BULGARIA'S BLUE ECONOMY INNOVATION AND DIGITALISATION

TOWARDS HIGHER RESILIENCE

National Event

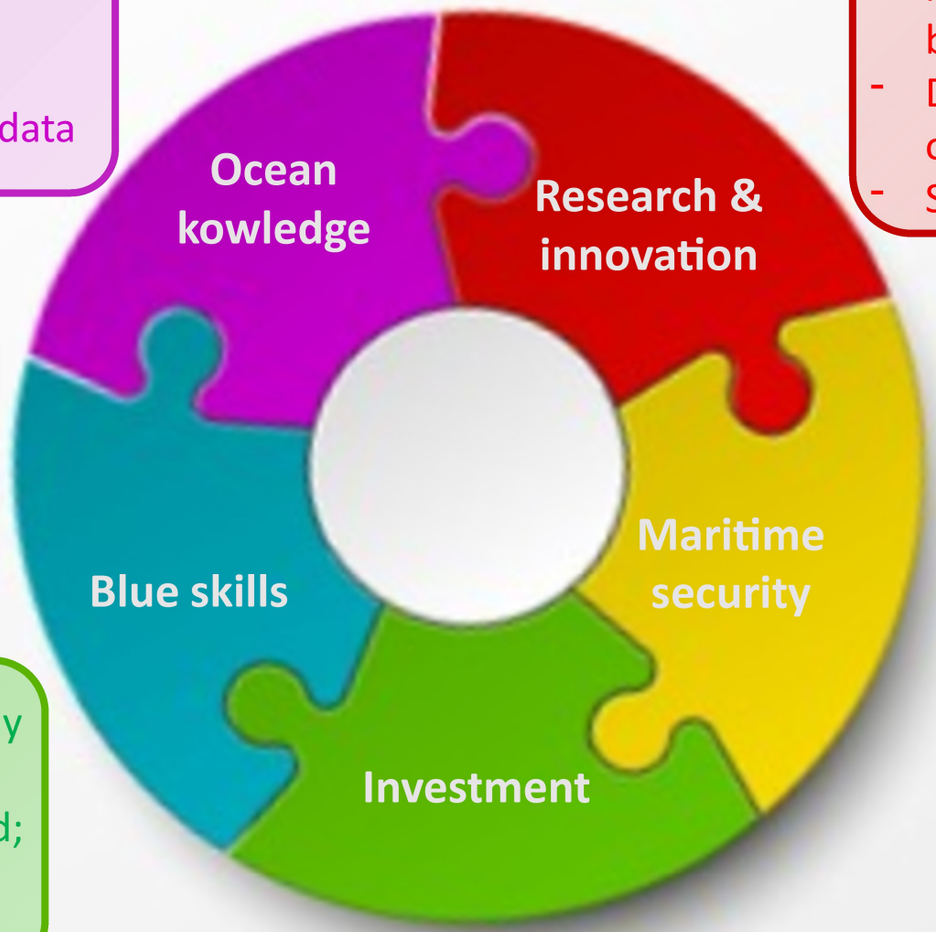
June 22, 2022

Andreea Strachinescu – *Head of the Maritime Innovation, Marine Knowledge and Investment Unit - European Commission - DG MARE*

Setting the right conditions – Sustainable Blue economy

- Ocean observation initiative
- Expanded Corpernicus marine service
- Blue observatory on economic data

- European partnership for a climate-neutral, sustainable and productive blue economy
- Dedicated mission « Restore our ocean and waters by 2030 »
- Smart specialisation



- Skills partnerships
- Dedicated calls for proposal on blue careers and women in blue economy
- Working conditions (ILO/IMO)

- EU maritime security stategy
- Coastguard cooperation
- CISE operational phase

- Taxonomy / Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Initiative
- BlueInvest Platform and equity fund;
- EIB /EIF
- ESIF (incl. EMFAF) and RRF

Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030

Horizon Europe



European Commission

EUROPEAN UNION

EU MISSIONS
RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

Mission Restore our ocean and waters by 2030: 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

EUROPEAN UNION

Mission lighthouses:

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











PROTECT AND RESTORE MARINE AND FRESHWATERS ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY

Cross cutting enablers

Data sources

Digital Infrastructure service

Pan-EU services Twins

Data analytics Specifics

EMODnet

Ocean Observation initiative (PLAN/2020/7284)

