

**BLUE
MISSION
BANOS**

ROADMAP 2030

STEPS FOR EFFECTIVE
DEPLOYMENT OF THE
MISSION OCEAN & WATERS

ARENA 4 REGION: SOUTH BALTIC (POLAND, GERMANY, SWEDEN)

ABOUT THE 4TH BLUE MISSION BANOS ARENA

HELD 28-29 APRIL IN SOPOT, POLAND

The fourth Mission Arena in Sopot, Poland, brought together 200+ stakeholders from the South Baltic region to discuss in 17+ workshops what is needed to turn the blue economy carbon-neutral, circular and more secure, while reducing pollution and increasing biodiversity. The event centred on the following seven themes important to the region: MSP and Multi-Use, Marine Protection and Restoration, Citizen Engagement and Education, Blue Foods, Governance, Sustainable Maritime Infrastructure, and Shipping and Ports.

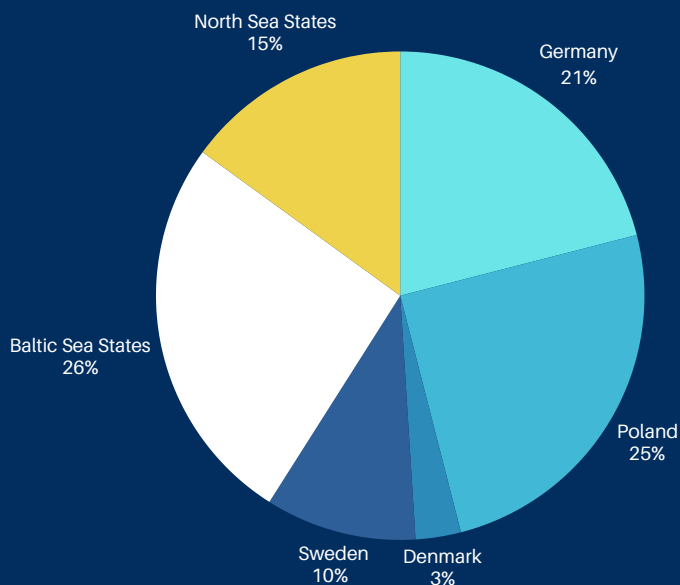
BlueMissionBANOS organised the Arena in cooperation with the Blue Economy Baltic Forum and the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership under the patronage of the Polish EU Council Presidency.

This roadmap consolidates the insights and priorities identified during the event, offering actionable guidance for the upcoming deployment phase of Mission Ocean and Waters. The action points in this roadmap were developed through an interactive co-creation process. The participants of the fourth Mission Arena voted on the order of their priorities in the final plenary session.

***Nearly 200 participants voted on the final
roadmap for the Arena 4 region!***

ARENA 4 PARTICIPANTS

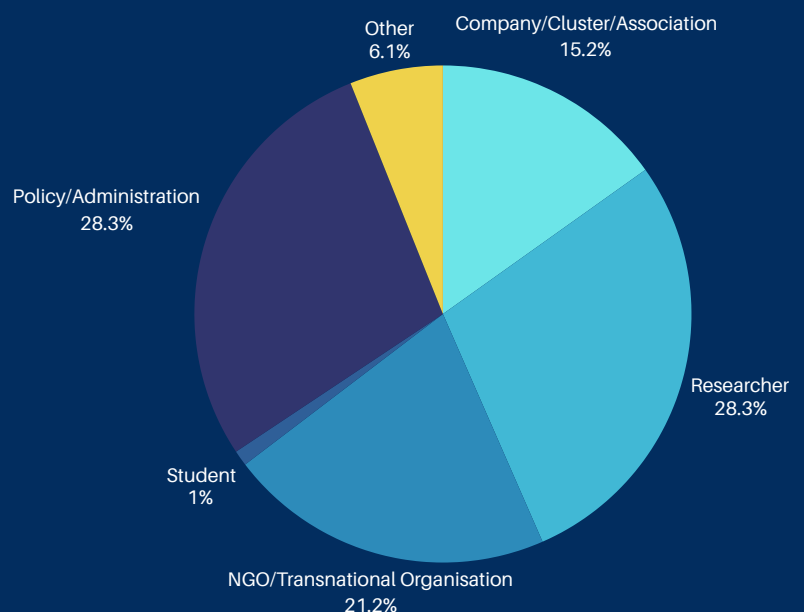
Where are our participants based?



Of the over two hundred participants who registered for the fourth Mission Arena, nearly 50% were from the Arena 4 region, with the highest number of participants from Poland.

