



**EMPOWERING**  
SUSTAINABLE TRANSITIONS FOR  
BALTIC & NORTH SEA BLUE  
COMMUNITIES

# Open Calls Webinar

December 10, 2025



Funded by  
the European Union

[www.blueactionbanos.eu](http://www.blueactionbanos.eu)

# Maria Karpiłowska

Senior Project Manager

*FundingBox Accelerator*

A vertical strip on the right side of the slide shows an underwater scene. Sunlight rays filter down from the surface, illuminating a field of green seagrass at the bottom. A small, dark fish is visible swimming in the water above the seagrass.

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# Agenda

1. Vision & objectives of BlueActionBANOS and Mission Ocean
2. Types of Projects and Activities Eligible for Financial support
3. Application and Evaluation Process
4. Key Requirements for Successful Applications
5. Q&A

The logo for BlueActionBANOS is positioned on the right side of the slide, overlaid on a large, light blue lighthouse graphic. The text "BLUE ACTION BANOS" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. "BLUE" is in a medium blue, "ACTION" is in a darker blue, and "BANOS" is in a very dark blue. A small lighthouse icon is integrated into the letter 'A' of "ACTION".

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1.

# Vision & Objectives of BlueActionBANOS and Mission Ocean

Alberto Terenzi

Team Lead, Innovation Support and Blue Skills

*SUBMARINER Network for Blue Growth EEIG*



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# Project Facts

- **18** Project Partners
- **11** Countries
- **48** Months (September '25 – August '29)
- **12.4** Million EUR Budget (Horizon Europe Programme)
- Coordinated by SUBMARINER Network For Blue Growth EEIG



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## Netherlands



## Belgium



## Denmark



## Germany



## Norway



## Poland



## Sweden



## Estonia



## Finland



## Latvia



## Lithuania



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# MISSION LIGHTHOUSES

Mission lighthouses are sites to test, demonstrate, and deploy the Mission activities across EU seas and river basins.

They try out new ideas and involve local businesses and people in the process.



**EU MISSIONS**

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS



**ATLANTIC - ARCTIC**



**BALTIC & NORTH SEA**



**DANUBE-BLACK SEA**



**MEDITERRANEAN**



# BlueActionBANOS & Mission Ocean

Four-year project part of the EU Mission *Restore Our Ocean and Waters*.  
To **restore, protect, and preserve** the health of our ocean, seas, and inland waters by 2030.

Protect and restore marine  
and freshwater  
ecosystems and  
biodiversity.

Prevent and eliminate  
pollution of our oceans,  
seas, and waters.

Make the sustainable blue  
economy carbon-neutral  
and circular.



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# Mission Ocean and Project Objectives

- Aligned with **the EU Mission “Restore Our Ocean and Waters by 2030”** and the European Green Deal.
- To deliver and support measurable contributions to:
  - Biodiversity conservation
  - Pollution reduction
  - The transition to a climate-neutral, sustainable blue economy
- To facilitate the transition from Phase 1 to Phase 2 of Mission Ocean in the BANOS Lighthouse Area:
  - Scaling up solutions piloted in the early stages
  - Deploying them across a broader set of contexts and regions



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## Mission Ocean and Project Objectives

- Aligned with the “2030”
- To deliver
  - Biodiversity
  - Policy
  - The
- To facilitate in the E
  - Scaling
  - Deploying them across a broader set of contexts and regions

**Mobilise & empower** diverse communities of actors with **practical, easily accessible support** to implement **innovative, high-impact actions** to restore our ocean, seas and waters.

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# BlueActionBANOS: Vision

Provide **targeted financial assistance**, **technical guidance**, and **strategic knowledge-sharing** to support the scale-up and deployment of Mission Ocean solutions within the **Baltic and North Sea Lighthouse Area**.

Community-Led  
Actions



Transition  
Agendas



Technical Assistance &  
Knowledge-Sharing

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2.

## Types of Projects and Activities Eligible for Financial Support

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# Community-Led Actions

 Initiatives led by **area-based or interest-based stakeholder groups within Baltic and North Sea (BANOS) countries that contribute to Mission Ocean and Waters objectives**


 Impactful solutions that are innovative for their community, presenting **participatory approach that empowers local stakeholders**, builds on their local know-how and application of sustainable practices, and **encourages their long-term commitment to Mission Ocean and Waters objectives.**


 Eligible applicants are **consortia of 2 to 12 entities** registered in one or more BANOS countries

 Grants of up to **EUR 2M per Community-Led Action**, and **up to EUR 500k per one entity**

 Duration of support programme: up to 24 months


## Transition Agendas

 Development of **strategic roadmaps for sustainable systemic shifts, targeting Mission Ocean and Waters objectives in the Baltic and North Sea.**

 Projects will develop **multi-year plans** for goals that support Mission Ocean and Waters objectives.

