EU funding opportunities: Mission Ocean and Bluelnvest

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DG for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
European Commission
EU funding opportunities in Croatia

The European Green Deal and Blue Economy support
Horizon Europe - Mission 'Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030'
Other Horizon Europe opportunities
Recovery and Resilience Fund
EMFAF - Blue Invest
The European Green Deal

Transforming the EU’s economy for a sustainable future

- Increasing the EU’s Climate ambition for 2030 and 2050
- Supplying clean, affordable and secure energy
- Mobilising industry for a clean and circular economy
- Building and renovating in an energy and resource efficient way
- Mobilising research and fostering innovation
- A zero pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment
- Preserving and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity
- From ‘Farm to Fork’: a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system
- Accelerating the shift to sustainable and smart mobility

And leave No one behind

Financing the transition
Leave no one behind (Just Transition)

The EU as a global leader
A European Climate Pact
Setting the right conditions for a sustainable Blue economy

- Ocean observation initiative
- Expanded Copernicus marine service
- Blue observatory on economic data
- Skills partnerships
- Dedicated calls for proposal on blue careers and women in blue economy
- Working conditions (ILO/IMO)
- Taxonomy / Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Initiative
- BluInvest Platform and equity fund; EIB /EIF
- ESIF (incl. EMFAF) and RRF

- European partnership for a climate-neutral, sustainable and productive blue economy
- Candidate mission « Healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters »
- Smart specialisation
- EU maritime security strategy
- Coastguard cooperation
- CISE operational phase
EU funding opportunities in Croatia

The European Green Deal and Blue Economy support
Horizon Europe - Mission 'Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030'
Other Horizon Europe opportunities
EMFAF - Blue Invest
Horizon Europe: structure

**Pillar 1**
Excellent Science

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures

**Pillar 2**
Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

- Clusters
  - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
  - Civil Security for Society
  - Digital, Industry and Space
  - Climate, Energy and Mobility
  - Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment
- Joint Research Centre

**Pillar 3**
Innovative Europe

- European Innovation Council
- European innovation ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology

**Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area**

- Widening participation and spreading excellence
- Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

**5 Missions**
1) Adaptation to climate change
2) Mission cancer
3) Restore our Ocean and waters
4) 100 climate-neutral and smart cities
5) A soil deal for Europe
Climate neutrality: the ocean and waters are major carbon sinks and are essential for adaptation to climate change.

Biodiversity: the ocean and waters are home to a rich diversity of species.

Economic prosperity: the ocean is estimated to generate €2.5 trillion of goods and services per year by 2030.
## Restore our ocean and waters by 2030

### Mission objective and targets

### Protect and restore marine and freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity in line with EU Biodiversity Strategy
- Protect a minimum of 30% of the EU’s sea area and integrate ecological corridors, as part of a true Trans-European Nature Network.
- Strictly protect at least 10% of the EU’s sea area.
- At least 25,000 km of free-flowing rivers are restored.
- Contribute to relevant upcoming marine nature restoration targets incl. degraded seabed habitats and coastal ecosystems.

### Prevent and eliminate pollution of our ocean, seas and waters in line with EU Action Plan towards Zero Pollution
- Reduce by at least 50% plastic litter at sea.
- Reduce by at least 30% microplastics released into the environment.
- Reduce by at least 50% nutrient losses, the use and risk of chemical pesticides.

### Make the Blue Economy carbon neutral and circular in line with the European Climate Law
- Eliminate greenhouse gas emissions from maritime economic activities in the EU and sequester those emissions that cannot be avoided (net zero maritime emissions).
- Develop zero-carbon and low-impact aquaculture, and promote circular, low-carbon multi-purpose use of marine and water space.
Mission lighthouses

Stakeholders and citizen assembly

Member States and Regions

Research and Innovation

Projects to implement lighthouse objectives

Participatory governance
Citizen engagement

Mission area based lighthouse

Regional and Smart Specialisation Strategies and Plans

Lighthouse Implementation
Charter with political validation

Business outreach & involvement

Joint projects with other Missions & Partnerships

Financial resources and tools

EU, national and regional programmes & private investments

Danube river basin

Atlantic & Arctic basin

Mediterranean sea basin

North and Baltic sea basin
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 pullution, 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
  ➢ Baltic and North Sea
  ➢ Mediterranean Sea
  ➢ Danube River
✓ Based on the Mission Board Starfish 2030 Report and the Mission Implementation Plan
✓ Support the Mission first phase: «development and piloting» for 2021-2025
✓ Topics for 2021 only – further WP amendment for 2022 topics
Mission Ocean and waters work programme under Horizon Europe

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 - «lighthouses» implementation/coordination; technical assistance

✓ Indicative budget 2021: EUR 114 mio

✓ Call deadline: 12 April 2021
Mission Ocean and waters work programme under Horizon Europe

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
  - At least 5 associated regions to showcase the feasibility, replicability and sale up of innovative solutions
  - Citizens’ engagement and users’ involvement
  - Ideally building on previous successful RIAs

✓ 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: studies and monitoring; technical assistance; communication
Cross-cutting enablers for the Mission

Digital Ocean and Water knowledge system

Public Mobilisation and Engagement

Data sources

Digital Infrastructure service

Pan-EU services Twins

Data analytics Specifics

Ocean Observation initiative (PLAN/2020/7284)

EMODnet

EU 27 Member States

Conference on the Future of Europe

Participation and Deliberative Democracy

Volunteering and Stewardship

Citizen science and Literacy
EU funding opportunities in Croatia

• The European Green Deal and Blue Economy support
• Horizon Europe - Mission 'Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030'
• Other Horizon Europe opportunities
• EMFAF - Blue Invest
BlueInvest

For companies active in marine/maritime sectors, our BlueInvest initiative may be interesting.

