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WP3 Blended Intensive Programme

R&I Trends in Islands, Ports and Coastal
Territories

Official Programme - Early Draft
(Updated 02 March 2026)

BIP: R&I Trends in Islands, Ports and Coastal Territories - Early Draft Programme

- University of the Azores, Ponta Delgada
- 5 June 2026 (1 online session)
- 22-26 June 2026 (Monday-Friday)
- School of Health Sciences: Auditorium IX + 5 parallel rooms (one per Hub)
- Project phase: Month 20 (M20)

Overall Objective of the BIP

The Blended Intensive Program (BIP) is conceived as a learning-oriented initiative supporting the development of scientific, strategic and collaborative competences with a specific focus on R&I in islands, ports and coastal territories. Through a combination of online preparation, invited lectures and workshops, participants engage in learning activities addressing research coordination, research management, Open Science practices, community engagement and inter-institutional collaboration in territorially anchored research contexts. The BIP fosters critical reflection across disciplines, career stages and professional profiles, enabling participants to better understand how research, innovation and societal engagement can be jointly designed within European University Alliances.

5 June 2026 (Friday) Online Programme	
Morning Session	
13:00-13:10 (CET)	Welcome and opening remarks
13:10-13:40 (CET)	Understanding the relevance of European Universities Alliances' Common Research Agendas: the EUNICoast approach Structure, Scientific Priorities and Implementation Pathways
13:40-14:10 (CET)	Work Plan Overview & Presentation of the Programme
14:10-14:40 (CET)	Coffee break
14:40-16:25 (CET)	Learning from Thematic Research Hubs: Scientific Priorities, Practices and Collaborative Approaches
16:25-16:50 (CET)	Open floor & closing session

22 June 2026 (Monday)	
Morning Programme	
Local:	Auditorium IX (School of Health Sciences)
09:00-09:30 (AZOT time)	Welcome and institutional opening
09:30-10:30	Invited Talk 1: Research Agendas from European University Alliances: From Vision to Action and Good Practice
10:30-10:45	Learning from the Biotechnology Centre of the Azores
10:45-11:00	Learning from the Institute of Marine Sciences (Okeanos)
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-11:45	Learning from the Azorean Biodiversity Group
11:45-12:45	Invited Talk 2: “Smart Specialisation Strategies in Islands, Ports and Coastal Territories”
12:45-14:15	Lunch
Afternoon Programme	
Local:	Auditorium IX (School of Health Sciences)
14:15-15:45	Invited Talk 3: “Future EU Funding Opportunities for R&I in Islands, Ports and Coastal Territories”
15:45-16:00	Learning from the Research Center in Biodiversity and Genetic Resources (CIBIO-Azores)
16:00-16:30	Coffee Break
16:30-17:30	Invited Talk 4: “Training Future Researchers in European University Alliances”
17:30-17:45	Learning from the Center of Applied Economic Studies of the Atlantic
17:45-18:00	Learning from the Interdisciplinary Center for Social Sciences (CICS.UAc)
18:00-18:15	Learning from the Research Institute for Volcanology and Risk Assessment (IVAR)

