



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges



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DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionOcean

The Danube Lighthouse – Involving the BIOEAST initiative into the implementation of EU Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030, Prague 7 Dec 2022



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What are EU Missions?

The European Commission launched **five new EU Missions in Oct 2020** – including the Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030”

European Missions are **new broad mobilisation initiatives** to face the greatest challenges of our time

Rooted in the Horizon Europe research and innovation programme, **Missions go beyond R&I** and the existing instruments, cutting across policies, programmes and different levels of governance

They will develop and demonstrate innovative **technological, social, business and governance solutions**, and promote new forms of governance, allowing everyone to play an active role



Mission EU policy priority

“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.”*

EC President Ursula von der Leyen, 11 Feb 2022
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_22_962





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 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



The Danube lighthouse and the Atlantic-Arctic lighthouse

Objective: protecting and restoring marine freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity

Targets:

- Protect a minimum of 30% of the EU's sea area and integrate ecological corridors, as part of a true TransEuropean Nature Network.
- Strictly protect at least 10% of the EU's sea area.
- Restore at least 25,000 km of free-flowing rivers.
- Contribute nature restoration targets, including degraded seabed habitats and coastal ecosystems





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The Mission is a **JOIN EFFORT**

SYNERGIES

Across different EU Programmes

Horizon Europe, EMFAF, Life, Inter-Reg, InvestEU

With Member States and Regions

National and regional programmes / initiatives, partnerships

With International partners / initiatives

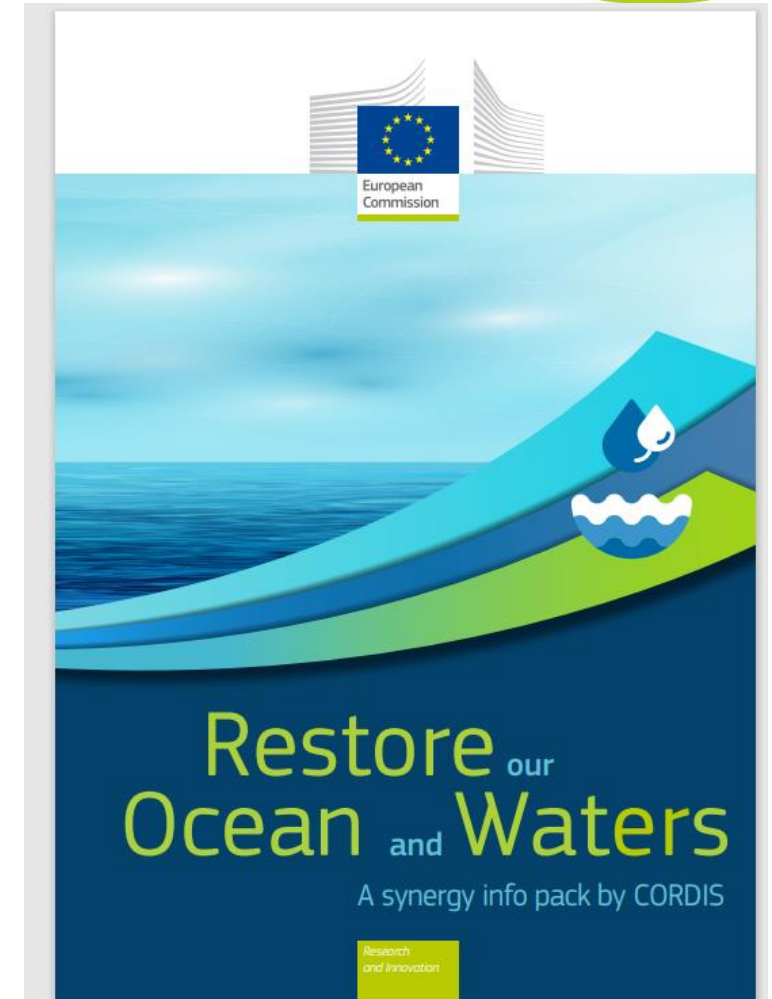
UN Decade Ocean Sciences, UfM, Alliances (e.g. AAORA)

With public & private sectors, and investors

Universities, Joint Undertakings, EIB, EBRD, philanthropy

With citizens and youth

Citizens initiatives, EU4Ocean, Youth ocean Ambassadors





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What has been implemented so far?

EC actions in 2021-2022

1.

