



Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Update of Funding Opportunities

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European Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

- ▶ A network of 74 partner institutions from 29 countries and the European Commission
- ▶ Pooling R&I investments & aligning national programmes at pan-European scale
- ▶ Taking into consideration the sea-basin (Mediterranean, Black Sea, Baltic, North Sea) and Atlantic Ocean dimension



Coordinator: Italian Ministry of Universities and Research
Co-coordinator: Research Council of Norway

450 million € over 7 years
EU CO-FUNDING 30%



Co-funded by
the European Union



Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP



▶ VISION

Aims to boost the transformation towards a climate-neutral, sustainable, productive and competitive blue economy by 2030, while creating and supporting the conditions for healthy oceans for the people by 2050

Will design, steer and support a just and inclusive transition to a regenerative and circular blue economy

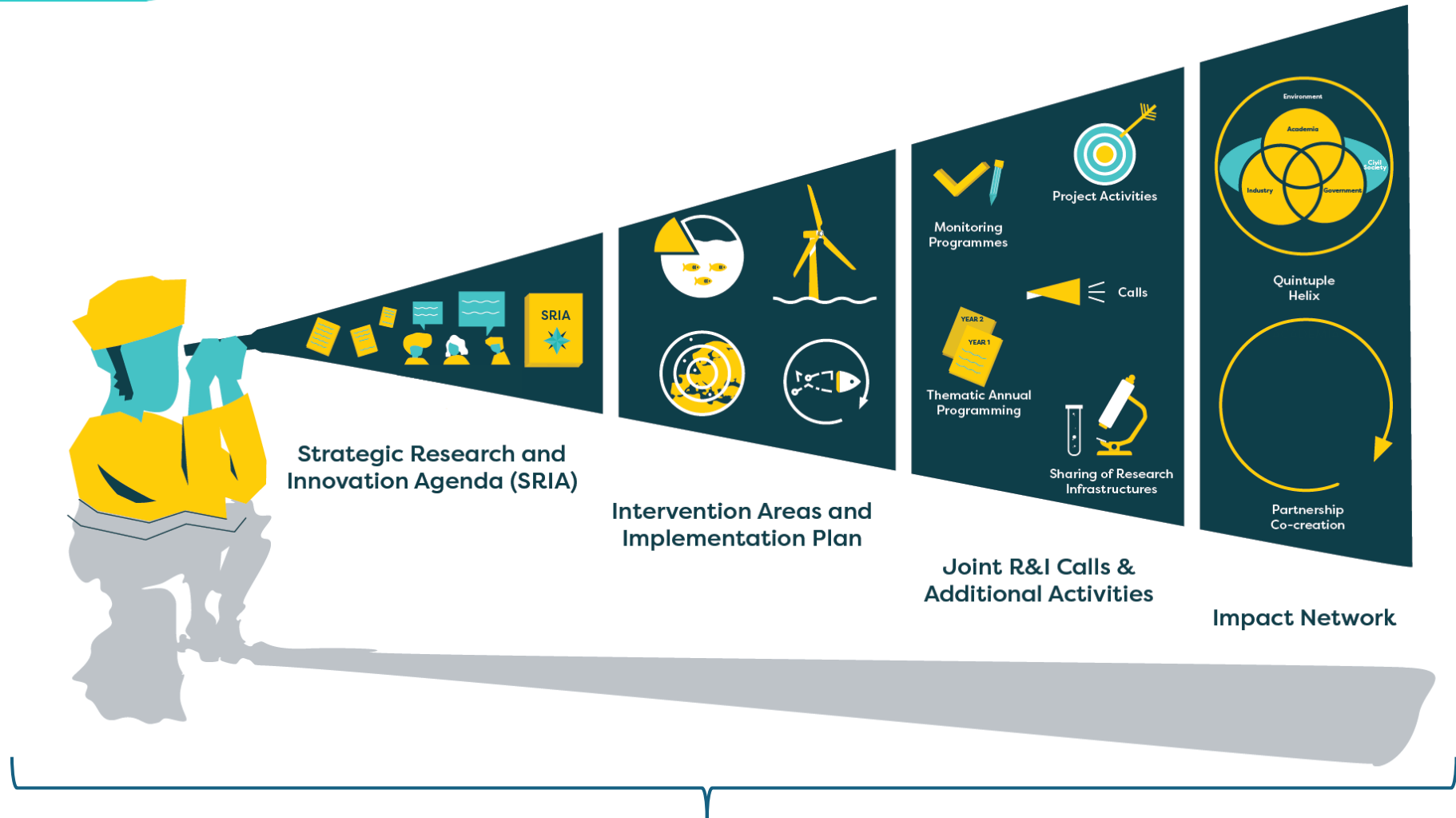




► POLICY CONTEXT

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership will deliver solutions to enable the: European Green Deal, Digital Europe strategies and the many related EU Policies and **ultimately support** **THE UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development**



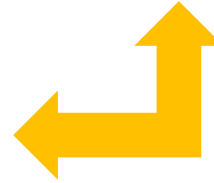


CO-CREATION / CO-DESIGN



CO-CREATION / CO-DESIGN

Underlying connectivity



- ▶ **Interconnecting National > Regional > European > Global level**
- ▶ Synergies with other **European Partnerships** and the **Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters**
- ▶ Alignment of different **funding streams** including structural funds, recovery and resilience package
