



On Friday 17 February, more than 450 delegates gathered in Brussels for the First Annual Forum of the Oceans Mission. The EU's 'Missions' are a new way of working bringing concrete solutions to some of our biggest challenges. They have ambitious objectives and, having to produce tangible results by 2030, give research and innovation a new role: deploying available solutions on the territories through a coordinated effort that pools the resources of the different funding programs.

Why a Mission Ocean and Waters?

Life on Earth depends on the health of the ocean-sea and-inland water system, which covers about 75% of its surface, regulates the climate and provides oxygen, clean water, clean energy and food. A system today at serious risk: restoring its health and its ability to provide wealth and resources requires joint and targeted actions.

What to do and why EFA and SDG4MED?

Achieving the objectives of the Mission is not just a matter of deploying technologies, it is mainly a matter of making aware and involve citizens and end users: no technology can make a difference if not properly understood and uses. This is why SDG4MED and EFA actively participated in the Forum: thanks to their respective networks (the Mediterranean cities and SMEs of SDG4MED and the approximately 10 million new drivers annually reached by EFA) the message of the Mission Ocean will be spread widely and quickly.

Most appreciated by the delegates the outline of the LIFE4MEDECA project, managed by the Port of Livorno, whose Knowledge Centre, also thanks to EFA, is disseminating the Mission throughout the Mediterranean basin.

 A presentation slide from the forum. On the left, there is a photograph of a man with grey hair, wearing a dark suit and tie, sitting in a chair and speaking into a microphone. He is holding up a small book or brochure. The background behind him is blue. To the right of the photo, there is a white box with text. At the top left of the slide is the 'EU MISSIONS RESTORE OUR OCEAN AND WATERS' logo. Below it is the European Union flag and the text 'EUROPEAN UNION'. In the top right corner of the slide, there is another version of the 'EU MISSIONS RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS' logo. The main title of the slide is 'Leading by example' followed by 'Actions from the Mediterranean Sea lighthouse and beyond'. Below the title, there is a list of three bullet points:

- Mario Dogliani, representative of "LIFE4MEDECA - Knowledge center", President of SDG4MED
- Alfonso Raiola, representative of "DuWo the smart box for sustainable fishing and aquaculture", DuWo Marketing Director
- Uroš Novak, project coordinator of REMEDIES, Kemijski Institut

 At the bottom of the slide, there are three hashtags: #EUmissions, #HorizonEU, and #MissionOcean.