

The Blue Economy

What is the blue economy? The maritime economy is often referred to as the 'blue economy'. It covers all economic activities with a direct or indirect link to the ocean.

The Blue Economy is emerging on the global scene as a powerful and persuasive new concept for sustainable development based on economic activities associated with the ocean. Several regions globally have adopted this concept at national and regional levels, including the Caribbean. Given the complex, multisectoral and multilevel nature of the Blue Economy, it is clear that different approaches will be needed for different regions. Hence, this volume explores the opportunities, threats and risks involved in operationalising the Blue Economy in the Wider Caribbean Region, defined as northern Brazil to the USA and all mainland and island countries and territories in-between. The first part of the book looks at where the region stands in the global picture regarding adoption of the Blue Economy and what is planned. The second set of chapters examines key crosscutting issues such as ecosystem services, climate change and governance at national and regional levels that could make or break the Blue Economy initiative. The book then goes on to explore the main sectoral activities that will constitute the Blue Economies in the region: fisheries, tourism, shipping and transport, renewable energy, oil and gas, seabed mining and waste management are all considered. The book ends with a synthesis of the political and technical requirements to overcome threats and take advantage of opportunities in the Blue Economy.

Island nations have benefited from their ocean resources for centuries, with marine uses and activities contributing significantly to their development and overall economies. These include a wide range of maritime sectors essential to both current and future economic development, including: capture fisheries; maritime transport and ports; coastal tourism; mineral exploitation; as well as the marine ecosystems and resources that support them. There a growing appreciation of the critical role the oceans play in sustainable economic growth and, as a corollary, the need to better manage and protect coastal and marine ecosystems and resources that are the fundamental basis for that growth. Drawing on international experience in the respective sectors, each volume in the Commonwealth Blue Economy Series provides recommendations that will assist governments to realise opportunities where they exist. It is hoped that the material presented in this volume will stimulate thinking about how small island developing states can benefit from the development of the blue economy by integrating different sectors into the 'blue growth' agenda.

The Blue Economy cites a new business model in China where novel paper production turns crushed rocks, including mining waste that has piled up over centuries into sheets for printing, writing and packaging without the use of water, without cutting down a tree, and recyclable forever. It details how thistles,

considered a weed, is turned into a plastic, a lubricant and a herbicide converting an old petrochemical plant into a biorefinery.

The blue economy : the role of the oceans in our nation's economic future : hearing before the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, United States Senate, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, first session, June 9, 2009.

The Blue Economy takes readers beyond the obvious and aims to wake up the entrepreneur in all of us. The innovations it explores are founded in solid science and demonstrated by multiple platforms. Committed grass-roots entrepreneurs worldwide can realise triple cash flow using open-source innovations that create competitive business models. This book will encourage thousands and perhaps millions of us to apply a Blue Economy business model that will shift us from scarcity to abundance.

As humanity enters the Anthropocene epoch the oceans are more at risk than ever before as a result of the increased exploitation of its resources. The Indian Ocean is the third largest ocean in the world comprising 20% of the water on the Earth's surface. The sea lanes in the Indian Ocean are among the busiest in the world with more than 80 percent of global seaborne trade in oil transiting through the Indian Ocean and its vital chokepoints and an estimated 40% of the world's offshore oil production comes from the Indian Ocean. The importance of this region cannot be underestimated and there is no doubt that there are many opportunities for economic growth and job creation presented by the waters washing the shores of the Indian Ocean Rim. In order to ensure a desirable future for humanity it is necessary to make use of the ocean's resources in a sustainable and responsible manner. Climate change is affecting the Indian Ocean negatively, placing a strain on the ability to ensure food security and damaging the economies of small island states that depend on fisheries and aquaculture for their livelihoods. Increasing ocean temperatures and ocean acidification are taking a toll on ecosystems. This book is the first of its kind, providing fresh insights into the various aspects and impacts of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region: from shifting paradigms, to an accounting framework, gender dynamics, the law of the sea and renewable energy, this handbook aims at increasing awareness of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region and to provide evidence to policy-makers in the region to make informed decisions. The contributions are from a mixture of disciplines by scholars and experts from seven countries.

This unique compendium provides an insight into the role of emerging marine biorefineries based on macroalgae (seaweeds) in the development of a sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth-blue economy. The useful reference text shows a complete picture on the motivation to develop seaweed technologies, and how the combination of biology, cultivation technologies and downstream processing with economics can address the social challenges through the blue growth.

