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# EU MISSIONS

**RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS**

**Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges**



#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionOcean



***“Every problem is an opportunity for innovation. But we need a clear and ambitious objective. We need a mission, like the European Green Deal.***

***That is why we have launched the ‘Mission to Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030’. With EUR 0.5 billion in funding from the world's largest research and development programme, Horizon Europe, and other instruments.”***

President U. von der Leyen, 11 Feb 2022  
[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH\\_22\\_962](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_22_962)





# Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030 a systemic approach

## Mission Board Report (2020)

Proposed Mission:  
**Mission Starfish 2030:  
Restore our Ocean  
and Waters**  
Report of the Mission Board  
Healthy Oceans, Seas, Coastal and Inland Waters

Independent Expert Report

RESTORE OUR OCEAN AND WATERS

- FILLING THE KNOWLEDGE AND EMOTIONAL GAP
- REGENERATING MARINE AND FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS
- RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
- RECARBONISING OUR OCEAN, SEAS AND WATERS
- REVAMPING OUR GOVERNANCE
- ZERO POLLUTION

## Implementation Plan

European Commission

European Missions

Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030

Implementation Plan

*This is an internal working document of the European Commission. Therefore the budget figures mentioned are approximate and the document will be updated. It is made public for information only and does not bind the European Commission. The European Commission is not liable for any consequence stemming from the reuse of this document.*

Research and Innovation

## EC Communication 2021



Brussels, 29.9.2021  
COM(2021) 609 final

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

on European Missions



# Mission objectives and targets

## Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030

### PROTECT AND RESTORE MARINE AND FRESHWATERS ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY

- Protect at least 30% and strictly protect 10% EU's sea areas
- Restore 25.000 km free flowing rivers
- Marine nature restoration targets (incl. degraded seabeds, coastal ecosystems)

### 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

### ENABLERS

Digital Ocean and Waters Knowledge system

Public mobilisation and engagement

## Lighthouses are the Mission SITES to pilot, demonstrate, develop and deploy the Mission activities across EU sea and river basins

- Cover all EU seas, oceans and river basins
- Build on **existing initiatives**, networks and different sources of funding, starting with Horizon Europe, but not limited to this
- Connect and structure, mobilise stakeholders
- Each lighthouse **will pilot and lead on one of the Mission objectives** (phase 1)
- **Replicability and scalability** (phase 2)
- Provide **access to the solutions**, services and advice to all basins



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What are the **lighthouses**  
and **how do they work?**





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# Mission lighthouses:

sites to pilot, demonstrate, develop and deploy the Mission activities across EU seas and river basins



## Baltic & North sea basin



**MAKE THE BLUE ECONOMY CARBON-NEUTRAL AND CIRCULAR**

## Mediterranean sea basin



**PREVENT AND ELIMINATE POLLUTION OF OUR OCEAN, SEAS AND WATERS**

## Danube river basin



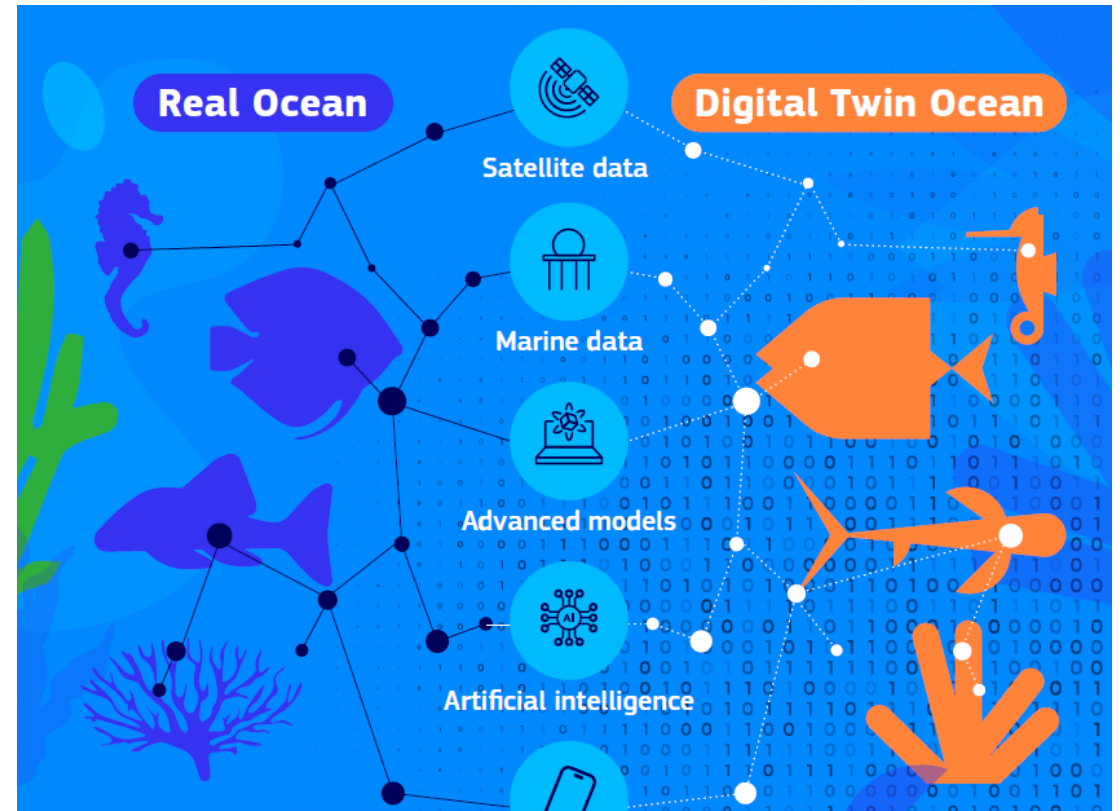
**PROTECT AND RESTORE MARINE AND FRESHWATERS ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY**

