

Join forces for the ocean.  
Work together and inspire others!

*EU4OCEAN PLATFORM*

**EU4Ocean Platform meeting**  
2 December 2021



[www.eu-oceanliteracy.eu](http://www.eu-oceanliteracy.eu)

#EU4OCEAN

01/12/2021

# House Keeping Rules

- **The meeting today will be recorded for internal purposes only.**
- **A screenshot will be taken during the meeting.** There will be pre-warning of this and then please ensure your video is turned off if you do not wish to be seen!
- Unless you are speaking, **please keep yourself muted.**
- Use the **Chat Box** for any questions or comments throughout the meeting. All comments will be recorded, for further follow-up, as needed.
- During the **discussion sessions**, please raise your hand before speaking and wait for the facilitators to give you the floor. Please stick to short and specific remarks/questions.

# Main aims of the meeting

- ❖ Look back at **what the EU4Ocean Platform has achieved** over the past year, including:
  - ✓ Coordination and contribution to **sea-basin events**;
  - ✓ **Member outputs and activities** in WGs and beyond (setting the scene for the EU4Ocean Platform WG meetings on 2-3 December);
  - ✓ **Connections across the EU4Ocean Coalition** e.g., with Youth4Ocean Forum, European Network of Blue Schools and transversal activities where all EU4Ocean communities have come together;
- ❖ **Hear from EU4Ocean members** about their activities and ideas for further collaborations;
- ❖ Reflect on the **added value of the EU4Ocean Platform** and its activities on its members and its audience and **launch a short online survey to gather member feedback and testimonials**;
- ❖ **Discuss next steps**, in particular the **co-design** of the **EU4Ocean Summit** (to take place in Spring/early Summer 2022, to include inputs from all 3 EU4Ocean Coalition communities).