- BlueInvest was launched by the European Commission in April 2019, with the goal to foster investment, innovation and sustainable growth in the blue economy by providing support to innovative SMEs and start-ups active in the blue economy sectors.
- Its features include an online community, investment readiness assistance, matchmaking, investor outreach and engagement, an academy, a projects pipeline and a BlueInvest Fund.
- Helps to meet EU Green deal and SBE objectives by connecting innovation, investment and impact and supporting technologies that address sustainability and climate change challenges.
BLUEINVEST FEATURES

BLUEINVEST COMMUNITY
BLUEINVEST ACADEMY
BLUEINVEST EVENTS
BLUEINVEST PROJECT PIPELINE

BLUEINVEST READINESS ASSISTANCE
BLUEINVEST COACHES
BLUEINVEST GRANTS
BLUEINVEST FUND

BLUEINVEST PRESENTATION
### Pipeline projects

#### Register as investor

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Filter by keywords</th>
<th>Filter by company type</th>
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<td>Plastic catalytic depolymerization</td>
<td>Ocean waste management, Other</td>
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<td>BioThoT</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Biomass management and processing</td>
<td>Aquaculture, Blue biotechnology, Fisheries, Ocean waste management</td>
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<td>Blue Circular PostBranding Project</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Apparel and textile development from ocean waste collected by local fishing boats.</td>
<td>Ocean waste management</td>
</tr>
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</table>
ACHIEVEMENTS

01 Increased awareness and facilitated deals for blue tech

02 Established a dedicated financial ecosystem for SBE

03 Mobilised and enabled a community of SMEs, startups and business coaches and stakeholders

04 Promoted the EU blue economy, its market opportunities and innovation linked to the EU Green Deal
**BLUEINVEST PRESENTATION**

**TRACK RECORD**

**COMMUNITY**
- 1174 Community members
- 34 Events
- 3399 B2B meetings
- 92% Satisfaction

**READINESS AND ASSISTANCE**
- 20 Beneficiaries
- 63 Testimonials
- 50 Success stories
- 173 BluelInvest coaches
- 97% Satisfaction

**PROJECT PIPELINE**
- 227 Companies featured
- 2090 Projects in the database
- 54 Investors registered on the project pipeline
- 100+ introductions to interested investors

**INVESTORS**
- 255 Investors engaged
- 1240 Investors informed on blue economy opportunities
- 39 Club of Investors
- 30+ Sustainable & blue funds introduced

**INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE**
- €300 million
  - Raised by the BluelInvest Fund
- 5 BluelInvest Funds selected
- €42,5 million
  - BluelInvest Grants
- 24 BluelInvest companies have closed an investment round
The BlueInvest Fund

In 2020 the European Commission partnered with the EIF to launch the EUR 75m BlueInvest Fund in order to support innovative blue economy companies.

BlueInvest Fund was structured under the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI) Equity Product with an EFSI guarantee of €75 million.

Based on a call to fund managers, four deals were approved amounting to €85 million (including EIF Own Resources) as well as a 5th of €15 million under InnovFin Equity.

The funds are: Blue Horizon Ventures, Ocean 14, Sofinnova Industrial Biotech Fund, Good Harvest Fund. They will match these funds with their own capital.

The total expected amount of capital that will be mobilised by the funds into the Blue Economy is €300 million to be allocated to companies/projects until 2026.
CONTACT THE BLUEINVEST TEAM

And plug into the Community

• Contact Information

• Email: blue-invest@lu.pwc.com

• Website: blue-invest.eu
The LIFE Programme 2021-2027

- To contribute to the shift to a circular, energy-efficient, renewable energy based- and climate resilient economy
- To protect and improve the quality of the environment
- To halt and reverse biodiversity loss

Nature and biodiversity

Circular economy and quality of life

Climate mitigation and adaptation

Clean energy transition

- Develop and demonstrate eco-innovative techniques and approaches
- Help to implement and enforce plans and strategies, in compliance with EU legislation.
- Promote best practices and behavioral changes
- Catalyse the large scale deployment of successful solutions

On legislation and policies

- Support their development, monitoring and enforcement
- Help Member States to improve their implementation

Project beneficiaries are:
- 1/3 private enterprises
- 1/3 NGOs and civil society organisations
- 1/3 public authorities

- The only EU programme dedicated exclusively to the environment, nature conservation and climate action.
- For the years 2021-2027, a budget of 5.43 billion €.
Support to Common Fisheries Policy
- Mixed portfolio: grants and procurement
- A vast and diverse area of intervention
- Typical project duration: 12 – 36 months
- Typical consortium:
  - 1 - 5 partners
  - private and public bodies (focus on SMEs)

Maritime spatial planning

Sustainably managed resources

International Ocean Governance

Blue economy & technologies

Maritime security

Ocean observation

Regional cooperation

Future opportunities

EU Commission Funding & Tenders portal - https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home
Thank you for your attention!

#Be Green. Go Blue!

Andreea Strachinescu

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