



# COASTAL REGIONS IN TRANSITION TO THE BLUE BIOECONOMY

Jurgen Adriaen 29/02/2024



# **Project Facts**

- 12 Project Partners
- 9 Regions
- 3 Sea Basins: Baltic & North Sea, Atlantic
- 36 Months (August '22-July '25)
- 2.3 Million EUR Budget (Horizon Europe Programme)
- Coordinated by SUBMARINER







## **Project Outcomes**



Stimulate the development of a **sustainable blue bioeconomy** by enabling **startups and SMEs** in the participating regions to realise their circular, ecofriendly business ideas



Showcase integrated and circular blue bioeconomy value chains, to serve as inspiration to European coastal communities



**Develop tools** for supporting businesses in integrating ecosystem services into novel ecology-driven business models and induce cross-sector collaborations along the value chains.



Foster **stakeholder engagement** through dedicated activities in the 9 project regions and beyond



Provide regional actors **access to the technologies** to realise their transition to blue bio-based solutions across their chosen value chains





# **Blue Regional Visions**

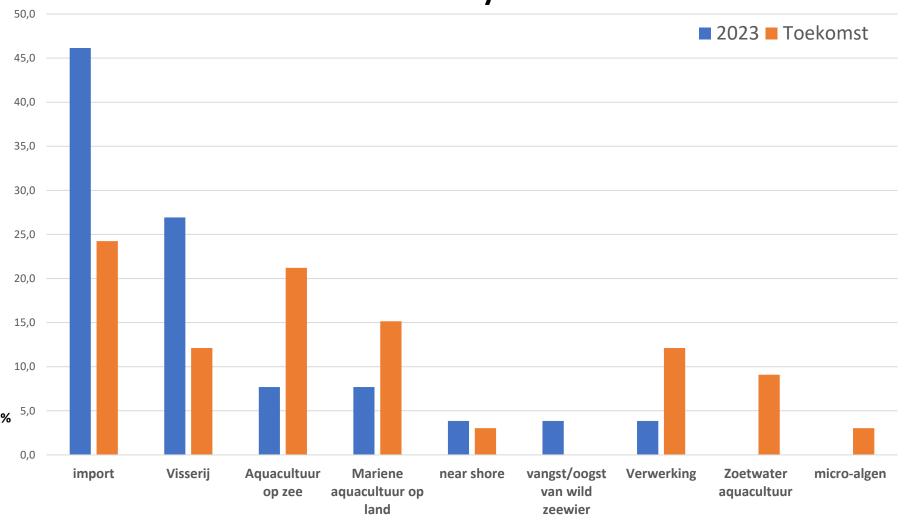
- Community of Practice in the 9 project regions will:
  - Regional Vision (document):
    - ☐ Description status quo Flemish Blue Bio
    - ☐ Future prospects
    - □ Opportunities/bottlenecks
    - ☐ What actions to take







# Which activity do you think is the largest supplier of raw materials for the Blue Bioeconomy in Flanders?

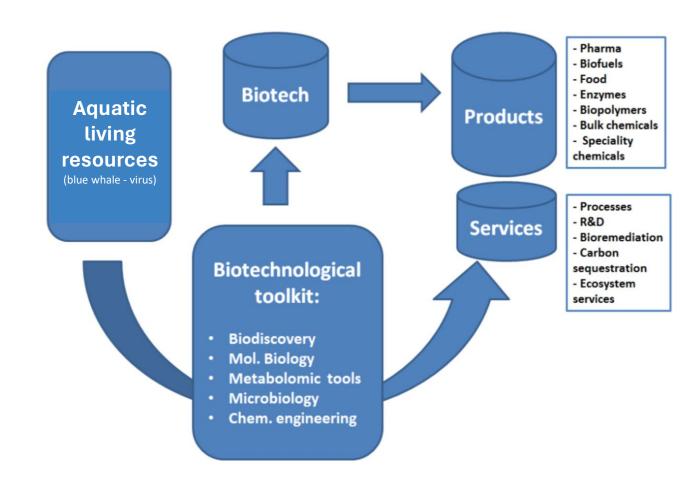






### **Blue Bio Value Chains**

- Understanding and selecting 10 most promising value chains in the 9 project regions
- Create working groups and CoPs to understand how to develop them further
- Support the creation of an innovation ecosystem around them







### Welke combinaties van grondstof-eindproduct meest beloftevol?

Wilde Vis als Kerngrondstof in voeding	5
Wilde schelp- en schaaldieren als kerngrondstof in voeding	3
Offshore Macro-algen als additief in voeding	3
Kweekvis als Kerngrondstof in voeding	2
Kweekvis als additief in voeding	2
Kweek schelp- en schaaldieren als kerngrondstof in voeding	2
Offshore Macro-algen als kerngrondstof in voeding	2
Offshore Macro-algen voor cosmetica	2
Offshore Macro-algen voor biomateriaal	2