EU 27 Member States

Blue-Cloud

WEkEO

Destination Earth Digital core platform

Copernicus

esa

Horizon Europe

HORIZON 2020

DestinationEarth

Digital Twin Ocean concept

Digital Ocean and Water knowledge system

Public Mobilisation and Engagement

Horizon Europe

Conference on the Future of Europe

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

#EU4Ocean

Horizon Europe

GO EUROPE! PLASTIC PIRATES

Participation and Deliberative Democracy

Volunteering and Stewardship

Citizen science and Literacy

Digital Twin Ocean

more data
more models
easier access
high performance computing
artificial intelligence



EMODnet
European Marine Observation and Data Network







Mission implementation phases



Development and Piloting phase 2021-2024

- Mission lighthouses
- Blue Parks Platform
- Piloting and testing of innovative R&I solutions
- Precursor of digital ocean and water knowledge system
- Citizen science, literacy and engagement



Mid-term review



Deployment and upscaling phase 2025-2030

- Scale up projects
- Blue parks conservation projects
- Dynamic investment ecosystem
- Digital Ocean and water knowledge system
- Digital Twin Ocean
- Citizen science, literacy and engagement

European Commission

Mission Implementation: the work programme 2022 - main features

European Commission

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RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

WP 2022 - Mission Ocean, seas and waters

…adoption 10 May 2022: main features

- ✓ Follows the **impact-driven logic** of Horizon Europe
- ✓ Supports major **EU policy objectives**, e.g.: the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, the Action Plan toward Zero pollution, 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 sea basin**
  - **Baltic and North Sea basin**
  - **Mediterranean sea basin**
  - **Danube River basin**
- ✓ Based on the **Mission Implementation Plan complements Work Programme 2021 with further actions and new research & innovation areas**
- ✓ Support the Mission first phase: «***development and piloting***» for 2021-2025

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WP 2022 - Mission Ocean, seas and waters

… adoption 10 May 2022: main features (cont.)

- ✓ **Single call** addressing 3 policy objectives as well the enabling activities:
  - **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**
  - **Enabling activities: digital knowledge system (DTO) and public mobilisation and engagement**
- ✓ **Other actions:** studies, individual experts, events
- ✓ **Indicative budget 2022:** EUR 117.9 million
- ✓ **Call deadline:** 27 September 2022

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Mission 2022 HE Work Programme



European Blue Parks

- Protection and restoration solutions for degraded coastal and marine habitats (IA, 17million EUR)



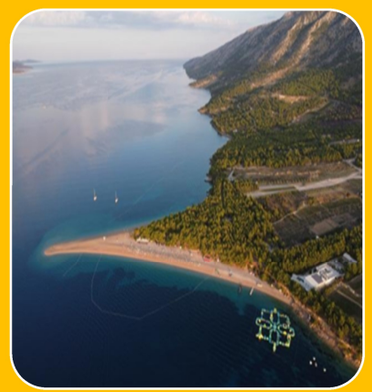
Danube river basin lighthouse

- Protection and restoration of wetlands, flood plains, coastal wetlands and salt marshes and their biodiversity (IA, 17 million EUR)



Atlantic & Arctic sea basin lighthouse

- Mission Climate adaptation and Mission Ocean and waters - Joint demonstration for coastal resilience in the Arctic and Atlantic sea basin (IA , 20 million EUR)



Mediterranean sea basin lighthouse

- Actions to prevent, minimise and remediate chemical pollution (IA, 17 million EUR)



Baltic & North sea basin lighthouse

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



Cross-basin topics

- Prevent and eliminate litter, plastics and microplastics: Innovative solutions for waste-free European rivers (IA, 10 million EUR)
- Marine litter and pollution – Smart and low environmental impact fishing gears (IA, 10 million EUR)

Digital Ocean & Water knowledge system



- Integration of biodiversity monitoring data into the Digital Twin Ocean (IA, 10 million EUR)

Enabling actions: Citizen mobilisation & engagement; studies



- Student and school activities for the promotion of education on ‘blue’ sustainability and the protection of marine and freshwater ecosystems (CSA, 3 million EUR)
- Towards local community-driven business models: regenerative ocean farming (CSA, 3 million EUR)
- Towards a European e-DNA library of marine and freshwater species (CSA, 2 million EUR)

Mission Implementation: the Charter

European Commission

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EU MISSIONS
RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

A joint commitment to Restoring our Ocean and Waters

Mission Charter: delivering together on the Mission Implementation Plan



Implementation Plans for the EU Missions | European Commission (europa.eu)

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Ambitions for the Mission Charter



Join forces for a **transformational change** for a healthy ocean and waters, thus contributing to the EU Green Deal objectives

Establish a **simple**, **inclusive** and **inspirational** framework to enhance cooperation to deliver on Mission objectives

Open to any public or private interested parties

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EU MISSIONS
RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

Mission Charter



- Developed by the Commission in close cooperation with the MS/ACs, regions and key stakeholders willing to contribute to the implementation of the Mission
- Sets the direction when defining initiatives, programmes, actions and common agendas for restoring our ocean and waters
- Non-binding engagement
- To be launched at the UN Ocean Conference on 30th of June 2022.

