



Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership

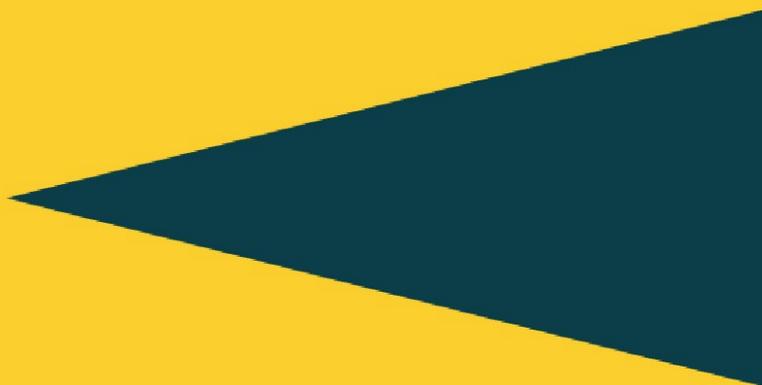
Meeting Minutes

Sustainable Blue Economy
Partnership
2026



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Colofon

Meeting Minutes - SBEP
Rolling Call for Transnational
Access to Research
Infrastructures: Information
Webinar, 27 February 2026

Flavia Cavaliere (MUR -
Ministero dell'Università e

MEETING MINUTES

SBEP Rolling Call for Transnational Access to Research Infrastructures
Information Webinar | 27 February 2026

Meeting Details

Date	27 February 2026
Format	Online Webinar
Time	11:00 – 12:15 CET (approx.)
Organised by	Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) – Horizon Europe GA 101086379
Host institution	MUR – Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca (Italy)
Registrants / Participants	43 registered / 37 participants
Contact	sbepcallresearchinfra@mur.gov.it

Speakers and Panellists

M. Cappelletto	MUR – Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca (Italy)
M. Gigli	European Commission (DG RTD / EC)
F. Cavaliere	MUR / TA Management Working Group
S. Pasquier	ANR – Agence Nationale de la Recherche (France)
K. Saar	ETAG – Estonian Research Council (Estonia)
L. Beranzoli	INGV – Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (Italy), Task 8.4 Leader
A. Affatati	OGS – Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale (Italy), MARVEL project

Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
11:00	Opening & Policy Framing	M. Cappelletto (MUR) · M. Gigli (EC)
11:05	The Rolling TA Call – Structure and Requirements	F. Cavaliere (MUR) · S. Pasquier (ANR)
11:25	Submission Platform (EPSS)	K. Saar (ETAG / Estonian Research Council)
11:35	RI Catalogue – Access to Marine Research Infrastructures	L. Beranzoli (INGV)
11:50	Beneficiary Testimonial (MARVEL project)	A. Affatati (OGS)

Summary of Proceedings

1. Opening and Policy Framing (11:00)

Speakers: M. Cappelletto (MUR) · M. Gigli (European Commission)

The webinar was opened by M. Cappelletto (MUR), who welcomed participants and contextualised the Rolling TA Call within the broader SBEP programme objectives. M. Gigli (European Commission, DG RTD) presented the EU policy framework for research infrastructures, with particular reference to the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) and its environmental domain landscape.

Key points raised by the European Commission:

- Research Infrastructures (RIs) are recognised as an essential instrument to support green and digital transformation across the European Research Area.
- The ESFRI Landscape 2024 provides an updated mapping of environmental RIs; the SBEP TA Call is positioned within this landscape as a mechanism enabling access to these assets.
- The European Strategy on Research and Technology Infrastructures identifies six key action areas: Capacities & Investment, Digitalisation, Accessibility, Talent, Governance, and International Dimension & Resilience.
- Under Horizon Europe, RI support is structured through INFRADEV, INFRASERV, INFRATECH, and INFRAEOSC funding lines, with a dedicated push to ensure compliance with FAIR data principles and EOSC integration.
- An integrated and sustainable access scheme for RIs (INFRASERV-type) is planned from 2025 onwards; access schemes for startups and scale-ups are expected from 2026.

The opening framing underlined that the SBEP TA mechanism directly contributes to EU ocean policy goals and the priorities of the Ocean Pact, notably: sustainable blue economy competitiveness, support for coastal and island communities, and advancement of ocean research and innovation.

2. Rolling TA Call: structure and requirements (11:05)

Speakers: F. Cavaliere (MUR) · S. Pasquier (ANR) | Annex B + E

F. Cavaliere (MUR) presented the structure, eligibility criteria, evaluation framework, and timeline of the Rolling TA Call. S. Pasquier (ANR) covered the impact-oriented requirements and the Theory of Change (ToC) methodology.

Results from the 1st TA Call (Pilot, 2025)

- 4 proposals received; 3 projects admitted across 2 intervention areas, with a maximum duration of 18 months.
- Admitted projects: MACAROCONNECT (Macaronesian archipelagos, RI: OSCM/GEOMAR), MARVEL (underwater soundscapes, RIs: SOUNDSHIP gliders + OSCM), MOOSE-GE2026 (deep-water formation in NW Mediterranean, RI: RV Gaia Blu / CNR Italy).
- Key lessons: high scientific quality; need for greater flexibility in timing; need for smoother RI provider coordination; demand for reduced administrative burden; broader RI catalogue including virtual access; alignment with SRIA objectives insufficient under the pilot thematic scope.

What Changed: from Pilot to Rolling Call

- Format: from a single annual call to a rolling call open 2026–2029 with 6 cut-off dates (every ~4 months).
- Thematic scope: from SRIA Intervention Areas to any of the 24 SBEP SRIA Objectives.
- RI Catalogue: expanded to include Physical, Remote, and Virtual access.
- Theory of Change (ToC) and Data Management Plan (DMP): no longer standalone documents – integrated directly into the proposal form.

- Eligibility: streamlined team composition; broader user base, including early-career researchers and teams from less RI-connected countries.

Scope and objectives

- Enable transnational access to marine RIs across Europe.
- Support excellent research through coordinated use of advanced RI facilities.
- Strengthen collaboration between researchers and RI providers across countries.
- Maximise the value of national and European RI investments.
- Contribute to the European Research Area and EU ocean policy goals.

Eligibility and transnationality requirements

- Applicants must be research teams from SBEP partner countries.
- Transnationality principle: the user team must access a Research Infrastructure located in a country different from their own. This is mandatory and ensures genuine cross-border added value.
- The RI provider must appear in the official SBEP RI Catalogue and must confirm technical feasibility before the cut-off date.
- At least one user team member and one RI provider from different countries are required.
- The Project Leader (Principal Investigator) submits and coordinates the proposal; Project Partners can be added during the drafting phase.
- A mandatory feasibility check with the RI provider must be completed and documented prior to submission.