- ▶ Interaction **across disciplines** from hard science to social sciences and humanities
- ▶ Uptake of perspective, opportunities and planned actions by the **public and private sectors, decision makers, disciplinary communities and society** at large
- ▶ In cash / in kind synergy



International connectivity



📍 Sea basin nodes



SRIA – Strategic R&I Agenda



Intervention Areas are set in the Annual Work Programme of the Partnership and are based on SRIA and the MS and Associated Countries' priorities.

These areas are selected to maximize participation while reinforcing the EU blue economy through innovative solutions and improved resilience of marine ecosystems

**INTERVENTION
AREAS
2023**
(basis 1st call)



Development and validation of **Digital Twins** of the Ocean at sub-sea-basin scale



Blue generation **marine structures**



Planning and managing sea uses



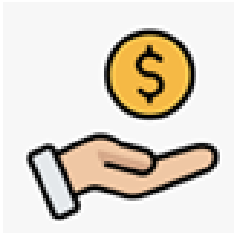
Healthy '**Blue Food**' under a 'One Health' approach



Enabling the green transition of '**Blue Food**' production



SBEP FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



- ▶ **JOINT TRANSNATIONAL CALLS** - Annual calls over 6 years; Areas for calls activities will be developed according to an annual cycle based on priorities of the Partnership countries

Additional Activities:

- ▶ **SHARING RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES** in-kind sharing national RIs through the development of a transnational access model adapted to SBEP contributing countries
- ▶ **THEMATIC ANNUAL PROGRAMMING** specific tool aimed at fostering the alignment of national research programs, promoting their coordination and international cooperation (in preparation)



The **2023 SBEP First Joint Call** was launched on February 13, 2023, under the theme:



«The Way forward: A thriving sustainable Blue Economy for a Brighter future»