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EU MISSIONS
RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS



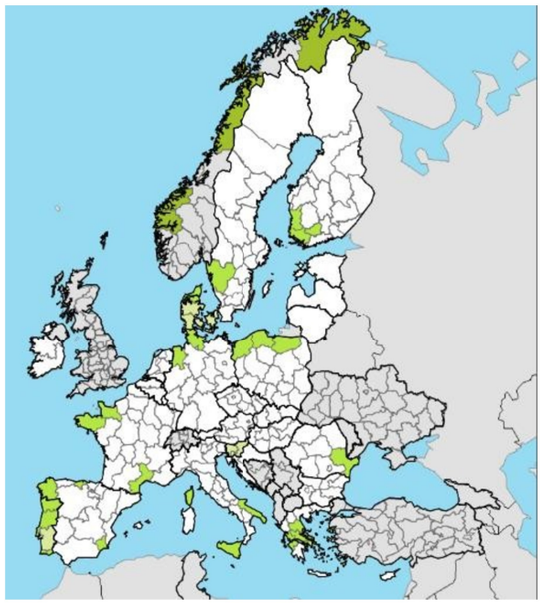
Mission Charter areas of actions you may want to contribute to:

- ✓ **Research and innovation:** mobilise your programmes, instruments and resources for healthy ocean and waters and a sustainable blue economy
- ✓ **Upscaling, deployment and replication of solutions**: support well-functioning innovation ecosystems and its different components: finance, investments, infrastructures, talents, regulations, …
- ✓ **Evidence-based knowledge and data:** generate, use and share authoritative knowledge and data in marine, maritime and biodiversity domains in line with FAIR principles and feed the Mission Ocean Knowledge System and Mission baseline studies
- ✓ **Outreach, public mobilisation and engagement:** promote involvement and citizen-led initiatives; ocean literacy; awareness raising and participatory approaches
- ✓ Establishment of **Communities of practice** to serve as fora for co-design, exchanges of experiences, tools and good practice, to coordinate actions and to take stock of progress

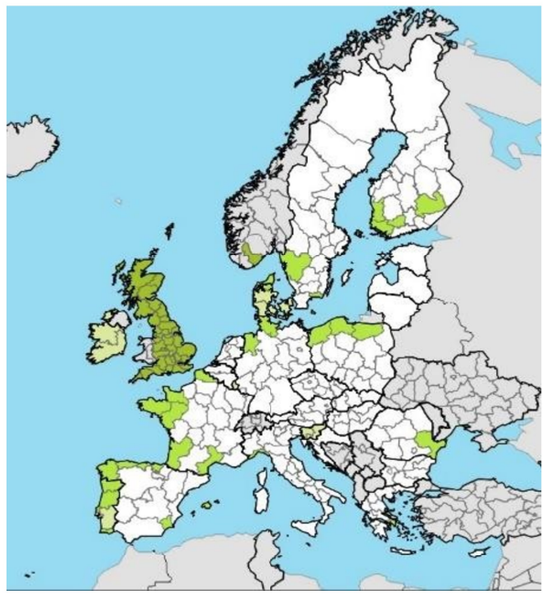
Smart specialisation

European Commission

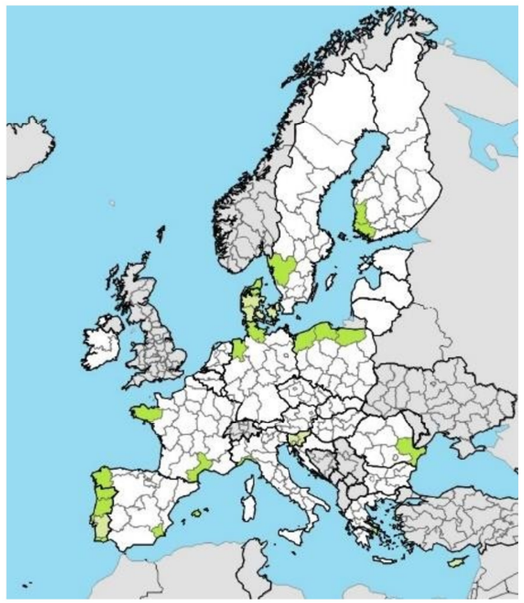
Regions with Blue economy priorities included in their smart specialisations strategies in the programming period 2014-2020