Evaluation criteria

- Scientific Excellence: quality and innovation of research objectives; scientific merit of access activities; contribution to state of the art.
- Feasibility & Implementation: technical feasibility of the access plan; adequacy of team composition; realistic timeline; confirmed coordination with RI provider.
- Impact & Added Value: expected scientific, societal and policy impact; transnational added value; contribution to ERA and SBEP objectives; stakeholder relevance.

Scoring: 0–5 scale in 0.5 increments. Minimum threshold: 3/5 on each criterion. Evaluation by independent experts.

Rolling Call timeline and cut-off dates

Pre-announcement	11 February 2026
Launch	20 February 2026
1st cut-off	20 June 2026 – 11:00 CEST
2nd cut-off	February 2027
3rd cut-off	June 2027
4th cut-off	February 2028
5th cut-off	June 2028
6th cut-off	February 2029

Implementation framework

- Submit: Create EPSS account, draft proposal, confirm feasibility with RI provider, submit before cut-off.
- Evaluate: Independent expert evaluation; feasibility confirmed by RI; results communicated approximately 4 months after the cut-off.
- Implement: Sign User–Provider Agreement; access activities begin; light monitoring by WP4 with a single final report.
- Report: Brief technical summary; KPIs aligned with Theory of Change; communication outputs to WP5.

Project duration: up to 18 months. Reporting: single final report. Cost compensation: up to 30% of RI access costs.

Impact-oriented proposals (ANR)

S. Pasquier (ANR) emphasised that proposals should maximise impact beyond the academic world, engaging with industry, policy, civil society, and environmental actors. Specific guidance:

- Proposals must elaborate on co-design processes with stakeholders: industry partners, citizens, policy makers.
- Applicants must describe how RI use will support project results in delivering further scientific, environmental, policy, or societal impact.
- Proposals must assess the impact on targeted sea basin(s) and address potential scalability to other basins.
- The Theory of Change (ToC) methodology shall be used, providing a logical framework linking outputs, outcomes, and impact. This shall be included in Part B.2 of the proposal (IMPACT section, max 2 pages).

Reference resource for ToC: <https://impact.nwo.nl/en/working-with-an-impact-plan>. Support and contact: sbep@agencerecherche.fr

3. Submission Platform (EPSS) (11:25)

Speaker: K. Saar (Estonian Research Council – ETAG) | Annex C

K. Saar (ETAG) provided a step-by-step walkthrough of the EPSS (Electronic Proposal Submission System) platform used for the Rolling TA Call.

Key submission requirements

- All fields in the proposal form are required. An incomplete proposal cannot be submitted. In most steps, progress can be saved.
- Proposal sections: General Information (title, acronym, keywords, infrastructure, dates); Project Description (uploaded as PDF); List of Project Partners; Declaration of Availability; Exclusion of potential reviewers (optional); EU compliance (ethics self-assessment, do-no-significant-harm principle, personal data use, EU taxonomy); Consensus by RI providers; Preview and Submit.
- SRIA objective(s) must be selected from the list of 24 SBEP objectives.
- One main infrastructure is required; alternative/auxiliary infrastructures are optional. Contact with RI provider in advance is mandatory to verify feasibility.
- Geographical area: multiple or alternative sea basins allowed; indicate specific regional areas (e.g. Adriatic Sea, Aegean Sea, Barents Sea). Duration: maximum 18 months; for multiple accesses, a tentative duration for each must be indicated.
- Budget: cost estimate in euros, not thousands (e.g., 15000 correct; 15,000 with comma not accepted).
- Short abstract: 500–1500 characters including spaces, covering project goal, link to SRIA objective and main RI, access type, and expected results or impact.
- Keywords: minimum 1, maximum 5, separated by comma or new line.

Partner management

- The Project Leader (Partner 1) adds partners by first name, last name, and email; no invitation email is sent automatically by EPSS – the PI must inform partners directly.
- Project Partners must create their own account using the same email address added by the Project Leader, then accept the invitation on EPSS.
- Each partner must fill in their own details; empty fields are not permitted. Team members cannot access the application directly – information is provided by the PI. Only the PI can and must add the CV.

Declaration of budget and resources

- Each partner requesting access must submit evidence that their organisation supports the activities (e.g. financial or in-kind contribution).

- An official signed declaration of budget availability must be uploaded (maximum 1 page, in English). Letters of Support are not accepted.

Important technical notes

- The proposal can be submitted multiple times, but only by the Project Leader.
- First cut-off date: 20 June 2026 at 11:00 CEST. Editing or submission after the deadline is not possible.
- Applicants are strongly advised not to leave submission to the last minute as the system may be overloaded.

4. RI Catalogue – Access to marine research infrastructures (11:35)

Speaker: L. Beranzoli (INGV, Task 8.4 Leader) | Annex D

L. Beranzoli (INGV) presented the SBEP Research Infrastructures Catalogue, which is the authoritative reference for identifying eligible RI providers under the Rolling TA Call.

Key Points

- Research Infrastructures were not sufficiently prominent in the initial design of SBEP but have since been recognised as an essential component, on a par with other SRIA topics.
- SBEP beneficiaries managing their own RIs have actively responded to the call to open their assets, despite operating under resource-constrained conditions.
- The engagement of RIs in SBEP activities strengthens the Partnership's alignment with the Ocean Pact priorities, specifically: boosting sustainable competitiveness of the blue economy; supporting coastal, island communities, and outermost regions; and advancing ocean research, knowledge, skills, and innovation.
- The RI Catalogue is available on the SBEP website and includes details on access modalities (Physical, Remote, Virtual) and the specific facilities offered by each provider.
- Applicants are strongly advised to check with the selected RI provider on: access modalities (physical, remote, virtual); and the technical and logistical feasibility of the proposed research activities before submission.

RI Catalogue URL: <https://www.bluepartnership.eu/transnational-access-call-research-infrastructures>

5. Beneficiary testimonial (11:50)

Speaker: A. Affatati (OGS – MARVEL project)

A. Affatati (OGS) provided a testimonial from the MARVEL project, one of the three projects selected under the 1st TA Call (pilot, 2025). The MARVEL project focused on underwater soundscapes and fauna behaviour monitoring in island ecosystems, using hydrophone monitoring in the Vita Channel (Italy) and Cabo Verde, through physical and remote access to SOUNDSHIP gliders and the OSCM facility (GEOMAR). The testimonial illustrated the operational realities of transnational RI access and confirmed the scientific value delivered through the SBEP mechanism.

