

# Ocean, waters and blue economy in Horizon Europe – opportunities in 2026 and 2027



# Meeting etiquette

- A digital meeting – keep microphones muted
- During the presentation, ask your questions in the chat. We will bring them back up during the question section.
- The chat is only used for questions, not discussions, for respect of the speakers
- Use the "raise hand" function and consider turning on the camera when asking questions during the final section.
- The presentation will be shared after and can be found on the same calendar page as the registration.



# Today's agenda

---

- 10:30 Introduction to Horizon Europe
- 10:35 Interview with Mission-project FERRO
- 10:45 EU Mission Ocean & Waters
- 11:00 BlueActionBANOS Open Call
- 11:15 Relevant calls in Cluster 5 & 6
- 11:30 Questions and discussion



---

Horizon Europe is a  
**POLITICAL INSTRUMENT**  
where research and  
innovation are needed to  
achieve the defined priorities.



# Participation of non-EU-countries

- **Associated countries**

Participate under equivalent conditions as legal entities from the EU Member States, unless otherwise specified.

- **Third countries automatically eligible for funding** (if not subjected to EU restrictive measures)

Include many low- and middle-income countries

*A full list of associated countries and third countries eligible for funding is found [here](#)*

- **Other third countries**

Can usually participate in projects *at their own cost* (unless otherwise specified)

In exceptional cases they can be eligible for funding

**Petra Philipson**

PhD Remote Sensing, Vice MD

**Brockmann Geomatics Sweden AB**

FERRO Project

# **EU Mission on Restoring Our Ocean and Waters**

# EU Missions

Missions set a direction for aligning research and innovation with societal challenges.

Focus on systemic societal transformation, requiring inclusivity, co-design, scaling up, deployment and societal involvement. Critical to the success of are wide engagement across the EU and involving civil society and the private sector.

1



**Adaptation to  
Climate Change**

2



**Cancer**

3



**Restore our Ocean  
& Waters**

4



**Climate-Neutral and  
Smart Cities**

5



**A Soil Deal for  
Europe**



# Mission objectives and targets

## Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030

Objective 1  
Objective 2  
Objective 3

**PROTECT AND RESTORE MARINE AND FRESHWATERS ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY**

- Protect at least 30% and strictly protect 10% EU's sea areas
- Restore 25.000 km free flowing rivers
- Marine nature restoration targets (incl. degraded seabeds, coastal ecosystems)

**PREVENT AND ELIMINATE POLLUTION OF OUR OCEANS, SEAS AND WATERS**

- Reduce by at least 50% plastic litter
- Reduce by at least 30% microplastics
- Reduce by at least 50% nutrient losses, chemical pesticides

**MAKE THE BLUE ECONOMY CARBON- NEUTRAL AND CIRCULAR**

- Net zero maritime emissions
- Zero carbon aquaculture,
- Low carbon multipurpose use of marine space

### ENABLERS

**Digital Ocean and Waters Knowledge system**

**Public mobilization and engagement**



# EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN AND WATERS



## 2022- 2025 DEVELOP AND PILOTING SOLUTIONS

1st phase, research and innovation activities lay the foundations for implementing, paving the way to further citizens participation and engagement.

Each basin focusing on one objective. But transferring solutions by projects making [Calls for Proposals for Associated Regions](#)

Supported by 4 Coordinating [Lighthouses](#)

The Mission is [leveraging investments from other EU programs](#) so you can find Mission Aligned calls in among [others](#) the programs of ERDF, EMFAF, LIFE, EIB e.g. through BlueInvest and a second edition of Blue Champions, national and sub-national programs and philanthropy.

And the national joint programs as: [Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership SBEP](#), SE-Formas





# EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN AND WATERS



Coordinating Lighthouses will exist for all four basins .



