

Get ready for the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership's third joint transnational call

**Call launch (Provisional): 15 September 2025, 15:00 CEST
(Brussels Time)**

Pre-proposal submission deadline (Provisional): 17 November 2025, 15:00 CEST (Brussels Time)

Full proposal submission deadline (Provisional): 17 June 2026, 15:00 CEST (Brussels Time)

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership, a **European partnership under the European Commission's Research & Innovation Framework Programme Horizon Europe**, is pleased to pre-announce its **third Joint Transnational Call**. This third call is co-branded by the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development as a means of stimulating new initiatives in co-designed and co-delivered knowledge and solutions for a sustainable ocean economy as part of the Ocean Decade Action Framework.

The Partnership, composed by 30 countries, pledges to leverage sustainable solutions to boost the green and digital transitions of economic activities related to the ocean, seas and coasts. It aims to strengthen European Union (EU) Blue Economy through national, regional, and EU R&I priorities alignment.

The vision of the Partnership is to:

- *Design, steer and support a just and inclusive transition to a regenerative, resilient, and sustainable blue economy.*
- *Boost the transformation needed towards a climate-neutral, sustainable, productive, and competitive blue economy by 2030*
- *Create, enhance and sustain ocean health and the social, environmental and economic well-being of the people by 2050.*

This third co-funded call aims to support transnational research and innovation projects (for a period of 36 months) addressing one of the five priority areas below (subject to funded priority areas by participating funding organisations, see Annex):

- ***Priority area 1:** Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) at sub-basin scale*
- ***Priority area 2:** Transitioning the blue economy sectors, and the development of the coexistence and the marine multi-use infrastructures*
- ***Priority area 3:** Climate-Smart Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level*
- ***Priority area 4:** Blue Bioresources: sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, and new bio-based products*
- ***Priority area 5:** Resilient Coastal Communities and Businesses*

Each of these priority areas contributes directly to one or more of the Ocean Decade Challenges, supporting actionable knowledge generation, policy uptake, capacity development, and inclusive innovation in the blue economy context.

Projects in this co-funded call must be impact-driven contributions to the transformation into a blue economy for a more resilient future and towards carbon neutrality targets, following an impact pathway approach.

The proposals are strongly recommended to consider **a minimum of two European sea-basins** which are: the Baltic Sea, the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, and to assess the project proposal impact on various basins. Proposals can target European regional seas such as Adriatic Sea, Aegean Sea, Arctic, Barents Sea, Celtic Sea, etc.

The third co-funded call of this EU Partnership pools national and regional financial resources through the participation of 38 participating funding organisations from 28 countries combined with the contribution from the European Union. 20 Member-States, 5 Associated Countries and 1 Third Country are participating: Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, Slovakia. The **total estimated budget is: 44,321,429€**.

To be eligible, each consortium must be composed of **eligible partners from at least three different countries** participating in the call and requesting financial support from at least three different funding organisations participating in the call. In addition to the abovementioned condition, the projects must involve at least two independent legal entities from two different EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries¹ eligible to EU funding for this call for proposal. Self-funded partners, including partners from countries (and/or regions) not participating in this co-funded call, are allowed but do not contribute to the minimum eligible consortium size.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to involve stakeholders (i.e., small, and medium enterprises (SMEs), industries, authorities, public administrations, associations, as well as civil society organisations) as partners or self-funded partners (according to national/regional regulations) in their proposal. Stakeholder engagement in the research projects will enhance innovation, policy, and societal relevance and ultimately the impact of the projects.

Looking for a partner or a project to join?

Use the SBEP Partner Search Tool available [here](#)

¹ as recipients of the financial support, at the time of the closing of the call by 17/11/2025 and 17/06/2026

This co-funded call is planned to be officially launched on **15 September 2025** (15:00 CEST). Applicants will have up to **17 November 2025** (15:00 CEST) to submit their pre-proposals (provisional date). A first evaluation of pre-proposals will be organised and the deadline to submit full proposals is foreseen for June 2026.

