

WORKING GROUP POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IN ACTION

FIRST MEETING

TRANSLATE THE MISSION OBJECTIVES AT LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS: NAVIGATE IN THE EU OCEAN AND WATER POLICY FRAMEWORKS

Introduction

The CO-WATERS “Policy and Governance in Action” Working Group will foster collaboration, peer learning, and knowledge exchange among members of the Coalition of regions, cities, islands and ports for the Mission Ocean and Waters. The aim is to provide an open forum to discuss policy and governance-related challenges, share good practices, and jointly identify solutions that support the implementation of the Mission.

The Working Group aims at connecting members with policymakers and giving them access to relevant regulatory information. It ideally brings together actors across European, national, regional and local levels to translate Mission objectives, clarify its governance and present relevant opportunities and initiatives for territories to engage.

Main objectives:

- Exchange experiences and good practices for the implementation of the Mission Ocean and Waters objectives.
- Discuss policy developments, governance models and multi-level coordination mechanisms.
- Identify common challenges and co-develop practical solutions through peer-exchange.
- Strengthen cooperation between Coalition members and foster replication and transferability of successful approaches.
- Provide feedback to the CO-WATERS consortium to help tailor project services and policy recommendations to members' needs.

Context

The three consultations run by CO-WATERS with the Mission Ocean and Waters community (needs assessment) highlighted a strong demand for clearer guidance around the Mission Ocean and Waters, such as navigating funding calls, clarifying relevant EU legislation, etc. It also underscored the importance of clearly communicating the Charter's mission and objectives and explaining how the different initiatives complement one another to create a more coherent and coordinated approach.

In this regard, the “Policy and Governance in Action” Working Group has been created. The first meeting of this thematic Working Group provides a space to frame the complex EU policy framework in the field of ocean and water research and innovation. This will notably help translating the Mission Ocean and Waters objectives at local and regional levels; and will ultimately boost policy coherence.

Agenda

Thursday 22 October 2026 11.00h CEST		
Time	What	Who
<u>10 min</u>	Welcome & Tour de table	ERRIN
<u>25 min</u>	Presentation of CO-WATERS, the Working Group “Policy and Governance in Action” work plan and its areas of work Discussion with the participants and validation of the work plan	CKIC ERRIN
<u>25 min</u>	Introduction to the EU Ocean and Waters Mission and relevant EU marine , maritime and freshwater policy framework	European Commission CPMR
<u>20 min</u>	Discussion and Q&A time	ERRIN
<u>10 min</u>	Wrap up and next steps	ERRIN