



Towards a sustainable maritime industry. EU Initiatives supporting innovation, partnerships and skills

9th EUSAIR Forum, Pillar 1 Session on “Blue Growth”
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Sustainable development of maritime sectors

- EC Communication adopted in May 2021
- Radical change in approach, from blue growth to sustainability



Blue dimension, or “maritime arm”, of the European Green Deal



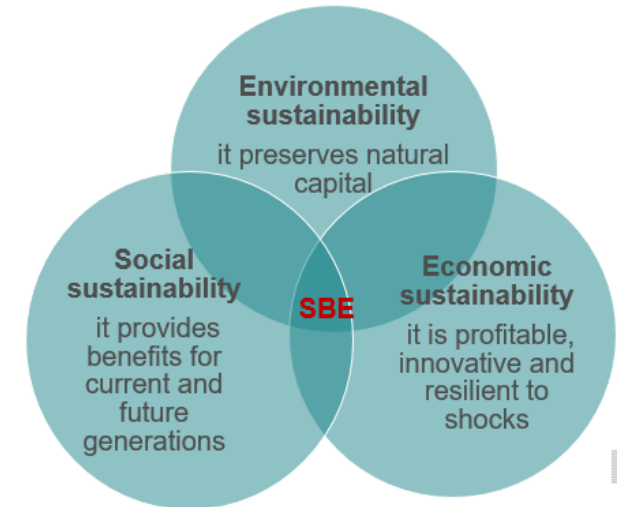
Applying to all maritime sectors/users, in all EU sea basins (and beyond)



Programming investments and developing synergies



Monitoring implementation and communicating results



Enabler(1): Maritime Regional Cooperation



Enabler(2): Innovation - Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3)



Location-based approach involving all stakeholders in the identification of blue economy sectors with a competitive advantage to prioritize innovation investments

Key tool for implementing the EU Sustainable Blue Economy Communication

Enabler for new blue economy value chains, based on interregional innovation partnerships and projects

The first ever S3 Partnerships for Sustainable Blue Economy

Circular Smart Aquaculture

Objectives:

- Energy transition in the aquaculture sector
- More efficient use of water & space
- Fighting scarcity of feed ingredients
- Better use of side streams, promoting circular production systems
- More targeted and skilled human capacity

Leading region: Hauts de France (FR)

Participating regions: Vlaanderen (BE); Wallonie (BE); Galicia (ES); Trøndelag (NO); Nordland (NO)

Key actor: EaTiP

Maritime Sustainable Blue Bio economy

Objectives:

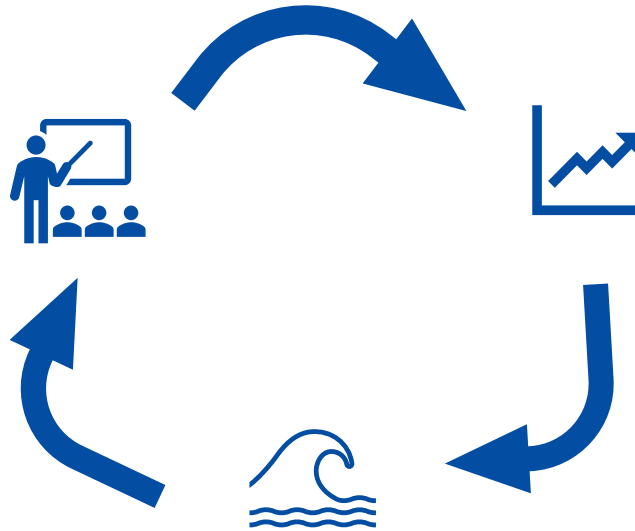
- To build capacity to design, implement and evaluate a new wave of innovation policies
- To promote collective innovation actions to boost blue bioeconomy potential
- This joint collaboration aims to strengthen a more cohesive, competitive, innovative and sustainable cooperation area.

Leading regions: Emilia Romagna (IT), (co-lead) Apuglia (IT)

Participating regions: Crete (EL), Attica (EL), Slovenia (SI), Balearic Islands (ES), Catalonia (ES), Andalusia (ES), Lazio (IT), Alentejo (PT), Adriatic Croatia (HR), Albania (AL), Kosovo (XK), Skopski (MK), Cyprus (CY), Campania (IT), Norte (PT)

We need blue skills & ocean literacy for (sustainable) blue growth

Blue skills
are needed to support
the development of
the blue economy



Blue economy
demonstrates the dynamism of
the blue economy and the
importance of the ocean for the
economy and society

Ocean literacy
is essential to demonstrate the importance of the ocean
and make careers in the blue economy more attractive

What is the EU doing?

- **Raise awareness** about the ocean, its role and protection
- **Reskilling** workers from other sectors, improve the **image** of blue careers
- **Developing** ocean literacy and blue skills trainings across the EU
- **Better cooperation** between education, government, science and bus



Trans-sectorial skills initiatives:

- **European Year of Skills**
- **Pact for Skills** (large-scale partnerships in shipbuilding & offshore renewable energy)



Calls for proposals:

- **Blue careers (EMFAF)**
- Mission Ocean (HE)
- Blueprint (Erasmus+)



EU4Ocean coalition
for **ocean literacy**

European Year of Skills to address skills gaps

When? From 9 May 2023 to 9 May 2024

How? Thousands of [events and activities](#) on skill development across Europe:



Showcasing skills development opportunities



Creating discussions between skills providers, companies and institutions

You can submit your own event or activity as contributions to the year.



Pact of Skills

One of the **flagship actions** of the **European Skills Agenda**.

> Aims to support public and private organisations with **upskilling and reskilling**, so they can thrive through the green and digital transitions.

