



**LIMASSOL MUNICIPALITY**



**Frederick University**



**BLUE LIMASSOL  
FORUM**

## **The Cyprus Foundation of the Sea (CY-FOS)**

**assisting to develop an Integrated  
Coastal  
Governance Model for Limassol**

**Chairman capt. Eugen-Henning Adami**

**“After living for nearly 100 years on the planet, I now understand that the most important place on Earth is not on land, but at sea.”**

**-Sir David Attenborough**



# The Blue Economy of Cyprus

## Much Larger Than We Commonly Believe

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### *What is the Blue Economy of Cyprus?"*

- **Most people immediately think about:**
  - Ship management, Ship owning and Ship registration.
  - Some think also about: ports, or fisheries.
- **However, the true Blue Economy of Cyprus is far wider and more interconnected.**

**“The Blue Economy of Cyprus is not limited to what statistics can easily measure. Its true dimension lies in the interconnected ecosystem created by our geographic position.”**

- **Cyprus is structurally a:**
  - Maritime, Marine, Coastal, Logistics, and Maritime services economy.

### **Key Message**

**“The officially measured Blue Economy already contributes around 7% of Cyprus’ economy. The wider maritime and marine-dependent ecosystem is likely substantially larger and may even reach to 20%.”**

**The industry should therefore not operate in silos!**

# Wider Maritime & Marine-Dependent Economy Stakeholders of Cyprus

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## Maritime Transport & Shipping

- Ship owning
- Ship management
- Ship brokerage and chartering
- Ports and terminal operators
- Forwarding, logistics and clearing
- Bunkering and marine fuels
- Ship supplies and chandlery
- Towage and marine support services
- Cruise, ferry and RoPax shipping

## Professional & Financial Services

- Maritime legal services
  - Marine insurance and P&I services
  - Ship finance and leasing
  - Classification societies
  - Compliance, auditing and consultancy services
  - Maritime arbitration and dispute resolution
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# Wider Maritime & Marine-Dependent Economy Stakeholders of Cyprus

## Marine Industrial, Tourism & Knowledge Ecosystem

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### Marine Industrial & Technical Sector

- Shipyards and ship repair
- Marine engineering
- Marine technology and digitalization
- Maritime AI and smart shipping systems
- Offshore and subsea services
- Offshore renewable energy support services

### Marine Living Resources

- Fisheries
- Aquaculture and fish farming
- Marine biotechnology
- Seafood processing and distribution

### Coastal & Marine Tourism

- Coastal tourism
- Marina developments
- Yachting and sailing tourism
- Cruise tourism
- Diving and marine recreation

### Knowledge, Innovation & Governance

- Research and development
- Maritime education and training
- Marine environmental services
- Oceanographic and climate research
- Blue economy NGOs and cluster organizations
- Government maritime authorities and regulators
- Investment promotion agencies
- Marine sustainability and ESG services

### Key Message

**“The Blue Economy of Cyprus is a highly interconnected maritime and marine ecosystem whose contribution to prosperity, innovation, employment and competitiveness is substantially larger than currently reflected in traditional economic statistics.”**

# Why the European Union Promotes Cluster Organizations

## What is a Cluster?

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**A Cluster is a geographically connected ecosystem of:**

- companies
- institutions
- universities
- authorities
- researchers
- and service providers

**working together to improve:**

- competitiveness
- innovation
- sustainability
- investment attraction
- and economic growth

**Why Clusters Matter?**

**The European Union promotes clusters because they:**

- strengthen innovation and technology transfer
- connect academia with industry
- improve SME competitiveness
- attract investment and talent
- support sustainability and resilience
- create high-value employment
- improve regional and international visibility

### **Key Message**

**“Modern economies compete increasingly as ecosystems rather than as isolated companies, or silos.”**

# Why Blue Economy Clusters are Strategically Important for Cyprus

## The Blue Economy is Naturally Fragmented

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**Cyprus already possesses strong maritime and marine sector representations:**

- shipping
- tourism
- ports
- fisheries and aquaculture
- research and education
- logistics and finance
- environmental, marine and tech services

**The sectors operate independently despite depending on the same marine ecosystem.**

**The Role of a Blue Economy Cluster is to:**

- connect fragmented stakeholders
- create cooperation and joint strategy
- increase international visibility
- support innovation and R&D
- align industry with EU policy and funding
- strengthen national competitiveness

### **Key Message**

**“The true strength of the Blue Economy emerges when maritime and marine stakeholders operate as one coordinated ecosystem.”**

**“CY-FOS aims to connect Cyprus’ maritime and marine stakeholders into an integrated Blue Economy ecosystem aligned with European strategy and sustainable economic growth.”**



# CY-FOS: Strategic Achievements & National Impact

## Establishing Cyprus' National Blue Economy Cluster

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### Key Facts:

- **Founded in 2019** to unite industry, academia, government and society into one coordinated Blue Economy ecosystem
- Officially recognised and registered in the European Blue Economy Observatory
- Developed into a professionally managed and transparent national cluster organisation with 30+ participating organisations

