

## ANNEX E – FULL PROPOSAL FORM

***This template is an indicative model of full proposal application form. All proposals have to be submitted online via the electronic proposal submission system (EPSS) <https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue/2025>. The format of the full proposal application form will be modified to fit the EPSS.***

### FULL PROPOSAL APPLICATION FORM

2025 Joint Co-funded Call for transnational research projects on “ **Digitalisation and Innovation for Resilient Marine Ecosystems, Businesses, and Communities to Strengthen the EU Blue Economy Competitiveness** “ (Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership).

#### General guidance for all applicants:

- ▶ The Call Text and its Annexes can be downloaded from the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership <https://bluepartnership.eu/>;
- ▶ All Participants i.e. Consortium Partners, and Self-Financed Partners, must log in onto the EPSS to confirm their participation in a pre-proposal and complete their information as required;
- ▶ The content of the proposal must be written in English and follow the set guidelines. The different sections of the proposal should not exceed the prescribed maximum space. Incomplete proposals that do not adhere to the general eligibility criteria and to the national/regional eligibility requirements will be rejected and will not be evaluated;
- ▶ Any documents other than those requested as part of the proposal **will not be forwarded** to the International Evaluation Committee (IEC) members. This includes letter(s) of support, which are not expected (except for Self-financed Partners who must provide letter of commitment to demonstrate that their organisations will support their activities);
- ▶ The proposal can be submitted by the Consortium coordinator multiple times before the proposal submitting deadline on 17th of June 2026, 15:00 CEST (local time in Brussels, Copenhagen, Paris). Only the very last submitted copy will be used by the Joint Call Secretariat (JCS). It is not possible to edit / submit the proposal after this deadline.

## 1.0 GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>CALL ID:</b>	SBEP2025
<b>Proposal ID:</b>	Automatically from EPSS (e.g. SBEP2025-1)
<b>Project title<sup>1</sup></b> (max 255 characters including spaces)	
<b>Short name / Acronym<sup>2</sup></b> (max 20 characters including spaces)	
<b>Project duration (project period)</b>	36 months
<b>Start Date<sup>3</sup></b>	January 2027 to June 2027.
<b>Project total costs</b>	
<b>Total funds requested from funding organisations?</b>	
<b>Keywords</b> (min 1 keyword, max 10 keywords)	

*NB: This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.*

## 2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

*NB: This part will have to be submitted as a single pdf in the EPSS.*

**Page limit:** The project description should not be longer than 16 pages. All tables, figures, references, and any other element pertaining to this section must be included as an integral part of these sections and are thus counted against this page limit.

The page limit will be applied automatically. After the deadline, excess pages (in over-long proposals/applications) will be automatically made invisible and will not be taken into consideration by the evaluators.

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that the project title should be considered as definitive

<sup>2</sup> Please note that the acronym should be considered as definitive

<sup>3</sup> Enter start date in YYYY-MM-DD format, between 2027/01/01 and 2027/06/30

The proposal is a self-contained document. **Links and hyperlinks are not allowed** and evaluators will be instructed to ignore any information that is specifically designed to expand the proposal, thus circumventing the page limit.

The following **formatting conditions** apply.

- ▶ The reference font for the body text of proposals is Arial. The minimum font size allowed is 11 points. Standard character spacing and a minimum of single line spacing is to be used. This applies to the body text, including text in tables.
- ▶ Text elements other than the body text, such as headers, foot/end notes, captions, formula's, may deviate, but must be legible (**links and hyperlinks are not allowed**).
- ▶ The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 1.27 cm (not including any footers or headers).
- ▶ **A full proposal can be declared ineligible if formatting conditions are not followed.**

The structure of this template must be followed when preparing your proposal. It has been designed to ensure that the important aspects of your planned work are presented in a way that will enable the evaluators to make an effective assessment against the evaluation criteria.

**Please be aware that proposals will be evaluated based on their submitted content and written information only and strictly following the assessment criteria defined in the Call Text.**

## **1.1 Detailed description of the research area and research plan and approach to stakeholder engagement and expected societal, and/or industrial, and/or policy impact**

**This Part should include:**

- **A short description of the hypothesis, theories and/or main research questions, and an explanation of the novelty of the research planned;**

- **Scientific objectives with a detailed account of their relationship to the priority area of the call and to ongoing relevant projects. Organise the objectives into a list so that each objective is accurately defined and quantified;**
- **Give a detailed description of the approach and methodology chosen to achieve the objectives. Highlight the particular advantages of the methodology chosen; quantify the expected project result(s);**
- **Break down the research program into individual tasks, showing the interrelationship between the tasks. Explain why there is synergy between different tasks of the project and how this is going to be exploited;**
- **Added-value – In instances where the proposed work builds on previous activities, describe how this collaborative proposal will complement or build on previous activities;**
- **Transnational added value of the proposed research (including overseas) and of the transnational collaboration: demonstrate how the project will increase synergy between teams across Partner countries and how transnational collaboration adds a particular value;**
- **Approach to stakeholder engagement and expected societal, industrial and/or policy impact, including:**
  - Describe the relevance of your project for application to society, and/or industry, and/or policy, and the importance of the research ....**
  - Detail the proposed plan for the exploitation of results by end-users, as well as plans for knowledge and/or technology transfer to practitioners, policy makers, and/or other relevant end-users**
  - Describe how you plan to engage stakeholders directly in your project and at which stage of the project; identify the stakeholders to be engaged in your project, describing their specific interest and/or contributions to the project and the status of their engagement at the proposal development stage.**

*Please note that letters of support are NOT requested and will NOT be considered for the evaluation except for self-funded partners.*

## 1.2 Communication and outreach plan

*(max. 1 page out of 16 pages)*

Describe how the consortium will deal with the transfer, dissemination, publication, and, protection of results generated in the project. Specify who will receive information on the project (scientists, non-scientific stakeholders, general public...). Describe what, why, when and how they will receive it. Specify planned project publications and outputs (scientific and other), and their expected exploitation and impact.

## 1.3 Description of project coordination and management

*(max. 1,5 pages out of 16 pages)*

Describe how the overall coordination, monitoring and control of the project will be implemented. Outline the management processes foreseen in the project (decision boards, coordination meetings, etc.) and clearly indicate the distribution of tasks among the consortium members.

It is recommended that milestones be presented in a detailed diagram (e.g. PERT or Gantt charts) providing the time schedule of the tasks and marking their interrelationships; add when decisions on further approaches will have to be made; indicate a critical path marking those events which directly influence the overall time schedule in case of delays. *[Please note that the Pert or Gantt chart can be included in the part below “Time schedule and working programme”]*

Explain how information flow and communication will be managed and enhanced within the project (e.g. collaboration and task meetings, exchange of scientists, dissemination of results and engagement with stakeholders).

Risk management: Indicate where there are risks of not achieving the objectives and describe potential solutions, if appropriate.

## 1.4 Interconnection to national and transnational research projects and programmes

*(max. 0,5 page out of 16 pages)*

Indicate here the interconnection to national and transnational research projects/ programmes/networks that are relevant to your project. This should include a description of the existing involvement of Partners in ongoing projects/ programmes/ networks, as well as cooperation you plan to develop during your project with national or transnational research projects/programmes/networks

## 1.5 Time schedule and working programme (use a Gantt chart or equivalent)

*(max. 1 page out of 16 pages)*

## 1.6 Proposed Data Management Approach

*(max.1 page out of 16 pages)*

For this section, we recommend you to consult ANNEX F of the Call text Open Access and FAIR Data.

In the data management section (to be included in your single pdf to be uploaded on the EPSS), please address the following questions. Those that are repeated from the earlier stage should be elaborated on as appropriate:

1. What types of datasets of long-term value do you expect the project will produce or reuse?

“Long-term” means those data that will or may be of value to others within your research community and/or the wider research, innovation and stakeholder communities.

2. How do you intend to ensure that the data from your project complies with the FAIR principles (for instance, in terms of financial and time resources)?

3. Who will be responsible for developing, implementing, overseeing, and updating the DMP (role, position, and institution)? For collaborative projects, explain the coordination of data management responsibilities across partners.

