

SPLASH Black Sea - 2026**Water, Marine & Maritime (WMM): Present & Future of the
Black Sea Innovation Ecosystem****EIT Water CLC Black Sea Regional Event**

2 October 2026 | International Congress Center Burgas, Burgas, Bulgaria

Join us for this **EIT Water CLC Black sea regional event** bringing together representatives from industry, research and academia, public authorities, innovators, entrepreneurs, investors and other key stakeholders to explore the present and future of the Black Sea water, marine and maritime innovation ecosystem, share insights, and identify opportunities to advance innovation across Europe's water, marine and maritime sectors and ecosystems. The event will highlight practical solutions, create space for collaboration, and support the development of ideas that can scale across regions, while strengthening connections between the Black Sea region and the wider European innovation ecosystem.

EIT Water brings together Europe's water, marine and maritime communities to accelerate solutions that protect water resources, build climate resilience, improve Europe's competitiveness and strengthen Europe's water security.

SPLASH Black Sea - 2026 will provide a practical environment for exchanging knowledge, identifying synergies, establishing new partnerships and exploring opportunities for European and regional cooperation. The ambition is to connect ideas, expertise and organisations and create opportunities for collaborations that can generate long-term impact across the Black Sea region and beyond.

Working language: English

The preliminary agenda for SPLASH Black Sea - 2026 is outlined below.

09:00 – 09:30	Registration & Welcome Coffee
09:30 – 10:00	Official Opening & Welcome Addresses - TBC: • Marine Cluster Bulgaria • Burgas Municipality • EIT Governing Board, EC • General Consulate and Embassy of Türkiye • General Consulate and Embassy of Georgia • Ministry of Transportation and Communication, Bulgaria

10:00 – 10:40	Keynote: Securing Europe's Water Future: Building Europe's Water, Marine & Maritime Innovation Ecosystem Mikael Kamp Sørensen, CEO, EIT Water
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:30	Panel Session: Water, Marine & Maritime Innovation in the Black Sea Region - Ivan Ivanov, President, Bulgarian Water Association, Bulgaria - Mateo Ivanac, CEO, Innovamare, Croatia - Janne Skou Pedersen, CEO, Water Valley Denmark, Denmark - Cevza Melek Kazezyılmaz Alhan, Head of Hydraulics Division, Istanbul University - Cerrahpaşa, Türkiye - Ibrahim Tan, Research Group Leader, TÜBİTAK, Türkiye - Mihaela Mirea, Black Sea Assistance Mechanism, CMA - Milena Stoycheva, CEO, The Edge, Bulgaria
12:30 – 14:00	Networking Lunch
14:00 – 15:45	Interactive Networking Session - Black Sea Economy Ecosystem: Business Perspectives & Partnership Opportunities - Meet, Pitch & Connect
15:45 – 16:00	Closing Remarks & Next Steps

About EIT Water

EIT Water is Europe's innovation community for water, marine and maritime systems. We connect industry, innovators, researchers, educators and policymakers to tackle the most urgent water challenges - from scarcity, drought and flooding to pollution and ecosystem decline.

By bringing together the right expertise, investment and partners, we help new ideas flow into real-world solutions that strengthen Europe's water resilience, support the blue economy and protect ecosystems from source to sea. EIT Water is part of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union. This activity is co-funded by the European Union.

You can **register** for the EIT Water CLC Black Sea regional event [here](#).