



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges

Union for the Mediterranean – Blue Economy Working Group

14 March 2023

#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionOcean





EU Missions:

*A new way to bring **concrete solutions** to some of our **greatest challenges**.*

- **Our Mission?** The restoration of our ocean and waters!
- **Why a Mission?** It tackles the problem on a European scale.
- **What it delivers?** Impact through:
 - ❖ New role for R&I
 - ❖ Portfolio of actions
 - ❖ New forms of governance & collaboration
 - ❖ Citizens' participation



Mission objectives and targets

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 MOBILIZATION AND ENGAGEMENT



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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

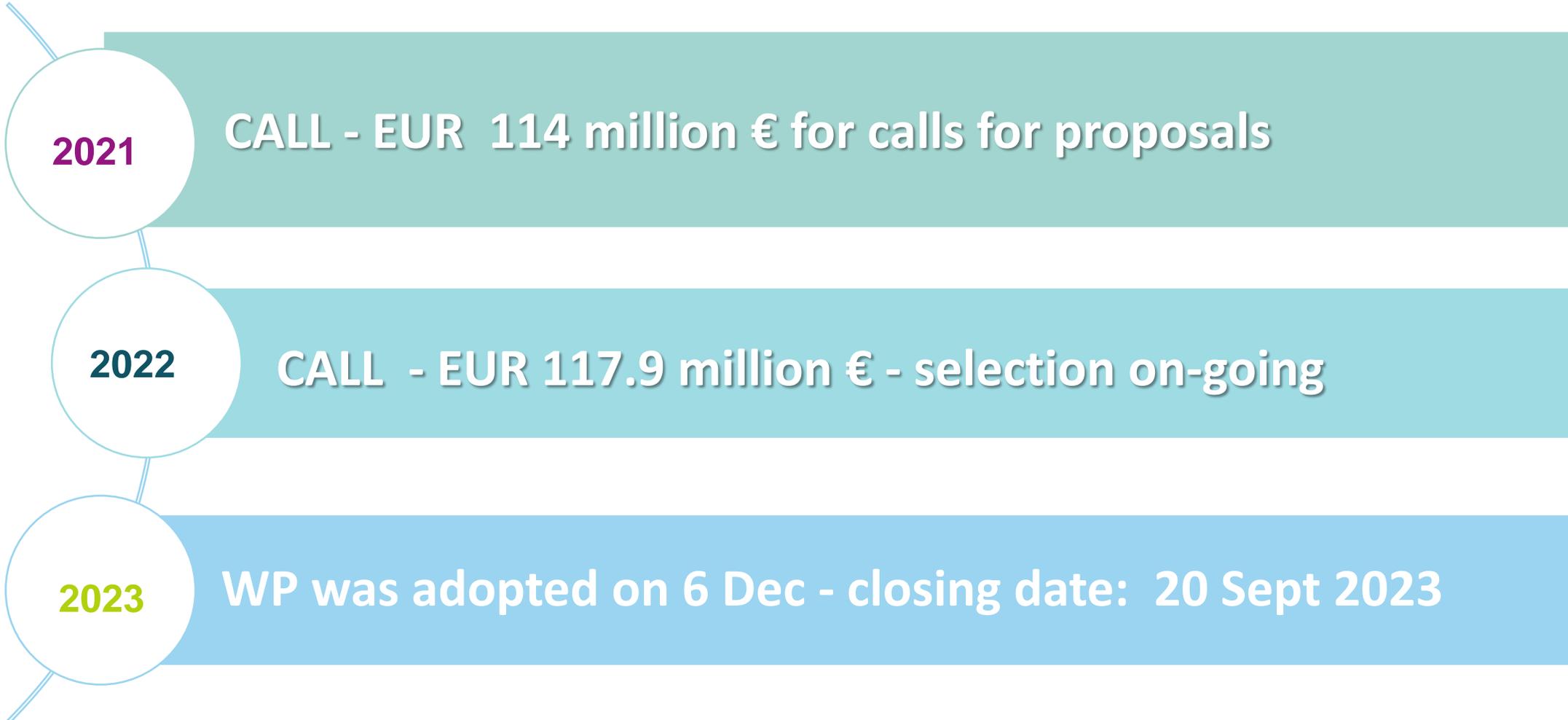
Atlantic & Arctic coast



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poZ7Dz4Xvl8>



Horizon Europe - Mission Work Programmes/ Calls





2021-2023 WP topics linked to objective 1 PROTECT and RESTORE

European Blue Parks



- **2021 WP** : European Blue Parks (IA, 17million EUR)
- **2022 WP** : Protection and restoration solutions for degraded coastal and marine habitats (IA, 17million EUR)
- **2023 WP**: Topic: restoration and protection of marine habitats (IA, 17 million EUR)
- **Joint call Missions Soil and Adaptation**: landscape water retention capacity (IA, 15 million)

