Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

Information Webinar | SBEP First Call for Transnational Access to Research Infrastructures [2025 TA Call to RIs]

PILOTING ACCESS TO SHARED RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES AT PAN-EUROPEAN SCALE TO REINFORCE CAPACITIES AND SUPPORT THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE BLUE ECONOMY

InfoDay

On-line, 28 Feb 2025

2-4 PM

Co-funded by the European Union

Webinar instructions

- The webinar is recorded
- The recording of the webinar will be made available
- Audio/video function is available only for speakers
- For Q&A sessions, questions related to the ongoing topic session will be collected at the appropriate timing via the relevant tool

Agenda

- **14:00-14:10 Welcome and foreword** by Viorel Vulturescu (MCID) and Eduardo Carqueijeiro (EC - RTD)
- **14:10-14:50 Presentation of the TA Call to RIs in the context of the EU Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership** by Margherita Cappelletto (MUR) and Sylvain Pasquier (ANR) (including 5' Q&A)
- **14:50-15:35 Presentation of the Research Infrastructures' (RIs) catalogue** by providers for different sea-basins. Moderated by Laura Beranzoli (INGV), interventions by:
  - Manfred Zieler (BSH) for the North and Baltic Sea,
  - Irina Stanciou (GEOECOMAR) for the Black Sea,
  - Aodhan Fitzgerald (MI) for the Atlantic Basin,
  - Lorenza Evangelista (CNR) for the Mediterranean Sea
  - Q&A
- **15:35-15:50 Presentation of the submission platform** by Katrin Saar (ETaG) (including 5' Q&A)
- **15:50-16:00 Final Q&As and Conclusions**

Welcome and foreword, by Viorel Vulturescu (MCID, Romania) and Eduardo Carqueijeiro (EC – RTD)

Presentation of the TA Call to RIs in the context of the EU SBEP, by Margherita Cappelletto (MUR, Italy)

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

- Boosting a just, green and digital **transition of** all economic **sectors based on the ocean, seas and coasts** through **innovative solutions and technologies**

Integrated pan-European initiative
30 countries and the EC
450 M€


Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership
Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership
Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda 2024
Co-funded by the European Union
EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP
Measures

Impact-oriented Intervention Areas (2024)

Digital Twins of the Ocean

Blue economy sectors

Blue Bioresources

Managing sea-uses

Joint Transnational Calls

- **19 projects** cofunded under the first joint call for 21.5 M€
- Full proposals of the 2nd joint call (40 M€ committed) under evaluation
- **4 additional joint calls** to be launched once a year from 2025 to 2028 in September

Additional Activities

Alignment of Thematic Annual Programming

Alignment of Monitoring Programmes

Sharing of Research Infrastructures

Design of an European Ocean Observing System Knowledge Hub

Portfolios of Projects

2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs - outline

- CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES
- DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL
- TECHNICAL INFORMATION ON RIS AVAILABLE FOR THE CALL
- PROCEDURES, ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA
- AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE RI PROVIDERS AND THE PROJECT LEADERS
- PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND REPORTING
  - ANNEX A – THEORY OF CHANGE
  - ANNEX B – RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES' PROVIDERS CONTACT POINTS (AWARENESS AND TRANSPARENCY MEASURE)
  - ANNEX C - EVALUATION PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA
  - ANNEX D – GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS AND PROPOSAL FORM
  - ANNEX E – OPEN ACCESS AND FAIR DATA
  - ANNEX F – USERS-PROVIDERS STANDARD AGREEMENT

Background of the call

The potential of a **climate-neutral and sustainable blue economy to deliver innovation, value creation and employment** is high, and its role in **addressing** challenges as articulated in the **European Green Deal and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.

Building on years of European cooperation on RIs projects, the **interest by Member States to deploy RIs in the framework of the Partnership** was fully acknowledged upon a call for expression of interests to which many organizations owning/running RIs have positively replied also joining the Partnership.

Background of the call

As acknowledged in the **Conclusions of the EU Council of 29 Nov 2024 'Building bridges: Strengthening Europe's Research and Technology Infrastructures'**, **RIs are strategic assets to enable advancements in R&I**, […] as well as by supporting public good services, through the increasingly provision of ocean data and forecasts for different applications as contribution to the European Ocean Observing System (EOOS)

Recognizing the value of observations in enabling society through providing operational services and the strategic **relevance of RIs as physical, digital, and human assets supporting marine research and education**, the **G7 Future of the Seas and Oceans Initiative Working Group** under the Italian Presidency in 2024 has **endorsed the marine research infrastructures and their integration and harmonization as an emerging topic**

General aims of the call

- Contribute to the **implementation of the SRIA**
- Support the widening and **internationalisation strategy**, valuing its regional dimension
- Support the **synergies with relevant EU initiatives**, including the Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters and the HE Work Programme for relevant RIs
- **Contribute to the EOOS** and promote Open Data and Open Science
- Support the development **innovative services**, transfer solutions from SMEs, and **improve skills**
- **Leverage on the national plans for research infrastructures and the roadmap of the ESFRI,** by aligning and valorising national investments
- Enhance **operational efficiencies** by optimizing the proper use and **sharing of research infrastructures**

2025 SBEP TA CALL to RIs – WHAT

- Pilot action in the framework of a European Partnership to **demonstrate the added value of the transnational shared access to Research Infrastructures for the transformation towards a sustainable blue economy**.
- **Open call for access to Research Infrastructures (RIs), inviting private and public organizations to submit impact-oriented R&I proposals for using the portfolio of RIs made available by providers that are partner of the Partnership, by contributing to the objectives of the Partnership**.
- **RIs providers**, being partner of the Partnership, **will make available a portfolio of RIs offering physical and remote access.**
- The call is inspired by the Transnational Access schemes with specific constraints, i.e. while access to the **RIs is offered, the implementation of the project is self-funded**.

Intervention Areas: broad approach

Digital Twins of the Ocean

Multidisciplinary, long-lasting research and innovation activity that focuses on the development of twin technology for spatially limited areas at sea-basin level. The activity aims to improve our understanding of the relations among essential systems at sea-basin level and ultimately support the development of AI based simulation and prediction capabilities for European oceans.

Blue economy sectors

Covering all sectors of the blue economy, focusing on the prerequisites for a green and digital transition of these sectors and on the conditions for co-existence and multi-use of activities and infrastructures at sea. The main aim of the Intervention Area is to support the optimal use of resources in European oceans and seas in terms of space and material flows while ensuring the conditions for sustainability and reducing environmental pressures.

Intervention Areas: broad approach

Blue Bioresources

Addressing the need for innovative tools and approaches to the sustainable planning and management of sea-uses, interlinking maritime spatial planning (MSP), the marine strategy framework directive (MSFD), common fishery policy (CFP), and the marine protected areas (MPAs) with a focus on the regional dimension.

Managing sea-uses

Addressing research and innovation needs to support a just transition to the sustainable production and utilization of blue bioresources, with emphasis on production and processes that minimise the environmental impacts while meeting the demand for healthy and affordable blue food, feed, and other biobased products.