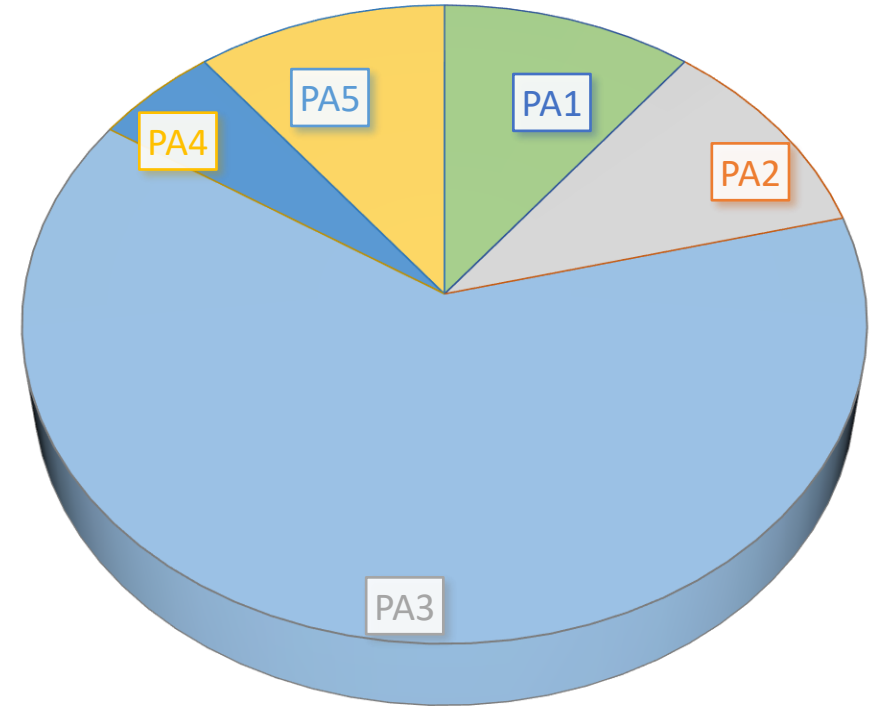
- The **1st SBEP Co-funded** call pools national and regional financial resources (about 50 M€) through the participation of the European Commission and **37 Research Funding Organizations (RFOs) from 24 countries:**
 - **19 Member-States:** Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and The Netherlands;
 - **4 Associated Countries:** Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Türkiye;
 - **1 Third country:** Brazil



19 Selected proposals

Priority Areas

The 19 selected projects address all the five Priority Areas of the call. PA3 has mobilised the strongest response, accounting for 12 of the 19 selected projects.



Priority Area	No. Proposals	Percentage
PA1 - Planning and managing sea uses at the regional level	2	10,5
PA2 - Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy	2	10,5
PA3 - Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable and resource-efficient blue food and feed	12	63,2
PA4 - Green transition of Blue Food production	1	5,3
PA5 - Digital Twin of the Ocean (DTO) test use cases at EU sea-basins and the Atlantic Ocean	2	10,5



Sea-Basins

The majority of the selected proposals **address more than one sea-basin**, being that the Mediterranean Sea, Atlantic Ocean, the Baltic Sea and the North Sea are equally addressed, and the Black sea is only addressed in 2 pps.

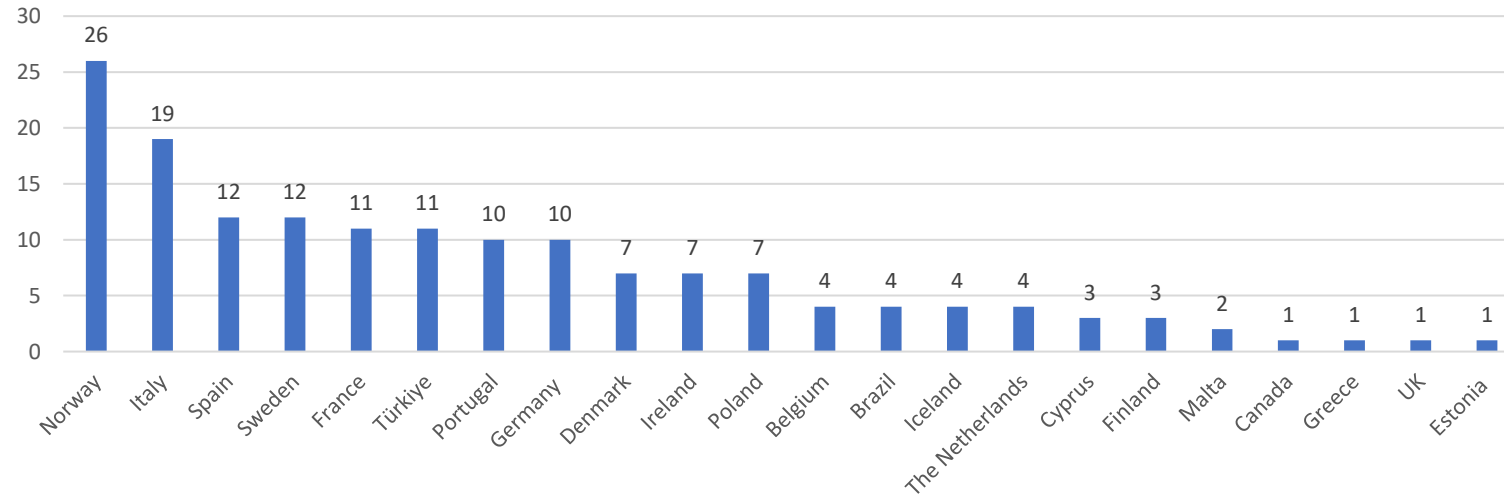
Sea-Basin	No. Proposals
Atlantic Ocean	13
Baltic Sea	11
Black Sea	2
Mediterranean Sea	12
North Sea	13
Other sea-basins (e.g, Norwegian, Barents, Polar oceans, etc)	4