 Eligible applicants are **individual entities or consortia of up to 3 entities** registered in one or more BANOS countries

 Grants of up to EUR **100k per Transition Agenda**, and **up to EUR 60k per one entity**

 Duration of support programme: up to 18 months

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# Basic rules

- Goals aligned with **Mission Ocean objectives**
- Applicants must be established in a **BANOS** country that is a Member State or Associated Country to Horizon Europe.
- Proposals may concern actions in one BANOS country or several BANOS countries
- **Impact** of proposed projects **must be within BANOS area**

An underwater photograph showing a school of small fish swimming above a dense field of green seagrass. Sunlight rays penetrate the water from the top right, creating a bright, hazy effect.

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# Eligible applicants

## Types of actors

- Regional and local **authorities**
- **NGOs, foundations, professional associations**, and other entities engaged in **local development and nature conservation activities**
- **Educational establishments**
- **Locally based companies** (provided this is not in conflict with the State Aid rules)
- **Research performing organisations**

## Communities

**ports** (including inland ports) -  
**Islands** -  
**Fishing communities, aquaculture producers and other representatives of blue economy** -  
**Operators** of various vessels -  
**Local Action Groups** described by the Community-Led Local Development strategies -  
**Waterfront cities or regions / communities** (avoiding overlaps with Cities' Mission) -  
**Conservation communities** -  
Representatives of the **tourism sector** -  
**Maritime infrastructure operators** (incl. offshore platforms and their operators) -

Check Open Call Terms&Conditions  <https://blueactionbanos.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/>

# Activities eligible for financial support

Community-Led Actions	Transition Agendas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Re-naturalising coastal zones</b> and reducing artificial <b>surfaces</b> within and around port areas.</li><li>● Introducing <b>nature-based solutions within port and coastal environments</b>.</li><li>● <b>Establishing protected areas</b> or restoring natural <b>ecosystems</b> in riverine, lacustrine and marine coastal areas and ports.</li><li>● Designing and deploying solutions that <b>enhance coastal and riverine resilience to sea level rise and extreme weather events</b>.</li><li>● Supporting spatial and temporal management of coastal and fisheries activities to <b>reduce ecosystem pressure</b>.</li><li>● Promoting <b>nature-based infrastructure to buffer coastal communities</b> against climate-related risks.</li><li>● Supporting <b>local initiatives for ecosystem-based planning and stakeholder-led resource management</b>.</li><li>● Supporting <b>sustainable blue tourism practices</b>, especially from a multi-use perspective.</li><li>● ... <b>21 items more!</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Developing <b>integrated strategies for decarbonising coastal and port areas</b>, combining renewable energy deployment, clean fuel adoption, and electrification of port operations. Plans should include <b>stakeholder dialogues, policy mapping, and investment pathways</b>.</li><li>● Coordinating <b>multi-stakeholder decarbonisation roadmaps for maritime, riverine, and hinterland logistics</b>, including modal shifts, port-hinterland electrification, and collaboration across the transport chain to reduce emissions and improve efficiency.</li><li>● Designing <b>multi-annual action plans for circular blue economy practices</b>, including roadmaps for zero-waste seafood processing, innovative blue bioproduct valorisation, smart waste reuse systems, or closed-loop supply chains.</li><li>● Developing <b>multi-annual action plans for sustainable blue tourism, combining tourism with nature restoration, sustainable fishing and aquaculture practices</b>, and other relevant sectors.</li><li>● ... <b>14 items more!</b></li></ul>

## FULL LIST

OC Terms&Conditions, **Annex I**  <https://blueactionbanos.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/>



**We will also provide:**



**Networking and  
collaboration**



**Further financing  
opportunities**



**Monitoring &  
evaluation**

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3.

## Application and Selection Process

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About The Project

Funding ▾

News & Events ▾

Connect

Resources

Contact

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Application detail |...

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## How to Apply

Only projects that submit the Project Idea Form and go through the individual consultation will be invited to submit a full proposal.

The Project Idea Form must be submitted by 16 March 2025, 17:00 CET. We reserve the right to contact and consult only those applicants who submit complete and full information in the Project Idea form. While submitting the Project Idea Form and undergoing the consultation are mandatory steps, these are not subject to evaluation. We will evaluate only complete full proposals that were submitted via official tools within the indicated deadline.

### Open Call Documents

Terms and Conditions

FAQ

Project Idea Form template

Full Proposal Form template



Download



Download



Download



Download

## Funding Opportunities

BlueActionBANOS offers targeted financial assistance, technical guidance, and strategic knowledge-sharing to support the scale-up and deployment of [Mission Ocean and Waters](#) solutions within the Baltic and North Sea Lighthouse Area.

