

Atlantic Action Plan 2.0

Sustainable blue economy development in the Atlantic underpinning the EU Green Deal

From the cliffs of Moher to the beaches of Algarve, from Normandy estuaries to the volcanic ashes of Canary islands...the Atlantic shapes the cultures, ecosystems and economies all along the western shores of Europe. Since 2011, the European Commission with all Atlantic stakeholders have worked together to support the Atlantic blue economy and meet the region's specific challenges. Nearly ten years on, we have turned that experience into a new action plan, which will create even more opportunities for the Atlantic maritime regions.



"The Atlantic action plan 2.0 will strengthen the Atlantic sea basin as the driving force of the EU's sustainable blue economy. It will contribute to the European recovery and support the objectives of the EU Green Deal"
Virginijus Sinkevičius -
Commissioner for Environment,
Oceans and Fisheries

An action plan in the making with the active participation of Atlantic stakeholders



Publication of the Atlantic Maritime Strategy



Initiation of the Atlantic Action Plan



Consultation & review of the action plan



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Building up on successful projects, in a unique sea basin

In 2013, the European Commission introduced the Atlantic action plan to implement the Atlantic strategy. Its design involved hundreds of stakeholders across the Atlantic maritime region.

18% ^{*} of total EU workforce **lives in Atlantic coastal regions**
An area 20% accounting for **of EU GDP****

+
 The largest sea basin **representing 36%** of the EU Blue Economy GVA***

The result was impressive: 1,200 maritime projects were set up as part of the action plan. They targeted environmental protection, improved connectivity and social inclusion in the Atlantic area. Together, these projects represented investments of nearly **€6 billion**.

Indicative projects implemented by the Atlantic action plan



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Boosting blue economy in a changing world

At a time of social and economic uncertainty, the EU is preparing the next generation of EU-funded programmes to foster economic recovery.

- 1 Atlantic ports** as gateways & hubs for the blue economy
- 2 Blue skills & ocean literacy** Building new generations of Atlantic citizens
- 3 Marine renewable energy** Achieving carbon neutrality & the EU Green deal
- 4 Coastal resilience and healthy ocean** For societies & ecosystems

With its four thematic pillars, the renewed Atlantic action plan contributes to the European Green Deal, a socially inclusive model of sustainable development and job creation, while safeguarding marine and coastal environments and securing a healthy ocean.

The Atlantic Action Plan 2.0 will support:

- + **Research and investment** towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the development of renewable energy;
- + The **fight against marine pollution** by promoting green shipping and coordinating actions against marine litter;
- + The **creation of new jobs**, addressing the skills gaps in blue economy sectors and bridging EU training centres and businesses;
- + The **adaptation to climate change** by improving coastal observation and fostering cost effective coastal protection measures.



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Mobilising resources and promoting cooperation for the future



The Atlantic Action Plan 2.0 will reinforce cooperation among participating countries, at European and international level in line with the Galway and Belem Statements.

It will also create better synergies between main sources of funding including the future territorial cooperation programmes in the Atlantic area, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), Horizon Europe, Connecting Europe Facility, LIFE programme, innovative financial instruments managed by the European Investment Bank as well as national and regional funding

Connect with the Atlantic action plan online

Explore the resources, actions & cooperation opportunities in the Atlantic area:

<https://atlanticstrategy.eu/>
and

<https://maritime.easme-web.eu/>

Register to the **EU maritime forum** to join the online knowledge community for the Atlantic area:

Atlantic forum

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/en/-frontpage/555>