



The Sea for Society project is to bring together researchers, policy makers, economic stakeholders, young people, citizens and local authorities through dialogue, mutual learning and action in order to create a new concept of the sea and the oceans, the “Blue Society” concept.

The Blue Society is about exploiting the ocean and benefiting from its resources without harming them. It is also about believing in our imagination, in sharing experience and in progress.

200 years ago we created a new society, with industry as the motor of progress. But despite the great strides we have taken, our modern economic system is at a breaking point. The world we live in is a finite one, with limited resources. It is time to act and turn this crisis into an opportunity to reinvent a new future.

Imagine...

Imagine renewable energies coming from ocean’s waves and currents, or even a hybrid sailing vessel using the rise and fall of the ocean swell for propulsion. Imagine microalgae bioreactors extracting atmospheric CO₂. Nowadays, half of the molecules in the anticancer drugs comes from the sea, so think about the numerous diseases we could treat thanks to future discoveries. These numerous ideas and projects must be understood by economic stakeholders and policy makers before being adopted. Imagine all these benefits as part of sustainable and prosperous economies, generating millions of jobs and distributed equitably across our planet. Then, you will have imagined the Blue Society.

The project Sea for Society

28 partners from 11 European countries (Belgium, Italy, Ireland, France, Greece, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom) plus Israel launched the Sea for Society project during the World Oceans Day in June 2012. These universities, research centers, science museums, Business Innovation Centers, NGOs are brought together in the European Sea For Society project financed by the Directorate General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission. During more than 3 years, these organizations will together interact and involve researchers, economic stakeholders, local authorities and policy makers, young people and the citizens on the Blue Society theme.

After the launching of the project at Nausicaà on June 06, 07 and 08 2012, two important phases will follow with a dialogue phase (between February 2013 and November 2013)



bringing together researchers, socio-economic actors and young people and citizens about what the sea provides human beings in their daily life.

From this phase, the Sea For Society project partners will extract cross-cutting themes from which will be implemented the second phase of mobilization (between June 2014 and July 2015) with the implementation of real actions on the field, a source of inspiration. Finally, a European conference (organized between July 2015 and November 2015) will summarize the conclusions and bring together actors of this new vision of the oceans, which the partners of the Sea For Society call the Blue Society.

This project is funded by the European Union under the Seventh Framework Programme. This Mutual and Mobilization Learning action plan helps the DG Research and Innovation to identify innovating research themes and governance modes proposed by researchers and local authorities to implement the Blue Society. The involvement of the socio-economic actors, of young people and citizens will be essential to change human behaviors and the choices we make concerning the oceans. In that frame, the consultation and mobilization phases of the SFS project will be crucial steps to emphasize their co-authored recommendations towards a better future for everyone.

List of partners:

1/ National Sea Centre - Nausicaá - France

<http://www.nausicaa.fr/>

2/ European Centre for Information on Marine Science and Technology - EurOcean - Portugal

<http://www.eurocean.org/>

3/ Institute of Oceanology – Polish Academy of Sciences- IOPAN – Poland

<http://www.iopan.gda.pl/>

4/ AquaTT – Ireland

<http://www.aquatt.ie/>

5/ The Sven Lovén Centre for Marine Sciences of the University of Gothenburg - UGOT- Sweden

<http://www.gu.se/english>

6/ National Agency for Scientific and Technological Culture - Ciência Viva – Portugal

<http://www.cienciaviva.pt/home/>

7/ Spanish Institute of Oceanography – IEO - Spain

<http://www.ieo.es/inicial.htm>

8/ Costa Edutainment - Italy

<http://www.acquariodigenova.it/cms/home.html>



9/ Aquarium Finisterrae (Aquario Finisterra) – Science Museums of Coruna - Mc2 –Spain
<http://mc2coruna.org/aquarium/>

10/ Foras na Mara - Marine Institute – National Agency for Marine Research – Ireland
<http://www.marine.ie/Home/>

11/ Hellenic Centre for Marine Research – HCMR – IO – Greece
<http://innovator.ath.hcmr.gr/newhcmr1/>

12/ Institute of Marine Research – IMR – Norway
<http://www.imr.no/en>

13/ Instituto Superior Técnico - Engineering, Science and Technology – IST – Portugal
<http://www.ist.utl.pt/>

14/ The European Network of Science Centres and Museums – Ecsite – Belgium
<http://www.ecsite.eu/>

15/ International Union for Conservation of Nature – IUCN European Regional Office – Belgium
<http://www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/europe/>

16/ European Business & Innovation Centre Network – EBN – Belgium
<http://www.ebn.be/>

17/ National University of Ireland, Galway – NUIG – Ireland
<http://www.nuigalway.ie/>

18/ World Ocean Network – WON – Belgium
<http://www.worldoceannetwork.org>

19/ French Research Institute for Exploration of the Sea – Ifremer – France
<http://www.ifremer.fr/institut>

20/ Studio K – Communication Agency - France
<http://www.studio-k.fr/>

Third parties:

21/ International Union for Conservation of Nature - IUCN French Committee – France
<http://www.iucn.fr/>

22/ International Union for Conservation of Nature – IUCN Spanish committee – Spain
<http://www.iucn.es/>



23/ Israel National Museum of Science, Technology and Space - Daniel and Matilde Recanati Center - Haifa - Israel

<http://madatech.org.il/Pages/Index.aspx?language=English>

24/ Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences - RBINS - Brussels - Belgium

<http://www.sciencesnaturelles.be/>

25/ National Natural History Museum - MNHN - France

<http://www.mnhn.fr/museum/foffice/transverse/transverse/accueil.xsp>

26/ Natural History Museum - NHM - UK

<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/>

25/ WHOWHATWHEREWHENWHY (W5) - Interactive Discovery Centre - W5 - Northern Ireland

<http://www.w5online.co.uk/>

28/ Flanders Marine Institute Marine and Coastal Research and Management - VLIZ - Belgium

<http://www.vliz.be/>



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