



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges

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#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionOcean





European Missions: a new approach to address major challenges

- European Missions are a new way to bring innovative solutions to some of our greatest challenges: **the restoration of our ocean and waters is one of them!**
- They have ambitious goals and will deliver concrete results by 2030
- Missions will operate as a portfolio of actions – such as R&I projects, policy/legislative initiatives, citizen engagement, finance and investments: **joining forces around Mission ocean and waters objectives is crucial!**

“There is no green without blue!”



Mission “Restore our ocean and waters”: Main features

- **A new way of organising R&I around big themes and impact-driven actions**
 - ✓ Mission work programme , Calls for proposals
- **Going beyond HE – integrative initiative aiming at demonstrating the technical, economic and/or societal viability of innovative solutions** in a (near to) operational environment and supporting their upscale and replication
 - ✓ Societal buy-in
 - ✓ Bringing in funds from outside HE (e.g.: regional funds, EMFAF,...)
 - ✓ Synergies
- **Cooperation with EU Partnerships is crucial to support the transition towards healthy ocean and waters!**

EU Mission

Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030

OBJECTIVES

PROTECT AND RESTORE MARINE AND FRESHWATERS ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY

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

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

Cross-cutting ENABLERS

Digital Ocean and Waters Knowledge system

Public mobilization and citizen engagement



Enabler 1: Digital Ocean and Waters Knowledge System – Digital Twin Ocean



Transforming data into knowledge

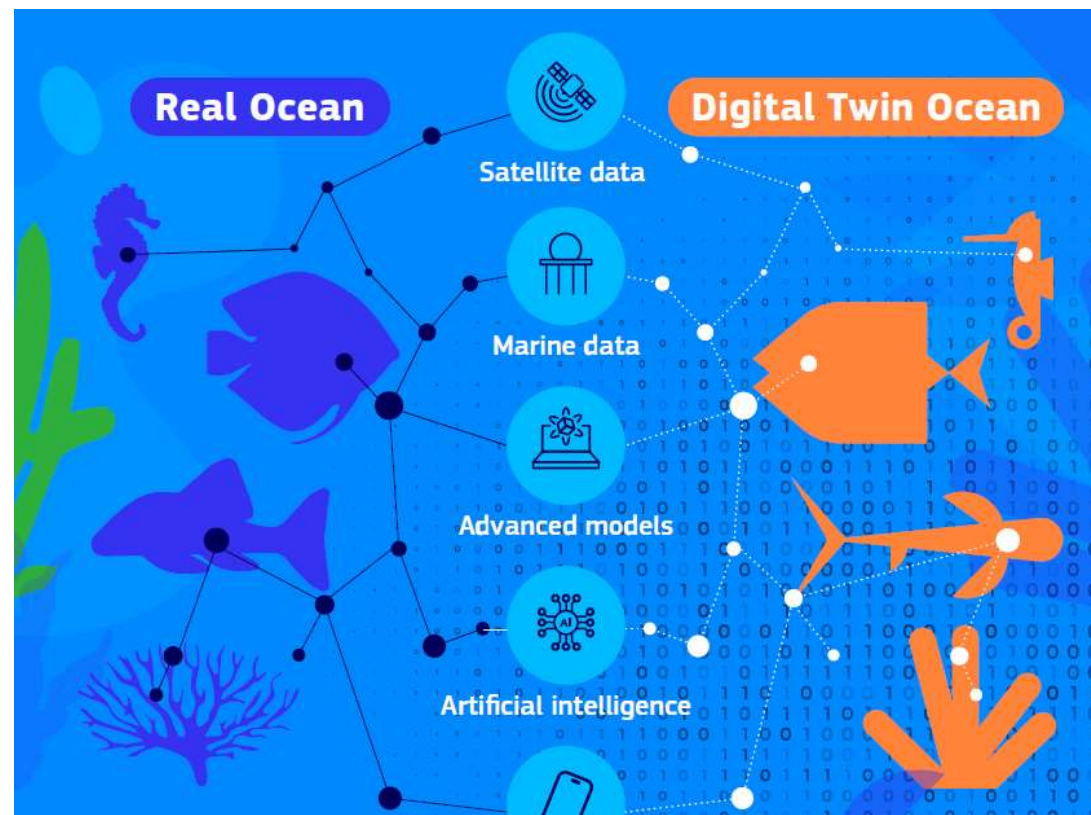
- A digital representation of a real system
- Combination of data and models
- To provide high-resolution and multi-dimensional description of the ocean
- With forecasting periods from season to multi-decades



Enabler 1: Digital Ocean and Waters Knowledge System – Digital Twin Ocean

Ocean knowledge available to ALL

- Provides an innovative set of user-driven, interactive and visualisation tools.
- A platform for global cooperation enabling forecasting and assessment of the ocean and waters.
- Contributing to the SDGs





Enabler 2: Public Mobilisation

Co-creation and co-design

- Co-design of Mission activities
- Citizen Assemblies

Citizen Science initiatives

- Mission specific calls
- Mission funded projects

Education, Literacy & Awareness

- EEU4Ocean coalition
- Youth engagement
- Student and school initiatives (Blue Schools)
- Ocean and arts...