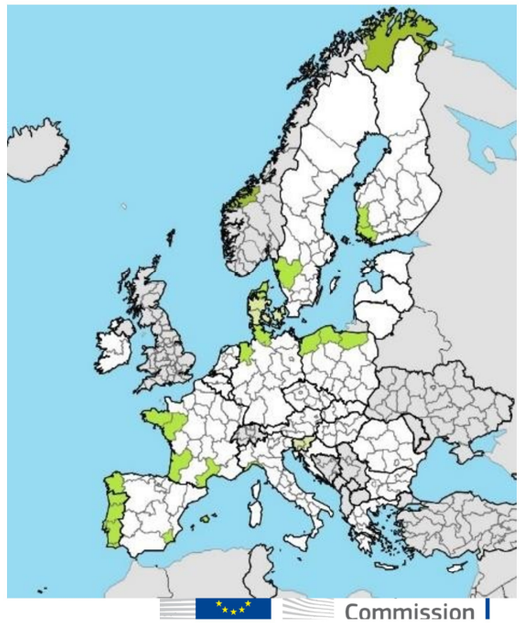
Fisheries/Aquaculture



Marine renewable energies



Coastal and maritime tourism



Blue biotechnology

Source: Eye@RIS – JRC/IPTS

A new S3 Thematic Interregional platform on **Sustainable Blue Economy**

Promoting innovation and investments in interregional partnerships and value chains

Implementation of the **Communication on Sustainable Blue Economy**

Provide an **interactive** and **participatory environment** to support **S3 implementation** also through interregional cooperation/partnerships

Supports





SYNERGIES WITH

I3

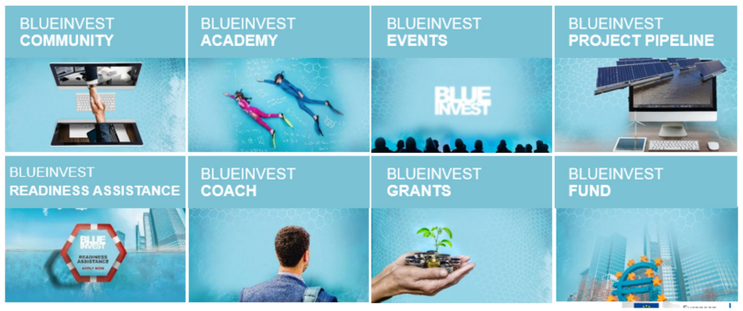
Interregional Investment Instrument projects

BlueInvest, EMFAF, PAs, sea basin and macro regional strategies, Horizon Europe Mission Ocean, and lighthouse projects, Blue Forum

European Commission

A new S3 Thematic Interregional platform on **Sustainable Blue Economy** Focus on **Synergies**

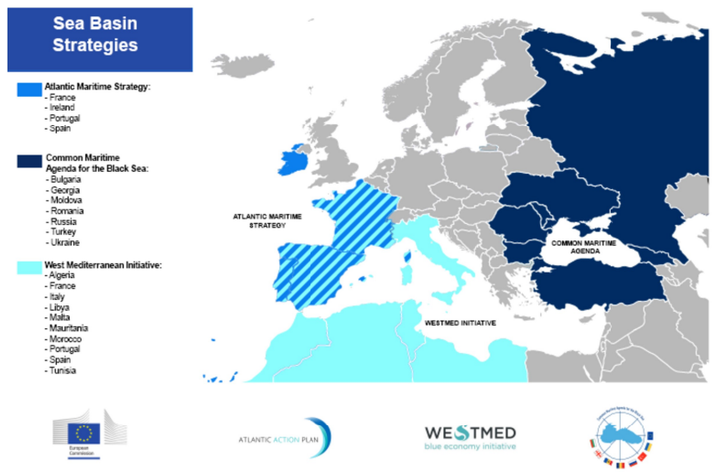
BLUEINVEST



European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund EMFAF

EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region
EUSAIR





EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

A new S3 Thematic Interregional platform focusing **Sustainable Blue Economy**

Focus on concrete **current activities. Brokerage sessions**

I3

Interregional Investment Instrument projects

When	Where	Co organiser	Event	BE sector
9 May	Barcelona	CPMR and EU4Algae EMFAF project	BlueFasma project	Blue biotechnologies
10 May	Santander	Atlantic sea basin strategy	Pillar III MRE event	Marine Renewable energies
15 June	Skåne	CPMR	Political Bureau	Coastal and Maritime Tourism
21 June	Brussels	EATip	General Assembly	Aquaculture
1 July	Brussels	FAMENET		Fishery

