



<p>Context</p>	<p>In the framework of the EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030”, the EU funded project BlueMissionMed, in collaboration with the European Commission (EC), announces the “Society4Med” Award to celebrate the initiatives involving citizens in transformative actions (e.g. clean beaches, citizen science, etc) and therefore contributing to the Mission’s objectives.</p> <p>The EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030” aims to eliminate pollution and make the blue economy (the economic activities that depend on the sea) carbon-neutral and circular. The Mission supports regional engagement and cooperation through area-based "Lighthouses" in major sea/river basins. Mission Lighthouses are sites to pilot, demonstrate, develop and deploy the Mission activities across EU seas and river basins.</p> <p>The award represents an opportunity to witness the societal commitments of the Mediterranean organisations towards the Mission and to present the actions and initiatives which contribute to the Mission Ocean’s objectives.</p>	
<p>Organiser</p>	<p>BlueMissionMed</p>	<p>Website</p>
<p>The award: categories and prizes</p>	<p>The “Society4Med” will award 2 good practices engaging citizens in protecting Ocean and Waters in the following two categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category 1: awareness and communication campaigns/activities • Category 2: citizen science <p>Thanks to the endorsement of the Mission Charter, the winning good practices (one per category) will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be awarded with an official ceremony in the context of the ECOMONDO 2024, rewarding their contribution towards the 	



	<p>societal engagement to protect the Mediterranean basin from pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive technical advice and capacity building services from BlueMissionMed experts • Access to the Mission Implementation Platform services (granting access to knowledge, projects portfolio, information on funding, etc.) and Help Desks (including support to develop science and transition roadmaps, and skills training), which will be deployed only after official endorsement of the Mission Charter • Access opportunities for networking and sharing of best practices • Be video interviewed and promoted through BlueMissionMed and the EU Mission “Ocean and Waters” communication channels as best practice in societal engagement • Receive BlueMissionMed gadgets <p>All the shortlisted submissions will be included in Society4Med’s booklet of BlueMissionMed project and widely disseminated through the project’s channels.</p>
<p>How to participate?</p>	<p>To compete for the award, participants should represent an organisation (NGO, private companies, research institutes, schools, etc) whose proposed activity is implemented in the Mediterranean basin and which submit their application through this Google form.</p> <p>Participation is free of charge.</p>
<p>Important dates</p>	<p>The award will be launched on 18 July 2024</p> <p>The deadline for the submission of your actions is 6 October 2024.</p> <p>The 2 winners will be notified by 21 October 2024.</p> <p>Award Ceremony: 5-8 November 2024.</p>
<p>Eligibility criteria</p>	<p>1) Submitted actions must have endorsed or submit the application to the Mission Charter before the deadline (6 October 2024). In the application to the Mission Charter, it should be clear how the action contributes to the Mission Ocean objectives, goals and two enablers (if possible). Proof of endorsement of the Mission Charter (i.e. compiled submission form) must be uploaded in the Google form in the specific section.</p> <p>2) Submitted actions are required to contribute to objective II of the Mission Ocean, to prevent and reduce pollution in the Mediterranean basin.</p>



	<p>3) Applicants can submit their actions to both categories with two different applications.</p> <p>4) Single citizens are not eligible for the award.</p>
Evaluation criteria	<p>The actions submitted will be evaluated by a jury composed by experts from BlueMissionMed consortium and according to the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Category 1: awareness and communication campaigns/activities – contribution to the the Mission Ocean objectives, goals and two enablers, number of citizens engaged, innovativeness of the awareness and communication formats implemented, replication potential, attractiveness and quality of users’ experience, impact of the good practice in protecting the Mediterranean basin against pollution• Category 2: citizen science - contribution to the the Mission Ocean objectives, goals and two enablers, number of citizens engaged, quality of capacity building and support to the participants in the activity, innovativeness of the educational formats implemented, replication potential, attractiveness and quality of users’ experience, impact of the good practice in protecting the Mediterranean basin against pollution
Award Ceremony	<p>The “Society4Med” Award will be conferred on 5-8 November 2024, in the context of the ECOMONDO - Italy. The winners will be invited to the awarding ceremony and their travel and accommodation expenses (up to two persons per category) will be taken in charge by the organisers.</p>
Contacts	<p>For further information, please contact: communication@bluemissionmed.eu</p>

