



# Observing and mapping marine ecosystems – Next Generation Tools (OBAMA-NEXT)

Official site:

<https://obama-next.eu/>



Project Duration: 48 months (2022-2026)  
Funded under: HORIZON-CL6-2022-BIODIV-01-01: Observing and mapping biodiversity and ecosystems, with particular focus on coastal and marine ecosystems

Coordinated by: Aarhus Universitet, Denmark

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OBAMA-NEXT main goal is to develop a toolbox which generates and delivers the information required to evaluate and communicate the status and trends of marine ecosystems and their biodiversity in an accurate, user-friendly, and cost-effective manner.

This toolbox will form the basis of evidence-based decision making, delivering information products for marine biodiversity.

The methodology of OBAMA-NEXT builds on three main activities:

- Assess existing and new data sources for marine habitats
- Involving stakeholders, convert the resultant data into relevant information products (maps and time series of biodiversity, habitats and ecosystem function) through the development of analysis toolboxes
- Ensure the toolbox fulfils the needs of relevant stakeholders and policy goal

OBAMA-NEXT will develop innovative tools to monitor and describe marine organisms, from microbes to mammals, and ecosystem services across different habitat types in European coastal and marine waters. This will require an overarching approach to identify relevant and needed information products, as well as their validation and applicability, to ensure spatial coherence across organism groups.

## Partnerships

Belgium (Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique), Bulgaria (Institute of Oceanology BAS), Denmark (Aalborg Universitet, Aarhus Universitet - AU), Estonia (Tartu Ülikool), Finland (Helsingin Yliopisto, Luonnonvarakeskus, Suomen Ympäristökeskus), France (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique CNRS, Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer, Université du Littoral), Germany (Alfred-Wegener-Institut Helmholtz-Zentrum für Polar- und Meeresforschung), Greece (Hellenic Centre for Marine Research), Italy (Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale, Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn), Netherlands (Stichting Deltares), Norway (Norsk Institutt for Vannforskning), Portugal (Scitation - Science Communication, Unipessoal LDA), Romania (National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa" - NIMRD), Spain (Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Fundación AZTI - AZTI), United Kingdom (The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, WCMC LBG)