HORIZON EUROPE

Work
Programme,
Calls, Projects

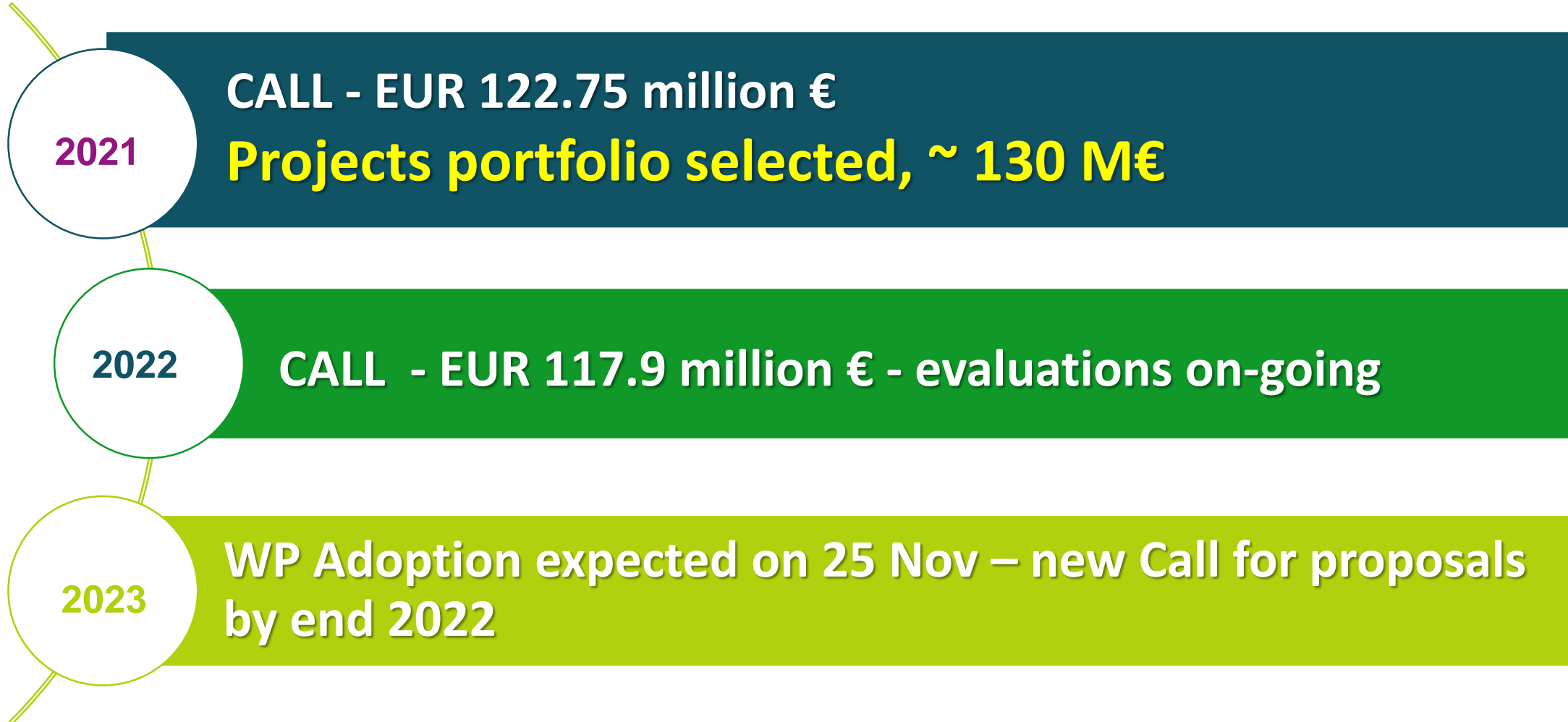
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RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS



**Mission Ocean and Waters:
ca 350 M€ for R&I projects in 2021-2023**



Horizon Europe - MISSION OCEAN Work Programmes/ Calls





HE- Mission Calls and projects 2021-2022

Objective 1
PROTECT AND RESTORE
Marine and freshwaters

Blue Parks:

2 IAs: MPA management, degraded ecosystems

Danube lighthouse

- CSA
- IAs: restoration of river connectivity, wetlands

Atlantic & Arctic lighthouse:

- CSA
- 2 IAs : coastal restoration, climate resilience/adaptation of coastal areas (joint topic with Mission Climate)

Objective 2
PREVENT AND ELIMINATE POLLUTION
IN OCEAN AND WATERS

Mediterranean 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 & North Sea lighthouse

