



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

UfM Working Group on Blue Economy

Magdalena Andreea Strachinescu Olteanu – Head of Unit
DG MARE - Maritime Policy and Blue Economy Directorate
Maritime Innovation, Marine Knowledge and Investment Unit

#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionOcean

*“Every problem is an opportunity for innovation.
But we need a clear and ambitious objective.*

We need a mission, like the European Green Deal.

*That is why we have launched the ‘Mission to
Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030’.*

*With EUR 0.5 billion in funding from the world's
largest research and development programme,
Horizon Europe, and other instruments.”*

President von der Leyen, 11 Feb 2022

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_22_962





Mission Restore our ocean and waters by 2030: objectives and targets

PROTECT AND RESTORE MARINE AND FRESHWATERS ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY

- Protect at least 30% and strictly protect 10% EU's sea areas
- Restore 25.000 km free flowing rivers
- Marine nature restoration targets (incl. degraded seabeds, coastal ecosystems)

PREVENT AND ELIMINATE POLLUTION OF OUR OCEANS, SEAS AND WATERS

- Reduce by at least 50% plastic litter
- Reduce by at least 30% microplastics
- Reduce by at least 50% nutrient losses, chemical pesticides

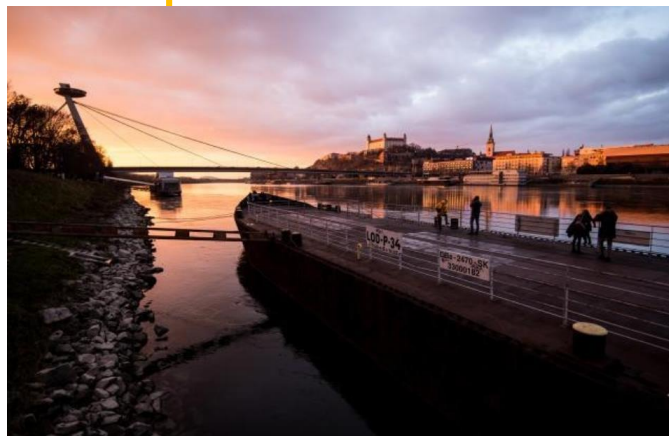
MAKE THE BLUE ECONOMY CARBON- NEUTRAL AND CIRCULAR

- Net zero maritime emissions
- Zero carbon aquaculture,
- Low carbon multipurpose use of marine space

ENABLERS: - DIGITAL OCEAN AND WATERS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM
- PUBLIC MOBILIZATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Mission lighthouses

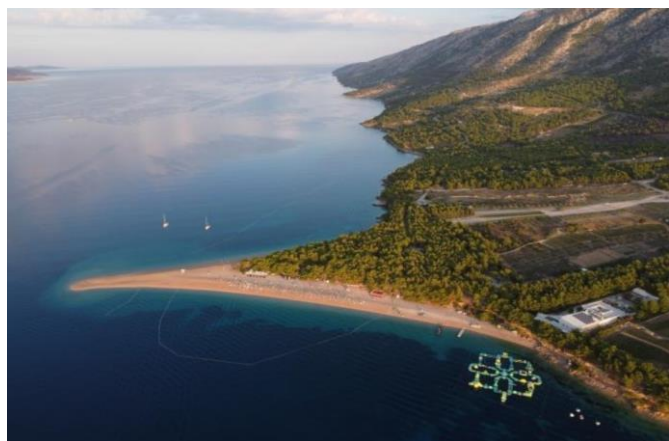
Danube river basin



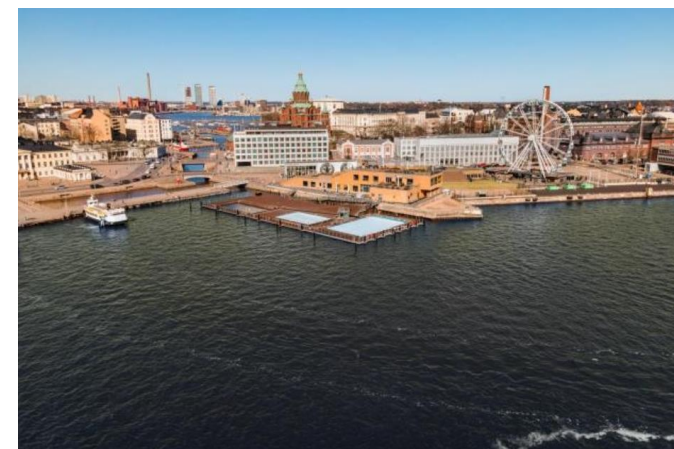
Atlantic & Arctic basin



Mediterranean sea basin



North and Baltic sea basin



Mission Ocean and waters: a frame for the Blue Economy



The Mission work programme

- R&I topics addressing the efficient use of marine and coastal resources



Complementary activities:

