



Webinar

Call for Associated Regions

ProCleanLakes Team
<https://procleanlakes.eu/>

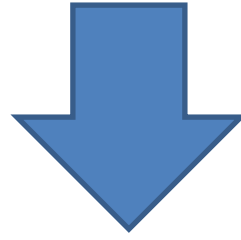
This webinar will be recorded and publicly disseminated.

Rename yourself to first and last name and entity you represent.

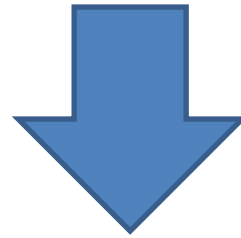
There will be a specific slot dedicated to Q&A. If you wish to ask a question, you can write it directly to the **chat** or to keep it to Q&A sections.

Q&A will be published on the Call website

Horizon Europe project [ProCleanLakes](#)



FSTP (Financial Support of Third Parties –
Cascading call)



[Call](#) for Associated regions

(published on Funding & Tender Portal and on the ProCleanLakes website)

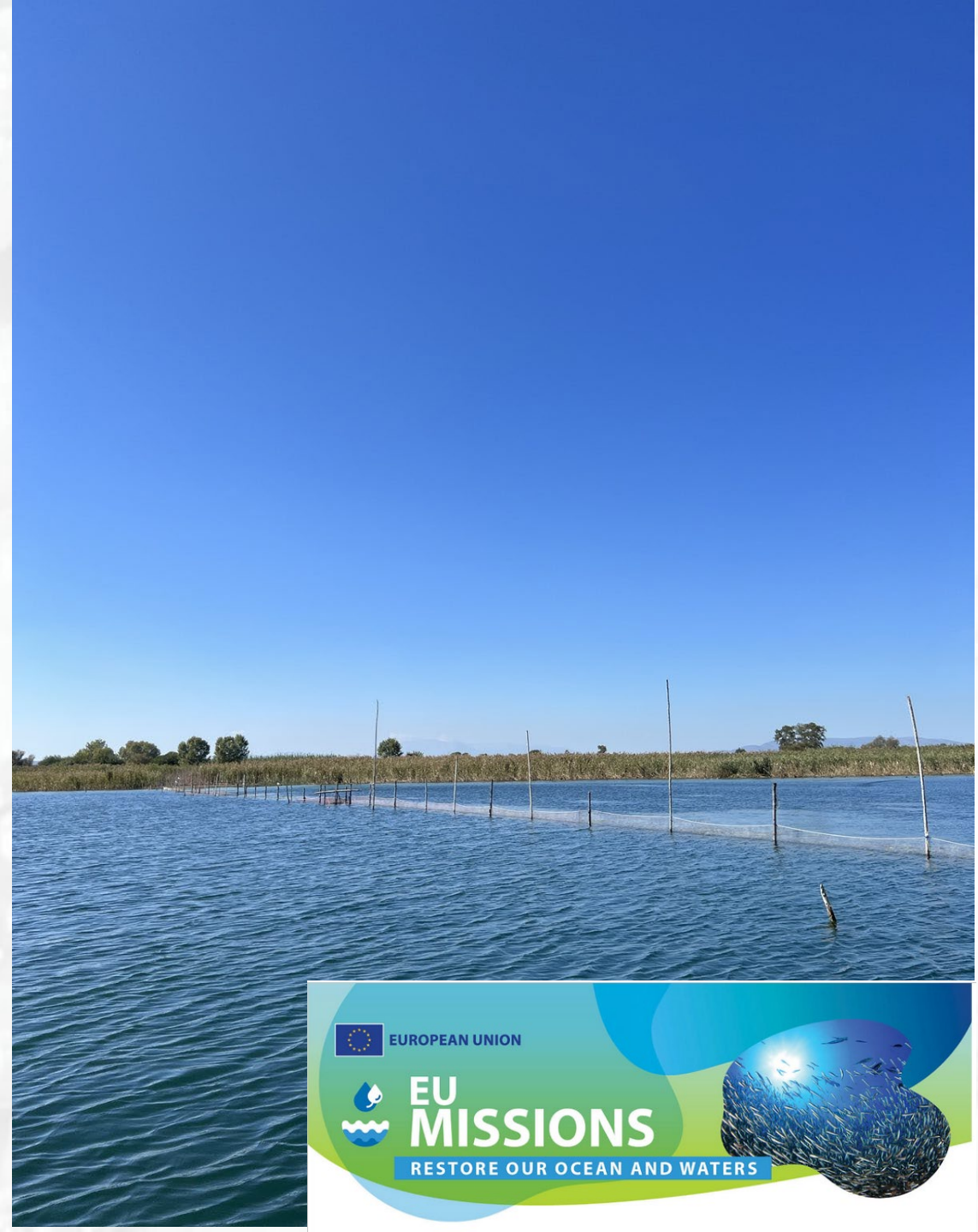
ProCleanLakes is an Innovation Action!