1st SBEP JTC 2023

19 selected proposals

Participants and Country Distribution



Countries with higher number of participants in the selected proposals are **Norway, Italy, Spain, Sweden, France, Türkiye, Portugal and Germany**



The kick-off of the 19 projects took place 25, 26 September, 2024 in Madrid



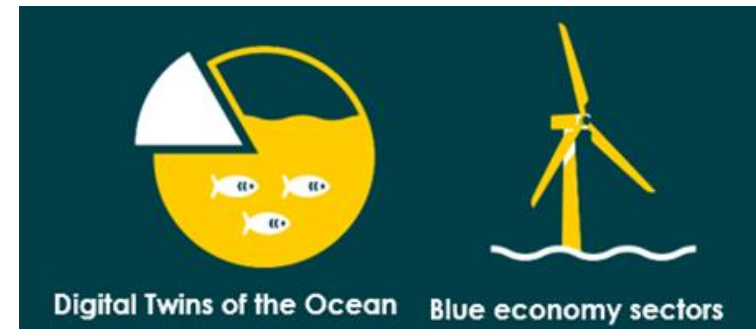
The **2024 SBEP Second Joint Call**

was launched on February 1, 2024, under the theme:

«**Unified paths to a climate-neutral, sustainable, and resilient blue economy: engaging civil society, academia, policy, and industry**»

Four Intervention areas were defined as the basis for Partnership activities for 2024:

- **Digital Twins of the Ocean**
- **Blue Economy Sectors**
- **Managing Sea Uses**
- **Blue Bioresources**





2024 SBEP 2ND JOINT CALL



The **2nd SBEP Co-funded** call pools national and regional financial resources (about **40 M€**) through the participation of the European Commission and **38 Research Funding Organizations (RFOs) from 26 countries:**

- **20 Member-States:** Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and The Netherlands;
- **5 Associated Countries:** Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, Tunisia and Türkiye;
- **1 Third country:** Brazil

➔ Co-branding of calls with IOC/UNESCO – selected projects are endorsed as OD projects