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

International connectivity & geographical coverage

Sea basin nodes

Theory of Change, Open access and fair data
by Sylvain Pasquier (ANR, France)

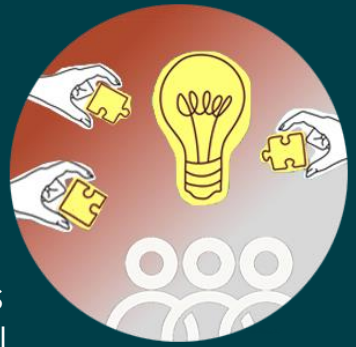
Towards impact-oriented R&I proposals

Our perspective towards impact as a partnership of the Horizon Europe framework:

- SBEP supports impact-oriented actions towards the green and digital transformation of the blue economy
- Maximize impact beyond academic world in society, policy, environment, industry with practical applications, whether in policy-making, technological development, or social change.
- Engagement with industry to facilitate market uptake
- Policy uptake of results to bridge science-policy gap

- In 2024 publication of the EC report Biennial Monitoring Report "Performance of European Partnerships under Horizon Europe"

Towards impact-oriented R&I proposals



Requirements regarding impact in the proposal:

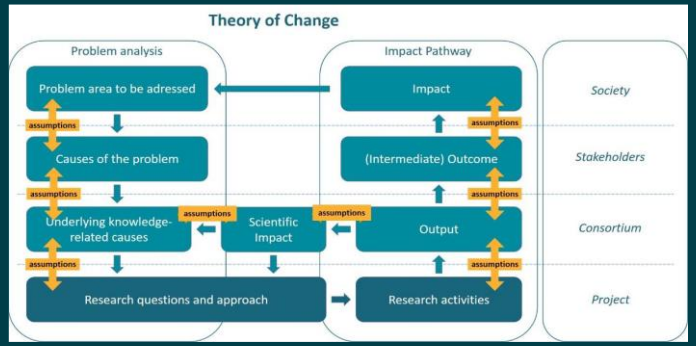
- Describe the co-design and engagement with stakeholders: industry partners, citizens, and policy makers
- Describe your approach to ensure that the use of the RIs will support the project's results in delivering further impact at e.g. scientific, environmental, policy, societal level
- Assess the projects' impact on the sea-basin(s) targeted and address possible scalability in other basins.
- Recommended to follow an impact pathway approach relying on a methodology of Theory of Change:
  - Logical framework linking outputs, outcomes and impact of the R&I project
- To be included in Part B.2 of the proposal - *IMPACT* - Max 2 pages

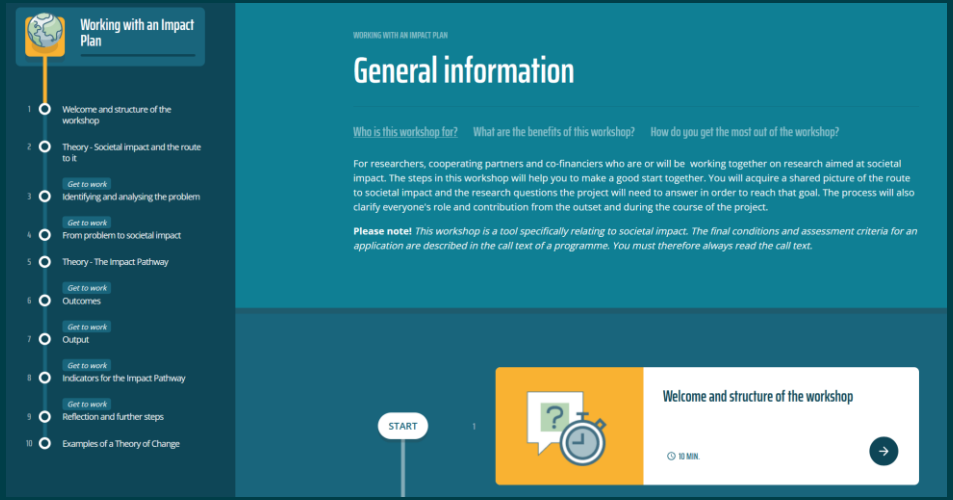
Towards impact-oriented R&I proposals

Guidance:

- ANNEX A: Theory of Change
- Online ressource for the design of and impact pathway:

https://impact.nwo.nl/en/working-with-an-impact-plan





Towards Open access and FAIR data

SBEP supports Open science principles with a wide and immediate access to quality data:

- FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable)
- A balanced approach towards openness, "as open as possible, as closed as necessary"
- Full and immediate Open Access is required when applicable: openness prevails as long as there are no legitimate reasons to constrain access

Requirements regarding Open access and management of data:

- Comply with Open science principles in terms of open access and sharing of data
- Provide a preliminary Data Management Plan as part of the proposal
  - types of data used and/or produced ; compliance with FAIR principles ; management of data (sharing or restriction) ; …

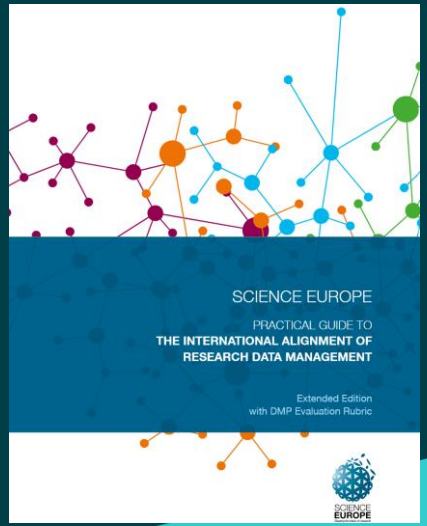
- To be included in Part B.4 of the proposal - *Exploitation measures and preliminary Data Management Plan* - Max 0,5 page

Towards Open access and FAIR data

Guidance:

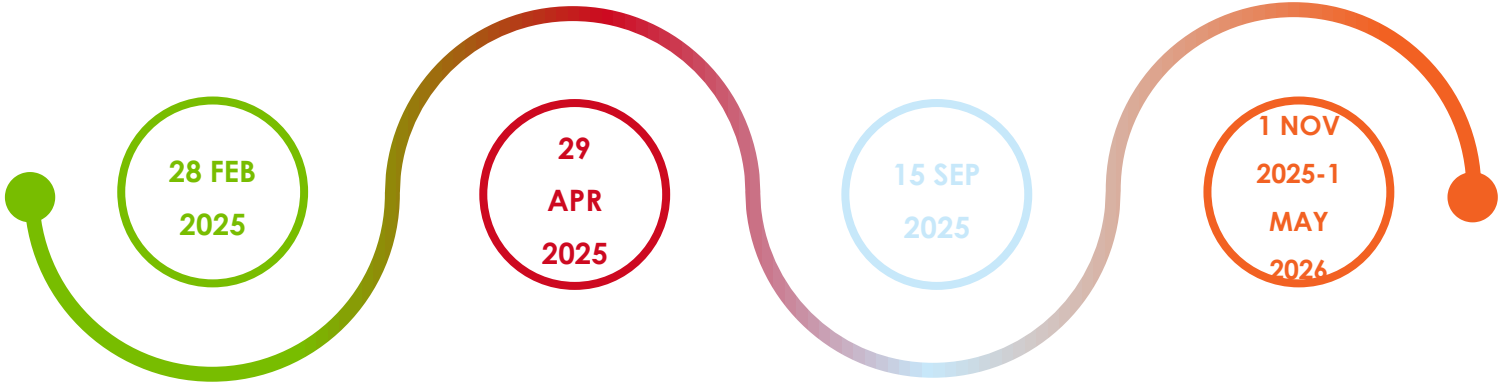
- Annex E "OPEN ACCESS AND FAIR DATA"
- DMP Template and Practical Guide to the International Alignment of Research Data Management (Science Europe)

https://www.scienceeurope.org/our-priorities/open-science/research-data-management/



Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

2025 SBEP TA CALL to RIs – WHEN



CALL OPENS

CALL CLOSES

EVALUATION RESULTS

PROJECT STARTS

2025 SBEP TA CALL to RIs – WHO

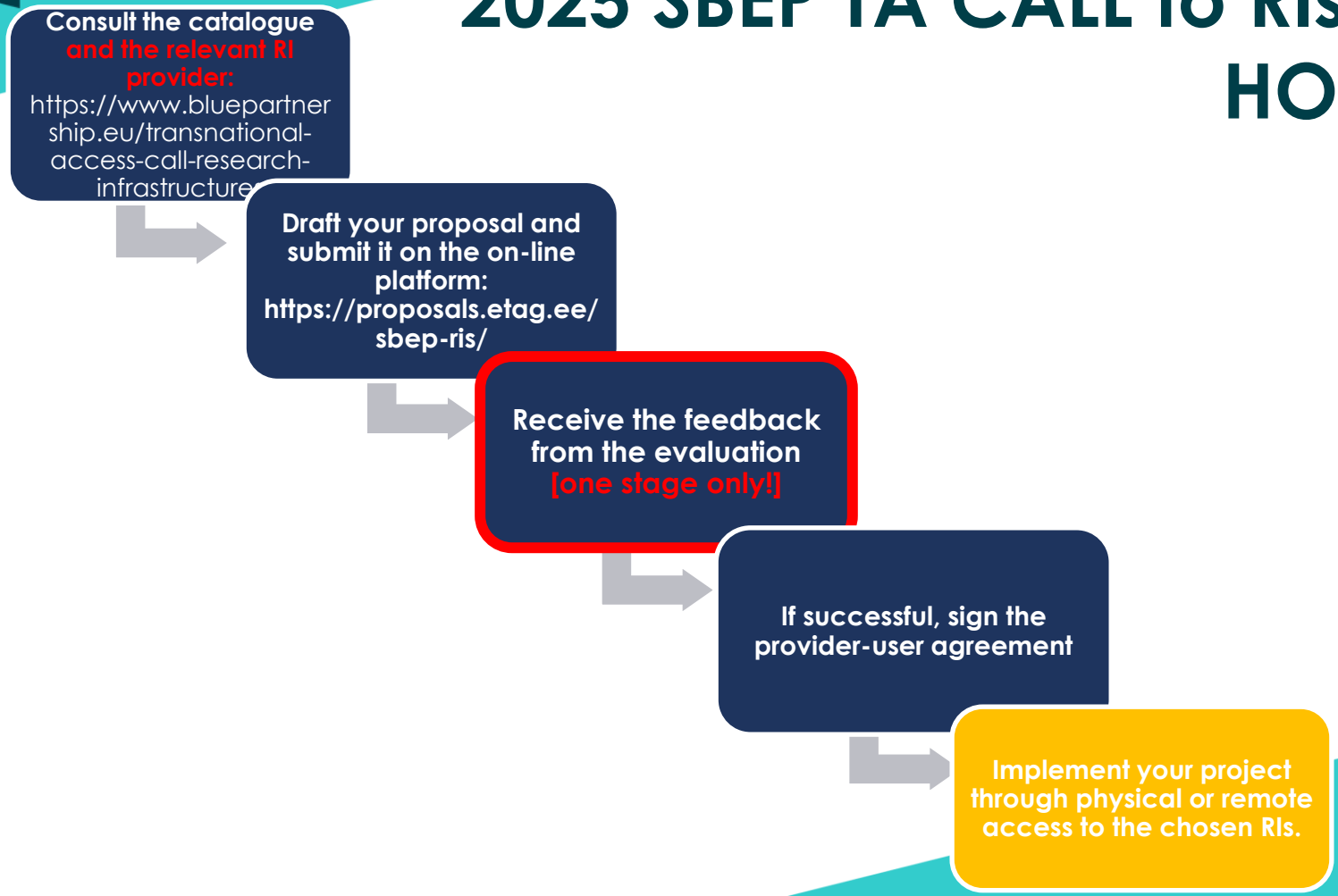
- **APPLICANT**: General term used for indicating either persons or organizations presenting a proposal.
- **PROVIDER**: An organization offering access to its own RI in TA Call. The Provider designates a keyperson for contacts referred to as 'RI provider contact point'.
- **USER**: A user is the entity / group of subjects that accesses a RI.
- **PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR** (PI): Leader of each organization applying to the TA Call, either as Project Leader (i.e. Partner 1 of the Project) or as Project Partner.
- TEAM MEMBER OR USER TEAM: Staff of the Project Leaders / Project Partners involved in the proposal.
- **PROJECT LEADER**: Organization coordinating the proposal. It must be from one Country of the Partnership.
- **PROJECT PARTNER**: Organization participating in the proposal. It can be from all over the world.

2025 SBEP TA CALL to RIs – WHO

- **TA MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP OF THE PARTNERSHIP**: Technical secretariat in charge of: (i) collecting and dispatching the proposals to the evaluators; (ii) checking and adapting the work plans (feasibility and timeline) of the selected proposals together with the RIs' owners; (iii) organizing and facilitating the meetings of the International Evaluation Panel (IEP); (iv) communicating to the applicants the result of the evaluation; (v) supporting the selected projects and the RI providers in resolving any possible dispute that may arise; and (vi) support the smooth implementation and follow-up of projects, at first by facilitating the signature of the user-provider agreement.
- **INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION PANEL OF THE TA CALL TO RIs**: group of independent international scientific and technical experts from the relevant research areas covered in this call, including experts in ethics and in RIs' management, in charge of the evaluation of the proposals.

Call process, eligibility rules, evaluation criteria and selection procedure

2025 SBEP TA CALL to RIs – HOW



2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs – Preliminary Evaluation
15 General Eligibility Criteria

1. Address **at least one intervention area**
2. Request of access to **at least one and up to two RIs**
3. Address **at least one geographical area** among: Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea, Baltic Sea, North Sea, Atlantic Ocean. If applicable, proposals must indicate regional areas (e.g. Arctic Ocean, Barents Sea, Celtic Sea, Adriatic Sea, Aegean Seas, etc., as far as they belong to one of the European Sea Basins cited above) or their scope must be proved to be relevant for one or more above mentioned geographical areas.
4. **Provide a declaration of commitment**
5. Confirm the **consensus by the RI provider** on the feasibility of the proposal
6. Involve **at least two Partners from two different countries**
7. **An organization being RI provider cannot be Leader/Partner in a proposal requesting access to the same RI it owns/runs**

2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs – Preliminary Evaluation
15 General Eligibility Criteria

8. The **Project Leader PI and the majority (> 50%) of the team members must be employed in a country other than the country that owns and operates the infrastructure**
9. **One entity mu**
10. The **PI of the P** **rticipating in the Partners**
11. The PI of a giv **only in one proposal**.
12. Access **initiated within 6 months from the reception** of the outcomes **of the evaluation** and **terminated within 18 months from the starting date**
13. Proposals **written in English**
14. **Submitted electronically** with the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS)
15. Proposals **complete, respectful of the page limits and the number/type of attachments allowed**

(*) **Applicants** to the 2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs can be **employed** by an organisation **in any country of the world** while the **Project Leader PI** shall be **employed** by an organisation **in one of the Countries involved in the Partnership**. It must be noted that **access for team members of a proposal selected for access with a majority of Partners not working in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated country is limited to 20% of the total amount of units of access provided**.

2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs – Scientific Evaluation International Evaluation Panel (IEP)

- Composition: **international scientific and technical experts from the relevant research areas covered** in this call, the range of intervention areas of the present call as well as consider RIs' management competences, including experts in ethics.
- Evaluation process: the experts examine the proposal(s) assigned to them, **score and comment each proposal following strictly the Evaluation Criteria (Annex C)** using an individual Proposal Assessment Form.
- Conflict of Interest: IEP members have to sign a **Declaration of Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Form** and will have to declare all their potential conflicts of interest with submitted proposals.