- Horizon Europe clusters (energy, transport, Bioeconomy);
- EMFAF and BlueInvest
- EIB
- LIFE
- Regional funds



The European Blue Forum: to *coordinate a dialogue* between blue economy stakeholders and scientists, to *develop synergies and reconcile competing uses of the sea* (to be launched 2nd half 2022)



EUROPEAN UNION

Mission Implementation: the work programme 2021 - main features

WP 2021 - Mission Ocean, seas and waters

...adopted on 15 December 2021

WP 2021 Main features

- ✓ Follows the **impact-driven logic** of Horizon Europe
- ✓ Support major **EU policy objectives**, e.g.: the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, the Action Plan toward Zero pollution, the COM on a Sustainable Blue Economy
- ✓ Special focus on «**lighthouses**»: hubs for the development and deployment of transformative innovations (technological, social, business, governance) in **4 main basins**:
 - **Atlantic and Arctic sea basin**
 - **Baltic and North Sea basin**
 - **Mediterranean Sea basin**
 - **Danube River basin**
- ✓ Support the Mission first phase: «**development and piloting**» for 2021-2025
- ✓ **Topics for 2021 only** – further WP amendment for 2022 and 2023 topics

WP 2021 - Mission Ocean, seas and waters

... adoption in December 2021

WP 2021 Structure

- ✓ **3 calls** addressing 3 policy objectives and specific expected impacts
 - **Protect and restore marine and freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity**
 - **Prevent and eliminate pollution of our oceans, seas and waters**
 - **Sustainable, carbon-neutral and circular Blue Economy**
- ✓ **1 call** supporting enabling activities: digital knowledge system, public engagement, foresights and other studies
- ✓ **Other actions:** Digital twin Ocean Infrastructure; Coordination activities - «lighthouse» implementation/coordination; technical assistance
- ✓ **Indicative budget 2021:** EUR 114 million
- ✓ **Call deadline:** 12 April 2022

WP 2021 - Mission Ocean, seas and waters

... adopted in December 2021

WP 2021 Type of Actions

✓ Innovation Actions:

- Demonstrate the technical, economic and/or societal viability of innovative solutions in a (near to) operational environment (validation, testing, demonstration, prototyping, piloting, and market replication activities) - TRL 5 to 7
- Involvement of at least 5 «*associated regions*» to showcase the feasibility, replicability and scale-up of innovative solutions
- Citizens' engagement and users' involvement
- Ideally building on previous successful projects

✓ **Research and Innovation Actions:** foresight study on young generations and their relation with the sea;

✓ **Coordination and Support Actions:** Lighthouses coordination and networking; citizen science activities;

✓ **Public procurements:** EU Digital Twin of the Ocean infrastructure; monitoring; technical assistance; communication



Mission 2021 HE Work Programme



European Blue Parks

- **Topic:** European Blue Parks (IA, 17million EUR)



Danube river basin lighthouse

- **Topics:** Danube river basin lighthouse: restoration of fresh and transitional waters ecosystems (IA, 17 million EUR) + coordination and support action (3 million EUR)



Atlantic & Arctic sea basin lighthouse

- **Topics:** A&A lighthouse: restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems and increased climate resilience (IA, 17 million EUR) + coordination and support action (3 million EUR)

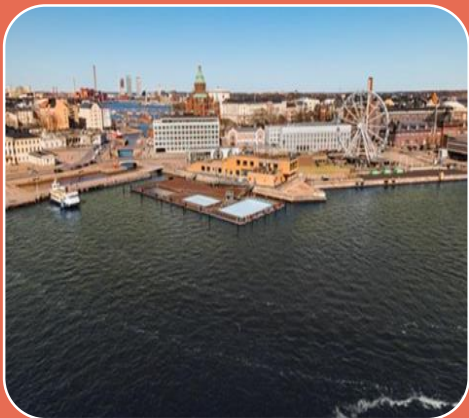


Mission 2021 HE Work Programme



Mediterranean sea basin lighthouse

- **Topics:** Mediterranean basin lighthouse: Actions to prevent, minimise and remediate litter and plastic pollution (IA, 16 million EUR) + coordination and support action (3 million EUR)



