

An aerial photograph of a marine research station. Several circular floats are visible, some containing green or yellowish material. A moored array of instruments, including a long line of rectangular sensors, is also present. The background is a deep blue ocean.

20
25

ANNUAL REPORT

eur@cean

01 AT A GLANCE

MEMBERSHIP



10
MEMBERS



9
COOPERATING
MEMBERS



11
COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED

ACTIVE PROJECTS



7

KEY EVENTS

WAVE – WEAVING ACTION, VISION & EXPERTISE

5 November, Brest, France



16 EXPERTS

30 ATTENDEES

30 POST-EVENT
VIEWS

A strategic dialogue event bringing together members and experts to reflect on connecting marine data with society.

MÁRIO RUIVO MEMORIAL LECTURE 2ND EDITION

30 June, Paris, France



14 APPLICATIONS

10 COUNTRIES

4 CONTINENTS

Delivered at the IOC/UNESCO Assembly with the presence of the Portuguese Secretary of State of Fisheries and Maritime Affairs.

GOVERNANCE MILESTONES



3
HIGH-LEVEL
MEETINGS



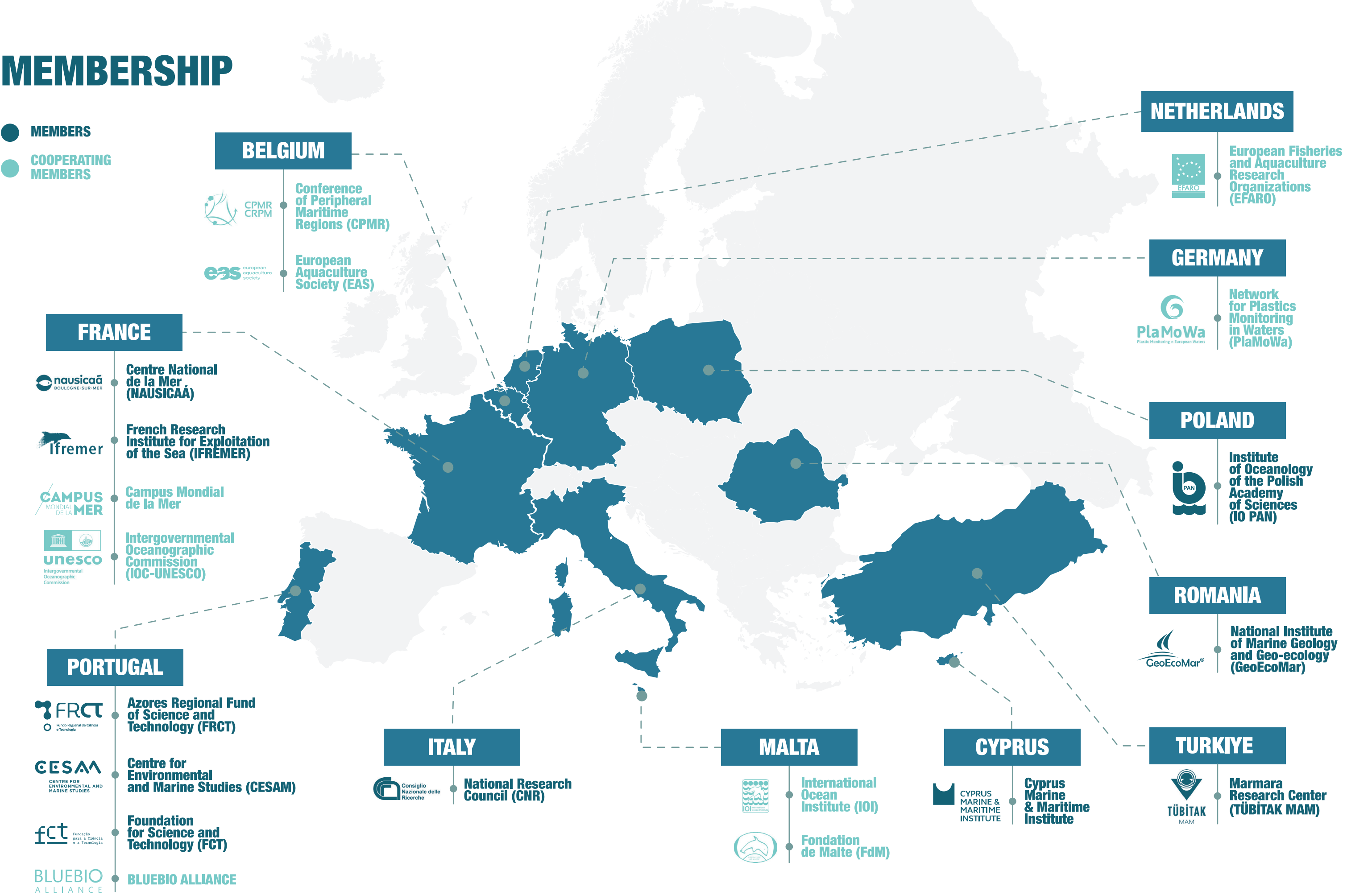
2025-2030
STRATEGY
APPROVED



SUCCESSFUL LEADERSHIP
TRANSITION TO A NEW
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMBERSHIP

- MEMBERS
- COOPERATING MEMBERS



02

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE



LUZ PARAMIO
PRESIDENT

“We are living a new wave in shaping Europe’s role within the International Ocean Governance framework. As the ambitious 2030 horizon of the UN Ocean Decade rapidly approaches, there is an urgent need to accelerate action on restoration and protection, aiming for a healthy and sustainable ocean.

The European Ocean Pact, recently launched by the European Commission, is built on the pathway opened by the Ocean & Waters Mission and supported by the implementation of its lighthouses across Europe’s five ocean basins. The Pact calls for more than scientific evidence; it calls for strong communities, active engagement, and the involvement of European citizens as true Ocean Eyes.