What type of work do our participants do?

Arena 4 participants come from various sectors representing all sides of the blue economy. Of the participants who voted in the final Assembly, 28% work in research, 28% work in policy or administration, and 21% work at NGOs or transnational organisations.



MSP and Multi-Use

- Multi-Use in the South Baltic: Exploring Opportunities on Offshore Wind Farms
- Maritime Spatial Planning Foresight Workshop

Marine Protection and Restoration

- Quality check of emerging minimum requirements for marine and coastal Nature-Based Solutions
- Marine Protection and Nature Inclusivity
- Tackling PFAS Pollution in Water

Citizen Engagement and Education

- Shaping Future Blue Leaders: Educating Youth for Innovation and a Sustainable Blue Economy
- Citizen Engagement Strategies in Mission Ocean: Appraisal and Next Phase

Blue Foods

- Pet Food from the Blue Baltic
- Blue Foods

Governance

- Tools for Multi-Level Governance
- Integrating Blue in Green
- Mission Ocean and Waters Governance: From pathway to best case scenario

Sustainable Maritime Infrastructure

- The Life of a Leisure Boat
- Removing Wrecks and Munitions from the Baltic
- Security of Maritime Infrastructure

Shipping and Ports

- Ports - Sustainable and Secure Energy Hubs in an Evolving Transport Landscape
- Tools for shared and dynamic risk picture of the Baltic Sea region

Our Solution Areas

01

Enhancing MSP
and Multi-Use

02

Sustainable Maritime
Infrastructure

03

Optimising
Shipping and Ports

04

Meeting the
Growing Demands
of Governance

05

Exploring Innovative
Approaches to
Blue Foods

06

Increasing Citizen
Engagement and
Education

07

Shaping Marine
Protection and
Restoration

01

MSP & MULTI-USE



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MSP & Multi-Use Action Points

- 01 **Facilitate the transition** from policy declarations to concrete, actionable measures that promote the implementation of multi-use (MU) concepts.
- 02 **Implement concrete actions** to facilitate cooperation among stakeholders from different sectors and the offshore wind energy, contributing to sustainability and enabling the multi-use approach.
- 03 **Strengthen the capacity of MSP** and provide it with the tools to address emerging challenges, including climate change, the implementation of the European Green Deal, and decreasing international safety and security.
- 04 **Establish enabling governance frameworks** and provide targeted incentives to stimulate private sector involvement in multi-use (MU) initiatives.
- 05 **Secure funding** to promote the Baltic Sea Region's (BSR) experience in maritime spatial planning (MSP) and support countries in other maritime regions that are at the initial stages of developing and implementing such plans.
- 06 **Ensure that principles of social justice** are integrated into the implementation of MSP processes.
- 07 **Systematically collect and analyse experiences** related to MSP implementation and establish appropriate monitoring and evaluation systems.

02 MARINE PROTECTION & RESTORATION



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Marine Protection & Restoration Action Points

01

Identify and evaluate marine habitats and environmental resources given their significance across social, environmental, and economic sectors, highlighting their value to both nature and society.

02

Explore options for using Nature-Based Solutions or Nature-Inspired Design of grey infrastructure in the South Baltic to support progress towards nature restoration targets and pilot emerging standards for their implementation.

03

Prevent the use of PFAS as a group through EU-level legislation. The planned "PFAS ban" should apply to all products where safer alternatives are available including those produced outside the EU.

04

Effective marine protection and restoration requires a comprehensive understanding and continued monitoring of PFAS pollution. All countries surrounding the Baltic Sea should actively engage in this work.

05

Implement local-level measures to identify PFAS pollution hotspots and mitigate their impact. The PFAS issue in the sea can be effectively addressed at its sources, both sea-side and land-based.

06

Pay attention to previously neglected issues in MSP preparation and implementation, such as identifying areas to be reclaimed, the role of marine habitats as a carbon reservoir, and the need to protect them.

07

Develop and mainstream new MPA management guidelines.

03 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION



Citizen Engagement & Education

01

Promote Ocean Literacy in schools: Integrate Ocean literacy programs into early education curricula, including field trips to coastal areas & marine research facilities.

02

Create regional blue economy hubs that connect industry and academia, organise events, networking sessions, knowledge-sharing, and vocational trainings.

03

Introduce more entrepreneurship & innovation trainings, including innovative practices, business modelling, and startup development.

04

Empower local institutions, organisations & businesses with mechanisms to be more willing to cooperate around the Baltic. Focus on marketing benefits to them.

