



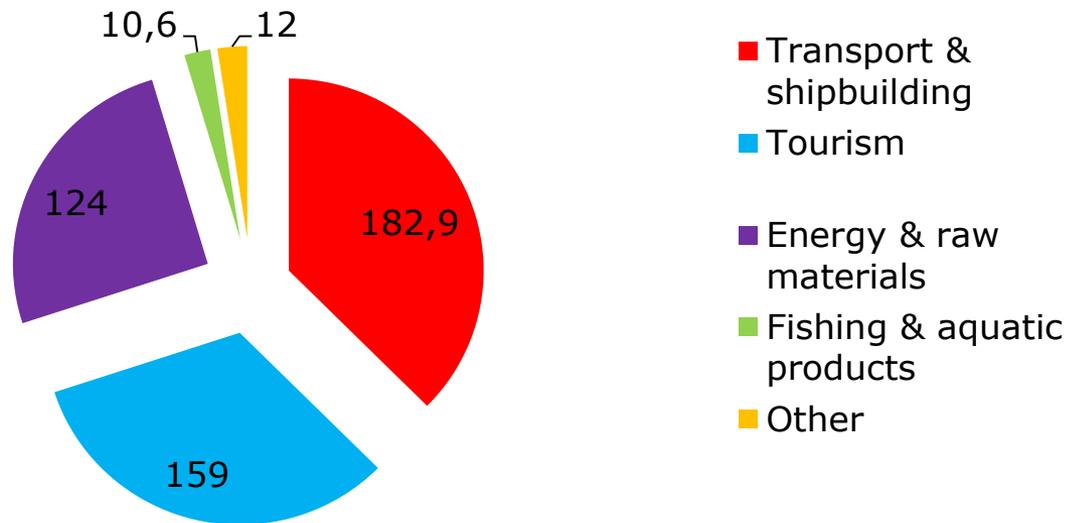
The Atlantic Strategy and the implementation of the Atlantic Action Plan



**Short Sea Shipping and Motorways of the Sea Focal Points meeting
Brussels 30 October 2014**

Juan RONCO, European Commission DG MARE C-1

The Blue economy



BLUE ECONOMY now:
Approx 5.4 million
jobs



In 2020:
7 million jobs

What is the EU doing?

Blue Growth



Integrated Maritime Policy (specific) instruments

- Knowledge
- Surveillance
- Spatial planning

Sea Basin Strategies (e.g. Atlantic)