2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs – Scientific Evaluation/Selection procedure (single stage, 2.5 months)

- Scientific evaluation
  - 3 independent evaluators matching experts' profiles with the need for proposals evaluation and including technical expertise on RI management and ethics
  - 3 assessment criteria: Excellence (threshold: 3/5); Impact (threshold: 3/5); Implementation (threshold: 3/5)
  - 1 ranking list
  - 2 categories A/B (High/Low Priority) for proposals above the threshold
- Logistic Evaluation and Valiation (with RI providers)
- Decision: feedback and negotiation of sucesful proposals taking into account
  - Maximizing the use of RIs;
  - Maximizing the number of countries/regions involved in the projects;
  - Ensuring a balance between intervention areas targeted and sea-basins involved in the projects;
  - Giving priority to team members that have not previously used the installation/work in countries where no equivalent research infrastructure exists or that is presently unavailable for use.
- Official letters on evaluation and selection results will be sent to the PI of the Project Leader

2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs – Evaluation criteria: Excellence

- Fit to the scope, objectives:
  - pertinent to the Intervention Areas
  - pertinent to the Sea-basins/regional EU areas
  - clearly stated and achievable

- Sound background
- Novelty of research/approach
- Methodology and design

2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs – Evaluation criteria: Impact

- Credibility of the impact pathways
- Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts
- Added value of European transnational cooperation and networking

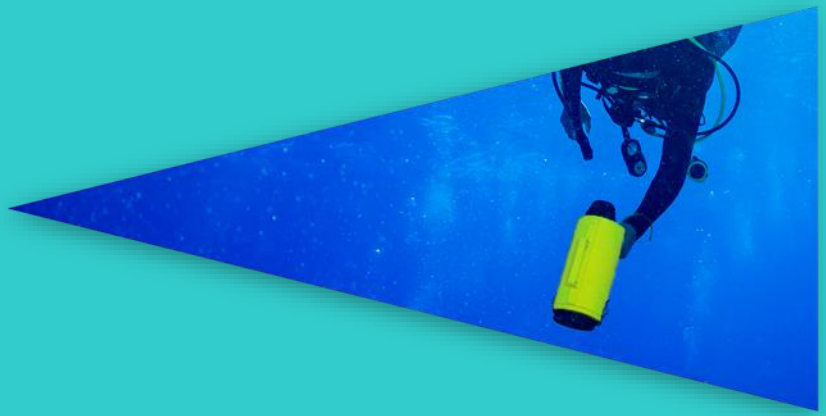
2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs – Evaluation criteria: Quality and efficiency of the implementation

- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the use of the infrastructure and other self-provided resources
- Capacity and role of the PIs and team members in bringing together necessary expertise
- Technical capability to carry out the activity and data exploitation
- Preliminary Data Management Plan

2025 SBEP TA Call to RIs – User – Provider agreement, including indication on monitoring

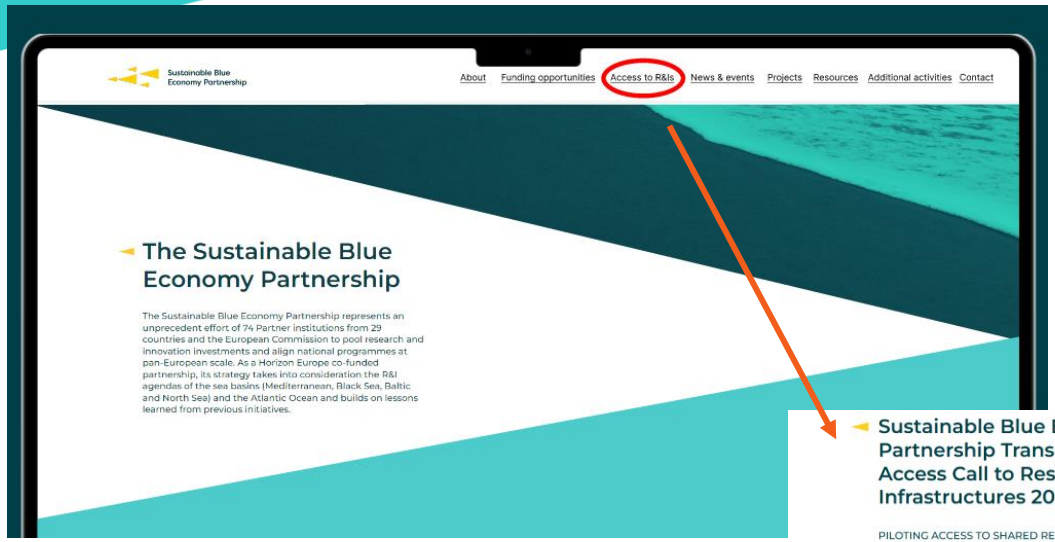
- Template made available to providers and users
- Assistance provided by the Partnership TA Management WG to connect users and providers prior and during the implementation of the project
- Signed agreement notified
- Digital **access report** as a monitoring tool
- Possible invitation to projects to **join dissemination/synergy events**

Q&A Session



Presentation of the RIs catalogue
Moderator: Laura Beranzoli – INGV (Italy)

RIs catalogue



RIs Portfolio

49 RIs from 7 countries clustered according to the following typology:

- Research Vessels
- Fixed platforms, auxiliary devices and experimental stations
- Mobile platforms (AUVs, gliders, aircraft)
- Portable equipment
- Analytical labs and Test benches (pressure chambers, pools. calibration/inter-calibration bench, including sample analysis)
- High Performance Computing Centres

RIs catalogue – North and Baltic Sea by Manfred Zieler (BSH, Germany)

Manfred Zeiler

International Cooperation | Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency

Presentation of the Research Infrastructures' (RIs)

North Sea and Baltic Sea

- DE: Alfred-Wegener-Institute (AWI)
- DE: Federal and Maritime Agency (BSH)
- DE: Leibniz-Insitute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemuende (IOW)
- DE: Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT)

North Sea

- Alfred-Wegener-Institute (AWI) – 1/2
  - Research Vessels
    - **RV Heincke:** https://www.awi.de/en/fleet-stations/research-vessel-and-cutter/research-vessel-heincke.html
    - **RV Uthörn:** https://www.awi.de/en/fleet-stations/research-vessel-and-cutter/uthoern.html
    - Sampling of physical and chemical parameters in the water column and/or at the seabed at fixed positions in the North Sea; biological, geoscientific and hydrographic research projects
    - Cruise capacity for 12/4 SBEP project scientists or technicians for max. 5 days (RV Heincke/RV Uthörn respectively; each 100 person days per year)
    - Contact persons: **Ingo Schewe and Michael Klages**

North Sea

- Alfred-Wegener-Institute (AWI) – 2/2
  - Fixed Platforms, Auxiliary Devices, Experimental Stations
    - **Marine Stations Helgoland and Sylt:** https://www.awi.de/en/fleet-stations/stations/marine-stations-helgoland-and-sylt.html
    - Sampling of physical and chemical parameters as well as organisms in the water column and the intertidal flats in the German North Sea; experimental approaches in the field and the laboratory
    - Capacity for 18 SBEP project scientists or technicians (240 person days for this call)
    - Contact person: **Angelika Dummermuth**