Research Paper (postgraduate) from the year 2020 in the subject Law - Comparative

Legal Systems, Comparative Law, grade: 4.65, , course: Law, language: English, abstract: The paper reviewed and analyzed the importance and principles of Blue economy. The paper identified the challenges of blue economy and possible solutions. The ability to maintain the marine environment to provide jobs and nutrition on long term is being threatened by human economic activities and development approaches. The blue economy was initiated to provide services and values that are beneficial to local communities, coastal states and the world at large. Blue economy is an integration of sustainable development and growth which involves every aspect of national and global governance, economic development, environmental protection and sustainability. The basis of blue economy is to achieve long term prosperity by a country befitting the wellbeing of all citizens and mankind preserving the environment, especially the oceans. The earth surface is covered by water and as such the fact that the oceans and seas matter for sustainable development is an undeniable fact. This paper is aimed at analyzing the concept of blue economy as an instrument for protecting marine environment and ensuring sustainable development.

The Annual Report on the EU Blue Economy aims to describe the scope and size of the blue economy in the European Union, creating a baseline to support policymakers and stakeholders in the quest for sustainable development of oceans, seas and coastal resources. It will monitor developments in the EU blue economy annually and examine the drivers behind trends. The report examines not only established sectors (meaning, for the purposes of this report, those that have traditionally contributed to the blue economy) but also emerging and innovative sectors, which bring new opportunities for investment and hold huge potential for future development. It describes the most recent trends in several socioeconomic indicators and analyses the drivers behind such trends. Analyses are provided for the EU as a whole and by sector and industry for each Member State. Reflecting the availability of comparable datasets across all Member States, the focus of this first report is primarily on the established sectors. While there are still many challenges to be met, this report aims to serve as a first step to assessing the drivers and potential for oceans and coasts to provide for sustainable economic growth and to support the development of management policies that will ensure that growth is sustainable.

The EU Blue Economy Report has become the reference to understand past developments, trends and future opportunities in the blue economy and all individual economic activities related to our seas and oceans in the EU and its Member States. In its fourth edition, the yearly EU Blue Economy Report continues to analyse the scope and size of the Blue Economy in the European Union. It aims at providing support to policymakers and stakeholders in the quest for a sustainable development of the oceans, coastal resources and, most notably, to the development and implementation of policies and initiatives under the European Green Deal and in particular with the insight of the Sustainable Blue Economy communication. Through its economic evidence, the Report takes stock of the Blue Economy, using the latest available data acting hence as a supporting tool for evidenced-based policy making. It also serves as a source of inspiration to all concerned stakeholders. For the purposes of the Report, the Blue Economy includes all those activities that are marine-based or marine-related. Therefore, the Report examines not only established sectors (i.e. those that traditionally contribute to the Blue Economy) but also emerging (those for which reliable data are

still developing) and innovative sectors, which bring new opportunities for investment and hold large potential for the future development of coastal communities. Analyses are provided for 2009-18 period for the EU-27 as a whole and by sector and industry for each Member State.

Island nations have benefited from their ocean resources, with marine uses and activities contributing to their economic development. There is a growing appreciation of the critical role oceans play in sustainable economic growth and the need to manage and protect coastal and marine ecosystems that are the fundamental basis for that growth.

Provides a clear, accessible picture of the current and future potential of technology within different sectors in the Blue Economy.

This report aims to synthesize the current theory and practice of the blue economy concept to govern economic activity linked to the ocean, and to provide a framework for the Government of Bangladesh to analyze its potential. With the peaceful resolution of maritime boundary disputes with its neighbors in 2012 and 2014, the Government has recently defined the ocean space under its jurisdiction and prioritized its use as a key source of future economic growth. The Government has prioritized the use of these spaces as a key source of future growth. However, a number of questions remain in embarking on a policy planning process to achieve Bangladesh's blue economy aspirations, including measures of the current economic uses of the ocean space, the identification of clear targets for sustainable growth of the use of this space, and a policy pathway to get there. Described as an economic frontier, the term "ocean economy" applies collectively to ocean based industry activities and the assets, goods, and services of marine ecosystems. Ocean ecosystems provide the natural capital inputs that combine with produced and human capital to underpin the ocean economy. The concept of a "blue economy" merged in 2012 as countries around the world have grappled with the twin trends of accelerating growth in the ocean economy and change in the underlying ecosystems. A "blue economy" aims for a balance between economic opportunities and the environmental limitations of using the ocean to generate wealth. Few documents exist to describe how countries can transition their ocean economies toward a blue economy, despite much discussion since 2012. This report fills that gap by offering a conceptual framework to guide policy-makers in Bangladesh in proposing specific reforms, by illustrating the economic activities of the ocean economy together with the underlying natural capital, as well as other types of capital. The framework suggests entry points for policy reforms to change the flow of inputs from ocean ecosystems to the ocean economy over time, or conversely to reduce outputs from economic activity (such as pollution) that may impact the functioning of ocean ecosystems. The report also synthesizes principles that may help guide such policy reforms. Most importantly, the report summarizes the information base needed for the Government of Bangladesh to set realistic targets for a blue economy development pathway and monitor progress.

