BlueActionAA awards funding to its first seven Transition Agenda projects to drive long-term ocean and water restoration across the Atlantic and Arctic

BlueAction Atlantic and Arctic (BlueActionAA) has awarded funding to its first seven Transition Agenda projects, which will help regions, sectors and communities tackle marine pollution, strengthen marine protection, support cleaner maritime transport and unlock sustainable blue economy opportunities across the Atlantic and Arctic basins.

These initiatives will help decision-makers accelerate action, strengthen collaboration and support healthier ecosystems and more resilient coastal communities. Working with public authorities, industry, researchers, civil society organisations and local communities, the funded consortia will develop strategic roadmaps, policy recommendations and regulatory pathways that support the scaling of solutions aligned with the objectives of the EU Mission *Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030*.

The Transition Agenda scheme provides grants of up to €100.000 and aims to support at least 20 projects through its two open calls. The seven initiatives announced today are the first projects selected for funding under this programme, and they bring together 16 partner organisations working across multiple countries and regions.

BlueActionAA will launch the second Transition Agenda Call in early 2027, creating further opportunities for organisations and stakeholders to develop strategies that advance ocean restoration, pollution prevention and sustainable blue growth.

Funded through Horizon Europe, BlueActionAA supports the implementation of the EU Mission *Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030* by fostering collaboration, innovation and scalable solutions across the Atlantic and Arctic regions.

"Meaningful ocean restoration depends on turning knowledge and ambition into practical action. Through these seven projects, partners will develop the roadmaps, recommendations and partnerships needed to tackle marine pollution, improve marine protection and support sustainable blue economy opportunities across the Atlantic and Arctic regions."

Dr Niall McDonough, Director of Policy, Innovation and Research Support, Marine Institute, Project Coordinator, BlueAction Atlantic and Arctic

Funded Projects

ARP

Duration 18 months, Portugal

ARP – AlgaRoad Portugal will establish the country's first transition agenda for the algae sector, addressing regulatory, financial and social barriers while creating pathways for the growth of algae-based solutions that support sustainable blue innovation.

BIVALVE-CREDIT

Duration 12 months, Galicia, Spain,

BIVALVE-CREDIT will explore ways to recognise and reward the environmental benefits of mussel farming by developing a framework that links nutrient removal and biodiversity enhancement to innovative bio-credit mechanisms.

ECA4NEA

Duration 12 months, Greenland and Iceland

ECA4NEA will prepare authorities, ports, cruise operators and coastal communities for the implementation of stricter shipping-emission requirements under the North-East Atlantic Emission Control Area.

greenPATH

Duration 12 months, Azores, Portugal

greenPATH will strengthen the Azores' response to marine litter by identifying pollution hotspots, engaging stakeholders through a Living Lab and establishing a strategic agenda that advances circular economy approaches and supports long-term action across the archipelago.

MARÉ

Duration 18 months, Portugal

MARÉ will bring communities, municipalities and marine experts together to co-design a roadmap for the effective protection of the Viana-Caminha marine area, drawing on successful community-led governance models from Portugal and neighbouring Spain.

Pellet-Reg

Duration 18 months, Europe

Pellet-Reg will strengthen the implementation of the EU Plastic Pellet Loss Regulation by analysing supply chains, identifying regulatory gaps and developing recommendations that support more effective oversight and lower microplastic emissions.

SOS

Duration 12 months, Portugal

SOS will unite industry, local authorities, researchers and citizens to reduce plastic and microplastic pollution in the Lis River basin and surrounding coastal waters through coordinated planning, policy guidance and practical tools for action.

Key Numbers

- 7 initiatives awarded funding
- Total of 16 partner organisations
- Up to €100,000 per grant
- Project duration ranging from 12 to 18 months

Funded by the European Union

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