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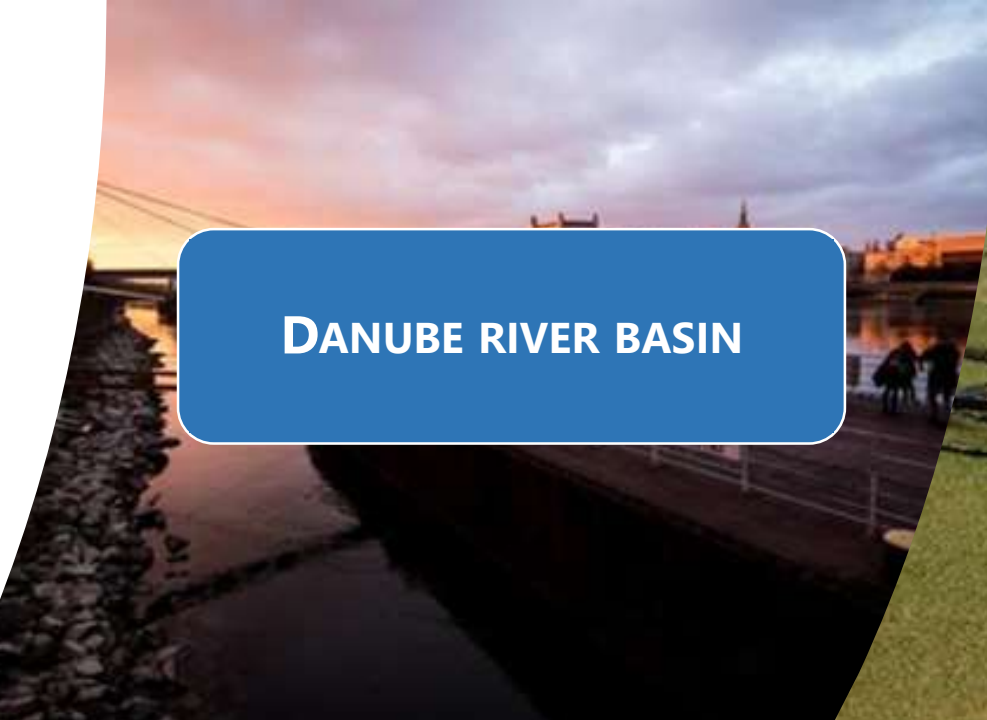
**Mission
lighthouses:**
sites to pilot,
demonstrate,
replicate and deploy
the Mission
activities across EU
seas and river
basins



**BALTIC AND NORTH SEA
BASIN**



**MEDITERRANEAN SEA
BASIN**



DANUBE RIVER BASIN



**ATLANTIC AND ARCTIC
SEA BASIN**



Mission Work Programme/calls: main features

- ✓ Follow the **impact-driven logic** of HE and European Missions
- ✓ Supports major **EU policy objectives**: EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, EU Action Plan toward Zero pollution, the Communication on a Sustainable Blue Economy, the Nature restoration Law
- ✓ **Innovation Actions are required to:**
 - **Demonstrate the technical, economic and/or societal viability of innovative solutions** (validation, testing, demonstration, prototyping, piloting, and market replication activities)
 - Involvement of at least 5 «**associated regions**» to showcase the feasibility, replicability and scale-up of innovative solutions
 - **Citizens' engagement and users' involvement**
 - MS/ACs, regional/local authorities **political engagement**
 - Ideally building on **previous successful projects**



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Mission work programme and calls 2021-2022-2023-2024

2021	CALL CLOSED - EUR 114 million	20 projects
2022	CALL CLOSED - EUR 117.9 million	20 projects
2023	CALL CLOSED – EUR 118.7	27 projects
2024	CALL CLOSED – EUR 127 million	Under evaluation
2025	Work programme in preparation – EUR 125 million	