Danube river basin lighthouse



- **2021 WP** : Danube river basin lighthouse: restoration of fresh and transitional waters ecosystems (IA, 17 million EUR) + coordination and support action (3 million EUR)
- **2022 WP** : Protection and restoration of wetlands, flood plains, coastal wetlands and salt marshes and their biodiversity (IA, 17 million EUR)
- **2023 WP**: Topic: Demonstration of effective and sustainable management of sediments in the Danube river-Black sea system (IA, 17 million EUR)

Atlantic & Arctic sea basin lighthouse



- **2021 WP** A&A lighthouse: restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems and increased climate resilience (IA, 17 million EUR) + coordination and support action (3 million EUR)
- **2022 WP Joint topic with Mission Climate Adaptation**: Joint demonstration for coastal resilience in the Arctic and Atlantic sea basin (IA, 20 million EUR)
- **2023 WP**: Topic: Addressing climate change and human activities threats to biodiversity (IA, 16 million EUR)



2021-2023 WP topics linked to objectives 2 REDUCING POLLUTION



Mediterranean sea basin lighthouse

- **2021 WP:** Actions to prevent, minimise and remediate **litter and plastic pollution (IA, 16 million EUR)** + coordination and support action (**3 million EUR**)
- **2022 WP** Actions to prevent, minimise and remediate **chemical pollution (IA, 17 million EUR)**
- **2023 WP:** Joint call with Mission Soil- nutrient pollution landscape-river-sea system in Med (**IA, 16 million EUR**)

Cross-basin topics



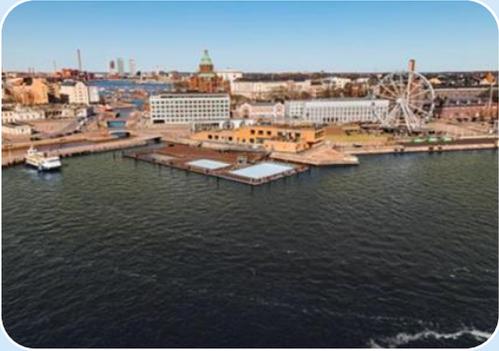
WP 2022: Marine litter and pollution – Smart and low environmental impact fishing gears (call ongoing) - **IA, 10 million EUR**



WP 2022: Prevent and eliminate litter, plastics and microplastics: Innovative solutions for waste-free European rivers (call ongoing) - **IA, 10 million EUR**



2021-2023 WP topics linked to objectives 3 CARBON-NEUTRAL and CIRCULAR BLUE ECONOMY



Baltic & North sea lighthouse basin

2021 WP: Low impact marine aquaculture and multi-purpose use of marine space (IA, 16 million EUR) + coordination and support action (3 million EUR)