Baltic & North sea basin lighthouse

- **Topics:** Low impact marine aquaculture and multi-purpose use of marine space (IA, 16 million EUR) + coordination and support action (3 million EUR)



Mission 2021 HE Work Programme

Digital Ocean & Water knowledge system



- **Topics:** Underlying models for the European Digital Twin Ocean (IA, 7 million EUR) + EU Public Infrastructure for the European Digital Twin Ocean (GIB, 3 million EUR)



Mission 2021 HE Work Programme

Enabling actions, Citizen mobilisation & engagement



- **Topics:** Relation of young generations with the sea and water: values, expectations, and engagement (RIA, foresight, 1 million EUR) + Piloting citizen science in marine and freshwater domains (CSA, 1 million EUR) + Europeanisation of Plastic Pirates Citizen Science Initiative (GIB, 2 million EUR)



EUROPEAN UNION

Mission Implementation: The Charter



EUROPEAN UNION

EU
MISSIONS

A joint commitment to Restoring our Ocean and Waters

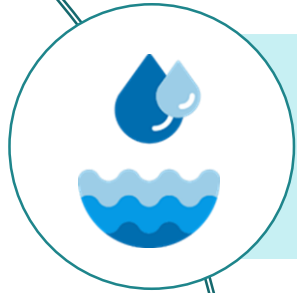
Mission Charter: delivering together on the Mission Implementation Plan

[Implementation Plans for the EU Missions | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://europeancommission.europa.eu)

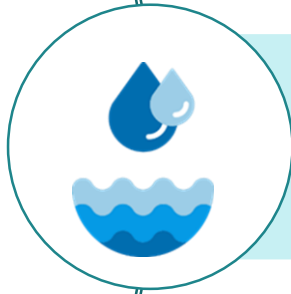




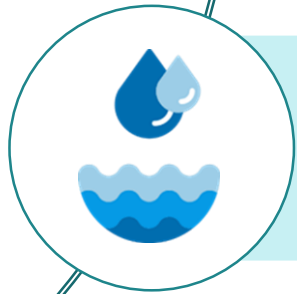
Ambitions for the Mission Charter



Join forces for a **transformational change** for a healthy ocean and waters, thus contributing to the EU Green Deal objectives



Establish a **simple, inclusive** and **inspirational** framework to enhance cooperation to deliver on Mission objectives



Open to any public or private interested parties





Mission Implementation Charter



- Developed by the Commission in close cooperation with the MS/ACs, regions and key stakeholders willing to contribute to the implementation of the Mission
- Sets the direction when defining initiatives, programmes, actions and common agendas for restoring our ocean and waters
- Non-binding engagement



Mission Charter areas of actions you may want to contribute to:



- ✓ **Research and innovation:** mobilise your programmes, instruments and resources for marine, maritime, ocean and waters and a sustainable blue economy
- ✓ **Upscaling, deployment and replication of solutions:** support well-functioning innovation ecosystems and its different components: finance, investments, infrastructures, talents, regulations, ...
- ✓ **Evidence-based knowledge and data:** generate, use and share authoritative knowledge and data in marine, maritime and biodiversity domains in line with FAIR principles and feed the Mission Ocean Knowledge System and Mission baseline studies
- ✓ **Outreach, public mobilisation and engagement:** promote involvement and citizen-led initiatives; ocean literacy; awareness raising and participatory approaches
- ✓ Establishment of **Communities of practice** to serve as fora for co-design, exchanges of experiences, tools and good practice, to coordinate actions and to take stock of progress



Mission Charter process

- ✓ **Co-creation** with MS/ACs, regions and other public/private stakeholders representing research community and marine sectors, non-governmental organizations, citizens representatives
- ✓ **Final draft** expected by Q2 2022 and presented in public events
- ✓ Tools/modalities for joining up **in preparation**

Your views are important!

- Would you/your organization be comfortable to take action under this Charter?
- Are we missing important elements?

MISSION OCEAN & WATERS



To know more...

Ocean & Waters website:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/missions-horizon-europe/healthy-oceans-seas-coastal-and-inland-waters_en#what-are-missions-and-mission-areas



Follow us!

@EU_MARE
@EUScienceinnov
@HorizonEU

#EUMissions
#MissionOcean
#HorizonEU