With almost 25 years of experience, EurOcean has proven itself as a key pan-European platform articulating in one common point ocean governance, science diplomacy, data observation and literacy. EurOcean is exceptionally well positioned to support the effective implementation of the European Ocean Pact by strengthening coordination between science, policy, and society.

The year 2025 marked a transformative moment for EurOcean, with renewed leadership shaped by strong female representation through the appointment of a new Board and a new Executive Director. This renewal reinforces EurOcean’s ambition to act as an active and influential player at the international level.

The launch of the EurOcean Vision 2030 commits to this ambition by strengthening and expanding partnerships across the membership and advancing the democratization of ocean knowledge and observation. Through these cooperation efforts, EurOcean contributes to the development of a more informed and engaged Blue Society, while honoring the enduring legacy of Mario Ruivo.

“2025 was a year of transition, but above all, a year of momentum for EurOcean.

Stepping into the role of Executive Director marked the beginning of a new chapter, building on strong foundations while clearly looking ahead. A future where EurOcean’s role becomes even more relevant: connecting knowledge, people, and action in an increasingly complex landscape.

Throughout the year, we strengthened what defines us. We reinforced our network, making it more visible and engaged. We deepened our role as a bridge between marine knowledge and society, with milestones such as the launch of **WAVE - Weaving Action, Vision & Expertise**, a strategic dialogue event bringing together members and experts to reflect on connecting marine data with society, and we expanded our capacity to collaborate through a solid project portfolio and growing involvement in European proposals.

This was also the year we defined our path forward, together with our members. The EurOcean 2030 Strategy is more than a roadmap; it is a shared vision. One that positions EurOcean as the connective tissue of the marine knowledge ecosystem, an organisation that not only connects actors, but turns information into impact.

At a time when the demand for trusted, accessible, and actionable ocean knowledge is increasing, our role is clear. We must ensure that knowledge reaches those who make decisions, drive innovation, educate, and engage. We must make complexity understandable and knowledge more inclusive.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our team and the commitment of our members. EurOcean is, above all, a community, and it is this community that gives it strength, relevance, and the ability to evolve.

Looking ahead to 2026 and beyond, our focus is on turning strategy into action. Strengthening our core services, such as the Research Infrastructures Database (RID), a European repository of technical, scientific, and operational information of marine research infrastructures supporting policy makers, think-tanks, and funding programmes. Expanding partnerships. Increasing our role in European and international initiatives, and continuing to create spaces, like WAVE, where knowledge becomes dialogue, and dialogue becomes solutions.

I am confident that we are on the right path, moving onward with purpose, guided by a clear ambition: delivering information that connects, collaboration that inspires—more connected, **more relevant, and better equipped to contribute to a sustainable ocean future.**



SANDRA SÁ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



03

WHO WE ARE

THE EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR INFORMATION ON MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Founded in 2002, EurOcean is an independent, non-profit organisation that brings together science, policy, industry, and society to ensure marine knowledge is not only available, but usable. Its core mission is to make ocean information accessible, meaningful, and impactful—so better decisions can be made for a sustainable future.

What sets EurOcean apart is its unique role as the connective tissue of the marine knowledge ecosystem. It goes beyond data and beyond dialogue—translating complex information into accessible tools, narratives, and opportunities that empower policymakers, educators, innovators, and citizens alike. In doing so, it actively supports the democratisation of ocean science and broadens who can engage with it.

Agile, independent, and service-driven, EurOcean connects communities across disciplines and sectors, turning collaboration into concrete outcomes — from knowledge platforms and policy insights to education and citizen engagement. Its work strengthens Europe’s capacity to respond to ocean challenges while ensuring that inclusivity and accessibility remain at the core.

With a growing international role, EurOcean connects European expertise with global ocean efforts, fostering collaboration and partnerships worldwide.

At a time when demand for trusted and accessible ocean knowledge is rising, EurOcean’s role is clear: connect people, unlock knowledge, and enable action for a sustainable ocean future.

THE TEAM



SANDRA SÁ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



RUTH HIGGINS
ADMINISTRATIVE
AND FINANCIAL MANAGER



SARA GRANCHINHO
PR AND COMMUNICATION MANAGER



MAMINA MUYLDERMANS
EXTERNAL CONSULTANT



04 STRATEGY IN ACTION

| STRENGTHENING THE MARINE COMMUNITY |

| CONNECTING MARINE KNOWLEDGE |

| ADVANCING EUROPEAN & GLOBAL MARINE
COOPERATION |

In 2025, EurOcean continued to advance the priorities set out in its 2030 Strategy, strengthening its role as a connector between marine knowledge, policy, infrastructures, and society. While the activities presented throughout this report demonstrate the breadth of our work, their true value lies in how they contribute to our long-term strategic objectives.

The table “EurOcean’s 2030 Strategy Progress” provides a snapshot of progress across EurOcean’s key strategic priorities, linking our achievements in 2025 to the broader vision outlined in the EurOcean 2030 Strategy.

STRENGTHENING THE MARINE COMMUNITY

EurOcean’s strength lies in its network, and in 2025 that network became more connected, visible, and engaged.

EurOcean’s core governance bodies—Executive Committee, Steering Committee, Foundation Board—steer priorities, address emerging challenges, and ensure that decision-making remains transparent, collective, and grounded in the realities of our community.

To further amplify our community, EurOcean launched **Members in the Spotlight**, a new campaign showcasing the work and impact of its members—enhancing their visibility while demonstrating the diversity and strength of the network as a whole.



At the same time, members played a central role in shaping the **EurOcean 2030 Strategy**. Through consultations, exchanges, and continuous feedback, EurOcean fostered a more participatory approach, ensuring that the community does not just follow the strategy but actively helps to shape it.

CONNECTING MARINE KNOWLEDGE

In 2025, EurOcean strengthened its role as a bridge between marine knowledge and society.

