



BLUE MISSION BANOS

Supporting the Mission Ocean
Lighthouse in the Baltic and North
Sea Basins

Supporting Actors and
Communities to Engage
with Mission Ocean



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Executive Summary

Between 2023 and 2025, Blue Mission BANOS (BMB) coordinated and supported the implementation of the Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters” in the Baltic and North Sea regions. By involving actors across the blue economy—seen as the driving force of the Mission—BMB helped actors understand their current and future roles in the Mission. This broad

engagement boosted awareness and momentum, laying a solid foundation for future work. This policy brief provides key recommendations for engaging different categories of actors, to ensure their potential for contributing to the Mission is leveraged, in the next phase of the Mission.

Enabling Mission actors in the BANOS area

- Hosts of European **online databases**
- **Sea bassin networks**
- National **mission hubs**
- National **industry clusters**

- **Local communities** of ‘Mission’ practice
- **Research** institutions
- **Youth**



Recommendations for supporting enabling actors beyond 2025 in the BANOS area

1 European Public Databases

ROLE

- Hosts of platforms like **WaveLinks** and the **Mission Implementation Platform**, essential for knowledge sharing and coordination

RECOMMENDATION

- Support ongoing dialogue with European databases to ensure **relevance** for National Mission Hub activities, and other evolving stakeholder **needs**

2 Sea bassin Networks

ROLE

- **Regional connectors** that accelerate Mission roll-out and break down of silos across disciplines and countries

RECOMMENDATION

- Engage these networks consistently to **maintain momentum** as multipliers of Mission awareness and **cross-border collaboration**

3 National Mission Hubs

ROLE

- National-level structures that facilitate **cross-ministerial collaboration** and **stakeholder engagement**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Facilitate their ability to **share good practices** among current and future Mission Hubs
- Promote or request **inter-ministerial collaboration** to optimize national engagement and coordination structures

4 National Industry Clusters

ROLE

- **Engines of transformation** in the blue economy, capable of **leading or participating** in Mission actions

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Encourage **sharing of best practices** within blue industry
- Use for instance Mission Arenas to **raise awareness** and **foster collaboration** at regional levels

5 Local communities of 'Mission' practice

ROLE

- Ground-level agents of change with **direct impact** on marine and coastal environments and **direct connection** to citizens

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Support **community-led actions**, guided by science
- Expand Mission awareness and foster synergistic impact through **inclusive engagement**, and **links to other actors** included sea-basin networks and national Mission Hubs

6 Research Institutions

ROLE

- Key drivers of scientific advances and **innovation**, but with ocean literacy capacities as well

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Support systematic collaboration between researchers and educators, to increase **ocean literacy** among the BANOS youth, using e.g. BANOS guidelines
- Reflect on the balance in Mission communication between **advocating** for a societal change or policy target, and the relevant roles of **politically neutral** research institutions participating

7 Youth

ROLE

- The **next generation of ocean professionals and citizens**, and receivers of ocean literacy related teaching efforts

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Facilitate and **support youth participation in Mission activities** such as Mission Arenas to understand how EU works to address sustainability challenges in their oceans and waters
- Enable youth to participate in Mission projects or share ideas
- Ensure teachers have access and capacity to teach aquatic topics, using e.g. Mission related projects as cases

Develop the glue to connect actors at sea-bassins level

8 Mission Arenas

ROLE

- Can work as a **systematic and strategic forum** for knowledge exchange and Mission alignment across, sectors, countries and disciplines

RECOMMENDATION

- Keep the momentum and support similar concepts to leverage the understanding of the Mission's community of the role they can serve for institutions, projects, networks, etc