# Agenda

**9:00-9:05**

## **Welcome and Introduction**

*Nathalie Van Isacker, Seascope Belgium, EU4Ocean Platform facilitator*

**9:05-9:15**

## **The EU4Ocean Platform: > 120 members strong and growing**

*Nathalie Van Isacker, Seascope Belgium, EU4Ocean Platform facilitator*

**09:15-09:20**

## **Making Europe Blue together! EU4Ocean Campaign update**

*Farah Obaidullah, Ocean Advocate, Consultant & Founder Women4Oceans*

**09:20-09:35**

## **Reflections on EU4Ocean Platform and #MakeEUBlue**

*Kate Larkin, Seascope Belgium, EU4Ocean Platform facilitator*

*Paula Kankaanpää, SYKE, EU4Ocean Platform Chair*

*James Nikitine, Marine Communications, EU4Ocean Platform Chair*

*Paul Rose, Explorer, Broadcaster*

**Open floor Q&A**

# Agenda

## 09:35 – 10:00 EU4Ocean Platform mobilisation and activities in the Sea Basins

*Moderator: Olga Mashkina, ACTeon, EU4Ocean Coordinator*

*Panel discussion: What have we achieved and what are our lessons learned?*

*EU4Ocean sea-basin focal point Coordinators:*

*Atlantic Ocean and North Sea: Iwona Gin, Nausicaá*

*Baltic Sea: Angela Schultz-Zehden, SUBMARINER Network for Blue Growth*

*Mediterranean Sea: Pierre Strosser, ACTeon*

*Black Sea: Marian Paiu, Mare Nostrum*

*Arctic Ocean: Arne Riedel, Ecologic Institute*

*Open floor Q&A*

## 10:00 – 10:20 EU4Ocean Platform: Examples and insights on added value

*Moderator: Kate Larkin, Seascope Belgium, EU4Ocean facilitator*

*The Coastal Code for the Bay of Santander: Gabriela Mayans, Navigatio*

*'I Live by the Sea' Izabela Kotynska-Zielinski, Today We Have*

*Insights from an explorer: Paul Rose, Explorer, Broadcaster*

*What do members think? The EU4Ocean survey: Àngel Muñoz Piniella, EMB*

*Open floor Q&A*



# Agenda

## 10:20 – 10:45 EU4Ocean Platform: Building connections across the Coalition

*Moderator: Nathalie Van Isacker, Seascope Belgium, EU4Ocean facilitator*

### Connecting to the Youth4Ocean Forum:

#### *Mentoring, Coaching and Internships:*

*Marianna Terzidaki, Blue Generation Project Coordinator, militos s.a.*

*Guillaume Lheureux, World Ocean Network*

### Connecting to the Network of European Blue Schools

#### *Teacher Training:*

*Francesca Alvisi, CNR-ISMAR*

*Evy Copejans, EMSEA*

*Open floor Q&A*

## 10:45-10:50 EC perspectives on EU4Ocean

*Andy Kontoudakis, European Commission, DG MARE*



# Agenda

**10:50-11:15**

## **Co-designing the 2022 EU4Ocean Coalition Summit**

*Kate Larkin, Seascope Belgium*

*Olga Mashkina, ACTeon*

*Paula Kankaanpää, SYKE, EU4Ocean Platform Chair*

*James Nikitine, Marine Communications, EU4Ocean Platform Chair*

*Open floor discussion*

**11:15-11:25**

## **Working Groups: Setting the scene for WG meetings 2-3 December 2021**

*Àngel Muñoz Piniella, EMB, EU4Ocean Platform WG facilitator*

*EU4Ocean Working Group Chairs:*

*WG Food from the Ocean: Gesche Krause, AWI*

*WG Climate and Ocean: Tymon Zielinski, IO PAN*

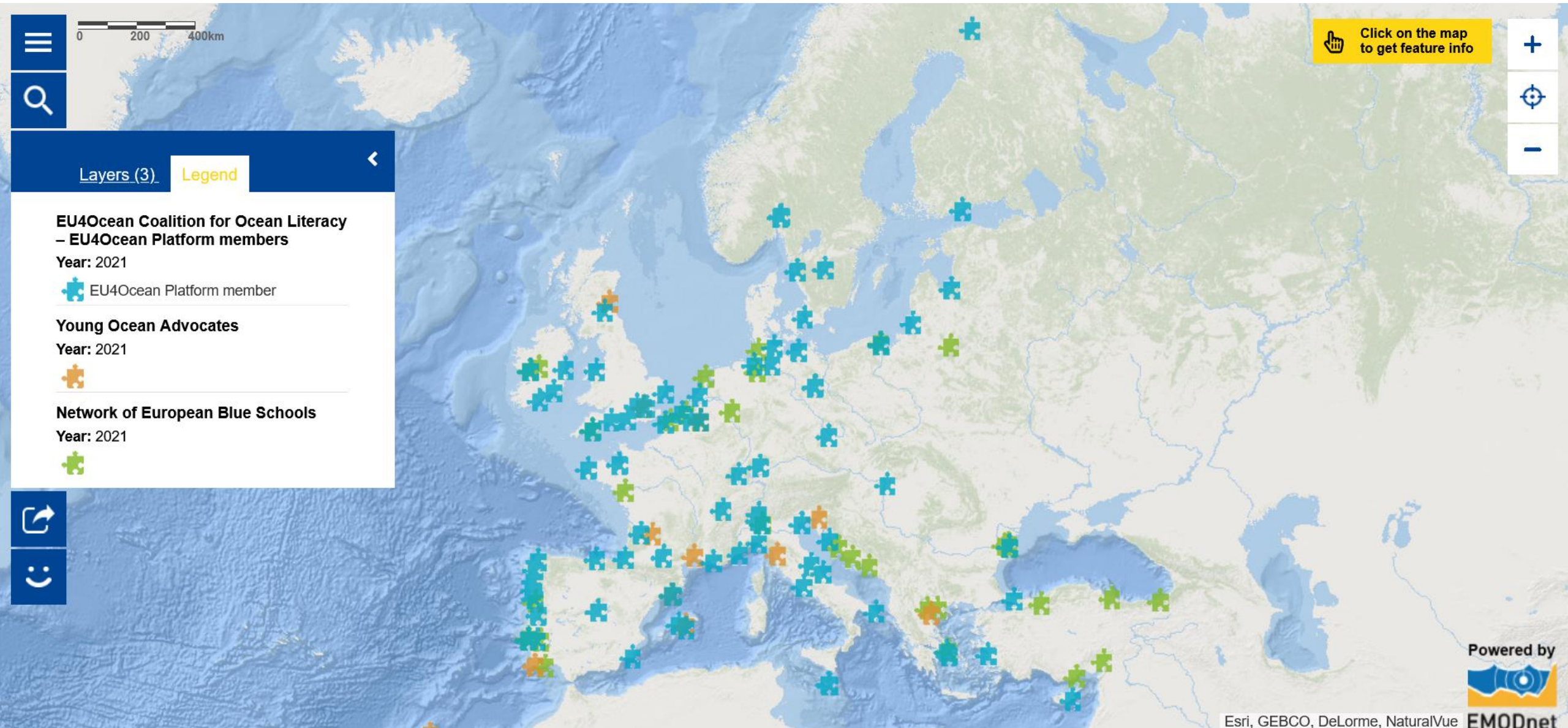
*WG Healthy and Clean Ocean: Francesca Alvisi, CNR-ISMAR*