Focus on delivering solutions ready to be used by society

- **TRL ~ 7 at the end (= system prototype demonstration in operational environment)**
- **In a long-term, the ultimate goal of ProCleanLake is to contribute to the fulfilment of the Mission Restore our Ocean, seas and waters by 2030 and to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**



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ProCleanLakes in numbers....

Project time: June 1st 2024 – May 31st 2028

Consortium: 18 Partners/11 Countries

Budget - Maximum grant amount (award decision):
3,968,226.00 €



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ProCleanLakes Consortium

18 Partners/11 Countries;

8 Universities, 4 RTOs, 4 SMEs,
1 NGO, 1 Public

Austria, Croatia, Cyprus,
Czechia, Germany, Greece,
France, Italy, Norway,
Romania, Spain



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Main Output

Science-based development of an European Natural Lakes (ENL) remediation and protection **Action Plan** with involvement of a wide range of stakeholders including public



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Case studies

Demonstration sites (DS)

- Demonstration site 1 (DS1)- Trichonis Lake (Greece)
- Demonstration site 2 (DS2) - Brates Lake (Romania)
- Demonstration site 3 (DS3)-Langvatnet lake (Norway)

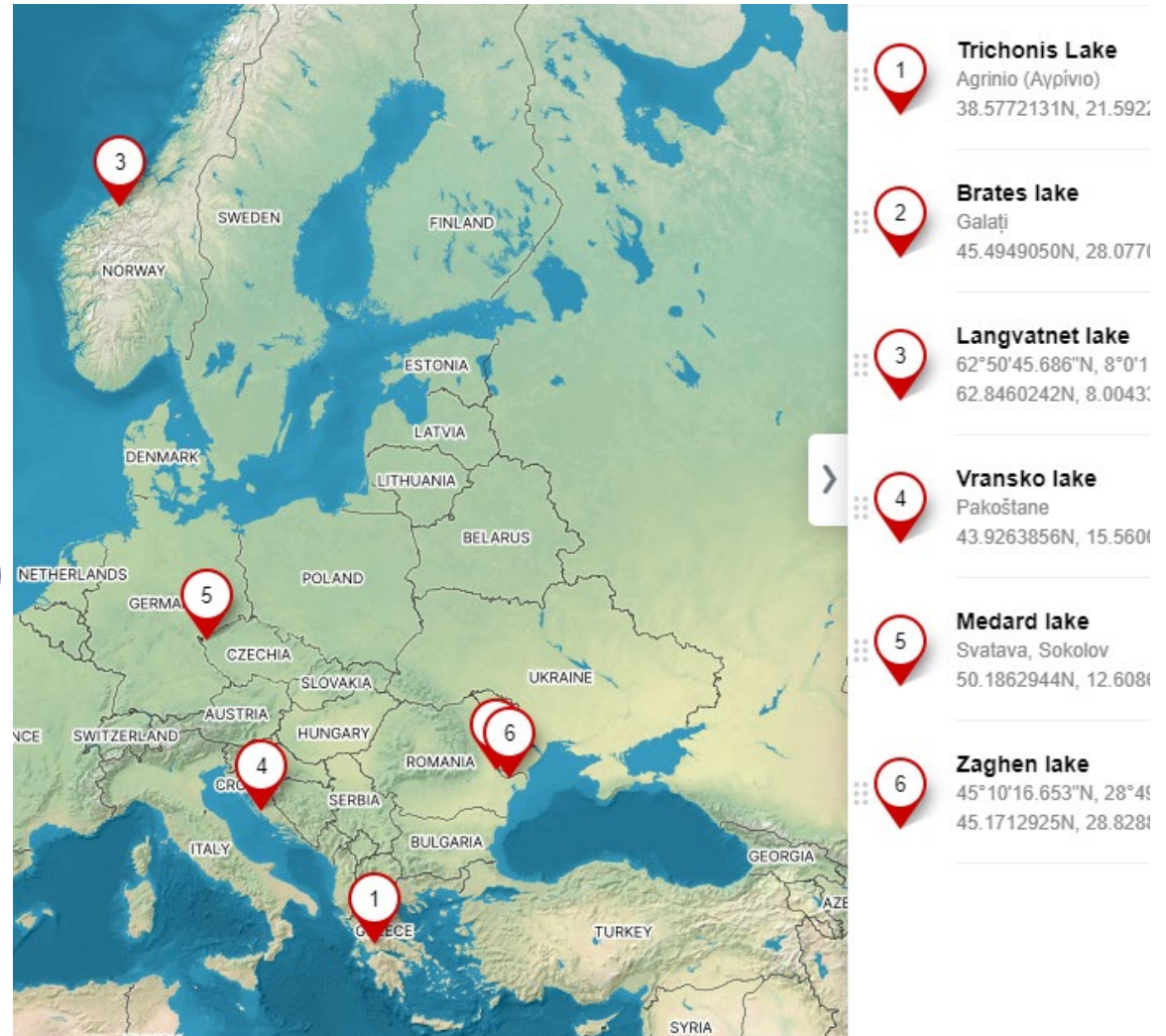
Monitoring sites (MS)

- Monitoring site 1 (MS1) - Vransko Lake (Croatia)
- Monitoring site 2 (MS2) – Medard Lake (Czech Republic)
- Monitoring site 3 (MS3) – Zaghen Lake (Romania)

Replication sites (RS)

3-5 Replication sites in Associated Regions

This is what we look for in our Call



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Eutrophication



<https://pakagrifarming.blogspot.com>



Algal bloom that occurred on the Atlantic coast in the summer of 2015.

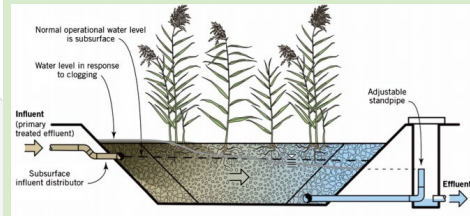
NASA Earth Observatory image by Joshua Stevens
<https://environment.princeton.edu/>

Summary of the NbS typologies that may be applied in DS

1

CW

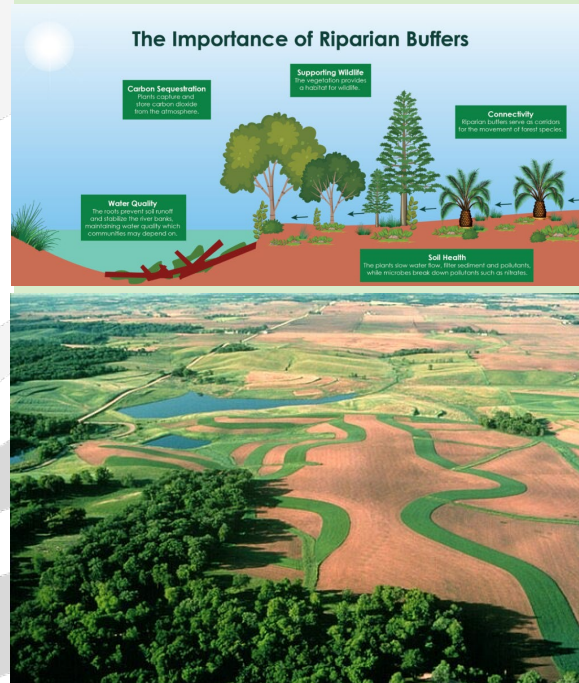
- Constructed wetland at the source of pollution before water is discharge into the lakes



