

Let's really break down the silos in the Horizon Europe Programme!

The Waterborne Sector fully subscribes to the new direction of Horizon Europe to break down the silos between modes and sectors. That's why we call upon Member States and the European Commission to give Waterborne its appropriate place, in accordance to its role, in the programming of cross-sectoral missions and partnerships.

The ability of society and industry to address **global challenges** and to decarbonise in order to meet the **UN Sustainable Development goals** and the **COP21 objectives**, to tackle societal needs and to adopt emerging technologies, will determine the world of tomorrow and the life of future generations.

The sector is at the core of the EU's economy creating **5.4 million jobs** (about 2.25% of all European employment) and generating currently **€500 billion a year** (3.4% of EU GDP). Moreover, waterborne transport enables nearly **90%** of international trade, **80%** of external EU trade and **40%** of internal EU trade. Waterborne tourism is annually growing at a double digit rate. With targeted and responsible investment, it will keep the waterborne environment of seas, ports and waterways healthy and sustainable ensuring long-term European prosperity.

With more than **70%** of the globe covered by water and **50%** of Europeans live close to the coast and the valleys of the 15 largest rivers, the Waterborne sector in Europe will be pivotal in the coming decades, both in Europe and globally. By 2050, 80% of the EU population will live in cities. Congestion costs Europe each year up to €100 billion. While expansion of the existing land infrastructure is often challenging and expensive to meet the increasing demand for public transport and city logistics, the Waterborne sector will offer waterfront cities with uncongested zero-emission and smart mobility solutions.

The European Waterborne sector, public and private has developed, in close cooperation with key stakeholders, an ambitious vision, based on a series of cross-sectoral missions:

- ❖ **Accelerated transformation of Waterborne Transport into sustainable, safe and interconnected mode of transport;**
- ❖ **Integrate Shipping, inland waterway transport and land transport, ports & seamless hinterland related logistics operations** in a policy that privileges the building of enhanced and multi-purpose infrastructure (transport, water management, nature protection, green energy production, leisure and tourism);
- ❖ Develop **European cities** through fully **integrated and efficient urban waterborne** services;
- ❖ Develop European **leadership in the Blue Economy**, enable **new business models** for **Blue Growth sectors**.

To implement its ambitious vision, the European Waterborne sector commits to make significant efforts in **research, development and innovation (RDI)**, as well as in education and training. These investments will have to be underpinned by an **integrated, holistic and coordinated policy and strategy**, across all parts of EU framework programmes and other relevant EU funding programmes. Only thereby, the Waterborne sector will be able to achieve a large impact (a.o. concerning minimising environmental impact) by means of collaborative research.

Including waterborne in the programming of cross-sectoral missions and partnerships provides the best way towards optimal and mutually beneficial cooperation among sectors and a full contribution according to each respective strength to our urgent societal and global challenges of a **smart, re-source-efficient, low-carbon and competitive economy**.





WATERBORNE TP has been set up as an industry-oriented Technology Platform to establish a continuous dialogue between all waterborne stakeholders, such as classification societies, shipbuilders, shipowners, maritime equipment manufacturers, infrastructure and service providers, universities or research institutes, and with the EU Institutions, including Member States (www.waterborne.eu)



ALICE ETP, the Alliance for Logistics Innovation through Collaboration in Europe, has been set up as European Technology Platform to develop a comprehensive strategy for research, innovation and market deployment of logistics and supply chain management innovation in Europe (www.etp-logistics.eu)



The European Barge Union (EBU), inland navigation freight and passenger carrying industry in EU



European Private Port Companies and Terminals (FEPORT), terminal operators and stevedoring companies in EU seaports



The European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSCA), national shipowners' associations of the EU and Norway



Inland Navigation Europe (INE), national & regional waterway authorities and organisations promoting transport by water in EU



The European Federation of Inland Ports (EFIP), inland ports and port authorities in EU, Switzerland, Serbia and Ukraine



Interferry, shipping association representing the ferry industry world-wide



The European Skippers' Organisation (ESO), European private inland shipping entrepreneurs in EU



Network Inland Waterways Europe (NIWE), regions cooperating to stimulate multi-functional use and sustainable development of waterways and the adjacent areas



The European Sea Ports Organisation (ESPO), port authorities, port administrations and port associations of the seaports of the EU and Norway



SEA Europe, European shipbuilding and equipment manufacturing industry



The European Dredging Association (EuDA), European dredging companies and related organisations



International Association of Public Transport (UITP), worldwide network bringing together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes

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