Thermochemical

products

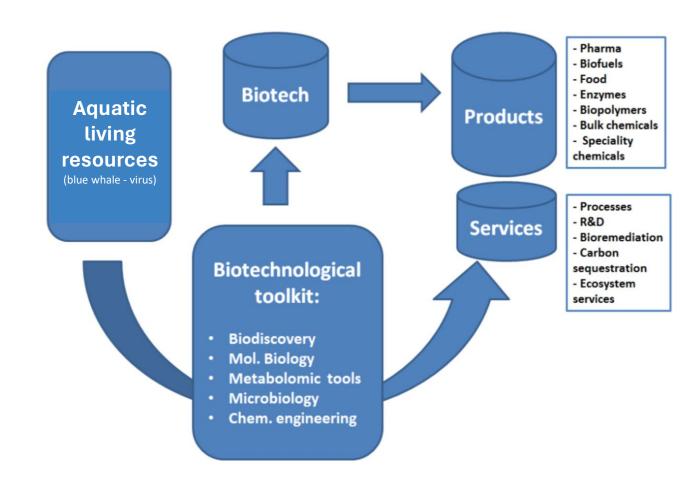
Developement





### **Blue Bio Value Chains**

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# What are Ecosystem services

### "the benefits people obtain from ecosystems"

Supporting services: primary production,...

Provisioning services: food, energy,...

Regulating service: purification of water and air, carbon sequestration,...

Cultural services: recreation,...





### Deliverable 3.2

### BBC value chain

CLUSTERS						
Ecosystem Services	Bivalves	Crustaceans	Fish	Macroalgae	Marine bacteria	Microalgae
Provisioning						
Food	X	X	X	Х	X	X
Raw materials	Х	X	X	x		X
Medicinal resources		X		X	X	X
Regulating						
Water filtration and nutrient assimilation	Х			x		X
Coastal protection	х			X		
Carbon sequestration and storage	X					
Biochemical cycling	Х			X		
Biological control				x		
Supporting						
Habitat protection and maintenance	Х			X		
Maintenance of genetic diversity	Х					
Sediment creation						
Water cycling	Х					
Oxygen production				X		x
Cultural						
Recreational activities and mental and physical health	X	X	Х	x	X	X
Tourism and ecotourism		X				
Sense of place and spiritual connection			X	x		
Aesthetic and spiritual appreciation and inspiration			Х			
for culture, art, and design						

# **Ecosystem approach**

Are these ecosystem services important for a Region?

- Can be local food production, but also product towards retail
- Can be protection,...
- Can be regional productplacement (food+tourism+..),...
- Opportunities for nature inclusive design for other activities

-....

But our activities off/nearshore have an impact: apply the ECOSYSTEM APPROACH Our activities in relation with the environment:

- -Can we reduce those negative impacts?
- -Can we use or reinforce the positive effects of certain ES?
- -Can we give a value to the ES?





# **Ecosystem approach**

### Why a value?

\*Create awareness, willingness or obligation to influence positively the ES, even if its not directly provide economic value for the company when validating impacts

\*Quantification and valuation of ecosystem services provides decision-makers (in both industry and policy) the possibility to consider trade-offs between alternative management scenarios:

- -Lesser ecological impact if food has marine origin in comparison to land-originated
- -Healthier: also a long term win for governmental cost?

\*Ecosystem approach can enhance public support and thus give the different players a license to operate.







# TO INCREASE SUSTAINABLE BLUE BIOMASS PRODUCTION





Framework Ecosystem Services
Framework (local national or regional) for e

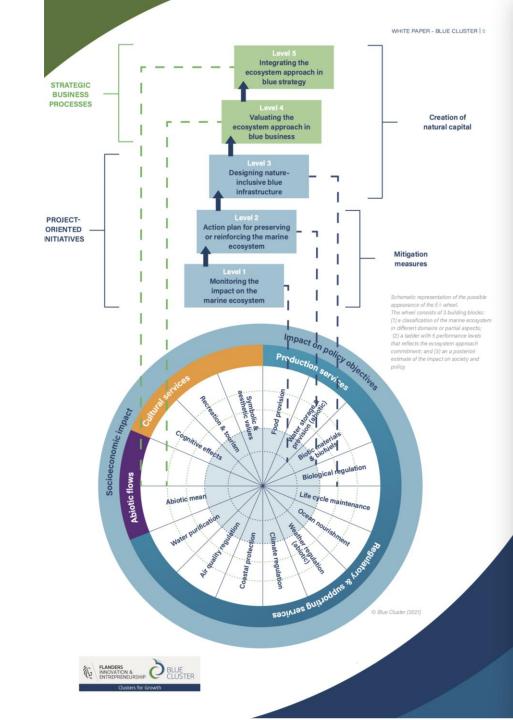
Framework (local, national or regional) for quantification and monetisation of Ecosystem Services.