4. How do you intend to manage the data during the project and to ensure their long-term protection?

- ▶ *For example, where will the data be held during the project, who will have access, and will a specialised data manager be part of the project team?*

5. How and by whom will the data be managed after the project ends to ensure their long-term accessibility?

- ▶ *For example, will the outputs be published with a Persistent Unique and Resolvable Identifier (such as a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), Accession Number, Handle, etc.), and/or be placed in a recognised, trustworthy long-term domain or other repository or data centre. When will this occur? (Further information about repositories include, but is not limited to, the Re3data.org registry of research data repositories, CoreTrustSeal list of certified data repositories, etc.)*

6. What restrictions, if any, do you anticipate could be placed on how the data can be accessed, mined or reused? Are there possible restrictions to data sharing, and embargo retention?

- ▶ *Please explain the reason in case of restrictions (ex. intellectual property protection).*

7. What supporting documentation and other information (e.g. metadata) do you plan to make publicly accessible to support the longer-term re-use of the data and digital outputs?

8. How have you accounted for the costs required to manage the data and digital outputs to ensure long-term accessibility?

## **1.7 Impact**

*(max. 1 page out of 16 pages)*

Include a plan that describes what impact the research is expected to achieve in the long run and how it contributes to the overall impacts. One way to make such a plan is to establish a methodology of Theory of Change (ToC) with a related Impact Pathway (IP) to describe the research process, mentioning well-specified outputs and outcomes.

Please refer to the Annex A of the call text: Theory of Change, for more information on how to set up a Theory of Change.

## 3.0 ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

***NB:** This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.*

*Please note that some information will not be evaluated and is collected by the European Commission for the purpose of doing anonymous statistics. This information will be indicated in the EPSS guidelines.*

You will have to provide in this section information on the consortium coordinator and the Participants of the project, as well as the requested budget per Partner.

***Here Participants refers to partner, self-funded and partner***

What is a Partner?

Note that depending on the Funding Organisation, a “Partner” can be:

- a researcher,
- an institution,
- a laboratory, a department of an institution.
- SME
- Company other than SME

**Please make sure to respect the general eligibility rules of the call.**

Please also consult the Annex B about the national/regional funding eligibility rules of each participating Funding Organisation in this call which are compulsory. **Applicants are strongly advised to contact their respective Funding Organisations (National Contact Points (NCP) list available in the Annex B of the Call Text) and to confirm their eligibility with their Funding Organisations before submitting the proposal.**

Please note that the information given in the pre-proposals is binding. Please refer yourself to the Call Text in 4.7.2. Step 2: submission of a Full Proposal, for a full description regarding changes between the preproposal and the full proposal steps, and associated processes.

All change(s) have to be declared on the EPSS.

## ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING

Please note that if you plan to use genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources in your project, you will have to ascertain towards the competent authorities and focal point that these used genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources have been accessed in accordance with applicable access and benefit-sharing legislation or regulatory requirements, and that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually decided terms, in accordance with any applicable legislation or regulatory requirements<sup>4</sup>.

Please also note that if the utilisation of genetic resources or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources takes place in an EU Member State, users in those states will have to comply with the general due diligence obligation under Art. 4 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014, as well as the obligation to file due diligence declarations under Art. 7 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014<sup>5</sup>.

### **For funding, there are 2 categories of Partners:**

1. Partners from countries (and organisations) eligible for direct funding (designated Partners 1, 2... N) by a participating Funding Organisation of this call;
2. Fully self-financed Partners from any country who bring their own secured budget (designated Partner A, B).

The Table below indicates the information that will have to be fill out by the Consortium Coordinator (Partner 1) and all others Partners (2, 3, ...N).

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<sup>4</sup> Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

<sup>5</sup> Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation in the Union

Example: if your consortium is composed by 6 Partners, the following Tables will have to be completed for each of the 6 Partners.

### Details of the Principal Investigator of Partner 1

<b>Principal Investigator - Consortium Coordinator – Partner 1 (example)</b>				
<b>First Name</b>		<b>Last name</b>		<b>Email</b>
<b>Title</b>		<b>Gender</b>	<i>(Female;Male;Non-binary)</i> – dropdown menu	
<b>Nationality</b>	Dropdown menu		<b>ORCID ID</b>	
Principal investigator's <b>website</b> (including complete list of publications, if any)			<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Professional status</b>	Choose between: - Professor -Assistant Professor -Associate Professor -Senior Scientist -Post-doc PhD Student -Other status (speciy)			
<b>Career Stage<sup>6</sup></b>	Choose between: Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher N: Not applicable			
<b>Employment status information</b>	- on a permanent position - on fixed-term position			
<b>Funding body (if fixed- terme position)</b>		<b>Duration of contract in months (if fixed-term position)</b>		
<b>Time to be dedicated to the project in person months</b>	Enter number in person months			

### Details of the organisation (Partner 1)

<b>Legal full name of the research organisation / Company</b>	
<b>Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any</b>	

<sup>6</sup> Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted, e.g., “director of research” or “full professor”.

Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates, e.g., “senior researcher”, “principal investigator” or “associate/assistant professor”.

Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited, e.g., “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.

Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree, e.g., “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D). These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD <https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm>(page 249).

<b>Participant Identification Code</b> (PIC) number of the Research organisation/Company <sup>7</sup>					
<b>Website</b>					
<b>Street name</b>				<b>Number</b>	
<i>PO Box (optional)</i>		<b>Postal code</b>		<i>Cedex (optional)</i>	
<b>Town</b>				<b>Country</b>	<i>Dropdown menu</i>
<b>Participant Organisation Type</b>	Choose between: - HES: Higher or Secondary Education Establishments - REC: Research Organisations (including RTOs – Research and Technology Organisations) - PRC: Private for-profit entities (excluding Higher or Secondary Education Establishments) - PUB: Public Bodies (excluding Research Organisations and Higher or Secondary Education Establishments) - OTH: Other (e.g. non-profit organisation)				
<b>Status: Private or public?</b>	<b>If Private:</b> - Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No - Enterprise other than SME: YES/NO - Other (please specify)				
<b>Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)<sup>8*</sup>:</b>					<i>Dropdown menu</i>
<b>Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory</b>					
<b>Street name</b>				<b>Number</b>	
<i>PO Box (optional)</i>		<b>Postal code</b>		<i>Cedex (optional)</i>	
<b>Town</b>				<b>Country</b>	<i>Dropdown menu</i>
<b>Expertise and participant’s role in the project?</b>					
<i>Describe participant’s expertise and role in the project (1000 characters max)</i>					

<sup>7</sup> A 9-digit number serving as a unique identifier for organisations (legal entities) participating in EU funding programs / procurements. A search tool for organisations and their PICs is available on <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/participant-register-search>

<sup>8</sup> The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of the Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at the Eurostat website: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace>

<b>Other team members involved in the project<sup>9</sup></b>
Team member 1: First name, Last name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage, Time to be dedicated to the project in person months
Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage, Time to be dedicated to the project in person months
Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage, Time to be dedicated to the project in person months

The Table below indicates the information that will have to be fill out by the Self-financed Partner(s) (Partner A, B).

Example: if your consortium is composed by 2 Self-financed Partners, the following Table will have to be completed for each of the 2 Self-financed Partners.

#### Details of the Principal Investigator of Self-financed Partner A

<b>Principal Investigator: Self-financed Partner A (example)</b>				
<b>First Name</b>		<b>Last name</b>		<b>Email</b>
<b>Title</b>		<b>Gender</b>	<i>(Female;Male;Non-binary) – dropdown menu</i>	
<b>Nationality</b>	<i>Dropdown menu</i>		<b>ORCID ID</b>	
Principal investigator's <b>website</b> (including complete list of publications, if any)			<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Professional status</b>	Choose between: - Professor -Assistant Professor -Associate Professor -Senior Scientist -Post-doc PhD Student -Other status (speciy)			
<b>Career Stage<sup>10</sup></b>	Choose between:			

<sup>9</sup> Please include all other team members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your project. Do not repeat a principal investigator here. If you do not yet have all the information for a team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate that the person is not yet known. Enter the time to be dedicated to the project in person months for each team member. The costs associated to the working time spent on the project can be covered either by the money requested in this call or as a self-contribution from the institution.