Sector specific approach (e.g. ocean energy)
-> Blue Growth

Sea basin approach: the Atlantic Ocean



European
Commission



Atlantic Ocean



North Sea

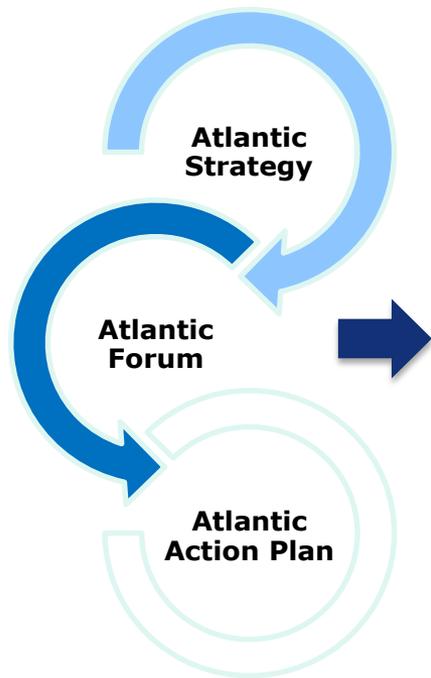
Baltic Sea

Black Sea

Mediterranean Sea

Adriatic &
Ionian Seas

The Atlantic Strategy



Previous steps

Nov. 2011

Communication on the Atlantic Strategy - COM(2011)78

2012- 2013

Atlantic Forum – an inclusive process

Leadership Group and Steering Group

• Reducing the

Contributions LG and SG

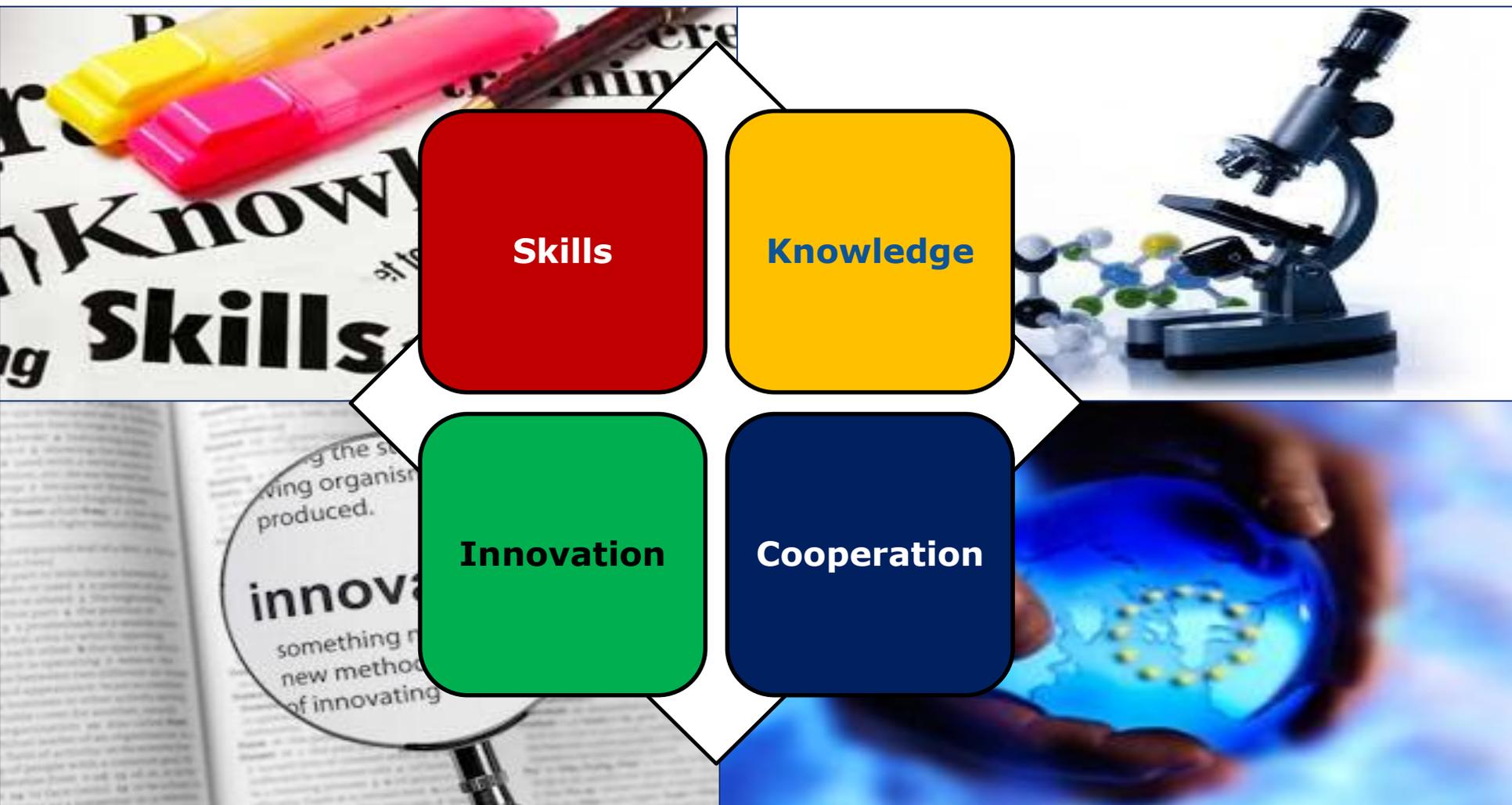
Workshops in five Member States

Public consultation

May 2013

Adoption Atlantic Action Plan





What is the Atlantic Action Plan about?