- **Access to knowledge** on upskilling and reskilling needs,
- **Advice on relevant funding instruments** to boost the skills of adults in their regions and countries,
- **Partnership opportunities** within our growing community.

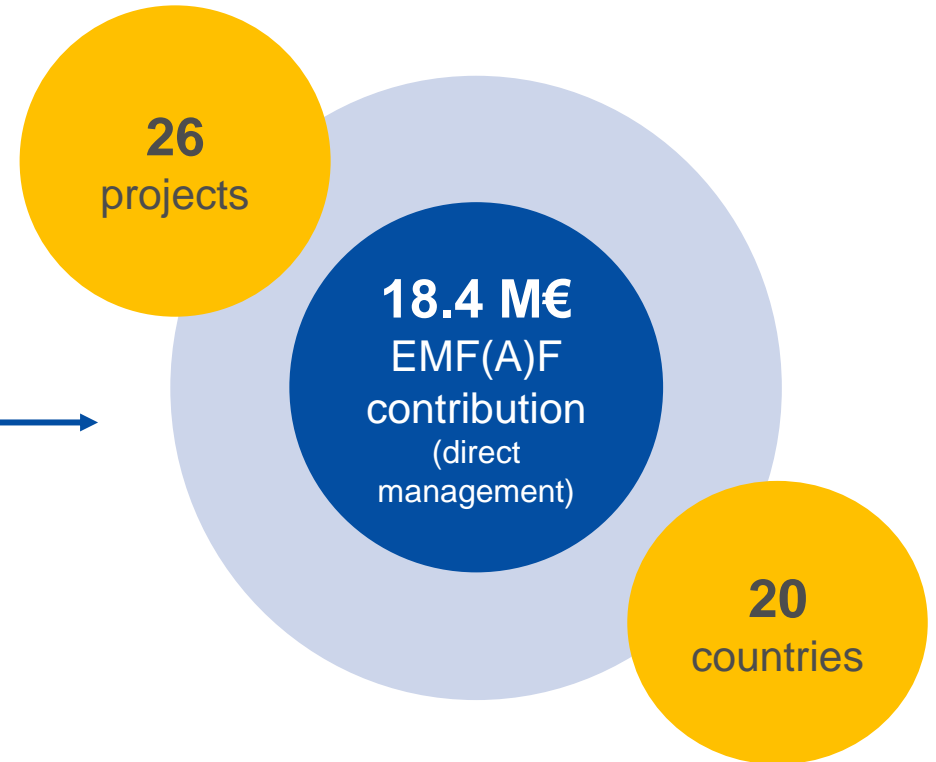
3 Dedicated Services: Networking, Knowledge and Guidance Hub.

Calls for proposals to fund projects on blue skills













1. European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF/old EMFF):

Blue careers
(2016, 2017, 2018, 2023)

- + Women in the blue economy (2 projects)
- + Fishers of the future (foresight study)
- + Study on blue skills (mid-2024)
- + Actions by Member States (shared management)



Blue careers projects | 2023

Blue Career Centre for Aquaculture Education supported by a gamification approach and distance learning platform BlueAquaEdu	 x5
Blue jobs through blue careers BOUTCAR	 x4  x3
The Next Blue Generation NextBlueGeneration	 x2 
BlueBioTechpreneurs - Unlocking Transversal and Entrepreneurial Skills for the Blue Bioeconomy BlueBioTechpreneurs	-
Training framework on Underwater TecS as key enabler for blue careers development uBlueTec	   x2
BLUE CAREERS IN NET ZERO ENERGY PORTS BLUE PORTS	 x4 
Integrating young offenders through the blue economy Turning Blue	
Game-based Learning of Entrepreneurship and Next-Generation Skills in Coastal Tourism COASTAL PRO	 x4

Calls for proposals to fund projects on blue skills

2. Horizon Europe:

EU Mission

“Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030”

E.g. HORIZON-MISS-2022-OCEAN-01-08:
Student and school activities for the promotion of education on ‘blue’ sustainability and the protection of marine and freshwater ecosystems



Calls for proposals to fund projects on blue skills

3. Erasmus+:

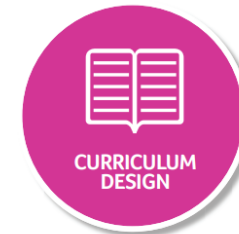
Blueprint alliances for sectoral cooperation on skills

One on maritime technology:

MATES project (2018-2022)

EUR 4.9 million

11 pilot case studies on shipbuilding
and offshore renewable energy



Large-scale partnerships under Pact for Skills to create links between academia and industry

Flagship action of the European Skills Agenda to support upskilling and reskilling of workers

Existing multi-stakeholder skills partnerships for:



Offshore Renewable Energy
(supported by Erasmus+ project FLORES)



Shipbuilding and Maritime Technology



[Find out all Industrial Ecosystems and Partnerships](#) – and consider joining?



https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/events/macro-regional-sea-basin-strategies-days-2024-2024-06-12_en

Workshop on 12th June: “Unlocking regional potential: Boosting cooperation on innovation, clusters development and smart specialization”

The workshop will facilitate exchanges of views and explore the intersection of innovation, clusters, and smart specialization through cooperation within EU macro-regional and sea basin strategies.

Discussions will centre around 3 topics:

1. Sustainable food from land and sea, 2. Transport and Connectivity and 3. Sustainable Tourism and Culture.

EMD – 2024 EDITION COMING UP !



- EMD, where **‘Ocean Leaders Meet’**: annual event during which Europe’s maritime community meet to network, discuss and outline joint action on sustainable blue economy.
- It features **inspirational speakers, thematic sessions, stakeholder workshops and pitch sessions** organised by stakeholders and the European Commission.
- The EMD 2024 is organised with the **Municipality of Svendborg** and the **Danish Maritime Authority**

Thank you

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