All objectives  
ATLANTIC - ARCTIC



All objectives  
BALTIC & NORTH SEA



All objectives  
DANUBE-BLACK SEA



All objectives  
MEDITERRANEAN



## 2026 – 2029 DEPLOYMENT AND SCALING SOLUTIONS

Key focus to accelerate deployment of scaling of Mission aligned solutions of all kind this by:

- ✓ **Enabling policy and financing instruments**
- ✓ New **business, investment and funding models**, mixed/stacked private and public.
- ✓ Involvement of **pre- and innovative public procurement**
- ✓ **Empowering regional and local stakeholders** (Among other Community lead Actions like BlueActionBANOS)
- ✓ Develop and make **assets** for R&I available
- ✓ **Cross Missions** approaches

Focusing on Mission solutions or other solutions detected on the 1st phase. You find some of the at [www.Wavelinks.eu](http://www.Wavelinks.eu) and the [Mission Solutions Library](#). What is then a solution: technology, models, methodology, approaches, governance or knowledge as exploitable results.

# Work Programme 2026: Mission Ocean & Waters

Call	Topic	# of projects	Total budget
2026-03-OCEAN-01	Large-scale demonstration for mapping the distribution and condition of marine habitats to implement the Nature Restoration Regulation	4 (IA)	€31 million
2026-03-OCEAN-02	Addressing aquatic pollution and biodiversity loss through nature positive solutions from source to sea	4 (IA)	€31 million
2026-03-OCEAN-03	By fishers, for fishers: co-management of marine and freshwaters ecosystems and resources	4 (IA)	€31 million
2026-03-OCEAN-04	Towards a European network of ocean technology testing sites	1 (CSA)	€2.9 million
2026-03-OCEAN-05	Regional (sea-basins) components of the EU Digital Twin Ocean	4 (IA)	€19.4 million

Opening on Feb 7th and closing on September 23th 2026. [Official drafts available here.](#)

# Work Programme 2027: Mission Ocean & Waters

Call	Topic	# of projects	Total budget
2027-03-OCEAN-01	Increasing riparian and coastal areas resilience to climate change, including in waterfront cities and islands	4 (IA)	€35.7 million
2027-03-OCEAN-02	Circularity of seafood supply chain	4 (IA)	€30.9 million
2027-03-OCEAN-03	Green, circular and resilient harbours	2 (IA)	€11.9 million
2027-03-OCEAN-04	Towards community-driven business models: coastal and freshwaters sustainable tourism	4 (IA)	€6 million
2027-03-OCEAN-05	Large-scale demonstration of protection, restoration and management of blue forest ecosystems in European sea basins	4 (IA)	€15.9 million

Opening on Feb 9th and closing on September 21st 2027. [Official drafts available here.](#)

# Other activities in the mission

- Cascade funding: [Associated Regions](#) (€100,000 to demonstrate a solution)
- [Mission Ocean Days 2026](#) (2-6 March in Brussels)
- Sign the [Mission Charter](#) (800+ actions listed)
- One "Lighthouse" per basin to support the mission
- [EU Missions Infodays](#), 20-21 January

# Mission Ocean and Waters service portal

## Find financing

Find a variety of financial programmes and instruments to finance projects and actions related to ocean conservation and blue economy.

[Home](#)[Mission Charter](#)[Mission Solutions](#)[Mission funding](#)[Collaboration space](#)[Advisory services](#)[EU Blue Parks](#)[Mission Lighthouses](#)[News & Events](#)[About](#)

Here you also find most of the calls connected to Ocean and inland waters

## Mission Ocean and Waters service portal

One-stop-shop for stakeholders involved and interested in the Mission Ocean implementation.

### Mission Ocean projects

These Horizon Europe Mission Ocean-funded projects are part of the drivers to fulfil the Mission goals across all Lighthouses. Discover who they are and the work they do.

### EU Mission: Restore our Oceans and Waters

Discover what this Mission is, how it works, how it was chosen, and more.

[Visit page >](#)

## Join the Mission

We provide different opportunities for actors and citizens to support and implement ideas related to ocean and water ecosystem restoration, the prevention and elimination of pollution, and making the sustainable blue economy circular and carbon-neutral.