KEY PRIORITIES

- **Promote entrepreneurship and innovation**
- **Protect, secure and enhance the marine and coastal environment**
- **Improve accessibility and connectivity**
- **Create a socially inclusive and sustainable model of regional development**



The Atlantic Action Plan

Objectives

- Creation of smart, sustainable and growth and employment.
- Enhance cooperation

Enablers

- Targeted investments
- Increasing research capacity
- Higher skills

Priority 1: Entrepreneurship and innovation

- Innovation, research and technology
- Knowledge transfers, clusters, technology platforms
- Improving skills in traditional and emerging sectors of the blue economy
- Adaptation and diversification of fisheries and aquaculture

Priority 2: Protect, secure and enhance the marine and coastal environment

- Improving maritime safety and security
- Exploring and protecting marine waters and coastal zones
- Sustainable management of marine resources
- Supporting marine environment protection, developing MPAs network, etc.
- Climate change
- MSP and ICZM
- Sustainable management of marine resources: sea-bed mining and marine biotechnology.
- Exploitation of renewable energy potential

Priority 3: Accesibility and connectivity

- Promoting cooperation between ports

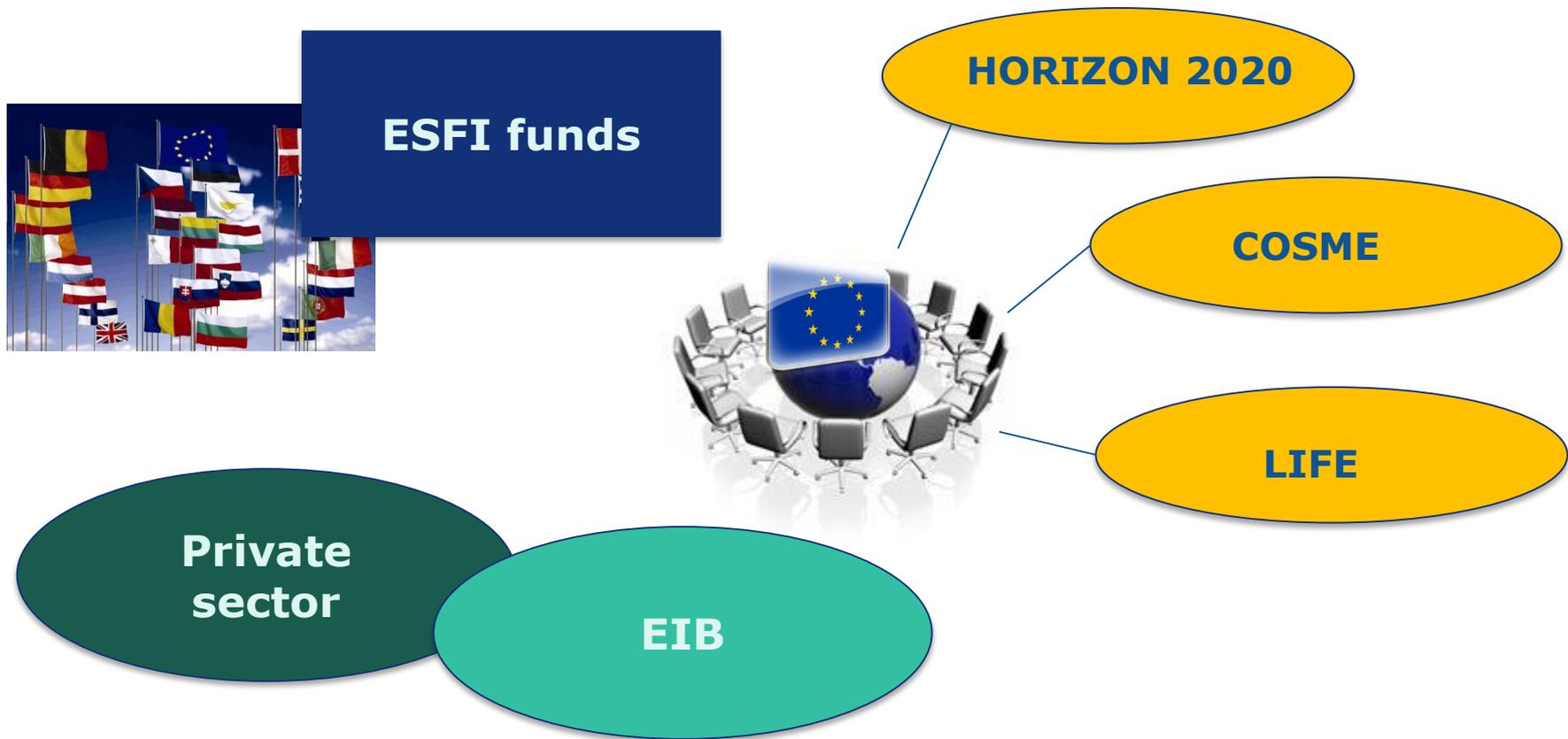
Priority 4: Regional development

- Better knowledge of social challenges
- Atlantic's cultural heritage

Implementation

- Funding channels: ESIF, Horizon 2020, LIFE, COSME, European Investment Bank, private investment, etc.
- Working together with MS, regional, local authorities and EU Institutions.
- Implementation mechanism and progress monitoring.

