The Blue Consortium
A Collaborative Approach
THE RIGHT SKILLS FOR THE RIGHT FUTURE

THE RIGHT PROJECT IN SHORT

An Interreg North Sea Region (NSR) co-funded project which aims to enhance regional innovation support capacity to increase long-term innovation levels and support smart specialisation strategies.

To achieve this, RIGHT concentrates its efforts on developing the skills of the workforce relevant for SMEs in the participating regions within the energy and blue sectors.

The project's total budget is €3,366,047, where 50% is funded by the project partners, 39% by the European Union, and 11% by the Norwegian government.

14 Partners across 7 Countries, Universities, Industry Clusters, Regional Authorities

WP1 & WP2 Lead beneficiary Vestland County Council, Norway
WP3 Leader, Hanze Universisty, Groningen, Netherlands
WP4 Leader, Fife Council, Scotland
WP5 Leader, Skåne Region, Sweden
WHAT DID WE FIND?
WORK PACKAGE 3 RESEARCH IDENTIFIED:

A NUMBER OF SKILLS GAPS MOST NOTABLY ENGINEERING + MANUFACTURING + TECH

ISSUES WITH SME’s RELATING TO TIME DEMAND FUNDING, TRAINING ALSO ACCOUNTING

LOW LEVELS OF COLLABORATION, EDUCATION INDUSTRY, GOV BODIES

OVERALL, A HUGE OPPORTUNITY FOR FIFE,

BLUE GROWTH TO BECOME A DRIVER FOR SUSTAINABLE + INCLUSIVE GROWTH
OUR PILOTS

15 PILOTS ACROSS 7 COUNTRIES
IN A RANGE OF THEMATIC LINES.

Engineering & Manufacturing in the Blue economy –
Core Engineering skills academy

Pilot: Blue Growth Consortium, Skills + Innovation

Race 2 Zero Innovation Game
- Augmented Reality App

MarineTraining.EU transregional pilot
Analysis of Clusters identified a weakness but also an opportunity to create better collaborative networks.

Cross sectoral/organizational network will lead to more innovation, or so the theory goes....


Felt we could go a bit further in Fife. Inclusive Growth? A circular model where business, education and the community come together?

How can the group use a bottom-up approach to develop the skills needed for a decarbonizing world?

Could the Group become a vehicle to shape discussions on Policy?
## Some Key Objectives; Short, medium and long term goals

### Short - Mid Term

1. Improve collaborations and the innovation ecosystem in Fife.
2. Cross organisational networks. Giving SME’s a key role in telling us how they can improve the pipeline of talent + approaches to innovation.
3. Opportunities to meet common recruitment challenges by creation of academies/ training programmes.
4. Increased opportunities for marketing, sharing success stories and raising awareness about the blue and energy sectors.
5. BlueSTEM, increase employer interactions with primary secondary and tertiary education.
6. Opportunities to identify areas for upskilling staff, life-long learning.

### Longer Term

1. Increased opportunities to access funding and programmes, existing and new.
2. Opportunities to pool and share resources. Spirit of collaboration and knowledge sharing – work with clusters and sector agencies.
3. Build on existing local and international partnerships. Opportunity for consortium to be a platform for interregional knowledge transfer.
4. Assist in attracting inward investments from companies in the blue and energy sectors.

### Project Results:

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<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased innovation capacity</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Share of participating SME’s shown here as a %</td>
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<tr>
<td>New and improved collaborations that enhance innovation ecosystems</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Share of interviewed managers/policymakers evaluating project activities shown here as a %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhanced regional innovation support capacity</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Share of interviewed intermediaries/policymakers evaluating project activities related to the activities</td>
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Partnership with D’arcy Thomson

Industry led - Crucial component to success of the Group and meeting objectives.

Simulation LED and Nautilus Project flagship areas of focus for group.

Nautilus Project funding secured via Blue Consortium introduced to Fife Schools via DYW network and Culture of Enterprise Team.

Aim is to use community based, citizen science to boost STEM participation. Practical use of sensor systems end to end use of Environmental data.

Using partnerships to build an international Nautilus network, Skåne, Iceland, Norway
<table>
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<th>Tools + Other Outputs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Consortium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshops/Seminars</td>
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<td>Marine Training</td>
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<td>Lochore Meadows</td>
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<td>Wind Farm</td>
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<td>Construction Project</td>
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<td>Nautilus</td>
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Further Information

For More information on the Blue Consortium programmes, Our RIGHT Project tools + Pilots, Nautilus or Future plans,

Contact

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