**11:25-11:30**

## **Next steps and Closing**

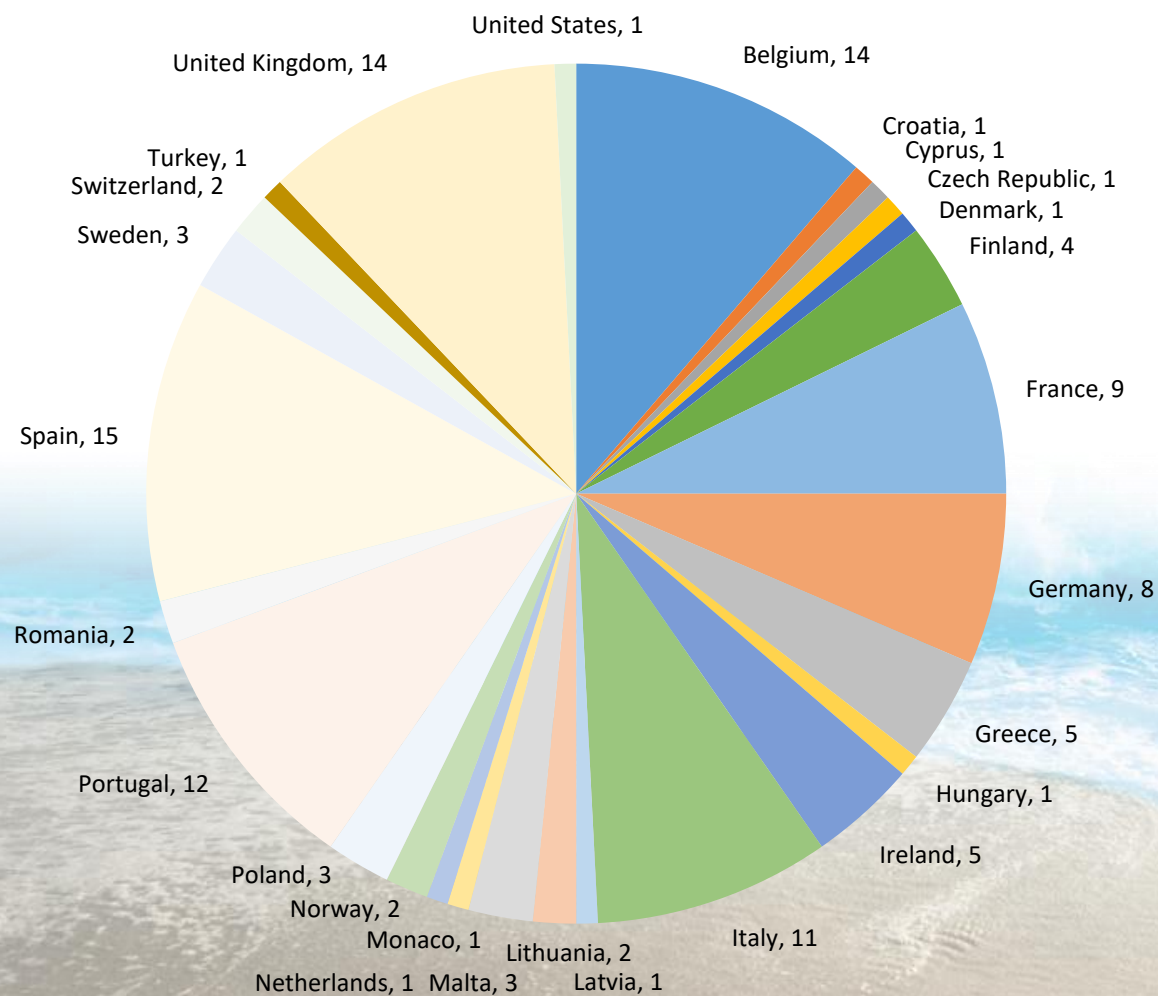
*Olga Mashkina, ACTeon*

*Nathalie Van Isacker, Seascope Belgium*





## EU4Ocean Platform - Members by Country on 24 November 2021 (Total: 124 members)

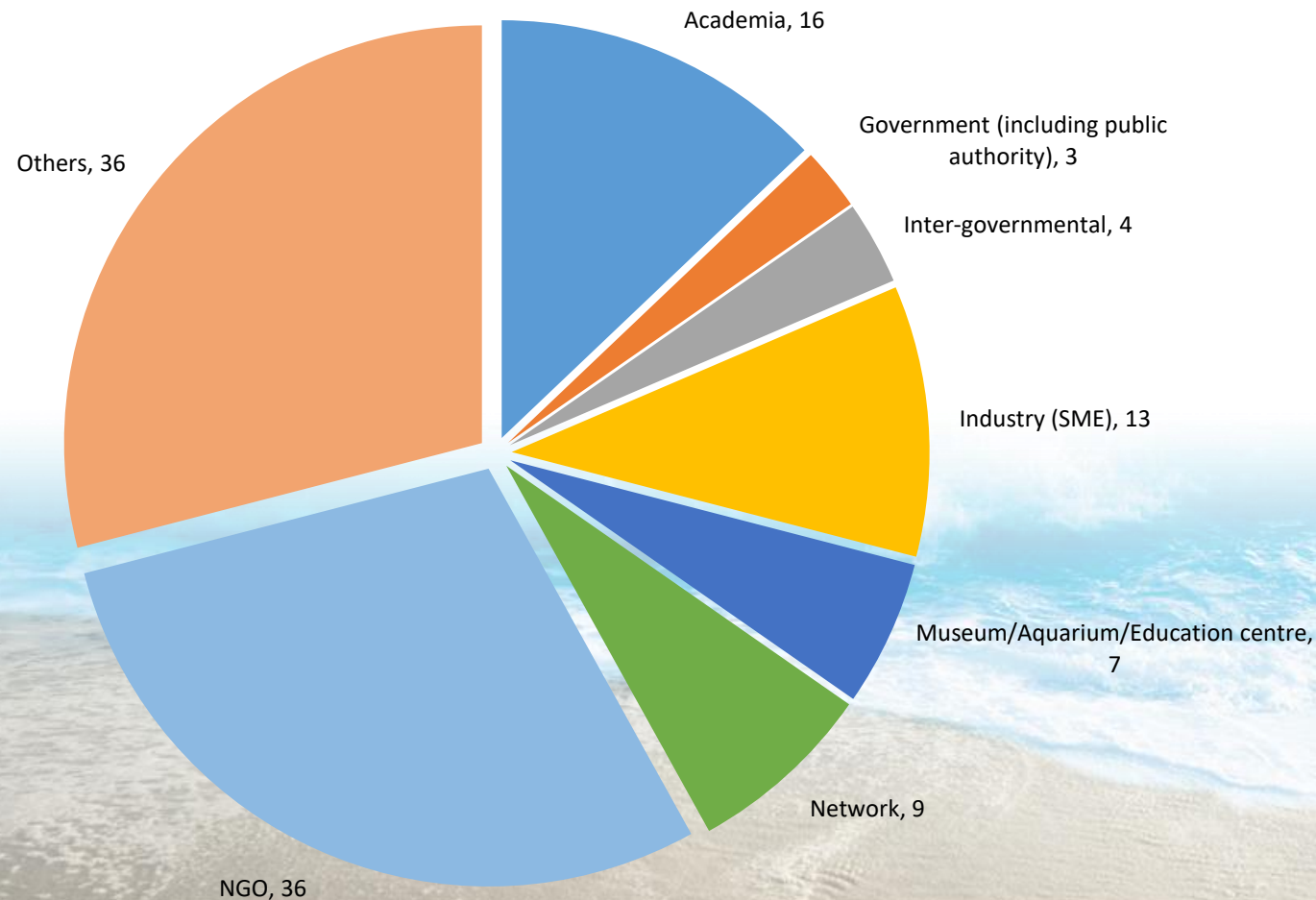