North Sea and Baltic Sea

- Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH)
  - Research Vessels:
    - **RV Atair, RV Wega*, RV Deneb*:** https://www.bsh.de/EN/The_BSH/Our_ships/Our_ships_node.html, * only one of them will be availlable
    - Sampling of physical and chemical parameters in the water column and/or at the seabed at fixed positions in the North Sea during the BSH summer cruise (August-September) and in the German North Sea and Baltic Sea
    - Cruise capacity for 1-2 SBEP project scientists or technicians, max. 4 days in total
    - Contact person: **Berit Brockmeyer**

Baltic Sea

- Leibniz-Insitute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemuende (IOW)
  - Research Vessel:
    - **RV Elisabeth Mann Borghese:** https://www.io-warnemuende.de/rv-elisabeth-mann-borgese.html
    - Marine chemical, physical and biological investigations (sampling and measuring) as well as geological investigations for the mapping of sediment properties and pollutant load during five regular annual monitoring cruises.
    - Cruise capacity for 1-2 SBEP project scientists or technicians
    - Contact persons: **Regine Labrenz and Joanna Waniek**

All Sea Basins

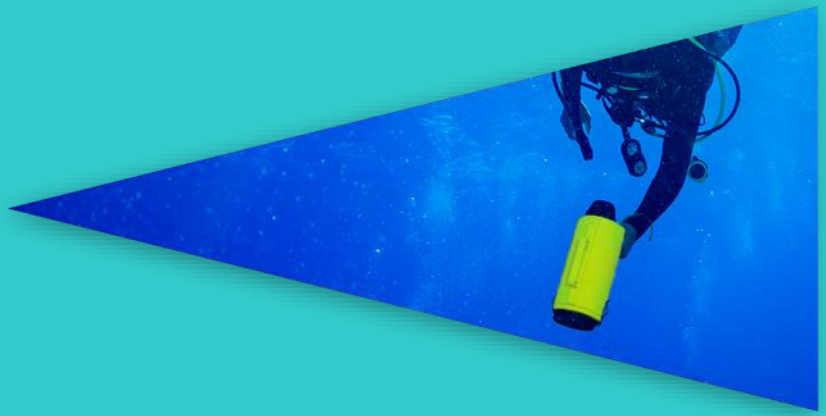
- Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT)
  - Analytical Labs and Test Benches:
    - access to data and lab facilities as well as sharing specialist know-how on topics such as ship recycling, coastal tourism, mangrove and coral reforestation, blue carbon, marine social sciences and modelling (provided it corresponds with ZMT's own interest)
    - Capacity for SBEP project scientists or technicians: individual consulting
    - Contact persons: **Raimund Belischwitz and Claudia Schüller**

RIs catalogue – Black Sea
by Irina Stanciu (GEOECOMAR, Romania)

Irina Stanciu

Researcher | GeoEcoMar

irina.stanciu@geoecomar.ro



Access to EMSO Romania

Buoys

EuxRoOB01: 44.70755 N, 30.775761 E
EuxRoOB02: 44.327056 N, 30.425175 E
EuxRoOB03: 43.977361 N, 29.936417 E

EMSO-EUXINUS

Overview

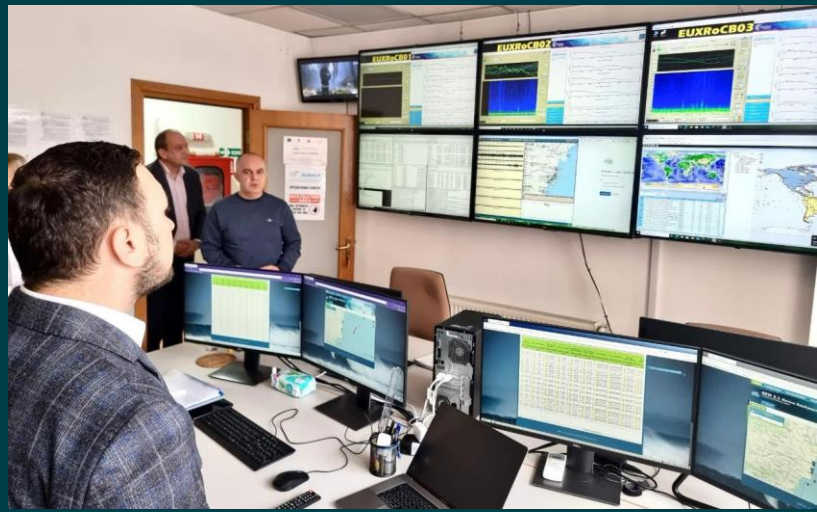
- Location: Western Black Sea, Romania
- Owned & operated by: GeoEcoMar
- Operational starting: 2013
- Upgraded 2024
- Distance from land: 105-140 km
- Water depth: 75-90 m
- Monitoring – supplying real-time data
- Main contact: Vlad Radulescu, vladr@geoecomar.ro

Measured parameters

- Meteorological:
  - Air Pressure - 1-hour average[mbar]
  - Air Temperature - 1-hour average[°C]
  - Dew Point - 1-hour average[°C]
  - Relative Air Humidity - 1-hour average[%]
  - Wind Average Direction - 1-hour average[°N]
  - Wind Gust Direction - 1-hour average[°N]
  - Wind Average Speed - 1-hour average[m/s]
  - Wind Gust Speed - 1-hour average[m/s]
- Oceanographic:
  - Chlorophyll-a - 1-hour average[µg/l]
  - O2d Concentration - 1-hour average[µmol/L]
  - O2d Saturation - 1-hour average[%]
  - Turbidity - 1-hour average[NTU]
  - Water conductivity - 1-hour average[mS/cm]
  - Water salinity - 1-hour average[PSU]
  - Current XY speed - 1-hour average[m/s
  - Current XY direction - 1-hour average[°N]
  - Current Z speed - 1-hour average[m/s]
  - Water temp. - 1-hour average[°C]
  - Water level - 1-hour average[m]

Access provided

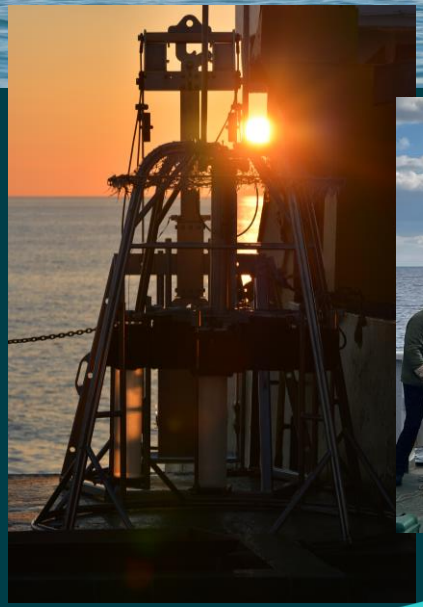
- Data access: EUXINUS is operated by GeoEcoMar staff - the presence of the user team is not required.
- Physical (in person/hands-on): at GeoEcoMar branch in Constanta, Romania – hosting (a limited number of) interested professionals and scientists – know-how sharing & possibilities to work together on Black Sea research.
- Main contact: Vlad Rădulescu, vladr@geoecomar.ro



Access to *Mare Nigrum* Oceanographic Multidisciplinary Research Vessel

Overview

- Home Port: Constanta, Romania
- Operates in the Black Sea
- Owned & operated by: GeoEcoMar
- Length: 82.20 m
- Breadth: 13.60 m
- Height: 9.55 m
- Operational draught: 5.00 m
- Gross tonnage: 2495 T
- Working deck area: 1400 sqm
- Various laboratories: 200 sqm
- Maximum number of scientists onboard: 20



