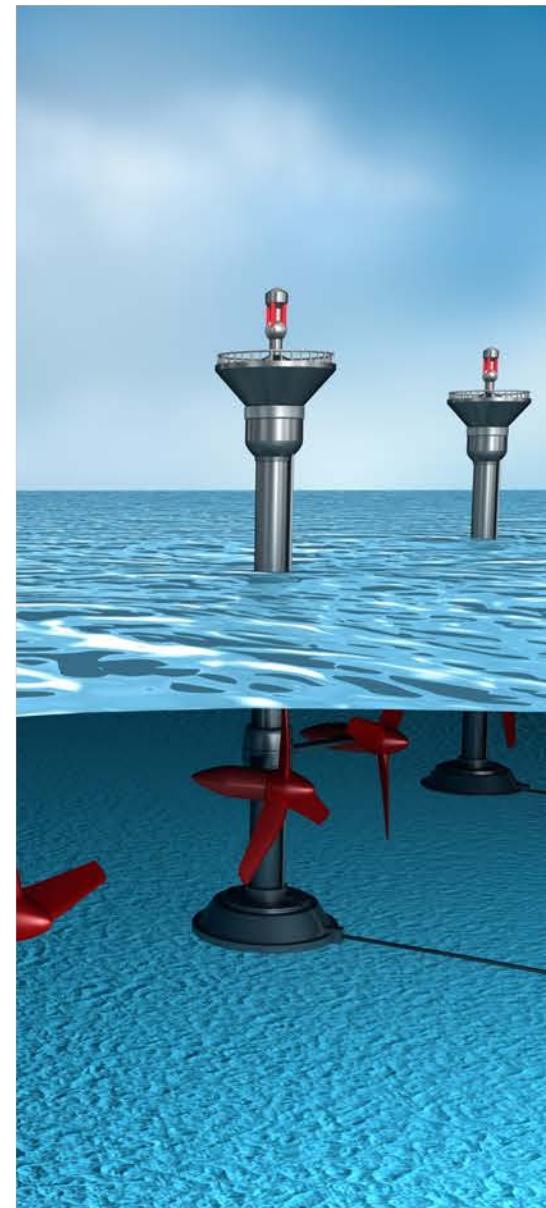


## A smart and innovative western Mediterranean basin

1. A need to coordinate, cooperate, and empower across the whole region (e.g. through tools such as BLUEMED Initiative, clusters, Smart Ports, MSP)
2. A need to capitalise on existing initiatives so that they can be enlarged and enhanced
3. A need to focus on technologies of the future with high economic (through value chains) and environmental benefits (Blue biotechnology, ocean renewable energy, hydrography)
4. A need for open data systems that provide real services and that address real needs of citizens – this requires interoperability, standards (e.g. on data collection)
5. A need to build capacities and competencies across the whole region across sectors, disciplines and generations, so that technologies and opportunities can be effectively used – and perspectives for the youth be offered



Towards an initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy in the western Mediterranean