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Overall, the ESG LAB will:

1. Provide SMEs entrepreneurs with a series of learning opportunities about the aim, structure, strategy guide, and topics of ESG reporting and practice which help them to reduce their environmental impact, to improve social outcomes, and enhance governance practices.
2. Provide a platform for collaborative knowledge about ESG pillars (environmental, social and governance), criteria and reporting.
3. Enable 15 pilot SMEs to draft a clear and feasible ESG strategy and action plan that aligns with their overall business goals and values, and includes measurable targets and timelines.
4. Link the Blue SMEs and stakeholders by establishing an “ESG community of practice-CoP”, in the selected established Blue Sector in each country facilitating national and transnational meetings.

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ESG — LAB —



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Background and Objectives:

The **ESG LAB** project is a response to the growing need for **SMEs** in the **Blue Economy** sectors (such as coastal tourism, shipbuilding, aquaculture, among others) to align themselves with **Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)** reporting practices.

This alignment is essential if these companies are to **reduce their environmental impacts, improve their social results and adopt more effective governance practices**, in line with the priorities of the European Green Deal.

The main objective

is to familiarize SMEs with ESG reporting practices by **developing a customized training program** that enables companies to integrate these practices into their daily lives.

The project also offers a **digital platform and a Community of Practice (CoP)**, where companies can share knowledge and get guidance from mentors and facilitators.

In addition, **ESG LAB** aims to prepare SMEs for future regulatory requirements by providing the tools they need to develop ESG strategies that boost their competitiveness and sustainability in the market.

The project also aims

to train SME managers to adopt ESG practices in a more integrated and sustainable way, while also promoting the dissemination of good practices among other companies in the sector.

Project results

Development of a Learning Platform for SME managers, focused on understanding and implementing ESG practices.

ESG Lab Content & Learning Material

(reports and practices in established blue economy sectors)

An “ESG community of practice-CoP”, where SMEs, experts, mentors and facilitators can exchange experiences, discuss the challenges of ESG implementation and promote collaborations that help overcome barriers.

These results aim to create a solid knowledge base that can be used by SMEs to adopt ESG practices more effectively, while creating a positive impact on the sustainability of Blue Economy sectors.