For more information: We invite you to regularly consult [our website](#) and social media channels to be kept updated on this major research funding opportunity.

Contact: sbep.call-secretariat@uefiscdi.ro

Please note that the information provided here is provisional. Changes may occur in the official call announcement.

Annex: List of Participating Funding Organisations – Budget and funded priority areas (provisional)

ANNEX: LIST OF PARTICIPATING FUNDING ORGANISATIONS (PFOS) – PROVISIONAL BUDGET AND FUNDED PRIORITY AREAS (PAS: SEE FURTHER BELOW) - TO BE CONFIRMED (TBC)

Country	PFOS Acronym	Funded Priority areas					Indicative budget in Euros
		PA1	PA2	PA3	PA4	PA4	
Belgium	BELSPO	x	x	x	-	-	500 000 (TBC)
Belgium	FIO/VLAIO	x	x	x	x	x	1 000 000
Belgium	F.R.S. - FNRS	x	x	x	x	x	300 000
Belgium	FWO	x	x	x	x	x	700 000
Brazil*	CONFAP	x	x	x	x	x	100 000
Bulgaria	MES	x	x	x	x	x	250 000
Denmark	IFD	x	x	x	x	x	2 000 000
Estonia	ETAG	-	-	-	x	x	300 000
Estonia	REM	-	-	-	x	x	100 000
Faroe Islands	RCFI	x	x	x	x	x	135 000
Finland	MMM	-	-	-	x	-	500 000
Finland	AKA	x	x	x	x	x	850 000
France	ANR	x	x	x	x	x	2 000 000
Georgia	SRNSFG	x	x	x	x	-	10 000
Greece	GSRI	x	x	x	x	x	1 000 000
Germany	BMBF/ PtJ	x	x	x	-	x	1 500 000
Ireland	MI	x	x	x	x	x	900 000
Ireland	Research Ireland	x	-	x	x	x	800 000
Italy	MUR	x	x	x	x	x	3 000 000
Italy	RER	x	x	x	x	x	300 000
Latvia	LZP	x	x	x	x	x	600 000
Lithuania	LMT	x	x	x	x	x	300 000
Malta	XJENZA Malta	x	x	x	x	x	500 000
Montenegro	MESI	x	x	x	x	x	200 000
Norway	RCN	-	-	x	x*	x*	2 750 000
Poland	NCBR	x	x	-	x	x	1 000 000
Portugal	FCT	x	x	x	x	x	500 000
Portugal	CCDR-CENTRO	x	x	x	x	x	400 000
Romania	ANC	x	x	x	x	x	1 000 000
Spain	AEI	x	x	x	x	x	1 200 000
Spain	CDTI	x	x	x	x	x	400 000
Sweden	FORMAS	-	x	x	-	x	1 700 000
Sweden	SNSA	x	-	-	-	-	1 000 000
The Netherlands	LNV, Min I&W, NWO	x	x	x	x	x	1 250 000
Tunisia	MHESR	x	x	x	x	x	500 000
Türkiye	TÜBİTAK	x	x	x	x	x	400 000
Ukraine	MESU	-	x	x	-	x	400 000
Slovakia	SCSTI	x	x	x	x	x	800 000

*The Brazilian State Funding Agencies supporting the call is detailed in the Annex B (funding regulations) of the Call Announcement

x* Not all subthematics are funded

List of Priority areas:

- *Priority area 1 (PA1): Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) at sub-basin scale*
- *Priority area 2 (PA2) : Transitioning the blue economy sectors, and the development of the coexistence and the marine multi-use infrastructures*
- *Priority area 3 (PA3): Climate-Smart Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level*
- *Priority area 4 (PA4): Blue Bioresources; sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, and new bio-based product*
- *Priority area 5 (PA5): Resilient Coastal Communities and Businesses*