Traditionally, the ocean economy is viewed solely as a mechanism for economic growth. In this business-as-usual approach, large-scale industrial economies have developed the ocean economy through the exploitation of maritime and marine resources, often without consideration of how those activities impact the future health or productivity of those same resources. This has led to aquatic ecosystems being viewed

and treated as limitless resources; the marine environment becoming a dumping ground for waste; overfishing diminishing fishing stocks; ocean habitats being degraded from coastal developments; sea-level rise impacting coastal communities and infrastructure; increasing ocean acidification; and the marginalisation of poor coastal communities. Recognising the failings of the traditional ocean economy, there is a transition underway around the world towards the Blue Economy. This concept moves beyond the business-as-usual approach with economic development and ocean health complementary to one another. In the Blue Economy, the environmental risks of and ecological degradation from economic activity are mitigated or significantly reduced. Therefore, economic activity is in balance with the long-term capacity of the ocean ecosystems to support this activity and remain healthy and resilient. This book will provide an overview of the various technologies used to promote cross-sectoral and multi-scalar collaboration, facilitate the integrated management of sectors and resources, foster partnerships between governments and industry, encourage R&D in new technologies in resource use and management, and scale-up innovative financing mechanisms in the development of a Blue Economy. Also, the book will contain in-depth case studies that illustrate how locations, of differing climates, lifestyles and income levels, have implemented technologies to facilitate the development of the Blue Economy. Developing the Blue Economy will provide an accessible resource for practitioners and researchers working in the field on the various innovative technologies being implemented around the world to create a Blue Economy.

The blue economy is a pivotal component of global economies. There is international consensus that the blue economy boosts employment and innovation, and offers significant opportunities for economic development and investment, including to local communities. The current output of the global blue economy, worth USD 1.5 trillion, is expected to double by 2030. In addition to its potential to drive significant economic and socio economic development, the blue economy can play a central role in alleviating the pressures on land resources and fostering climate change mitigation and adaptation. In this context, the need to develop and promote sustainable blue economy activities has become critical, based on a common understanding at the international level of the activities and practices that contribute to it. This study is a step towards the establishment of such a common understanding by developing a set of criteria to assess the sustainability of blue economy activities. The outcome of this study is an outline of a Blue Economy Sustainability Framework, which provides a preliminary set of sustainability criteria and indicators across various blue economy sectors. Additional input from stakeholders would be essential to further develop and refine the Framework.

Preparing a Workforce for the New Blue Economy: People, Products and Policies discusses the Blue Economy, how the industry will develop, and how to train the next generation. The book considers the use of big data, key skillsets, training undergraduate and graduate students, the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) in the US, economic opportunities in African coastal countries, and governmental agencies, non-profits and NGO's. Finally, a broad range of case studies are provided, covering oil spills, commercial fishing, data protection and harvesting, sustainability and weather forecasting, all presented to highlight the educational requirements of the workforce and potential economic opportunities. Coordinates efforts from different disciplines and

sectors, and shares effective teaching practices and approaches Includes comprehensive case studies that highlight the educational requirements of the workforce and potential economic opportunities Presents a framework for unifying several workforce sectors that are dependent upon the ocean