05

Regional and local authorities should support small-scale initiatives; for example, a local science fair in Poland could become a trans-Baltic event with a regional audience.

06

Limit additional pan-European initiatives, instead focusing on strengthening existing initiatives and connecting local projects, especially in the education sector.

07

Increase awareness of the benefits of cooperation beyond activities in your own backyard.

08

Create and foster more positive actions, in which participation is uplifting and does not remind participants of the challenges the Baltic is facing.

04 BLUE FOODS



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Blue Foods Action Points

- 01 Strengthen local coastal communities** by diversifying fisheries and aquaculture towards new low-impact fishing methods and low-trophic species.
- 02 Work towards enhanced labelling** that clearly communicates production method, origin, nutritional value, and sustainability of aquaculture products.
- 03 Encourage collaboration across the value chain**—from producers to retailers—to co-design seafood products that reflect consumer expectations and promote wider adoption of sustainable aquaculture.
- 04 Increase consumer confidence in new species** and aquaculture products by fostering education and engagement on sustainable seafood production.
- 05 Promote product development** from underutilised marine resources to create high-value products for human and non-human consumption.
- 06 Boost consumer awareness of underutilised seafood** as a sustainable alternative to more traditional species.

05 GOVERNANCE




GREEN & BLUE
ACTIONS

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Governance Action Points

01

Promote co-creation and collaboration among practitioners by establishing a common platform to exchange practices and lessons learned.

02

Harmonise indicators, classifications, and legislative terminology to better integrate blue bioeconomy contributions and ensure policy coherence across sectors.

03

Strengthen early-stage innovation by fostering applied R&D partnerships between academia and industry to advance low-TRL blue bioeconomy solutions and accelerate their uptake across green bioeconomy value chains.

04

Establish and expand national Mission Hubs to foster cross-ministerial cooperation and to actively support the transformation of the Blue economy sector.

05

Enhance the effectiveness and usability of marine and coastal planning by integrating key concepts such as fair and just transition, and raise awareness about balancing interests of both human and nature.

06

Support the implementation of the European Ocean Pact by better coordinating existing EU directives and aligning relevant policy areas to ensure coherence on the supranational level.

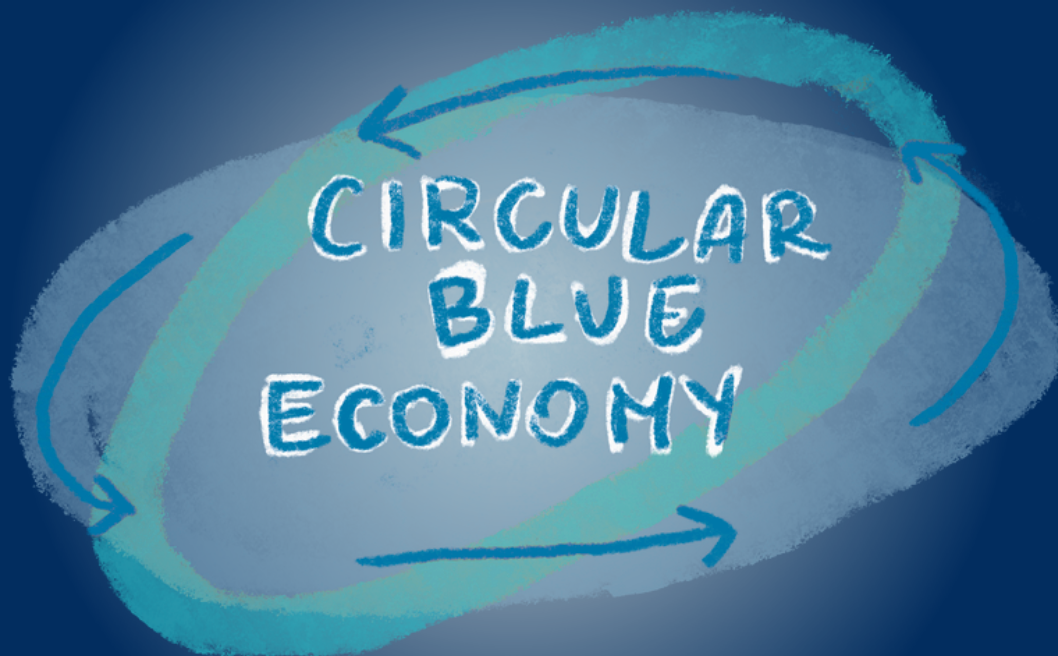
07

Develop and implement localised action plans in the BANOS region rooted in science-policy interfaces, citizen engagement and capacity building.