### Endorse the Mission Charter

We are calling on Member States, regions and a wide range of stakeholders to endorse the Mission Charter and pledge actions that will contribute to the successful implementation of Mission Ocean and Waters and its Lighthouses.



### Join our Forum

Mission Ocean and Waters will present its progress at a Forum hosted annually in Brussels, allowing online exchanges and networking among the Mission Forum community. Find out more about the event here.



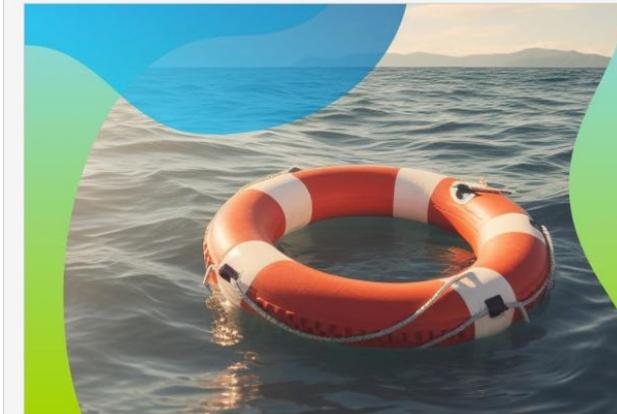
### Join the EU Blue Parks Community

Join the EU Blue Parks Community, a collaborative platform for policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders to work together on marine conservation and achieve the goals of the 2030 EU Biodiversity Strategy.



### Search for innovative solutions

Find shared knowledge and expertise, fostering collaboration and innovation.



### Seek assistance in tailoring your research

Request support in customising your research and connect with solution owners. You can also submit your demand through our helpdesk webform.

# BLUE ACTION BANOS

EMPOWERING  
SUSTAINABLE TRANSITIONS  
FOR BALTIC & NORTH SEA  
BLUE COMMUNITIES

Open Calls: Community Led Actions and Transition  
Agendas



Funded by  
the European Union

# BlueActionBANOS & Mission Ocean

Four-year project part of the EU Mission *Restore Our Ocean and Waters*.  
To **restore, protect, and preserve** the health of our ocean, seas, and inland waters by 2030.

Protect and restore marine and freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity.

Prevent and eliminate pollution of our oceans, seas, and waters.

Make the sustainable blue economy carbon-neutral and circular.



**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

# BlueActionBANOS: Vision

Provides **targeted financial assistance**, **technical guidance**, and **strategic knowledge-sharing** to support the scale-up and deployment of Mission Ocean solutions within the **Baltic and North Sea Lighthouse Area**.

Community-Led  
Actions



Transition  
Agendas



Technical Assistance &  
Knowledge-Sharing

**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**



# Open Calls: CLAs and TAs

## Community-Led Actions

- **Innovative actions** involving local (public and/or private) actors **that form inclusive partnerships** to collaboratively design & implement concrete actions aimed at restoring the oceans, seas, and waters.
- Should be **area-based and leverage local knowledge, resources, and expertise** to address specific environmental challenges.

## Transition Agendas

- **Strategic roadmaps** towards reaching the objectives and targets of Mission Ocean.
- Should include a **multi-year plan outlining expected outcomes, results, impacts, strategies, and financing** to support these objectives.



**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

# Open Calls: Criteria & Funding

## Community-Led Actions

Consortia delivering large, impactful projects with the potential for tangible, local change in pollution reduction, ecosystem restoration, or sustainable blue economy solutions.



€200,000 to  
€2 Million

## Transition Agendas

Individual entities or small consortia developing detailed action plans that guide local sustainability, restoration of marine or freshwater ecosystems, decarbonization, and climate adaptation pathways.



Up to €100,000

# Open Call: Timeline



# Two Step Application Process

**Project Idea Form  
& Individual  
Consultation**

Submit your PIF  
early and get an  
early consultation!