The “Blue Economy” is used to describe all of the economic activities related to the sea, with a special emphasis on sustainability. Traditional activities such as fisheries, but also undersea mining, tourism, and scientific research are included, as well as the phenomenal growth of aquaculture during the past decade. All of these activities, and the irresistible prospect of another new frontier, has led to enthusiastic and, most likely, overenthusiastic assessments of the possibilities to exploit the sea to feed the world, provide low-cost energy, become a new source of minerals, and other future miracles. This book makes sense of these trends and of the future of the blue economy by following our remote ancestors who gradually discovered the sea and its resources, describing the so-called fisherman’s curse – or why fishermen have always been poor, explaining why humans tend to destroy the resources on which we depend, and assessing the realistic expectations for extracting resources from the sea. Although the sea is not so badly overexploited as the land, our demands on ecosystem services are already above the oceans’ sustainability limits. Some new ideas, including “fishing down” for untapped resources such as plankton, could lead to the collapse of the entire marine ecosystem. How Neanderthals crossed the sea in canoes, how it was possible for five men on a small boat to kill a giant whale, what kind of oil the virgins of the Gospel put into their lamps, how a professor of mathematics, Vito Volterra, discovered the “equations of fishing,” why it has become so easy to be stung by a jellyfish while swimming in the sea, and how to play “Moby Dick,” a simple board game that simulates the overexploitation of natural resources are just some of the questions that you will be able to answer after reading this engaging and insightful book about the rapidly expanding relationship between humanity and the sea.

The economic paradigms currently dominating the world are not sustainable. The threats from climate change, exploitation-based approaches to commerce, and the excess acquisition of resources loom large as well as the possibility of military flare-ups. Maintaining a balance between development and ecosystems, aspirations for growth, and the need for sustainability is a prescient challenge. The Indian Ocean Region (IOR) encompasses some of the poorest countries in the world and those that will bear the brunt of the negative impacts from climate change. This book explores the immense potential of the IOR and how best to maintain sustainable and responsible economic and strategic activities. The combination of science, innovation, and entrepreneurship will create a new blue economy business model, which has the potential to transform society. Based on critical analysis of the model and its practical applications, including risks as well as opportunities, the topics discussed range from food security, energy, and resilience to climate change, trade and investments, and improved maritime connectivity to tourism, poverty alleviation, and socioeconomic growth, encompassing a wide range of interests and expertise. FEATURES Examines the geo-politics, geo-resources, and geo-hazards of the IOR and identifies opportunities and methods to achieve success Covers a detailed assessment of available resources (fisheries, minerals, energy), threats such as pollution (plastic, acoustic, carbon, bio-invasion), geo-politics (maritime security, military invasion), and strategic vision (determining carrying

capacity, ethical governance, and responsible ecosystem) of the Indian Ocean Analyzes the economics of the blue economy, the global scenario including the Pacific and Caribbean islands, and the aspect of the Chinese geo-political invasion in the Indian Ocean Inspires entrepreneurs to adopt new ways of creating economic benefits, reducing energy use, and increasing revenue while simultaneously helping the communities involved Discusses the threat and security perspectives of the IOR and the collective responsibility for a sustainable use of resources Crossing a wide range of interests and expertise, this book explores topics and ideas that will be essential to researchers and professionals in marine sciences, economics, business, geography, and political sciences. Graduate students in the same fields as well as any and all organizations that maintain a presence in the IOR will likewise find this book to be a valuable resource.

The EU Blue Economy Report analyses the scope and size of the Blue Economy in the European Union, solidifying a baseline to support policymakers and stakeholders in the quest for a sustainable development of oceans, sea and coastal resources. The report includes a chapter on regional analysis, which provides an overview of the main socioeconomic features of all EU sea basins and some examples of smart specialisation. Finally, the Report develops the analysis of the underlying factors driving the evolution of the EU Blue Economy. Aside from details for each sector, an overview of the general macroeconomic situation as well as the influence of global financial markets over the trends in financing and investments has been incorporated. The report focuses on the evolution of the EU Blue Economy over time. The differences in the figures with respect to last year's report can be explained by a combination of real growth and the statistical effect of including additional sectors. For instance, last year showed 3.5 million jobs for the EU Blue Economy established sectors and this year the data showed 4 million jobs. This is partly due to an increase in scope and improved methodology and partly due to actual economic growth. Differences for aggregated turnover are larger as a result of double counting effects within the various value chains of the Blue Economy (e.g. fishing - processing - commercialisation, marine equipment and machinery - shipbuilding - maritime transport). The Blue Economy's long-term potential in terms of jobs, growth and investments can only be completely realised if more effective and coordinated steps are taken to bring together environmental, economic and social aspects of ocean management. This assessment of the state and scope of the Blue Economy and investment opportunities is intended to support policy and decision-making, and provide direction in ocean stewardship and governance. The blue economy, comprising coastal and marine resources, offers vast benefits for sub-Saharan Africa: of the 53 countries and territories in the region, 32 are coastal states; there are 13 million sq km of maritime zones; more than 90% of the region's exports and imports come by sea; and the African Union hails the blue economy as the 'new frontier of African renaissance'. Despite their importance, the region's coastal and marine resources have been neither fully appreciated nor fully utilized. They are only now being recognized as being key to Africa's potential prosperity. As the region grows, it has, in general, not taken adequate safeguards to protect these valuable resources. That is partly because some of the problems (pollution, for example) are regional and know no borders. All too often, short-term gains are made at the expense of the long term (overfishing, for example). This book provides, for the first time, a study

