DiploInnova Canarias

Participating entities

Gobierno de Canarias
islas iguales

Brussels
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- Fluves
- H2sea

Participating entities – Spain (1/6)

1. Canary Islands - Public institutions & R&D centres

Government of the Canary Islands

The **Government of the Canary Islands**, through **Islas Responsables Lab (IRLab)**, promotes public innovation and new approaches to addressing the strategic challenges facing the archipelago. IRLab acts as a **public innovation laboratory**, fostering experimentation and collaboration to improve public policies and anticipate the future needs of the Canary Islands.

Within this framework, **DiploInnova Canarias** is a science diplomacy programme promoted by the Presidency of the Government of the Canary Islands to strengthen the international projection of the region's **science, technology and innovation ecosystem**.

By connecting diplomatic missions, international organisations, research institutions and innovation stakeholders, DiploInnova creates opportunities for **scientific cooperation, knowledge exchange and strategic partnerships**. It also showcases the Canary Islands' research capabilities, strategic infrastructures and potential as a **living laboratory for innovative and sustainable solutions**.

Through IRLab and DiploInnova, the Government of the Canary Islands strengthens the archipelago's international networks and contributes to attracting **knowledge, talent and collaboration opportunities**, reinforcing its position as a strategic bridge between **Europe, Africa and the Americas** and as an innovative territory committed to **international cooperation and sustainable development**.

Proexca

PROEXCA is the **public-sector company of the Government of the Canary Islands** responsible for promoting the internationalisation of the regional economy and attracting strategic foreign investment.

As a key instrument for positioning the Canary Islands as an **international hub for business, innovation and talent**, PROEXCA focuses on high-value-added sectors such as the **blue economy, technology, audiovisual industries and the energy transition**, among others.

Through tailored support services, PROEXCA facilitates access to international markets, supports business expansion and connects business projects with the region's **science and technology ecosystem**. It also promotes the establishment of knowledge-intensive initiatives in the Canary Islands, highlighting the islands' competitive advantages, their **Economic and Fiscal Regime (REF)** and their strategic location at the crossroads of **Europe, Africa and the Americas**.

PROEXCA's work fosters strong partnerships between institutions, businesses and investors, directly contributing to the **sustainable economic development of the Canary Islands**.

Participating entities – Spain (2/6)

1. Canary Islands - Public institutions & R&D centres

Oceanic Platform of the Canary Islands

The **Oceanic Platform of the Canary Islands (PLOCAN)** is a public research consortium established by the Spanish General State Administration (Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities) and the Government of the Canary Islands, and is recognised as a **Singular Scientific and Technical Infrastructure (ICTS)**. PLOCAN provides advanced infrastructure and services for research, technological development and innovation in the marine and maritime sectors, acting as a strategic hub for ocean observation, the testing and validation of marine technologies, and international cooperation.

PLOCAN operates and manages state-of-the-art infrastructure, both onshore and offshore, enabling continuous ocean monitoring and the development and validation of solutions in areas such as **marine renewable energy, underwater robotics, autonomous systems, advanced sensing technologies and climate change research**.

Its mission is to foster scientific and technological excellence, facilitate knowledge and technology transfer to industry, and position the Canary Islands as an internationally recognised natural laboratory for the **blue economy**. PLOCAN actively promotes **public-private collaboration** and participation in major European and international initiatives.

Canary Islands Institute of Technology

The **Canary Islands Institute of Technology (ITC)** is a public-sector entity of the Government of the Canary Islands dedicated to applied research, technological development and innovation in strategic areas that contribute to the sustainability and competitiveness of the archipelago. Its activities focus on areas such as **water, energy, biotechnology, the circular economy and the green transition**, addressing challenges of particular relevance to island and outermost regions.

ITC transforms structural challenges—such as efficient water management, renewable energy integration and climate change adaptation—into innovative solutions with strong potential for technology transfer and international replication. Through **R&D&I projects, public-private collaboration and participation in European programmes**, ITC fosters knowledge generation, technology transfer and capacity building within the regional business and industrial ecosystem.

Its work contributes to positioning the Canary Islands as a **reference region for sustainable innovation** and as a strategic partner in international initiatives related to the **blue economy and climate action**.

Participating entities – Spain (3/6)

2. Canary Islands - Business & sectoral ecosystem

Canary Islands Maritime Cluster

The **Canary Islands Maritime Cluster (CMC)** is a leading organisation representing, coordinating and promoting the marine and maritime ecosystem of the Canary Islands, bringing together companies, research and knowledge centres, public authorities and other strategic stakeholders involved in the **blue economy**. Its mission is to strengthen the competitiveness, innovation capacity and international reach of the Canary Islands' maritime sector by fostering cooperation, knowledge transfer and the development of high-value-added initiatives in areas that are key to sustainable growth and European strategic autonomy.