**Full Proposal**



**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

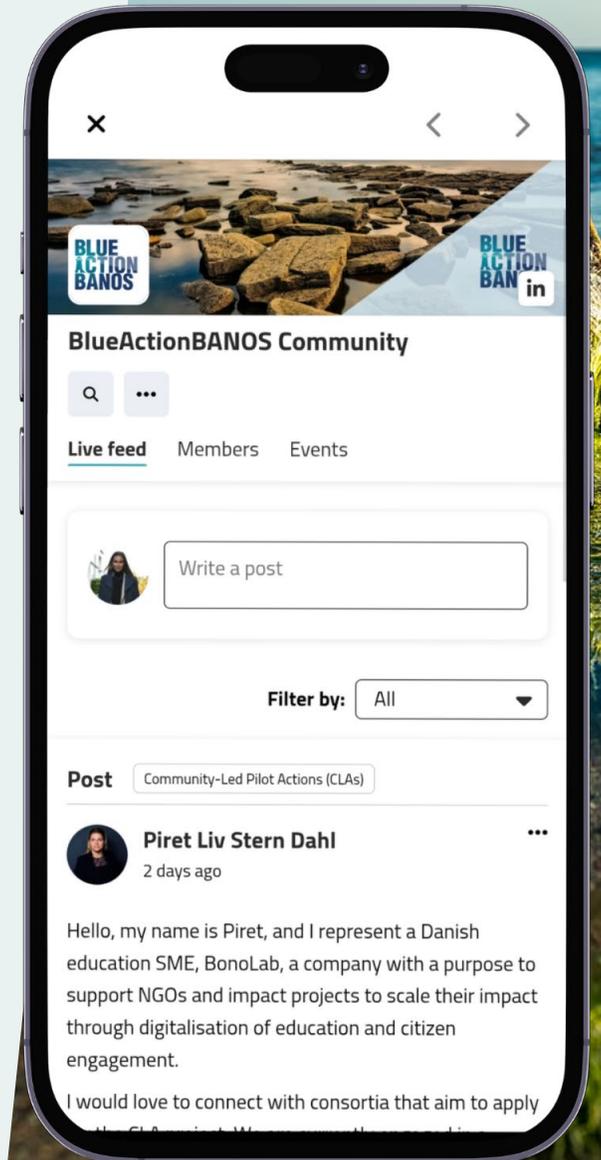


<https://qrco.de/beWskQ>

Register on BlueBioMatch to  
join the BAB Community!

## Join our BlueActionBANOS Community on BlueBioMatch!

Find relevant contacts, explore partnerships, and share updates related to our Calls for CLAs and TAs!



**SAVE THE  
DATE:**

**Inspirational Webinar**

*Tuesday, 16 December, 10:00–11:30 CET*

**National Webinar (svenska)**

*Onsdagen 14:e januari 2026 kl. 8.30-9.30 CET*

# Ready to apply?

**Launch date: November 28, 2025**

Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) for more details and updates!

[in linkedin.com/company/blueactionbanos](https://www.linkedin.com/company/blueactionbanos)

NATIONAL CONTACT POINT SWEDEN:  
Sonja Andrén, Innovatum Science Park  
[Sonja.andren@innovatum.se](mailto:Sonja.andren@innovatum.se)

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SWEDEN:  
Martin Sjöberg, IVL  
[Martin.sjoberg@ivl.se](mailto:Martin.sjoberg@ivl.se)

**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

# BLUE ACTION BANOS

Follow us for more information

[in linkedin.com/company/blueactionbanos](https://www.linkedin.com/company/blueactionbanos)



Funded by  
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

[www.blueactionbanos.eu](http://www.blueactionbanos.eu)

