MMinE-SwEEPER

Deliverable Report

Deliverable No. 12.1: Plan for dissemination and exploitation

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Initial Remarks

This DEC Plan is a living document: it will be reviewed and updated as the project progresses. The strategies outlined here are designed to be adaptive, allowing the consortium to respond to new opportunities and challenges. Continuous engagement, open knowledge exchange and proactive exploitation planning will ensure that MMinE-SwEEPER's legacy endures beyond the project's end.

Introduction

The deliverable "12.1 – Plan for dissemination and exploitation" (PDEC) sets out the strategy that will guide the consortium in maximising the visibility, uptake, and long-term impact of MMinE-SwEEPER. It provides a structured framework to raise awareness of project progress, activities, training, and outputs among relevant stakeholders. The plan also integrates guidelines for the responsible and trustworthy handling of sensitive information, ensuring that all communication activities respect security concerns and the political sensitivities inherent to the topic of marine munitions.

The PDEC has been developed by JPI Oceans, which will also oversee its continuous implementation. This is the first version of the plan, and it will be updated regularly throughout the project's duration. In July 2025, MMinE-SwEEPER also applied to the Horizon Results Booster, from which it will receive tailored expertise and support to further improve the PDEC. All project partners are obliged to contribute to the dissemination and exploitation of MMinE-SwEEPER results and outputs, and to foster awareness and knowledge transfer for impact, particularly within their own countries and communities.

Within MMinE-SwEEPER, the PDEC is developed under Work Package 12 (WP12) "Communication and outreach", which primarily supports two overarching project objectives:

1. Strengthen cooperation and capacity building
2. Promote European collaboration, management strategies, and solutions

The specific objectives of WP12 are to:

- promote the topic and the project at national, international, and EU levels;
- communicate the state of the art and the specific outcomes of MMinE-SwEEPER;
- transfer knowledge and strengthen expertise among key stakeholders across Europe; and
- compile and establish a long-term knowledge hub of experts around the Munitions Portal to ensure sustainability beyond the project's duration.

Besides, in particular WP1 (Stakeholder dialogue and project co-design) and WP11 (Integration of best practices and development of educational material) are closely linked to the above-mentioned objectives, as they place a dedicated focus on stakeholder engagement.

To avoid ambiguity, the plan first clarifies the key terms dissemination, exploitation and communication, which form its backbone. It then provides an overview of how MMinE-SwEEPER's DEC activities fit within the wider marine munitions landscape, before outlining the project's key audiences, communication tools and pathways to impact aimed at maximising the use and uptake of results. The plan also defines measurable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to monitor progress and effectiveness.

Definitions and Terminology

MMinE-SwEEPER distinguishes between dissemination, exploitation and communication in line with definitions, as outlined by the European Research Executive Agency[1] are described below:

- **Dissemination:** Dissemination ensures that knowledge and project results are made publicly available, free of charge, to audiences who can learn and benefit from the results, such as scientists, industry, policymakers, and civil society. This is achieved by publishing in journals, conferences, or databases at any stage up to four years after a project, in order to maximise impact, advance research, and make scientific results a common good
- **Exploitation:** Exploitation means making practical use of project results for commercial, societal, or political purposes by those who can further develop or invest in them, such as researchers, industry, or policymakers. It takes place towards the end of a project and beyond, using tools like prototypes or shared knowledge, to drive innovation, support the economy, influence legislation, and address societal needs.
- **Communication:** Making the project's activities and results visible to a wider audience. Communication focuses on informing and promoting project activities and results to citizens, stakeholders, and the media through clear strategies, messages, and channels. It runs from the start to the end of the project to engage stakeholders, attract experts, raise awareness of public funding use, and highlight the success of European collaboration.

Background

A suitable and effective PDEC for MMinE-SwEEPER, particularly in light of its objective to strengthen European collaboration, requires awareness of the project's direct links to other related initiatives and projects in the field of marine munitions, as well as continuous monitoring of new developments in this area. As already outlined in the proposal, MMinE-SwEEPER's consortium partners are engaged in a wide range of projects and transnational initiatives, either nationally or EU funded.

Project	Topic	Partner
CONMAR-C 2024 - 2027	Environmental aspects of marine munition and decision support	GEOMAR
BorDEX 2023 - 2026	Development of a disposal facility for high throughput	GEOMAR, KRD-SH FHG-ICT
SAM 2023 - 2025	Development of Smart magnetic AUVs	GEOMAR
ValidITy 2023 - 2025	GIS and AI-based support for object detection and terrain analyses of geospatial data	GEOMAR, SeaTerra
BMUV-Sofortprogramm 2023 - 2026	Munition remediation in German waters, **100MEUR**	GEOMAR FHG-ICT KRD-SH

Project	Topic	Partner
HELCOM EG Submerged	Assessment reports to support decision making, regional coordination etc.	HELCOM, IOPAN, AU, GEOMAR
JPI Oceans Munitions Knowledge-Hub	Data collection and sharing	JPIO and almost all partners
REMARCO	Munition and wrecks in the North Sea	FFI, VLIZ, AU
MUNIMAP	Facilitate / coordinate national processes towards remediation in the Baltic Sea	IOPAN, HELCOM, north.io, FFI and others

Table 1. Overview of projects concurrent with MMinE-SwEEPER start (01/10/24).

This context shows that MMinE-SwEEPER must regularly interact with numerous projects and initiatives in order to demonstrate genuine European collaboration. The project is not only expected to promote its own work but also to advance the wider topic, while at the same time assuming a coordinating role. This is particularly relevant as the JPI Oceans Knowledge Portal "Munitions in the Sea" (JPI Oceans Munitions Portal) will be further developed within MMinE-SwEEPER to become the central European portal for openly accessible data and information on marine

[1] European Commission: European Research Executive Agency, *Communication, dissemination & exploitation what is the difference and why they all matter*, Publications Office of the European Union, 2023, **https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2848/289075**

munitions. Coordination and join initiatives with other projects also make it possible to draw on a broader range of expertise, especially from national-level initiatives which often receive limited visibility but deserve to be linked with European-level efforts. It further supports more time and cost-efficient stakeholder engagement avoiding duplicating efforts and reaching larger groups, while also preventing stakeholder fatigue. Ultimately, these synergies strengthen the commercial exploitation of results and enhance the project's ability to influence policymaking at different levels.