2022 WP: Bringing sustainable algae-based products and solutions to the market (IA, 17 million EUR)

2023 WP: Green and energy-efficient small-scale fishing fleets (IA, 12 million EUR)

Cross-basin

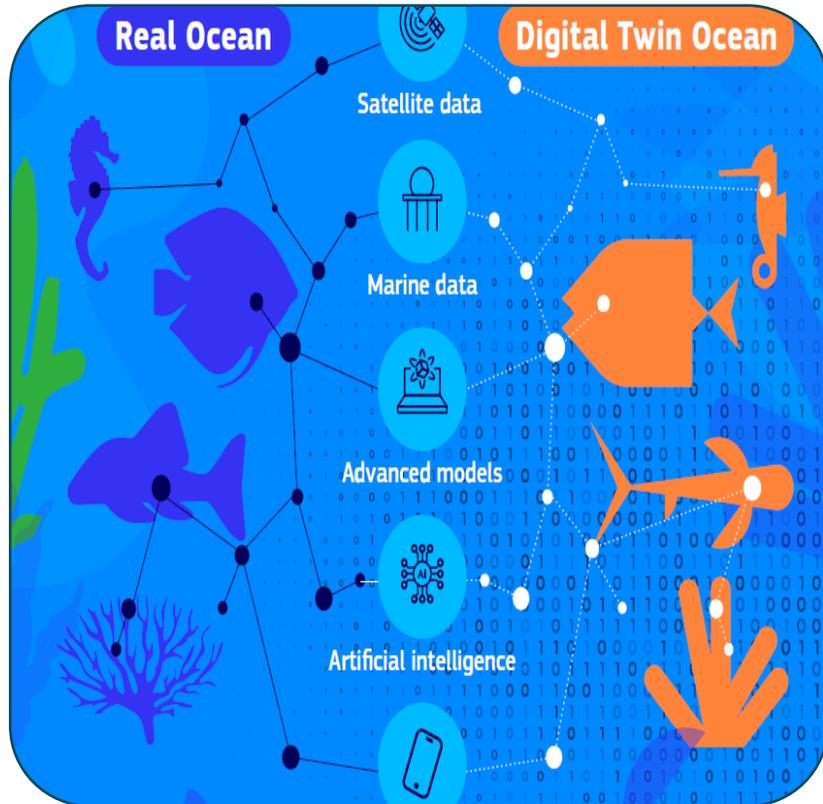


HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-01-06: Cross-basin topic - Innovative nature-inclusive concepts to reconcile offshore renewables with ocean protection - Research and Innovation Action, 3 million EUR

HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-01-07: Cross-basin topic - Analysis of the obstacles and opportunities for repurposing aged/unused offshore infrastructures
Research and Innovation Action, 1 million EUR



2021-2023 WP topics linked to Enabler 1 Digital Twin Ocean



2021 Projects :

- Underlying models for the European Digital Twin Ocean (IA, **7 M€**)
- EU Public Infrastructure for the European Digital Twin Ocean (GIB, **3M€**)

2022 Calls :

- Integration of biodiversity monitoring data into the Digital Twin Ocean (IA, **10 M€**)
- European DNA library of marine and freshwater species (CSA, **2 M€**)

2023 WP:

- Integration of socio-ecological models into the Digital Twin Ocean (RIA, **10M€ /3 grants**)
- Roadmap for the integration of inland waters into the Digital Twin Ocean (CSA, **2M€**)

➤ **A Blue Economy Observatory launched by JRC**⁹



2021-2023 WP topics for Enabler 2 Public mobilisation and engagement



2021 WP

- Relation of **young generations** with the sea and water: values, expectations, and engagement (RIA, foresight, 1 million EUR)
- Piloting **citizen science** in marine and freshwater domains (CSA, 1 million EUR)
- Europeanisation of Plastic Pirates Citizen Science Initiative (GIB, 2 million EUR)

• 2022 WP

- Student and **school activities** for the promotion of education on 'blue' sustainability and the protection of marine and freshwater ecosystems (CSA, 3 million EUR, grants to third parties)
- Towards local community-driven business models: **regenerative ocean farming** (CSA, 3 million EUR/3 grants)

• 2023 WP

- Choose your fish: campaign for **responsible consumption** of products from the sea (CSA, EUR 2million /1 grant)
- **Ocean & water and arts**: the contribution of the creative sectors to Mission Ocean and waters (CSA, EUR 2 million/1 grant, cascaded grants up to EUR 50 000 per entity)



SYNERGIES WITH OTHER EU FUNDS

EMFAF PROGRAMME

- **shared management:** national plans in preparation. 8 national programmes submitted until mid-November: CZ, FR, IT, CY, LT, AT, FI, SE. AT, and CZ explicitly refer to synergies with Mission Ocean (**estimated committed volume €60M**)
- **direct management** calls launched in 2022 on blue career and regional flagships in EU sea basins (indicative budget **EUR 15.1 million** in 2022) have been designed to complement activities implemented by Mission Ocean and Waters in its WP 2021 and 2022.

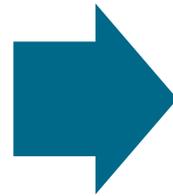
Recovery and Resilience Fund

The investments of coastal MSs, in particular Belgium, Cyprus, Greece, France, Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain in blue sectors and marine domains amount to **EUR 10.7 billion** (around 1.5% of the total RRF budget)



SYNERGIES WITH OTHER EU FUNDS

Digital transition: DTO is supported by **Copernicus** Marine and **EMODnet**, the European Marine Research Infrastructures and is implemented in coordination with the Destination Earth initiative.