Action items and next steps

Applicants	Explore the RI Catalogue at https://www.bluepartnership.eu/transnational-access-call-research-infrastructures and identify suitable RIs.
Applicants	Contact RI providers to initiate feasibility discussions before submission.
Applicants	Register on the EPSS platform and begin drafting the proposal: https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue/1
Applicants	Submit before the 1st cut-off deadline: 20 June 2026, 11:00 CEST.
RI Providers	Confirm feasibility with prospective applicants and update availability on the RI Catalogue as needed.
SBEP Secretariat	Provide post-webinar support via sbepcallresearchinfra@mur.gov.it and sbep@agencerecherche.fr
All	Refer to Annex A (Theory of Change) and online resources for impact pathway design.

Annexes

The following presentations are attached to these Minutes as Annexes A–F.

Annex	Title	Presenter / Organisation
A	Research Infrastructures Policy in Support of EU Environmental Priorities	M. Gigli, European Commission (DG RTD)
B	Rolling TA Call: Structure and Requirements	F. Cavaliere, MUR / TA Management Working Group
C	Submission Platform (EPSS) – Practical Guide	K. Saar, Estonian Research Council (ETAG)
D	Rolling TA Call: Research Infrastructures Catalogue	L. Beranzoli, INGV / Task 8.4 Leader
E	Impact-Oriented R&I Proposals – Guidance Note	S. Pasquier, ANR

These Minutes were prepared by the SBEP TA Management Working Group. They reflect the content of presentations delivered during the webinar and are intended for information purposes. For any corrections or additions please contact: sbepcallresearchinfra@mur.gov.it

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) | Horizon Europe GA 101086379 | www.bluepartnership.eu

ANNEX A

Research Infrastructures Policy in Support of EU Environmental Priorities

M. Gigli – European Commission (DG RTD)

Research Infrastructures Policy in Support of EU Environmental Priorities

Enhancing Excellence and Addressing Global
Challenges

Policy developments

European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures

ESFRI



What is ESFRI?



An **informal body** composed by representatives of Member States, Associated Countries and the EC on issues related to research infrastructures.



A **platform** giving national authorities the opportunity to be informed of and to explore international and national initiatives of European significance.



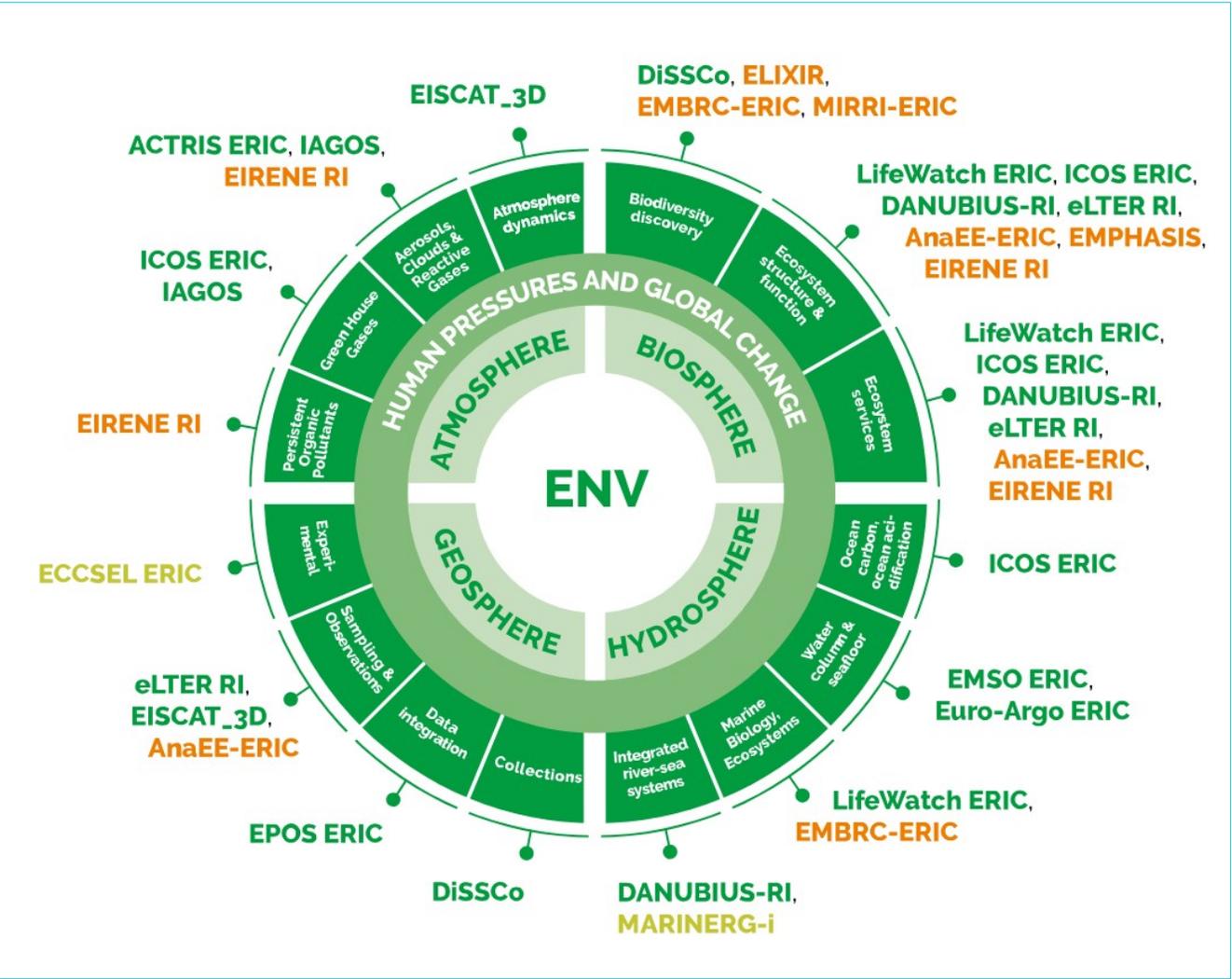
An **incubator** of new Research Infrastructures, where Member States structure their priorities.



A European **knowledge hub** on research infrastructures – setting standards for roadmap methodology, policy analysis and advice.



ESFRI landscape of Environmental Research Infrastructures - Landmarks and Projects-



Landscape of the Environment domain (ESFRI Landscape analysis 2024)

Choose
Europe



Policy developments European strategy on research and technology infrastructures

*Supporting excellence from fundamental
research to breakthrough innovation*

Why a European strategy now?