Within six months of MMinE-SwEEPER's start, two additional European Commission co-funded projects, MUNIMAP and MUNI-RISK, were launched. Their coordinators, from Aarhus University and the Institute of Oceanology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, also serve as Work Package leads within MMinE-SwEEPER, paving the way for particularly close collaboration. Together, these three projects have come to be referred to as the three munitions "sister projects". Nine months after MMinE-SwEEPER's launch, a fourth "sister" was added: the EU co-funded CAMMera project ("Clearance Activities for Marine Munition through Efficient Remediation Approaches"), coordinated by GEOMAR. As the largest of the four projects, MMinE-SwEEPER positions itself as the lead in coordinating cross-project collaboration. This coordination rests on three key pillars, which complement the project's DEC activities and align with the more specific WP12 objectives:

- **CONNECT**

MMinE-SwEEPER builds on the JPI Oceans Knowledge Hub on Munitions in the Sea to establish a strong network of European projects. This network brings together key stakeholders across sectors, fostering collaboration, sharing advancements, and strengthening a collective approach to addressing marine munitions.

- **INFORM**

MMinE-SwEEPER is not holding back information but actively disseminating scientific findings, best practices, and technological innovations across related projects. Through these activities, the project raises awareness of the environmental, security, and economic impacts of marine munitions, while encouraging uptake, practical application, and use of results.

- **INFLUENCE**

MMinE-SwEEPER engages with policymakers and decision-makers to ensure that evidence and innovative solutions inform sustainable policies. By promoting cross-border cooperation, the project aims to embed marine munitions issues within long-term environmental and security strategies.

Political commitments

While the funding of research projects on a specific topic by the EU and national ministries can already be regarded as a political commitment by those stakeholders, a number of additional commitments were published during 2025 which also further shape MMinE-SwEEPER's activities.

European Ocean Pact[2]

In June 2025, the European Commission published its European Ocean Pact. Under the pillar of maritime security, it prominently includes as a flagship action the development of "a comprehensive UXO strategy to integrate cutting-edge detection and disposal technologies." The Pact further explains that this strategy will begin in the Baltic and North Seas before expanding to the Black Sea. MMinE-SwEEPER consortium partner HELCOM is explicitly mentioned as one of the partners supporting its implementation. At the Kiel Munition Clearance Week 2025, a representative from the European Commission, when speaking about UXO removal strategies, explicitly referred to MMinE-SwEEPER and its sister projects, noting that their results will influence how this strategy will take shape.

[2] European Commission. 2025. *Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: The European Ocean Pact*, COM(2025) 281 final, 5 June 2025. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=comnat:COM_2025_0281_FIN.

Ocean Action Agenda of France and Germany[3]

On the sidelines of the UN Ocean Conference 3 in Nice, France, the governments of France and Germany presented an Ocean Action Agenda outlining several joint pledges and initiatives. Among these is a shared commitment to the recovery of munitions from the sea. Both countries pledged to launch a joint initiative to map and assess risks from dumped munitions in the Baltic and North Seas, building on existing responsibilities, mapping efforts and scientific assessments, particularly in the Baltic Sea. They also committed to developing and testing innovative technologies and methodologies for the safe recovery and disposal of munitions, with a strong focus on minimising environmental impacts and making use of experience gained under Germany's Immediate Action Programme. Furthermore, France and Germany agreed to establish a joint expert group to share best practices and coordinate national efforts on recovery and disposal.

In addition, the two governments will advocate for greater EU support and coordination of remediation projects through instruments such as Horizon Europe and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund. They also intend to work with other Baltic and North Sea countries to build a comprehensive regional approach, building on the efforts already initiated by HELCOM in the Baltic Sea. As MMinE-SwEEPER is the only EU-funded project involving both French and German partners, it is willing to support these pledges with its network and scientific expertise to the greatest extent possible.

German decision to set up a Competence Centre for the Clearance of Munitions in the North and Baltic Seas[4]

In July 2025, Germany decided to establish a competence centre for munitions recovery, explicitly naming MMinE-SwEEPER project coordinator GEOMAR as a major scientific partner. Building on the German Immediate Action Programme on munitions recovery, funded with 100 million EUR by the German government, the competence centre is intended to bring together all key stakeholders across Germany on this topic and, in doing so, further cement Germany's role as the European leader in the field.

Stakeholder engagement

Taking into account the research project landscape, political commitments, as well as MMinE-SwEEPER's own objectives and DEC key pillars, it is clear that cross-project collaboration is given high priority within the PDEC. To deliver on this effectively, and following the launch of MUNI-RISK, MMinE-SwEEPER established a "Munitions Communication Coordination Group", connecting the various projects under the umbrella term "Munitions in the Sea". It thereby carries on the legacy of the 2023 concluded JPI Oceans Joint Action "Munitions in the Sea". This group brings together stakeholders responsible for DEC activities across the various projects, with the aim of exchanging updates on project developments, coordinating planned DEC activities, and identifying opportunities for synergies. The meetings are organised by JPI Oceans and take place online on a bi-monthly basis. In addition, MMinE-SwEEPER has set up a shared online space to facilitate communication and information exchange. By September 2025, representatives of the following projects, in addition to MMinE-SwEEPER, were regularly engaging in this group:

- CAMMera - Clearance Activities for Marine Munition through Efficient Remediation Approaches
- MUNI-RISK - Mitigation of Risks due to submerged munitions for a sustainable development of the Baltic Sea
- MUNIMAP - Baltic Sea Munitions Remediation Roadmap

[3] German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety. 2025. *Ocean Action Agenda of France and Germany for the UN Ocean Conference in Nice*. June 10. https://www.bundesumweltministerium.de/en/download/ocean-action-agenda-of-france-and-germany-for-the-un-ocean-conference-in-nice.

[4] ZEIT. 2025. "Altlasten im Meer: Rostock erhält Zuschlag für Bundeszentrum Munitionsbergung." July 8. https://www.zeit.de/news/2025-07/08/neues-kompetenzzentrum-munitionsbergung-kommt-nach-rostock.

- REMARCO - Remediation, Management, Monitoring and Cooperation addressing North Sea UXO
- BaltWreck - Preventing massive marine waters chemical pollution from the leaking wrecks and munition/ weapon dumps in the south Baltic
- CONMAR II - Concept for conventional Marine munition Remediation in the German North and Baltic Sea
- BorDEx - Development and construction of a mobile demonstrator for the thermal disposal of explosives from coastal dumped munitions
- IRAV - Industrial clearance of hazardous waste from dumping sites at sea

Until its conclusion in June 2025, EROVMUS – Enhanced Remote Operated Vehicle Interface for Munition Studies – was also part of the group. Beyond that, the group has invited and held exchanges with:

- CleanSeas - New robotic manipulation techniques and AI algorithms for the precise handling of objects in the sea using the example of ammunition dumps / UXO
- WATERSIDE - Removing ammunition remnants from the sea

At the last meeting in August 2025, a representative of the Ministry for Climate Protection, Agriculture, Rural Areas and the Environment of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern was also invited to share updates on the establishment of the German Competence Centre for the Clearance of Munitions in the North and Baltic Seas. Such invitations are intended to give the various projects insights into the latest Europe-wide developments on the munitions in the sea topic, to accelerate the creation of synergies as fast as possible.