<sup>10</sup> Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted, e.g., “director of research” or “full professor”.

	<i>Category A: Top grade researcher</i> <i>Category B: Senior researcher</i> <i>Category C: Recognised researcher</i> <i>Category D: First stage researcher</i> <i>N: Not applicable</i>		
<b>Employment status information</b>	Choose between: - on a permanent position - on fixed-term position		
<b>Funding body (if fixed- terme position)</b>		<b>Duration of contract in months (if fixed-term position)</b>	
<b>Time to be dedicated to the project in person months</b>	Enter number in person months		

### Details of the organisation (Self-financed Partner A)

<b>Legal full name of the research organisation / Company</b>					
<b>Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any</b>					
<b>Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the Research organisation/Company<sup>11</sup></b>					
<b>Website</b>					
<b>Street name</b>			<b>Number</b>		
<b>PO Box (optional)</b>		<b>Postal code</b>		<b>Cedex (optional)</b>	
<b>Town</b>			<b>Country</b>	<i>Dropdown menu</i>	
<b>Participant Organisation Type</b>	Choose between: - HES: Higher or Secondary Education Establishments - REC: Research Organisations (including RTOs – Research and Technology Organisations) - PRC: Private for-profit entities (excluding Higher or Secondary Education Establishments) - PUB: Public Bodies (excluding Research Organisations and Higher or Secondary Education Establishments) - OTH: Other (e.g. non-profit organisation)				
<b>Status: Private or public?</b>		<b>If Private:</b>			

Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates, e.g., “senior researcher”, “principal investigator” or “associate/assistant professor”.

Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited, e.g., “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.

Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree, e.g., “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D). These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD <https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm>(page 249).

<sup>11</sup> A 9-digit number serving as a unique identifier for organisations (legal entities) participating in EU funding programs / procurements. A search tool for organisations and their PICs is available on <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/participant-register-search>

		- Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No  - Enterprise other than SME: YES/NO  - Other: please specify			
<b>Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)<sup>12*</sup>:</b>					<i>Dropdown menu</i>
<b>Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory</b>					
<b>Street name</b>		<b>Number</b>			
<i>PO Box (optional)</i>		<i>Postal code</i>		<i>Cedex (optional)</i>	
<b>Town</b>		<b>Country</b>		<i>Dropdown menu</i>	
<b>Expertise and participant’s role in the project?</b>					
<i>Describe participant’s expertise and role in the project (1000 characters max)</i>					
<b>Other team members involved in the project<sup>13</sup></b>					
Team member 1: First name, Last name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage, Time to be dedicated to the project in person months					
Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage, Time to be dedicated to the project in person months					
Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage, Time to be dedicated to the project in person months					

## 1.8 CVs for the principal investigator of each Partner involved in the project

*NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS using the CV template below. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.*

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<sup>12</sup>The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of the Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at the Eurostat website:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace>

<sup>13</sup> Please include all other team members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your project. Do not repeat a principal investigator here. If you do not yet have all the information for a team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate that the person is not yet known. Enter the time to be dedicated to the project in person months for each team member. The costs associated to the working time spent on the project should be covered as a self-contribution from the institution.

When relevant, please include the CVs of self-financed Partners.

When relevant, please specify in the CVs, the Partners’ capacity to involve stakeholders.

<b>Participation status:</b> <Project Coordinator or principal investigator of a participant>
<b>Name:</b>
<b>Nationality:</b>
<b>Institution, City, Country:</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>
<b>URL / Website</b> (including complete list of publications – if any):
<b>Professional status:</b> <Professor, Assistant professor, Associate professor, Senior scientist, Post-Doc, PhD-student, other>
<b>Education</b> <Year; type of education; organisation; country > <Year; type of education; organisation; country > ...
<b>Positions:</b> <Year; Position; Organisation; Country> <Year; Position; Organisation; Country > ...
<b>Awards received / other responsibilities</b> (max 1,000 characters including spaces)
<b>General expertise and its relevance for the project</b> (max 1,000 characters including spaces)
<b>Up to 5 most important achievements, publications, IP (e.g. patents) relevant to the proposal over 2018-2023</b> <...> <...> <...> <...> <...>
<b>Other relevant publications, achievements, IP (e.g. patents) from the consortium (max 15 references)</b>

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

### **Budget Instructions**

#### **FUNDING RULES:**

**Please note that each Partner will be funded by his own Participating Funding Organisation.**

Please make sure to comply with the Participating Funding Organisations’ rules (e.g. subcontracts, overheads, the inclusion of VAT...). **Compliance with Participating Funding Organisations’**

**eligibility rules is mandatory. Funding Organisations’ rules are indicated in Annex B, together with the list of the National Contact Points (NCPs), which should be contacted for further help on Funding Organisation eligibility rules.**

#### **MANDATORY COSTS:**

The funded projects are considered to form part of an international research programme for which activities will be organised, namely a kick-off meeting, a mid-term meeting and a final meeting. The coordinators of funded projects should participate in these joint activities. Accordingly, the cost for attendance to the physical meetings should be foreseen in their proposals’ budget. These events will be possibly organised back-to-back with other workshops/events. The coordinators of the funded projects are expected to get involved in other relevant Partnership ‘s activities: training, communication and dissemination (symposium, conferences, portfolio etc.) and must foresee the costs in their budget.

#### **PARTNERS INELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING**

Partners from countries (and organisations) ineligible for direct funding under this call:

- Can be associated in the projects, as **SELF-FUNDED PARTNERS**, if they can bring a secured budget from a different source of funding (*specify below in the first budget table*); (= *Self-financed Partners A, B...*)
- **CANNOT REQUEST FUNDING.** In Table 1, please do not request funding for Partners from countries (and organisations) ineligible for direct funding (*Self-financed Partners A, B*): indicate 0€ in the column “Funding request”.

#### **Note about Subcontracting costs**

Subcontractants are subject to the terms and conditions of each Funding Organisation and need to comply with their specific rules. Generally speaking, subcontracting is understood as the externalization of the execution of a (minor) project task that this partner cannot execute. Please, refer to the Funding Organisations’ rules, as some Funding Organisations have specific restrictions about subcontracting costs and your proposal will be ineligible if you do not follow national rules. Please consult the Funding Organisations’ rules (Annex B).

**Subcontractants CANNOT REQUEST FUNDING.**

**When applicable, Partners will request funding for the subcontracting activities according to the Funding Organisations’ rules.**

**Budget tables**

Please provide clear evidence of how the funds requested will be used to fulfil the activities of each Partner and a clear justification that the requested funds are sufficient to achieve the work proposed.

Please note that for each Partner, you are requested to **indicate both the total costs of the project and the requested funding budget:**

- ▶ **The total costs/expenses (column Total costs)** comprise all the costs related to the project independently of national funding rules. You have to indicate here all the costs of the project (including personnel costs of permanent staff even if not eligible; etc.)
- ▶ **Requested funding budget (column Funding request)** comprises costs or expenses for personnel (including permanent salaries depending on Funding Organisations’ rules), travelling, consumables, overheads (if fundable), subcontracts etc. that you will request to your Funding Organisation. For the requested funding budget, the cost calculation has to be based for each Partner on its Funding Organisations’ rules; for questions, please contact your Funding organisation’s Contact Point.
- ▶ Please note that some Funding Organisations cannot provide 100% of eligible costs. Please make sure to follow your Funding Organisations’ rules!

Each Partner must report its own budget (including the subcontracting costs) as following:

**Example: Budget of Partner 1 (including budget of each Subcontractor 1a, 1b...1n)**

<b>Partner 1 - Budget</b>	<b>Cost category</b>		<b>Total cost</b> <i>(in EURO, incl. VAT)</i>	<b>Funding request</b> <i>(in EURO, incl. VAT depending on rules<sup>14</sup>)</i>
<b>Partner 1</b>	Salaries	Permanent		

<sup>14</sup> Please make sure that VAT is eligible according to national/regional legal framework and Funding Organisations’ rules. If not, please do not include VAT.