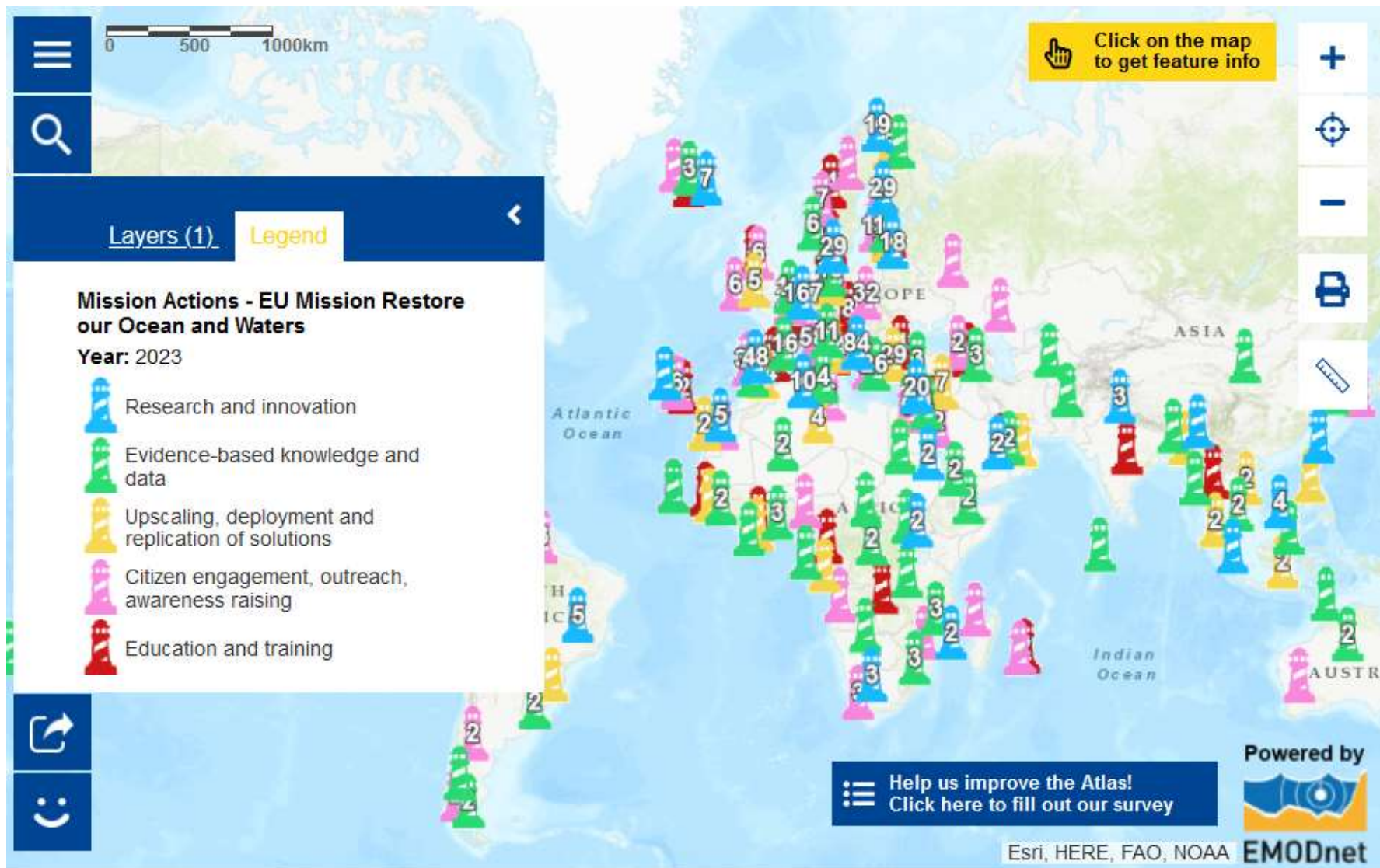
Mission Charter

The Mission Charter is meant to **mobilize** all stakeholders to achieve the goals of the Mission, strengthening **cooperation**, aligning **efforts** and achieving **critical mass** for the transformational **change** needed to restore our oceans and waters. by 2030.



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RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS



Your action in the Mission Atlas

Mission Actions - EU Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters (3 of 3)

Title of the action: **Mission Ocean and waters work programme 2021, Horizon Europe**

Short description: **The Mission Ocean and waters work programme includes calls for R&I proposals addressing the Mission objectives and enablers.**

Name of organisation: **European Commission**

Budget: **114,3 Million Euro**

End date of action: **12/04/2022**

[Website](#)

EU Mission

Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030

Great progress so far!

- **4 lighthouses** rolled-up to test and demonstrate new solutions, for the green/blue and digital transition
- **Mission Charter** with > **1000 actions** submitted by a large variety of stakeholders
- **Communities** of actors (regions, cities, islands, ports, fishing...) being identified and supported
- **67 projects funded** involving 839 beneficiaries from 46 countries and implementing more than 250 demonstration sites across Europe
- **34 Associated Regions** already involved and other 96 expected
- **Synergies** with e.g. EMFAF, Life, Interreg, RRF, ERDF, EIB



Mission ocean and waters: how we work together?

- Cooperate with each other to ensure complementarities and convergence of efforts to preserve our seas and freshwaters;
- Show political engagement by adhering to the Mission Charter;
- Network and showcase innovative solutions among the Mission stakeholders and national/regional authorities in the sea/river basins;
- Engage with the Mission to support its policy objectives, its knowledge system and public mobilisation;
- Participate in relevant Missions calls;
- Check our investment opportunities: BlueInvest and EU Blue Champions scheme;
- Join our Mission events!



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European Ocean Days

Bringing the blue to the spotlight



3 - 7 March 2025



SPARKS & Charlemagne building



Featuring:

- Young Voices for the Ocean, 03 March
- **Mission Forum, 04 March**
- Ocean and Fisheries Dialogues, 05 March
- BlueInvest Day, 05 & 06 March
- Marine Knowledge for the Ocean Pact, 07 March
- Fisheries and Ocean Science Seminar, 07 March



Marine and maritime stakeholders, young ocean advocates, investors, Mission Ocean community and more.



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Thank you!

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