COPERNICUS: in-kind contribution for Ocean and water monitoring, forecast, climate services, satellite observation. (EUR **2.43 billion** 2021-2027, agreed in the Implementation Plan);
EMODNet/EMFAF: contribution to Digital Twin Ocean – Mission knowledge system (EUR **50 million** 2021-2027)



Mission Charter

A joint commitment to restore our ocean and waters



Join forces for a **transformational change** for a healthy ocean and waters



A **simple, inclusive, efficient** and **inspirational** framework to enhance cooperation to deliver on **Mission objectives**



Open to any (public or private) interested parties, incl. **Associated Regions**



Actions can cover R&I, Knowledge & Data, Citizen engagement, Upscaling of solutions, Education & Training



Benefits of being part of this Mission



Visibility and promotion of your actions as a **Mission Actor**



Opportunities for **networking** and sharing **best practices**



Access to **ocean literacy** and **education tools**



Access to the **Mission Implementation Platform services** (access to knowledge, projects portfolio, information on funding, etc.)



Investment **opportunities** and **advisory services**

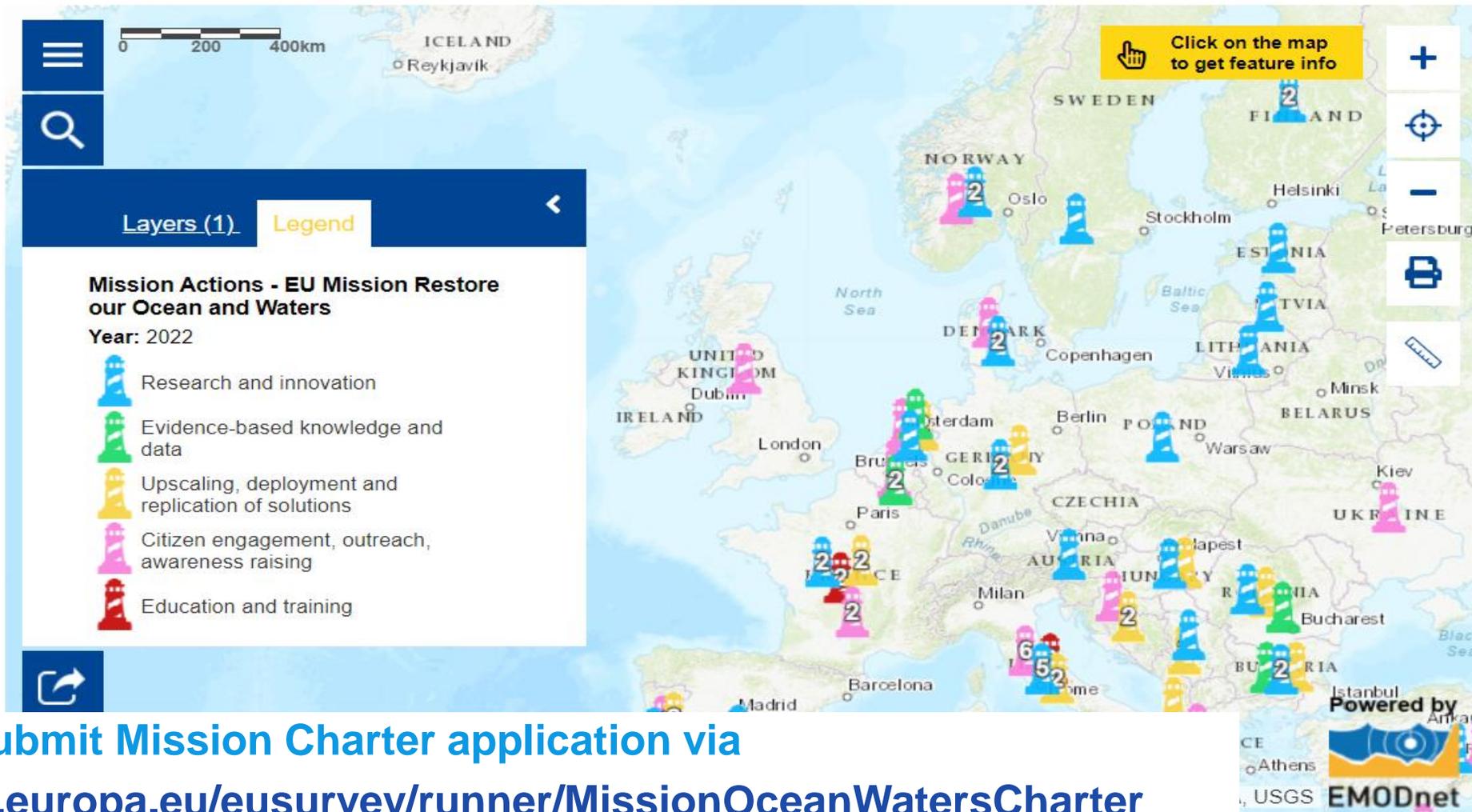


Access to **support from Lighthouse CSA / Facility** (support to develop science and transition roadmaps, skills training, etc.)



Mission Atlas presents the Charter actions

(available @ <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/en/frontpage/1650>)

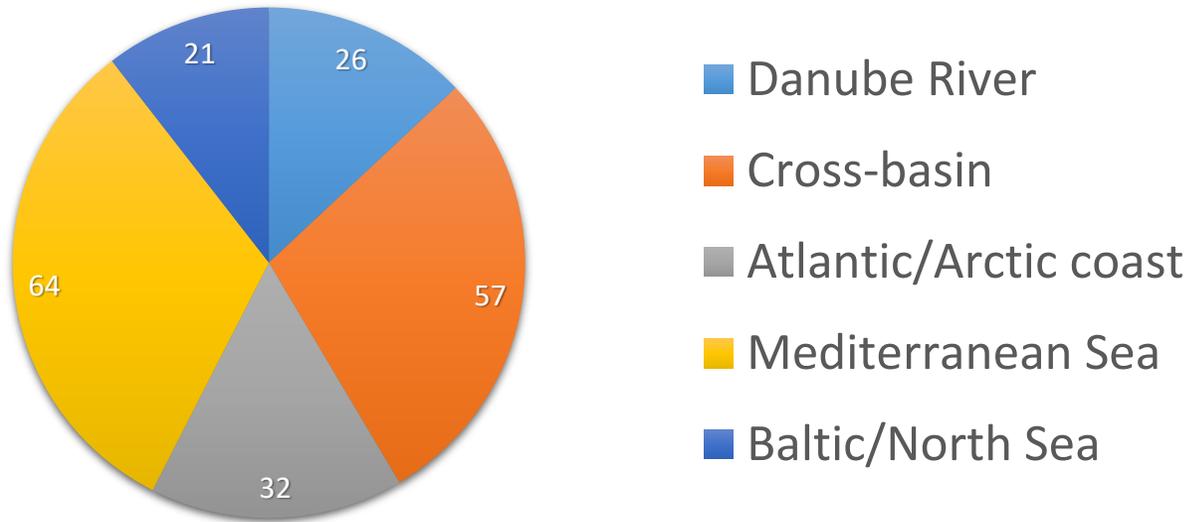


To join, submit Mission Charter application via <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/MissionOceanWatersCharter>



Mission Charter actions

Basin coverage

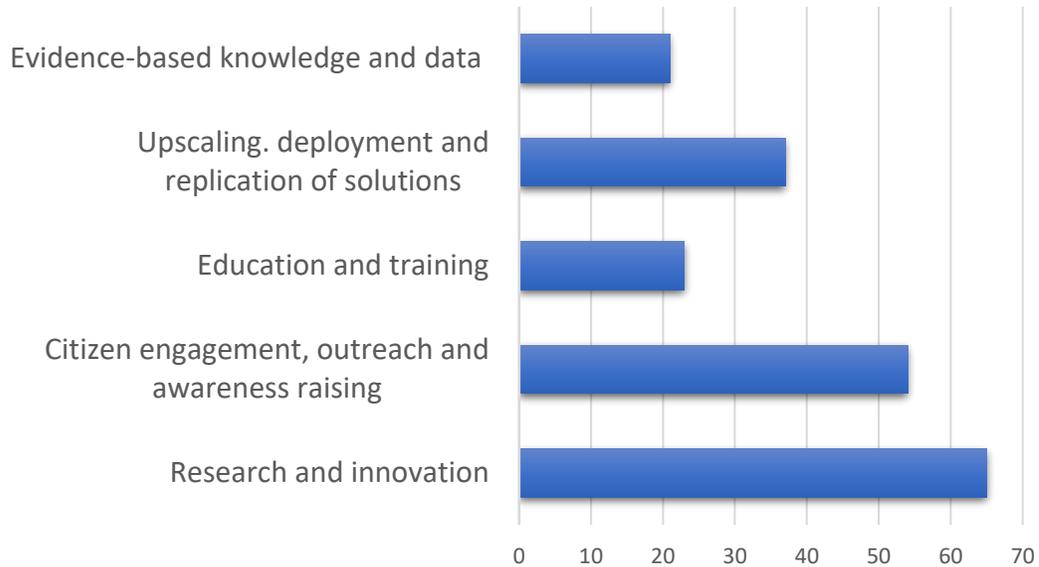


Over 300 actions submitted
200 assessed actions are now part of this Mission!
Budget: €1,86 billion

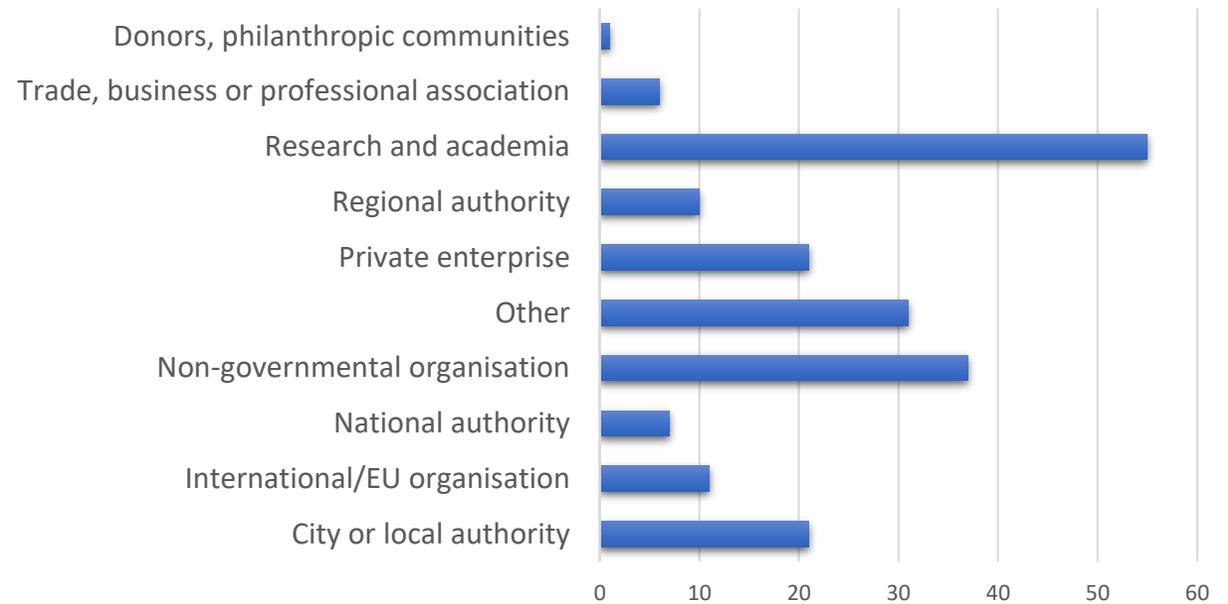


Mission Charter actions

Type of action



Type of organisation





Update on the Mission events and lighthouses

1st Annual Mission Forum	Brussels, BE	17 February 2023
Atlantic-Arctic	Cork, IE	24-25 November 2022
Danube-Black Sea	Bucharest, RO	3-4 April 2023
Baltic-North Sea	Hamburg, DE	25-26 April 2023
Mediterranean Sea	Palermo & Salina, IT	30-31 May & 1 June 2023



Update on the Mission events and lighthouses

MOBILISATION OF MS/AC, REGIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 1st Annual Mission Forum (17 February 2023 – 400 participants in presence and on-line)
- Participatory Workshops

KICK-OFF EVENTS FOR EACH LIGHTHOUSE

- **Mediterranean**, Marseille, June 2022
- **Atlantic-Arctic**, Cork, Nov. 2022
- **Danube**: R&I Days Sept 2022 & April 2023
- **Baltic & North Sea**: April 2023

LAUNCH OF COORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTIONS

- One for each lighthouse Sea / river basins
- One overarching

For each event, the Mission is tailor-made for specific actors and communities (e.g. ports, regions) or sea / river basins





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Thank you!

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