<i>Name of the research organisation/company</i> <i>Country</i> <i>Funding organisation<sup>15</sup></i>		Non-permanent		
		Total		
	Travel			
	Participation to joint activities of the SBEP Initiative			
	Consumables			
	Equipment			
	Other costs			
	Overheads			
	Subcontracting costs <sup>16</sup>			
	Total			

Each Partner should detail the budget information of each subcontractant.

<b>Subcontracting costs for Partner 1</b>	<b>Cost Category</b>		<b>Total cost</b> <i>(in EURO, incl. VAT)</i>	<b>Funding request by Partner 1</b> <i>(in EURO, incl. VAT depending on rules<sup>17</sup>)</i>
<b>Subcontractant 1a<sup>18</sup></b> <i>Name of the research organisation/company</i> <i>Country (if known)</i>	Salaries	Permanent		0 €
		Temporary		0 €
		Total		0 €
	Travel			0 €
	Consumables			0 €
	Equipment			0 €
	Other costs			0 €
	Overheads			0 €
	Total			0 €

<sup>15</sup> Please indicate to which Funding Organisation you are requesting funds. If more than one Funding Organisation from your country is participating in the call, please indicate which one

<sup>16</sup> Indicate here the total budget and requested budget for your subcontractant and/or any other subcontracting costs.

<sup>17</sup> Please make sure that VAT is eligible according to national/regional legal framework and Funding Organisations' rules. If not, please do not include VAT.

<sup>18</sup> Each subcontracting Partner must fill out the information for each of its Subcontractants i.e. the total budget per cost category (column 'Total costs') and the costs you will request funding from your Funding Organisation should be included in the 'Funding request' of the relevant subcontracting Partner (Partner 1, 2, 3, etc.).

For each Partner, please give an explanation and/or remarks concerning the proposed budget. Please also indicate here the other sources of funding you have for your project (co-funding, self-funding, etc.) that will cover the costs for which you do not request funding.

Each Self-financed Partner must report its own budget as following:

**Example: Budget of Self-financed Partner A**

<b><i>Self-financed Partner A - Budget</i></b>	<b>Cost Category</b>		<b>Total cost</b> <i>(in EURO, incl. VAT)</i>	<b>Funding request</b> <i>(in EURO, incl. VAT depending on rules)</i>
<i>Self-financed Partner A<sup>19</sup> Name of the research organisation/company Country</i>	Salaries	Permanent		0 €
		Non-permanent		0 €
		Total		0 €
	Travel			0 €
	Consumables			0 €
	Equipment			0 €
	Other costs			0 €
	Overheads			0 €
	Total			0 €

For self-financed Partners, please give an explanation and/or remarks regarding the proposed budget. Please also indicate shortly how their participation to the project will be funded.

"Self-financed" Partners must provide evidence that their organisations will support their activities. They should upload a signed official letter of commitment from their Head of Department or Financial administrator (as appropriate). The letter of commitment should be maximum 1 page long and should be written in English. The letters of commitment are only requested for self-financed partners. Any other letters of support WILL NOT be considered for the evaluation.

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<sup>19</sup> Self-financed Partners have to indicate the total budget per cost category (column 'Total costs'). The Self-financed Partner should indicate 0€ in the column 'Funding request'.

Please note that the table below: **Costs per Partner and requested funding budget** will be partly generated automatically in the EPSS, based on the information provided in the Partners budget tables.

<b>Partner</b>	<b>Funding organisation(s) to which you are applying for funding</b>	<b>A -Total costs/expenses</b> <i>Including subcontracts (in EURO, incl. VAT)</i>	<b>B – Total Funding request</b> <i>Including subcontracts (in EURO, incl. VAT depending on rules)</i>	<b>C – Total Funding request</b> <i>Including subcontracts (in national currency- when other than EURO if requested)</i>
Partner 1 Name / Country				
Partner 2 Name / Country				
Partner 3 Name / Country				
Partner N Name / Country				
<i>Self-financed Partner A</i>			0 €	0 €
<i>Self-financed Partner B</i>			0 €	0 €
<b>Total</b>				

Please note that Funding Organisations might ask for more details separately, if needed.

## 4.0 SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

*NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.*

### 1.9 Summary of the project

*(min 500 and max 3,000 characters including spaces)*

*NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.*

*Please note that this summary could be published online by the Sustainable Blue Economy Patnership and/or your respective Funding Organisation, should you be selected for funding.*

### 1.10 Priority areas

*Please choose:*

- ▶ One primary priority area and identify the sub-themes addressed in your project.
- ▶ If relevant, select *secondary priority areas and identify the sub-themes addressed in your project*

PA1	Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTO) at regional sub-basin scale	
PA 1.1	<i>To transform data into knowledge, and ultimately build DTOs, real-time and historical data must be used for scenarios models. <b>A mapping and analysis of the relevant, existing, available traceable, and reliable multi-dimensional data from several sources in the targeted sub-basin is necessary. This will allow to identify data gaps and to evaluate data uncertainties.</b> In addition, the holistic DTO-approach implies an understanding of the trade-offs and risks associated to the holistic management of the sub-basing study case, that will allow identifying needs for advancing fit-for-purpose observations and models where existing models do not apply.</i>	
PA 1.2	<i>To fill critical data gaps, missing models, and alleviate the risks of uncertainties, <b>innovative methods aiming to acquire quality-controlled data through newly implemented fit-for-purpose</b></i>	

	<b>monitoring and/or observation systems can be proposed. In that perspective, new sensors, digital systems and high technical developments can be envisaged in R&amp;I proposals.</b>	
<b>PA 1.3</b>	A step further consists in developing and combining process -driven and (new or existing) data-driven dynamic models relevant to the sub-basin. <b>For that purpose, general frameworks for exchanging information between models are expected.</b>	
<b>PA 1.4</b>	Test and validation of model's predictions should be addressed, and the development of DTO tools for the end-users can be foreseen by the applicants.	

<b>PA2</b>	<b>Transitioning the blue economy sectors, and the development of the marine multi-use infrastructures</b>	
<b>PA 2.1</b>	<b>Innovations to boost the transition of the Blue Economy</b>	
<b>PA 2.1.1</b>	<b>Pave the way of the new solutions towards sustainable blue economy and markets uptake in line with stakeholders and consumer’s rights</b> through e.g. socio-economic studies including markets opportunities and business models e.g. marine renewable energy farms, maritime communications (ports&logistics), marine bio-based products, considering social acceptance related to e.g. improved and new uses of ocean structures, legal barriers (e.g. introduction into the EU legislation the allocation of areas devoted to renewable energy production) etc. and studies towards standardisation and procurement processes requirements to scale up the innovations to markets level (high TRL).	
<b>PA 2.1.2</b>	<b>To Investigate Nature-based Solutions<sup>20</sup> focusing upon compatibilities and incompatibilities of material use(s)</b> in view of enhancing natural functions using a combination of approaches, in relation to sectors like ports& logistics/platforms for energy production/stocks regeneration etc.	
<b>PA 2.1.3</b>	<b>To Investigate innovative solutions for curbing greenhouse gas emissions</b> of blue economy activities in relation to carbon sequestration, e.g. Ocean-Based Carbon Dioxide Removal..	
<b>PA 2.2</b>	<b>Innovations to improve co-existence and multi-use offshore infrastructures</b>	
<b>PA2.2.1</b>	<b>To develop intelligent, faster, and more reliable control systems</b> for remote intervention, including simulation of potential accidents and spills, efficient strategies for prevention/containment, and consequent environmental remediation approaches, <b>in order to cope with increased challenges for operations and platforms, especially management and monitoring of operations, and for piloting multi-use structures</b>	
<b>PA2.2.2</b>	<b>To study mechanisms that ensure sustainable, safe and secure coexistence of several spatial functions and activities within the Blue</b>	

<sup>20</sup> See definition in <https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2020-020-En.pdf>

