FORESIGHT WORKSHOP

From Policy to Practice: Updating the Strategic R&I Agenda

12 February, Radisson Blu Bucharest

This workshop will provide strategic direction for updating the Strategic Research Innovation Agenda (SRIA) of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) in key policy priorities and research domains. The goal is to collectively shape a future-oriented agenda that builds existing strengths while responding to emerging challenges and opportunities, ensuring the SRIA remains a robust framework for a sustainable, resilient, and competitive blue economy.

Time	Session
08:30-09:00	Arrival and Registration Welcome coffee and networking
09:00-09:20	**Welcoming remarks by the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership & Opening Keynote Speech**
09:20-09:50	**The role of the Partnership in addressing EU emerging challenges** This session will introduce key considerations for updating the SRIA in line with evolving EU policy priorities. It will highlight recent achievements and future goals in research and innovation, linking them to the broader ocean policy context. Participants will explore how the Partnership can support EU policy implementation under the Ocean Decade's global framework on ocean data sharing.
09:50-10:00	**Case study presentation**
10:00-10:50	**Panel discussion I – Enablers in fostering a fully smart and safe EU innovation ecosystem** This session will showcase success stories with a focus on sustainability, innovation, and competitiveness. It will highlight key enablers like FAIR data, digitalisation, and science-based decision-making to accelerate ocean observation and the uptake of Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTO). Participants will explore future challenges and opportunities for building a secure and impactful innovation ecosystem. *Moderated discussion with the audience – 15' mins*

	Coffee Break
11:20-12:20	Breakout Session 1 – Integrating emerging policy priorities in the SRIA
	• Room 1: Fostering great partnerships with businesses and financial actors • Room 1: Assessment of impacts: competitiveness, resilience and cooperation This session will focus on practical approaches to strengthen cross-sectoral and public-private cooperation for ocean observation. Participants will explore how businesses and financial actors can contribute data, what barriers limit their involvement, and what is needed to engage them effectively. The discussion will also address gaps in socio-economic and coastal resilience data, strategies for data collection and sharing, and how to align efforts with monitoring and investment planning.
12:20-12:40	Plenary session – Presenting and discussing the results of the breakout rooms
	Lunch Break and Networking
13:50-14:00	Inspirational talk
14:00-14:10	Case study presentation
14:10-15:00	Panel discussion II – Collaborative pathways to address EU policy priorities This session will explore how greater cross-sectoral and public-private cooperation could be promoted in achieving EU priorities across different sectors/areas (renewable energy, blue bioresources, resilient coastal communities, environmental restoration and security), and cross-cutting themes (data management, financing, regional cooperation and MSP). The panel is meant to serve as a concrete case study for the SRIA updates, with an explicit link to multiple Intervention Areas. Moderated discussion with the audience – 15' mins
15:00-16:00	Breakout Session 2 – Integrating emerging policy priorities in the SRIA
	• Room 1: Promoting multi-use infrastructure and cross-sectoral cooperation • Room 2: Scaling up public-private cooperation to support innovation This session will reflect on the policy areas discussed in the panel and explore practical pathways for implementation. Participants will examine how sectors, private and public actors can collaborate more effectively, how multi-use infrastructure can help resolve spatial conflicts, and how MSP can serve as a coordinating framework across EU policies and sectors.
	Coffee Break
16:30-16:50	Plenary session – presenting and discussing the results of the breakout room
16:50-17:10	Forward-looking pitch
17:10-17:30	Closing remarks