2024 SBEP 2ND JOINT CALL - Ongoing

Application deadline pre-proposals
10th April 2024

113 pre-proposals submitted

1st stage

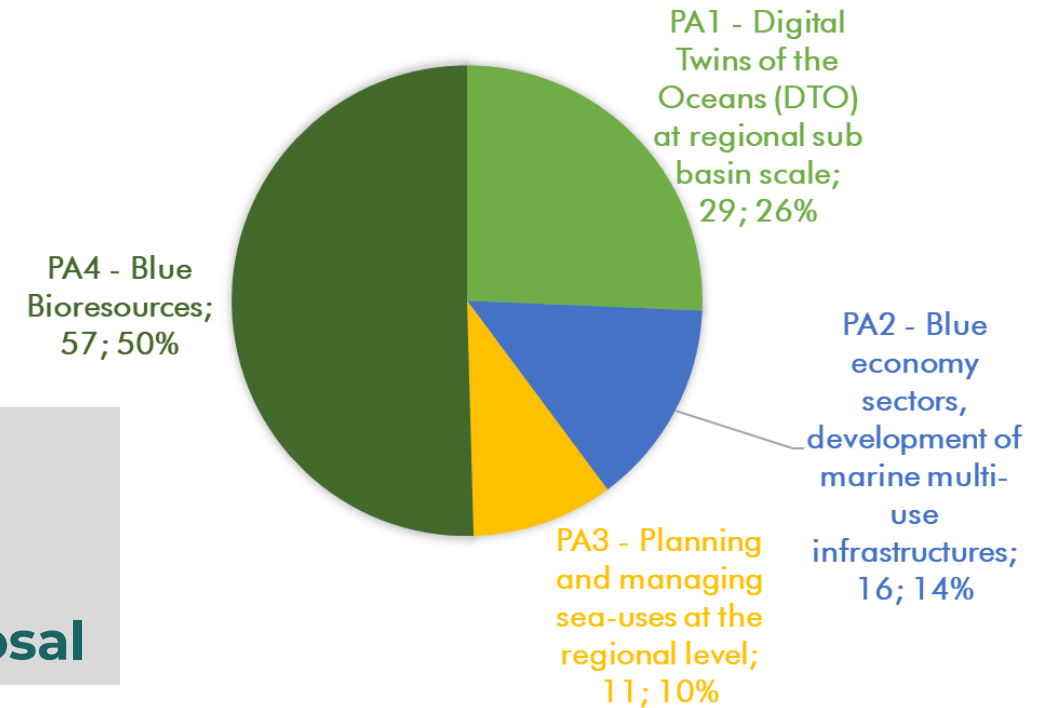
110 eligible/conditionally eligible PP
were scientifically evaluated

59 pre-proposals invited to submit a full proposal

2nd stage

Deadline for submitting full proposal: 6 November 2024 15:00 CET

Start project – June 2025





2025 SBEP 3RD JOINT CALL

Next and third SBEP Joint transnational call will be launched in **September 2025**



Will include a new topic area on **Resilient Coastal communities and businesses**



INTERVENTION AREAS 2025, A YEAR OF OPPORTUNITIES

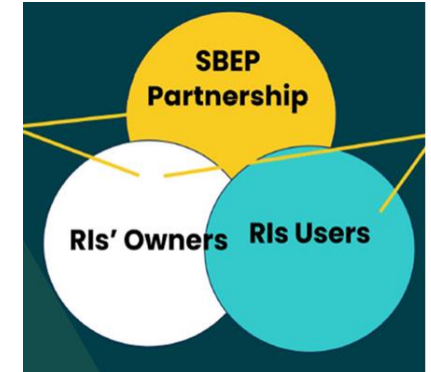
- Resilient coastal communities and businesses
- Digital Twins of the Ocean
- Blue economy sectors
- Blue Bioresources
- Managing sea-uses



Sharing of Research Infrastructures

Additional activity led by Italy joined by many partners as providers of Research Infrastructure)

1. Collect RI potential commitment at national level
2. Launch a Call for expression of interest
3. Partnership launches a Joint Call for access to RIs
4. RI providers receive the EU co-funding for the provision of the facilities to the granted projects



Establish Rules and Procedures (ToR) for RI's owners and users

Timeline

DEC 2024

Delivery of ToR
(owners + users)
+ RI portfolio

FEB 2025

Publication
1st TA Call

DEC 2025

Contract and
start TA
implementation



Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

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www.bluepartnership.eu,

<https://bluepartnership.eu/funding-opportunities>

[@BlueEconomyEU](https://www.instagram.com/BlueEconomyEU)



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