21 EU Member States out of 27

### No members from:

- Austria
- Bulgaria
- Estonia
- Luxembourg
- Slovakia
- Slovenia

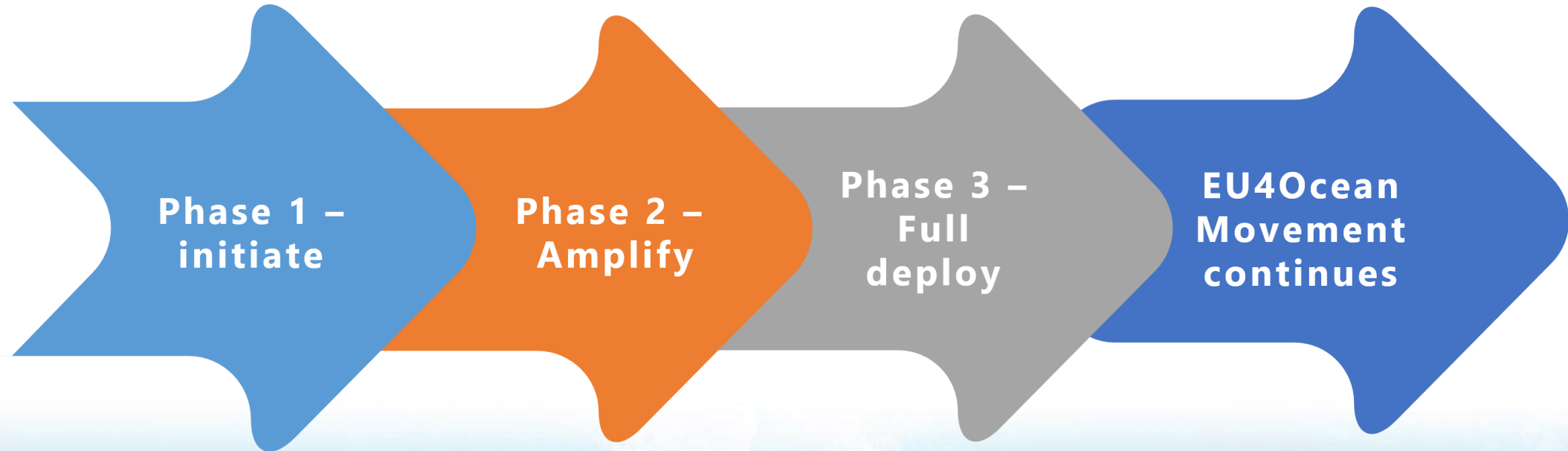
## EU4Ocean Platform - Members by Sector on 24 November 2021 (Total: 124 members)



