RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

Press Release



SEADOTs project is co-funded by the EU Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement No.

SEAtwins Cluster Officially Endorsed by UNESCO as Part of UN Ocean Decade's DITTO Programme

SEADOTs announces the establishment of the SEAtwins cluster, endorsed by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) as part of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development under the Digital Twins of the Ocean (DITTO) programme.

SEAtwins cluster consists of four Horizon Europe projects (SEADOTs, SEADITO, SURIMI, and EcoTwin) and is dedicated to integrating socio-ecological and socio-economic models into Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs). The SEAtwins cluster aims to enhance ocean governance through the development of holistic decision-support tools.



SEADOTs strengthens the European Digital Twin Ocean (EU DTO) by developing and integrating next-generation socioecological models for inclusive, informed, and adaptive marine governance. It focuses on demonstrators in the Norwegian North Sea, Southern North Sea, and the Baltic Sea, working closely with policymakers, marine managers, and local stakeholders. The SEADOTs platform provides an interactive interface for scenario-based policy exploration, complemented by learning materials promoting digital ocean literacy.





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SEADITO supports the EU Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters," integrating analytical methods and tools into the EU DTO. It enhances ecosystem-based management through interoperable, spatially explicit social-ecological models and decision-support components adhering to FAIR principles. Case studies in the Baltic Sea, North Sea, Mediterranean, and a Pan-European context underpin its multi-actor processes. The SEADITO platform features visual demonstrators and a Scenario Toolkit (WIST).



<u>SURIMI</u> focuses on integrating socio-ecological models to assess fisheries management impacts, delivering user-friendly tools enabling scenario-based exploration of sustainable marine solutions. It features a modular toolbox incorporating systems such as Ecopath with Ecosim, POSEIDON, and advanced AI-powered interfaces. Stakeholder engagement ensures tools reflect real-world needs, enhancing transparency and trust.





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<u>EcoTwin</u> aims to enhance digital ocean management through innovative socio-ecological models tailored for effective decision-making in coastal regions like the Southern North Sea, Celtic Sea, Thracian Sea, and Waterford Estuary. Utilizing graph theory, AI, and participatory feedback, EcoTwin addresses challenges in integrating diverse ecological and social data. Its tools and processes facilitate stakeholder involvement in policy scenario assessments.

The four projects advance methodologies, tools, and standards to ensure data interoperability, accessibility, and adherence to FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable). SEAtwins shares experiences, knowledge, and outputs through joint activities such as workshops, symposiums (notably ICES 2026), and training sessions.

To learn more about the **SEAtwins Cluster** and its mission, visit the dedicated page on the SEADOTs project website <u>here</u>.

- https://linktr.ee/seadots_euproject
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