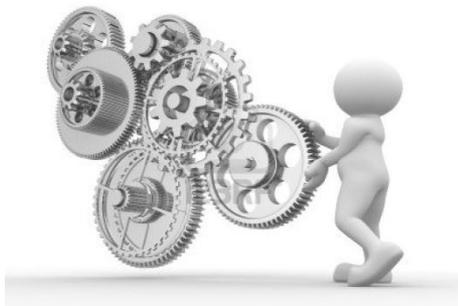
Implementation – Funding channels



Activities

- *Workshops:*
 - **17/02/2014: Brussels (Belgium) - How to access and mobilise EU funds to pursue implementation of the Action Plan for a Maritime Strategy in the Atlantic area**
 - **17-18/03/2014: Funchal (Madeira, Portugal) - Atlantic Action Plan related growth for Outermost regions of the EU and European territorial cooperation opportunities**
 - **28-29/04/2014: Gijón (Spain) - Atlantic ports, logistics and maritime transport as drivers of economic development**
 - **12-13/06/2014: Liverpool (UK) - The Atlantic Action Plan: finance opportunities for projects, chances for SMEs**

Mechanisms for implementation

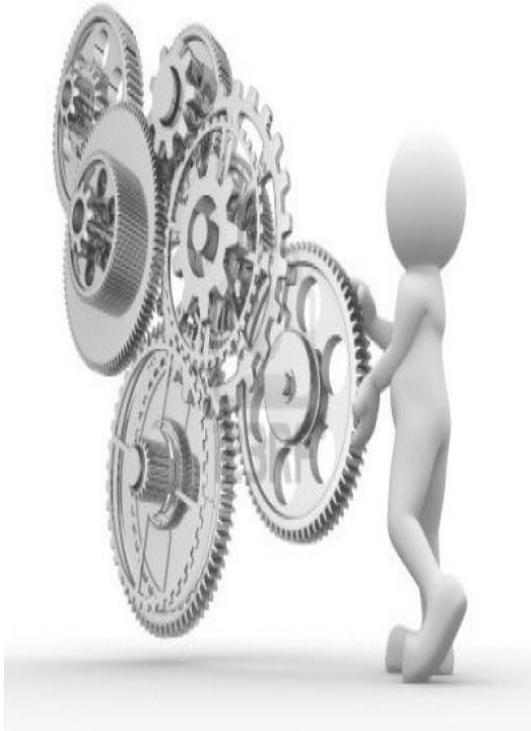


Assistance mechanism



Atlantic Stakeholders' Platform

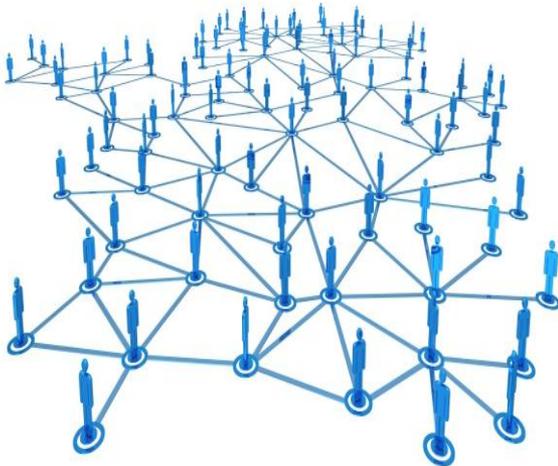
Assistance Mechanism - Missions



- **Guidance:**
 - Dissemination of information
 - "Focal points" in each Member State
- **Pro-active project development:**
 - "Dating" and/or "matchmaking" web-based platform
 - Alerts for calls for relevant proposals/tenders
- **Outreach:**
 - Network of contacts
 - 2 Events in each Member State
 - Atlantic Stakeholder Conference (late 2015)

Atlantic Stakeholder Platform

- Stakeholder conference in Porto (January 2015) to officially launch the Platform
- Call for Workshops: Deadline for submission is 7 November 2014





Thank you

More information:

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/sea_basins/atlantic_ocean/index_en.htm