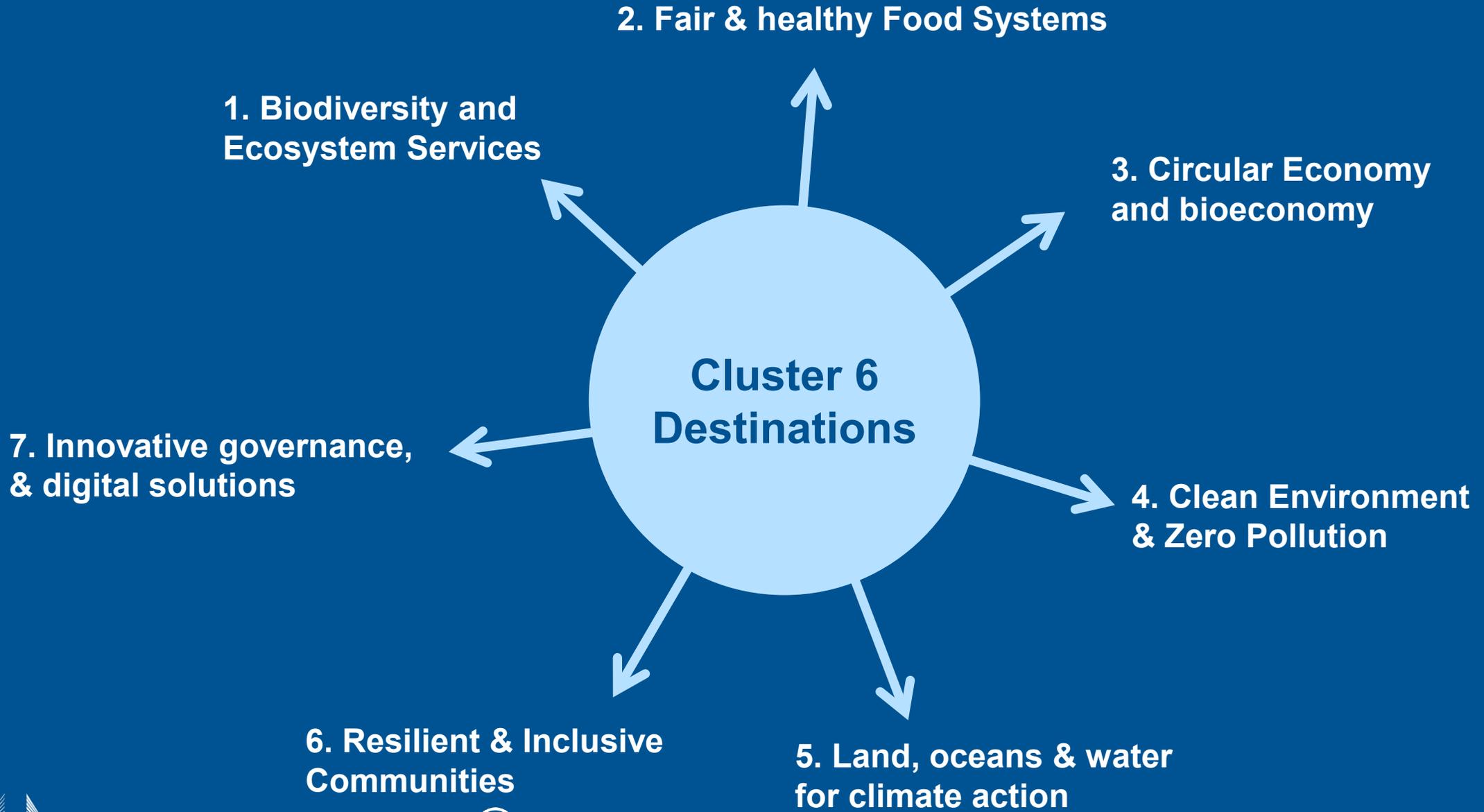
# Cluster 6

# 6. Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

## • Aims

- reduce environmental degradations
- halt the decline of biodiversity
- better manage natural resources
- serve the EU climate objectives
- ensure food and water security





# Cluster 6 Work Programme 2026-2027

The Cluster 6 Work Programme is expected to be launched in December 2025. (Draft available [here](#))

## Key Points:

- **EU Priorities** – Green Deal, Biodiversity 2030, Climate Neutrality.
- **Funding Targets** – 35% climate, 10% biodiversity.
- **Focus Areas** – Nature-based solutions, digitalization, multi-actor projects.
- **New Calls** – Living labs, circular cities, innovative food systems.
- **Collaboration** – SSH integration, global partnerships, EU missions.



