



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

UfM Regional Platform on Sustainable Blue Economy

Marcin Sadowski, European Commission, DG MARE

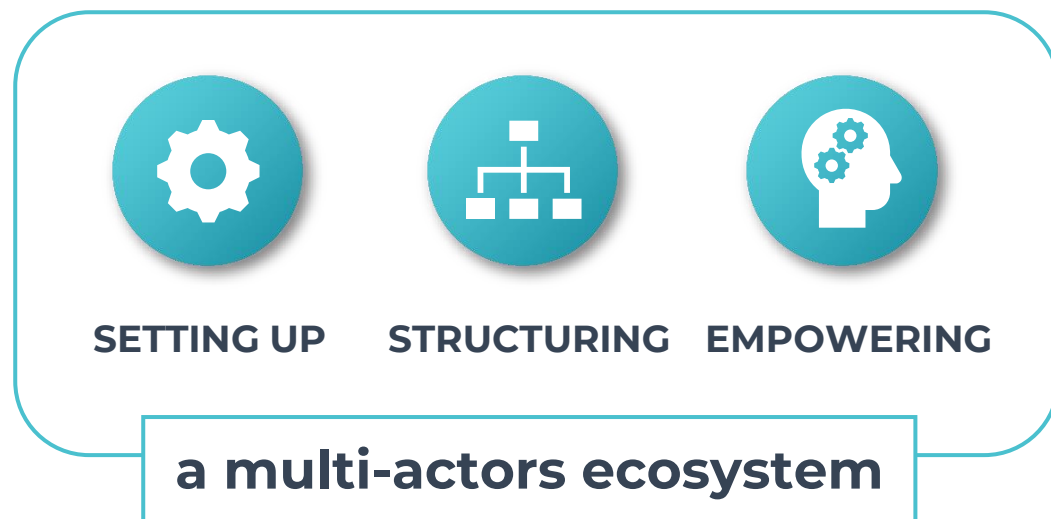
#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionOcean



BlueMissionMed

SUPPORTING THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA BASIN LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MISSION RESTORE OUR OCEAN AND WATERS

Assist the European Commission in



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



Mission work programmes 2021-2022-2023-2024:

2021 EUR 117 million EU funding 20 projects ongoing

2022 EUR 118 million EU funding 20 projects ongoing

2023 EUR 130 million EU funding 26 Grant Agreements signed

2024 EUR 110 million EU funding Deadline for submissions: 18 September 2024



WP 2024 - Mission Ocean, seas and waters

adopted on 17 April 2024: main features

- ✓ **WP 2024: 2 calls; 7 topics + 4 other actions; indicative budget EUR 127 million**
 - Call 1 includes **thematic topics** following the Mission objectives (Protection and restoration; Pollution prevention and elimination; Blue Economy sustainability)
 - Call 2 includes topics directed at **supporting communities of actors** (e.g.: waterfront cities, islands, ports, coastal regions)
 - **Other actions** focus on: DTO; monitoring Mission policy objectives; events; specific studies



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HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-01-01

European Blue Parks – Offshore marine protected areas



Scope: Map the distribution and condition of benthic and pelagic habitats in offshore areas (> 12 nautical miles); assess pressures; provide scientific basis for conservation measures/establishing/enlarging MPAs in offshore areas

Innovation Action – EUR 11.1 million – 1 project expected to be funded



HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-01-03

Reducing the environmental impacts of fisheries on marine species and habitats

→ Atlantic and Arctic – Mediterranean – Baltic and North se basin lighthouses



Scope:

- test and demonstrate mitigation measures, sustainable fishing tools (e.g. : innovative gears, techniques to improve selectivity/bycatches) and sustainable fishing operations (e.g.: restricted areas, temporal/special closures, safe handling of bycaught species, experimental restocking);
- assess of the operational feasibility in commercial fishery situations and support broad uptake of solutions

Each proposal should address one sea basin i.e.: Atlantic and Arctic basin; Mediterranean sea basin, Baltic and North Sea basin – Demos in at least 3 MS/ACs

Innovation Action – EUR 24 million – 3 projects expected to be funded (one per sea basin)



HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-01-04

Science for Community – Building the Marine Citizen Science data network of the future to valorise data from the ocean and increase engagement

Scope: Three groups of activities →

- **Establish a Marine Citizen Science network**, bringing together relevant actors active in citizen science and data collection;
- **Information and data collection**, making them FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable) and integrated in existing platforms (e.g.: EMODnet, Blue Economy Observatory, etc.) and eventually available for use in the European Digital Twin Ocean;
- Support the deployment of **cost-efficient and simple-to-use citizen science devices/equipment** (two use-cases)

Coordination and Support Action – EUR 2 million – 1 project expected to be funded





HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-01-05

Our Blue Future – Co-designing a future vision of a restored ocean and water system in the EU by 2030 and 2050



Scope: Develop scenarios and a vision for EU ocean and waters for 2030 and 2050 based on participatory approaches.

A pan-European and specific vision for the four Mission lighthouse basins are expected (e.g.: “*what if*” in business as usual versus a Mission target achieved scenarios).

Interactive and digital visualisation tools and application are expected.