Other major powers are rapidly disengaging from R&I cooperation and devaluing science while **we want to Choose Europe**



Research and technology infrastructures are essential to **tackle global challenges**, while bolstering EU sovereignty in critical research data



To stay competitive, Europe needs to urgently **improve the channeling of breakthrough research into economic** impact



EU deep tech **startups and scaleups** rely on access to research and technology infrastructures for their R&D

Key actions

1. Capacities and Investment

- Build and sustain **critical new capacities** (2027)
- Increased **EU-level funding** opportunities (2026)
- A stable framework to ensure **cutting edge scientific instrumentation**(2025)

4. Talent

- Strategies for **attracting global talent** in line with *Choose Europe* (2026)
- **Train infrastructure staff** to address emerging needs (2026)

2. Digitalisation

- A stronger **EOSC Federation** (2025)
- **AI-ready research data, tools** and services, contributing to RAISE(2025)
- Ensure compliance with **FAIR principles** and connections to EOSC and data spaces.

5. Governance

- An **EU coordination framework for the RI and TI Ecosystem**(2026)
- A **governance mechanism** for **technology infrastructures** (2026)

3. Accessibility

- An **integrated and sustainable scheme** for accessing research infrastructures (2025)
- Access schemes for **startups and scaleups** to technology infrastructures (2026)

6. International Dimension & Resilience

- A stronger role of infrastructures in **science diplomacy** (2025)
- Support **research data sovereignty frameworks** for secure and efficient data sharing (2025)

Policy Implementation Horizon Europe



HORIZON EUROPE

EURATOM

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

Exclusive focus on defence research & development

Research actions

Development actions

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT*

Exclusive focus on civil applications



Pillar I
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Research Infrastructures



Pillar II
GLOBAL CHALLENGES &
EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL
COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre



Pillar III
INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation Council

European innovation ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation & Technology*

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

Fusion

Fission

Joint Research Center

Horizon Europe supports research infrastructures

- **INFRADEV:** **Developing, consolidating and optimising** European RIs **landscape**, maintaining global leadership.
- **INFRA SERV :** **RI services** to support health research, accelerate the green and digital transformation, and advance frontier knowledge.
- **INFRA TECH:** **Next generation of scientific instruments, tools** and methods and advanced digital solutions.
- **INFRA EOSC:** Enabling an operational, **open and FAIR EOSC** ecosystem.

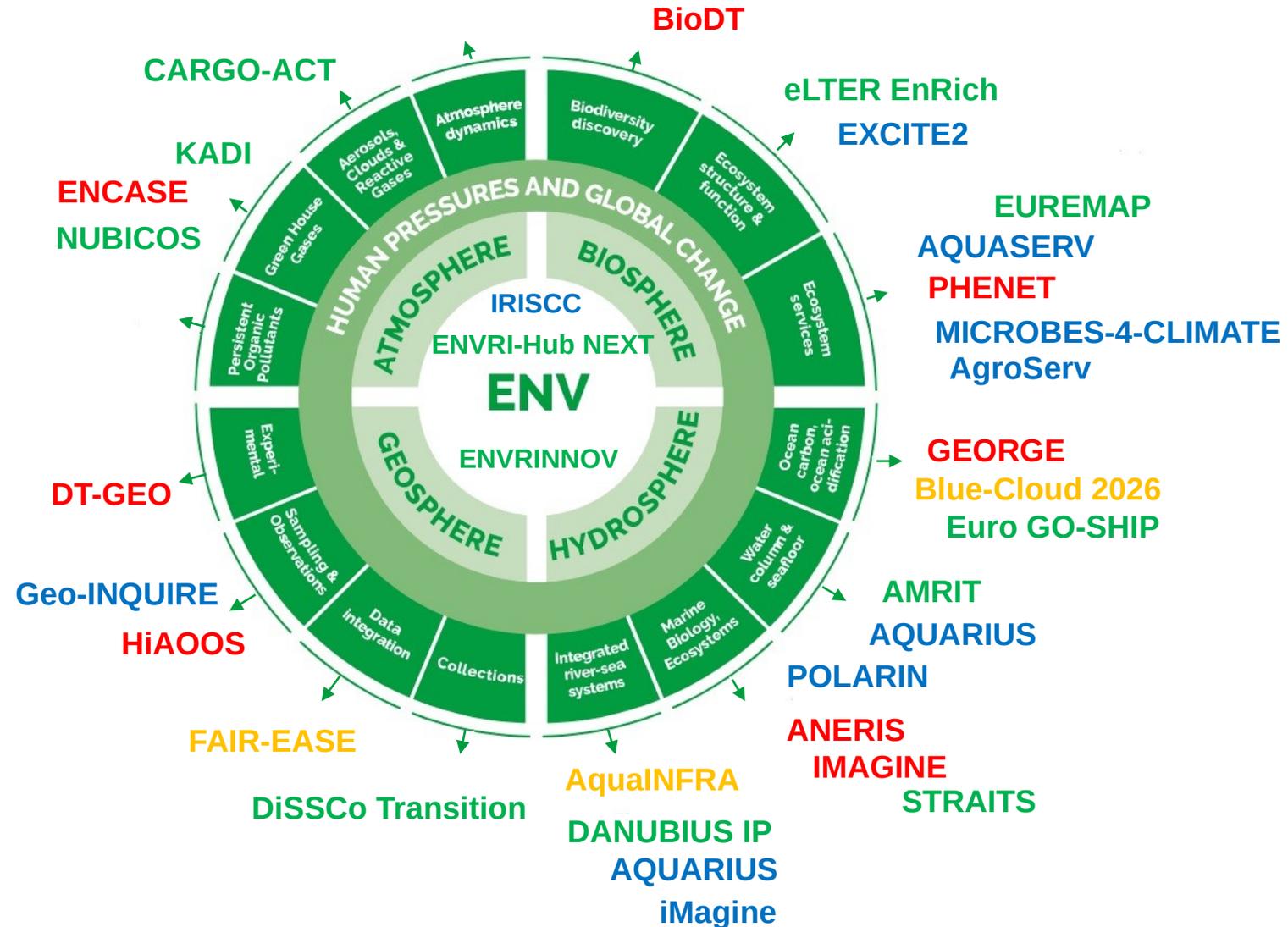
Support to the **life cycle** of ESFRIs/ERICs, policy-making, int'l coop, skills

Access (both challenge-driven 'areas' and curiosity-driven 'large domains')

Technology development including co-design with industry, digitalisation

European Open Science Cloud '**EOSC**'

HE 2021-2024 INFRA in support of the Environment domain



- INFRA SERV
- INFRA DEV
- INFRA TECH
- INFRA EOSC

Thank you



#ResearchInfrastructures

#EURsearchArea

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ANNEX B

Rolling TA Call: Structure and Requirements

F. Cavaliere – MUR / TA Management Working Group



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Rolling TA Call: Structure and Requirements

Flavia Cavaliere

MUR / TA Management Working Group

Information Webinar | SBEP Rolling Call for Transnational Access to Research Infrastructures | 27th February 2026





Sustainable Blue
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Overview



Results and lessons from the 1st TA Call (pilot)



What changed: from pilot to Rolling Call



Scope, objectives and thematic coverage



Eligibility and transnationality requirements



Evaluation criteria and scoring



Timeline and cut-off dates



Implementation framework



Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

1st TA Call: Pilot Results (2025)

4

proposals
received

3

projects
Admitted

2

intervention
areas

18

months
project duration



MACAROCONNECT

Ecological connectivity across Macaronesian archipelagos. Drifters, zooplankton sampling, biodiversity monitoring in Cabo Verde.