External stakeholders

The purpose of the engagement activities beyond cross-project collaboration is to facilitate dialogue, build relationships, and foster exchanges between MMinE-SwEEPER and relevant stakeholders, as outlined below. Although MMinE-SwEEPER's objectives are distinct from those of other "Munitions in the Sea" projects, stakeholder engagement activities must always be carried out in coordination with these projects, building on the aforementioned need for close collaboration.

The aim of WP1 to broaden and engage stakeholders from different levels of governance, NGOs, the public, and industry will therefore also benefit other "Munitions in the Sea" projects. In addition, as already set out in the research proposal, MMinE-SwEEPER draws on stakeholders from the HELCOM Submerged Expert Group, NATO, the concluded JPI Oceans "Munitions in the Sea" Joint Action, as well as invited governmental, civilian, and industrial actors and other professional contacts of the partners.

This implies that, in order to avoid stakeholder fatigue, the three tasks of WP1 – Task 1.1 Identification and invitation of relevant stakeholders, Task 1.2 Dialogue of requirements, and Task 1.3 Synthesis of stakeholder discussion outcomes – will also be conducted in coordination with the other projects. So, have the three sister projects MMinE-SwEEPER, MUNI-RISK, and MUNIMAP jointly organised a stakeholder workshop at the Kiel Munition Clearance Week 2025.

Furthermore, in relation to the objectives of WP2, which focuses on responsibilities, assessments, and decision-making, MMinE-SwEEPER will build on earlier work conducted by MUNIMAP. To reach as many relevant actors and stakeholders as possible, MMinE-SwEEPER will not only target individual stakeholders but also actively engage with existing groups, associations, EU agencies, and EU bodies that already bring together stakeholders across Europe. This approach enables more time-efficient engagement and ensures broad geographical coverage, rather than limiting outreach to those who are easiest to contact.

The same approach also lays the foundation for efforts under WP12, particularly Task 12.3 "Communicate results and transfer knowledge", which aims to engage stakeholders from the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, and the Eastern Baltic – regions where awareness of the topic is still less developed than in, for example, the North Sea. To ensure an impactful science-policy event at the end of the project, it will be essential that these groups,

associations, EU agencies and bodies, and regional actors are present, so that they can carry forward the project's legacy and continue the discourse after its conclusion.

Role of the External Stakeholder Advisory Board

To ensure that stakeholder groups both outside the countries of the consortium partners and from other relevant communities are involved, WP13, in consultation with the Project's Executive Board, has established the External Stakeholder Advisory Board (ESAB). The board consists of six members from countries not represented in the MMinE-SwEEPER consortium, including the Netherlands, Romania, Estonia, Turkey, and the United States, as well as two intergovernmental organisations. The members bring together a broad range of expertise, spanning scientific, military, industrial, governmental, and intergovernmental backgrounds.

The establishment of the ESAB provides an important opportunity to shape the future of the MMinE-SwEEPER project and to support the removal of unexploded ordnance from European waters. The ESAB members act as independent evaluators, offering feedback to the consortium. They contribute their expertise to identify any missing elements in MMinE-SwEEPER, thereby enhancing its impact and relevance. In addition, they support the General Assembly by providing valuable input on specific needs, based on their knowledge and perspectives. Finally, MMinE-SwEEPER also benefits from the dissemination of information into the members' respective communities.

Target audience

Building on the work carried out by previous projects listed in Table 1, as well as by WP1 (Task 1.1: Identification and invitation of relevant stakeholders), this activity was aligned with the objectives of WP12 and the key pillars of the PDEC. As a result, the following target audiences, split into two groups of priorities, were identified:

Target Audience	Classification	Objectives
Governmental bodies, ministries, and institutional policymakers (including national navies; ministries of defence, environment, maritime affairs, transport, economy, and civil protection; relevant European Commission services such as DG MARE, DG RTD, DG DEFIS and DG HOME; EU bodies and agencies such as the EU Military Staff, Frontex, EMSA and EFCA; relevant UN and international organisations such as UNDP, UNIDIR, UNMAS, UNESCO-IOC, IMO, GICHD and OPCW; as well as regional frameworks including HELCOM, OSPAR, UNEP/MAP, CBSS, the Black Sea Commission, ASCOBANS and ACCOBAMS)	Primary focus	• Provide evidence and operational lessons to support informed decision-making on marine munition risk assessment, prioritisation of response and clearance activities, and development of national, regional, and international guidance. • Strengthen coordination and knowledge exchange across European and non-European governmental and intergovernmental actors. • Keep relevant EU and international bodies informed of project results for possible future uptake in larger-scale policy, security, environmental, and maritime safety frameworks.
Industry and SMEs (including companies active in UXO clearance, marine robotics, offshore and subsea operations, sensors, environmental monitoring, geodata and data services, and firms operating in both civilian and security-related markets)	Primary focus	• Disseminate technical results, test data, and operational case studies relevant to technology development and service innovation. • Support technology validation and identify opportunities for future uptake, scale-up, and commercialisation in both civilian and security applications.

Target Audience	Classification	Objectives
Scientific and Academic Communities (in particular researchers, institutes, and expert networks working directly on marine munitions and related fields such as marine science, chemistry, ecology, toxicology, robotics, AI, and sensor technology)	Primary focus	• Share scientific outputs and technical innovations through publications, conferences, and the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal. • Enable collaboration across disciplines and leverage results for further research.
NGOs and Environmental Groups (particularly organisations active in the sea basins targeted by the project's knowledge-transfer workshops, as well as NGOs engaged in marine conservation, pollution, biodiversity, remediation, and environmental policy dialogue)	Secondary focus	• Provide accessible knowledge on environmental and societal implications of marine munitions. • Encourage dialogue on ecological risks, remediation options, and policy responses, especially in the regional contexts addressed by the project.
General Public and Coastal Communities (including coastal residents, local maritime users, and wider public audiences in areas affected by or interested in marine munition risks)	Secondary focus	• Raise awareness about the presence and risks of marine munitions. • Provide trustworthy information through media, exhibitions, and outreach to strengthen public understanding and resilience.

Table 2. Target audiences and priorisation.

DEC tools and channels

To ensure that MMinE-SwEEPER results are accessible, visible and impactful, a mix of DEC tools and channels will be employed. These are designed to address the specific needs of target groups, take account of the sensitivities linked to marine munitions, and foster both short-term visibility and long-term knowledge transfer. The tools range from traditional communication outlets to interactive events and specialised digital platforms, thereby ensuring broad coverage and tailored engagement.

Project website

GEOMAR has within Task 13.4 developed the project website, which can be found under mmine-sweeper.eu and serves as the central entry point for the project, presenting scope, activities, and outcomes in an accessible way. It lists project news and features a dedicated section on media presence, both for MMinE-SwEEPER and for the broader underwater munition topic.