	<b>Economy</b> (e.g., energy production from different sources (wind-wave) / storage and habitat protection, or energy production / storage and sustainable integrated aquaculture, fisheries) considering the legal, economic, social, management, and policy context.	
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<b>PA3</b>	<b>Climate-Smart Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional scale</b>	
<b>PA 3.1</b>	<b>Scientific knowledge, data and innovations for effective management and conservation of complex socioecological systems</b>	
<b>PA 3.1.1</b>	<b>To implement integrated economical, ecological, and social ocean health indicators into marine ecosystem management tools, in accordance with with MSFD Descriptors<sup>21</sup>.</b>	
<b>PA 3.1.2</b>	<b>To provide essential data for enhanced understanding of marine ecosystems and effective environmental management and conservation</b> and supporting the identification of suitable areas for different uses, minimizing conflicts, and maximizing sustainable development.	
<b>PA 3.1.3</b>	<b>To perform intelligent seafloor sampling surveys</b> to assessing seafloor ecosystem integrity and the damage/degradation of marine habitats (sensu Habitat directive) <b>to support restoration measures</b>	
<b>PA 3.1.4</b>	<b>To generate knowledge and tools for improving currently available risk assessment procedures and management strategies for extreme events in the coastal areas</b> as well as specific needs such as sustainable desalination	
<b>PA 3.1.5</b>	<b>To develop</b> innovative tools for ocean health assessment and for the implementation of management strategies at highly entropized land-ocean interface ecosystems, including those affected by large inputs from intensive agriculture, highly urbanized areas or industrial activities	
<b>PA 3.1.6</b>	<b>To assess the spatial extent, carbon reservoir size and resilience and development of effective conservation and restoration strategies for coastal blue carbon ecosystems</b>	
<b>PA 3.2</b>	<b>Development of innovative Decision Support Tools (DSTs)</b>	
<b>PA 3.2.1</b>	<b>To explore EMB-MSP-based transboundary scenarios and multi-lateral solutions</b> (e.g., international protected areas; protection of highly mobile species and shared stocks and resources; restoration of marine habitats, spatially-based measures to mitigate conflicts and/or enhance synergies between uses, spatially-based measures to mitigate environmental impacts). As far as possible, National authorities are to be engaged in the consortium, and if “High Seas” i.e. areas beyond national jurisdiction	

<sup>21</sup> [Descriptors under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive - European Commission](#)

	are targeted, compliance with the terms of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement) <sup>22</sup> is mandatory.	
<b>PA 3.2.2</b>	<p><b>To develop advanced models for integrating multiple disciplines to create digital intelligent supporting tools</b> (including Artificial Intelligence based) able to consider environmental processes, climate change trends, anthropogenic activities (coastal and sea uses), socio-economic and socio-ecological aspects. These intelligent DSTs could be used to feed MSP-oriented DTO applications. Projects should propose specific case studies and demonstrators, including at transboundary/sea-basin level, of the concrete added value of the developed DSTs for specific area and sector planning demands. Projects are expected to focus on coastal areas and land-sea ecosystems on sectors such as offshore renewable energies, aquaculture, fisheries, maritime transport, coastal and maritime tourism, commercial ports and multi-use of marine space).</p>	

<b>PA4</b>	<b>Blue Bioresources; sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, and new bio-based products</b>	
<b>PA 4.1</b>	<b>Innovative technologies and practices for sustainable fisheries and harvesting</b>	
<b>PA 4.1.1</b>	<i>To study migratory fish stocks that spend different parts of their life cycle in different jurisdictions to inform policy options and management. This is a critical issue for the EU Common Fisheries Policy and co-management of stocks between EU and third countries.</i>	
<b>PA 4.1.2</b>	<i>To provide evidence-based support to the application of ecosystem-based management approaches to inshore and small-scale fisheries management</i>	
<b>PA 4.1.3</b>	<i>To investigate the impacts of climate change and human activities including pollution and industrial and agricultural runoff on commercial fisheries, fish stocks and other species with commercial potential.</i>	
<b>PA 4.1.4</b>	<i>To gather a better understanding of cross-compliance, alignment and trade-offs between fisheries policy and management with other policy domains (Marine spatial planning, marine strategy framework directive, The Water Framework Directive) and the implications of measures associated with the EU Nature Restoration Regulations on fishing and fishers.</i>	

<sup>22</sup> [BBNJ Agreement | Agreement on Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction](#)

PA 4.1.5	<b>To advance technological innovations aimed at preserving the nutritional value, quality, and integrity of seafood, including through the use of new catching or harvesting technologies.</b>	
PA 4.1.6	<b>To enhance understanding of species’ roles in marine food webs and their growth potential</b> within an integrated perspective of sustainability and biodiversity resilience, and to translate this knowledge into practical management solutions, aligned with management needs.	
PA 4.1.7	<b>To develop new digital tools for monitoring for well-informed and timely decision making and sustainable management</b> considering the impact and societal costs of stressors such as habitat degradation, pollution, and climate change.	
PA 4.1.8	To develop more selective and sustainable fishing gears that reduce environmental impact, particularly in the bottom-contact fisheries, and for harvesting new species including macroalgae. A focus can also be on improving fish welfare and increasing traceability	
PA 4.2.	<b>Innovations and diversification for sustainable aquaculture</b>	
PA 4.2.1	<b>To develop biologically, technically, and economically feasible onshore recirculating aquaculture systems for fish, shellfish, and seaweed.</b>	
PA 4.2.2	<b>To develop innovative and eco- sustainable solutions to produce established and new species,</b> including integrated multitrophic aquaculture, new systems associated with other economic off-shore activities, closed or land-based systems.	
PA 4.3	<b>Innovations for a circular blue bioeconomy and new sustainable and high value bio-based products</b>	
PA 4.3.1	<b>To develop new low-carbon marine bio-based products</b> i.e. feed/chemical/pharmaceutical/material or services to accelerate the ocean economy and provide solutions to the existing challenges.	
PA 4.3.2	<b>To propose scientific based evidence to support policy reform with respect to regulations on use of fishery waste and bycatch or side streams for a variety of new bio-based products</b> (i.e. feed/chemical/pharmaceutical/nutraceutical/material).	

PA 5	<b>Resilient Coastal Communities and Businesses</b>	
PA 5.1	<b>Knowledge and Innovations to foster coastal businesses/communities resilience and sustainable coastal tourism</b>	

PA 5.1.1	<b>To identify opportunities for sustainable blue tourism products/services</b> that contribute to preventing negative environmental impact, and support the protection and restoration of degraded marine and coastal habitats or re-vitalise local, traditional culture and heritage	
PA 5.1.2	<b>To assess the impacts of diverse coastal activities (including small ports and marinas), on marine and coastal environments and co-dependencies between tourism and coastal and marine ecosystem health</b> , and also their role on sustaining livelihood in coastal communities from a socio-economic perspective.	
PA 5.1.3	<b>To provide inputs to strategies for strengthening resilience and preparedness of coastal businesses</b> against extreme climate events and geological and anthropogenic hazards as social and economic risk factors.	
PA 5.1.4	<b>To sustain social innovation to enable diversification of coastal and marine-based enterprises</b> for delivering new economic opportunities and thriving coastal communities.	
5.1.5	<b>To investigate, promote and showcase the coexistence of coastal and maritime tourism and other coastal businesses with marine protected areas.</b> In particular, applicants are encouraged to showcase best practices and available tools and instruments associated to effective management and enforcement of MPAs and best cases and examples of shared management practices considering conservation-restoration/citizens and sectors participation and active management.	
PA 5.2	<b>Resilient coastal infrastructures and nature-based solutions</b>	
PA 5.2.1	<b>To analyse risks posed to coastal infrastructures by climate change and extreme events and strategies to protect/re-design built structures and mitigate against risks</b> that potential damages to such structures may pose to safety and security of coastal communities and businesses.	
PA 5.2.2	<b>To develop embedded technologies in coastal infrastructures</b> that can monitor environmental conditions, deliver early warning of risks/hazards and support long-term data on coastal conditions and environmental change.	
PA 5.2.3	<b>To investigate effective Investment in conservation of natural assets through Nature-based Solutions</b> that benefit both costal tourism and ecosystem services (e.g. through carbon storage, protection from erosion etc	

<b>PA 5.2.4</b>	<b>To focus upon local/regional scale, when appropriate, to consider the temporal needs (seasonal vs permanent) of infrastructures to support tourism or other economic activities.</b> Projects should/will address the diversity of the demand per region of the necessary infrastructures (stable or mobile ones) and feedback to policy makers in approaching coastal development for local economic activities.
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## 1.11 Scientific Disciplines

Please indicate the the scientific disciplines involved in the project.