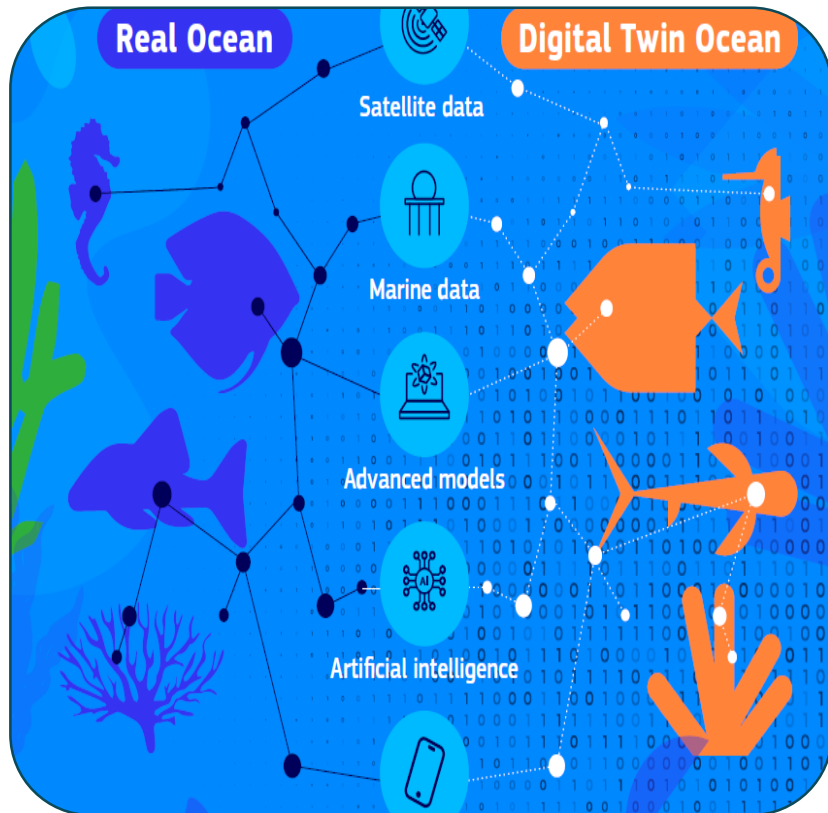
- CSA

2 IAs:

- sustainable aquaculture and multi-use of marine space
- bringing algae-based products on the market)



Delivering on ENABLER 1: DIGITAL OCEAN and WATERS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM



➤ **Building the EU DTO:
30 M€ investments in WP 2021-23**

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€)

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



Delivering on ENABLER 2: CITIZENS MOBILISATION AND ENGAGEMENT



2021 Projects : Relation of young generations with the sea and water: values, expectations, and engagement (RIA, **1 million EUR**) + Piloting citizen science in marine and freshwater domains (CSA, **1 million EUR**) + Europeanisation of Plastic Pirates Citizen Science Initiative (IBA, **2 million EUR**)

2022 Call: 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 m EUR/3 grants**)

2. Lighthouses

- **MOBILISATION OF MS/AC, REGIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS**

Several MS /regions committed to the Mission

Participatory Workshops (Brest, Barcelona, Atlantic ...)

- **KICK-OFF EVENTS FOR EACH LIGHTHOUSE**

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



- **LAUNCH OF COORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTIONS**

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



3. Policy buy-in

- EC Proposal for a **Nature Restoration Law**, June 2022 (COM(2022)304)
- **EC COM**: Outermost Regions (COM(2022)198), new EU Arctic Policy (JOIN(2021) 27 Oct 2021), Sustainable Blue Economy (COM(2021)240), Zero Pollution Action Plan (COM(2021)400), Towards a strong and sustainable algae sector (COM(2022)592)
- CoR and EESC Opinions on the Missions, Feb - Apr 2022
- UfM Ministerial Declaration, Conference for Research and Innovation, June 2022
- G7 Science Ministers Communiqué, June 2022
- EU commitments at UN Conference, June 2022
- All Atlantic Research and Innovation Alliance Declaration, July 2022

4. Further Support and other Programmes

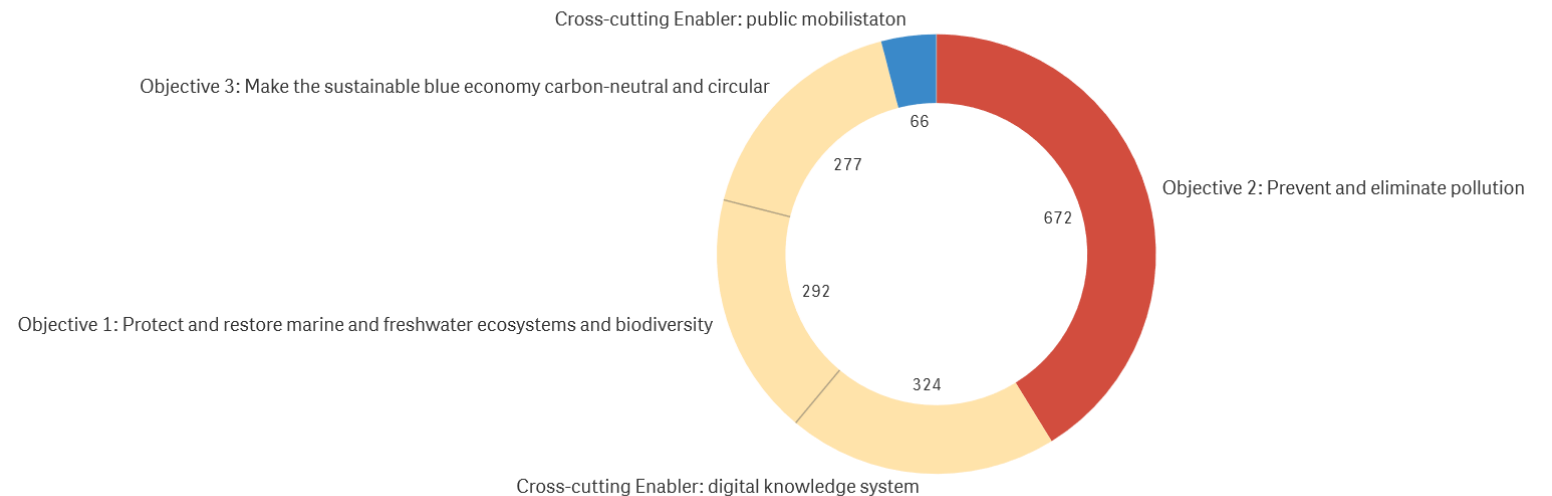
- **Mission Implementation Platform** – under evaluation, start in 2023
- **Studies** (baseline for lighthouses, monitoring, modelling...) - available soon
- **Synergies with other EU programmes – Guidelines**
- **EMFAF, LIFE ...**