Innovation Action – EUR 3 million – 1 project expected to be funded



HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-02-01

Community-led actions to restore our ocean, seas and waters



Scope: Support the uptake of innovative solutions, measures and initiatives contributing to the Mission's objectives.

Research and Innovation Action – EUR 50 million – 4 projects expected to be funded (one per basin lighthouse) + cascade grants)

→ Cascade grants for community-led actions (EUR 0,2 to 2 million each) and for transition agendas (up to EUR 100.000 each) e.g.: R&I activities to validate/demonstrate solutions; feasibility studies, business plans...

→ Provision of Technical assistance



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HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-02-02

Support for the Coalition of waterfront cities, regions and islands for Mission Ocean and Waters



Scope: promote a coalition of Mission important actors to support coordination, networking, twinning, share of good practices to achieve the Mission objectives

Coordination and Support Action – EUR 4 million – 1 project expected to be funded



What are associated regions?

- areas with **ecosystems that can benefit from the demonstration activities** (e.g., neighbouring regions and/or regions in a different sea basin) and/or less-developed regions, with the **need to build capacity to implement the innovative solutions** to restore marine/freshwater ecosystems.
- associated regions should be located in Member States/Associated countries, and not be already involved in the demonstration sites covered by the projects.



How do associated regions work?

- **Calls for Associated regions** organised by relevant projects, with an evaluation based on transparent and fair procedures
- **Financial support to third parties:**
 - may only be awarded to local and/or regional authorities from an associated region.
 - the maximum amount to be granted to each associated region is EUR 100,000
- Projects should continuously share their outcomes and knowledge with the ‘associated regions’ and provide them with technical assistance to build capacity and to implement solutions in their territory that contribute to achieving the Mission objectives.



Calls for Associated Regions: where to find them

- Calls published in the Horizon Europe **Funding and Tenders Portal**
- Information also available on the **Mission Ocean and Waters Service Portal**
- Publicity is made by **ongoing projects in their sites**
- **NCPs** and **Mission Lighthouse CSAs**



EUROPEAN UNION MISSION IMPLEMENTATION PORTAL

Mission Ocean and Waters service portal

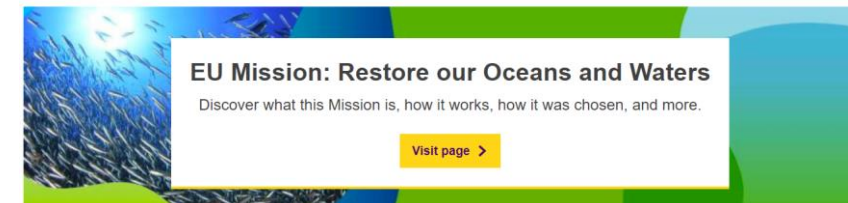
[Home](#)[Mission Charter](#)[Mission Solutions](#)[Mission funding](#)[Collaboration space](#)[Advisory services](#)[EU Blue Parks](#)[Mission Lighthouses](#)[News & Events](#)[About](#)

Mission Ocean and Waters service portal

One-stop-shop for stakeholders involved and interested in the Mission Ocean implementation.

Mission Ocean projects

These Horizon Europe Mission Ocean-funded projects are part of the drivers to fulfill the Mission goals across all Lighthouses. Discover who they are and the work they do.



Find financing

Find a variety of financial programmes and instruments to finance projects and actions related to ocean conservation and blue economy.

Join the Mission

We provide different opportunities for actors and citizens to support and implement ideas related to ocean and water ecosystem restoration, the prevention and elimination of pollution, and making the sustainable blue economy circular and carbon-neutral.



Endorse the Mission Charter

We are calling on Member States, regions and a wide range of stakeholders to endorse the Mission Charter and pledge actions that will contribute to the successful implementation of Mission Ocean and Waters and its Lighthouses.



Join our Forum

Mission Ocean and Waters will present its progress at a Forum hosted annually in Brussels, allowing online exchanges and networking among the Mission Forum community. Find out more about the event here.



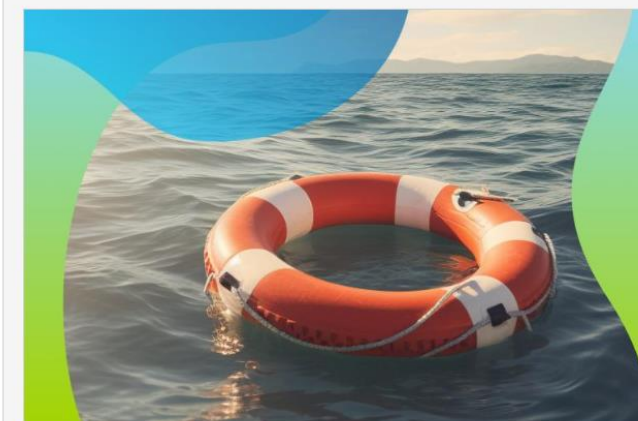
Join the EU Blue Parks Community

Join the EU Blue Parks Community, a collaborative platform for policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders to work together on marine conservation and achieve the goals of the 2030 EU Biodiversity Strategy.



Search for innovative solutions

Find shared knowledge and expertise, fostering collaboration and innovation.



Seek assistance in tailoring your research

Request support in customising your research and connect with solution owners. You can also submit your demand through our helpdesk webform.