



Activities April 2017-June 2018 (Project)

Atlantic Strategy:

In January, the President of the Conference and his General Secretary met in Brussels the Regional Policy Commissioner, Corina Cretu, accompanied by the C4C (Cities for Cooperation) partners. During the conversation, Cretu emphasized the importance of mobilizing now for cohesion policy; while the discussion is still open. And it is the beneficiary states that must speak both those of the East and those of the West.



Within the participation framework in the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, there has been, during all these months, a continuous work of the group with the Spanish Presidency. In May, the Conference was part of the group of experts who advised the evaluation and then responded to the European Union questionnaire on it.

In June (2017 and 2018) a workshop and stand proposal were presented for the annual Atlantic Strategy event. In November, a presentation was made in Glasgow. In addition, the Conference sent an analysis to the national authorities on the Atlantic Maritime Strategy and another on the Assistance Mechanism of the Atlantic Maritime Strategy. In December, the Secretary General presented an analysis on the Atlantic Maritime Strategy in the European Economic and Social Committee. In February 2018 a note was sent on the projects of the Atlantic cities on youth employment to the Atlantic Maritime Strategy Group.

Supporting and developing projects:

The INTERREG Europe ECORIS3 project is ongoing, identifying good practices and efficient processes in innovation transfers between the different actors involved. Directed by Donostia San Sebastián, it also has partners such as the Cork Technology Hub or the Secretariat of the Atlantic Arc Cities Conference.

The resolution of the INTERREG Atlantic Area call brought good news for the network and its members:

The AYCH Atlantic Youth Creative Hubs project was approved. This project develops new approaches and interventions in the Youth Services of the Atlantic Area. Connecting people, ideas, skills, technologies and companies through a network of centers, the project unlocks the creative and entrepreneurial potential of young people focusing on issues such as innovation, co-creation of products, social entrepreneurship and employability.



Other initiatives approved are:

ADSA Support to Atlantic Digital Startups to be international.

ATLANTIC-SOCIAL-LAB Atlantic cooperation for the promotion of social innovation.

PROTOATLANTIC Development and validation of a program for the creation of prototypes and the exploitation of innovative ideas.

Between March and June, the association supported and advised the candidatures of its members for the last edition of the Atlantic Area program. Finally, the Conference is working on the launch of new projects such as; ART Atlantic Residences and Tours, ACT, ATLAs Network etc.

The Around me project: in May 2017 this application was prepared. In September, the Atlantic Arc Cities Conference was chosen as a benchmark in the Erasmus program for young entrepreneurs, which will allow it to support several entrepreneurship projects for two years.

Likewise, each month the partners receive a detailed list of open calls and the Secretariat serves as a point of reference for the response and search for partners.

Comunicación y networking:

The "Atlantic City of the Year" contest had as winner the city of Las Palmas in 2017, celebrated in November. In 2018, the winner was Viana do Castelo, after a very close competition that led the jury to suggest that 2019 and 2020 will be announced at the same time for the next edition.



In January the Atlantic Nautical Games of 2018 were presented in Nantes and Saint-Nazaire, which will take place from 26 to 31 August in Saint-Nazaire.

The She4Sea campaign continues its course and, starting with the Glasgow workshop, it has found an echo in several European networks. To make the campaign more operational, interviews have been published on the Euroactiv blog and new content is being generated, such as promotional videos or news about the project. In addition, exchanges have taken place with other organizations such as the Region of Brittany (April 2018) and WISTA (June 2018). For the months of October and November there will be more seminars, in Brest and Santiago de Compostela.

In October, the Medcities network, Adriatic and Ionian Forum, Iberian Network of Transboundary Entities and the Conference networks crystallized their collaboration on a platform (Cities for Cooperation or C4C) and a document on the future of cohesion, strongly inspired by Axiology.

Finally, regarding the general communication of the Conference, the structure and design of the web page has been modified and renewed.