A new S3 Thematic Interregional platform focusing **Sustainable Blue Economy** Focus on concrete **activities. 2nd semester 2022**

- Follow up Brokerage sessions, **streamline within S3 platform services**
- Define concrete actions to develop **cooperation with regional networks/Programmes:** CPMR, ERRIN, EATiP, NECSTouR, Submariner Network, INTERREG Programmes, etc.
- Define concrete actions to develop synergies with **DG MARE programmes and initiatives:** BlueInvest; sea basin strategies (and macro regional strategies); Horizon Mission, Blue Forum, EMFAF

European Commission

How stakeholders can benefit?

- Liaise with **national authorities** in charge of smart specialisation strategies to understand how to be part of the implementation process at local level

- Explore cooperation opportunities offered by **I3 call for interregional innovation investment partnerships** (current deadline for partnership submission: 18/10)

- Participate to **DG MARE dedicated initiatives**: smart specialisation thematic platform for sustainable blue economy, future brokerage and capacity building events, support to set up smart specialisation interregional innovation investment partnerships

European Commission


BLUE
INVEST



BLUEINVEST

BlueInvest aims to **boost innovation and investment** in sustainable technologies for the blue economy. It is enabled by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

- **Supports investment readiness and access to finance for start-ups, SMEs and scale-ups in the blue economy**
- **Provides a market path for innovation-led projects and initiatives through technical assistance, visibility, network- and opportunity-building**
- **Connects innovation, investment and impact by supporting technologies that address environmental, social and climate change challenges, and those that impact on greening maritime-based industries**