5. EU Projects Portfolio analysis

1400 EU PROJECTS ACROSS DIFFERENT EU PROGRAMMES CONTRIBUTE TO THIS MISSION
 their analysis and results will be available through the Mission Implementation Platform

A portfolio of projects from the following EU programmes: **FP7, H2020, LIFE, Interreg, CEF, EMFF**

Projects by thematic priority





Mission Charter

you become part of this Mission community



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.

[The Charter for the Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030” \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)
[EUSurvey - Survey \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)

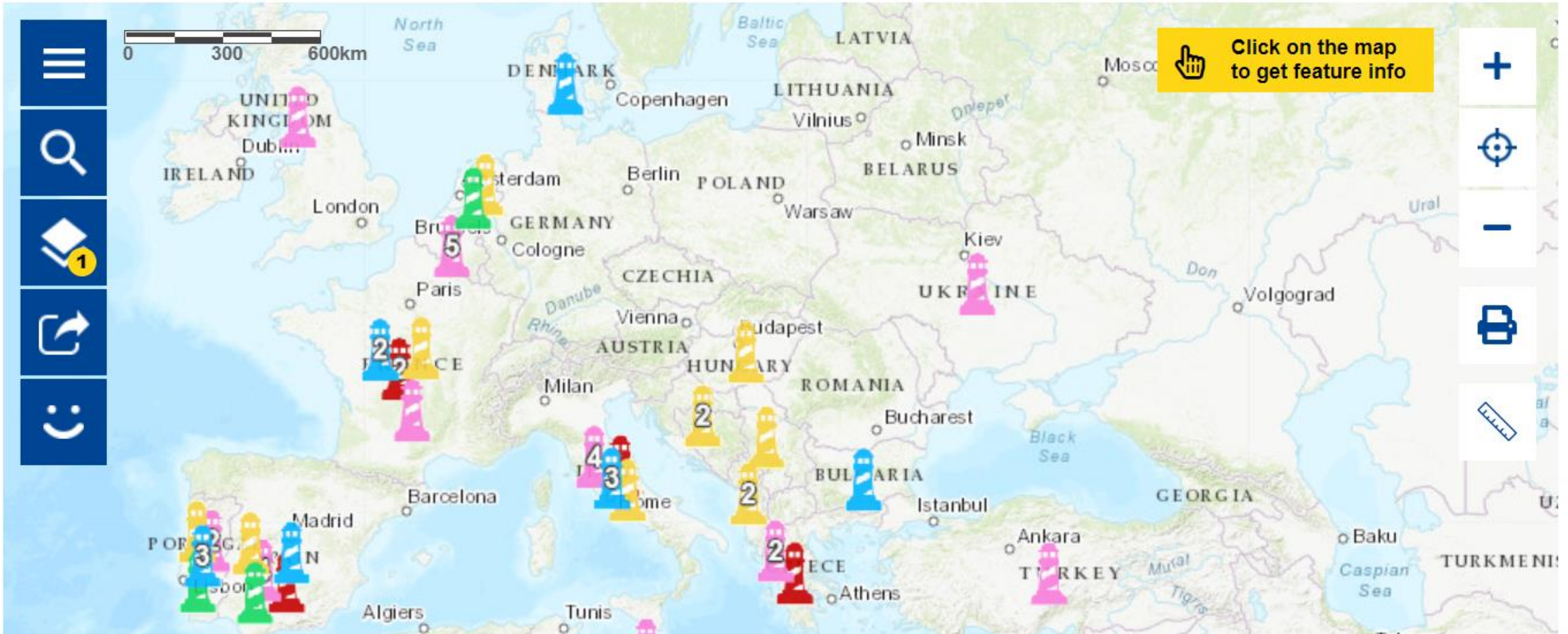


Why to adhere to the Charter?