A key milestone was the launch of our keystone event **WAVE – Weaving Action, Vision & Expertise**, held on 5 November at Ifremer (Brest, France). Designed as the first edition in a recurring strategic forum, WAVE brought together representatives from across EurOcean’s network and beyond to address a central challenge: how to turn marine data into insight and action. By convening diverse perspectives, the event laid the groundwork for a sustained platform for knowledge exchange and collaboration.

EurOcean also continued to elevate emerging voices in ocean science through the **2nd Mário Ruivo Memorial Lecture**, delivered in partnership with IOC/UNESCO and the Portuguese Government under the UN Ocean Decade. The 2025 edition recognised Dr. Vânia Baptista and the Little Fish STP project in São Tomé and Príncipe—an initiative combining research, fisheries management, and community engagement. Delivered at the 33rd IOC/UNESCO Assembly, Paris, France, the event highlighted EurOcean’s role in connecting innovation, people, and policy on the global stage.

ACTIVE
PARTICIPATION
IN + 8 EVENTS



EurOcean’s participation in key European and international events, including European Maritime Day, the UN Ocean Conference, and multiple Ocean Decade and EMODnet dialogues, further reinforced its position as a transdisciplinary connector. Through these engagements—and contributions to initiatives ranging from ghost nets to blue economy funding—EurOcean provided a conduit for knowledge to flow across communities, sectors, and scales.

ADVANCING EUROPEAN & GLOBAL MARINE COOPERATION

In 2025, EurOcean accelerated its role in European and global marine cooperation.

Through seven major EU-funded projects, it connected partners across ocean science, innovation, and society—turning knowledge into accessible insights and real-world impact. At the same time, a strong year in proposal activity saw nine submissions, with EurOcean increasingly stepping up as a leader and coordinator, shaping new collaborative initiatives and bringing together key European actors, including its own members.



Beyond Europe, EurOcean continued to strengthen its global influence through receiving consultative status from the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). This status enables EurOcean to provide expert input into UN-level ocean governance and policy dialogues, representing the perspectives and experiences of the European marine community in broader international debates.

By linking its project work and proposal leadership with this global policy interface, EurOcean helps bridge European research and innovation with international frameworks, supporting more coherent, informed, and collaborative stewardship of the ocean.

** copyright UN ECOSOC*

2025 ACTIVE PROJECTS



NEW APPROACH TO UNDERWATER TECHNOLOGIES FOR INNOVATIVE, LOW-COST OCEAN OBSERVATION

OCTOBER 2020 - JUNE 2025

OBJECTIVES

Develop innovative and cost-effective ocean observing technologies to improve monitoring of marine environments and Essential Ocean Variables.

OUR ROLE

EurOcean leads the Outreach, Communication and Dissemination activities and contributes to Project Management, Synergies with ESPCE, and Ethics Requirements.

www.nautilus-h2020.eu



DIGITAL TWIN OF THE OCEAN FOR ARCTIC FISHERIES

APRIL 2024 – MARCH 2027

OBJECTIVES

Develop a pilot Digital Twin of the Ocean platform delivering data products and services to support sustainable Arctic fisheries management.

OUR ROLE

EurOcean leads the Dissemination and Communication activities, establish and maintain the project website and social media channels, and contribute to capacity building and stakeholder engagement.

www.arcfish.eu



YOUTH OCEAN LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

JANUARY 2025 - DECEMBER 2027

OBJECTIVES

Empower youth with leadership, advocacy, and ocean literacy skills to address ocean-related challenges and influence ocean governance and climate policies.

OUR ROLE

EurOcean leads Communication and Dissemination activities, youth engagement, and supports advocacy training resources development.

www.eurocean.org/np4/yola.html



HIGH ARCTIC OCEAN OBSERVATION SYSTEM

JANUARY 2023 - DECEMBER 2027

OBJECTIVES

Develop and validate innovative ocean observing technologies to improve data collection in the ice-covered Arctic Ocean through multipurpose moorings and acoustic systems.

OUR ROLE

EurOcean leads the Communication and Dissemination and co-leads the work package dedicated to Use Cases and Training.

www.hia00s.eu



MULTISCALE OCEAN MODELS AND INFORMATION FOR CLIMATE RISK ASSESSMENT AND IMPACT MITIGATION

NOVEMBER 2024 - APRIL 2028

OBJECTIVES

Improve understanding of ocean dynamics and marine biogeochemical cycles through advanced climate modelling and Digital Twin Ocean integration.

OUR ROLE

EurOcean leads Communication, Dissemination, Synergies, and Policy Recommendations, playing a pivotal role in ensuring the project's results reach key stakeholders, foster collaboration across related projects, and enhance the visibility of MOIRAI's outcomes.

www.moirai-project.eu

#EU4Ocean II

THE EUROPEAN OCEAN COALITION II

JANUARY 2023 - DECEMBER 2025

OBJECTIVES

Strengthen ocean literacy in Europe by expanding the EU4Ocean Coalition and engaging stakeholders in ocean sustainability, education, and policy actions.

OUR ROLE

EurOcean contributes to stakeholder engagement, dissemination, private sector outreach, and ocean literacy promotion.

[Maritime Forum](http://MaritimeForum)



STRENGTHENING ECOSYSTEM-BASED ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING FOR PROTECTED HABITATS IN OFFSHORE AREAS AND NEWLY IDENTIFIED MPAS

JUNE 2025 – MAY 2029

OBJECTIVES

Improve biodiversity mapping and monitoring of offshore marine protected areas using environmental DNA (eDNA), acoustics, imaging, and an Intelligent Marine Digital Twin interoperable with the European Digital Twin Ocean.

