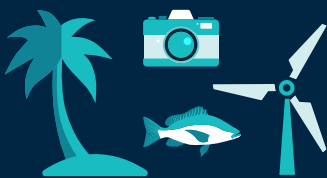


INVESTING IN THE BLUE ECONOMY

Unlocking the potential of the ocean to create jobs and boost the economy

If the ocean were a country, it would be the world's **SEVENTH LARGEST ECONOMY**.

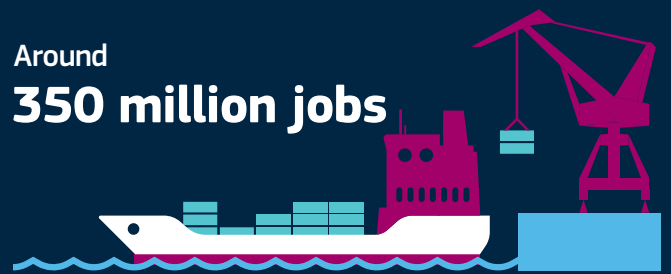
The situation



The output of the ocean is an estimated **€1.3 trillion**, forecast to double by 2030.

Around **350 million jobs**

worldwide are linked to the ocean.¹



Opportunities

In addition to fisheries, the blue economy has growth and job-creating potential in many sectors, not least in developing countries.

Aquaculture

Aquaculture can be a sustainable option for seafood production.

50 %



Aquaculture accounts for more than **50% of the world's seafood production** for human consumption.²

Coastal tourism

Tourism is the **largest employer in the blue economy** and provides valuable income for coastal communities world-wide.

Increase in the number of international tourists visiting small island developing states (SIDS) between 2000 and 2013³

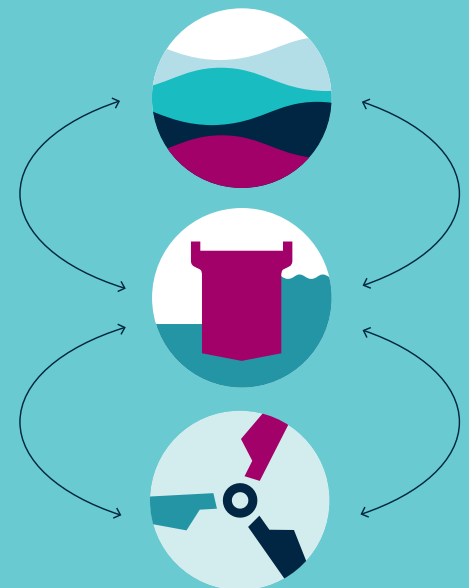


28 million
41 million



Offshore renewable energy

Sustainable marine energy can play a vital role in social and economic development, as well as in climate adaptation and mitigation.



Ocean energy is one of the answers to meeting the growing demand for **clean electricity**.

Blue biotechnology

Blue biotechnology is a challenging but promising industry. Results are applied and marketed in a wide range of sectors.



Pharmaceuticals



Food and nutrition



Cosmetics



Energy

Mangrove restoration

1/4

of the world's mangroves have been destroyed by human activity. Restoration schemes are underway.



The restoration of mangrove ecosystems is a cost-effective way to help ensure food security for many coastal communities.



Mangroves help protect coastal areas from destructive storms, erosion and tsunamis.



Annually, mangroves sequester over 20 million tons of carbon - helping combat climate change.⁴

Offshore renewable energy

The number of jobs in Europe's ocean renewable energy sector is expected to double towards

2030.⁵



2017

2030

90%

of the world's sea-based wind turbines are currently in Europe.



To flourish, the blue economy needs



More strategic investment in blue growth.



Improved maritime skills & qualifications.



Better access to finance for the maritime sector.



Better maritime spatial planning and more data sharing.



More cooperation between public authorities, communities, researchers and private investors to ensure sustainable development.

Be part of the drive to unlock the potential of the blue economy in a smart, sustainable and inclusive way.

© European Union, 2017
Reproduction authorised provided source acknowledged

Sources: 1. UN. 2. UN FAO 3. World Bank
4. UN Environment Programme. 5. EU

#OurOcean
ourocean2017.org
@EU_MARE
@EUmaritimefish