Through **public-private collaboration** and active participation in European and international networks and projects, CMC promotes the technological transformation and diversification of the marine and maritime sector, supporting capacity building in areas such as **maritime logistics and transport, port services, the shipbuilding and ship repair industry, marine renewable energy, digitalisation, sustainability and emerging ocean technologies**.

Its activities contribute to positioning the Canary Islands as a **strategic hub in the Mid-Atlantic** and as a key player in the development of an **innovative and resilient blue economy**, aligned with the priorities of Europe's green and digital transitions.

Canary Islands Startup Association

EMERGE is the regional startup association of the Canary Islands, founded in 2015 by a group of technology entrepreneurs to foster innovation and economic diversification across the archipelago. Since then, it has established itself as the **voice and meeting point of the Canary Islands startup ecosystem**, acting as a bridge between science, business, investment and society. We collaborate in the development of the **DiploInnova Canarias programme**, promoted by the Presidency of the Government of the Canary Islands, because we believe in the transformative potential of **science- and technology-based startups**.

Startups represent one of the most democratic pathways to innovation: they enable established researchers from the public research system—and, above all, young researchers seeking new opportunities—to transform knowledge and talent into disruptive solutions without relying on large capital-intensive structures. Through the global **venture capital industry**—still under-utilised in Europe compared with the United States and Asia—these ideas can be turned into viable, scalable ventures.

A science- and technology-based startup brings together **talent (*minds*), capital (*money*) and management**, becoming a powerful driver of social and economic transformation. Such companies have the potential to attract talent, create high-quality jobs and strengthen the positioning of the **Canary Islands as an innovative, internationally connected territory**.

Participating entities – Spain (4/6)

3. Canary Islands – Companies & initiatives

Gran Canaria's official Chamber of Commerce

Gran Canaria's **official Chamber of Commerce**, supporting the island's business community through **internationalisation, entrepreneurship, innovation and economic development**.

Canalink

Canary Islands-based **neutral submarine cable operator**, providing **high-capacity, secure and resilient digital connectivity between the Canary Islands, Europe and Africa**.

Hidramar Group

Canary Islands-based **shipyard and marine engineering group**, providing **ship repair, offshore fabrication and engineering services** to the global marine and offshore industries.

Innovamarina

Canary Islands-based initiative promoting **innovation and sustainability in marinas**, supporting the transition towards **smarter, more resilient and environmentally responsible marine infrastructure**.

Ocean Oasis Canarias

Norway- and Canary Islands-based **ocean technology company pioneering wave-powered offshore desalination**, developing **zero-emission solutions for sustainable freshwater production** in islands and coastal regions.

Participating entities – Spain (5/6)

4. Spain – National level

Embassy of Spain in Belgium

Spanish public agency that funds and supports **business R&D and innovation**, while facilitating the participation of **Spanish companies and organisations in international programmes**.

Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology and Innovation

Spanish public agency that funds and supports **business R&D and innovation**, while facilitating the participation of **Spanish companies and organisations in international programmes**.

Spanish Institute of Oceanography (Spanish National Research Council)

Spain's **leading public institute for marine research**, advancing scientific knowledge of the oceans and supporting **sustainable fisheries and marine environmental protection**.

Institut de Ciències del Mar (Spanish National Research Council)

Spain's **largest CSIC research institute dedicated to marine science**, advancing **ocean knowledge, biodiversity conservation and sustainable marine management** through interdisciplinary research and innovation.

Participating entities – Spain (6/6)

5. Spain – Regional level (administrations, universities and companies)

Regional Government of Galicia

The **regional government of Galicia**, responsible for the region's public policies and services, including the promotion of **economic, scientific and maritime development**.

Galician Innovation Agency

GAIN is Galicia's public agency dedicated to promoting **innovation, research, and technological development**.

Government of Aragon

The **executive body of the Autonomous Community of Aragon**, responsible for the regional administration and its public policies, including **innovation, industry and territorial development**.

University of the Balearic Islands

The Balearic Islands' **public university and a key regional research and innovation hub**, advancing **multidisciplinary research, knowledge transfer and sustainable development**.

Ocean Ecostructures

Spanish **BlueTech company specialising in marine biodiversity regeneration**, combining **nature-based solutions, robotics and AI** to transform marine infrastructure into Nature Positive ecosystems.