Visitors can subscribe to the newsletter directly on the site to stay informed. It links to the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal and provides contact points for each consortium partner, along with a list of related projects. Materials such as flyers and event factsheets will be made available here for easy download and sharing. Altogether, the site anchors the communication ecosystem and keeps stakeholders oriented as new results emerge.

JPI Oceans Munitions Portal

The JPI Oceans Knowledge Portal Munitions in the Sea (JPI Oceans Munitions Portal) will be further developed over the course of the project as a structured hub for the Munitions in the Sea community. As outlined in Task 12.4, JPI Oceans will hold annual editorial meetings with a group of experts consisting of consortium partners and related projects. Together with Fraunhofer ICT, who is the host of the website, JPI Oceans will also have quarterly content

update meeting to keep information current. Enhanced support from experts for the portal will also come through the CAMMera project consortium partners.

Besides providing an overview of the topic and key pillars around research efforts related to the clearance of munitions in the sea, its goals include building a comprehensive stakeholder list around the munitions topic and creating a database for publications related to underwater munitions. By consolidating references and stakeholders, it strengthens knowledge exchange and supports science to policy transfer. The portal complements the project website by serving as a deeper knowledge repository. Over time, it will provide a stable reference point for ongoing collaboration across projects and sectors.

Social media

Based on the identified target audience, LinkedIn was chosen as the primary platform. As some related projects lack their own social media presence, MMinE-SwEEPER set up with the "Munitions in the Sea" LinkedIn page a common presence that aggregates updates across projects related to underwater munitions. In addition, a dedicated LinkedIn group called "Forum: Munitions in the Sea" gives experts a space to share information and boost knowledge exchange directly with the community. Posts will regularly refer to the project's website, the Munitions Portal, and newsletters for more detailed information.

The LinkedIn page helps surface milestones quickly and sustain conversation between formal updates. It also broadens reach beyond project partners, drawing in practitioners, policymakers, and interested public audiences.

Newsletter

Through the newsletter, project progress, results, and upcoming activities are shared on a regular, bi-monthly basis as planned. It will also inform readers about activities from sister projects to provide a fuller picture of the landscape. GEOMAR leads on content coordination, ensuring accuracy and coherence. JPI Oceans will use its Mailchimp account to send the newsletter to subscribers. Each issue will point readers to in-depth items on the website and the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal. This steady rhythm creates a reliable touchpoint for stakeholders who want curated updates without monitoring every channel.

Scientific publications and conference presentations

Peer-reviewed publications and conference presentations will showcase technical and scientific advances produced by the consortium. These outputs will be advertised via the newsletter, the website, and the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal ; cross-promotion ensures findings reach both research and industry audiences. Together, these efforts help MMinE-SwEEPER contribute to and shape the European discourse on underwater munitions. They also provide citable references that other projects and institutions can build on. In sum, this channel turns results into recognised contributions within the wider R&D ecosystem and supports commercial exploitation of project results.

Project flyers and information material

The annual MMinE-SwEEPER project flyers provide concise, up-to-date summaries of aims, activities, and results of the project for quick understanding. Event-specific factsheets will be prepared where relevant and presented at meetings, workshops, and conferences. A booklet including summaries of all ongoing Munitions in the Sea projects further strengthens visibility for the collaborative effort within the community. All materials will be made available via the website and the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal for easy access. This ensures consistent messaging across venues and supports reuse by partners. The materials help stakeholders engage without needing to digest full reports. They also serve as handouts that guide audiences to deeper resources online.

Project video

To broaden outreach and raise awareness of both the MMinE-SwEEPER project and the wider issue of munitions in the sea, a project video will be produced in cooperation with the Horizon Results Booster. The video will present the project's objectives, activities, and results in an accessible way and will be featured on the project website and the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal. It will also serve as educational material and used at conferences and public events, providing a clear visual introduction to the topic and supporting wider dissemination efforts.

Field trials, cruises and demonstrations

Large scientific cruises to unknown or less known munition dumping sites around and in the North Sea and Norway will demonstrate technologies and approaches in operational settings. These activities also help attract attention from politicians and the wider public by inviting them on board. Documentation and storytelling around trials will feed into the website, newsletters, and social media.

Demonstrations offer stakeholders a first-hand view of feasibility and readiness. They also create opportunities for feedback that can refine tools and methods which will enhance the chance for successful exploitation. Therefore, going to dedicated artificial munition test sites and participating in maritime security exercises will moreover support commercial exploitation by showing practical performance and value to potential users.

Media outreach

Media outreach raises awareness among the wider public and stimulates societal dialogue. Press releases will highlight key milestones and events, for example the kick-off and knowledge transfer workshops, to amplify visibility. Coverage may extend across TV, radio, and podcasts to reach diverse audiences. Messaging will align with website and newsletter content for coherence across channels. This coordinated approach helps ensure accurate framing of the topic. It also increases the likelihood that important updates are noticed beyond specialist circles.

MMinE-SwEEPER specific Stakeholder events

Knowledge Transfer Workshops

The two planned Knowledge Transfer Workshops (KTW) in Croatia and Poland will specifically target the Mediterranean, Black Sea and Eastern Baltic communities, which are regions where awareness for the existence of underwater munitions is under-represented. These activities are designed to build capacity and enable exchange across national, regional, and EU actors. They will be a key vehicle for non-commercial exploitation of results by helping stakeholders adopt approaches and insights. Sessions will encourage dialogue among practitioners, researchers, and policymakers to accelerate uptake. Outputs and highlights will be shared through the website, portal, and social channels to extend impact beyond attendees. The format supports practical learning and sustained relationship building. They will be held in the second half of the project. WSSG is taking the lead on the workshop for the Eastern Baltic, while JPI Oceans will be the main organiser for the workshop focusing on the Mediterranean and Black Sea communities.

To ensure well organised KTWs, WP12 partners have at the Kick-off meeting of the project on the following points consulted:

- KTW 1 Eastern Baltic Sea Month 30 (April 2027) in Poland (WSSG in the lead)
- KTW 2 Mediterranean & Black Sea Month 36 (October 2027) in Croatia (JPI Oceans in the lead)

Preparation procedure:

- First consultation in Q1 of 2026 organised by JPI Oceans and WSSG and invited MMinE-SwEEPER consortium partners from the relevant two regions to propose timing of the two KTWs, and the

stakeholders invited taking into account that also other munitions projects are organising workshops in those regions, especially CAMMera for the Black Sea.
- Decision on the exact date, location and agenda six months before the KTW
- Announcement and invitations sent out five months before the KTW to ensure also more high-level seniorities from the respective regions are able to join

Target groups:
- 20-30 key actors from the region in underwater munition mitigation efforts from national/local authorities, research institutions, and industry

Also Members of the European Parliament who are in the Interparlamentarian SEARICA Group will be invited.
Consultation with invited stakeholders will also be done through EU Military Staff, Frontex, the JPI Oceans Management Board Members as well as through the External Stakeholder Advisory Board.

