
Are you ready to answer the questionnaire?

[CLICK HERE](#)



Furthermore, during and after the project lifetime we will be publishing pictures of good and bad practice scenarios within the nautical sector. Did you spot any bad practice? us your pictures!

[SEND](#)





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## PRESS RELEASE

The word is out!

The first project press release was sent out at the beginning of May and it got the industry's attention! Several magazines focused in the nautical industry shared it with their readers but if you haven't had the chance to read yet, you can still do it, just click on the icon below!



## MEET THE PARTNERS

Our 'Meet the Partners' series aim to introduce two partners in each newsletter. In this issue, we feature European Boating Industry and BVWW. Subscribe to our newsletter to learn more about the other project partners!

### BVWW - PROJECT COORDINATOR

BVWW is the economic and political voice of the maritime leisure industry representing around 450 companies in Germany. BVWW sees itself as representing the interests of all companies that are active in the water sports industry. The aim of the professional association is to accompany construction projects for marinas with substantial expertise.



### EUROPEAN BOATING INDUSTRY

European Boating Industry (EBI) is made up of the national associations representing the recreational boating and nautical tourism industry in Europe.

Our mission is advancing and representing a sustainable boating and nautical tourism industry #MadeInEurope.



Follow us on Social Media and visit our website to discover more about the project and be up to date!

## STAY CONNECTED