### Strategic National Contributions:

- Contributed to Cyprus' long-term maritime strategy consultation with the Shipping Deputy Ministry
- Supported Limassol's inclusion in the EU "100 Climate-Neutral & Smart Cities Mission"
- Supported the national Cold Ironing initiative and its expansion toward additional Cypriot ports
- Supported Cyprus' positioning for the 2026 EU Presidency with Blue Economy and ocean-focused initiatives

### Key Message

**"CY-FOS successfully connected Cyprus' maritime & marine stakeholders to secure important projects. CY-FOS enabled members to participate in larger international consortia through coordinated cluster cooperation."**

# CY-FOS: Sustainability, Skills & Workforce Transformation

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## Environmental & Sustainability Leadership:

- Supported pollution monitoring initiatives for Limassol Bay using innovative drone-assisted technologies
- Raised national awareness regarding Blue Flag losses and coastal environmental quality
- Contributed to METAVASEA, supporting maritime decarbonisation and future workforce skills development

## Education, Skills & Workforce Development:

- Supported SDM-funded research on future maritime workforce skills and demographics in Cyprus
- Promoted maritime careers, ocean literacy and youth engagement
- Supported workshops on maritime decarbonisation, safety culture and future fuel technologies

### Key Message

**“Sustainability, education and workforce transformation are central pillars of the future Blue Economy.”**



# CY-FOS: International Visibility & Cluster Diplomacy

## International Cooperation:

- Hosted and advised the Estonian Maritime Cluster on governance and ecosystem development
- Supported Romania in exploring the establishment of a national aquaculture cluster
- Established cooperation links with Canadian ocean innovation super-clusters
- Represented Cyprus at the EU Cluster Booster Academy as the only maritime cluster participant

## CY-FOS increasingly positions Cyprus as:

- a regional Blue Economy connector,
- an innovation platform,
- and a Mediterranean maritime cooperation hub.



## Key Message

**“CY-FOS demonstrates how cluster organizations can elevate national visibility and international cooperation.”**

# CY-FOS: Strategic Priorities & Vision for 2026 and Beyond

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## Expanding National Research & Innovation Activities:

- The Shipping Deputy Ministry is expected to entrust CY-FOS with two additional strategic R&D projects during 2026
- **These projects aim to strengthen:**
  - Blue Economy innovation
  - sustainability
  - workforce transformation
  - marine environmental governance

## Measuring the True Blue Dimension of Cyprus:

- The Central Bank of Cyprus requested the preparation of a Concept Note to evaluate the real economic impact of the wider maritime and marine-dependent economy of Cyprus
- **The initiative aims to better measure:**
  - The actual size and GDP contribution
  - employment impact
  - innovation value
  - multiplier effects

### Key Message

**“The total contribution of the Blue Economy to the Cyprus GDP has never been scientifically established and is believed to be largely underestimated.”**



# CY-FOS: Strategic Priorities & Vision for 2026 and Beyond

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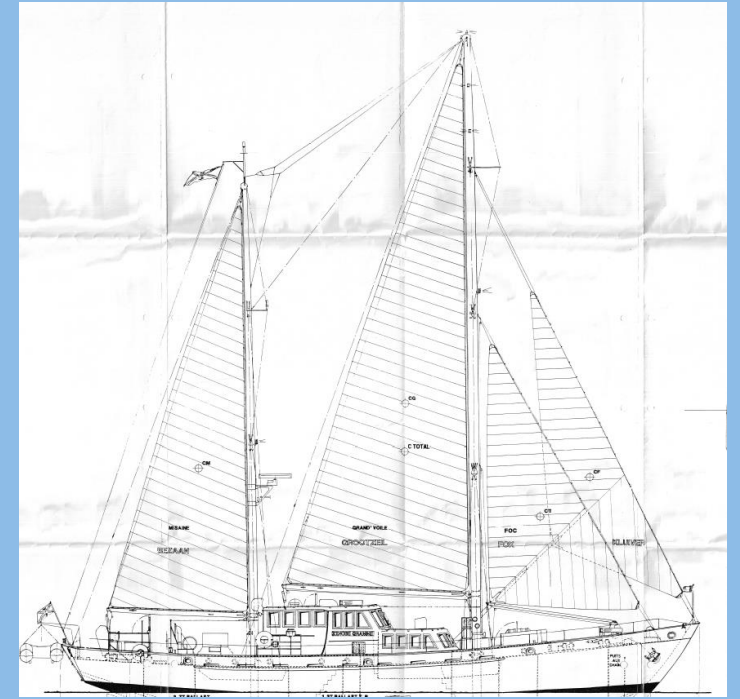
## The Sail Training & Ocean Research Vessel “Zenobe Gramme”

- CY-FOS supports the proposed acquisition of the Sail Training Vessel Zenobe Gramme
- **The vessel is envisioned as:**
  - a floating maritime education platform
  - a Cyprus flag cadet training vessel
  - a symbol of Cyprus’ maritime heritage and youth development
  - an ambassador for Cyprus at sea and in all ports
  - supporting ocean literacy, youth development and international maritime cooperation



### Strategic Vision:

“CY-FOS aims to help transform Cyprus into a fully integrated European Blue Economy ecosystem combining innovation, education, sustainability, maritime excellence and ocean stewardship.”



# Cyprus Sail Training Association's T/S "Zénobe Gramme" 12 Cadets +3 Crew