Final Science-policy event
The Final Science-Policy Event in Brussels will be organised in the last quarter of the project. This timing aligns well with the conclusion of many other related projects, such as MUNI-RISK, MUNIMAP, REMARCO, BaltWreck, Conmar II and BordEX. It is planned as a full-day event with around 100 participants, including high-level representatives from the European Commission and national ministries.

The aim is for this to be not only a MMinE-SwEEPER event, but a larger "Munitions in the Sea" event, with MMinE-SwEEPER taking the lead. To ensure the greatest possible impact, the event's timing will be coordinated with the other projects and the European Commission ahead of Q4 2026. This will guarantee that the Science-Policy Event takes place at the most effective moment to support the proposed Europe-wide UXO Removal Strategies in the European Ocean Pact. The programme will also include a dedicated session on perspectives beyond Europe. JPI Oceans will act as the lead organiser of the event.

External events and exhibitions

The project will participate in relevant conferences and policy dialogues to broaden its reach. Such events will be regularly screened and identified, in coordination with other projects, to ensure better alignment. Participation serves to promote project outputs, strengthen networks, and support both EU and international cooperation. It also helps connect the team with new stakeholders and collaborators who can either benefit from or contribute to the results. Lessons learned and contacts established at these events will be fed back into the wider communication effort, creating a continuous loop between external engagement and project dissemination.
In its first year, MMinE-SwEEPER has already made active contributions to the following events:
- Dialogue Event: Munition Legacies at Sea and the European Perspective, 17 February 2025, Brussels, Belgium
- Blue Economy Baltic Forum 2025 & Arena 4 Blue Mission BANOS Meeting, 28-29 April, 2025, Sopot, Poland
- UN Ocean Conference 3, 9-13 June 2025, Nice, France
- Kiel Munition Clearance Week 2025, 18-20 June, 2025, Kiel, Germany
- Fehmarnbelt Days 2025, 14-16 June 2025, Lübeck, Germany
- Kieler Woche, 21-29 June 2025 , Kiel, Germany
- Fraunhofer ICT Annual Conference, 23-26 June 2025 , Karlsruhe, Germany
- Accelerating the Mission: A Danish EU Presidency Conference for the Restoration and Sustainability of Europe's Ocean and Waters", 23-24 September 2025, Nyborg, Denmark

Contributions ranged from organising side events, such as at the UN Ocean Conference, to chairing panels at the Blue Mission BANOS meeting, leading stakeholder workshops during the Kiel Munition Clearance Week, and presenting posters in Nyborg. Through MMinE-SwEEPER's presence at public events such as the Fehmarnbelt Days

and Kieler Woche, the project and its topic also gained visibility among a broader audience. In addition, consortium partners JPI Oceans and the Royal Military Academy of Belgium participated in and presented at a two-day Science-to-Policy workshop in June 2025, organised by the European Commission.

Future key events identified are:

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) Innovation Conference, 28-30 October 2025, Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- EUSBSR Annual Forum 2025 "Securing the Future", 30 October 2025, Sopot, Poland
- Rostock Ocean Convention, 4-5 November 2025, Rostock, Germany
- Marine UXO Survey & Clearance Symposium, 3-5 February 2026, Manchester, UK
- International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence, August 2026, Bremen, Germany
- SMM – MS & D Conference, 1-4 September 2026, Hamburg, Germany

Recurring events:

- Our Baltic Conference
- EU Ocean Days
- European Maritime Day
- Seafuture
- International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors & UN Advisers
- Kiel Munition Clearance Week

Beyond these, the visibility of MMinE-SwEEPER will be further ensured at many other events. Through the Munitions Communication Coordination Group, other munitions projects are encouraged not only to present their own work at conferences but also to highlight the efforts of the wider community, including MMinE-SwEEPER. An example of this is the IRAV project's presentation at the "Unexploded Ordnance: Mitigation in the Marine Environment" conference in Blyth, UK, on 7 October 2025, where they will also highlight the efforts undertaken by MMinE-SwEEPER. In addition, MMinE-SwEEPER partners JPI Oceans and Fraunhofer ICT will, in the coming years, chair a panel on the topic of underwater munitions at the annual Fraunhofer ICT meeting

Impact pathways and enablers

MMinE-SwEEPER ensures that the knowledge, tools and technologies developed within the consortium are transformed into tangible benefits for European society, industry and policy. The project's focus extends beyond dissemination to the active uptake, application and long-term use of results, supporting safer seas, cleaner environments and more resilient coastal economies across Europe.

Core pathways to impact

MMinE-SwEEPER's results will contribute to impact via four interconnected pathways:

- Policy & Governance: Translated evidence guides governments and EU bodies in shaping remediation strategies and regulations.
- Industry & Technology: New robotic tools, AI algorithms and data platforms strengthen Europe's marine technology sector and UXO-clearance industry, creating competitive advantage.
- Science & Innovation: High-quality datasets, models and workflows fuel further research in robotics, chemistry and environmental science, ensuring continuity of innovation.
- Societal Value: Project outputs contribute to environmental protection, risk awareness and public trust—especially in coastal communities affected by legacy munitions.

These pathways reflect Horizon Europe's focus on socioeconomic and environmental impact. By targeting all four, the project maximises its broad impact potential.

Policy and Governance

MMinE-SwEEPER acts on national, regional, European and international levels, with particular emphasis on the European dimension. It will do so by compiling knowledge on technology, strategies and management and by distributing this knowledge to enhance cooperation between scientific, industrial and military communities in Europe.

National level:

Through the work carried out in WP1 and WP2 on legislation, MMinE-SwEEPER fosters discourse among national stakeholders to clarify responsibilities and mandates. In addition, building on the Ocean Action Agenda of France and Germany, MMinE-SwEEPER, with consortium partners from both countries, seeks to build on this momentum and support these national efforts with its scientific expertise and capacity.

Regional level:

The project maintains strong links with all four European regional sea conventions (HELCOM, OSPAR, UNEP/MAP and the Black Sea Commission) through stakeholder engagement and through collaboration for the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal. HELCOM, as a consortium partner, co-organised the stakeholder workshop at the Kiel Munition Clearance Week and a side event at the UN Ocean Conference. Through the Munitions Communication Coordination Group, MMinE-SwEEPER also cooperates with the Council for the Baltic Sea States and the Black Sea Commission. CAMMera's focus on the Black Sea further strengthens these ties. Project outcomes will inform policy discussions within the HELCOM Expert Group on Submerged Munitions, contributing to Europe-wide UXO removal strategies. A Knowledge Transfer Workshop is planned in Croatia, whereby close cooperation with UNEP/MAP is foreseen. The final science–policy event in Brussels will include a dedicated session on the role of regional sea conventions.