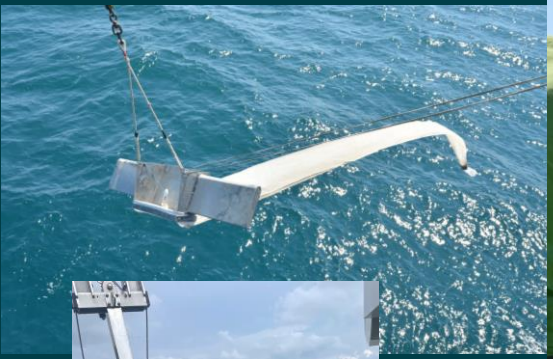
Services (I)

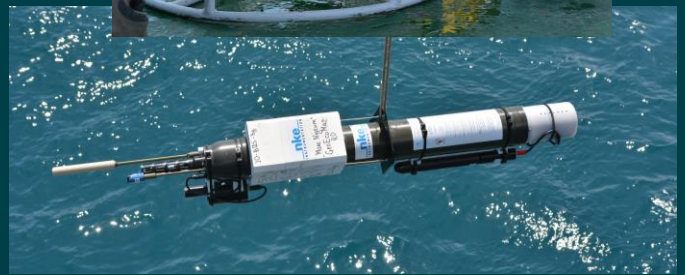
- Geological surveys (geological – sedimentological mapping, grain size, mineralogy, macro- and micro paleontological analyses; structural and tectonic framework; mineral resources - sapropel, mineral aggregates; conventional and non-conventional energetic resources - e.g. gas-hydrates; recent geological processes investigation - e.g. submarine landslides, channel and canyons evolution)
- Geophysical surveys (mono- and multibeam bathymetry; seismo-acoustics and side scan; ADP and DGPS; marine magnetometry; 2 D marine seismics)
- Geo-ecological and biological surveys (phytoplankton; zooplankton; zoobenthos)

Services (II)

- Oceanographic surveys (physical, chemical and bio-chemical measurements on the water column)
- Sampling activities: water (CTD Rosette); suspended and bottom sediments (superficial, from the water / sediment interface and as sediment cores); biological samples (phyto- and zooplankton, zoobenthos)
- Direct observations (ROV, diving)
- Greenhouse gases monitoring (CH4, CO2, N2O, and DMS) at the seawater-atmosphere interface
- Buoy handling operations

Access provided





- Physical (in person/hands-on): on board – hosting a limited number of interested professionals and scientists – only back-to-back with GeoEcoMar research cruises – know-how sharing & possibilities to work together on Black Sea research.
- Main contacts: Ştefan Florescu, stefan.florescu@geoecomar.ro; Mihaela Melinte, melinte@geoecomar.ro

RIs catalogue – Atlantic Ocean
by Aodhan Fitzgerald (MI, Ireland)

Aodhan Fitzgerald

Research Vessel Manager & AQUARIUS Project Coordinator | Marine Institute

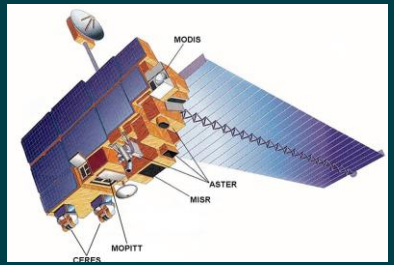
Atlantic Basin Research Infrastructures

Satellite Recieveing station and HPC/Data centre

Access to : AIR CENTRE: Satellite Direct Receiving Station and Hgh Performing Computing Environment

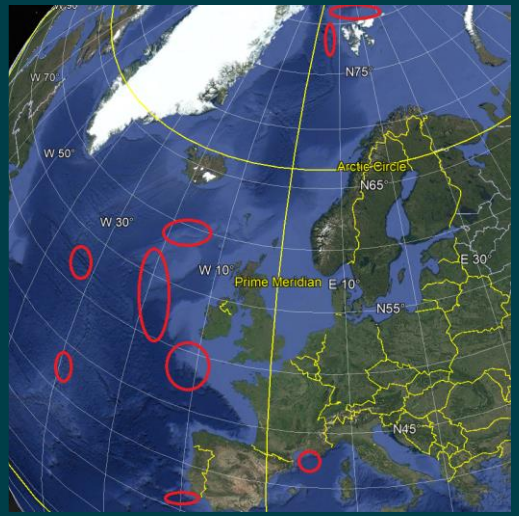
60 Days access to : NEREIDE Data Center:

Services for development of tools for data analysis and elaboration



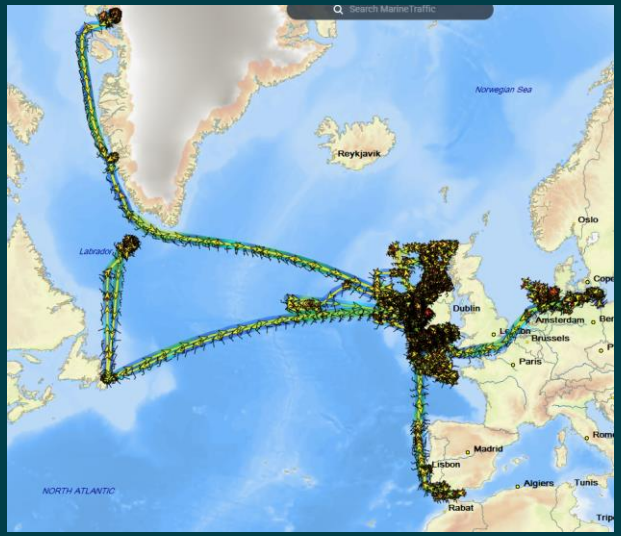
Research vessels

- RV Celtic Explorer /ROV Holland
- RV Tom Crean (Total c. 45 days access between all 3)
- RV Walther Herwig III : 2 places on 54 day Saragasso sea expediton! (20



ROV Holland

Tom Crean



Celtic Explorer

Laboratories

- CRIMAC EXOCOSMS - Controlled systems for experiments with marine organisms (vertebrates and invertebrates) 20 days access
- MoTax - Taxonomy of Marine Organisms (Qualitative and quantitative analysis of phytoplankton samples (main TAXAs) 40 days access
- CSAM - Center for Sequencing & Molecular Analysis (NGS Experiment) 40 days access

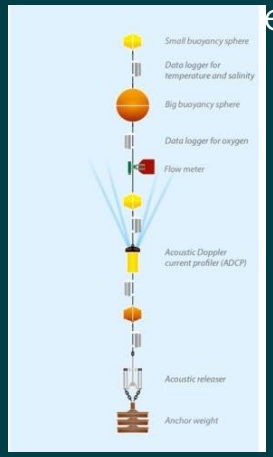
Laboratories

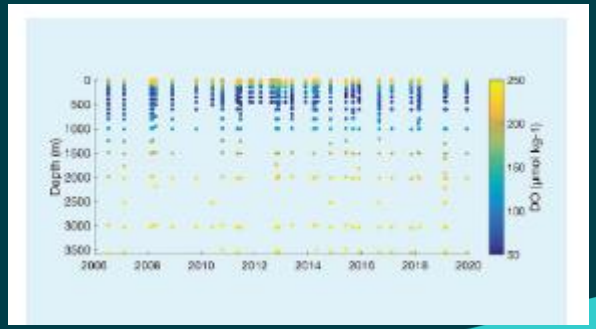
- CSAM - Center for Sequencing & Molecular Analysis (NGS Experiment) 40 days access
- Lab of Fluid Geochemistry and Lab of radionuclides 40 days access
- Lab of Paleomagnetism 15 days access
- Lab of environmental monitoring 40 days access
- Leibnitz-Center for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) (4 labs / 5 days access per call