# **Ecosystem Services Valorization**

- Ecosystem Approach (EA) Wheel provides inspiration for impact assessment and cognitive framework to understand ecosystem services and their benefits for companies and policymakers.
- It sets a "ladder" of integration of ecosystem services into decision-making.
- It defines environmental and socioeconomic impacts of ecosystem services.





# **Ecosystem approach**

How to give a value?

BlueBiocluster: create an awareness tool for Ecosystem Approach. Input from different projects







**WABESCO** 





### Matchmaking, Acceleration and Business Support

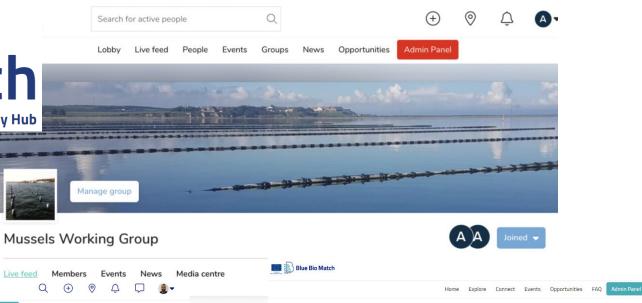
- Stakeholder and technology mapping
- Matchmaking events, co-creation workshops and mentoring
- Funding for startups
- **Engage** investors, funders, mentors/coaches, ecosystem stakeholders and industry in a continuous dialogue







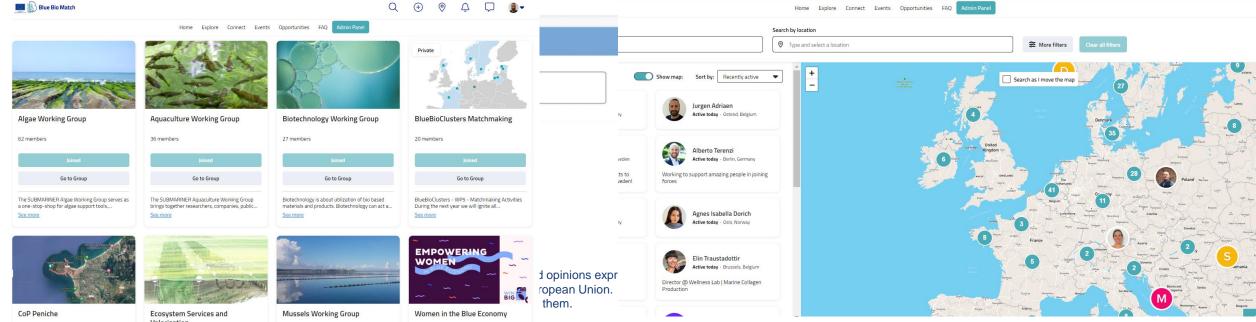
# Blue Bio Match The Blue Bioeconomy Hub





bluebiomatch.eu

Q + 0 A P







- Matchmaking platform between technology providers and users
- Mentoring for startups and SMEs
- Regional and thematic groups
- Events and opportunities
- Online innovation ecosystems for all project stakeholders and beyond
- Interested blue bioeconomy stakeholders welcome to join!





### Start UP/Scale UP Support Program

- Identify them, treasure them
- Guiding, Matchmaking, Mentoring
- Bootcamp

Winner: funded mentorship

#### Co-creation workshops

- Based on identified Challenges
- Focus on innovation
- Meetup in person
- Match-making

February 2024

#### Regional Bootcamps + Mentoring

- Solution development
- Open for selection of companies
- 1-on-1 coaching
- Mentorship
- Business Development

June 2024, Hybrid

#### **Transnational Bootcamp**

- Selected Startups
- Pitch training
- International networking
- Investors/Industry invited to a final pitch session

November 2024, Amsterdam?





# **Proposed Timeline 2024**

### ❖Regional "Atlantic" Bootcamp

- March: announce applications opening
- April: selection process
- June: one-day Bootcamp (Brest?)
- Mentorship for the winners between June September

### Transnational Bootcamp

- August: announce applications opening
- September: selection process, announce the selected Startups
- November: one-day onsite at Mission Arena (Amsterdam?)





### **GET INVOLVED**

- Blue Startups and SMEs needing solutions for their challenges
- Startups and SMEs with solutions for blue challenges
- Mentors
- Coaches
- Experts
- Business Development support actors

❖Communication will follow (DBC newsletter, BlueBioMatch,Linkedin,...)

PM, DM, SMS,.... @ jurgen.adriaen@blauwecluster.be







# Thank you!

Follow us!