European level:

MMinE-SwEEPER engages in science–policy events such as the European Commission's Science-to-Policy workshops and Mission Ocean events, as already demonstrated in Sopot and Nyborg. Participation is also planned for the European Maritime Day and the EU Ocean Days. In the context of the European Ocean Pact, the project will pursue bilateral exchanges with DG MARE, DG HOME, DG MOVE and DG RTD, as well as with the EU Military Staff and Frontex. Support from JPI Oceans in Brussels ensures coordination and continuity. MMinE-SwEEPER aims to establish structured, ongoing knowledge exchange between consortium partners and European institutions, coordinated with sister projects.

International level:

MMinE-SwEEPER contributes to discussions for global governance on marine munitions, engaging with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining and UN bodies such as the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR).

Industry and Technology

MMinE-SwEEPER's results will also advance technology and strengthen Europe's maritime industry. The three SME partners will lead commercial exploitation:

- North.io will use project developments to advance its secure data management platform, potentially offering it as a Platform as a Service to institutions handling sensitive information.
- IQUA will integrate AI-based classification algorithms and multi-vehicle mission planning modules into its AUV portfolio, enabling commercial clients to conduct smarter, more efficient surveys.

- SeaTerra will develop semi-automated crawler control software and advanced grabbing hardware, which will be incorporated into its UXO clearance services and product line. These activities ensure that exploitation is not abstract but linked directly to viable business opportunities.

These activities ensure that MMinE-SwEEPER's results are practical and linked to viable business opportunities. The technologies will be showcased at events such as the Kiel Munition Clearance Week and exercises like REP (MUS), increasing visibility and market reach.
The consortium also engages with the European Defence Agency's Capability, Armament and Planning Directorate to align with development priorities. Active outreach to the German Waterside project offers further opportunities to shape industrial and technological strategies in Germany. Engaging in the consultation process for the forthcoming EU Ports and Industrial Maritime Strategy will provide an additional pillar supporting this focus area.

Science and Innovation

By compiling existing data on munition compounds and chemical warfare agent levels in EU waters and generating new data, MMinE-SwEEPER will establish a comprehensive status assessment of munitions pollution. The project aims to increase knowledge about munition and chemical agent contamination by 50–60 percent. Through further development and implementation of electrochemical sensors, analytical efficiency for immediate analyses is expected to rise by 40–60 percent.
Together with sister projects, the consortium positions itself as a leading expert group in the field. For example, GEOMAR, as coordinator, represented MMinE-SwEEPER and partner projects as official science partners at the Kiel Munition Clearance Week. Scientific publications will consolidate the project's reputation, while the consortium also offers its expertise to the European Commission for the EU Ocean Research and Innovation Strategy.

Societal Value

The established data and knowledge will support NGOs and public actors in their awareness-raising and advocacy work. This will be further enabled through the Munitions Communication Coordination Group and the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal, which compile and distribute information tailored to various stakeholder needs.
MMinE-SwEEPER has produced a booklet summarising ongoing research projects and a public poster for exhibitions and events. The JPI Oceans Munitions Portal serves as an open-access hub containing information and a section in simplified language for the general public. Through its social media channels ("Munitions in the Sea" and "Forum: Munitions in the Sea"), the project builds an engaged online community. Monthly coordination meetings between JPI Oceans and GEOMAR ensure consistent moderation and communication via social media. The bi-monthly newsletters and annual factsheets further expand outreach. By using Horizon Results Booster audio-visual support, MMinE-SwEEPER enhances dissemination efficiency and the clarity of communication materials for example through the production of the project video.

Enabling impact and exploitation

To make sure that the results of MMinE-SwEEPER can be used and applied well beyond the project's duration, a number of practical measures are in place. These include clear rules for managing intellectual property, close monitoring of potential risks that could affect exploitation, and tailored support from the Horizon Results Booster. Together, these actions help ensure that the project's outputs are not only shared but also put to use, supporting long-term benefits for science, industry, and policy.

Intellectual property and knowledge management

As with data, intellectual property (IP) in MMinE-SwEEPER belongs to the partner or group of partners that generate it. Ownership and usage rights are clarified in the Consortium Agreement, with the Executive Board acting as

mediator in case of conflicts. Sensitive or dual-use technologies are subject to additional scrutiny by the Security Advisory Board. The consortium does not foresee extensive patenting but recognises the commercial importance of certain outputs, especially software modules, robotic hardware, and data-sharing platforms. For these cases, IP arrangements are explicitly set out, balancing partner interests with project-wide commitments to openness and knowledge transfer.

Risk management for exploitation

Critical risks for exploitation include insufficient data for training AI models, delays in hardware availability, lack of permissions for open-water trials, and potential loss of trust through mishandling confidential information. Each of these risks has been mapped to the relevant work package, and mitigation measures have been developed, such as data augmentation, use of simulation frameworks, fallback use of existing hardware, or reliance on official test sites.

Risks related to political sensitivities are mitigated through the communication guidelines listed further below and oversight by the Security Advisory Board.

Role of Horizon Results Booster

To strengthen its DEC activities, MMinE-SwEEPER successfully applied to the Horizon Results Booster in July 2025. Support includes assessment of the Plan for Dissemination and Exploitation (PDEC), Go-to-Market assistance and audio-visual expertise. The Go-to-Market activities began in September 2025 with a kick-off meeting and will continue through the development of key exploitable results and a dedicated Exploitation Strategy. In parallel, enhanced audio-visual dissemination will be developed in collaboration with Horizon Results Booster experts, including the production of a project video to ensure effective communication of project outcomes.

Monitoring of impact

The success of dissemination, exploitation, and communication activities in MMinE-SwEEPER will be ensured through systematic monitoring and evaluation. A structured framework will be applied to measure performance against defined objectives, using both quantitative and qualitative indicators.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) include, for example:

- Website: Number of visits and clicks on the project website and JPI Oceans Munitions Portal.
- Social medial: Number of followers, posts, and engagement metrics (shares, likes, comments).
- Newsletter: Number of subscribers to MMinE-SwEEPER's bimonthly newsletter and open rate.
- Publications and mentions: Number of scientific publications, conference contributions, and citations.
- Events: participation levels in workshops, webinars, field trials, and training sessions.
- Media relations: Coverage in press, TV, radio, or online outlets.

The guiding objectives behind the KPIs mentioned above are:

- to ensure a steadily growing number of visits and clicks on the project website and the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal;
- to establish and maintain the largest LinkedIn account on the topic of munitions in the sea (target achieved by June 2025);
- to double the number of newsletter subscribers by the end of the project compared with the first year (104 subscribers);
- to actively contribute to at least five relevant conferences or events per year;
- to participate in at least ten workshops, webinars, field trials and training sessions over the course of the project;

- to secure media coverage of major events such as the Kick-off Meeting, Knowledge Transfer Workshops, scientific surveys and the Science-Policy Event across at least six European countries.