BLUE INVEST

BLUEINVEST I – TRACK RECORD

COMMUNITY

1300+
Community members

43
Events

3927
B2B meetings

90%
Satisfaction

READINESS ASSISTANCE

202
Beneficiaries

89
Testimonials

50
Success stories

164
BlueInvest coaches

96.5%
Satisfaction

PROJECT PIPELINE

328
Companies featured

2100+
Projects in the database

100
Investors registered to the project pipeline

INVESTORS

1240
Investors informed on blue economy opportunities

440
Investors engaged with the BlueInvest features

190+
Introductions between Investors and Blue SMEs

INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE

€43.8 million
BlueInvest Grants

€100 million
EU funds raised by BlueInvest Fund

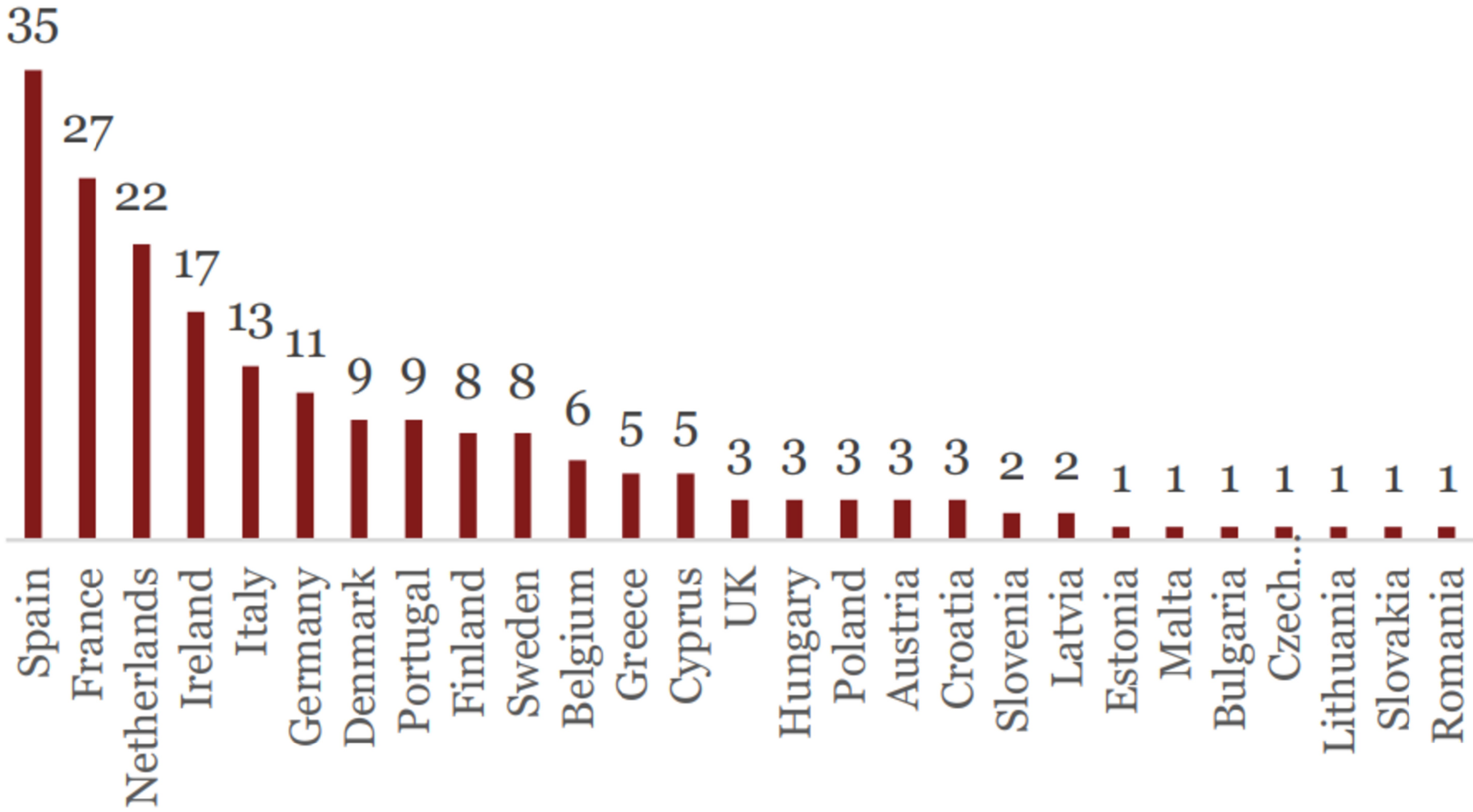
4
Fund Managers

26
BlueInvest companies closed investment

BLUEINVEST **READINESS ASSISTANCE Beneficiaries**

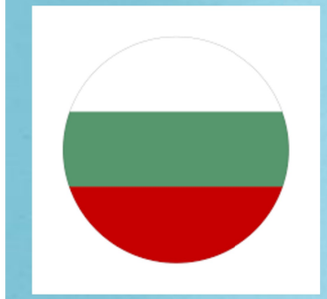
ASSISTANCE PACKAGES

Member States distribution



OVERVIEW

Representation of Bulgaria in BlueInvest



1 Readiness Assistance beneficiary

1 showcased project in the BlueInvest Project Pipeline

22 members in the BlueInvest Community

1 Regional Workshop feature the Black Sea

BlueInvest Readiness Assistance and Project Pipeline companies

13 Mari Ltd: Retrofitting solutions for vessels. More information here.
Project Pipeline profile link.
Sector: Shipbuilding and ship repair

13 Mari Ltd is the only Bulgarian company showcased in the BlueInvest Project Pipeline. They also benefited from the BlueInvest Readiness Assistance coaching programme - Cycle 7.

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.

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

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



01 Continuation of BlueInvest

Because of this success and because of the continued interest in its services, BlueInvest will continue to operate for another 2 years and renewable for another 2 (until 2026). BlueInvest II was launched at our next BlueInvest Day on 28 March 2022.

BlueInvest II will intensify its capacity building support for impact investors through training, tailored deal flows, market intelligence and support for access to capital (e.g. helping to access funding from InvestEU and public and private financial institutions).

02 New blending instrument

EC/DG MARE is blending EMFAF with contributions from InvestEU and EIF/EIB aiming to mobilise additional c. 500 mio EU funds, resulting in EUR 1.5 bn of risk-finance to be made available to the market (through financial intermediaries).

BLUEINVEST II

WHAT TO EXPECT

MORE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

€500 million
EU FUNDS TO BE INVESTED IN THE BLUE ECONOMY

A BIGGER ECOSYSTEM AND MORE MATCHMAKING ACTIVITIES

MORE BLUEINVEST EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR BLUEINVEST FUND MANAGERS
TO REACH
EUR 1 BILLION
IN INVESTMENT INTENTION IN THE BLUE ECONOMY

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR
120 INNOVATIVE START-UPS AND MATURE SMEs


Thank you for your attention !
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