Including associations of:

- Rowers
- Sailors
- Surfers
- Divers
- Scuba divers

# EU4Ocean Platform: Where are we?



## 2020

- Platform set-up
- Founding members
- Operational Launch
- First WG meetings
- Early joint actions
- Growing membership
- Advocacy campaign 1

## 2021 & 2022

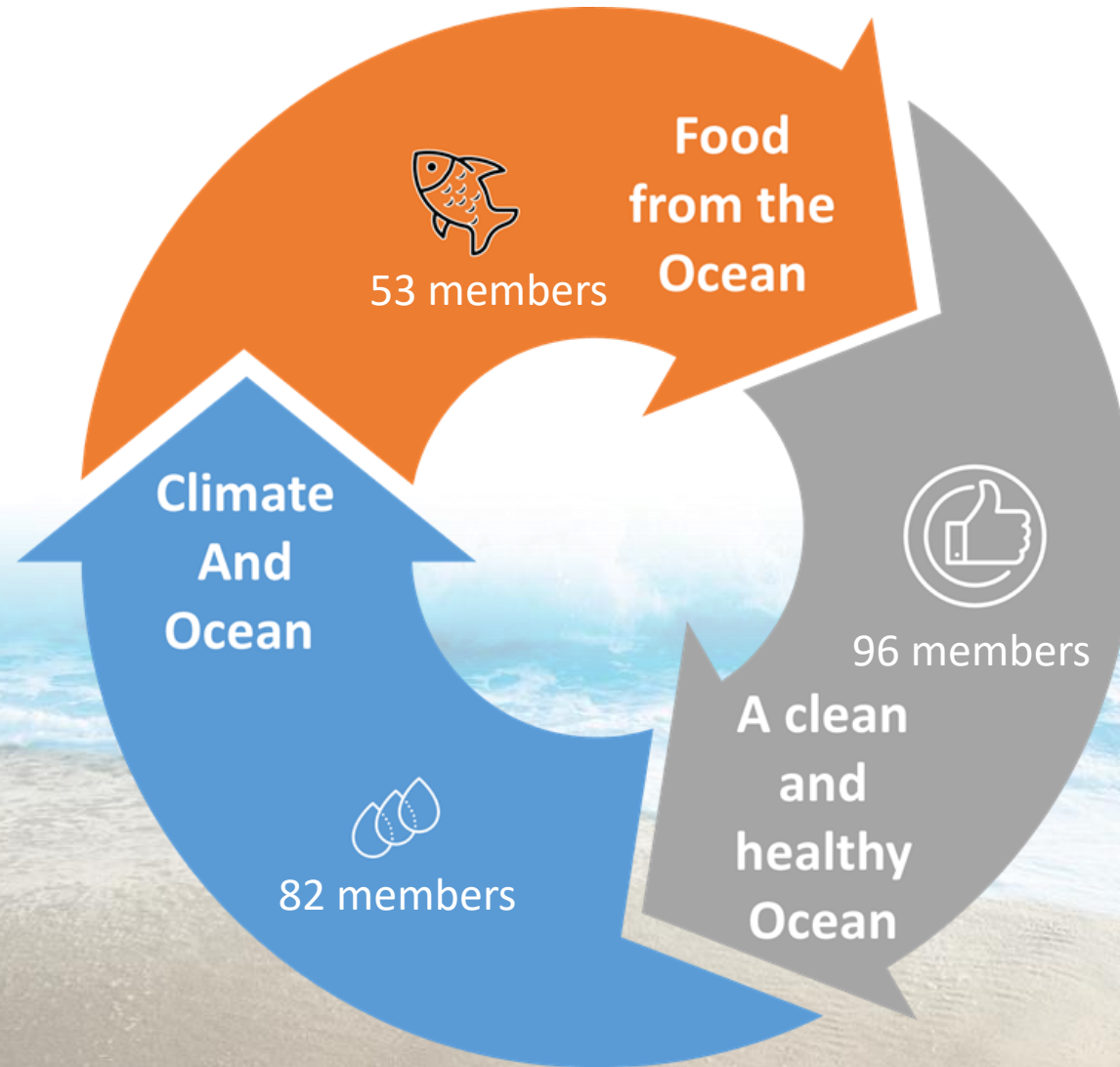
- Grow & Diversify members (beyond marine & global)
- Joint actions: integrated with youth & wider stakeholders
- Sea-basin events
- Using resources in schools
- Advocacy campaigns, linked to high-profile events
- EU4Ocean Summit (3 components)

## 2022 -

- #EU4Ocean widely recognized as Hub for European Ocean Literacy efforts
- Members drive the success & legacy through joint actions, events, campaigns
- Contribution to the EU Green Deal, EU Mission Starfish 2030 & global initiatives eg. UN Ocean Decade for Sustainable Development and the UN 2030 Agenda

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# EU4Ocean Platform: What has been achieved?