Overseeing KPIs will be conducted continuously, in particular through the Munitions Communication Coordination Group, which meets on a bi-monthly basis. For social media, additional monthly meetings are held between GEOMAR and JPI Oceans. Regarding the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal, quarterly update meetings take place between Fraunhofer ICT and JPI Oceans, alongside annual editorial meetings with the broader expert group.

Adjustments will be made when targets are not being met, ensuring flexibility and responsiveness throughout the project. Reporting will follow the Horizon Europe requirements and will include updates on DEC activities in periodic project reports, as well as in dedicated deliverables. The evaluation of DEC actions will not only assess numerical achievements but also their quality and impact, such as policy uptake, stakeholder engagement, and long-term use of the MMinE-SwEEPER results, especially towards the European Oceans Pact. This monitoring approach will provide a transparent basis for accountability and learning, ensuring that dissemination, exploitation, and communication activities are both effective during the project and sustainable afterwards.

To ensure the MMinE-SwEEPER consortium partners are well aware of the different DEC tools and activities JPI Oceans will give regular updates in the Executive Board meetings.

Guidelines and DEC principles

As all MMinE-SwEEPER consortium partners are obliged to participate in DEC activities, JPI Oceans has presented already at the Kick-off meeting of the project a Communication Brief, which will be updated on an annual basis and can be found in the project cloud. This document intents in a very concise and short way to answer the most pressing questions to the consortium partners with regard to DEC activities. Herein some general communication guidelines and principles are outlined, so everyone feels comfortable and encouraged to act in a proactive way. It includes an overview of the consortium partners, overarching objectives, rationale of the project, communication objectives, target audience, and the three above mentioned key pillars. It also lists and briefly describes the various communication channels and entails some FAQs and a section called “Keep in mind” to be listed below:

Partner FAQs

Which content is interesting to share with the communication and outreach WP?

- MMinE-SwEEPER Events & Outreach (e.g., Kick-off, Knowledge Transfer Workshops, webinars)
- MMinE-SwEEPER partner success stories (e.g., research breakthroughs, paper publication)
- Updates on MMinE-SwEEPER expeditions
- Involvement from partners in other munition research projects
- Cooperation and training opportunities
- General news about marine munition remediation
- Other (Please specify)

What to do if …

- you are **asked for information about the project**?

Please always refer to the project webpage first. It contains all relevant details, including contact information for the project coordinator and communication officer.

- you have any meeting reports, newsletter articles, or other media **materials to share**?

Upload the file to the GEOMAR Cloud in the "WP12" folder in "Shared Material," and inform both GEOMAR and JPI Oceans to ensure communication and outreach activities remain up to date.

- you want to share news but are unsure whether the **information is too sensitive** to disclose?

Please CC BPOL SEE when forwarding news to WP12 and indicate your uncertainty so they can review it and intervene if needed before publication.

- **media is reaching out to you** asking about the project?

If you feel competent in answering technical questions, please feel free to respond directly but inform mmine-sweeper@geomar.de and knowledge-munition@jpi-oceans.eu about the request.

- people want to get more **general information about the topic of munitions in the sea?**

Please feel free to refer to the Munitions Portal: www.munitionsinthesea.eu.

- you **receive critique** directed toward the project or **technical questions** that you do not feel comfortable answering?

Please feel free to forward them to mmine-sweeper@geomar.de and knowledge-munition@jpi-oceans.eu. In consultation with GEOMAR, JPI Oceans will handle these issues. They will either respond directly, search for the appropriate interview partner within MMinE-SwEEPER, or forward the request to one of the related munition research projects.

Figure 1. MMinE-SwEEPER Communication Brief – Partner FAQs.

Keep in mind

Logos and Funding:

- Give credit to funding when speaking, presenting, or communicating about MMinE-SwEEPER by using logo "Funded by the European Union". Always include a Disclaimer In all communications about MMinE-SwEEPER, please always use the MMinE-SwEEPER logo.

Visual identity:

- Use pre-designed MMinE-SwEEPER templates.

JPI Oceans Knowledge Portal Munitions in the Sea:

- Consider joining the expert team and editorial meetings for input to the portal
- Commit as language validator for translations into further languages for better access.

Newsletter:

- Share with your community
- Contribute at least 1 article per year

Social media:

- Reshare posts
- Tag Munitions in the Sea channel and partners
- Use #mminesweeper & #MunitionsintheSea
- Take pictures when participating in events to make social media posts more lively

Press release:

- Share them with your network and media outlets that might be interested

Contribution to events:

- Inform the project coordinator GEOMAR and WP12 leader JPI Oceans about the activities
- Consider taking with you flyers, roll-up banner, factsheets, etc.
- For poster presentations consult with JPI Oceans to ensure aligned design

Figure 2. MMinE-SwEEPER Communication Brief – Keep in mind.

Role of the Security Advisory Board

Focusing on locating and detecting marine munitions MMinE-SwEEPER faces security concerns due to the sensitive nature of the information involved. To address these concerns, a Security Advisory Board has been established to advise the project's consortium partners and External Stakeholder Advisory Board on the handling of sensitive information. The Board, chaired by a designated Project Security Officer by BPOL SEE, ensures compliance with EU regulations on classified information and oversees the distribution of security-relevant data to external parties.

The Security Officer and the members of the Advisory Board were already appointed during the proposal phase of the project, underlining the importance of security considerations from the very beginning. As a first step, the Security Advisory Board and Project Security Officer remotely convened a meeting on 5 December 2024 to discuss data security related issues, such as Two Factor Authentication, user roles and access management as well as network security and data availability. This initial gathering marked the beginning of ensuring the safe handling and distribution of sensitive information.

Data management

MMinE-SwEEPER actively supports the principles of open science, while recognising that investigations into dumped marine munitions involve information that cannot always be openly shared. Data generated in the project include seafloor mapping, chemical analyses, optical and acoustic imaging, AI workflows, and robotic technologies. While such data and methods have high scientific value, they are also potentially dual use, with applications relevant for defence, security, or critical infrastructure protection. For this reason, the project adopts a careful

balance between openness and responsibility. Wherever possible, results will be made available following the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-usable). Metadata describing research activities, such as what was done, when, and where, will be published in trusted repositories such as PANGAEA, EMODnet, or institutional repositories (for example GEOMAR, SHOM, VLIZ). These will be registered with DOI numbers to guarantee long-term accessibility. Non-sensitive data, such as environmental parameters, will be openly shared and licensed under appropriate Creative Commons or EU PL conditions.

Certain categories of information, such as the exact locations of munitions objects, detailed clearance workflows, or sensitive robotic capabilities, will not be made publicly available due to their potential misuse. These datasets will be shared only within the consortium or with selected stakeholders under controlled access conditions. The project's Security Advisory Board (SAB) and Project Security Officer (PSO) will provide guidance to ensure that the correct security standards are applied.