of the constraints and opportunities the blue economy offers for sub-Saharan Africa. It includes an introduction and overview; sectoral analyses (including tourism, fisheries, mineral resources, culture, shipping and maritime safety); country case studies; and analyses of regional and international efforts towards better coastal zone and marine management.

The blue economy: the role of the oceans in our nation's economic future: hearing before the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, United States Senate, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, first session, June 9, 2009.

We are all islanders now -- Turn of the tide -- Smart harvests -- The world's great highway -- Allure of the sea -- Hidden treasure -- Harnessing nature's energy -- Pristine waters -- Not forgetting biodiversity -- Metamorphosis

Blue Growth and Blue Economy in the Context of Development Policies and Priorities in Malaysia highlights the significance of introducing ecological perspectives to seafood production and explains the contribution of this sector to sustainable development goals. Structured in five chapters, the book explains the relevance of harmonizing the three interconnected elements: economic growth, environmental compatibility, and social inclusion in seafood security. Chapter 2 deals with the blue growth and blue economy perspectives, Chapters 3 and 4 cover the current drivers of blue growth and emerging areas of the blue economy. Chapter 5 discusses the significance of higher education in seafood security and explains how a 'systems approach' can help in making sense of scientific knowledge and capacity building for addressing some of the most critical issues facing the world. Chapter 6 sheds light on the matters related to gender equity in blue growth. There are radical ideas in this book that require bold policy decisions for more applied and problem-solving research, giving due credence to scientific advice in decision-making, graduate employment, the imperatives of aligning national development priorities with the global development goals.

This book argues for a broader approach to sustainable growth in Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Small island states such as those in the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and South Pacific face significant and growing threats from climate change, increasing political and social volatility, and rapidly evolving global trends in technology and tourism. Based on ten years of research, this book looks beyond the Blue Economy of tourism and fisheries and provides a model of how creative industries, innovation networks, creative clusters and digital transformation can give SIDS the foundation for a strong sustainable future. The book provides not only insights into how these emerging digital-creative sectors can drive developing economies but also actionable tools for policy makers, entrepreneurs and academics to deliver increased performance on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and, ultimately, growth and sustainability. This book will be of great interest to scholars and practitioners of economic geography, sustainable development, development studies and the creative industries.

This report was drafted by a working group of United Nations entities, the World Bank, and other stakeholders to suggest a common understanding of the blue economy; to highlight the importance of such an approach, particularly for small island developing states and coastal least developed countries; to identify some of the key challenges its adoption poses; and to suggest some broad next steps that are called for in order to

ensure its implementation. Although the term "blue economy" has been used in different ways, it is understood here as comprising the range of economic sectors and related policies that together determine whether the use of oceanic resources is sustainable. An important challenge of the blue economy is thus to understand and better manage the many aspects of oceanic sustainability, ranging from sustainable fisheries to ecosystem health to pollution. A second significant issue is the realization that the sustainable management of ocean resources requires collaboration across nation-states and across the public-private sectors, and on a scale that has not been previously achieved. This realization underscores the challenge facing the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as they turn to better managing their blue economies.

This volume is a collection of short essays articles on the multidimensional aspects of the blue economy. It presents perspectives on the concept and the essential ingredients of the blue economy such as marine resources, maritime infrastructure and marine environment. International cooperative approaches to promote blue economy, the role of maritime governance and capacity building are discussed in the context of implementing the blue economy. The book also promotes the importance of sustainable utilization of the oceans which lies at the core of the blue economy.

Dr. Gunter Pauli is challenging the green movement he has been so much a part of to do better, to do more. He is the entrepreneur who launched Ecover; those products are probably in many of your homes. He built the largest ecologically-sound factory in the world. His participation in the Club of Rome and the founding of Zero Emissions Research Institute (ZERI) has made an immense contribution to sustainability both in terms of research, public awareness and articulating a visionary direction. He has dedicated himself to teaching and the hands-on implementation of projects that have brought healthy environments, good nutrition, health care and jobs in sustainable commerce to a myriad of places in the world.

