

## Press release #3

# 1<sup>st</sup> Innovation Support Call Open!

GALATEA starts 2021 organizing its first sessions of Innovation Clubs, bringing together more than 60 SMEs and 10 experts from 5 European countries. The four sessions which took place the 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of January, implemented an innovative "design thinking" methodology to facilitate the emergence of solutions lead by SME in a cross-fertilization context. As a result of these creativity sessions around 35 ideas were generated to address the challenges identified in the four Blue Growth domains supported by GALATEA project: Smart Ships, Smart Ports, Smart Shipyards and Maritime Surveillance.

The Innovation Clubs were followed by B2B meetings on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February allowing SMEs to strengthen alliances and further develop their ideas into projects to respond to the 1<sup>st</sup> Open Call launched by GALATEA on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January.

The Innovation Support Mechanism Implemented by GALATEA will have an available budget of €1.308.000 for this first call for vouchers. Innovative SMEs from the Maritime (port, ship, shipyard, maritime surveillance), ICT, Aeronautics or Aeronautic sectors which are members of one of the GALATEA consortium clusters or established or with a branch office in the GALATEA territorial scope (France; Greece; Poland; Romania and Spain) can apply to get direct financial support from the voucher scheme:

- up to 20.000 € for individual applications to development and technology transfer activities or
- up to 60.000 € per SME for consortiums of at least two SMEs to develop prototype or demonstration projects.

Additionally, SMEs can apply for the support of GALATEA partners in the development of their innovation and scale-up activities such as business model elaboration, technology potential assessment for given markets internationalisation actions or exploring funding opportunities.

The first call will be opened until the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2021 @17:00 CET and proposals can be submitted electronically [here](#)

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## About Galatea

GALATEA had received €3,67 million from the Horizon 2020 program of the European Commission of which 79% will be dedicated to the support of SMEs through direct financial support (€2,18 million), services provided by GALATEA partners and other activities organized by the project. GALATEA expects to support at least 100 European SMEs for the innovation of products or processes, development of large-scale demonstrators or markets extension.

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## GALATEA consortium

Pôle Mer Méditerranée - Toulon Var Technologies (France); Aerospace Valley (France); Corallia Clusters Initiative/Research Center Athena (Greece); Asociación Clúster de Movilidad y Logística de Euskadi (Spain); Fundació Eurecat (Spain); Catalan Water Partnership (Spain); Asociația Cluj IT (Romania); Baltycki Klaster Morski i Kosmiczny (Poland)