- ✓ **Send a clear signal** on the importance to protect our waters by supporting the Mission Charter and **commit** to promote it
- ✓ Be involved in major Mission events increasing the **visibility** of your actions and become a **Mission Actor**
- ✓ Multiply your opportunities for **networking**, exchanges of experiences to improve **knowledge** and to disseminate
- ✓ Be part of a **community of practice** involving entire EU sea/river basins thus contributing to **create impact** and achieve the Mission goals
- ✓ Benefit from **Mission services** and tools to **empower citizens** and young people to take action, by engaging in ocean literacy and education
- ✓ Benefit from a dynamic **investment** ecosystem and advisory services



Mission Charter: tool to mobilise the actors



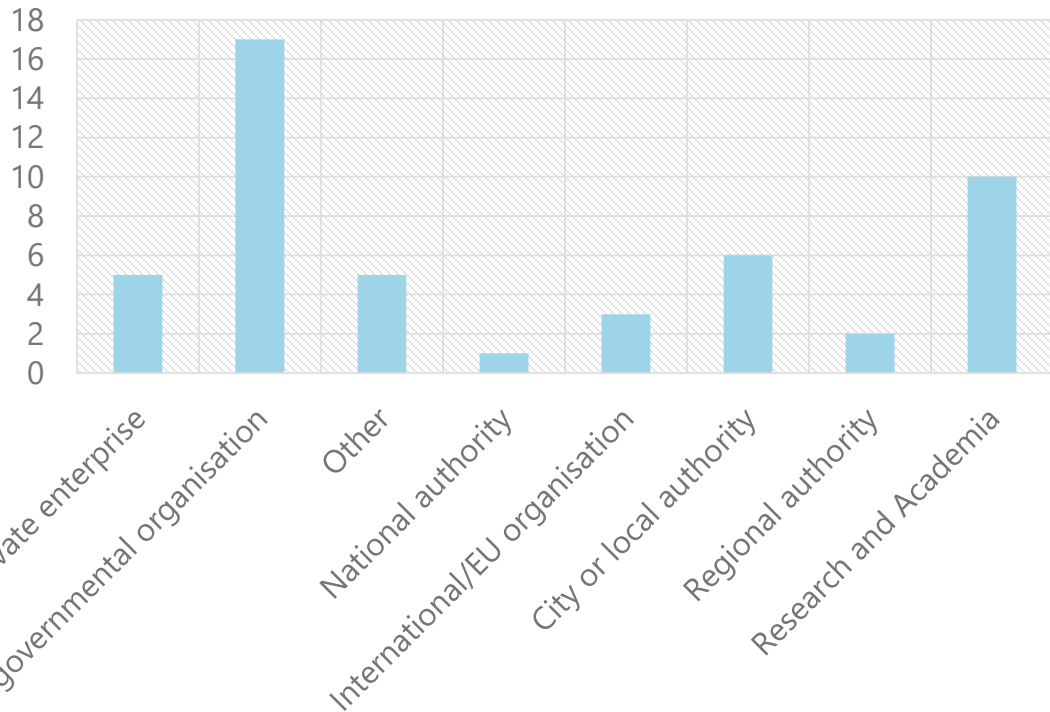


Mission Charter outcome

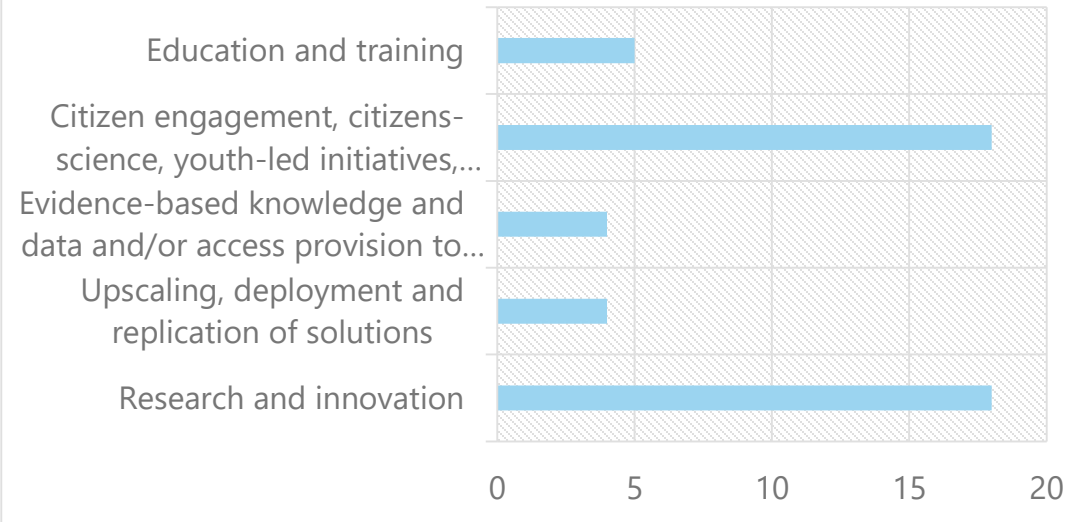
Over 120 actions submitted

49 accepted, others being reviewed / assessed

Type of organisation



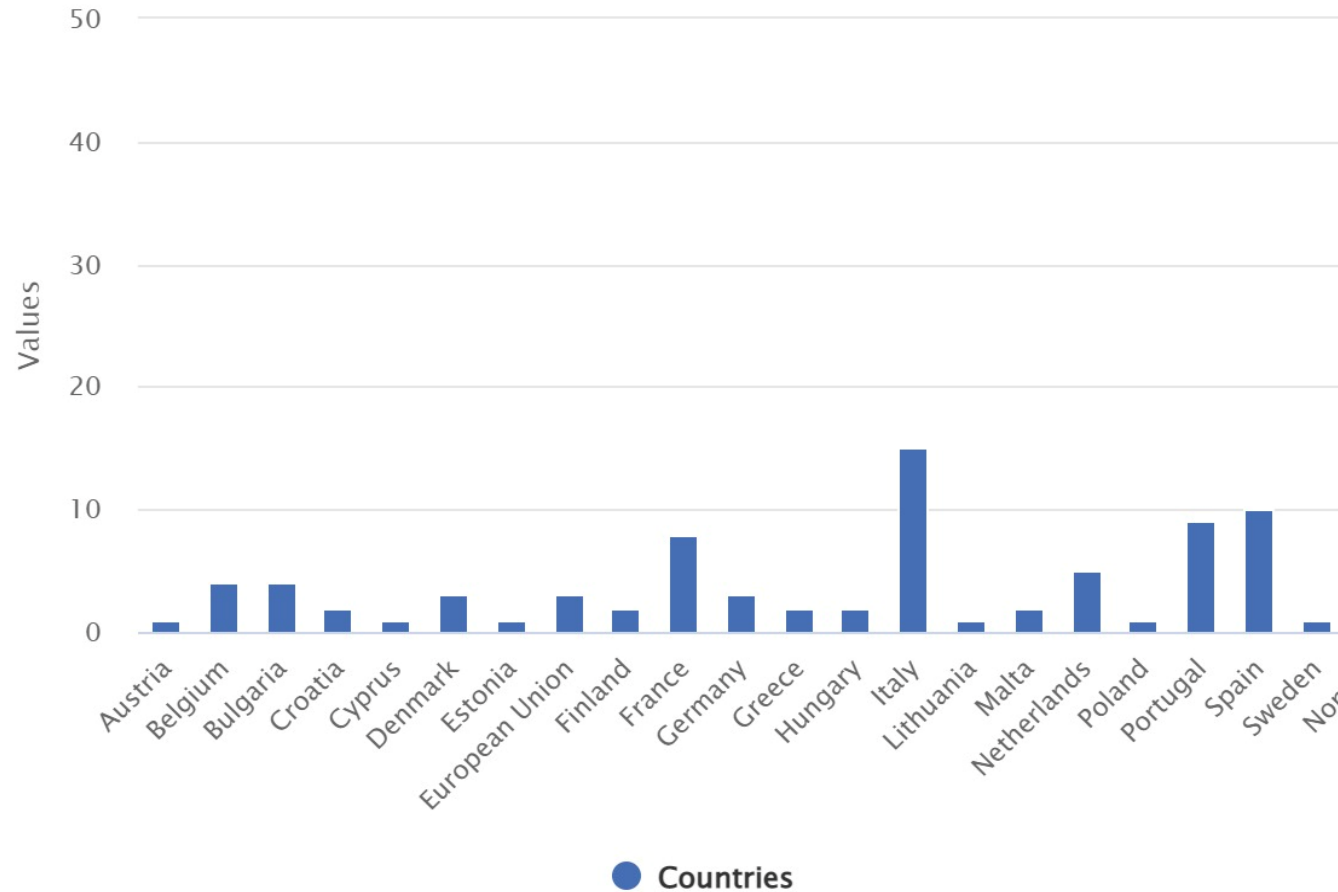
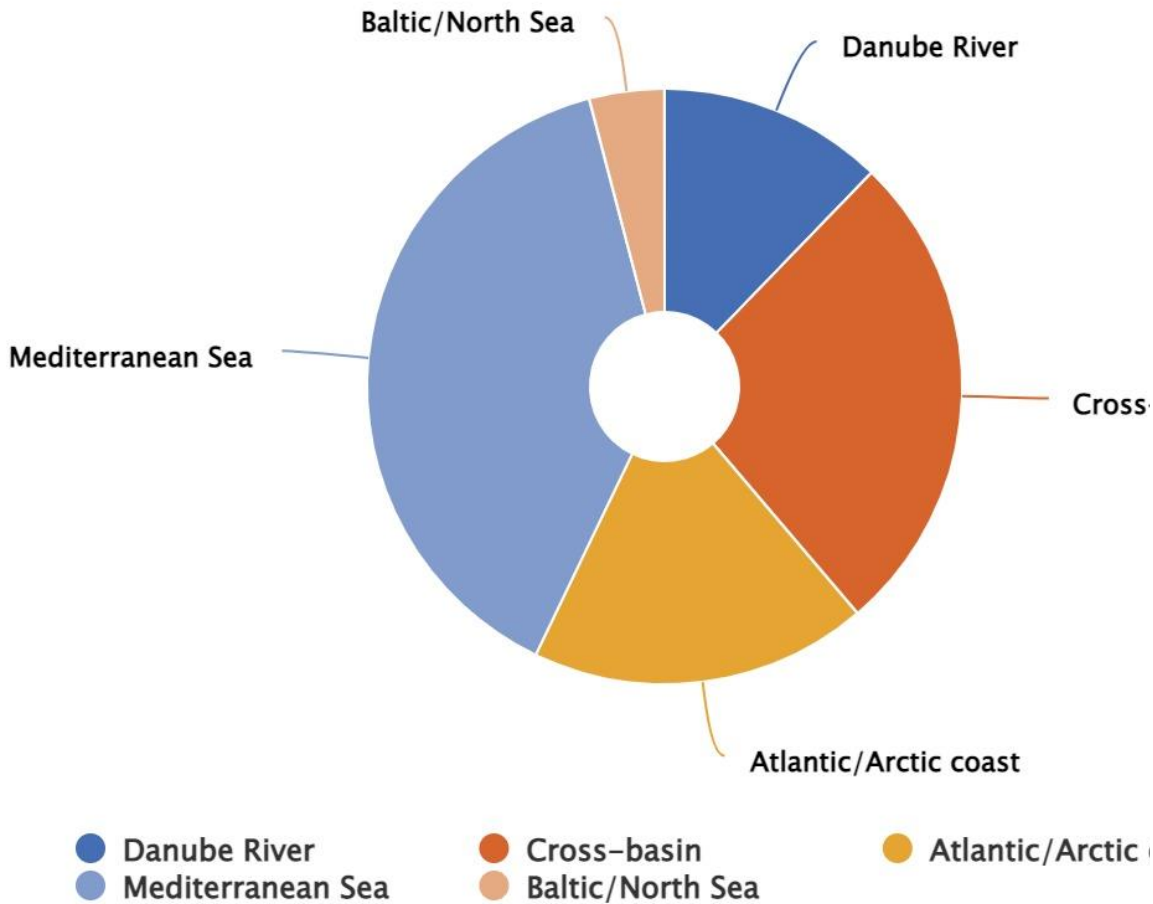
Type of Action