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# EU4Ocean Platform: Initiatives and events



**European Marine Board** @EMarineBoard · 1h

Gabriela Mayans proudly presents the Coastal Code of @NAVIGATIOSANTA, a guide for the sustainable use of the bay of Santander. This is an initiative co-developed in the framework of the #EU4Ocean Platform. You can have a look at [bahiadesantander-codigo.com](http://bahiadesantander-codigo.com) #respect #protect #enjoy



NAVIGATIOSANTANDER and 6 others

Launch of the Coastal Code on 18/11/2021

## I LIVE BY THE SEA SPRING SCHOOL

2021-2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

**RECORDED WEBINAR 13 MAY 17:00 CET**



**JOANNA CLARKSON**  
CONSULTANT  
SUBMARINER NETWORK FOR BLUE GROWTH EEIG



**ANDREEA-STEFANIA IONASCU**  
COORDINATOR OF THE EDUCATION & VOLUNTEERING MARE NOSTRUM

**The Baltic and the Black Sea Ocean Literacy initiatives as drivers for increasing awareness of ocean issues. Challenges and perspectives.**

[http://www.todaywehave.com/Spring\\_School\\_2021.html](http://www.todaywehave.com/Spring_School_2021.html)








'I Live by the Sea' - Baltic and Black Sea

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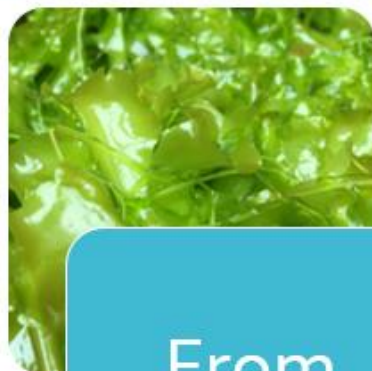


# EU4Ocean Platform: Communication about projects

Success story  
for seaweed

Illiteracy

Literacy



From  
Seaweed

To  
Package



HELMHOLTZ  
RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGES



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# EU4Ocean Platform: What has been achieved?

**Workshop**  
May 20 | 13:15 – 14:35

**3** things you didn't know about the **EU4Ocean** and **Ocean Literacy** in the Atlantic and North Sea basin.

#EU4Ocean  
#Youth4Ocean  
#EUBlueSchools

**OCEAN LITERACY FESTIVAL-**  
CELEBRATING THE ATLANTIC OCEAN AND THE NORTH SEA

JOIN US ON **22 MAY**

#EU4Ocean  
#Youth4Ocean  
#EUBlueSchools

**Supporting Ocean Literacy in the Baltic**

**26-27 AUGUST 2021**  
EU4Ocean Baltic Sea-Basin (HYBRID) Event

www.eu-oceanliteracy.eu

**LET'S MAKE THE MEDITERRANEAN BLUE**

An event by the **EU4Ocean Coalition**  
24 TO 27 OF SEPTEMBER 2021

www.eu-oceanliteracy.eu

#EU4OCEAN  
#YOUTH4OCEAN  
#EUBLUESCHOOLS

An event by the **EU4Ocean Coalition**  
Opening: 29 October  
Main event: 05 November

**LET'S MAKE THE BLACK SEA BLUE !**

www.eu-oceanliteracy.eu

#EU4OCEAN  
#YOUTH4OCEAN  
#EUBLUESCHOOLS

# EU4Ocean Podcasts



## If Oceans Could Speak

EU4Ocean

We share diverse perspectives on the oceans around us, raise awareness of ocean change, and foster a collective connection to the blue planet. This podcast has been a personal project for a small team of researchers, united through the EU4Ocean Coalition for Ocean Literacy and through their passion for ocean advocacy. We hope you enjoy listening! [www.eu-oceanliteracy.eu](http://www.eu-oceanliteracy.eu)



#EU4OCEAN



# #MakeEUBlue



“ I pledge to link all of my actions to ocean conservation:  
 At sea I will keep a sharp focus on how to convert our discoveries into ocean education and protection. When I am on land I will consider all of my actions as having an “ocean effect”.  
 My purchases, voting and communications will have a positive effect on our beautiful ocean.

**Paul Rose**  
*Explorer / Broadcaster*

#MakeEUBlue



# Article published in EcoMagazine



## A Collective Ocean Literacy Mission for an Inspiring and Engaging Ocean

By Margherita Zorgno (EurOcean) and Joe Dodgshun (ACTeon)

Humans and the ocean have always been interconnected, with a relationship stronger than we sometimes imagine. The ocean influences the weather and climate human beings live in. It is a perfect, efficient system that makes life on Earth possible. It has always offered inspiration in many forms, lending art, literature, and music a rich source of wonders to feed our imaginations with. It belongs to our cultures, religious beliefs, and rituals, and even shapes our languages – we have all had a whale of a time at least once in our lives!

Being an ocean literate citizen means understanding this intriguing relationship with the ocean and having the power to choose to protect it, making responsible choices and respect it.