2

Vegetation buffers

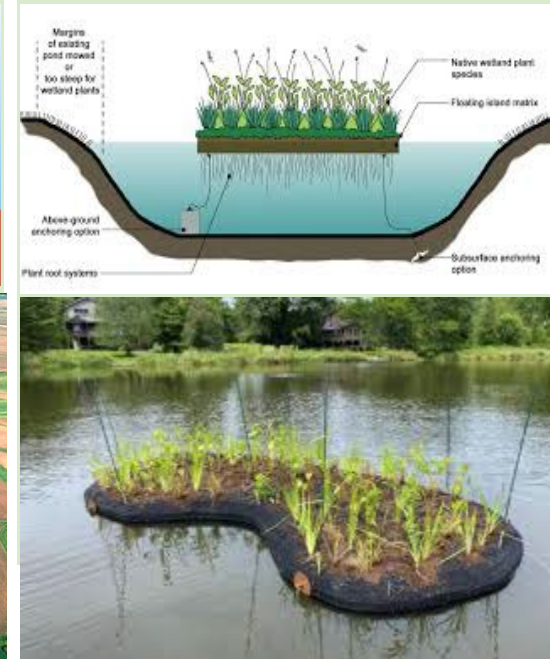
- Vegetation Buffer strips around a part of the lake.
- Riparian Buffers.
- Combined with Phytoremediation



3

Other Options

- For Norway, specific case. Cyanobacteria
- Floating Wetlands, but not recommended.



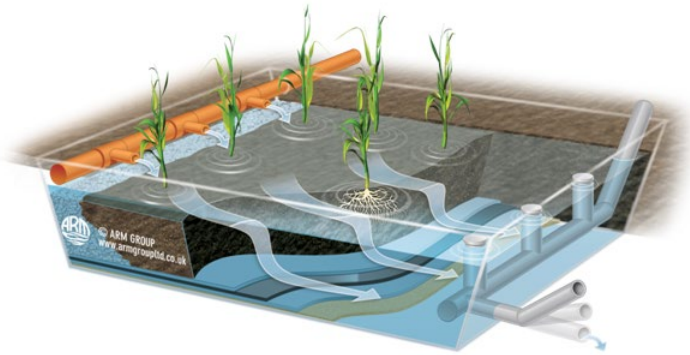
4

Combination of 1,2,3

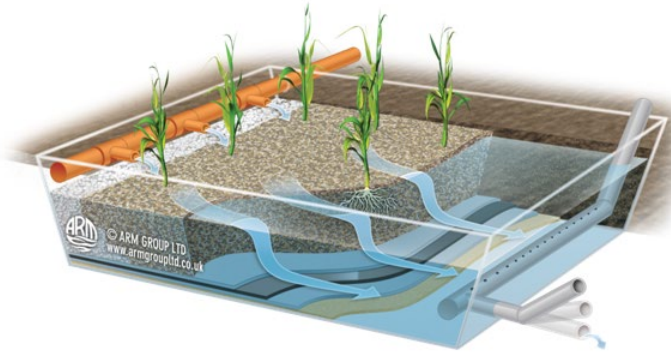
- Combination of more than one solution for the same lake.

