

# ODYSSEA – OPERATING A NETWORK OF INTEGRATED OBSERVATORY SYSTEMS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

## Objectives:

ODYSSEA is setting up an interoperable and user-driven platform that integrates observing and forecasting systems across the Mediterranean Sea, drawing from existing data and new in situ observatories. It is an EU Horizon 2020 funded project with 28 partners from 14 countries, *including five in North Africa.*

- Aim : to provide tailored data and information services that will support the development of a sustainable blue economy and conservation of ecosystems and biodiversity in the Mediterranean Sea.
- Key objective : to enhance capacity in North African countries, in close collaboration with governmental, non-governmental and business focal points, to strengthen access to, and use of, data needed for informed decision-making in the region.

## Contribution towards the Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 3 : Facilitating access to information regarding possible health threats in the marine environment.
- SDG 4 (4.7) : Facilitating access to data and information about marine ecosystems and biodiversity.
- SDG 7(7.4) : Supporting informed decision making for development of offshore renewable energy.
- SDG 8(8.4) : Supporting informed decision making for the development of a sustainable blue economy.
- SDG 9(9.1) : Providing information to support development of resilient and innovative marine infrastructure.
- SDG 11(11.4) : Supporting informed management of coastal erosion risks and disasters.
- SDG 13(13.2 & 13.3) : Providing information to support the conservation and restoration of marine habitats of critical importance for climate change mitigation.
- SDG 14(14.8) : Facilitating informed decision making for sustainable use management and effective conservation.
- SDG 17(17.16) : Promoting partnerships between countries and organizations across the Mediterranean Sea region.

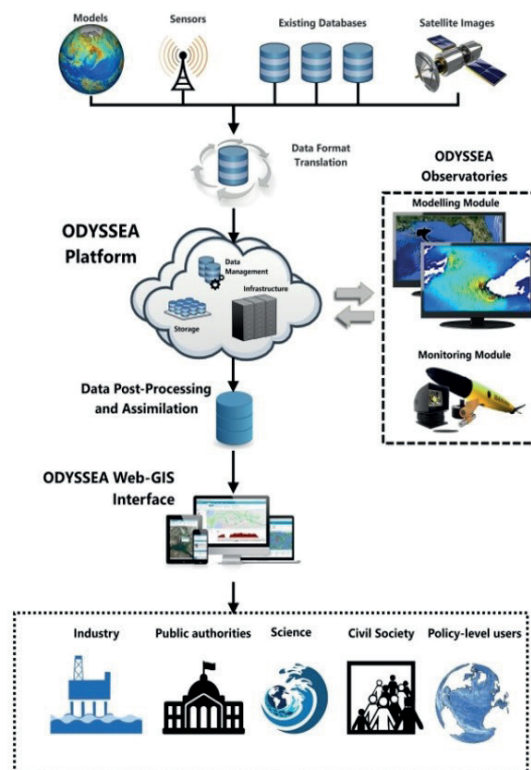
## Contribution towards Aichi Biodiversity Targets

- Target 2 : Providing relevant data to inform national and local policy, planning and development processes.
- Target 4 : Providing relevant information to support the establishment of a sustainable blue economy.
- Target 5 : Providing data to support sustainable use management and effective conservation of marine habitats.
- Target 6 : Providing relevant data products and services to support sustainable management of fisheries.
- Target 7 : Providing relevant data products and services to support sustainable management of marine aquaculture.
- Target 8 : Providing relevant data products and services to inform management of marine pollution.
- Target 9 : Providing relevant data to inform management of invasive alien species in the marine environment.
- Target 11 : Providing relevant data to support designation and effective management of marine protected areas.
- Target 14 : Providing relevant data to support preservation of marine ecosystem and biodiversity health.
- Target 15 : Providing relevant data to support the conservation and restoration of marine habitats of critical importance for climate change mitigation.
- Target 19 : Facilitating access to data products and services.

## Project's results :

The ODYSSEA project started in June 2017 and ends in November 2021. A bit over a year into the project,

- The prototype of the ODYSSEA platform is under construction, to be launched early 2019;
- Nine in situ observatories in nine countries, including five North African countries, are being set up and training of observatory managers has begun;
- In-country project partners are working in partnership across the region to build capacity for data collection, access and use in the countries;
- Potential applications and end-users of the ODYSSEA platform have been identified and engagement with these end-users has started.



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Links to websites for further information:

<http://odysseaplatform.eu/>

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