Parallel session = 23 June 2026 (Tuesday) To: T&R Hubs	
Morning Programme	
Moderator: Panel: Venue: Rooms U, V, X, Y, Z (School of Health Sciences)	
09:00-10:30	<p>Parallel Thematic Learning Workshops I: Workshop-based sessions focused on analysing research priorities, practices and collaboration pathways in coastal, port and island contexts.</p> <p>Participants choose one of the following thematic learning tracks, held in parallel rooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic Workshop 1 - Identities, Local Knowledge and Cultural Heritage in Islands and Coastal Communities • Thematic Workshop 2 - Blue Circular Economy, Port Logistics and Sustainable Blue Tourism • Thematic Workshop 3 - Governance, Planning and Monitoring of Islands and Coastal Communities • Thematic Workshop 4 - Health, Biodiversity, Nature-based Solutions and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Resources • Thematic Workshop 5 - Engineered and Data-driven Solutions for Coastal Infrastructures, Marine Energy and Maritime Safety
10:30-11:00	<p>Coffee Break</p>
11:00-12:00	<p>Parallel Thematic Learning Workshops I: Workshop-based sessions focused on analysing research priorities, practices and collaboration pathways in coastal, port and island contexts.</p> <p>Participants choose one of the following thematic learning tracks, held in parallel rooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic Workshop 1 - Identities, Local Knowledge and Cultural Heritage in Islands and Coastal Communities • Thematic Workshop 2 - Blue Circular Economy, Port Logistics and Sustainable Blue Tourism • Thematic Workshop 3 - Governance, Planning and Monitoring of Islands and Coastal Communities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic Workshop 4 - Health, Biodiversity, Nature-based Solutions and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Resources • Thematic Workshop 5 - Engineered and Data-driven Solutions for Coastal Infrastructures, Marine Energy and Maritime Safety
12:00-13:30	Lunch
Afternoon Programme	
13:30-17:00	<p><i>Social Programme:</i> <i>the social programme provides place-based learning experiences directly aligned with research and innovation challenges in coastal, island and port territories.</i></p> <p>Guided Walking City Tour</p> <p>13h30 - 14h15 (45min) Mercado da Graça + Rei dos Queijos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to local products • Informal tasting of regional cheeses • Free circulation in small sub-groups <p>14h30 - 15h45 (1h15) Historic Centre of Ponta Delgada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Gates (<i>Portas da Cidade</i>) • Bell Tower (<i>Torre Sineira</i>) • Sanctuary of Senhor Santo Cristo dos Milagres • Fort of São Brás (external view) <p>16h00 - 16h30 (30 minuts) Portas do Mar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk along the waterfront • Informal social time (coffee / networking) • Reading of the city's historical and contemporary relationship with the sea <p>16h30 - Return to the University of the Azores</p>

Parallel session = 23 June 2026 (Tuesday)	
Improving Research & Innovation through Community Engagement	
Venue: Auditorium IX (School of Health Sciences)	
Afternoon Programme	
13:30-13:35	Session Opening
13:35-14:05	Presentation: Research & Innovation in European University Alliances: Strategic Priorities
14:05-14:35	Presentation: Community Engagement in Research & Innovation: Models, Challenges and Opportunities in Coastal and Island Territories
14:35-15:00	Coffee break
15:00-15:40	Workshop: Identifying Synergies between Research & Innovation and Community Engagement (Strengthening Researcher Training; Promoting Open Science for Non-Specialist Audiences; Developing Pilot Community Engagement Initiatives for Science)
15:40-16:10	Next Steps

24 June 2026 (Wednesday)

Social Programme: *the social programme provides place-based learning experiences directly aligned with research and innovation challenges in coastal, island and port territories.*

09:00 - Departure from Ponta Delgada

09:30-10:30 (1h) - Sete Cidades

Thematic relevance: Volcanic lake ecosystems, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services in island territories.

- Vista do Rei viewpoint
- Sete Cidades lake
 - Technical stop at the viewpoint
 - Descent towards the lake
 - Free time along the lakeshore

10:30-11:05 (35 min) - Cross-Island Journey

Thematic relevance: territorial governance, spatial planning and regional cohesion in island regions.

- Panoramic route
- Landscape commentary during the journey

11:05-11:50 (45 min) - Lagoa do Fogo Viewpoint

Thematic relevance: Freshwater ecosystem protection, climate vulnerability and conservation policies in island environments.

12:00-12:40 (40 min) - Santa Iria Viewpoint

Thematic relevance: Understanding coastal geomorphology, cliff erosion processes and land-sea interactions in exposed island coastlines, with implications for coastal risk management.

12:50-14:50 (2h) - Lunch

15:10-16:00 (50 min) - Gorreana Tea Plantation

Thematic relevance: productive landscapes, traditional knowledge and cultural heritage in island territories.

16:25-17:10 (45 min) - Furnas - Hotspots

Thematic relevance: volcanism, geothermal resources, energy transition and risk management in island contexts.

