



## European Parliament Conference 'Improving Human-Ocean dynamics by Building a Blue Society'

### Recommendations for transitionning towards a Blue Society

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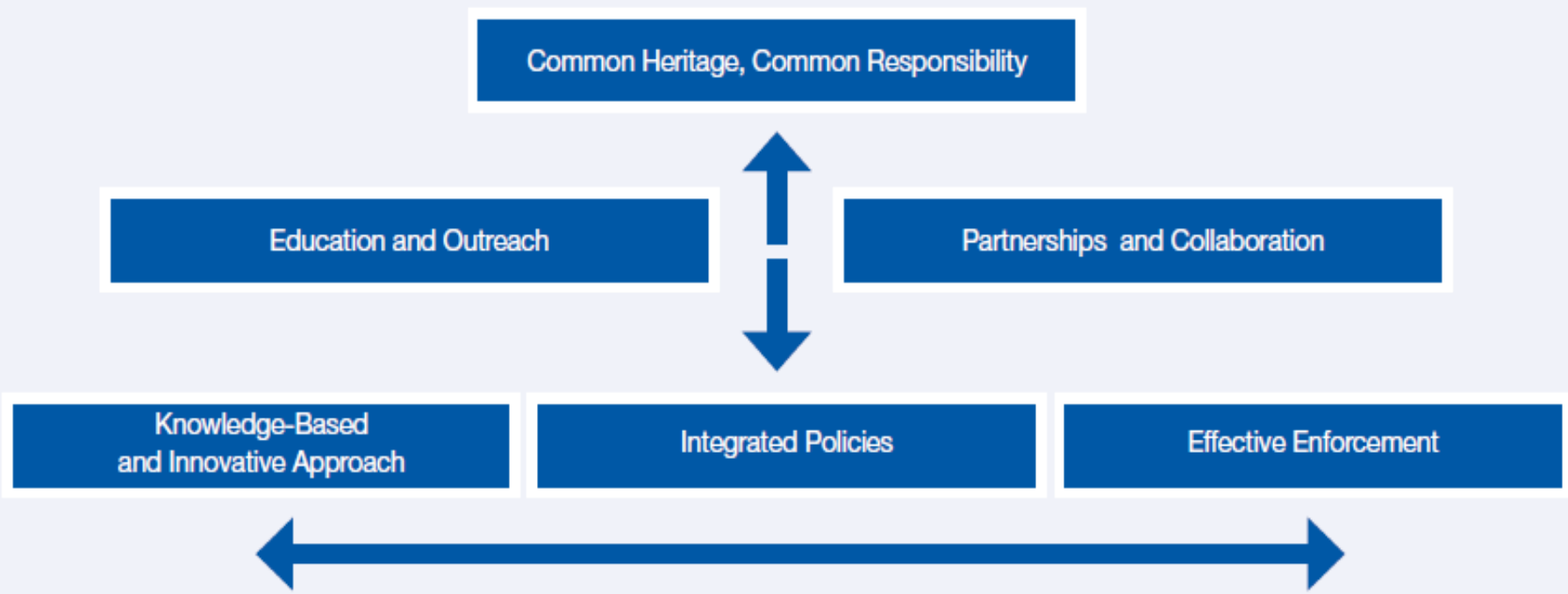


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# 6 interconnected components which play a crucial role in facilitating the transition towards a Blue Society:





# Key Blue Society Expert Groups Recommendations

## Ocean Global Governance

- ◆ Make regular global reporting on the state of the marine environment a consensus-oriented and multi-stakeholder process, feeding into the Sustainable Development Goals (particularly SDG 14 - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources)
- ◆ Promote the development of an ‘Integrated World Oceans Strategy’ to be enshrined in regional and national marine strategies
- ◆ Improve coordination between marine conservation agreements within and between regions
- ◆ Boost international financing for conservation and sustainable ocean use





# Key Blue Society Expert Groups Recommendations

## Education and Outreach

- Build up an extensive and transformative education and research programme aimed at promoting education and knowledge of ocean benefits
- Promote the integration of marine issues into education programmes
- Stimulate partnerships between informal science educators, marine scientists and the public
- Promote information and awareness-raising campaigns emphasising the importance of ocean health for human life





# Key Blue Society Expert Groups Recommendations

## Partnerships and Collaboration

- Assist in the development of multi-stakeholder regional facilitating bodies to engage in dialogue and discussion to develop recommendations for decision-makers
- Promote initiatives for local/regional marine networks and enhance best practice sharing for ecosystem protection and celebrate conservation successes





# Key Blue Society Expert Groups Recommendations

## Knowledge-based and Innovative approach

- ◆ Promote interdisciplinary marine research and research on ocean governance
- ◆ Create a targeted and innovative European marine science-policy interface platform, to support the EU Integrated Maritime Policy and MSFD
- ◆ Encourage strategic governmental appointments relevant to the promotion of science-policy interfaces
- ◆ Improve access to research outcomes and underlying data to foster innovation



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# Key Blue Society Expert Groups Recommendations

## Integrated policies

- At a national level, appoint ocean envoys/ocean advisers to champion ocean issues
- Set up adaptive Regional Sea Management Units which draw on ecosystem-based and precautionary management measures in order to help break down sector-based thinking and management
- Promote multi-stakeholder partnerships



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# Key Blue Society Expert Groups Recommendations

## Effective Enforcement

- Use Economic deterrents to ensure the effective enforcement of environmental policies and adopt the “polluters must pay” principle
- Encourage innovative initiatives through mandatory and non mandatory instruments (e.g. social contracts between users)



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# Additional Stakeholder Recommendations

## Regarding Research and Innovation

- ◆ Promote research on marine and coastal ecosystems functioning and marine resources; effects of chemicals on marine and coastal ecosystems; and blue energy technologies
- ◆ Create **multidisciplinary teams** in public and scientific institutions to foster interdisciplinary research.
- ◆ Develop a new **strategic innovation and research agenda** for the marine sector and create the conditions to foster Interdisciplinary, multistakeholder dialogue and collaboration



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# Additional Stakeholder Recommendations

## Regarding Economy

- ◆ Adopt environmental-economic accounting system (SEEA) on a national and European level
- ◆ Incentivize companies to incorporate costs for ecosystem restoration and management in their operations
- ◆ **Reward/subsidize** companies that respect the environment and offer subsidies for **ecologically and socially responsible investments**



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# Additional Stakeholder Recommendations

## Regarding management of marine space

- Adopt an ecosystem-based approach to managing marine areas and promote strategic environmental assessments (SEA)
- Promote **knowledge-exchange** through public consultation forums and networks at all geographical levels
- Manage biological resources and biodiversity sustainably and equitably, especially in the high seas, by enforcing binding agreements and providing additional resources (personnel, equipment and funding) to support these efforts
- Create an **European Agency for the Ocean**, to streamline administrative procedures and coordinate existing policy and administrative bodies/create new ones where needed



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# Additional Stakeholder Recommendations

## Regarding natural and cultural capital

- Develop responsible tourism to minimize negative social and environmental impact of mass tourism
- Extend and coordinate **MPA networks** in order to preserve marine resources and biodiversity



# Additional Stakeholder Recommendations

## Regarding Education and Mobilization

- Create '**Universities for the Ocean**' to train technical personnel and advisors to support both policymakers and businesses on ocean issues
- Fund national and European awareness raising campaigns
- Incorporate **marine topics** (theoretical and practical modules) **into school curricula**
- Integrate communication / public relations or social science content into science courses to encourage dialogue between the science community and the general public and administrative bodies/create new ones where needed



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## Thanks for your attention