ZMT LEIBNIZ CENTRE for Tropical Marine Research

Fixed Platforms

- Access to 14 long term moored infrastructures in the Atlantic (11°S observatory, 53° observatory, 23°W observatory, Cape Verde) for 1.5 to 2 year long eriments





Presentation of the Research Infrastructures' (RIs)

Atlantic

- DE: GEOMAR
- DE: Thuenen-Institute for Sea Fisheries (TI)
- *DE: Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT)*
- *IR: Marine Institute (MI)*
- *IT: Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV)*
- *IT: Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn (SZN)*
- *GR: Hellenic Centre For Marine Research (HCMR)*

Atlantic

- GEOMAR
  - Fixed Platforms, Auxiliary Devices, Experimental Stations (GEOMAR Long Term Stations)
    - https://www.geomar.de/en/discover/ships-and-technology/moorings
    - Access to 14 long term moored infrastructures in the Atlantic for 1.5 to 2 year long experiments
    - Capacity for max. 6 SBEP project scientists or technicians
    - Contact persons: **Johannes Karstensen and Anja Wenzel**

Atlantic

- GEOMAR
  - Fixed Platforms, Auxiliary Devices, Experimental Stations (Ocean Science Mindelo – OSCM, Cape Verde)
    - https://oscm.cv/
    - Onshore lab, workshop, office and event facilities, offshore equipment (e.g., 300m-rated Mini ROV, sensors, nets, etc.), access to seawater/shore, testing of equipment and water/net sampling in coastal waters
    - Capacity for 15 SBEP project scientists or technicians
    - Contact persons: **Björn Fiedler and Anja Wenzel**

Atlantic

- Thuenen-Institute for Sea Fisheries (TI)
  - Research Vessel:
    - **FRV Walther Herwig III:** https://www.thuenen.de/en/thuenen-institute/compound-structures/research-vessels/walther-herwig-iii
    - 1 monitoring survey in the Sargasso Sea in 3-year interval (next: 2026); 54 days (including transit), marine biology (fish, plankton, eDNA etc.)
    - Cruise capacity for 2-3 SBEP project scientists or technicians
    - Contact persons: **Reinhold Hanel and Klaus Wysujack**

RIs catalogue - Mediterranean Sea
by Lorenza Evangelista (CNR, Italy)

RI types (#29)

1- Research vessels (#9)
2 - Fixed platforms (#11)
3 - Mobile platforms (#5)
4 - Analytical labs and Test benches (#3)
5 – HPC and digital resourses (#1)

Research Vessels

Research Vessels

RV LAURA BASSI (OGS) - (days)
Geophysical and/or Oceanographic data acquisition

RV GAIA BLU (CNR) - (days)
Oceanography, Marine Geophysics and Geology

R/Vs AEGAEO, PHILIA, POSEIDON (HCMR) - (days)
Physical, Chemical, Biological, Geological research, Engineering and testing

R/V DOHRN (SZN) - (days)
Oceanography, Marine Geophysics

NINFE class Hydrographic Vessels (IIM) – (days)

Fixed platforms

Acqua Alta Fixed Platform (CNR)	Oceanography and climate change
Western Mediterranean research facility (W1M3A) (CNR)	Physical oceanography
Coastal Radar Network (CNR)	Coastal Oceanography
CoCM - Moorings in the Corsica channel (CNR)	Oceanography and climate change
SiCO - Moorings in the Strait of Sicily (CNR)	Oceanography and climate change
POSEIDON, Fixed Platforms - PYLOS, E1-M3A, HCB (HCMR)	Physical, chemical, biological oceanography, pollution, hydroacoustics
EMSO Western Ionian Sea (INGV)	Physical oceanography, geosciences, marine ecology
DAS sensors, 2 km fiber optic cable, seismic and thermal data (OGS)	C02/H2 storage, environmental montoring
PEGASO - Multidisciplinary shallow water seabed observatory in hydrothermal site (INGV)	Seafloor fluid emission related with endogeneous Earth processes and interaction with sea-water mass
Environmental Monitoring & Analysis (MAA) (SZN)	
Weather station with multiparameter probes and acoustic modems (SZN)	

Mobile platform

POSEIDON, FerryBox system (HCMR) - (12 months, 2-4 users)

Physical, chemical, biological oceanography, pollution, test bed for new sensors and equipment

POSEIDON, mobile platforms (HCMR) – gliders - (4-12 months, 2 users)

Physical, chemical, biological oceanography, hydroacoustics, test bed for new sensors

Glider fleet (SOCIB) -

Physical, chemical, biological oceanography, hydroacoustics, test bed for new sensors

Drones fleet (3 LiDAR, 2 IMU, 2 Hyperspectral, 2 multispectral, 4 Thermal, 6 CMOS Cameras, 2 gas, 1 Magnetometer) (OGS)

Ultra high resolution inshore and coastal mapping, environmnetal monitoring, coastal infrastructures and sustainable energy resoures

Seneca Aircraft (LiDAR, IMU, Camera, Hyperspectral & Thermal, Gas Analyzer, Strapdown Gravity, Magnetometer) (OGS)

Inshore and coastal mapping, environmental monitoring (e.g. erosion and subsidence), coastal infrast
suistainable energy

Analytical labs and Test benches

Mesocosm Facility (CNR)

Panarea NatLab (Biogeochemical Lab, ROV and acoustic data acquisition) (OGS)

Test instruments for monitoring **CO2 emission** on potential CO2 geological storage site, impacts of potential CO2 leakage from submarine CO2 storage sites on marine ecosystem

CRIMAC Mesocosms Laboratory, Marine Organism Taxonomy (MOTax), Sequencing and Molecular Analysis Center (SMAC) (SZN)

HPC and digital resourses

NEREIDE Data Center (INGV)

Presentation of the Research Infrastructures' (RIs)

All Sea Basins

- *IT: Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV)*
- *IT: Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn (SZN)*
- *GR: Hellenic Centre For Marine Research (HCMR)*