Research data management is overseen in WP5, which has developed a dedicated Data Management Plan (DMP). In parallel, WP11 will transform technical information into accessible knowledge in the form of best practice reports, training material, and webinars. WP12 will ensure continuous updates of the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal, where subsets of project knowledge will be made available for stakeholders and the public. Through this approach, MMinE-SwEEPER seeks to maximise openness while safeguarding security, contributing both to scientific progress and to the European ambitions of the European Ocean Pact, the Green Deal and with regard to the objectives of the Competitiveness Compass.

General Data Protection Regulation Implications

All data handling and communication activities will comply with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Personal data in communications (e.g. newsletter subscriptions) will be processed lawfully, with consent, and according to the partners' data policies.

European flag and funding statement

Partners are obligated to use the EU emblem when publishing and/or presenting work carried out under the MMinE-SwEEPER project (Grant Agreement Article 17.2). Unless the Agency requests or agrees otherwise, or unless it is impossible, any dissemination of results (in any form, including electronic) must display the EU emblem. This requirement applies to:

- Conferences, seminars, and workshops
- Information materials (brochures, leaflets, posters, presentations, etc.)
- Electronic dissemination, including websites, newsletters, and social media
- Any infrastructure, equipment, or major result funded by the grant

When displayed together with another logo, the EU emblem must be shown with appropriate prominence.
For the purposes of their obligations under this Article, partners may use the EU emblem without first obtaining approval from the Agency. This does not, however, give them the right to exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the EU emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.
Any communication, dissemination, or publication must clearly acknowledge the EU contribution to MMinE-SwEEPER in line with the provisions of the Grant Agreement.

For the MMinE-SwEEPER project the following EU emblem is to be used next to the project logo:

Funded by
the European Union

In addition, any dissemination of results or outputs produced by the project must also indicate that it reflects only the author's view and that the European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains. Therefore, the following disclaimer shall be used:

Disclaimer
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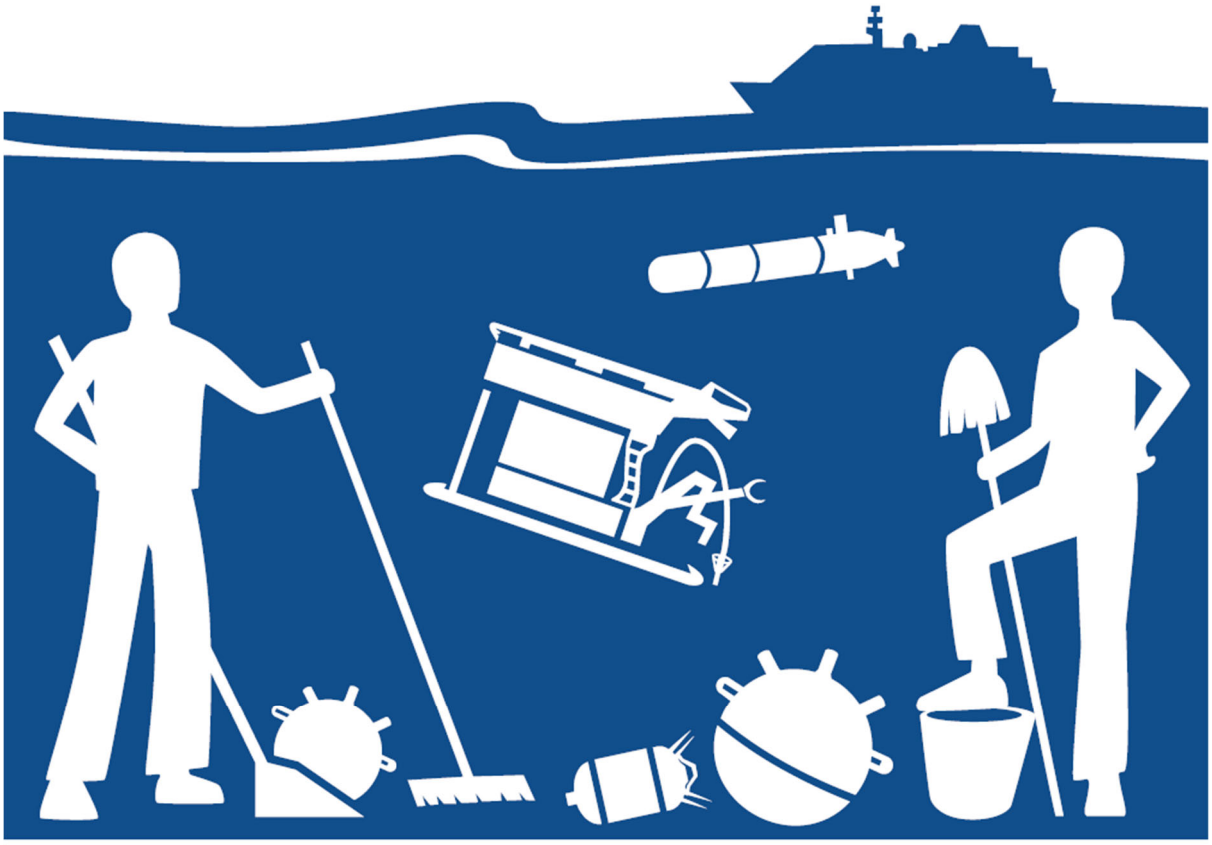
Conclusions

This Plan for Dissemination, Exploitation and Communication provides the framework for how MMinE-SwEEPER will maximise the visibility, uptake and longer-term value of its activities and results. As set out in this document, the project operates in a particularly dynamic and sensitive context. Marine munitions are not only a scientific and technological issue, but also one that relates to policy, security, the environment and public awareness. MMinE-SwEEPER therefore has a role that goes beyond communicating its own progress and also supports exchange, coordination and continuity across the wider European landscape of initiatives working on munitions in the sea.

A key point throughout this plan is that MMinE-SwEEPER addresses a broad range of target audiences whose interests, responsibilities and ways of using results differ considerably. Governmental and institutional actors require policy-relevant evidence and operational lessons. Industry and SMEs are more likely to focus on validation, future application and commercial opportunities. Scientific communities need access to data, methods and publications, while NGOs, coastal communities and the wider public need accessible and trustworthy information that takes account of the sensitivities of the topic. For this reason, the project uses a mix of channels and formats to make engagement as relevant and effective as possible.

The plan also shows that impact in MMinE-SwEEPER depends not only on communication, but equally on coordination. Close cooperation with sister projects and other relevant initiatives, the continued development of the JPI Oceans Munitions Portal, and efforts to avoid duplication and stakeholder fatigue are all important elements in this regard. As a living document, the PDEC will continue to be reviewed and updated in line with project progress, stakeholder feedback, policy developments and emerging results. In this way, it will support not only dissemination and communication during the lifetime of the project, but also the longer-term uptake, use and legacy of MMinE-SwEEPER beyond the end of EU funding.



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www.mminesweeper-munition.eu