

European Zero Emission Waterborne Transport Partnership is the catalyst of record investments

Showcasing a significant amount of investments, the Board of the Co-Programmed partnership has adopted its strategy for 2023.

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The [Board](#) governing the [Co-Programmed Partnership](#) on Zero-Emission Waterborne Transport in the framework of [Horizon Europe](#), has recently adopted the Additional Activities Plan 2023, detailing the investments foreseen by the sector, which are necessary to achieve EU-wide zero-emission waterborne transport.

The Partnership aims to lead and accelerate the transformation of waterborne transport (i.e. maritime transport and inland navigation) to eliminate all harmful environmental emissions (including greenhouse gas, air and water pollutants) through innovative technologies and operations. Its objective is to develop and demonstrate by 2030 deployable zero-emission solutions applicable for all main ship types and services, paving the way for zero-emission waterborne transport by 2050.

The plan for additional activities in 2023 entails an amount of EUR 485 million of investments in:

- i) additional Research, Development and Innovation,
- ii) scaling up of technologies,
- iii) demonstrators of these innovative technologies,
- iv) the creation of new business opportunities,
- v) training and skills development,
- vi) contribution to the development of new standards,
- vii) regulations and policies,
- viii) supporting the development of ecosystems and
- ix) supporting communication, dissemination, awareness raising and citizen engagement.

These Additional Activities are aligned with the objectives of the Partnership. In total, the waterborne transport sector already committed EUR 1.5 billion of investments for the period June 2021 until 31 December 2023, half of the total amount of investments foreseen for the period 2021 – 2030.

Ingrid Marie Andersen, Head of Decarbonisation Sustainability at A.P. Moller-Maersk and Co-chair of the Partnership Board said *“Waterborne transport moves nearly 90% of all international trade, more than 75% of external EU trade and 40% of internal EU trade and is thereby a sector of strategic importance to Europe. In addition, the sector is committed to developing sustainable solutions to the benefit of future generations. The significant investments envisaged by the broader waterborne transport sector are very encouraging. Already in the first 2.5 years of the 9-year investment period, half of the planned private investments are already committed. This clearly shows that the sector is dedicated to achieving the objectives of the European Green Deal, with the targets enshrined in the “Fit for 55” as the first point on the horizon.”*

Rosalinde van der Vlies, Director Clean Planet, DG RTD of the European Commission said: *“The Co-Programmed Partnership on Zero-Emission Waterborne transport is a key instrument in achieving the objectives of the European Green Deal. Its objective is to develop and demonstrate deployable technological solutions for enabling zero-emission waterborne transport. Compared to all other partnerships, the Zero-Emission Waterborne Transport Partnership has committed the highest amount of private investments over 3 Billion EUR on top of the EU contribution of 530 Million EUR. It is a great example of the leverage effect of the EU’s funding for Research, Development and Innovation”.*

WATERBORNE TP has been set up as an industry-oriented Technology Platform to establish a continuous dialogue between all waterborne stakeholders, such as classification societies, shipbuilders, shipowners, maritime equipment manufacturers, infrastructure and service providers, universities or research institutes, and with the EU Institutions, including Member States (www.waterborne.eu). The members of Waterborne TP comprise both members and associated members from maritime and inland navigation countries, representing about 19 Member States. In addition, the Associations member of the Waterborne Technology Platform represent the broader waterborne sector throughout the entire EU.

Enquiries concerning how to join and become more closely involved in the “Zero-Emission Waterborne Transport” partnership or other activities of the Waterborne TP can be sent to: Jaap Gebraad, Secretary General Waterborne TP, jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu, tel: +32 493 835 626