But many of us have lost sight of our connection to the ocean. Even as globalization makes us all more connected than ever, we fail to see the role the ocean plays in enabling the complex choreography of humanity – and how the ocean is struggling to maintain this.

And with the dawn of the Ocean Decade, one of its seven outcomes recognizes the need to change this, a need for:

*"An inspiring and engaging ocean-whereby society understands and values the ocean."*



EU4Ocean promotional video



of EU4Ocean Platform members © European Union.

of understanding how the we influence the ocean. It ple aware of the important d daily actions can affect the is promoted in many creative inspiring talks, as a subject vation actions in the field, individuals and companies are literacy activities. er of ocean literacy activists operate separately in parallel, d to generate the change we e it, this has to change. It is cooperative ocean literacy impact each of us want

countries are also a key target of the network, to ensure that the recognition of ocean benefits also grows in populations without direct access to the sea but who still have impacts on and from the ocean.

EU4Ocean was announced during the first UNESCO international Virtual Ocean Literacy Summit, on World Oceans Day, June 8, 2020. It is powered by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) and implemented by a diverse consortium of European organizations. EU4Ocean consists of three communities: the EU4Ocean Platform, an online hub for ocean literacy hosting organizations active in ocean advocacy; the European Youth Forum, which connects the positivity and powerful engagement of the youth; and the Network of European Blue Schools, which gathers schools committed to ocean education, keen to help their students become agents for change.

Actions are already taking place under the initiative's umbrella. Navigatio, a non-profit in the Spanish city of Santander, is co-developing a Code of Conduct for coastal areas with local partners – a guide for all those living, working and playing on the coast. The members of Navigatio practice traditional nautical sports in the Bay of Santander on a regular basis, which makes them a witness of this natural environment of great ecological value. Through EU4Ocean, this initiative has gained a European scope and drawn on from shared expertise and experience from the wide variety of the platform's members across sectors and countries.

The platform has also amplified existing initiatives, one example being the 11th Sea Photo and Film International Contest. The 2021 edition of the annual contest organized by member 'Today We Have' is supported by several other members thanks to an internal call for support. This is expected to increase the visibility and impact of the contest across Europe.

### ean Literacy

is and people would start con- ting a massive wave of actions

While international cooperation is extremely important, national and regional approaches are crucial for engaging on local issues and looking at them with local perspectives. EU4Ocean members are being mobilized also at the regional sea basin scale, through the organization of local events, podcasts, competitions, and other initiatives. Landlocked

### How Can the Youth's Relentless Positivity Drive the Change We Need?

The momentum recently generated by the global activism of young people has demonstrated the importance of the involvement and engagement of the youth in driving the change we need to see in political agendas and in our collective priorities. Empowering the youth by giving them the right tools and space for making their voices heard is crucial. At the same time and to embrace all levels of society, schools must take part in this common Ocean Literacy mission.

The Youth4Ocean Forum has been designed to provide the youth with the opportunities to speak up for their generation, share their ideas, present Ocean Literacy projects, and connect with like-minded young people and experts all over Europe. They launch calls for projects every three months, and they are currently preparing their attendance at the COP26. Successful project holders become Young Ocean Advocates and get the opportunity to develop their project further with the support of the EU4Ocean Coalition.

Efforts also have to be made to engage children and to "bring the ocean" into the education system, so that youngsters can also understand its importance, and how we (individually or collectively) can better act towards a more sustainable use of the ocean. The Network of European Blue Schools enables students to embark on a journey to discover the ocean and its value with their teachers. By accepting the "Find the Blue" challenge, students can select an ocean topic or local marine related problem and make a creative contribution to solving it.

The Blue Schools empower people to change the way they think and take action responsibly, understanding that what we do today can have further implications for people's lives and planet. Working on sustainable development issues such as

climate change and biodiversity is at the heart of Europe's Blue Schools – and to embrace the Sustainable Development Agenda, schools can show their students how their own actions can help achieve the SDGs by making ocean-friendly choices on a school level.

### Collective Actions for the Inspiring and Engaging Ocean We Want

As well highlighted in the Ocean Decade concept framework, "achieving the Ocean we want goes beyond the capacity of any single nation, any single stakeholder group, any single generation, or any single scientific discipline." Embracing all levels of society – from school kids to the youth and adults – connecting them all under a unique initiative, looking at new opportunities for cooperation, and promoting the inclusion of ocean issues in formal education are among the most important pillars of the EU4Ocean coalition.

The relative wants to contribute to the Ocean Decade challenge of making ocean knowledge and understanding available to everybody, and promoting behavioral change by giving knowledge to kids, empowering youth to drive change and enhancing networking, mobilization and co-creation among initiatives and various stakeholders from different sectors. Joint effort is needed to make society understand the values of the ocean, because, as the famous French oceanographer Jacques Cousteau reminds us: "The sea, the great unifier, is man's only hope."

To know more about EU4Ocean Coalition please visit [www.eu-oceanliteracy.eu](http://www.eu-oceanliteracy.eu)

### Endnote

We thank Ana Noronha, Cinzia Vivo - Otpa Marinko, ACTeon, Delphine EU4OCEAN/ACTeon, Hanneke Van Ieperen, Sciencopie Belgium – for inputs and feedback.