OUR ROLE

EurOcean leads communication and outreach activities, focusing on public awareness, stakeholder engagement, and ocean literacy.

www.seamphoni.eu



05

SERVICES THAT STRENGTHEN THE NETWORK

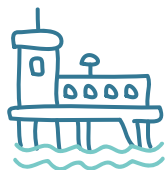
| EUROCEAN RID – A STRUCTURAL UPGRADE |

| SUPPORTING OCEAN LITERACY & BLUE
ECONOMY DIALOGUE |

| SUPPORTING EUROPEAN MARINE
NETWORKS |

EUROCEAN RID - A STRUCTURAL UPGRADE

The EurOcean Research Infrastructures Database (RID) is a cornerstone service for the marine community, offering an open, curated overview of more than **1,100 marine research infrastructures** across **35 countries**, organised into **15 categories ranging from** research vessels and underwater vehicles to test facilities, observatories, and data providers. In 2025, EurOcean launched a major structural upgrade of RID to improve data quality, interoperability, and user experience, ensuring that the platform remains sustainable, easier to navigate, and aligned with emerging standards.



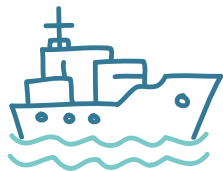
1100
MARINE RESEARCH
INFRASTRUCTURES



31
SATELLITES FOR SEAS
AND OCEAN OBSERVATION



35
COUNTRIES



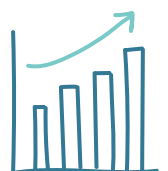
194
RESEARCH VESSELS
(INCLUDING 97 ERVO)



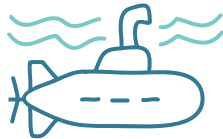
111
AQUACULTURE
RESEARCH FACILITIES



109
FLUMES AND TEST LABS
FOR OCEAN ENGINEERING



102
MARINE
DATA PROVIDERS



148
UNDERWATER VEHICLES
AND LARGE EQUIPMENT

RID in Numbers



SUPPORTING OCEAN LITERACY & BLUE ECONOMY DIALOGUE

EurOcean continued to advance ocean literacy and Blue Economy dialogues through its work with the EU4Ocean Coalition and OL4Business initiative. In 2025, the webinar series “Where Ocean Literacy Meets EU Business” explored themes such as boating and leisure, blue innovation, renewable energy, tourism, blue carbon, and ocean literacy tools for business, showing how ocean knowledge can support more sustainable decisions across sectors.

These activities were complemented by policy reflections, communication products, and the European Maritime Day (EMD) in My Country event “Coastal Success Through Ocean Knowledge” in Cork, Ireland, which brought sustainability closer to businesses and coastal communities, including youth contributions from local students.



2025 #EU4Ocean WEBINAR SERIES



6
WEBINARS



+170
PARTICIPANTS



+590
YOUTUBE VIEWS



+15.500
SOCIAL MEDIA
IMPRESSIONS

SUPPORTING EUROPEAN MARINE NETWORKS

EurOcean continued to provide practical, behind-the-scenes support to key European marine networks, helping keep their activities visible, connected, and well-coordinated.

In 2025, this included maintaining and updating the European Research Vessel Operators Group (ERVO) website, curating community communications, and supporting the organisation of the 27th Annual ERVO Meeting in the Faroe Islands.

For Ocean Facilities Exchange Group (OFEG), EurOcean ensured continuity by transferring website backups to National Oceanography Centre (NOC, UK), while with International Research Ship Operators (IRSO) it initiated renewed contact with the Chairs to revisit an earlier services proposal and took part in the annual meeting in Bergen, Norway.

Through this steady operational support, EurOcean reinforced its role as a trusted partner for Europe’s marine research community.

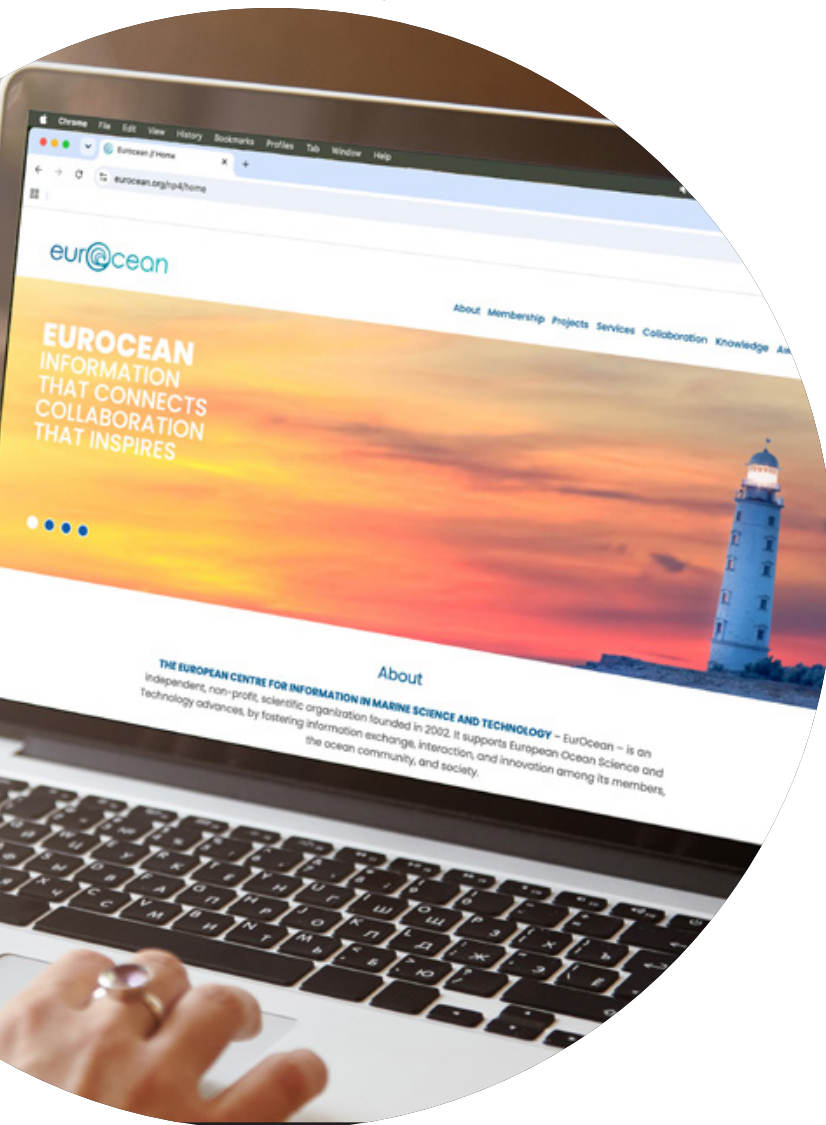


A photograph of an offshore oil rig at sunset. The rig's complex metal structure, including a large derrick and various platforms, is silhouetted against a sky with warm orange and yellow hues. The rig is situated in the middle of a calm blue sea. In the foreground, parts of the rig's structure are visible on the left and right sides, framing the central view. The overall scene conveys a sense of industrial scale and maritime operations.

06

COMMUNICATION & VISIBILITY

NEW WEBSITE



In 2025, EurOcean strengthened its communication to enhance visibility and reinforce its role as a connector between marine knowledge and society.

The launch of EurOcean's **new website** marked a key milestone, supported by a dedicated social media campaign and guided by the message **"Information that Connects, Collaboration that Inspires"**. The new platform offers a clearer, more accessible entry point to EurOcean's work, aligning communication with its strategic vision.

EUROPEAN OCEAN DAYS



UN OCEAN CONFERENCE



33RD IOC/UNESCO ASSEMBLY



Visibility was further amplified through participation in major events, including the **UN Ocean Conference** (Nice, France), the **33rd IOC/UNESCO Assembly** (Paris, France), and the **European Ocean Days** (Brussels, Belgium).

Throughout the year, the **monthly newsletter** played a central role in engaging the community, giving visibility to members' activities, highlighting key events, and sharing curated content such as scientific developments, opportunities, and ocean-related vacancies.

Together with targeted campaigns such as **Members in the Spotlight**, these efforts strengthened EurOcean's identity as a visible, connected, and trusted voice in the marine community.

MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT CAMPAIGN

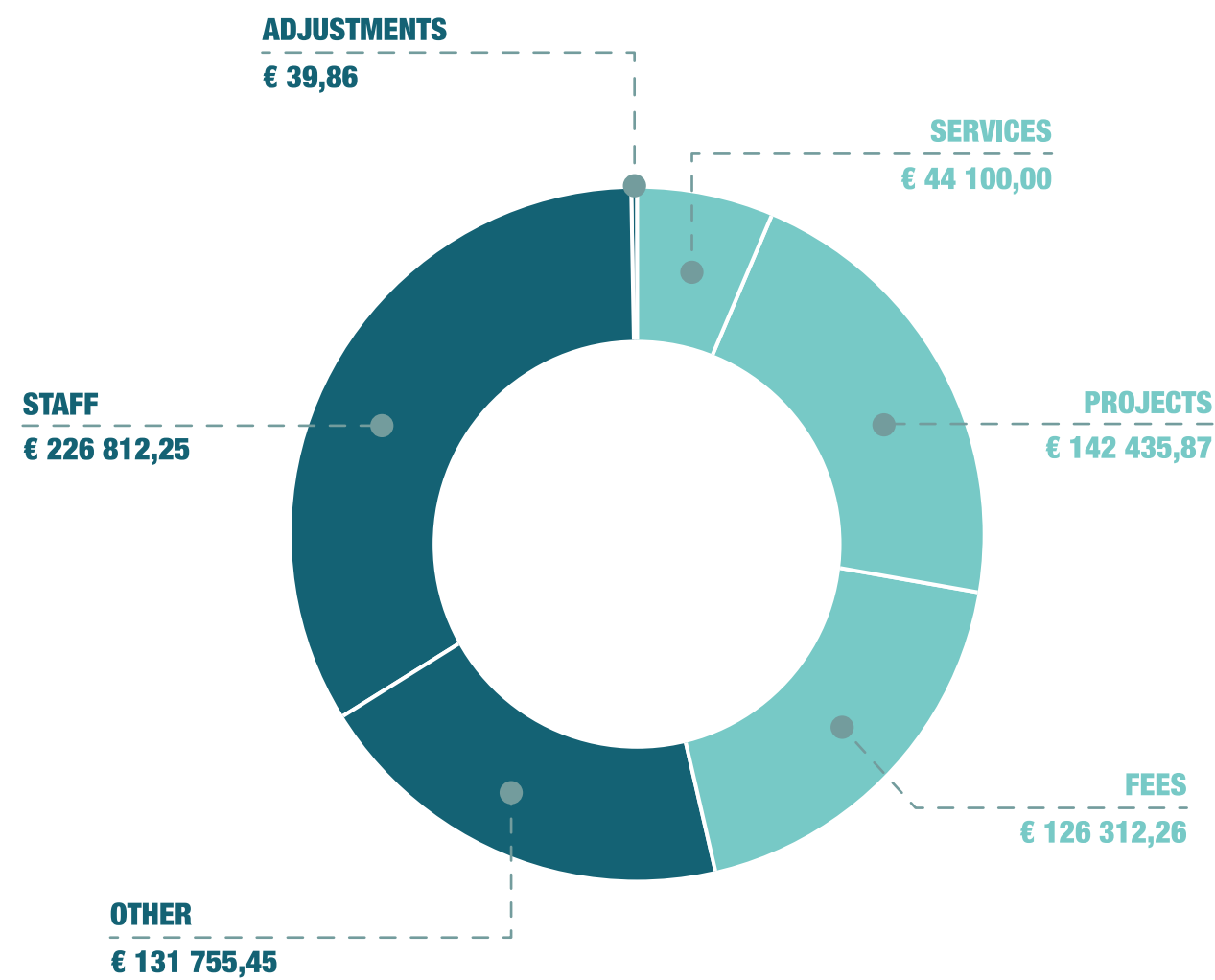


07

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

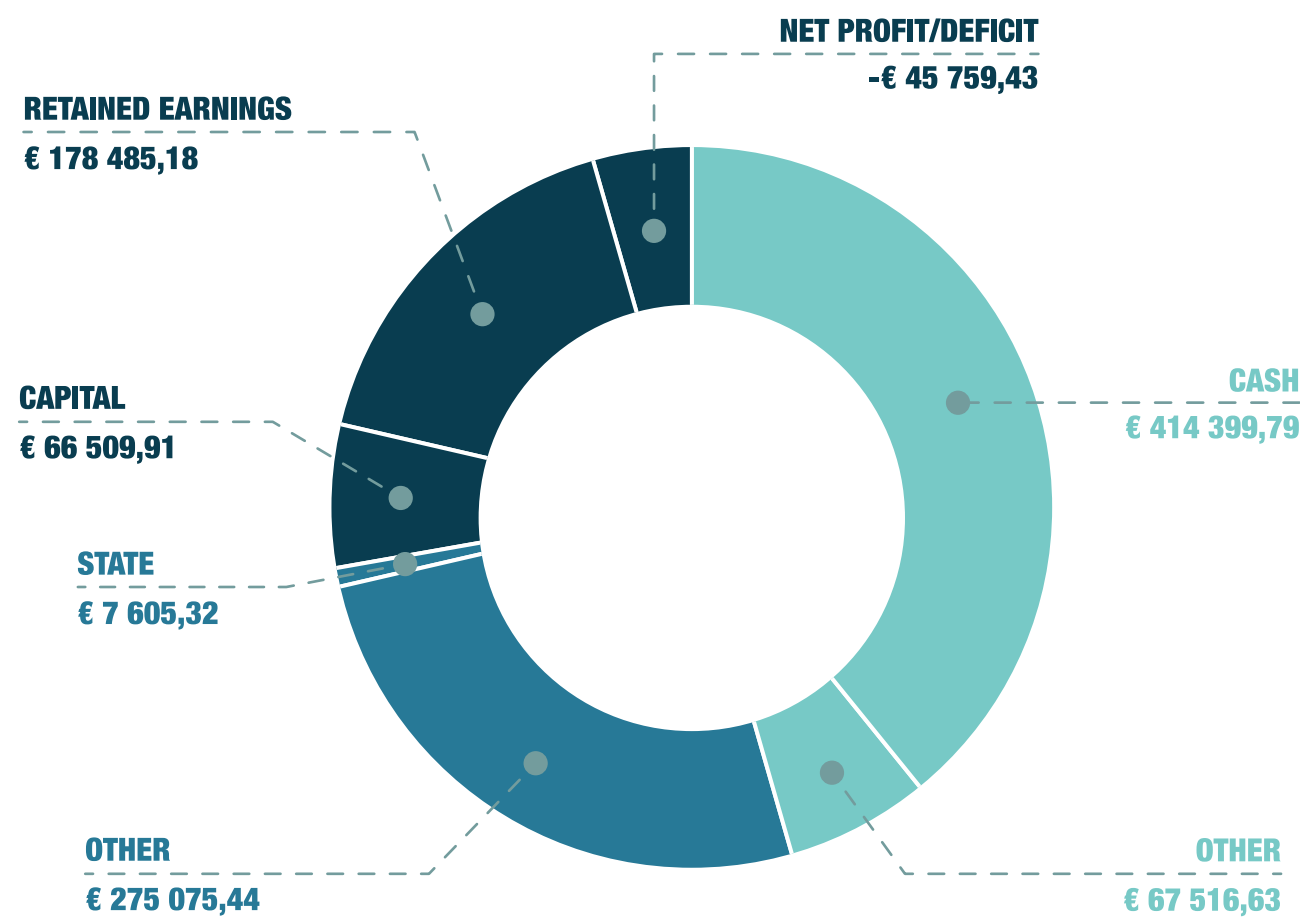


REVENUE AND EXPENSES



REVENUE	€ 312 848,13
EXPENSES	€ 358 567,70
PROFIT	-€ 45 759,43

ASSETS, EQUITY AND LIABILITIES



ASSETS	€ 481 916,42
LIABILITIES	€ 282 680,76
EQUITY	€ 199 235,66



08

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

| CESAM |

| CMMI |

| FRCT |

| IFREMER |

| IO PAN |

| NAUSICAÁ |

2025 in Review: 68 Projects and Over €14 Million Consolidate CESAM's Scientific Leadership

In 2025, CESAM initiated 60 projects, securing €12.17 million in funding, with 39 projects coordinated by CESAM. An additional 8 projects started in early 2026, bringing the total to 68 projects and more than €14.29 million in funding. CESAM also strengthened links with society through 17 service contracts generating around €300,000.

At the European level, CESAM participated in 10 EU-funded projects, including nine Horizon Europe and 1 LIFE project, totalling €3.39 million. Nationally, CESAM secured 34 FCT-funded projects worth €4.35 million, alongside additional funding from ANI, CCDRC, PRR, MAR 2030, and the Environmental Fund.

These results reinforce CESAM's role in addressing scientific and societal challenges through research, innovation, and policy support. Scientific excellence was also reflected in 15 approved CEEC Individual applications. According to Director Amadeu Soares, these achievements result from the collective effort of researchers and support teams, including science management, communication, infrastructure, and financial services.

Innovation, outreach and international visibility from Cyprus

In 2025, the Cyprus Marine and Maritime Institute (CMMI) continued to strengthen its international profile through a dynamic combination of research, innovation and public engagement. A standout achievement was the presentation of Cyprus' flagship ocean initiative, EONIOS, at the UN Ocean Conference 2025. Developed through Franco-Cypriot cooperation, EONIOS is the world's first resident swarm of autonomous underwater vehicles designed to monitor, protect and help restore marine protected areas.

CMMI also maintained strong visibility through participation in major international events and through a wide-ranging programme of activities in Cyprus, from robotics workshops and specialised training courses to youth camps, festivals and school visits. These initiatives helped connect marine science with society, raise awareness of ocean challenges and inspire interest in Blue Economy careers.

Its research gained international media attention, while its project portfolio remained broad and ambitious, with 35 projects across European, national and international funding schemes. Together, these achievements reflect CMMI's growing role as a forward-looking centre for marine and maritime innovation in the eastern Mediterranean.



Photo by: CESAM

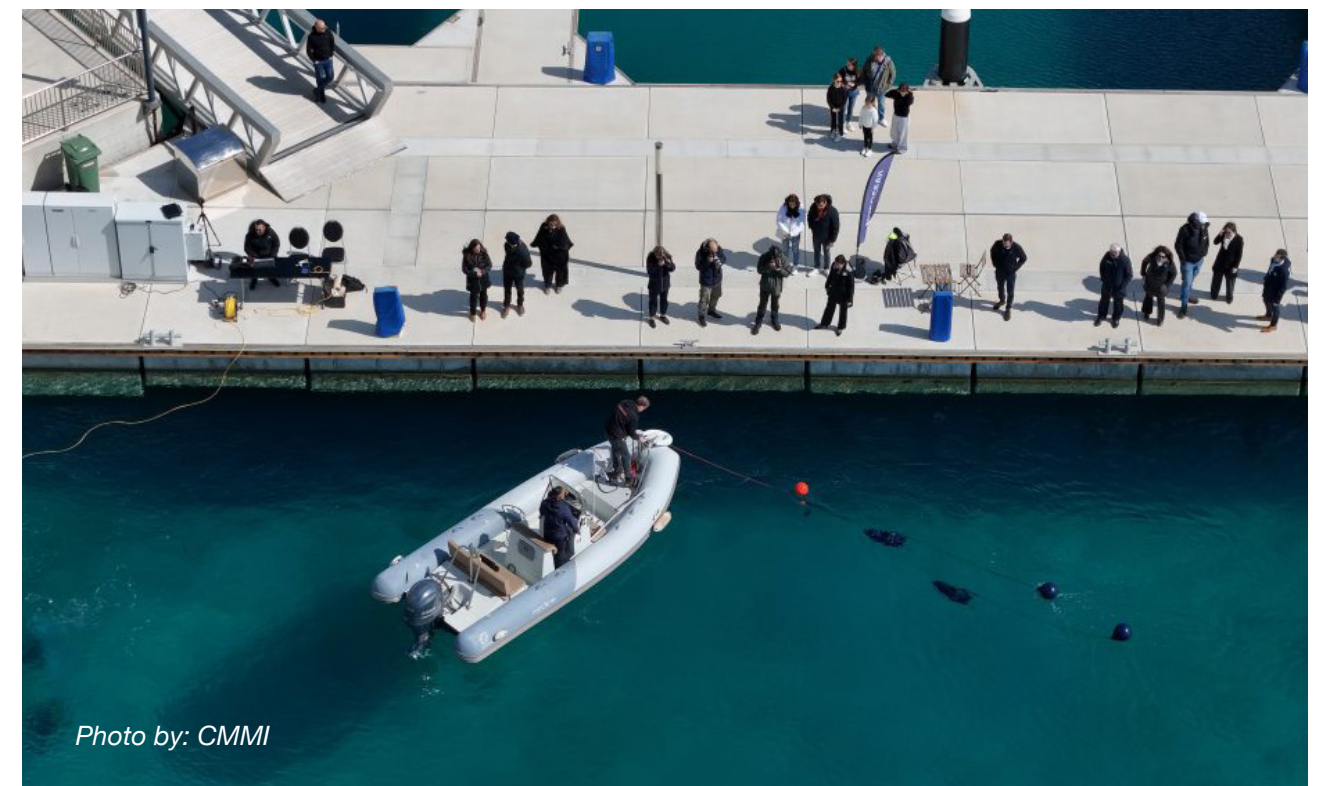


Photo by: CMMI

Advancing marine research and international collaboration from the Azores Islands (Portugal)

In 2025, Fundação Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FRCT) reinforced its role in marine and Blue Economy research by joining **three new projects** that expanded innovation capacity in the Azores and beyond. Through initiatives such as **RedBeam**, **A3MAtlantic** and **WiderAdvance Facility**, FRCT contributed to emerging ocean technologies, Blue Economy cooperation and improving appreciation of research results in outermost and widening regions.

A major highlight of the year was FRCT's role in organising the **36th Conference of the European Cetacean Society** in Ponta Delgada (São Miguel Island, Azores, Portugal). Under the theme Navigating Waters of Change, the event welcomed **745 participants from 51 countries**, confirming its strong international reach and scientific relevance. With more than **600 abstracts submitted** and an extensive programme of workshops, posters and presentations, the conference positioned the Azores as an important meeting point for marine mammal research and conservation.

Alongside this, FRCT continued to strengthen institutional progress through the implementation of its Gender Equality Plan, showing how research excellence and organisational development can advance together.

Placing science at the centre of ocean action

In 2025, Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer (Ifremer), reinforced its role at the science-policy interface while advancing major research infrastructures for the future of ocean knowledge. At the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice, Ifremer, together with Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), helped place science at the centre of global discussion by leading the **One Ocean Science Congress**, which brought together around **2000 international experts**. Through high-level exchanges, outreach initiatives and strong scientific visibility, Ifremer contributed to mobilising decision-makers and civil society around ocean protection.

The year also marked important progress in infrastructure and innovation. Ifremer inaugurated a new immersive digital hall in La Seyne-sur-Mer dedicated to marine exploration and ecosystem restoration, while the upgraded **Datarmor supercomputing centre** in Plouzané expanded capacity for artificial intelligence and digital ocean twins with strong environmental performance. Fleet renewal also advanced with the launch of the new research vessel Anita Conti, further strengthening France's scientific capabilities at sea.

Ifremer also deepened international scientific cooperation by coordinating the **International Temperate Reef Symposium** in Brest, bringing together nearly **400 scientists from 29 countries** to advance knowledge on ecosystem restoration and climate-related marine change.



Photo by: Franck Betermin



Delivering ocean knowledge for policy, data and climate action

In 2025, the Institute of Oceanology of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IO PAN) strengthened its role as a provider of integrated ocean knowledge supporting climate policy, marine management and regional governance. Its research continued to focus on the Baltic Sea and the European Arctic, where long-term observations and Arctic expeditions generated critical data on ocean circulation, ecosystem dynamics and climate-sensitive change.

A key milestone was IO PAN's designation as the Polish National Oceanographic Data Centre within UNESCO's IODE network. This recognition reinforces the Institute's role in FAIR data management, interoperability and open science, while strengthening its contribution to global ocean observing systems. In parallel, IO PAN expanded its Arctic research capacity through the development of the BERA facility on Svalbard, supporting year-round observations and international cooperation in polar science.

With more than 90 ongoing national and international projects, IO PAN continued to translate science into practical value, contributing to policy processes such as Poland's National Restoration Plan for marine ecosystems and to operational tools supporting environmental monitoring and maritime services.



Photo by: Tomasz Jankowski

Engaging the public and empowering the next generation for the ocean



In 2025, Nausicaá Centre National de la Mer (Nausicaá) combined public engagement, international advocacy and conservation action through a rich programme developed under France's Year of the Sea. Its activities brought together exhibitions, public events and education initiatives designed to raise awareness and mobilise audiences around ocean protection. A major highlight was the opening of Tropical Escape, a new immersive exhibition on coral reefs and tropical ecosystems that uses visual storytelling and scientific insight to explore climate and biodiversity challenges.

Nausicaá also played a visible role in international dialogue, participating in major meetings including the United Nations Ocean Conference 2025, COP30, and the IUCN World Conservation Congress, where it promoted ocean education and shared its experience with global partners.

Youth engagement was at the heart of its work. Through Citizen of the Ocean and YOLA project, Nausicaá helped bring together 200 young people from 69 countries, supporting training, advocacy and the development of a collective manifesto presented to international decision-makers at UNOC3. By linking education, participation and action, Nausicaá continued to show how aquariums and public institutions can play a powerful role in shaping a more ocean-literate society.



Photo by: H. Fleurance

09

LOOKING AHEAD



As EurOcean moves forward, the organisation remains guided by the **EurOcean 2030 Strategy**, which sets a clear direction for strengthening collaboration, enhancing access to marine information, and supporting evidence-based decision-making for a sustainable ocean future. Building on the achievements of 2025, EurOcean will continue to focus on strategic actions that reinforce its role as a trusted connector within the European and global marine community.

A central priority will be the implementation of the EurOcean 2030 Strategy, translating its vision into concrete actions that strengthen the organisation's impact, resilience, and long-term sustainability. This includes expanding partnerships, fostering innovation, and ensuring that marine knowledge remains accessible, reliable, and relevant to policymakers, researchers, industry, and society. Particular attention will be given to supporting emerging European initiatives such as the development of the **Digital Twin of the Ocean**, contributing to **Europe's Ocean Observation strategy**, and advancing knowledge-sharing frameworks that strengthen marine science and policy integration.

The consolidation of the **Research Infrastructure Database (RID)** will remain a key focus. Further development of the platform will enhance data quality, interoperability, and long-term sustainability, reinforcing its value as a reference tool supporting planning, cooperation, and informed decision-making across the marine research infrastructures sector. EurOcean will also continue to promote open and interoperable marine data ecosystems, supporting wider accessibility and use of ocean knowledge across sectors and communities.

EurOcean will continue its strategic engagement in European and international projects, strengthening collaboration with members and partners while contributing to research and innovation initiatives that address emerging ocean challenges. These activities will support key European priorities, including the **EU Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters"**, the

European Ocean Pact, sustainable blue economy initiatives, Arctic-related strategies, and broader maritime policy developments. Through these contributions, EurOcean will help ensure that scientific knowledge is translated into practical solutions and shared effectively across communities.

Looking ahead, **WAVE – Weaving Action, Vision & Expertise** will be further strengthened as a recurring strategic dialogue moment, providing a dedicated space for reflection, exchange, and collective thinking on the future of marine knowledge and its role in society.

Deepening collaboration within the network will remain essential. EurOcean will continue to create opportunities for members to connect, share expertise, and develop joint initiatives, reinforcing the organisation's role as a platform for dialogue and cooperation across disciplines and sectors. In parallel, the organisation will further support the development of Blue Skills and ocean literacy initiatives, including activities that empower young people as ocean advocates through programmes such as EU4Ocean. EurOcean will also continue promoting citizen science approaches, recognising their growing importance in strengthening public engagement, environmental awareness, and participatory ocean governance.

Finally, EurOcean will actively leverage its consultative status with the **United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** to contribute to future European and global marine policy discussions. By bringing the perspectives of its network into international forums, EurOcean will help shape more coherent, informed, and collaborative approaches to ocean governance.

Together, these priorities reflect EurOcean's commitment to remain forward-looking, connected, and impactful, supporting a stronger marine community and contributing to a sustainable ocean future.



10 JOIN THE NETWORK

EurOcean is a unique, member-driven European network connecting organisations working at the forefront of marine science, technology, and policy. By bringing together institutions across Europe, it fosters collaboration, knowledge exchange, and strategic cooperation to address shared ocean challenges.

We invite organisations engaged in funding, implementing, or sharing marine science and technology to become part of this growing community and contribute to a stronger, more connected marine knowledge ecosystem.

WHY BECOME A MEMBER?

Joining EurOcean enables organisations to:



CONNECT

WITH KEY PLAYERS IN MARINE
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND POLICY

BUILD COLLABORATIONS

WITH LEADING INSTITUTES
AND RESEARCH FUNDERS



GAIN VISIBILITY

WITHIN THE EUROPEAN
OCEAN SCIENCE COMMUNITY

ACCESS EXPERTISE AND SUPPORT

IN COMMUNICATION, PROJECTS,
AND PARTNERSHIPS



STAY INFORMED

ABOUT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES,
RESEARCH, AND POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

GET IN TOUCH

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