

## ***Let's really break down the silos in the Horizon Europe Programme!***

**Brussels, 16 November 2018**

On 7 June, the European Commission launched Horizon Europe, the next European Research and Innovation Funding Programme. With a budget of 97.6 billion, Horizon Europe has the potential to become the biggest ever research and innovation funding. This proposal is part of the EU's proposal for a new EU budget for the period 2021 till 2027, known as the Multi-Annual Financial Framework.

Besides the three pillars in the Horizon Europe programme, missions and partnerships are an important element as well. Missions are a key novelty of Horizon Europe; they aim to reconnect EU research with citizens by setting inspirational goals. Partnerships can have different formats, and are created (or extended) in case they are more effective in reaching the related objectives of the programme. More specifically, delivering results on global challenges and research and innovation objectives.

Both elements of the Horizon Europe programme could support the achievement of the visions and missions of the Waterborne sector towards 2030 and 2050, more specifically in the area of decarbonization as well as digitalisation. The Waterborne sector has called jointly upon the Member States and the European Commission to ensure, Waterborne is properly included in the Horizon Europe programme, and more specifically in the area of partnerships and missions. It is foreseen, that silo's between modes and sectors will be taken down in the new Horizon Europe programme.

In a first reaction, SEA Europe's Secretary General, Christophe Tytgat, said:

*"SEA Europe fully subscribes to the new direction of Horizon Europe to break down the silos between modes and sectors. That's why we call upon Member States and the European Commission to give Waterborne its appropriate place, in accordance to its role, in the programming of cross-sectoral missions and partnerships."*

*Besides, SEA Europe calls upon the EU Institutions and the Member States to include waterborne in the programming of cross-sectoral missions and partnerships. This would provide the best way towards optimal and mutually beneficial cooperation among sectors and a full contribution according to each respective strength to our urgent societal and global challenges of a smart, resource-efficient, low-carbon and competitive economy."*

**Background Note:** *SEA Europe represents close to 100% of the European shipbuilding industry in 16 nations, encompassing the production, maintenance, repair and conversion of all types of ships and floating structures, commercial as well as naval, including the full supply chain with the various producers of maritime systems, equipment material, and services.*

For further information please visit [www.seaeurope.eu](http://www.seaeurope.eu) or contact:

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