Participating entities and initiatives – Europe (1/4)

1. Marine research, ocean observation & research infrastructures

European Marine Board

European marine science policy think tank that connects the **marine research community with policymakers**, to shape evidence-based **European marine and ocean research priorities**.

EuroGOOS

The **European component of UNESCO's Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)**, coordinating **ocean observation and operational oceanography** across Europe.

EMSO ERIC

Distributed European research infrastructure of seafloor and water-column observatories designed to monitor **ocean processes and their interactions with the Earth system**.

European Marine Observation and Data Network

European Union in situ marine data service that integrates and provides **open access to pan-European data and data products** on the **marine environment and human activities**.

EurOcean

European non-profit scientific organisation that fosters **information exchange, cooperation and innovation in marine science and technology** across Europe.

JPI Oceans

Transgovernmental platform for marine and maritime research and innovation, aligning national priorities and funding collaborative research to support **sustainable oceans**.

European Association of Research and Technology Organisations

European association representing RTOs, promoting their role in **research, technological development and innovation**, and their contribution to **European competitiveness**.

Participating entities and initiatives – Europe (2/4)

2. Marine renewable energy & hydrogen

Ocean Energy Europe

European industry association representing the ocean energy sector, bringing together companies, research organisations and other stakeholders across **wave, tidal and other ocean energy technologies**, and supporting their development and deployment in Europe.

IEA Ocean Energy Systems

International technology cooperation programme operating under the framework of the **International Energy Agency (IEA)** to accelerate the **development and deployment of ocean energy technologies**.

European Technology and Innovation Platform for Ocean Energy

European platform bringing together ocean energy stakeholders to define **strategic research and innovation priorities** and accelerate the **development, demonstration and commercial deployment of ocean energy technologies** in Europe.

WindEurope

European industry association representing the wind energy value chain, working to advance **EU policy, market development, innovation and the deployment of wind energy**, including onshore and offshore wind.

Association of European Renewable Energy Research Centres

Europe's **association of renewable energy research centres**, fostering **research, innovation and technology transfer** to accelerate the transition towards a sustainable energy system.

Hydrogen Europe

Europe's **leading association representing the hydrogen industry**, bringing together the entire value chain to accelerate **clean hydrogen innovation, market deployment and the transition towards a net-zero economy**.

Participating entities and initiatives – Europe (3/4)

3. Maritime industries, shipping, ports & boating

European Community Shipowners' Association

European association representing the national shipowners' associations of the EU and Norway, promoting a **competitive, sustainable and resilient European shipping sector** and contributing to the development of **EU maritime and transport policy**.

European Sea Ports Organisation

Europe's **representative organisation for seaport authorities**, promoting their interests at EU level and supporting a **competitive, sustainable, safe and efficient European port sector**.

European Tugowners Association

European association representing **tug owners and operators**, promoting their interests and supporting **safe, efficient and sustainable towage operations across European ports**.

Waterborne Technology Platform

European Technology Platform for the waterborne sector, bringing together maritime and inland waterway stakeholders to coordinate **research, development and innovation (R&I) priorities** and provide **strategic guidance to the EU institutions**.

European Boating Industry

Europe's **representative association for the recreational boating and nautical tourism industry**, promoting a **sustainable, competitive and innovative boating sector** at EU level.

4. Fisheries & aquaculture

Europêche

European fishing industry representative, advocating for **sustainable, competitive and economically viable fisheries** and representing the sector's interests at EU level.

European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform

Europe's **technology and innovation platform for aquaculture**, connecting industry, research and policymakers to advance **innovation, knowledge transfer and the sustainable development of European aquaculture**.

Participating entities and initiatives – Europe (4/4)

4. Fisheries & aquaculture

Aquaculture Advisory Council

EU **stakeholder-led advisory body for aquaculture**, bringing together industry and other interest groups to provide **policy recommendations and support the sustainable development of European aquaculture**.

European Bureau for Conservation and Development

Brussels-based environmental organisation promoting **science-based approaches to sustainable natural resource management,** with a particular focus on **oceans, fisheries, aquaculture and European maritime policy**.

5. Regional development & EU programmes

Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions

Network of European maritime regions promoting **territorial cohesion and balanced regional development**, while contributing to the shaping of **EU policies**.

European Association of Development Agencies

European **network of regional development agencies**, fostering **interregional cooperation, knowledge exchange and access to EU opportunities** to support innovation and sustainable economic development across Europe.

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

Executive agency of the European Commission responsible for managing EU programmes and projects in **climate, energy, transport, infrastructure and the environment**.