Introduction -- Collaborative economic development -- The growing multi-use ocean -- Management strategies within a MSP framework -- Managing conflicts of interest -- Marine and coastal aquaculture -- Marine renewable energy in the context of sustainable oceans -- Integrated coastal zone management -- Small island developing states (SIDS) -- Ocean governance and the blue economy -- The ocean business community -- Organized ocean business -- Tourism in coastal areas -- Maritime clusters cooperating to compete -- Constructing a local maritime cluster -- Maritime cluster networks -- Clusters and stewardship Perspectives on the Blue Economy Vij Books India Pvt Ltd

Foreword by The Honorable Vincent Meriton, former Vice-President of Seychelles
--Introduction: The Blue Economy in Sub-Saharan Africa /Donald L. Sparks --Part I: Elements of the Blue Economy --Culture, Communities and Society /Thean Potgieter --Tourism, Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Threats /Angela M. Lamptey --Fisheries and Aquaculture in the West Indian Ocean States /Erika Techera and Abdi Fatah Hassan --Coastal and Offshore Energy and Mineral Resources /Vivian Louis Forbes --Maritime Safety and Security /Jade Lindley --Ports, Shipping and Transportation /Vivian Louis Forbes --Part II: Country Case Studies --South Africa: The Blue Economy Experience /Thean Potgieter --From Concept to Practice: The Blue Economy in Seychelles /Dominique Benzaken and Kelly Hoareau --Managing the Blue Economy: A Case Study of Tanzania /Francis Mwaijande --Part III: Financing, Measuring and Governing the Blue Economy --Innovative Financing for Africa's Blue Economy /Torsten Thiele --Measuring the Blue Economy /Charles Colgan, Vivian Louis Forbes and Iddi Mwanjoka --International Ocean Governance as a Necessary Backdrop to

Developing Africa's Blue Economy /Nick J. Hardman-Mountford, Jeff A. Ardron, Rosemarie Cadogan, Chilenye Nwapi, Alison Swaddling --Making the Blue Economy Happen /Clever Mafuta --Afterword: What is Possible? What is Likely? /Donald L. Sparks --Appendix: UN Sustainable Development Goal Number 14 Targets.

As coastal area on the Baltic Sea in north-central Poland, Pomorskie faces unique challenges and opportunities associated with the transition to a green economy, a diversified economy, growing population and significant natural resources. This report focuses on the sustainable development of the ...

The European Commission adopted the Blue Growth Strategy in 2012 in order to harness the potential of Europe's oceans, seas and coasts for growth and jobs. Since the adoption of the strategy, the Blue Economy has become a driver for Europe's welfare and prosperity. Europe's maritime economy is expected to become an even more significant source of jobs and growth in the years to come. However, despite concerted efforts by the European Union to increase funding for Blue Economy actors, access to funding with acceptable terms remains a key obstacle for innovative businesses. This study addresses the funding gap for innovative and sustainable business sectors in a Blue Economy that makes up 5% of the EU's GDP. The European Union has increasingly been working with partners such as the EIB Group to look into ways to stimulate investment in the Blue Economy, but despite the progress achieved, there is still room for improvement in financial support for Blue Economy actors. This report makes recommendations on closing the remaining funding gaps through a Blue Economy Investment Platform (BEIP). With the implementation of such a BEIP, access to funds for companies working in under-funded areas of the Blue Economy should be improved. Funding gaps for sustainable businesses that provide inclusive growth and employment was therefore given particular attention. The recommendations made in the report seek to contribute directly to the implementation phase of the European Commission's mobilisation of funds in a way that leverages additional investment from the public and private sectors. An analysis of the existing requirements of market participants through direct engagement and a careful evaluation of possible options are at the core of this recommendation paper.

As coastal area on the Baltic Sea in north-central Poland, Pomorskie faces unique challenges and opportunities associated with the transition to a green economy, a diversified economy, growing population and significant natural resources. This report focuses on the sustainable development of the oceans and coastlines surrounding the region, known as the blue economy. Based on an OECD survey designed to capture the needs and perceptions of local employers (mostly of small- and medium-sized enterprises [SME]), this report analyses the specific skills needed to support green growth in Pomorskie, and how related labour market and training programmes can be made more effective in supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy.

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