RI: OSCM - Ocean Science Centre Mindelo (GEOMAR)



MARVEL

Underwater soundscapes and fauna behaviour in island ecosystems. Hydrophone monitoring in Vita Channel (IT) and Cabo Verde.



RIs: SOUNDSHIP gliders + OSCM (GEOMAR)



MOOSE-GE2026

Deep-water formation, carbon fluxes, biodiversity in NW Mediterranean. Joint cruise with GEORGE InfraTech.



RI: RV Gaia Blu (CNR, Italy)

Key lessons

- ✓ High scientific quality of proposals
- ✓ Need for more flexibility in timing
- ✓ Smoother coordination with RI providers
- ✓ Reduced admin burden needed
- ✓ Broader RI catalogue (incl. Virtual)
- ✓ Open thematic scope (not SRIA-linked)



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What Changed: Pilot vs Rolling Call

Aspect	1st TA Call (Pilot)	Rolling Call (2026-2029)
Format	Single annual call	Rolling call open 2026-2029
Submission	One submission window	Continuous submission, cut-offs ~every 4 months
Thematic scope	Linked to SRIA Intervention Areas	Open to at list one of the 24 Objectives
RI Catalogue	Physical + Remote access	Physical + Remote + Virtual access
ToC / DMP	Standalone documents required	Integrated into proposal form
Eligibility	Stricter team composition	Streamlined, broader user base



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Scope and Objectives

Call Objectives

- ✓ Enable transnational access to marine Research Infrastructures across Europe
- ✓ Support excellent research through coordinated use of advanced RI facilities
- ✓ Strengthen collaboration between researchers and RI providers across countries
- ✓ Maximise the value of national and European RI investments
- ✓ Contribute to the European Research Area and EU ocean policy goals

Access Modalities

- ➔ **Physical access** On-site use of RI facilities (vessels, stations, labs)
- ➔ **Remote access** Remote operation of RI instruments and equipment
- ➔ **Virtual access** Access to RI data services and computing resources



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Eligibility and Transnationality



Who can apply?

- ✓ Research teams from SBEP partner countries
- ✓ At least one user and one RI provider from different countries (transnationality principle)
- ✓ Project Leader (PI) submits and coordinates the proposal
- ✓ Project Partners can be assigned during drafting
- ✓ Simplified team composition compared to 1st call
- ✓ Broader range of users: early-career researchers, teams from less RI-connected countries encouraged



Transnationality principle

The user must access a Research Infrastructure located in a country different from their own.

This ensures genuine transnational collaboration and maximises the added value of the SBEP TA mechanism.

The RI provider must be in the SBEP RI Catalogue and must confirm feasibility before the cut-off date.

Feasibility check with RI provider is mandatory before submission



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Evaluation Criteria



Scientific Excellence

Quality and innovation of the research objectives; scientific merit of the proposed access activities; contribution to the state of the art.



Feasibility & Implementation

Technical feasibility of the access plan; adequacy of the team; realistic timeline; coordination with RI provider confirmed.



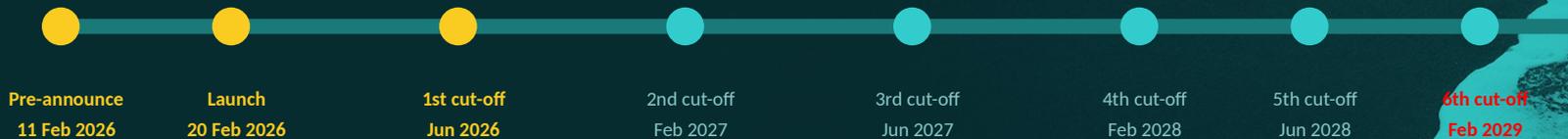
Impact & Added Value

Expected scientific, societal and policy impact; transnational added value; contribution to ERA and SBEP objectives; stakeholder relevance.



Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

Timeline and Cut-off Dates



Rolling cycle overview

Cycle	Cut-off	Evaluation	Access period
1	Jun 2026	Oct 2026	Nov 2026 – Apr 2028
2	Feb 2027	Aug 2027	Sep 2027 – Feb 2029
3	Jun 2027	Oct 2027	Nov 2027 – Apr 2029
4	Feb 2028	Aug 2028	Sep 2028 – Dec 2029
5	Jun 2028	Oct 2028	Nov 2028 – Dec 2029
6	Feb 2029	Aug 2029	Sep 2029 – October 2029



Implementation Framework

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

1

Submit

Create EPSS account, draft proposal, confirm feasibility with RI provider, submit before cut-off



2

Evaluate

Independent expert evaluation. Feasibility confirmed by RI. Results communicated ~4 months after cut-off



3

Implement

Sign User-Provider Agreement. Access activities begin. Light monitoring by WP4 (single final report)



4

Report

Brief technical summary. KPIs aligned with Theory of Change. Communication outputs to WP5

Project duration: up to 18 months | **Reporting:** single final report | **Cost compensation:** up to 30% of RI access costs



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Next Steps and Contacts



Explore the RI Catalogue and identify potential infrastructures



Contact RI providers for feasibility discussion



Register on the EPSS platform and start drafting



Submit before the first cut-off: 20 June 2026



TA Call support: sbecallresearchinfra@mur.gov.it

ANNEX C

Submission Platform (EPSS) – Practical Guide

K. Saar – Estonian Research Council (ETAG)



Submission platform EPSS

Katrin Saar | Senior Adviser |
Estonian Research Council



Submission platform EPSS

- ▶ Nearly all fields in the proposal forms are required to be filled in
- ▶ **Incomplete proposal cannot be submitted!**
- ▶ **In most steps you can save and/or continue**

Create a new project proposal

Project leader: **Katrin Saar**

Please note that a project proposal **should only be created by the Project leader**. If you are a Principal Investigator of any other participant in the proposal please kindly wait until the Project leader has invited you to join the proposal.

Choose a **short name / acronym** for your project:

- max 20 characters long, no special characters please;
- you can change the acronym later, until the proposal submitting deadline;

Proposal acronym

0 out of max 20 characters used



Please note that everybody is welcome to try out the proposal forms, but only the Project leader is expected to create a project proposal that would get submitted to the SBEP TA Management Working Group. If you are just trying out the forms, please check the box below. You can change your answer later, until the proposal submitting deadline. This information is very helpful for the TA WMG. Thank you!