Wetlands International Europe

European network organisation working to **protect and restore wetlands**, **connecting science, policy and practice** to address biodiversity, water management, climate resilience and sustainable ecosystem development.

Participating entities – Countries and regions (1/4)

1. Public authorities & institutional representations

Région Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée

French regional authority responsible for designing and implementing public policies in **economic development, innovation, the green transition, territorial development and European cooperation**.

Liguria Region

Italian regional authority promoting economic development, innovation and territorial cooperation, with a strong focus on the **blue economy, maritime industries, ports, logistics and marine technologies.**

Office of the Northern Ireland Executive in Brussels

Northern Ireland's **official representation in Brussels (ONIEB)**, promoting its interests within the EU and fostering **engagement and cooperation with European institutions and partners**.

Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Belgium and Mission to the European Union

Argentina's **diplomatic representation in Belgium and to the European Union**, promoting **political and economic relations, consular affairs, and bilateral and EU-level cooperation**.

Union of the Baltic Cities

The **leading network of cities in the Baltic Sea Region**, fostering **cross-border cooperation, sustainable urban development and knowledge exchange** among local authorities.

Participating entities – Countries and regions (2/4)

2. Universities, higher education & academic networks

Ghent University

Belgian public research university with a strong international profile and multidisciplinary activities spanning **marine science, engineering, sustainability and innovation**.

Royal Military Academy

Belgium's **federal military university**, combining the education and training of future officers with **advanced scientific research and technological innovation in defence and security**.

Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Norway's **largest university and a leading institution in science and technology**, advancing **research, education and innovation to address societal and global challenges**.

University of Bergen

Norway's **largest marine university and a leading international research institution**, advancing **ocean science, climate research and sustainable marine management** through interdisciplinary research and education.

Satakunta University of Applied Sciences

Finnish **university of applied sciences with a strong industry-oriented RDI profile**, advancing **applied research and innovation in areas including maritime logistics, technology and sustainable development**.

Consorzio Nazionale Interuniversitario per le Sienze del Mare

Italy's **National Interuniversity Consortium for Marine Sciences**, bringing together 36 universities to advance **marine research, innovation, scientific collaboration and technology transfer**.

Tuscan Organisation of Universities and Research for Europe

Brussels-based **association representing Tuscany's universities and research ecosystem at EU level**, fostering **internationalisation, scientific cooperation and participation in European research and innovation programmes**.

Participating entities – Countries and regions (3/4)

3. Research, innovation & development organisations

Marine Institute Foras na Mara

Ireland's **national agency for marine research, technology development and innovation**, advancing ocean knowledge and supporting the **sustainable development and protection of Ireland's marine resources**.

De Blauwe Cluster

Flemish innovation cluster connecting industry and research organisations to develop collaborative projects in the **sustainable blue economy, offshore energy, ports and maritime technologies**.

Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ)

Flanders' multidisciplinary **marine research institute, supporting marine science, ocean observation, data management and research infrastructure**, while connecting science, policy and society to promote sustainable use of the ocean.

Projektträger Jülich

One of Germany's leading **R&I programme management organisations**, implementing and managing **research and innovation funding programmes and calls** on behalf of public authorities and the **European Commission** across a broad range of technological fields.

Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR)

Italy's national public research council and largest multidisciplinary research institution, advancing scientific research, technological innovation and knowledge transfer, including in **marine science, ocean observation and sustainable marine management**.

Participating entities – Countries and regions (4/4)

4. Maritime infrastructure, technology & engineering

Port Esbjerg

International Danish port and multimodal transport hub, with a strategic role in **offshore logistics and the deployment of offshore wind energy in Europe**.

Develogic

German high-tech company that designs and manufactures **advanced underwater systems and acoustic communication technologies** for marine research, offshore energy, and naval defense.

Rovin

Belgian **underwater technology company**, providing advanced **oceanographic instrumentation, environmental monitoring, data transmission and autonomous underwater robotics** for marine research and exploration.

Fluves

Belgian **technology company** developing advanced **monitoring solutions for water and energy infrastructure**, using fibre-optic sensing and data analytics to improve the resilience, efficiency and maintenance of critical infrastructure.

H2sea

Dutch **offshore hydrogen engineering company**, developing **scalable green hydrogen solutions** integrating offshore renewable energy with hydrogen production, transport and infrastructure.

Working document
Version v2

This document has been prepared to provide an overview of the organisations participating in the DiploInnova Canarias encounter and to facilitate networking amongst participants.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information provided, should you identify any errors or omissions, please contact us at ***contact@diploinnova.org****.*

This document will be updated periodically and shared as relevant changes occur.

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