<p><b>Scientific disciplines involved</b></p> <p><i>Please indicate the scientific disciplines mobilised in your project, depending on the expertise of the members of your consortium</i></p>
To be selected from a standardised list (available on the EPSS) – multiple choices

## 1.12 Sea-basins/ocean

Please indicate the sea-basins/ocean covered by the project.

<b>Sea-basins/ocean covered by the project</b> <i>(multiple choice option)</i>	
Mediterranean sea	
Black Sea	
Baltic Sea	
North Sea	
Atlantic Ocean	

## 1.13 Study areas/countries

**Study areas/countries covered by the project** (please do not indicate here the nationality of the members of the consortium but the areas and countries studied in your proposals (research scope, studied sites, etc.))

*(max 3,500 characters including spaces)*

## 1.14 Ocean Decade endorsement criteria

Please provide details on how your proposal aligns with the following Ocean Decade endorsement criteria. Please keep in mind that this section is essential to the evaluation of your application for endorsement, and therefore please be as objective and explanatory as possible. In case a criterion does not align with your proposal, please provide 2 to 3 sentences on why not (open text; max. 5000 characters including spaces per criteria).

- 1) *Contributes to achieving one or more of the following Decade objectives: Objective 1: Identify critical ocean knowledge; Objective 2: Build capacity and generate knowledge; Objective 3: Increase the use of ocean knowledge*
- 2) *Accelerates the generation or use of knowledge and understanding of the ocean, with a specific focus on knowledge that will contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and complementary policy frameworks and initiatives.*
- 3) *Is co-designed and/or co-delivered by knowledge generators and users, and thus facilitating the uptake of science and ocean knowledge for policy, decision-making, management and/or innovation.*
- 4) *Ensures that all data and resulting knowledge are provided in an open access, shared, discoverable manner.*
- 5) *Strengthens existing or creates new partnerships across nations and/or between diverse ocean actors, including users of ocean science.*
- 6) *Contributes toward capacity development, including, but not limited to, beneficiaries in SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs.*
- 7) *Overcomes barriers to diversity and equity, including gender, generational and geographic diversity.*
- 8) *Collaborates with and engages local and indigenous knowledge holders.*

## 1.15 Ocean Decade Outcomes

Please select which of the Ocean Decade Challenges your project contributes to (max. 3):

- Challenge 1:** Understand and map land and sea-based sources of pollutants and contaminants and their potential impacts on human health and ocean ecosystems, and develop solutions to remove or mitigate them.
- Challenge 2:** Understand the effects of multiple stressors on ocean ecosystems, and develop solutions to monitor, protect, manage and restore ecosystems and their biodiversity under changing environmental, social and climate conditions.
- Challenge 3:** Generate knowledge, support innovation, and develop solutions to optimise the role of the ocean in sustainably feeding the world’s population under changing environmental, social and climate conditions.
- Challenge 4:** Generate knowledge, support innovation, and develop solutions for equitable and sustainable development of the ocean economy under changing environmental, social and climate conditions.
- Challenge 5:** Enhance understanding of the ocean-climate nexus and generate knowledge and solutions to mitigate, adapt and build resilience to the effects of climate change across all geographies and at all scales, and to improve services including predictions for the ocean, climate and weather.
- Challenge 6:** Enhance multi-hazard early warning services for all geophysical, ecological, biological, weather, climate and anthropogenic related ocean and coastal hazards, and mainstream community preparedness and resilience.
- Challenge 7:** Ensure a sustainable ocean observing system across all ocean basins that delivers accessible, timely, and actionable data and information to all users.
- Challenge 8:** Through multi-stakeholder collaboration, develop a comprehensive digital representation of the ocean, including a dynamic ocean map, which provides free and open access for exploring, discovering, and visualizing past, current, and future ocean conditions in a manner relevant to diverse stakeholders.
- Challenge 9:** Ensure comprehensive capacity development and equitable access to data, information, knowledge and technology across all aspects of ocean science and for all stakeholders.
- Challenge 10:** Ensure that the multiple values and services of the ocean for human wellbeing, culture, and sustainable development are widely understood, and identify and overcome barriers to behavior change required for a step change in humanity’s relationship with the ocean.

## 1.16 Ocean Decade Programme

To which Ocean Decade Programme would you like your project to be attached?

For more information on the Programmes please visit <https://oceandecade.org/decade-actions/type-of-action-programme/>

Please choose from the list of Programmes in the dropdown menu.

- Nutrition sensitive marine aquaculture in Africa (AfriMAQUA)
- Deep Ocean Microbiomes and Ecosystems (DOME)
- Global Ocean Artificial Light at Night Network (GOALANN)
- Sustainable Blue Food Futures for People & Planet (BlueFood Futures)
- Powering the Blue Economy - Global (PBE-Global)
- Nutrient Pollution – Global Action Network (NP-GAN)
- Global Ocean Negative Carbon Emissions (Global ONCE)
- Global Ocean Corps and Conveyor (Ocean Corps)
- World Harbour Seascape Restoration Programme (WHSR)
- Global Ocean Decade Programme for Blue Carbon (GO-BC)
- Ocean Decade Research Programme on the Maritime Acoustic Environment (ORDP-MAE)
- Digital Deep-sea Typical Habitats (Digital DEPTH)
- The Coral Reef Sentinels: A Mars Shot for Blue Planetary Health (The Coral Sentinel System)
- The Nippon Foundation-Nekton Ocean Census (Ocean Census)
- Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOP)
- Ocean Voices: Building transformative pathways to achieve the Decade's outcomes (Ocean Voices)
- Marine Life 2030 (ML2030)
- Ocean to climate Seamless Forecasting system (OSF)
- Healthy Rivers, Healthy Ocean (HRHO)
- Antarctica Sci&Infra for Synchronous Observation (Antarctica InSync)
- Ocean Biomolecular Observing Network (OBON)
- ForeSea - The Ocean Prediction Capacity of the Future (ForeSea)
- Ocean Cities, an international network of cities in harmony with the marine environment (OC-NET)
- The Science We Need for the Mediterranean Sea We Want (SciNMeet)
- Challenger 150 - A Decade to Study Deep-Sea Life (Challenger 150)
- Fisheries Strategies for Changing Oceans and Resilient Ecosystems by 2030 (Fish-SCORE)
- Empowering Women for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development
- Cultural Heritage Framework Programme (CHFP)
- Global Ocean Oxygen Decade (GOOD)
- One Ocean Network for Deep Observation (OneDeepOcean)
- Pacific solutions to save our ocean: an integrated ocean science programme towards a healthy Blue Pacific Continent to sustain future generations (Pacific solutions to save our Ocean)
- Sustainability of Marine Ecosystems through global knowledge networks (SMARTNET)
- An Observing Air-Sea Interactions Strategy (OASIS)
- The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project (Seabed 2030)
- The Hydrous presents: The Decade of Ocean Empathy (The Decade of Ocean Empathy)