- Stop at the hotspots
- Explanation of volcanism and geothermal activity

- Time for photographs

17:10-17:50 - Return to the University of the Azores (Ponta Delgada)

25 June 2026 (Thursday)	
Morning Programme	
Local: Rooms U, V, X, Y, Z (School of Health Sciences)	
09:00-10:30	<p>Parallel Thematic Learning Workshops II: Workshop-based sessions focused on analysing research priorities, practices and collaboration pathways in coastal, port and island contexts</p> <p>Participants choose one of the following thematic learning tracks, held in parallel rooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic Workshop 1 - Identities, Local Knowledge and Cultural Heritage in Islands and Coastal Communities • Thematic Workshop 2 - Blue Circular Economy, Port Logistics and Sustainable Blue Tourism • Thematic Workshop 3 - Governance, Planning and Monitoring of Islands and Coastal Communities • Thematic Workshop 4 - Health, Biodiversity, Nature-based Solutions and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Resources • Thematic Workshop 5 - Engineered and Data-driven Solutions for Coastal Infrastructures, Marine Energy and Maritime Safety
10:30-11:00	<p>Break lunch 30min</p>
11:00-12:00	<p>Parallel Thematic Learning Workshops II: Workshop-based sessions focused on analysing research priorities, practices and collaboration pathways in coastal, port and island contexts</p> <p>Participants choose one of the following thematic learning tracks, held in parallel rooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic Workshop 1 - Identities, Local Knowledge and Cultural Heritage in Islands and Coastal Communities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic Workshop 2 - Blue Circular Economy, Port Logistics and Sustainable Blue Tourism • Thematic Workshop 3 - Governance, Planning and Monitoring of Islands and Coastal Communities • Thematic Workshop 4 - Health, Biodiversity, Nature-based Solutions and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Resources • Thematic Workshop 5 - Engineered and Data-driven Solutions for Coastal Infrastructures, Marine Energy and Maritime Safety
12:00-13:30	Lunch
Afternoon Programme	
Local: Auditorium IX (School of Health Sciences)	
13:30-15:00	<p>Interdisciplinary Plenary Learning Session: From Thematic Insights to Collaborative Research Design</p> <p>Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13:30-14:00: Key insights: Identities, Local Knowledge, and Cultural Heritage in Islands & Coastal Communities • 14:00-14:30: Key insights: Blue Circular Economy, Port Logistics, and Sustainable Blue Tourism • 14:30-15:00: Key insights: Governance, Planning, Management, and Monitoring of Islands and Coastal Communities
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break
15:30-16:00	<p>Interdisciplinary Plenary Learning Session: From Thematic Insights to Collaborative Research Design</p> <p>Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15:30-16:00: Key insights: Health, Biodiversity Protection, Nature-based Solutions, and Sustainable Exploration of Coastal/Marine Resources • 16:00-16:30: Key insights: Engineered and Data-driven Solutions for Coastal Infrastructures, Marine Renewable Energy, Marine Safety, and Navigation Systems
16:00-16:15	Learning from the Intelligent Systems, Science and Engineering (IS2E LIACC)

16:15-16:30	Learning from the Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Research and Technology
19:00	Social Dinner in Ponta Delgada

26 June 2026 (Friday)	
Morning Programme	
Venue: Auditorium IX (School of Health Sciences)	
09:00-10:00	Invited Talk 1: “Open Science Foundations: Principles, Practices and Scientific Culture”
10:00-10:15	Learning from the Centre for the Humanities (CHAM Azores)
10:15-11:15	Invited Talk 2: “Science Communication and Dissemination: Transparency, Trust and Public Engagement”
11:15-11:35	Coffee Break
11:35-12:35	Invited Talk 3: “Science Management: Challenges and Trends”
12:35-13:30	Invited Talk 4: “Intellectual Property Protection, Knowledge and Technology Transfer, and Entrepreneurship in Coastal Universities and Regions – how to foster disruption?”
13:30-13:35	Learning from the Interdisciplinary Center for Children and Adolescents (ICA-UAc)
13:35-13:50	Learning from the Center for Humanistic Studies of the University of the Azores (CEHu)
13:50-14:05	Learning from the University Research Center in Psychology (CUIP-UAc)
14:05-15:05	Lunch