Examples: NbS Solutions for wastewater treatment

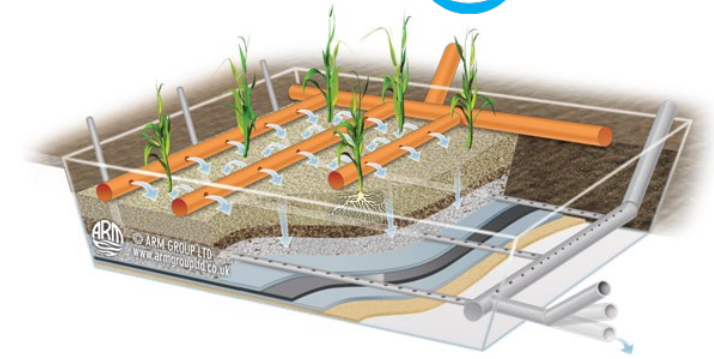
Constructed wetlands



FWS - Free Water Surface Flow

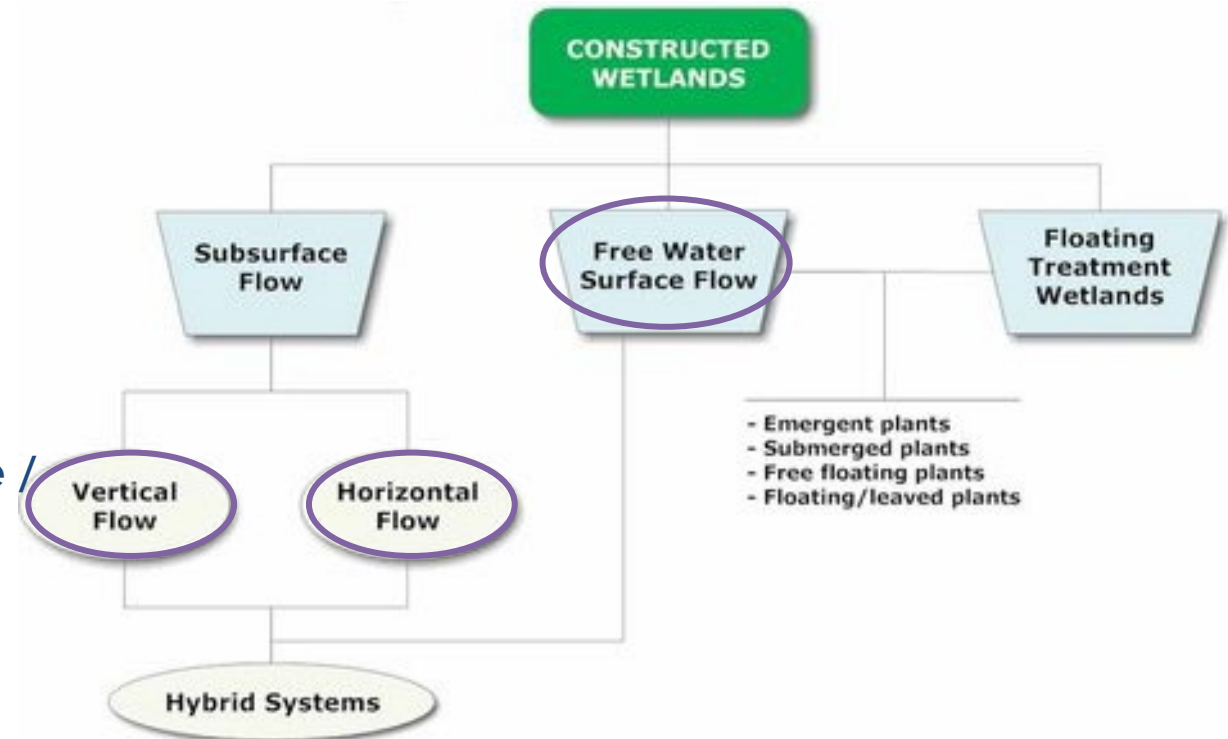


HSSF - Horizontal subsurface flow



VSSF - Vertical subsurface flow

- Shallow lined basins filled with a filter media (generally gravel or sand)
- Commonly planted with aquatic macrophytes
- Different types / designs
- Selection depending on conditions / goals
- Combinations of systems possible (multi-stage / hybrid)