Budget of accepted actions: €155 million



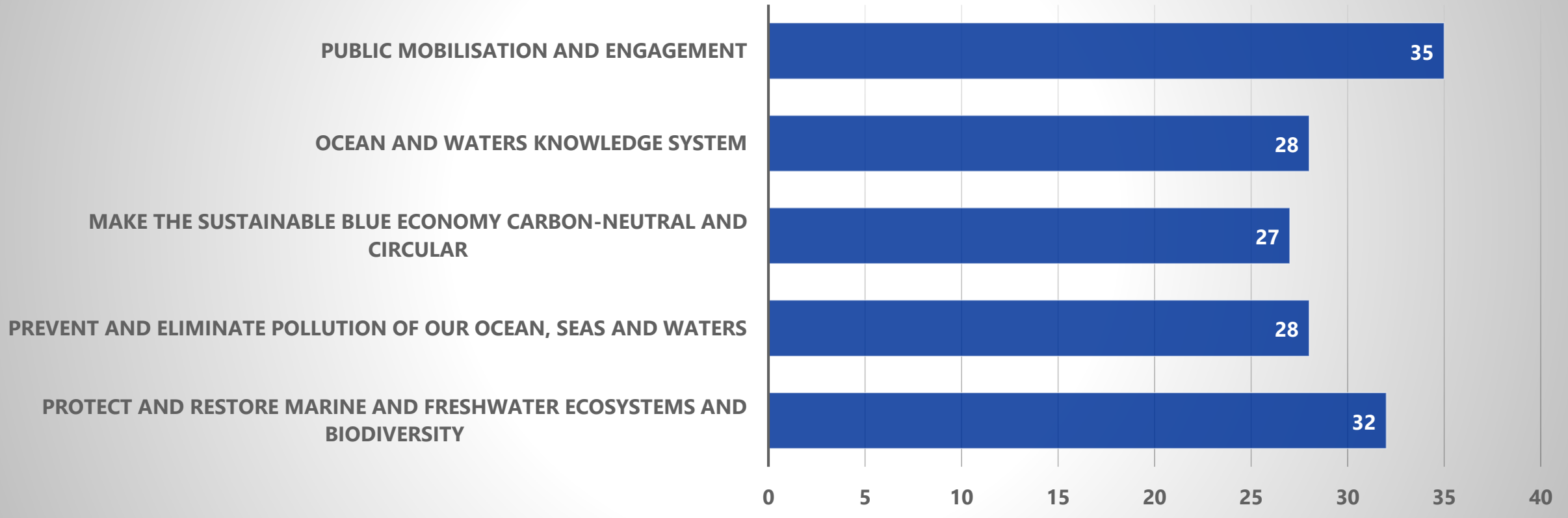
Charter actions: by basins and countries