Is this a test proposal?

Yes, I am only trying out the proposal forms



Cancel

Create new project proposal



- Part A: General information
- Part B: Project description

- Part C: List of project partners - add / edit / remove project partners

- Project partners:

- **Partner 1** - Katrin Saar
 - Part C1: Partner's details
 - Parts C2, C4: Upload declaration of budget availability, declare availability of resources
 - Part C3: Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the Principal Investigator of Partner 1
 - Preview this part of the proposal

- Part D1: Exclusion of potential reviewers (optional) - indicate experts who, you think, should not be asked to ev
- Parts D2, D3, D4: Compliance with EU requirements - ethics self-assessment, do no significant harm principle, u
- Part D5: Consensus by the RI providers - declare consensus by RI providers
- TODO: Preview the entire proposal - view the working copy of your proposal **and submit it to the TA Manage**



1. General information

- edit: title, acronym, keywords, infrastructure(s), start/end date

2. Project Description

- **upload a PDF file** → project description

List of project partners

- add, edit, remove partners
- partner 1 – Project Leader
 - partner's details & CV
 - Declaration of Availability (budget + resources)
 - preview the proposal

4. Exclusion of potential reviewers (optional)

5. Compliance 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

7. Preview & submit

SRIA objective(s)

Part A: General project information

Please note that the project title and the acronym shall be considered as definitive and cannot be changed after the submission deadline.

You may change the project acronym until the submitting deadline as long as it remains unique. If a conflict with another proposal is detected, the change in the acronym is not saved.

Project title

0 out of max 255 characters used

Enter project title

Short name / Acronym

test1

5 out of max 20 characters used

Save changes

Selected SRIA's objective(s)

Indicate one or more of the following options:

Pillar 1 - A blue economy in harmony with nature:

- 1. Enhancing the scientific basis for the sustainable use of living and non-living marine resources.
- 2. Fostering collaboration with the private sector and industry to understand their capacity, needs, and trade-offs for increased pressures from use and multiuse of the ocean and seas in the face of a changing climate and associated extreme events, e.g. in relation to port developments, dredging, and maritime security.
- 3. Introducing innovative technological and circular developments, which follow the 'Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair' principle (e.g. in R&I of materials).
- 4. Nature-based Solutions (NBS) for sustainable use and protection of marine ecosystems against eutrophication, harmful algal blooms (HAB), non-indigenous species, hazardous substances, litter, introduction of anthropogenic energy (underwater noise, light), overfishing, and physical damage to benthic and pelagic habitats, thereby restoring biodiversity.
- 5. Improving the monitoring of the health of our ocean and seas in concordance with the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD); Good Environmental Status criteria, GES) requirements of the assessment and predictable frameworks for the industry. Better understanding of (cumulative) impacts of (blue) economic activities from shallow areas to the deep sea in all European seas to improve effectiveness of measures.
- 6. Contributing to understanding and quantifying the ecosystem responses to climate change and direct and indirect anthropogenic pressures on the European sea basins at relevant spatial and temporal scales and in line with the specific requirements of the MSFD assessment framework, e.g. further development of existing and new indicators and related reference and threshold values forming baselines for activities at sea.
- 7. Delivering FAIR data (including socioeconomic and socioecological) and science-based recommendations for coherent ecosystem-based management, including Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) and multi-use of marine spaces.
- 8. Contributing to the development of tools to support maritime spatial planning (MSP), such as sensitivity mapping or modelling of cumulative impacts.
- 9. Promoting standardisation in innovation and procurement processes to scale up the application of new solutions at higher Technology Readiness Levels (TRL).
- 10. Enhancing and optimising the cost-benefit ratio of ocean and seas' modelling and observation capacities, including fostering the development of sensors, sensor networks and marine robotics, as well as by means of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning tools. This will include advancing digital twin technologies and supporting the European Digital Twin of the Ocean (EDITO) initiative.
- 11. Contributing concretely to alignment of national efforts to strengthen activities along the ocean observation value chain and data management and avoid duplication and fragmentation, including innovative governance concepts, e.g. demonstrating the value of ocean observation to society and removal of outdated regulations blocking transformation.

Indicate at least one objective from any of the pillars

Pillar 2 - Blue economy solutions towards climate neutrality:

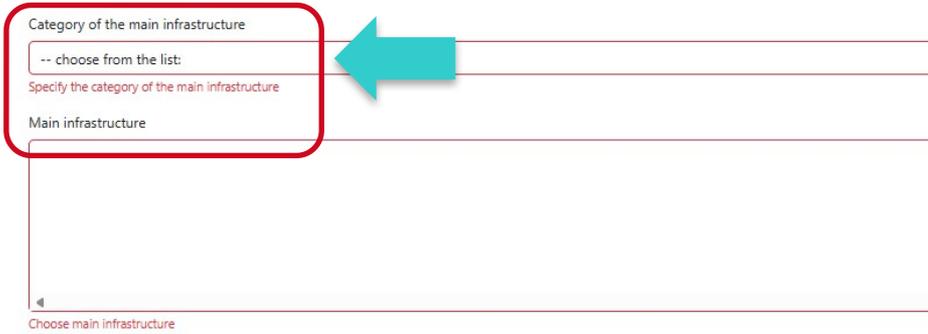
Category of the main infrastructure

-- choose from the list:

Specify the category of the main infrastructure

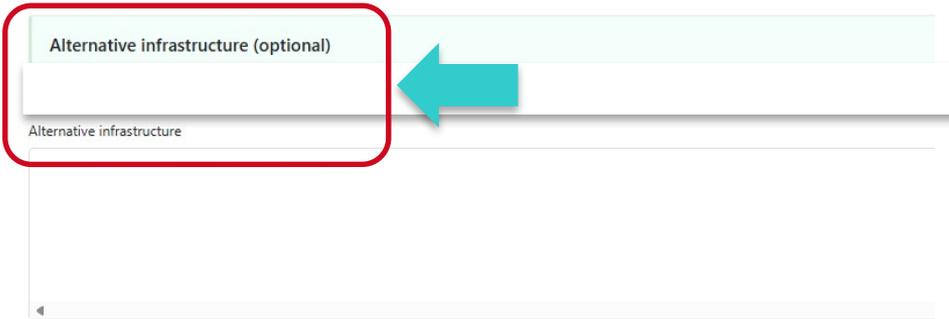
Main infrastructure

Choose main infrastructure



Alternative infrastructure (optional)