08

Promote synergies with strategic policy tools such as green public procurement to create demand for sustainable blue bio-based products and bolster cross-sector market development.

06 SUSTAINABLE MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURE



Maritime Infrastructure Action Points

01

Promote a comprehensive lifecycle approach by encouraging maintenance, repair, retrofitting, and reuse of existing boats to maximise their full usable lifespan.

02

Develop a coordinated strategy to address rising hybrid threats, secure offshore wind farms, and improve risk prediction and mitigation.

03

Boost research and secure networks: Leverage EU advances in AI, quantum computing, and data spaces to build secure, real-time maritime security systems.

04

Unite science and stakeholders to prevent marine hazards and to achieve good marine environmental status; promote vocational training for a blue economy.

05

Protect and make critical submarine infrastructure more resilient and secure.

06

Simplify regulations and permitting processes to reduce administrative burdens and accelerate sustainable blue business development. Intensify work on the full launch of the Baltic Pipe.

07

Develop a comprehensive monitoring strategy for wrecks and munitions on the Baltic Sea floor.

08

Improve sustainability in leisure boating by enhancing education and training in responsible boat usage, energy efficiency, waste-management, protecting marine ecosystems and eco-friendly navigation.

07 SHIPPING AND PORTS



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Shipping & Ports Action Points

01

Invest in modern, climate-resilient maritime infrastructure that supports sustainable port operations, clean energy generation, and safe navigation, focusing on cross-border connectivity and the full integration of environmental considerations.

02

Foster strategic partnerships with private sector stakeholders, including shipbuilders, marina operators, logistics firms, and clean tech providers, to co-develop innovative solutions that align economic interests with regional sustainability goals.

03

Strengthen regional cooperation frameworks by enhancing the use and integration of risk assessment tools into national maritime safety protocols, ensuring harmonised responses to both environmental threats and security challenges.

04

Offer targeted financial incentives, regulatory support, and innovation funding to encourage cross-sector and cross-border collaborations that address shared maritime sustainability challenges and accelerate the uptake of best practices across the SBR.

05

Enhance the availability, distribution, and affordability of green fuel sources by supporting the development of fuel supply chains, storage facilities, and fueling infrastructure at key South Baltic ports.

06

Conduct targeted research and regional training programs to improve understanding of low-sulphur fuel spill behaviour and integrate this knowledge into operational protocols and response strategies across the SBR.

Sneak Peek into Arena 4



The documentation of all workshops, including presentations and summaries, can be found on the [BlueMissionBANOS website](https://www.bluemissionbanos.eu/).

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Institute of Oceanography
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ShapingBio
The bioeconomy of the future



Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership



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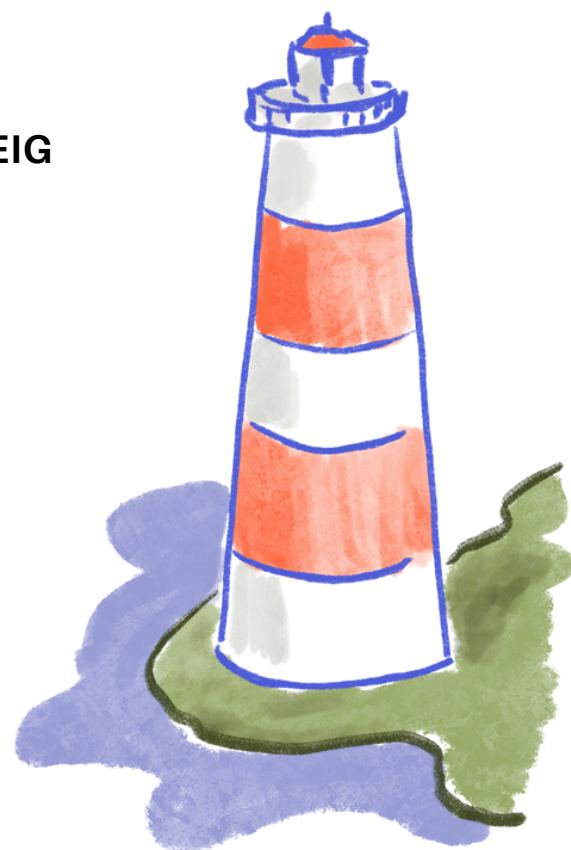
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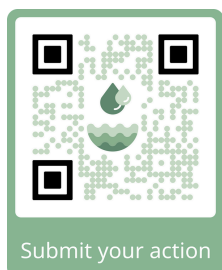
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OTHER REGION'S ROADMAPS



We invite you to read the roadmaps developed during our previous three Missions.



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