Sustainability, Predictability and Resilience of Marine Ecosystems (SUPREME)
Deep Ocean Observing Strategy (DOOS)
Digital Twins of the Ocean (DITTO)
Blue Climate Initiative- Tetiaroa Society (BCI)
CoastPredict - Observing and Predicting the Global Coastal Ocean (CoastPredict)
Deltas associated with large rivers: Seeking solutions to the problem of sustainability (Mega-Delta)
Global Ecosystem for Ocean Solutions (GEOS)
Global Estuaries Monitoring Programme (GEM)
Joint Exploration of the Twilight Zone Ocean Network (JETZON)
Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability - Providing society with the observational and scientific evidence needed to sustainably identify, monitor, mitigate and adapt to ocean acidification; from local to global scales (OARS)
The Future of Fisheries & Marine Ecosystems (FishMIP)
Western Indian Ocean Marine Conservation Program (MARCOP)
Global Subseafloor Ecosystem and Sustainability (GSES)
Ocean Observing Co-Design - Evolving ocean observing for a sustainable future (ObsCoDe)
Observing Together: Meeting Stakeholder Needs and Making Every Observation Count
Explore the strongest ocean current in the Western Pacific: the 2nd Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and Adjacent Regions – from its sciences to human well beings (CSK2)
An Ocean Data and Information System supporting the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (OceanData-2030)
GEMS Ocean for Ocean and Coasts (GEMS Ocean)
The Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme (ODTP)
Harmful Algae Bloom Solutions (HAB-S)
SEAWARD Africa
Ocean Decade Programme Sustainable Ocean Planning (SOP Programme)
Digital innovation Hand-in-Hand with fisheries and ecosystems scientific monitoring
Ocean Practices for the Decade
The EAF-Nansen Programme - Supporting the Application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) management, considering climate and pollution impacts
Ocean Literacy With All: the change we need for the ocean we want (OLWA)

Is your project already affiliated with the programme you have selected?

Please choose among the two options: YES/NO

## 5.0 WORKPACKAGES, DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

*NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.*

For each work package / participant please indicate:

- a responsible participant or several participants in case of shared responsibility;

<b>Work packages (WP)</b> - Title only, detailed descriptions should be included in the project description section		
No. of WP	Responsible Participant(s)	Title
1		
2		
3		
N		

*(Use as many lines as needed)*

For each work package / participant please indicate:

- an estimated working time in person months - this estimation should include the estimated total working time of all the team members involved in the project (financed partners, Subcontractors and self-funded partners, permanent & non-permanent staff, etc.).

If a participant is marked as responsible for a work package the working time in this work package for this participant should not be 0. Each work package should have (at least one) responsible participant.

Please note that the total estimated working time per participant should match the estimated working time of the PI + all team members (entered on the participant's details page).

No. of WP	Partner 1	Partner 2	Partner 3	Partner N	Self-financed Partner A
1					
2					
3					
N					

*(Expand this table [rows, columns] as required)*

Please indicate the deliverables of the project:

<b>Deliverables</b>			
No.	Title of the deliverable	Delivery Month <sup>23</sup>	Related No. of WPs
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
N			

<sup>23</sup> Delivery month - indicate month number from the start of the project, e.g. 12, 24...

*(Use as many lines as needed)*

Please indicate the milestones of the project:

Milestones			
No.	Title	Month <sup>24</sup>	Related No. of WPs
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
N			

*(Use as many lines as needed)*

## 6.0 OTHER RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS, ACHIVEMENT FROM THE CONSORTIUM AND DECLARATION OF PARALLEL SUBMISSIONS

### 1.17 Other relevant publications, achievements, IP (e.g. patents) from the consortium

Provide other relevant publications, achievements, IP from the consortium relevant to full proposal ((author(s), title, journal, year) (max 15 references).

*NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.*

### 1.18 Declaration of parallel submissions of this proposal (whole or parts) to other funding programmes or to the same programme and currently under evaluation

Provide details of any proposal related to this one, which you or another project Partner have submitted to other funding opportunities, including title, funding source, extent of overlap and expected decision date.

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<sup>24</sup> Delivery month - indicate month number from the start of the project, e.g. 12, 24...

*NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.*

**Duplication of funding is not allowed for the same (whole or part) research project.**

**!!** Please note that some Funding Organisations have specific rules on the possibility to apply as applicant in different proposals. Make sure you comply with your Funding Organisations’ rules. **!!**

## 7.0 DECLARATION OF CHANGES BETWEEN PROPOSALS AND FULL PROPOSALS

Please refer yourself to the Call Text in 4.7.2. Step 2: submission of a Full Proposal, for a full description regarding changes between the preproposal and the full proposal steps, and associated processes.

All change(s) have to be declared on the EPSS.

- Was there any change made regarding the **total budget requested to a funding organisation** between the pre-proposal and full proposal stage?

YES                       NO

*Insert as many lines as needed*

Give the name of the principal investigator/organisation/country of the Partner(s) concerned by the change For example: Anna Dupont (Institute of applied ecology in Paris, France)	Has the Funding Organisation(s) already approved the change?	Detail the change and give rationales for such change
	Yes/No/Decision still pending	

- Was there any change made regarding **the project coordinator and/or the Partner(s)** and/or Self-funded Partner(s) between the pre-proposal and full proposal stage? (This question does not apply to “team members”).

YES                       NO

*Insert as many lines as needed*

Give the name of the principal investigator/organisation/country of the Partner(s) or Self-funded Partners concerned by the change * For example: Anna Dupont (Institute of applied ecology in Paris, France)	In case of change(s) involving a Partner, has the Funding Organisation(s) already been informed about the change?	Has the Call Secretariat already been informed about the change?	Detail the change and give rationales for such change
	Yes/No/Decision still pending	Yes/No/Decision still pending	

- *Would you like to declare any other changes between the pre-proposal and full proposal stage?*

YES

NO

*Insert as many lines as needed*

Give the name of the principal investigator/organisation/country of the Partner(s) concerned by the change * For example: Anna Dupont (Institute of applied ecology in Paris, France)	Has the Funding Organisation(s) already been informed about the change?	Has the Call Secretariat already been informed about the change?	Detail the change and give rationales for such change
	Yes/No/Decision still pending/ No approval needed	Yes/No/Decision still pending/ No approval needed	

## 8.0 EXCLUSION OF POTENTIAL REVIEWERS (OPTIONAL)

NB: *This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.*

List here potential reviewers who, you think, should not be asked to evaluate the project for reasons of direct competition and partiality. Also, provide the names of significant collaborators that should not be used as reviewers due to conflicts of interest.

**Potential competitors**

	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>E-mail address</i>	<i>Rationale for excluding the reviewer</i>
1						
2						
3						
N						

*Insert as many lines as needed*

**Collaborators with conflict of interest**

	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>E-mail address</i>	<i>Rationale for excluding the reviewer</i>
1						
2						
3						
N						

*Insert as many lines as needed*

## 9.0 SUGGESTION OF POTENTIAL REVIEWERS (OPTIONAL)

Please indicate up to 4 experts who could review your proposal, including their field expertise. The rules on conflict of interest set forth in *in 4.3. ‘Confidentiality and conflict of interests’* in the Call Announcement apply to these suggestions.

*NB:* *This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.*

	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>E-mail address</i>	<i>Field of expertise</i>	<i>Link to his/her website</i>
1							
2							
3							
4							

*Please note that these are only suggestions for consideration by the Call Steering Committee (CSC).*

## 10.0 ETHICS SELF-ASSESSMENT AND DO NO SIGNIFICANT HARM PRINCIPLE

*NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.*

Projects must comply with ethical principles (including the highest standards of research integrity) and applicable EU, international and national law. If a project does not comply to ethical principles, it will not be funded under this Call.