# EU4Ocean Platform: What's Next?

## Project Legacy

EU4Ocean Summit,  
Spring – Summer 2022

EU4Ocean Kick-Off,  
International Ocean  
Literacy Summit, 8  
June 2020

EU4Ocean workshops,  
24-25 September 2020

EU4Ocean sea-basin  
workshops, 2021

*EU4Ocean Platform online community*

*Platform meetings (online)*

*Working Group topic meetings  
(online)*



# EU4Ocean Platform: Today and tomorrow

## Thursday 2 December 2021

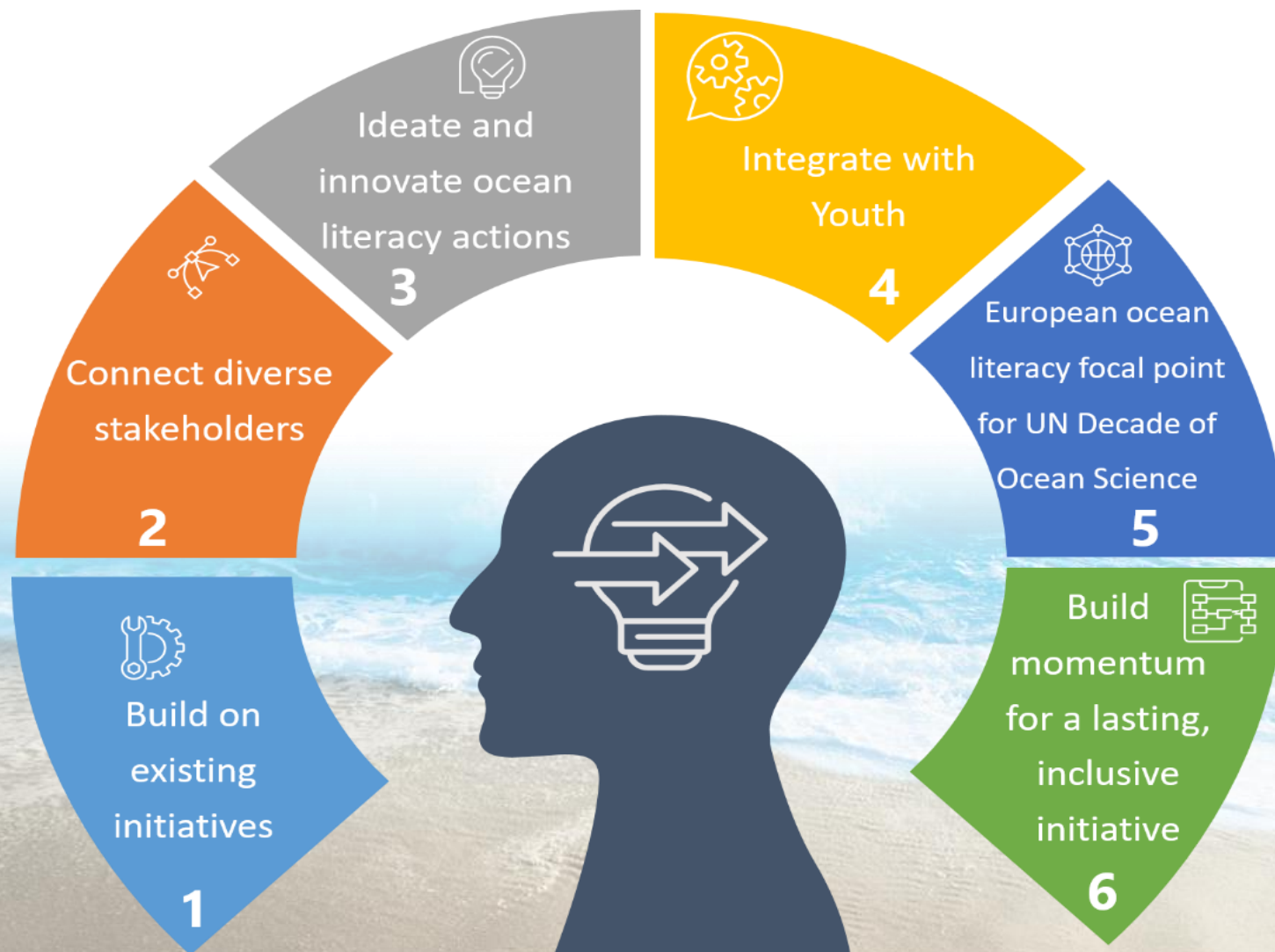
9h-11h30 CET	EU4Ocean Platform meeting
14h-16h CET	WG Food from the Ocean

## Friday 3 December 2021

10h-12h CET	WG Healthy & Clean Ocean
14h-16h CET	WG Climate & Ocean



# EU4Ocean Platform: Key Objectives



#EU4OCEAN