Q & A





ProCleanLakes Call for Associated Regions



ProCleanLakes - Open call objective

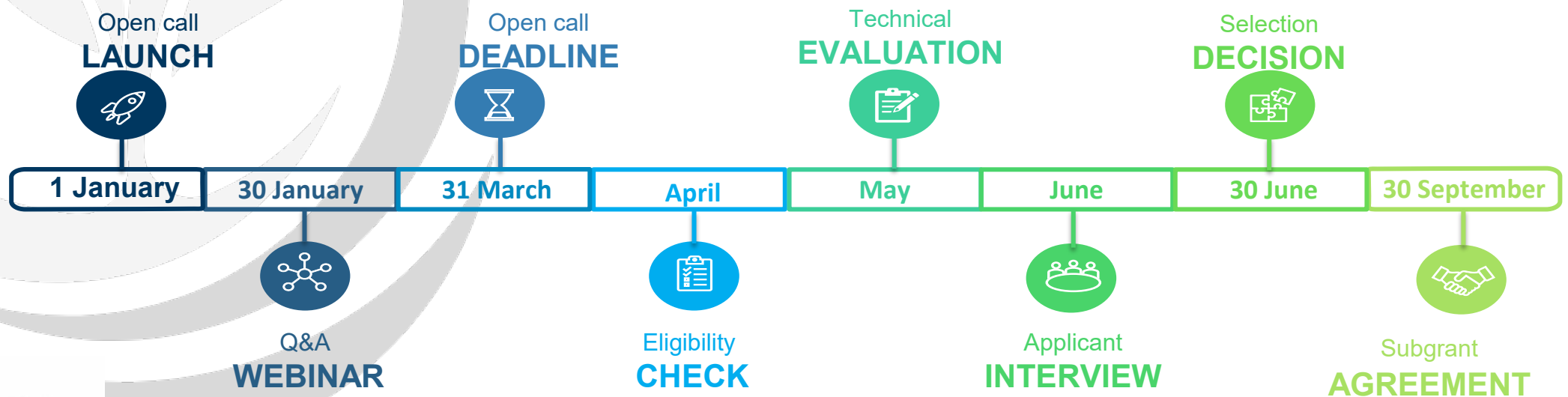


- To select *local and regional authorities from Associated regions* for scaling up, replication and exploitation of the solutions and approaches developed at the project demonstration sites (DSs) in *Associated regions (ARs)*.
- Associated regions are expected to team-up with the ProCleanLakes partners to adopt the project's outcomes and knowledge and integrate them in a **Roadmap for restoration and protection of European Natural Lakes (ENL)** located in the ARs, which will be integrated in a pan-European Action Plan for remediation and protection of ENL.
 - each AR must have access to a natural lake
- ProCleanLakes will provide scientific and technical advisory support to 3-5 Associated Regions conducting training and field workshops for the direct transfer/ exchange and experience between DS actors and Associated Regions.

Basic data for applicants



- **Call open:** 01.01.2025
- **Info Webinar:** 30 January 2025 | 9:00-11:00
- **Deadline for submission:** 31.03.2025
- **Project duration:** 20 – 24 months
- **Project start:** 01.10. 2025 - 01.02.2026 (at the latest)
- **Project end:** 30.09.2027
- **Funding:** 60,000 - 100,000 EUR/ project
- **No of funded projects:** 3 - 5
- **Funding rate:** 100%



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Eligible applicants



- Lead partner: local and/or regional authorities from Member States and Associated Countries to the Horizon Europe Programme
- "ProCleanLakes defines local and regional authorities as **governmental or administrative bodies that operate at the local (municipal or city) and regional (state, provincial, or district) levels**. These authorities are responsible for **managing, regulating, or overseeing water resources, including lakes and lake catchments** within their respective jurisdictions (e.g. local water departments and agencies, municipalities, environmental protection agencies etc.). These local and regional authorities act as the project beneficiary and, in case of cooperation of more entities, as the Lead partner."
- Other partners: institutions located in EU member states and associated countries to the Horizon Europe, can participate as **subcontractors**
- Non-eligible countries: Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Greece, France, Italy, Norway, Romania, Spain

Eligible applicants



- **Third parties can apply as a single entity or build up a partnership of more partners.** Other entities, such as academia, business etc., could be eventually a subcontractor under the leadership of a Lead partner.
- Each “**Associated Region**” shall benefit only once from the Financial Support to Third Parties provided under this topic (HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-01-04)_within the duration of the project.
- ‘**Associated regions**’ are understood as **areas with similar ecosystems problems** that can benefit from the demonstration activities **and/or less-developed regions**, with the view to build capacity to implement the innovative solutions proposed for restoration and protection of ENL.