**Please go through the table below and indicate which elements concern your proposal by answering ‘Yes’ or ‘No’. If you answer ‘Yes’ to any of the questions, please detail how you plan to deal with the mentioned ethical issue.**

*For more information on each of the ethical issues and how to address them, including detailed legal references, please consult the Horizon Europe Programme Guidelines “How to complete your ethics self-assessment”<sup>25</sup>.*

<b>1. HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS AND HUMAN EMBRYOS</b>		<b>If yes, please detail and indicate how you plan to deal with this ethic issue.</b>
Does this activity involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?	Y/N	
If yes, will they be directly derived from embryos within this project?	Y/N	
If yes, are they previously established cells lines?	Y/N	
If yes, are the cell lines registered in the European registry for human embryonic stem cell lines?	Y/N	
Does this activity involve the use of human embryos?	Y/N	
If yes, will the activity lead to their destruction?	Y/N	
<b>2. HUMANS</b>		
Does your research involve human participants?	Y/N	
If yes, are they volunteers for nonmedical studies (e.g. social or human sciences research)?	Y/N	
If yes, are they healthy volunteers or medical studies?	Y/N	

<sup>25</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf)

If yes, are they patients for medical studies?	Y/N	
If yes, are they potentially vulnerable individuals or groups?	Y/N	
If yes, are they children / minors?	Y/N	
If yes, are they other persons unable to give informed consent?	Y/N	
Does your research involve physical interventions on the study participants?	Y/N	
If yes, does it involve invasive techniques?	Y/N	
If yes, does it involve collection of biological samples?	Y/N	
Does this activity involve conducting a clinical study as defined by the Clinical Trial <a href="#">Regulation (EU 536/2014)</a> ? (using pharmaceuticals, biologicals, radiopharmaceuticals, or advanced therapy medicinal products).	Y/N	
If yes, is it a clinical trial?	Y/N	
If yes, is it a low-intervention clinical trial?	Y/N	
<b>3. HUMAN CELLS / TISSUES</b>		
Does this activity involve the use of human cells or tissues?	Y/N	
If yes, are they human embryonic or foetal cells or tissues?	Y/N	
If yes, are they available commercially?	Y/N	
If yes, are they obtained within this project?	Y/N	
If yes, are they obtained from another project, laboratory or institution?	Y/N	
If yes, are they obtained from biobank?	Y/N	
<b>4. PERSONAL DATA</b>		
Does this activity involve the processing of personal data?	Y/N	
If yes, does it involve the processing of special categories of personal data (e.g.: sexual lifestyle, ethnicity, genetic, biometric and health data, political opinion, religious or philosophical)	Y/N	
If yes, does it involve profiling, systematic monitoring of individuals, or processing of large scale of special categories of data or intrusive methods of data processing (such as surveillance, geolocation tracking etc.)?	Y/N	
Does this activity involve further processing of previously collected personal data (including the use of pre-existing data sets or sources, and merging existing data sets)?	Y/N	
Is it planned to export personal data from the EU to non-EU countries?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the type of personal data and countries involved:		
Is it planned to import personal data from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the type of personal data and countries involved:		
<b>5. ANIMALS</b>		
Does your research involve animals?	Y/N	

If yes, are they vertebrates?	Y/N	
If yes, are they non-human primates (NHP)?	Y/N	
If yes, are they genetically modified?	Y/N	
If yes, are they cloned farm animals?	Y/N	
If yes, are they endangered species?	Y/N	
<b>6. NON-EU COUNTRIES</b>		
Will some of the activities be carried out in non-EU countries?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the countries		
In case non-EU countries are involved, do the activities undertaken in these countries raise potential ethical issues?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the countries		
Is it planned to use local resources (e.g., animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)? <sup>26</sup>	Y/N	
Is it planned to import any material (other than data) from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? For data imports, see section 4.	Y/N	
If yes, specify material and countries involved:		
Is it planned to export any material (other than data) from the EU to non-EU countries? For data exports, see section 4.	Y/N	
If yes, specify material and countries involved:		
Does this activity involve <a href="#">low and/or lower-middle income countries?</a> (if yes, detail the benefit-sharing actions planned in the self-assessment)	Y/N	
Could the situation in the country put the individuals taking part in the activity at risk?	Y/N	
<b>7. ENVIRONMENT &amp; HEALTH and SAFETY</b>		
Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to the environment, animals or plants (during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact)?	Y/N	
Does this activity deal with endangered fauna and/or flora / protected areas?	Y/N	
Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to humans, including	Y/N	

<sup>26</sup> Please note that for access to genetic resources, you must also comply with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing and EU Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 which implements this Protocol. You will also have to ascertain towards the competent authorities and focal point that these used genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources have been accessed in accordance with applicable access and benefit-sharing legislation or regulatory requirements, and that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually agreed terms, in accordance with any applicable legislation or regulatory requirements.

those performing the activity (during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact)?		
<b>8. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE</b>		
Does this activity involve the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence? (if yes, detail in the self-assessment whether that could raise ethical concerns related to human rights and values and detail how this will be addressed).	Y/N	
<b>9. OTHER ETHICS ISSUES</b>		
Are there any other ethics issues that should be taken into consideration?	Y/N	
Please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1,000)		
<b>10. DO NO SIGNIFICANT HARM PRINCIPLE<sup>27</sup></b>		
Does your project comply with the "Do no significant harm principle"	Y/N	
If no, please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1,000)		

## 11.0 COMPLIANCE WITH EU TAXONOMY<sup>28</sup>

- Describe how your proposal will make a substantial contribution to at least one of the six environmental objectives:

1. *Climate change mitigation*
2. *Climate change adaptation*
3. *The sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources*

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<sup>27</sup> The Do no significant harm principle was introduced in the European Green Deal to ensure that the research and innovation activities do not make a significant harm to any of the six following environmental objectives ([EU Taxonomy Regulation](#)): climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources, Pollution prevention & control, Transition to a circular economy and Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems. You can find more information on what is considered as doing significant harm to the above objectives in the following note:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq/15485>.

<sup>28</sup>The EU Taxonomy Regulation adopted in June 2020 is a tool that will help investors, industry and researchers to navigate the transition to a sustainable economy by providing a science-based classification system to determine whether an economic activity is environmentally sustainable.

[https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/research-and-innovation-heart-eu-taxonomy-2021-04-21\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/research-and-innovation-heart-eu-taxonomy-2021-04-21_en) and [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-04/ec\\_rtd\\_research-innovation-eu-taxonomy.pdf](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-04/ec_rtd_research-innovation-eu-taxonomy.pdf)

*4. The transition to a circular economy*

*5. Pollution prevention and control and 6. The protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems*

- Explain how your proposal do no significant harm (DNSH) to the other five objectives
- Explain how your proposal meet minimum social safeguards such as the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

## 12.0 CONFIRMATION OF SUBMISSION

**Each Participant i.e. Partners, Self-financed Partner(s) and Subcontractor(s) must validate its participation to the project by logging into the EPSS.**

**Each Partner and Self-financed Partner must carefully read the documents.**

Each Partner is strongly advised to contact its respective National Contact Point(s) for any question or doubt to ensure the compliance with the Funding Organisation funding rules. Some funding organisations may also require the submission of national documents in addition to the international proposal.

Further information is available on the ANNEX B: National contact points and national/regional funding rules of the Call Text.

**You will NOT be funded without fully complying with the requirements of each relevant Funding Organisation.**

**Self-financed Partners must provide evidence that their organisations will support their activities.** They should upload a signed official letter of commitment from their Head of Department or Financial administrator (as appropriate) on the EPSS (.pdf). The letter of commitment should be maximum 1 page for each self-financed partner and should be written in English. It is the responsibility of the project coordinator to ensure that all the letters of all self-financed partners have been uploaded. The letters of commitment are only requested for self-financed partners. Any other letters of support WILL NOT be considered for the evaluation.

**Use of data:**

For information: the data provided in this full proposal application form will be used to:

- *communicate with you about the call and application process;*
- *allow the JCS and the funding organisations to perform the eligibility check and the national eligibility checks of the applicants, respectively;*
- *evaluate your proposal by the IEC members, Ethics experts (for ethical clearance purpose)*
- *allow the call steering committee to recommend a list of projects for funding*
- *award funding if your application is successful;*
- *allow the independent observer to review the evaluation process*
- *allow the endorsement of your project as Ocean Decade projects (if successful)*
- *analyse and describe our applicant pool (the name of applicants is anonymised in our analysis);*
- *collect your feedbacks and improve our communications with potential future applicants in future Joint Calls.*

Anonymity and confidentiality will be maintained throughout processing of these data for the production of statistics. Please note that these data will be accessible to Funding Organisations participating to the call including the ones based in non-EU countries. Protection of personal data and compliance with the [EU's General Data Protection Regulation \(2016/679\)](#) (GDPR) is however ensured.

*Retention of personal data shall take an end in accordance with the EPSS General Data Protection Policy.*