Q&A Session

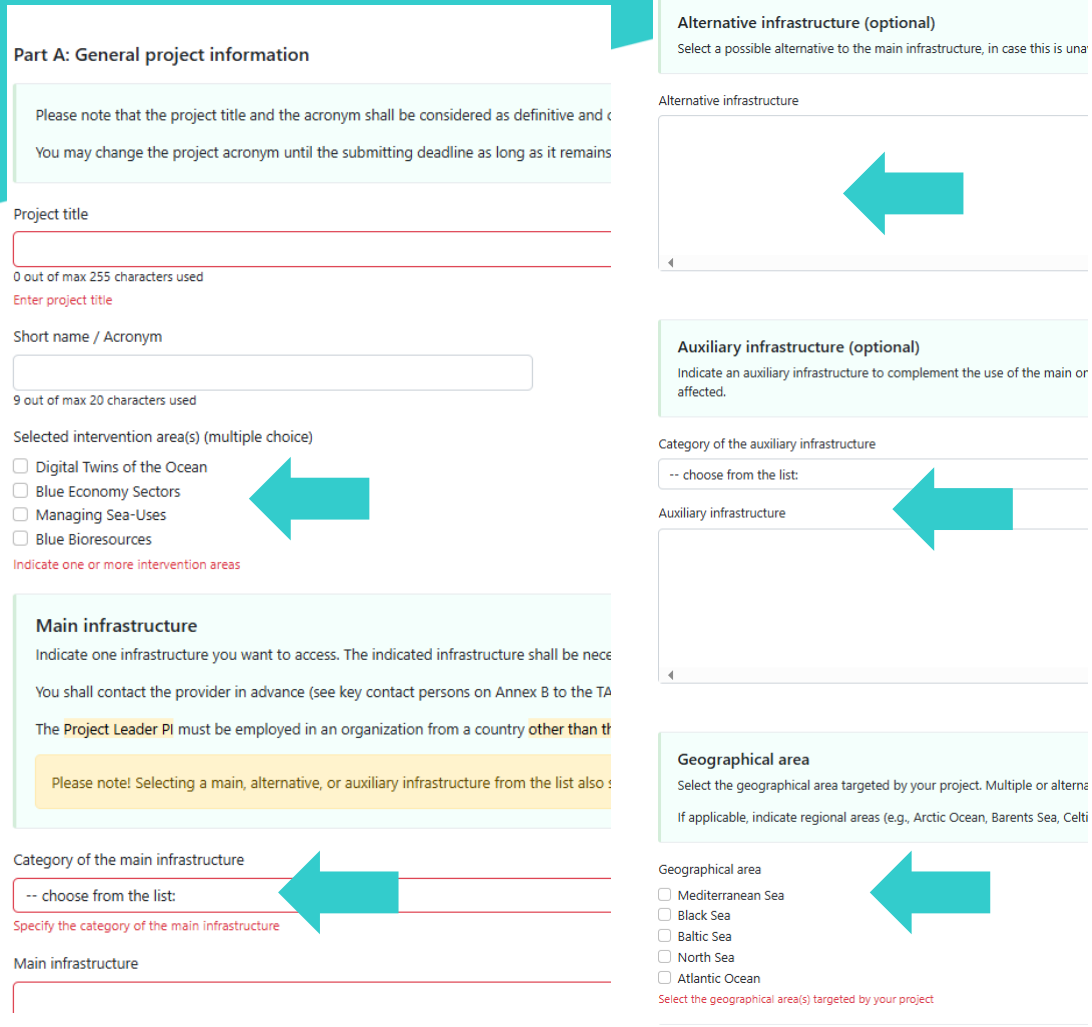
Presentation of the submission platform by Katrin Saar (ETaG, Estonia)

Katrin Saar

Senior Adviser | Submission platform | Estonian Research Council

Submission platform EPSS

1. **General information**
   - edit proposal titel, acronym, start date, keyword
2. **Project Description**
   - **upload a PDF file** with the description of the project
3. **List of project partners**
   - Add, edit, remove parterners
   - Partner 1 – Project Leader
     - Partner´s details
     - **Upload declaration of budget availablility**
     - CV of PI
     - **Preview** part of the proposal
4. **Exclusion of potentials reviewers** (optional)
5. **Complience with EU requirements**
   - ethics self-assessment, do no significant harm principle, use of personal data, compliance with EU taxonomy
6. **Consensus by RI providers**
   - declare consensus by RI providers
   - **upload letter of intent** by Research vessel provider
7. **Preview the entire proposal and final declarations**
   - view your proposal and **submit**



General Information

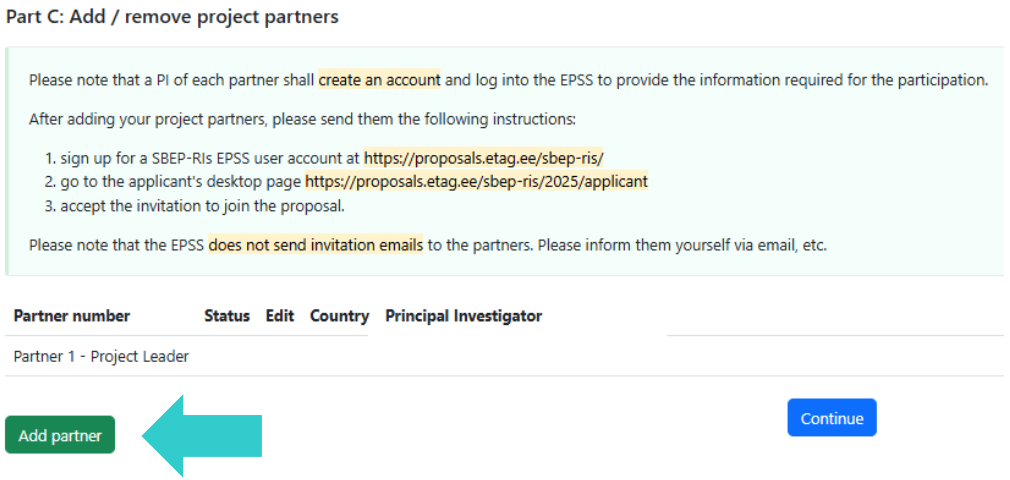
- Nearly all fields are required to be filled in
- **Incomplete proposal cannot be submitted!**

Project description

- A **template** for Project Description (Part B)
- **Upload as PDF** - only by the Project Leader
- Don´t exceed **12 pages!**
  - excess pages will be automatically made invisible → will not be taken into consideration by the evaluators
- **Links and hyperlinks are not allowed!**
- Formatting conditions in the system + description of mandatory sections

Adding partners

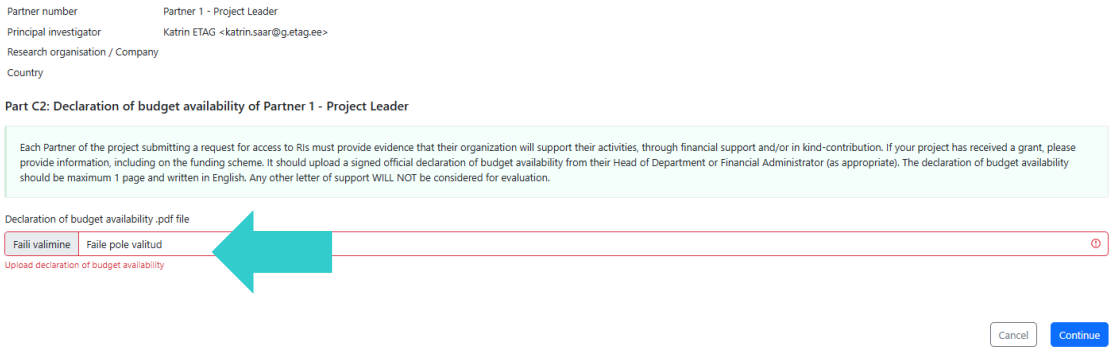
- Partner PI creates accont
- Project Leader adds partner
- Partner PI accepts application on EPSS
- **No invitation email sent by EPSS!**



- Each partner should **fill out** their own **details on system –**
  - **don´t leave empty fields!**
- Teammember cannot access the application – info provided by PI
- Only PL can/must add CV

Declaration of Budget availability

- Partner requesting access to RI → must submit evidence organization supports activities
  - e.g financial/in kind-contribution
- If grant → provide info on the funding scheme



- **Upload** signed official **declaration** of budget availability
- **Max 1 page**, in English
- **Letters of Support not accepted!**

Important details!

- Proposal can be submitted multiple times
- Only by Project Leader
- Deadline **2025-04-29 15:00 CEST**
- Not possible to edit / submit the proposal after deadline
- All fields in the proposal forms must be filled in
- **Incomplete proposal cannot be submitted**
- Don´t leave to last minute – the system might be overloaded

Final Q&A and conclusions

Final recommendation and recap of useful links/contacts

- Do not wait until the last day for submitting!
- Website: https://bluepartnership.eu/
- Platform: https://proposals.etag.ee/sbep-ris/2025
- TA Call Management Working Group: sbepcallresearchinfra@mur.gov.it
- Platform help desk: epss.sbep@g.etag.ee

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

Thank you for your attention and start applying!

sbepcallresearchinfra@mur.gov.it

Co-funded by the European Union

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP