



EMPOWERING  
SUSTAINABLE TRANSITIONS FOR  
BALTIC & NORTH SEA BLUE  
COMMUNITIES

Open Calls Webinar SWEDEN

14:e januari 2026 kl.9-10

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



Funded by  
the European Union



## Sonja Andrén

Innovationsledare  
*Innovatum Science Park*

Blue Action BANOS  
National Contact Point, Sverige



## Martin Sjöberg

Strateg Blåekonomi  
*IVL, Svenska Miljöinstitutet*

Blue Action BANOS  
Technical Support



## Jane Ihrfors

Maringeolog  
*IVL, Svenska Miljöinstitutet*

BlueActionBANOS  
Technical Support



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

# Agenda

- 1.) Vision och mål för BlueActionBANOS och Mission Ocean**
- 2.) Typer av projekt och aktiviteter som är berättigade till finansiellt stöd**
- 3.) Ansöknings- och utvärderingsprocess**
- 4.) Viktiga krav för framgångsrika ansökningar**
- 5.) Frågor och svar (Q&A)**



1.

## **Vision & Objectives of BlueActionBANOS and Mission Ocean**

A photograph of an underwater environment. Sunlight rays filter down from the surface in the upper right corner, illuminating a patch of green seagrass on the ocean floor. A small, dark fish is visible swimming above the seagrass.

**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

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

## 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



## Netherlands



Netherlands Enterprise Agency

## Belgium



pioneer in  
marine science

## Norway



Norsk institutt for vannforskning

## Sweden

Innovatum  
science  
park



Swedish Environmental  
Research Institute

## Finland



## Latvia



LATVIJAS  
HIDROEKOLOGIJAS  
INSTITŪTS

## Lithuania



**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

## Coordination



## Denmark



Food & Bio Cluster  
Denmark



## Germany



Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel

## Poland



**FundingBox**  
#FundingChampions

**UBC** | UNION  
OF THE BALTIC  
CITIES

  
**ERRIN** European Regions  
Research and  
Innovation Network

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

# 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.

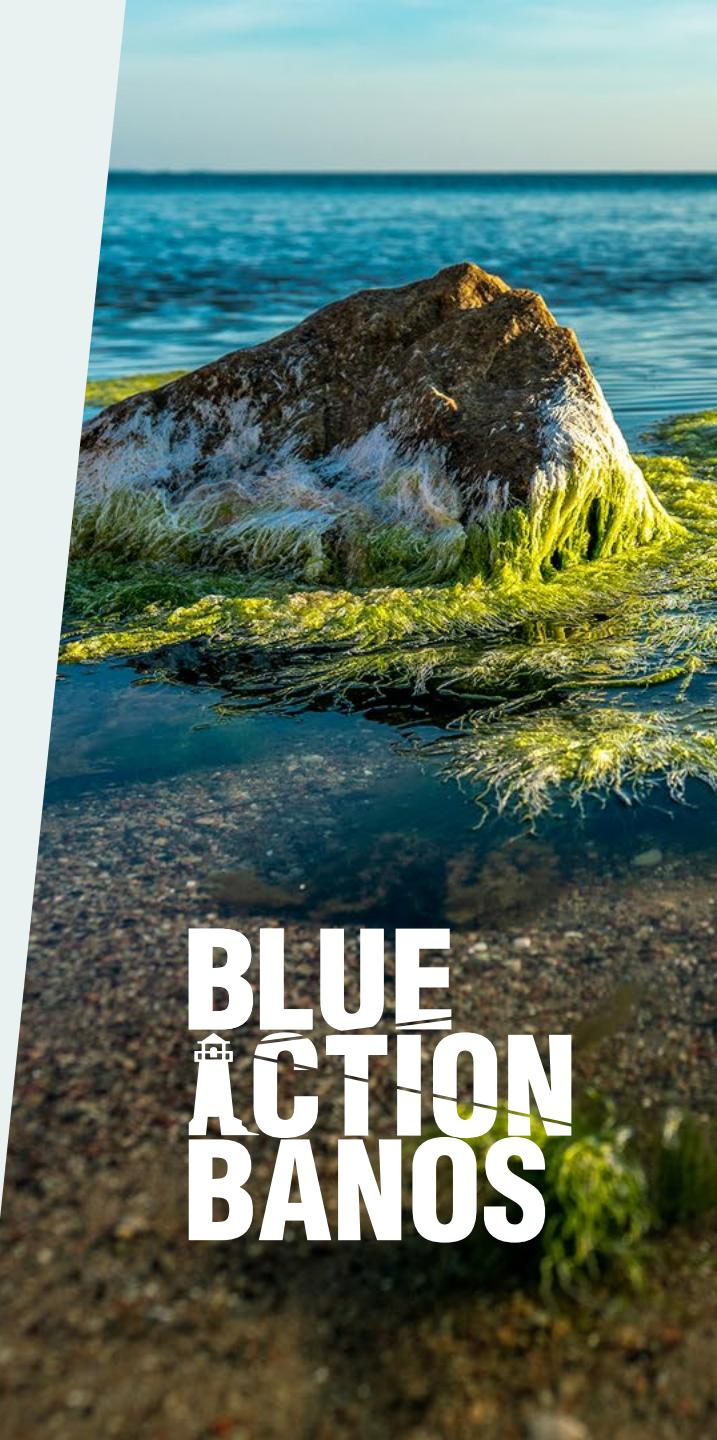
**Protect and restore marine and freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity.**

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

**Make the sustainable blue economy carbon-neutral and circular.**

**Digital Ocean and Waters Knowledge system**

**Public mobilization and engagement**



**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**



## 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.**



**ATLANTIC - ARCTIC**



**BALTIC & NORTH SEA**



**DANUBE-BLACK SEA**



**MEDITERRANEAN**



## BANOS: BAltic and NOrth Sea



### PHASE 1 DEVELOPMENT AND PILOTING 2022-2025

Research and innovation activities lay the foundations for implementing the three Mission objectives and enabling actions, paving the way to further citizens participation and engagement.

### PHASE 2 DEPLOYMENT AND UPSCALING 2026-2030

The solutions will be further deployed, replicated and scaled up. Activities aim at supporting transformative and innovative solutions to be demonstrated in view of their deployment.

# 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



## Mission Ocean and Project Objectives

- Aligned with the UN’s “Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2030”
- To deliver the following actions:
  - Bidirectional communication
  - Policy advocacy
  - The development of capacity
- To facilitate the scaling up of actions in the Blue Economy
  - Scattered across the globe
  - 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.

**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

# 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.

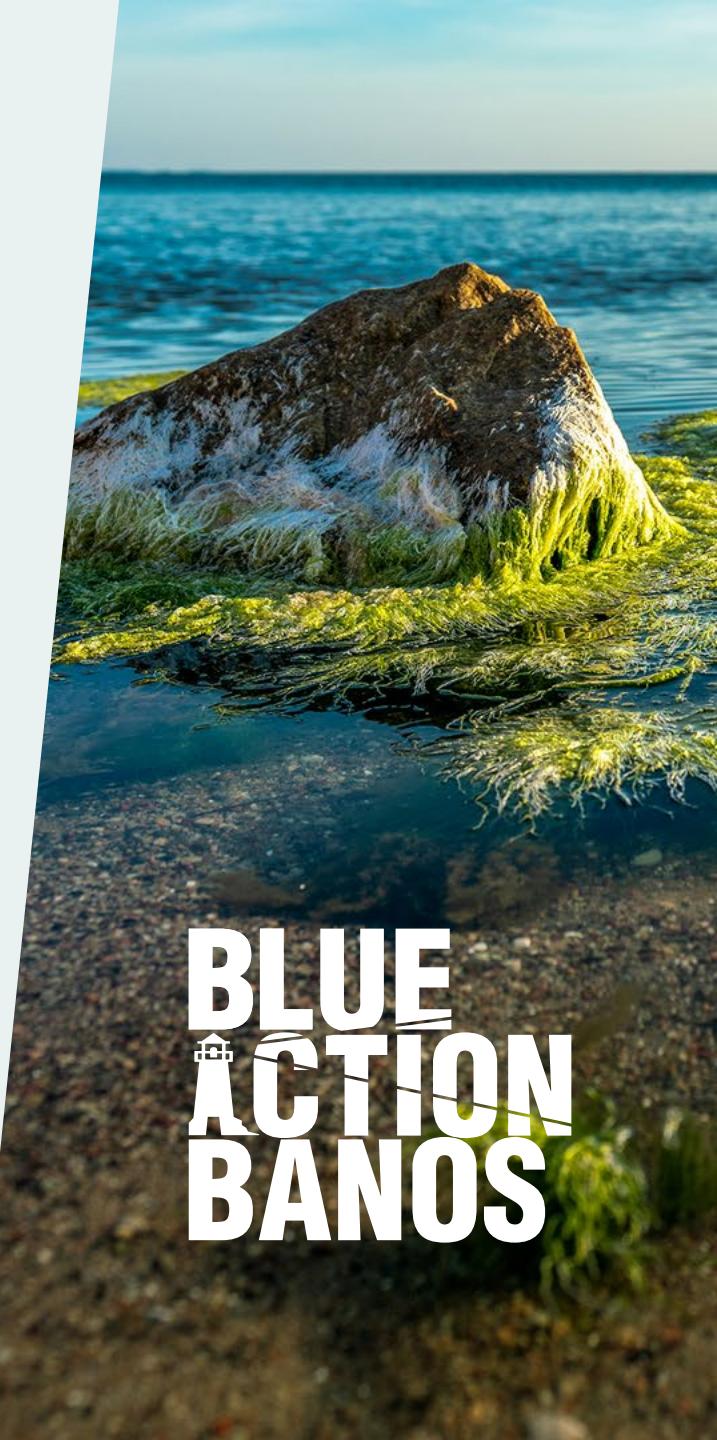
Community-Led  
Actions



Transition  
Agendas



Technical Assistance &  
Knowledge-Sharing



2.

## Types of Projects and Activities Eligible for Financial Support (IVL)

Ansvarig partner för finansieringssupport och information om  
ansökningar:



**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

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

# 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

Lokala aktörer/intressent-grupper som gemensamt implementerar lösningar

Lösningar som bidrar till en omställning inom Missions målen, är lokalt förankrade, ökar deltagandet

2-12 partners, max 24 månader, upp till 2 miljoner Euro, max 500 000 Euro per partner

**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

# 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

Omställningsagendor, färdplaner som bidrar till missions målen.

1-3 aktörer, max 18 månader, upp till 100 000 Euro max 60 000 Euro per aktör.

**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

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

# 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**



**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

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

# 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**

**Fishing communities, aquaculture producers and other representatives of blue economy** -

**Local Action Groups** described by the Community-Led Local Development strategies -

**Waterfront cities or regions / communities** (avoiding overlaps with Cities' Mission) -

**Maritime infrastructure operators** (incl. offshore platforms and their operators) -

**Ports (including inland ports)** -

**Islands** -

**Operators** of various vessels -

**Conservation communities** -

Representatives of the **tourism sector** -

## Communities

# Activities eligible for financial support

Community-Led Actions	Transition Agendas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Re-naturalising <b>coastal zones</b> and <b>reducing artificial surfaces</b> within and around port areas.</li><li>• Introducing <b>nature-based solutions</b> within port and coastal environments.</li><li>• <b>Establishing protected areas</b> or <b>restoring natural 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</b> to buffer coastal communities against climate-related risks.</li><li>• Supporting local initiatives for ecosystem-based planning and <b>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</b>, <b>policy mapping</b>, and <b>investment pathways</b>.</li><li>• Coordinating multi-stakeholder decarbonisation <b>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 <b>zero-waste seafood processing</b>, <b>innovative blue bioproduct valorisation</b>, <b>smart waste reuse systems</b>, or <b>closed-loop supply chains</b>.</li><li>• Developing <b>multi-annual action plans for sustainable blue tourism</b>, combining tourism with nature restoration, <b>sustainable fishing</b> and <b>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:

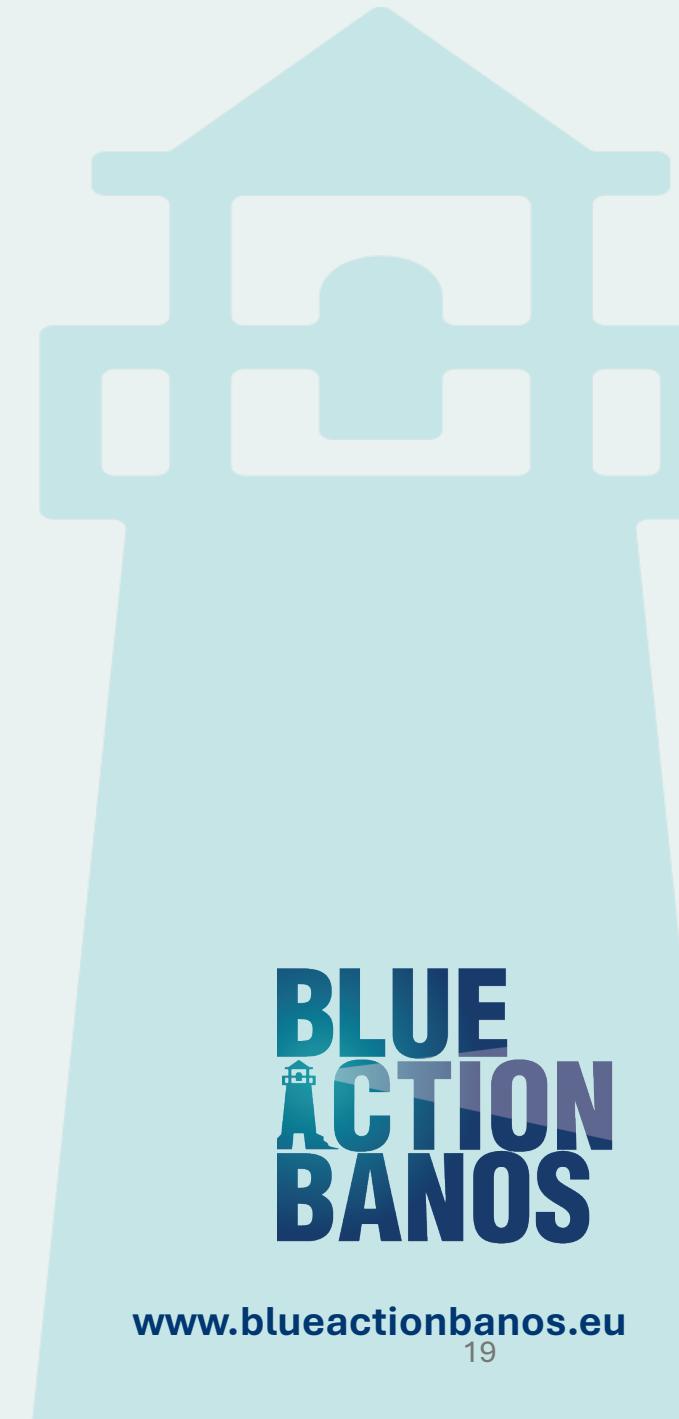
Networking and collaboration



Further financing opportunities



Monitoring & evaluation



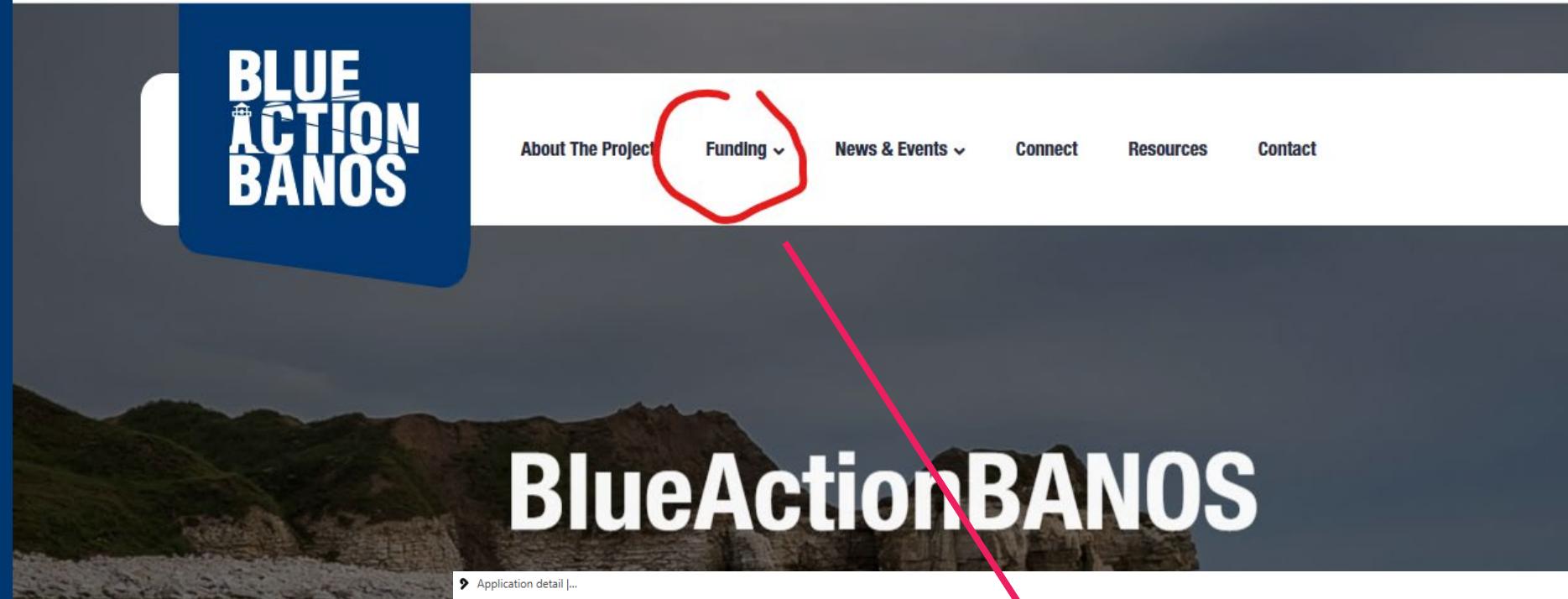
3.

## Application and Selection Process

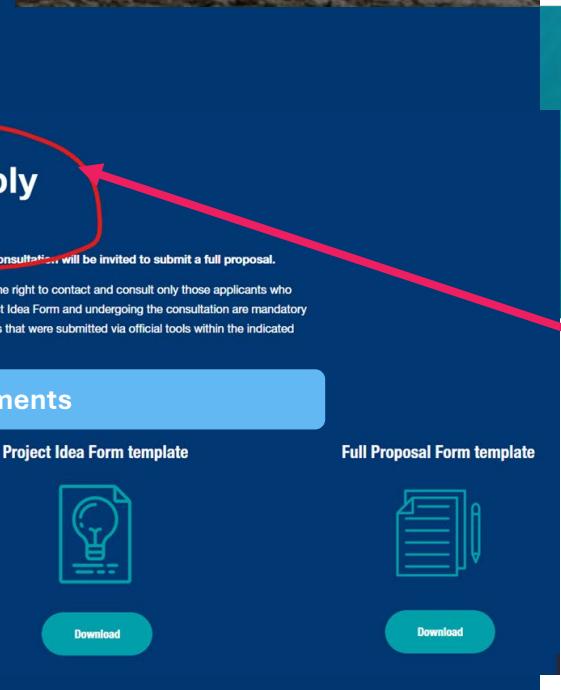


BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS

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



# BlueActionBANOS



## 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 2026, 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.

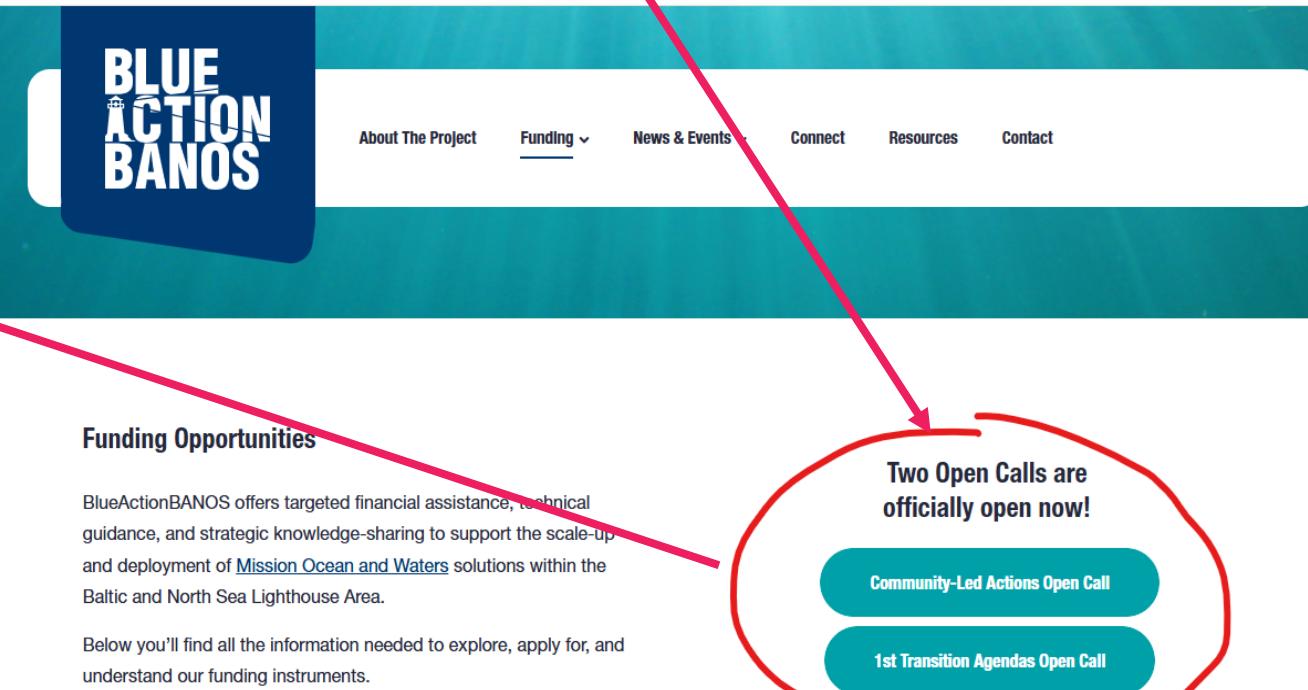
### Open Call Documents

Terms and Conditions  [Download](#)

FAQ  [Download](#)

Project Idea Form template  [Download](#)

Full Proposal Form template  [Download](#)

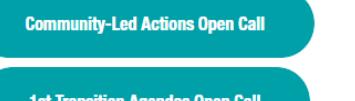


## Funding Opportunities

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  [Download](#)

1st Transition Agendas Open Call  [Download](#)

# Application process



## Project Idea Form

- Short and simple
- Let us know your idea
- Estimate the budget
- **Not evaluated**
- **Compulsory**
-  **16 March 2026, 17:00**  
Brussels time

## Consultations

- Scheduled individually
- Online
- About 25 mins
- BlueActionBANOS experts
- To support you
- **Not evaluated**
- **Compulsory**

## Full proposal

- Long form where you provide complete information
- **Evaluated** (independent evaluation)
-  **29 May, 2026, 14:00 Brussels time**

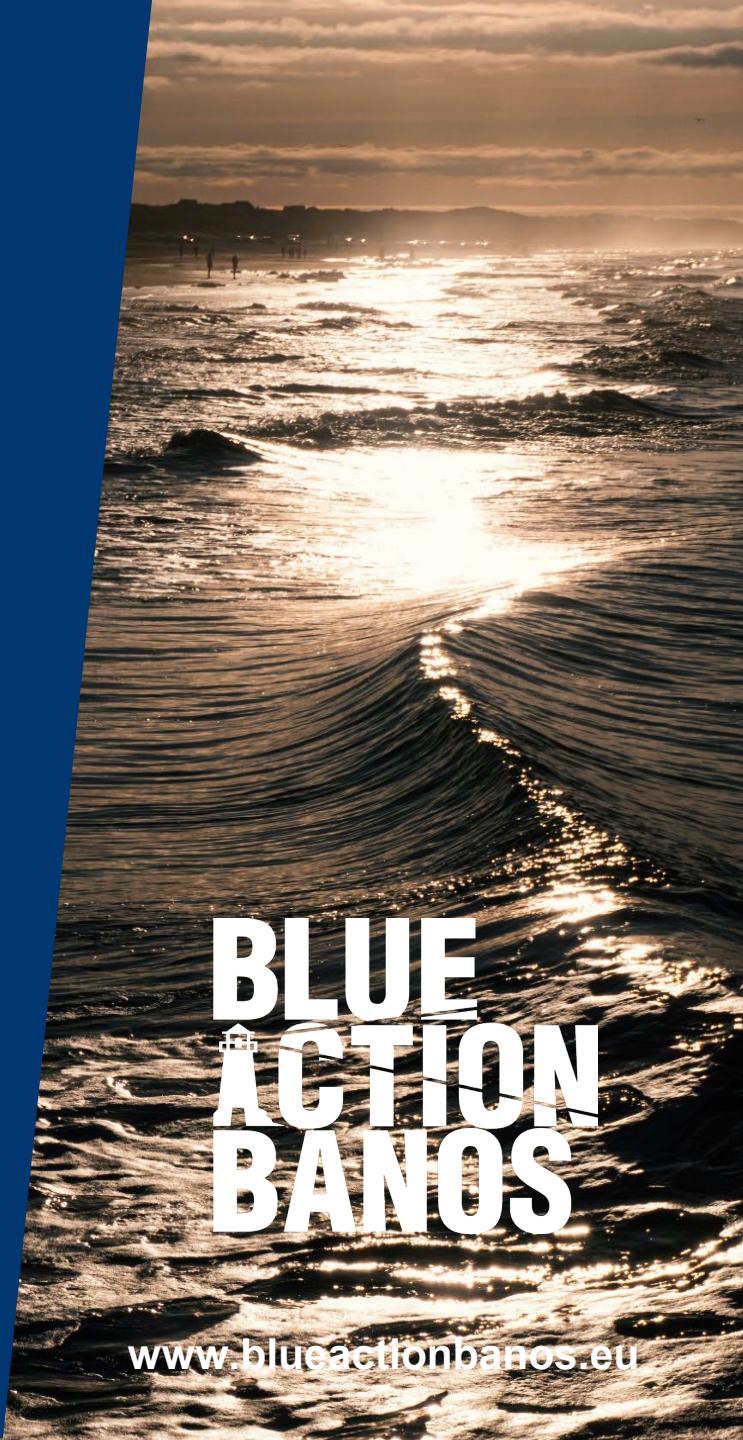
# SELECTION PROCESS



4.

## Key Requirements for Successful Applications

Ansvarig partner för finansieringssupport och information om  
ansökningar:



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

# Before you start the application process

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



**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

# To apply

## 1. Go to

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

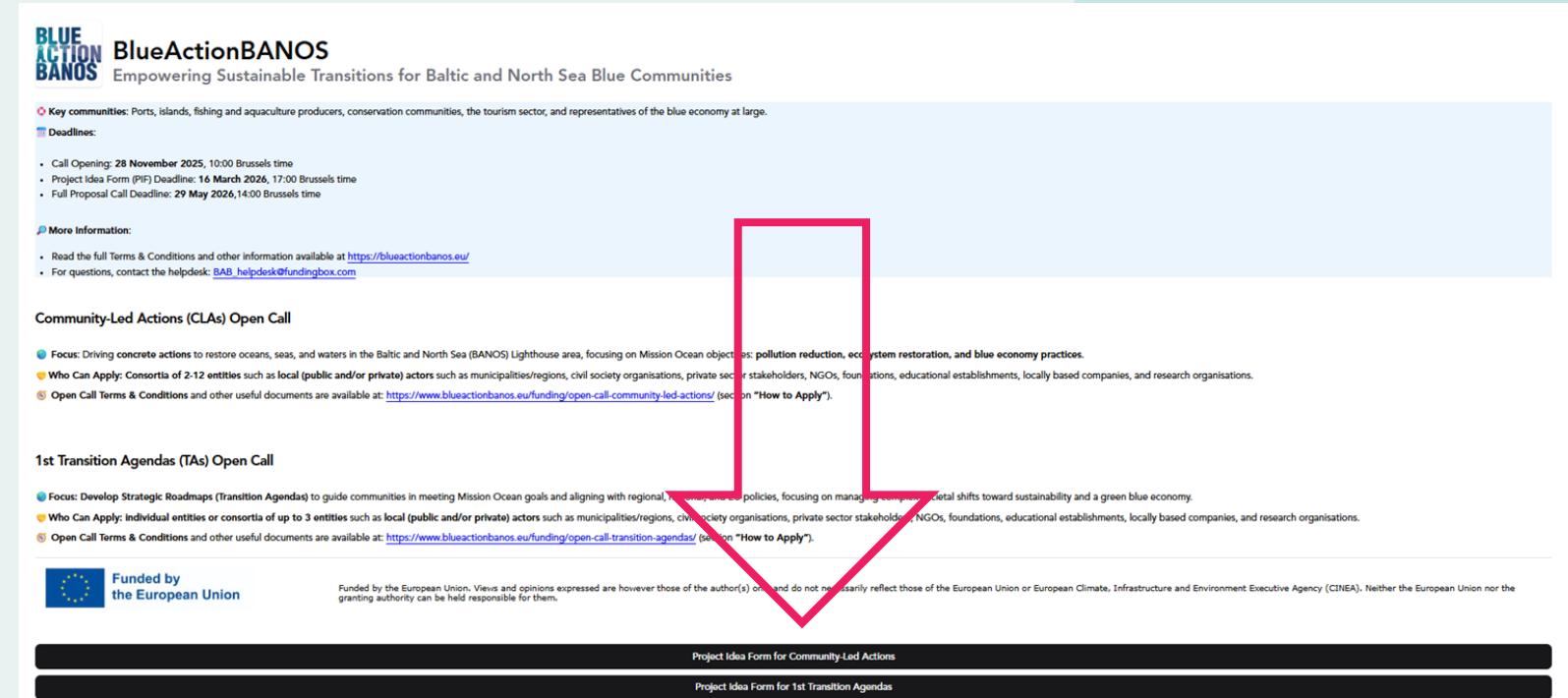
## 2. Select the programme

## 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: [BAB\\_helpdesk@fundingbox.com](mailto:BAB_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 European policies, focusing on managing complex, long-term 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").

Funded by the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) or grantee(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA). Neither the European Union nor the grantmaking authority can be held responsible for them.

Project Idea Form for Community-Led Actions

Project Idea Form for 1st Transition Agendas

# Key requirements

1. Both Project Idea Form and Full Proposal forms must be completed **in English**.
2. Both Project Idea Form 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** 
4. **Deadlines!! Project Idea Forms 16th March 2026; Full Proposal 29th May 2026**
5. **Mission Ocean and Waters goals, impact must be in BANOS region**
6. No Conflict of Interest
7. Financial stability
8. Original work
9. **Gender Equality (in Full Proposal)**



**BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS**

# Next steps

1. Follow us on [LinkedIn](#)
2. Register for upcoming webinars or events via our project webpage: [Blue Action Banos](#)
3. Join our [BlueActionBANOS Community on BlueBioMatch](#):  
[BlueBioMatch](#) | [BlueBioMatch](#)
4. Prepare your Project Idea and submit it before **16 March 2026, 17:00 CET**
5. Complete a **consultation**
6. Submit your full proposal before **29 May 2026, 14:00 CET**



Questions?

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



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

5.

## Q&A

Questions?

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



BLUE  
ACTION  
BANOS

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

# BLUE ACTION BANOS

**Maria Karpilowska**  
Senior Project Manager, FundingBox Accelerator  
[maria.karpilowska@fundingbox.com](mailto:maria.karpilowska@fundingbox.com), [LinkedIn](#)



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

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

