

## Get ready for the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership's Thematic Portfolio Call for interest

**Call launch (Provisional): 31 July 2025, 15:00 CEST (Brussels Time)**

*Project submission of interest deadline (provisional): 30 October 2025, 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 first Thematic Portfolio Call for Interest**. This call aims to connect on-going projects to create and boost networking activities for a 2-year period, from early 2026 to early 2028. Two active networking portfolios will be established composed of projects granted by the Partnership and/or granted by a range of national/regional/EU funding streams on these 2 different topics:

- *Innovations and digitalisation for low-impact sustainable small-scale fisheries management in EU sea-basins*
- *Innovations for boosting sustainability in marine algae cultivations and circularity in the blue bioeconomy*

The Thematic portfolios of projects will be connected, produce their own action plan and will define their own roadmap of activities. With the support of the Partnership, the portfolios are expected to increase transnational synergies at EU scale, boost quadruple helix multi-stakeholders' collaboration, and respond to the challenges and opportunities identified within each topic. By reaching a critical mass of projects focusing on similar thematics, this action will contribute to leveraging the projects' impact at the European level by e.g. providing efficient scientific support for strategic and political decision making, whilst also addressing research gaps and avoiding duplication.

Some of the benefits to participate in the Thematic Portfolios are listed above:

- *Increased visibility at the international level*
- *Networking with quadruple-helix stakeholders*
- *Career boost, especially for early career scientists*
- *Identification of new opportunities for cooperation*
- *Identification of potential beneficiaries of the project outputs*
- *Co-design market-uptake plans*
- *Meetings with EU Commission experts*

- Participation in Partnership events (e.g. biannual symposium)

### Get ready to submit your interest!

To participate:

- Projects must fall in the thematic scope of the portfolios.
- Projects must be active and ongoing during the Thematic Portfolio Activities timeframe and must be recipient of a regional/national/EU grant.
- Projects must address at least one geographical area among: Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea, Baltic Sea, North Sea, Atlantic Ocean. If applicable, projects may target regional areas (e.g. Arctic Ocean, Barents Sea, Celtic Sea, Adriatic Sea, Aegean Seas, etc.) or their scope must be proved to be relevant for one or more above mentioned geographical areas.
- Applicants must prove their commitment, availability and capacity to engage in the activities (as self-funded).
- Project Principal Investigators (or alternates) must be employed by an organisation belonging to one of the countries<sup>1</sup> of the Partnership and must a stakeholder from one of the four major sectors of the quadruple helix (industry, government, research institutes, and the public).

To apply:

- The Coordinators, or PI or alternate will be required to fill out a light online questionnaire detailing their projects interest to join. This questionnaire will be available on the SBEP website ([Homepage | Bluepartnership](#)) upon the official launch on **31 July 2025** (15:00 CEST).
- Applicants will have up to **30 October 2025** (15:00 CET) to submit their interest in the call (provisional date).
- A single step selection process will apply and selected projects will be announced in December 2025.

**For more information:** We invite you to regularly consult [our website](#) and social media channels to be kept updated on funding and networking opportunities.

**Contact – Portfolio Secretariat (ANR, France):** [sbep@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:sbep@agencerecherche.fr)

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

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<sup>1</sup> Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Tunisia, Turkey, The United Kingdom.