## Atlantic & Arctic coast





# Enabler: European Digital Twin of the Ocean





# Enabler: Public Mobilisation

## Co-creation and co-design

- Co-design of Mission
- Citizen Assemblies

## Citizen Science

- ERA Plastic Pirates
- CSA Citizen Science

## Education, Literacy & Awareness

- Youth engagement
- Student and school initiatives (Blue Schools, EU4Ocean)
- Choose your fish campaign

## Stewardship and volunteering

- Community-driven business models







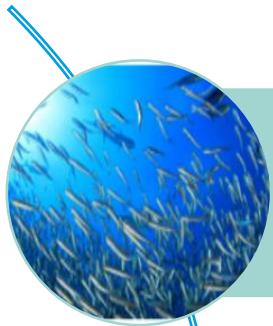
# EU Support for Mission



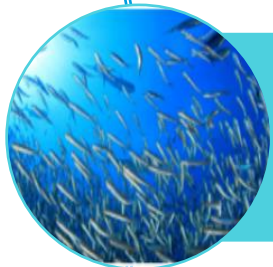
**Implementation Charter**



# Mission Charter: A joint commitment to Restoring our Ocean and Waters



Launched on **30 June 2020** at UN Ocean Conference, Lisbon.



Calling on wide range of stakeholders to **adhere to the Charter by submitting Actions** that will contribute to achieving the Mission objectives



Non-binding engagement, **open** to any public or private interested parties



# HE Mission Work programmes 2021-2023



**2021**

Calls closed on 12 April,  
EUR 114.3 million

**2022**

WP adoption on 11 May, Calls opened on 12 May,  
calls closing on 27 September 2022  
EUR 117.9 million

**2023**

In preparation  
Adoption: Dec 2022 (tbc)  
EUR 111.9 million



# HE - Mission Work Programme 2021-2022

Objective 1  
**PROTECT and RESTORE  
MARINE and  
FRESHWATERS**

**Blue Parks:** 2 IAs (MPA management, degraded ecosystems)

**Danube river basin lighthouse**  
CSA + 2 IAs (restoration of river connectivity, wetlands)

**Atlantic and Arctic lighthouse:**  
CSA + 2 IAs (coastal restoration, climate resilience/adaptation – joint topic with Mission Climate)

Objective 2  
**PREVENT AND ELIMINATE  
POLLUTION OF OUR OCEAN,  
SEAS AND WATERS**

**Mediterranean sea basin lighthouse**

CSA +2 IAs (prevention, reduction and elimination of plastic & litter, prevention, reduction and elimination of chemical pollution,)

**Cross-basin topics:** plastic free European rivers, low environmental impact fishing gear

Objective 3  
**MAKE THE BLUE  
ECONOMY CARBON-  
NEUTRAL AND CIRCULAR**

**Baltic and North sea basin lighthouse**

CSA + 2 IAs (sustainable aquaculture and multi-use of marine space, bringing algae-based products on the market)



# Mission WP and CALLS for enablers 2021-2022



## Digital Ocean & Waters Knowledge System

DTO Infrastructure integration (OA), Underlying models for DTO (IA), integration of biodiversity monitoring data and models into DTO (IA), European e-DNA library (CSA).



## Citizen mobilisation & engagement

Europeanisation of Plastic Pirates (OA), citizen science (CSA), 'blue' student and school activities (CSA), youth connection with ocean & waters (foresight), community-driven regenerative ocean farming (CSA).



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# Thank you!

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