Alternative infrastructure

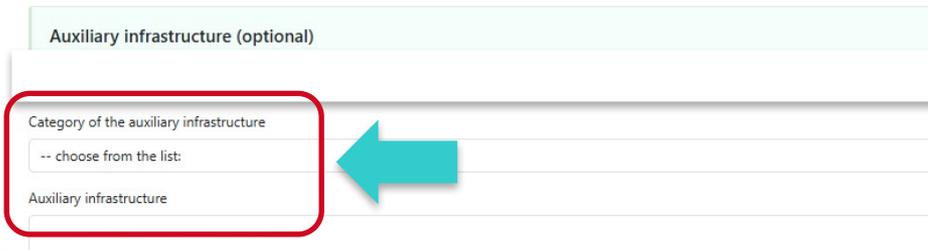


Auxiliary infrastructure (optional)

Category of the auxiliary infrastructure

-- choose from the list:

Auxiliary infrastructure



Main Infrastructure

- ▶ One main infrastructure
 - ▶ necessary to develop the R&I proposal
- ▶ *Optional:*
 - ▶ alternative/auxiliary infra
- ▶ Contact R&I provider in advance
 - ▶ verify the proposal's feasibility
 - ▶ see Annex A

Geographical area & duration

Geographical area

- Mediterranean Sea
- Black Sea
- Baltic Sea
- North Sea
- Atlantic Ocean

Select the geographical area(s) targeted by your project

Regional areas (if applicable)

The estimated duration of the proposal implementation in months should not be more than 18 months (up to 16 months for projects applying to the July 2028 cut-off).

Please indicate the preferred start date and end date of the project in YYYY-MM-DD format. The date must fall within the indicative access windows corresponding to the selected Rolling Call phase (s):

- Window 1: November 2026 - April 2028
- Window 2: March 2027 - August 2028
- Window 3: July 2027 - February 2029
- Window 4: November 2027 - April 2029
- Window 5: March 2028 August 2029
- Window 6: July 2028 - October 2029 (up to 16 months)

Indicative # of accesses. Please note that multiple accesses to the main infrastructure can be requested upon the RI provider availability.

Project start date

YYYY-MM-DD

Project end date

YYYY-MM-DD

Indicative # of accesses

1

Indicate the tentative duration of each access.

Enter the estimated duration of each access in months. Projects may last up to 18 months from their starting date (or up to 16 months for projects beginning in the final Rolling Call window, to be confirmed by the provider).

Please be available to accommodate the time of use of the selected RI(s) according to the provisions of the provider.

Expected duration (in # of days) of each access (in case of multiple accesses)

0 out of max 1500 characters used

▶ Select area

- ▶ multiple/alternative allowed

▶ Indicate regional areas

- ▶ if applicable
- ▶ Arctic Ocean, Barents Sea, Celtic Sea, Adriatic Sea, Aegean Seas etc

▶ One of the European Sea Basins

▶ Duration max 18 months

▶ Multiple accesses

- ▶ tentative duration for each

Project's total self-funded costs & short description

Project total self-funded costs in €

Enter the estimate of costs in €

Short abstract (500-1500 characters including spaces)

0 out of max 1500 characters used

Enter short abstract of the project

Keywords (min 1, max 5 keywords, separate keywords with a comma or with a new line)

0 out of max 5 keywords used

Enter project keywords

- ▶ Cost estimation in €
 - ▶ not in thousands of €
- ▶ Don't use „ , “
 - ▶ 15000 OK
 - ▶ 15,000 NOT
- ▶ Short abstract:
 - ▶ 500-1500 characters (incl. spaces)
 - ▶ project goal
 - ▶ link to SRIA objective(s), main RI(s)
 - ▶ access type
 - ▶ expected results or impact
- ▶ Keywords:
 - ▶ min 1, max 5
 - ▶ separate with a comma or new line



Adding partners

- ▶ **Project Leader (Partner 1):**
 - ▶ adds partner (first and last name, email)
 - informs partner
 - ▶ **no invitation email sent by EPSS!**
- ▶ **Project Partner:**
 - ▶ creates account (same email that was added by Partner 1)
 - ▶ accepts invitation on EPSS
- ▶ Each partner should **fill out** their own **details on the system** -
 - ▶ **don't leave empty fields!**
- ▶ Teammember cannot access the application - info provided by PI
- ▶ Only PI can/must add CV

Part C: Add / remove project partners

Please note that a PI of each partner shall **create an account** and log into the EPSS to provide the information required for the participation.
The email address that the Project Leader specifies below should match the email that the project partner uses while registering their EPSS account.

After adding your project partners, please send them the following instructions:

1. sign up for a SBEP EPSS user account at <https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue/>
2. go to the applicant's desktop page <https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue/1/applicant>
3. accept the invitation to join the proposal.

Please note that:

- the EPSS does not send invitation emails to the partners. Please inform them yourself via email, etc.
- the email of the PI (that you specify in the list below) has to match the email that the partner uses while signing up for an EPSS user account, or any of the "other emails" the partner has specified on their My profile page.

Partner number	Status	Edit	Country	Principal Investigator
Partner 1				

Add partner



Declaration of Budget and Resources availability

- ▶ Each Partner requesting access → submit evidence organization supports activities
 - ▶ e.g financial/in kind-contribution
- ▶ **Upload** signed official **declaration** of budget availability
- ▶ **Max 1 page**, in English
- ▶ **Letters of Support not accepted!**

Part C2: Declaration of budget availability

Each Partner of the project submitting a request for access to RIs must provide evidence that their organization will support including on the funding scheme. It should upload a signed official declaration of budget availability from their Head of English. Any other letter of support WILL NOT be considered for evaluation.

Declaration of budget availability .pdf file

Faili valimine | Faile pole valitud

Upload declaration of budget availability

Part C4: Declaration of resource availability

Declaration of resource availability

I hereby declare, on behalf of my organisation, that the necessary financial and/or in-kind resources are available to implement and commits to ensuring the timely allocation of these resources throughout the project implementation period.

Declare that you have the resources available





Important details!

- ▶ Proposal can be submitted multiple times → only by Project Leader
- ▶ **First cut-off date: 20 June 2026 - 11:00 CEST**
- ▶ Not possible to edit / submit after deadline
- ▶ All required fields must be filled in
- ▶ **Incomplete proposal cannot be submitted**
- ▶ Don't leave to last minute - the system might be overloaded

EPSS platform: <https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue/1>
Technical support: epss.sbep@g.etag.ee

ANNEX D

Rolling TA Call: Research Infrastructures Catalogue

L. Beranzoli – INGV / Task 8.4 Leader



Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership

Rolling TA Call: Research Infrastructures Catalogue

Laura Beranzoli

INGV/ Task 8.4 Leader

Information Webinar | SBEP Rolling Call for Transnational Access to Research Infrastructures | 27th February 2026





Research Infrastructures in SBEP

Although the Research Infrastructures (RIs) were not sufficiently spotted in SBEP initially, they have been soon acknowledged as an important and essential component, on pair with the other topics of the SRIA.