Funding scheme

Form of the FSTP

- The financial support to each **Associated Region** will be provided in the form of **lump sums**

Payment Instalments

- 50 % of the total contribution at the start of the project
- Remaining payment of 50% upon completion of all **milestones and/or deliverables**

Maximum amount of support

- The max. granted amount per project is **€100,000** and the minimum grant to be requested is **€60,000**
- Funding rate: 100 %

Activities which are already funded under another third-party funding are NOT eligible

Eligible costs

- Personnel costs
- Travel costs & subsistence
- Other costs & services
- Subcontracting
- Overheads (25% of total costs exclusive subcontracting)



Only yellow cells are to be filled in!	
BE1: (name of the beneficiary)	
Personnel costs	
Average monthly rate	
Person-months	
Total	0,00 €
Subcontracting	
Travel costs	
Other costs & services	
Equipment (depreciation costs)	
Overheads	0,00 €
TOTAL	0,00 €
BE2: (name of the beneficiary)	
Personnel costs	
Average monthly rate	
Person-months	
Total	0,00 €
Subcontracting	
Travel costs	
Other costs & services	
Equipment (depreciation costs)	
Overheads	0,00 €
TOTAL	0,00 €
Person-months total	0,00
GRAND TOTAL	0,00 €

Mandatory project activities for Associated Regions



- Co-creation of solutions for restoration and protection of natural lakes
- Elaboration of a **roadmap for restoration and protection of a replication lake** in collaboration with the project ProCleanLakes with support of the ProCleanLakes consortium
- Participation in selected activities organized by ProCleanLakes:
 - Final conference (??-Greece, 04/2028)
 - Pan-European workshop (05/2028)
 - Demonstration of NbS and workshops at Demo sites (09/2026)
- Co-Organization of on-site events during the project course (10/2025 – 09/2027):
 - Round tables with stakeholders
 - Interviews with stakeholders
 - Workshops with stakeholders

Possible additional activities

Implementation of nature based-solutions (NbS) in the replication lakes developed according to the guidelines developed by the project ProCleanLakes (based on the financial capacity)

Submission process

- All necessary documents are available on:

<https://procleanlakes.eu/procleanlakes-open-call/>

- To be submitted:

- Application form
- Budget breakdown

- Proposals must be submitted before the deadline per e-mail to:

anca.stoica@boku.ac.at and rodiefros@aua.gr



Evaluation Procedure



- 1. Eligibility screening:** All ineligible proposals will be excluded
- 2. Proposals will be evaluated according to the following selection criteria:**
 - Environmental suitability
 - Water quality indicators/ pollution level
 - Pollution sampling data
 - Pollution sources
 - Replication potential
 - Economic feasibility
 - Social and stakeholder engagement
 - Environmental impact and urgency
 - Site readiness and capacity
- 3. Interview:** Preselected Associated Regions will be invited for an interview to assess the real engagement of the applicant.
- 4. Final selection:** The top 3-5 Associated Regions will be chosen based on the overall score in the detailed evaluation. The selection will prioritize regions with high replication potential, environmental urgency, and the ability to sustain long-term benefits.

Evaluation Procedure



- The open call and the selection process of the third parties to be funded follows the:
 - standards of excellence,
 - transparency,
 - objectivity,
 - fairness principles,
 - equal treatment
- All received applications will be evaluated by an evaluation board composed by the experts from **ProCleanLakes Consortium** and from Mission Restore our ocean and waters by 2030 (HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-01)– **Sister Projects:**
 - FutureLakes
 - EUROlakes
 - FERRO

Useful remark: in case you are not successful, each of the „sister projects“ will open a similar call soon.



Q & A

Important links

<https://procleanlakes.eu>



ProCleanLakes Project



procleanlakes_



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