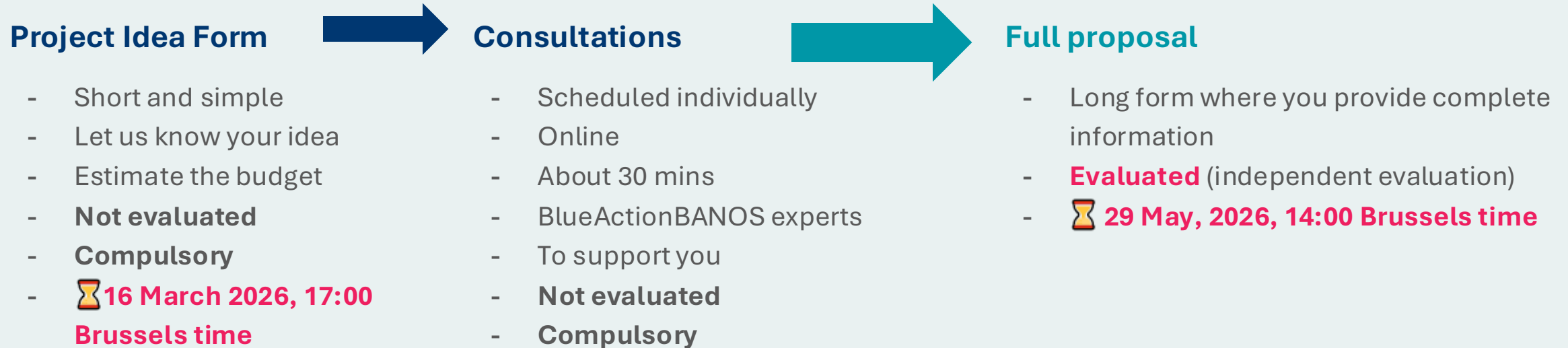
Below you'll find all the information needed to explore, apply for, and understand our funding instruments.

Two Open Calls are  
officially open now!

Community-Led Actions Open Call

1st Transition Agendas Open Call

# Application process





# SELECTION PROCESS



4.

## Key Requirements for Successful Applications

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# Before you start the application process

1. Visit our website <https://blueactionbanos.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/>
2. 📢 Read Terms & Conditions!!!
3. Questions? Send and email to [BAB\\_helpdesk@fundingbox.com](mailto:BAB_helpdesk@fundingbox.com)

# To apply

1. Go to

<https://opportunities.getonepass.eu/applications/bab/start>

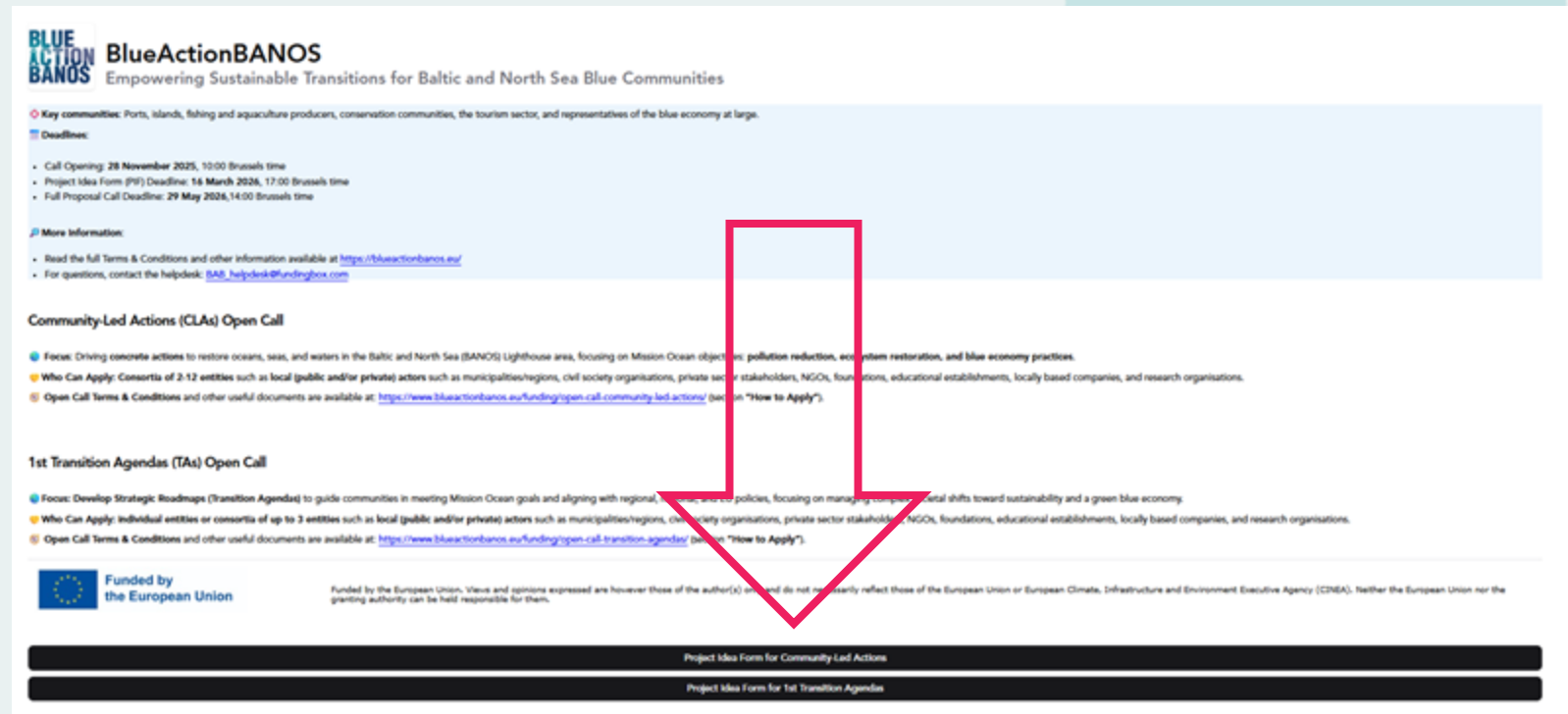
2. Select the programme

3. Use the right button:

4. Register an account

5. Complete the form

6. Submit the form



**BLUE ACTION BANOS** BlueActionBANOS  
Empowering Sustainable Transitions for Baltic and North Sea Blue Communities

**Key communities:** Ports, islands, fishing and aquaculture producers, conservation communities, the tourism sector, and representatives of the blue economy at large.

**Deadlines:**

- Call Opening: 28 November 2025, 10:00 Brussels time
- Project Idea Form (PIF) Deadline: 16 March 2026, 17:00 Brussels time
- Full Proposal Call Deadline: 29 May 2026, 14:00 Brussels time

**More information:**


- Read the full Terms & Conditions and other information available at <https://blueactionbanos.eu/>
- For questions, contact the helpdesk: [BAOS\\_helpdesk@fundingbox.com](mailto:BAOS_helpdesk@fundingbox.com)

**Community-Led Actions (CLAs) Open Call**

- **Focus:** Driving concrete actions to restore oceans, seas, and waters in the Baltic and North Sea (BANOS) Lighthouse area, focusing on Mission Ocean objectives: pollution reduction, ecosystem restoration, and blue economy practices.
- **Who Can Apply:** Consortia of 2-12 entities such as local (public and/or private) actors such as municipalities/regions, civil society organisations, private sector stakeholders, NGOs, foundations, educational establishments, locally based companies, and research organisations.
- **Open Call Terms & Conditions** and other useful documents are available at: <https://www.blueactionbanos.eu/funding/open-call/community-led-actions/> (section "How to Apply").

**1st Transition Agendas (TAs) Open Call**

- **Focus:** Develop Strategic Roadmaps (Transition Agendas) to guide communities in meeting Mission Ocean goals and aligning with regional, national, and EU policies, focusing on managing complex societal shifts toward sustainability and a green blue economy.
- **Who Can Apply:** Individual entities or consortia of up to 3 entities such as local (public and/or private) actors such as municipalities/regions, civil society organisations, private sector stakeholders, NGOs, foundations, educational establishments, locally based companies, and research organisations.
- **Open Call Terms & Conditions** and other useful documents are available at: <https://www.blueactionbanos.eu/funding/open-call/transition-agendas/> (section "How to Apply").

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[Project Idea Form for Community Led Actions](#)

[Project Idea Form for 1st Transition Agendas](#)



# Key requirements

1. Both Project Idea and Full Proposal forms must be completed **in English**.
2. Both Project Idea and Full Proposal forms must include **complete, true and up to date information**.
3. **No Project Idea Form** -> no consultation  
- > no Full Proposal -> no evaluation -> **no**   

## 1. Deadlines

## 2. Mission Ocean and Waters goals, impact in BANOS region

3. No Conflict of Interest
4. Financial stability
5. Original work
6. **Gender Equality Plan (Full Proposal)**

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# Next steps

1. Follow us on [LinkedIn](#)
2. [Register](#) for the 2nd webinar - **16 Dec., 10:00 - 11:30 CET**
3. Join our [BlueActionBANOS Community on BlueBioMatch](#)
4. Prepare your Project Idea and submit it before **16 March 2026, 17:00 CET**
5. Have a **consultation**
6. **Submit your full proposal** before **29 May 2026, 14:00 CET**



**Questions?**

[BAB\\_helpdesk@fundingbox.com](mailto:BAB_helpdesk@fundingbox.com)



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5.

Q&A

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# BLUE ACTION BANOS

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