Research Infrastructures in SBEP

SBEP Beneficiaries managing own RIs have eagerly replied to the solicitation of opening their assets although under unfavourable conditions.



Research Infrastructures in SBEP

The engagement of the RIs of the SBEP activities boosts the position of the Partnership in the frame of the **Ocean Pact Priorities** clearly addressing some of its priorities:

- **boosting sustainable competitiveness of the blue economy,**
- **supporting coastal, island communities and outermost regions,**
- **advancing ocean research, knowledge, skills and innovation**



www.bluepartnership.eu



Sustainable Blue
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Home

▶ The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership represents an unprecedented effort of 74 Partner institutions from 32 countries and the European Commission to pool research and innovation investments and align national programmes at pan-European scale. As a Horizon Europe co-funded partnership, its strategy takes into consideration the R&I agendas of the sea basins (Mediterranean, Black Sea, Baltic



www.bluepartnership.eu

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership About Funding opportunities Access to RIs

Home > Transnational Access Call to Research Infrastructures

Transnational Access Call to Research Infrastructures

The call for access to Research Infrastructures applicants from across the European blue economy to submit proposals to use Research Infrastructures made available by Partnership p

The call supports the implementation of the Partnership Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) addressing key intervention areas, encouraging cooperation, and promoting Open Data and Open Science. It also aims to strengthen innovation, better align investments with EU priorities, and improve efficiency through the shared use of research infrastructure.

[Learn here about the projects selected in the p](#)

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership About Funding opportunities Access to RIs

Calls



Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Rolling Transnational Access Call to Research Infrastructures 2026-2028

Rolling access to shared Research Infrastructures at pan-European scale to reinforce capacities and support the transformation of the blue economy.

FIRST CUT-OFF DATE: 20 JUNE 2026 – 11:00 CEST



[Learn more](#) →

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

About Funding opportunities

Access to RIs

News & Events

Projects

Synergies & Resources

Additional activities

Contact

RI catalogue



9

ANALYTICAL LABS AND TEST BENCHES



15

FIXED PLATFORMS, AUXILIARY DEVICES AND EXPERIMENTAL STATIONS



1

HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING CENTRES



6

MOBILE PLATFORMS (AUVs, GLIDERS, AIRCRAFT)



2

PORTABLE EQUIPMENT



16

RESEARCH VESSELS



Looking for the RI/facility for you....



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◀ Explore RIs

Research infrastructure type

Sea basin

Country

www.bluepartnership.eu/transnational-access-call-research-infrastructures



Final Recommendations

Check with the RI Provider

- **the access modalities: Physical, Remote, Virtual**
- **the feasibility of the implementation of your proposal**

www.bluepartnership.eu/transnational-access-call-research-infrastructures



Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership

Look for the RI and the facility for you at
www.bluepartnership.eu/transnational-access-call-research-infrastructures

Thanks for your attention



Co-funded by
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EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP

ANNEX E

Impact-Oriented R&I Proposals – Guidance Note

S. Pasquier – ANR



Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership

Rolling Transnational Access Call Webinar

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

27 Februry 2026



Towards impact-oriented R&I proposals

- ▶ 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
- ▶ Support the engagement with industry to facilitate market uptake
- ▶ Policy uptake of results to bridge science-policy gap





Towards impact-oriented R&I proposals

Requirements regarding impact in the proposal:

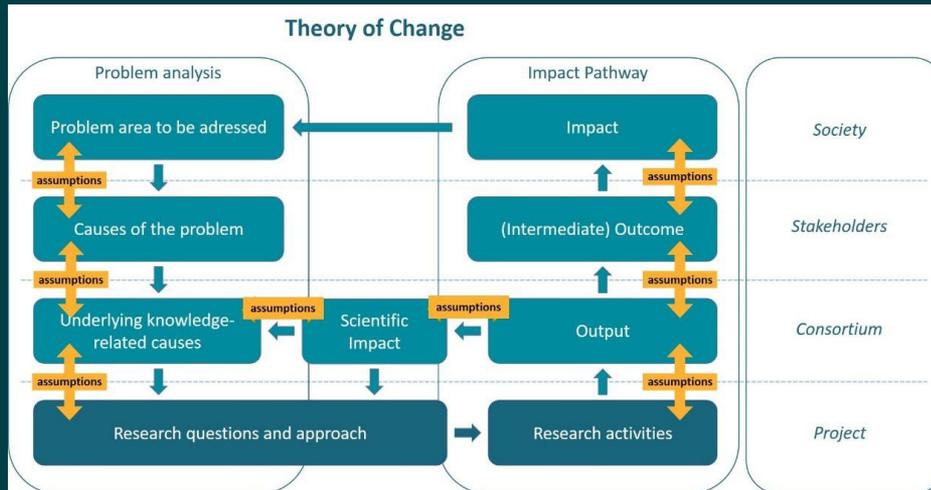
- ▶ Elaborate on the co-design processes and engagement with stakeholders: industry partners, citizens, and policy makers
- ▶ Describe your approach to ensure that the use of the RIs will support the project's results in delivering further impact at e.g. scientific, environmental, policy, societal level
- ▶ Assess the projects' impact on the sea-basin(s) targeted and address possible scalability in other basins.





Impact pathway approach

- ▶ **Use 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**





Support & guidance

Guidance:

- ▶ ANNEX A: Theory of Change
- ▶ Online resource for the design of and impact pathway: <https://impact.nwo.nl/en/working-with-an-impact-plan>
- ▶ Partnership support and contact points: sbep@agencerecherche.fr

The screenshot shows the 'Working with an Impact Plan' website. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with 11 items, each with a circular icon and a 'Go to work!' link. The items are: 1. Welcome and structure of the workshop; 2. Theory: Societal impact and the route to it; 3. Identifying and analysing the problem; 4. From problem to societal impact; 5. Theory: The Impact Pathway; 6. Outcomes; 7. Output; 8. Indicators for the Impact Pathway; 9. Reflection and further steps; 10. Examples of a Theory of Change. The main content area is titled 'General information' and contains three questions: 'Who is this workshop for?', 'What are the benefits of this workshop?', and 'How do you get the most out of the workshop?'. Below these questions is a paragraph of text and a 'Please note!' section. At the bottom, there is a 'START' button, a 'Welcome and structure of the workshop' card with a question mark icon and a clock, and a 'BANK' logo.



CONTACT

WWW.BLUEPARTNERSHIP.EU



**Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership**