Interreg
Atlantic Area

Co-funded by
the European Union

INTERREG ATLANTIC AREA ANNUAL EVENT

FROM RESULTS TO FUTURE ACTION

3 november 2026

Centro de Congressos de Lisboa

PAT Programa Assistência Técnica 2030

PORTUGAL 2030

Cofinanciado pela União Europeia

Os Fundos Europeus mais próximos de si.

Interreg
Atlantic Area

Co-funded by
the European Union



Openning session

Delivering cooperation across the Atlantic Area

Elisabete Quintas, Vice President of AD&C

PAT Programa Assistência Técnica 2030

PORTUGAL 2030

Cofinanciado pela
União Europeia

Os Fundos Europeus mais próximos de si.

Interreg
Atlantic Area

Co-funded by
the European Union



Programme implementation update

Ismael Morán- García, Joint Secretariat Director

PAT Programa Assistência Técnica 2030

PORTUGAL 2030

Cofinanciado pela União Europeia

Os Fundos Europeus mais próximos de si.

One Atlantic Area. Many shared challenges. Joint solutions.

Programme Implementation Update | November 2026

What is the Atlantic Area Programme about?

- Bringing together organisations, expertise and territories from Portugal, Spain, France and Ireland.
- Turning common challenges into opportunities for joint action.
- Connecting research, businesses, public authorities and local communities.
- Testing solutions, sharing knowledge and making cooperation work across borders.



What do our projects actually do? | 52 projects approved

A diverse portfolio of cooperation initiatives

From knowledge and ideas to pilots, tools, strategies and solutions that can be shared and replicated across the Atlantic Area.






What do our projects actually do? | 52 projects approved

A diverse portfolio of cooperation initiatives



1. Developing and testing new solutions

Research, technological innovation, digital tools, pilot actions and new applications for the blue economy. Turning scientific knowledge into practical solutions and opportunities for businesses.



2. Making economic activities more sustainable

Helping companies and maritime sectors adapt, improving resource efficiency, developing circular business models, exploring renewable energy and supporting new skills and capabilities.



3. Protecting our natural environment and coastal territories

Monitoring and restoring ecosystems, protecting biodiversity, tackling marine and river pollution, and developing approaches to climate adaptation and coastal resilience.



4. Connecting territories, people and opportunities

Developing sustainable tourism initiatives, valorising cultural and natural heritage, strengthening local communities and helping organisations exchange and transfer successful practices.

4 Calls for projects closed

30 Applications received

Submitted by the closing date of 30 October 2026

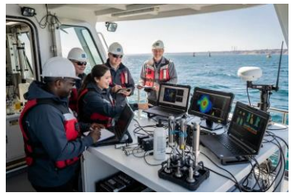
And now, the focus shifts to…

- Assessing the proposals.
- Building on the results already achieved.
- Capitalising on existing knowledge and solutions.
- Preparing the ground for the final phase of the Programme.

From results to future actions. And today is a good example.

The Programme in Action | What comes next

On the ground: let's hear from the projects.



15:15 | Four projects, four perspectives
SATCOMM, MARINNONET, DIADSEA and SAFERSEA will show us how cooperation translates into concrete solutions.



15:35 | Sharing experiences
A roundtable to discuss impact, challenges and lessons learned directly with the projects.



15:50 | Looking ahead
The Programme's next steps and the preparation for the post-2027 period.

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

Solutions on the ground:
Projects transforming the Atlantic



SATCOMM
Alejandra Tapia
Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon



MARINNONET
José Luis Soengas
Centro de Investigación Mariña, University of Vigo



DIADSEA
Catarina Mateus
MARE - Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre, University of Évora



SAFERSEA
Francisca Eiriz
UPTEC, Science & Technology Park of the University of Porto

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

satcomm Empowering Energy Communities

SATCOMM

Sustainable Atlantic Communities

Alejandra Tapia - Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon

1. Challenges addressed

- Climate change
- Competitiveness and innovation
- Territory imbalance



Empowering Renewable Energy Communities to manage their own energy

Supporting cleaner and more sustainable energy systems

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

satcomm
Empowering Energy Communities

2. Solutions developed

- **Technologies** to enable REC and collective self consumption: load prediction models, solar prediction & sky imagers, battery storage, optimisation algorithms, market mechanisms/charges, sharing coefficients, simulation models
- **Energy Sharing Control Platform** across 5 EU Pilots in rural coastal areas in Ireland, France, Spain and Portugal
- Analysis of **energy regulations** and practices





Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

satcomm
Empowering Energy Communities

3. Results achieved

- Five pilots reached an advanced stage of **implementation**
- Demonstration of how **ICT** can support reliable connectivity and improve resilience in remote and challenging environments
- **Platform** up and running
- Analysis of regulatory frameworks and of **challenges and opportunities** for REC in 4 countries



4. What difference does it make

- **Share facilitators** (companies, NGO, citizen groups, local authorities) will have at their disposal new tools to manage and improve REC and Collective Self-Consumption
- Increase in **distributed renewable** energy generation (more efficient and less contentious than large scale infrastructures, allows self-sufficiency of rural and coastal communities
- Information for **regulators** to improve framework and support to REC



Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

satcomm
Empowering Energy Communities

5. Future steps

- Technologies and **Energy Sharing Control Platform** will be made freely available to REC.
- **Policy brief** about challenges and opportunities for REC and SCS.
- New applications to funding programmes to continue **research.**



Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

satcomm
Empowering Energy Communities



www.satcommproject.eu

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

marinnoNET

MARINNONET

Transnational R&D&I cooperation network to foster the competitiveness and sustainability of the Blue Biotech sector in the Atlantic Area territory

José Luis Soengas - Centro de Investigación Mariña, University of Vigo

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

marinnoNET

1. Challenges addressed

Turning Atlantic marine resources into practical Biotechnology opportunities

- Marine resources offer opportunities for new products and applications
- Researchers and companies need to connect scientific capabilities with real-world needs
- Expertise, facilities and business opportunities are spread across Atlantic regions

The challenge

bring research and industry together to identify relevant challenges and develop practical blue biotechnology applications

Interreg Atlantic Area | Co-funded by the European Union | marinnoNET

2. Solutions developed

Participatory approach to identify needs and shape calls for pilot projects to develop solutions

- **Engage innovators** through community building actions
- **Gather and discuss needs** to identify challenges, knowledge gaps and opportunities for innovation
- **Translate needs into pilot calls**: define relevant topics for collaborative projects
- **Connect innovators** across Atlantic regions to combine scientific expertise, industrial needs and available resources



3. Results achieved

16 PILOT PROJECTS 

that explore practical applications organized in main three thematic areas:

Sustainable aquaculture: 6 pilots exploring areas such as new feed ingredients, seaweed culture and fish welfare

Marine observation and biodiversity: 2 pilots addressing monitoring of marine organisms and ecosystems.

Marine-derived industrial products: 8 pilots exploring areas such as marine collagen, algae-based materials and bioactive compounds.

4. What difference does it make

Connecting sectorial needs with research and innovation

- **Stakeholders**: opportunity to express needs and help identify relevant challenges and make meaningful connections
- **Researchers**: clearer links between scientific expertise and practical applications
- **Companies**: opportunity to connect with research partners and explore solutions to their real challenges
- **Atlantic regions**: stronger cross-border relationships, knowledge exchange and potential for shared value chains

5. Future steps

From pilot results to roadmaps, capitalization, and uptake

- **Develop roadmaps** for promising pilots, identifying next technical steps, key results, partners, future funding needs and milestones
- **Capitalize on results**: organize and share knowledge generated, methods and outputs so other regions can reuse and build on them
- **Validate and scale up** promising applications through further testing and industrial colaboration
- **Support uptake and replication** by connecting results with potential users, companies and other Atlantic regions

Maintain network to identify new needs and opportunities for follow-on collaboration

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

marinnoNET



www.marinnonet.eu

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

DiadSea

DIADSEA

Transnational cooperation to improve the management and conservation of diadromous fish at sea

Catarina Mateus - MARE - Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre, University of Évora

Diadromous fish connect rivers and seas

Their life cycles depend on connectivity across freshwater, estuarine and marine environments — yet these connections are **increasingly disrupted**.



KNOWLEDGE GAPS

Limited knowledge of the marine phase

DISCONNECTED MANAGEMENT

Freshwater and marine management often addressed separately

CLIMATE CHANGE

Shifting environmental conditions challenge existing conservation approaches

We cannot conserve diadromous fish by managing rivers and seas in isolation.

From shared evidence to coordinated management

Turning transnational knowledge into practical management frameworks

SHARED POPULATIONS + SHARED PRESSURES → SHARED MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

01 BUILD A COMMON MANAGEMENT BASE

- Characterise legislation and current management practices
- Bring information from Atlantic Area regions into one knowledge base
- Provide the starting point for coordinated action

02 CONNECT STAKEHOLDERS ACROSS BORDERS

- Transnational Observatory brings national perspectives together
- National meetings feed shared discussions
- Common monitoring and management priorities emerge

03 MOVE TOWARDS ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

- Adaptive Fisheries Management Plan under development
- Innovative policy guidelines being consolidated
- Designed for common threats under climate change

The goal is not a single management measure - but a transnational framework that can adapt as conditions change.

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

DiadSea

2021 2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

What did DiadSea change?

1.We improved the evidence base
Marine information on diadromous fish was brought together across the Atlantic Area.

2. We identified where species occur and where climate change may alter their distribution
Modelling provided a transnational spatial perspective.

3. We identified priority areas and common management challenges
Conservation needs extend across national and jurisdictional boundaries.

4. We moved from fragmented knowledge towards transnational management
Science, fisheries and stakeholders were brought together to support adaptive solutions – Transnational Observatory.

From knowledge to action

Turning science into tools, engagement and long-term impact

TRACEABILITY
Label of Origin for shad - Mondego

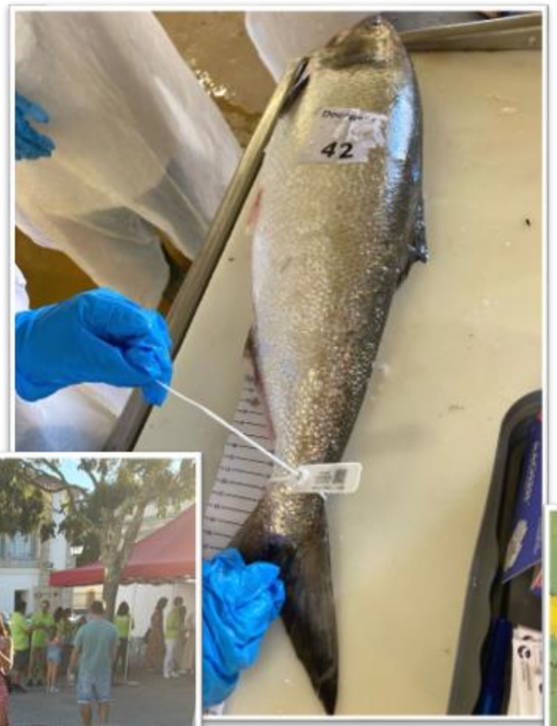
ENGAGEMENT
Working with fishers and stakeholders

EDUCATION
Games and communication tools

CAPITALISATION
Tools designed for long-term uptake











From knowledge to action

Turning science into tools, engagement and long-term impact

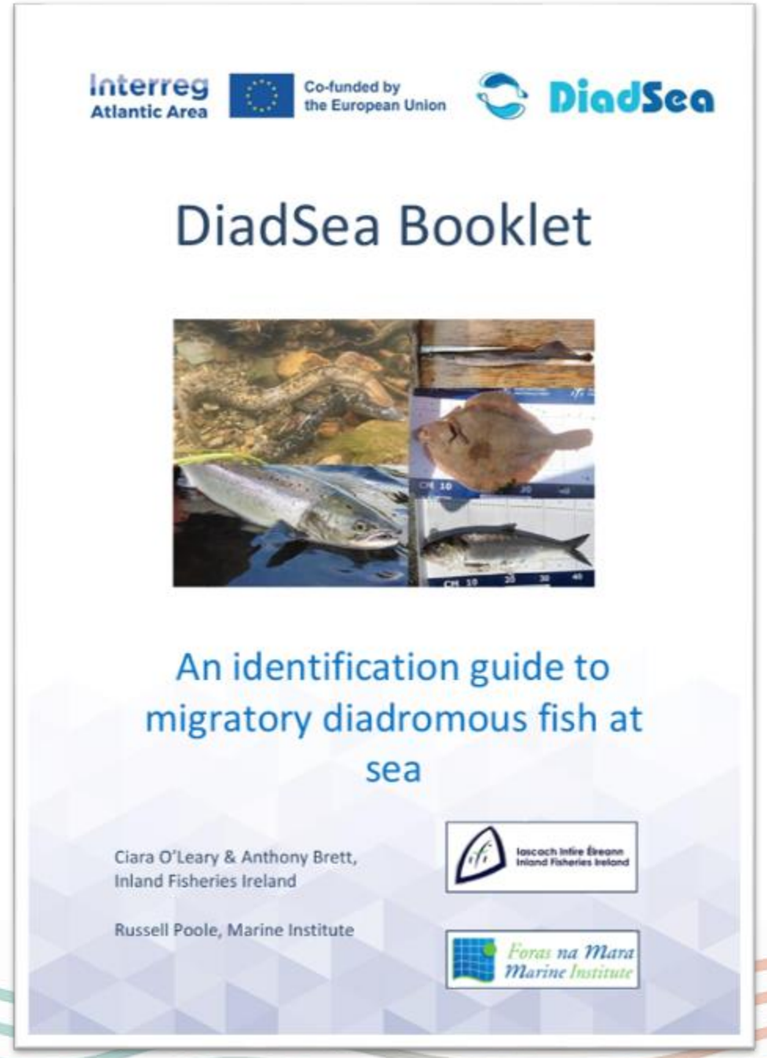
TRACEABILITY
Label of Origin for shad - Mondego

ENGAGEMENT
Working with fishers and stakeholders

EDUCATION
Games and communication tools

CAPITALISATION
Tools designed for long-term uptake





DiadSea leaves a shared evidence base and practical tools that researchers, managers and stakeholders can continue using to improve conservation.

THANK YOU!



UNIVERSIDADE DE ÉVORA

MARE

AR NET
AQUATIC RESEARCH NETwork

Ciências ULisboa

USC
UNIVERSIDADE DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

IPMA Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera

MUSÉUM NAL HIST NATURELLE

Foras na Mara
Marine Institute

LOGRAMI
Loire Grands Migrateurs

INRAE

Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

DiadSea

www.diadsea.uevora.pt

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

SAFERSEA
Smarter and Eco-friendlier Atlantic area

SAFERSEA

Safer Smarter and Eco-friendlier Atlantic Area

Francisca Eiriz - UPTEC, Science & Technology Park of the University of Porto

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

SAFERSEA
Smarter and Eco-friendlier Atlantic area

1. Challenges addressed

- Environmental Pressures on Shipping
- Critical Safety & Accidental Risks
- Innovation Validation Gap







Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

SAFERSEA
Smarter and Eco-friendlier Atlantic area

2. Solutions developed

- **Ecosystem Mapping & Needs Analysis**
  Identified ecosystem challenges + 4 regional study visits (Cádiz, Lisbon/Sines, Cork, Brest) = mapped **260+ maritime actors** and produced a Capitalisation Report

- **Real-World Pilot Acceleration**
  Directly supported **4 innovative pilot projects =** access to test facilities to validate new technologies under real operating conditions









Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

SAFERSEA
Smarter and Eco-friendlier Atlantic area

3. Results achieved > **Pilots & Demonstrations**



Hydrotwin



AquaScan AI



NAV-45



Oil Spill Response

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

SAFERSEA
Smarter and Eco-friendlier Atlantic area

4. What difference does it make









- **Tangible Port & Environmental Impact**
  Port authorities & maritime operators & emergency responders with field-tested tools (surveillance, sampling, and rapid response)

- **De-Risking Marine Deep-Tech**
  Startups overcome validation barriers > attract investment and commercial adoption

- **Power of Atlantic Cooperation**
  Complementary across the Atlantic Area with specialized accidental pollution expertise

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

SAFERSEA
Smarter and Eco-friendlier Atlantic area

5. Future steps

Commercialization & Scalling

- Finalizing some pilots & further tests
- Expanding tests across borders
- Routine operations

Capitalising Atlantic network

- Leaverage 260+ actors
- SaferSEA Capitalisation Report

Long-term vision

- Embedding clean-tech in routine operations
- Pilot replication in other sea basins
- Further scale / intern. techs
- Policy reccomen.

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

SAFERSEA
Smarter and Eco-friendlier Atlantic area

www.safersea.eu

Interreg Atlantic Area

Co-funded by the European Union

Roundtable with projects: Impact, challenges and lessons learned



Moderator: **João Marrana**
Executive Manager of the Managing Authority



SATCOMM
Alejandra Tapia



MARINNONET
José Luis Soengas



DIADSEA
Catarina Mateus



SAFERSEA
Francisca Eiriz

Interreg
Atlantic Area

Co-funded by
the European Union



Closing session: Next steps for the Programme and preparation for the post-2027 period

Álvaro Santos, President of CCDR-Norte and Managing Authority of Interreg Atlantic Area

PAT Programa Assistência Técnica 2030

PORTUGAL 2030

Cofinanciado pela União Europeia

Os Fundos Europeus mais próximos de si.