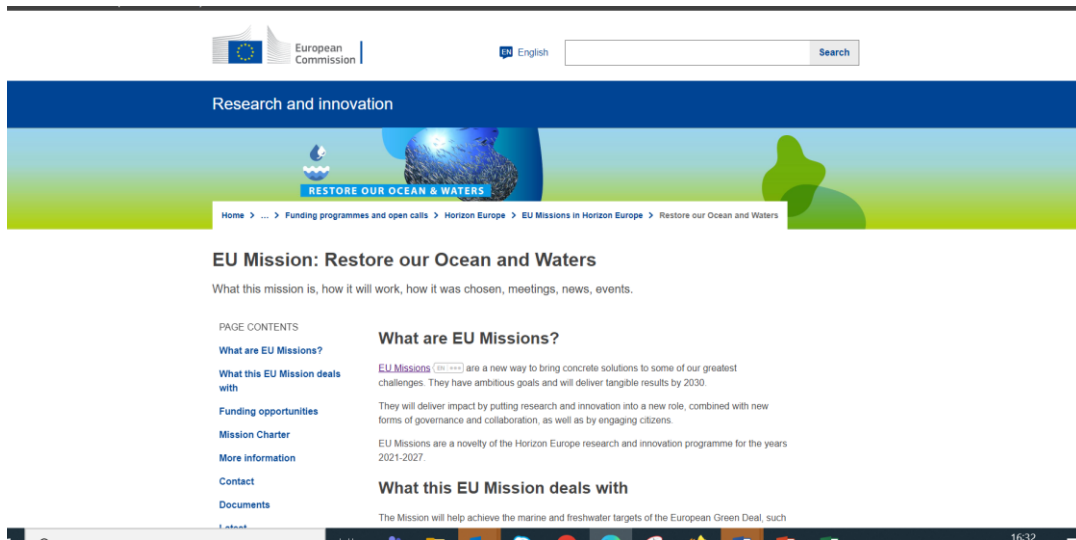
Mission Charter actions

Contribution of the actions to the objectives / enablers





Be part of the Mission: adhere to the Charter



[Restore our Ocean and Waters \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)

Mission Charter

We are calling on Member States, regions and a wide range of stakeholders to endorse the [Charter](#) EN | ... and pledge actions that will contribute to the successful implementation of the Mission and its lighthouses.

Please click below to endorse the Charter and pledge actions



Action pledges submitted so far: [interactive map](#) EN | ...

More information

- [mission-oriented policy for Horizon Europe](#) EN | ...
- [Horizon Europe](#) EN | ...
- [co-design session on oceans mission at Research and Innovation Days \(video\)](#) [↗](#)
- [EU Missions info days 2022](#) EN | ...

Contact

RTD-HORIZON-EUROPE-MISSION-OCEANS@ec.europa.eu

Adhere to the Charter by filling-in the form on [EUSurvey - Survey \(europa.eu\)](#)



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OUR OFFER



What are the 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 **Literacy** and **education tools**
-  Access to the **Mission implementation Platform services** (access to knowledge, projects portfolio, information on funding...)
-  Investment **opportunities** and **advisory services**
-  **Awards** (through services) for the best **bluer champions**
-  Access to **support from Lighthouse CSAs / Facility** (support to develop science and transition roadmaps, skills training ...)



AWARD SERVICES TO PORTS - CITIES/REGIONS – ISLANDS...



Awards (through services) for the best **bluer champions**

- ✓ **SUPPORT** to establish own **TRANSITION AGENDAS** to achieve Mission's objectives
- ✓ **VISIBILITY** via Mission lighthouse channels
- ✓ **NETWORKING** (ecosystems enablers network, national/regional hubs, Med Stakeholders Forum...)
- ✓ **ORGANISATION** of some **EVENTS**
- ✓ **ACCESS** to advisory **SERVICES**



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ACHIEVE THE MISSION OBJECTIVES?



LEADING ACTIONS FOR THE CREATION OF 100 LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITIES

YOU can contribute to enhance and upscale the creation of **100 "lighthouse Communities"** across the four lighthouses by 2023 by becoming a **Mission actor**.

Lighthouse communities: those who can deliver impact on the Mission objectives / targets

For example a grouping of ports, islands, regions, cities, fisheries, industries, philanthropies and investors, universities and researchers, EU national research funding organisations, civic organisations ...



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Thank you!

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