[21 January Brokerage event in Brussels](#)

[22–23 January 2026: Horizon Europe Cluster 6 Info Days](#)

# Work Programme 2026: Cluster 6

Call	Topic	# of projects	Total budget
2026-01-BIODIV-02	Developing methods to assess the presence, functions and sensitivity of groundwater ecosystems.	2	€10 million
2026-01-BIODIV-03	Pushing the frontier of knowledge and conservation action for deep sea ecosystems	2	€18 million
2026-02-CLIMATE-02	<i>Towards the water infrastructures of the future</i>	2	€10 million
2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-01-two-stage	Decontaminate and bioremediate aquatic pollution	7-8	€23 million
2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-01	Toward a comprehensive assessment of the disturbance of marine ecosystems by anthropogenic underwater noise	1	€10 million

# Work Programme 2027: Cluster 6

Call	Topic	# of projects	Total budget
2027-01-BIODIV-03	Technical innovation to protect ecosystems and to scale up their restoration	2	€14 million
2027-01-BIODIV-04	Living Labs for the eradication and/or management of invasive alien species	3	€24 million
2027-01-BIODIV-06	Living labs driving transformative change via knowledge integration and inclusive governance	2	€14 million
2027-02-CLIMATE-01-two-stage	Open topic: Innovative solutions for the Water Resilience Strategy	2	€11 million

# Swedish National Contact Points Cluster 6



Sussi Mikaelsson  
Horizon Europe - Cluster 6  
National Contact Point (NCP)  
Vinnova  
[sussi.mikaelsson@vinnova.se](mailto:sussi.mikaelsson@vinnova.se)



Klara Eitrem Holmgren  
Horizon Europe - Cluster 6  
Programme Committee Expert and  
National Contact Point (NCP)  
Formas  
[klara.eitremholmgren@formas.se](mailto:klara.eitremholmgren@formas.se)

# Cluster 5. Climate, Energy and Mobility

Fokus i WP 26/27 ligger på:

- Havsenergi & klimatlösningar
- Grön sjöfart
- Marina ekosystem



**Brokerage Event (14 Jan):** Online networking to find partners for 2026 calls. Includes pitching and bilateral meetings.

**Info Day (15 Jan):** European Commission presents 2026–2027 Work Programme topics and funding opportunities online

# Work Programme 2026-2027: Cluster 5

Call Code	Title
HORIZON-CL5-2027-01-D1-12	Better understanding and attribution of land and ocean carbon sources and sinks
HORIZON-CL5-2027-02-D3-09	Innovative technologies and solutions to improve wave and tidal energy systems
HORIZON-CL5-2026-06-Two-Stage-D5-10	Disruptive Technologies and Innovative Concepts for Energy Saving Onboard of long-distance ships
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-11	Ports of the future
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-12	Shipyards of the future
HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-13	Safety of renewable low and zero-carbon waterborne fuels in port areas
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-14	Onboard renewable energy solutions and energy saving measures to reduce fuel consumption of ships by at least 55%
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-15	Prospective evaluation of nuclear power potential for shipping
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-16	Autonomous vessels in short sea shipping and inland waterways
HORIZON-CL5-2027-03-D5-17	Innovative Solutions for mitigating the environmental impact of waterborne transport in marine and aquatic ecosystems

För mer info: NCP kluster 5 – [Marie Vaadre](#) & [Ann Maudsley](#) på Vinnova

# Support från Vinnova

- Kontakta din NCP
  - Jonathan Nylander, NCP EU Missions  
[jonathan.nylander@vinnova.se](mailto:jonathan.nylander@vinnova.se)
  - Sussi Mikaelsson, NCP Cluster 6  
[sussi.mikaelsson@vinnova.se](mailto:sussi.mikaelsson@vinnova.se)
- Få utskick via email om EU Missions and Cluster 6 samt Vinnova's nyhetsbrev om Horizon Europe
- Vinnovas planeringsbidrag för att göra konkurrenskraftiga internationella ansökningar (nya utlysningar kommer 2026, ännu ej publicerade)



# Questions & Discussion