

Sustainable BLUE ECONOMY

productive seas and oceans

R&I Projects for Policy

Only 5% of economic activities come from the seas and oceans despite the huge potential.



As the world's population is expected to grow to over **9 billion by 2050**, the **sustainable use of oceans** as a food source is **crucial for our survival**.



The seas and oceans are vast and can be explored and sustainably managed through **joint international actions**.



New activities and man-made developments compete on a limited marine space.



Marine and coastal environments suffer from **littering, pollution and over-exploitation**.

Oceans provide **50% of the oxygen** on Earth.

Oceans are essential for buffering the impacts of global warming by **absorbing extra heat and 30% of global carbon dioxide**.



The EU has the world's largest maritime territory, with a **20 million km²** Exclusive Economic Zone with huge opportunities for growth and jobs.



The EU's Blue Economy:

5.4 million jobs

€500 billion gross added value a year with the potential for more

No country alone can take on the challenging tasks of the sustainable management of the seas and oceans.

Research for new and better solutions

The EU has invested in research and innovation to unlock the potential of its seas and oceans.

€3.38 billion

FP7 and Horizon 2020 2007-2016

over **1200 projects** have produced results for:



marine and maritime policies



food security and safety



ecosystem-based approach for sustainable management of fisheries



environmental protection



observation of the oceans and seas



maritime transport and marine technologies



marine and offshore energy



blue biotech, pharmaceuticals, alternative protein sources, new marine value chains, etc.

Actions for policymakers



unlock and treasure the Atlantic's potential from Antarctica to the Arctic through **research and innovation with international partners**



implement **effective framework conditions** to facilitate coexisting sustainable marine and maritime activities



combine the latest scientific developments to ensure a **substantial food supply** is unlocked while preserving the health and productivity of the seas and oceans



introduce **genetic tracking** to ensure the origin and the safety of sea food and to track illegal fishing



implement the **circular economy** approach and use the **plastics strategy** to reduce marine litter and microplastics throughout the life span of products



establish a well-integrated and performing **global ocean-observing system** with improved forecasting capabilities



ensure **discoverability, open access to and interoperability** of collected data

MORE INFORMATION

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/bioeconomy>
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/maritimeaffairs_fisheries
<http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/environment>

Find all R&I Projects for Policy editions on:
https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/p4p_en

[f](#) [t](#) [#ResearchPolicyEU](#) [@EUScienceInnov](#)