



The Blue Economy gender equality dimension

Joint NWWAC/NSAC Focus Group on Social Aspects – 11 April 2022



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A new political context

1. The **EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025** delivers on the von der Leyen Commission's commitment to achieving a **Union of Equality**



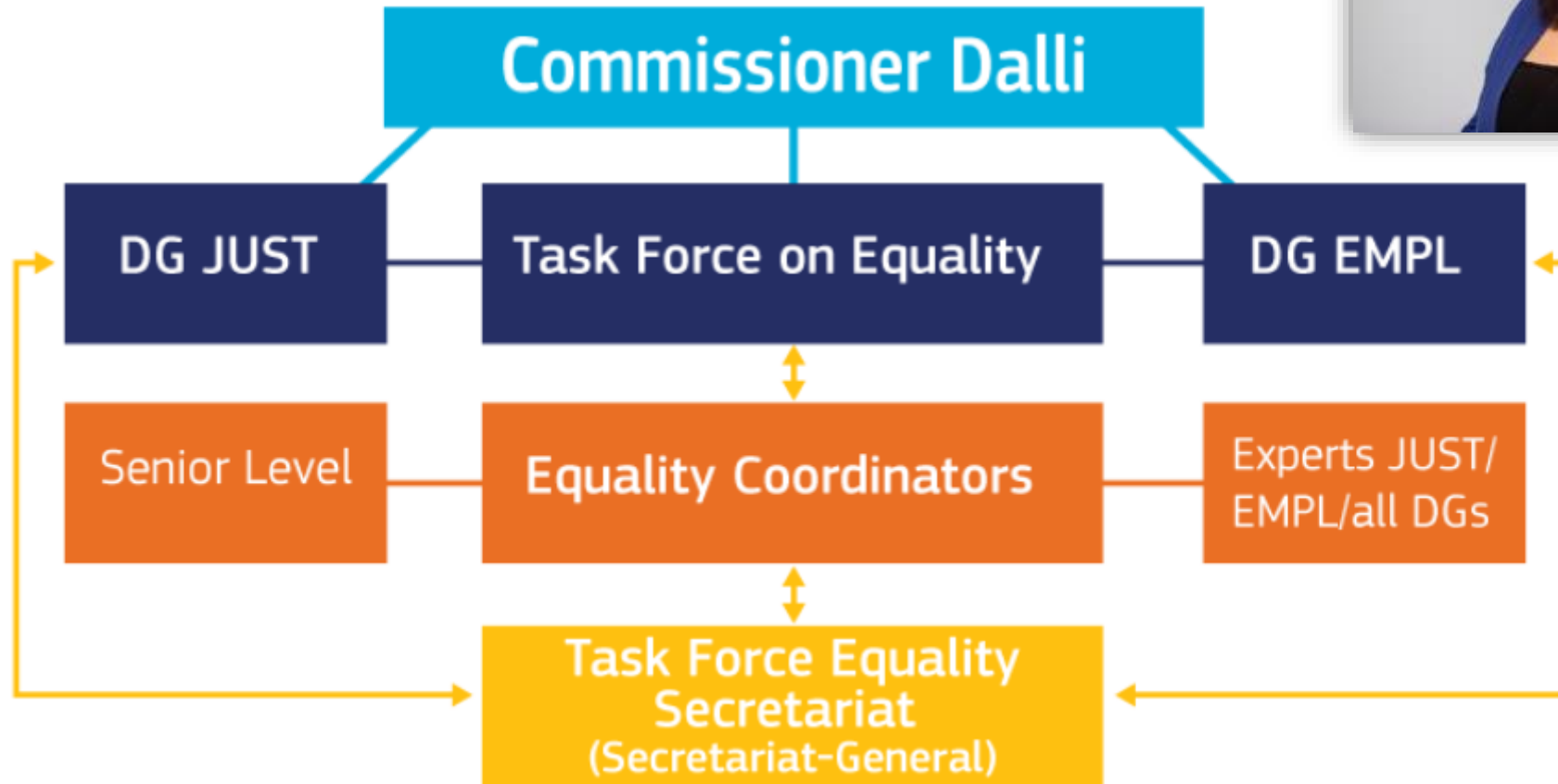
“Gender equality is a core principle of the European Union, but it is not yet a reality. In business, politics and society as a whole, we can only reach our full potential if we use all of our talent and diversity. Using only half of the population, half of the ideas or half of the energy is not good enough.”

President Ursula von der Leyen

2. **DG MARE** : a new approach for a **sustainable blue economy** in the EU – May 2021

- “promote **gender balance** in the maritime professions”
- “invest in **data collection, consolidation and analysis** on women working in the maritime sector”
- “increase **women’s representation in the workforce** and raising their profile in the formal governance of the blue economy”

Task Force on Equality



What is DG MARE doing to promote gender equality in the blue economy?

1. Continuity: Example of our actions
2. MARE's Equality Action Plan (2021-2024)
3. Call for proposals « Women in the Blue Economy » (2022)

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GENDER
EQUALITY

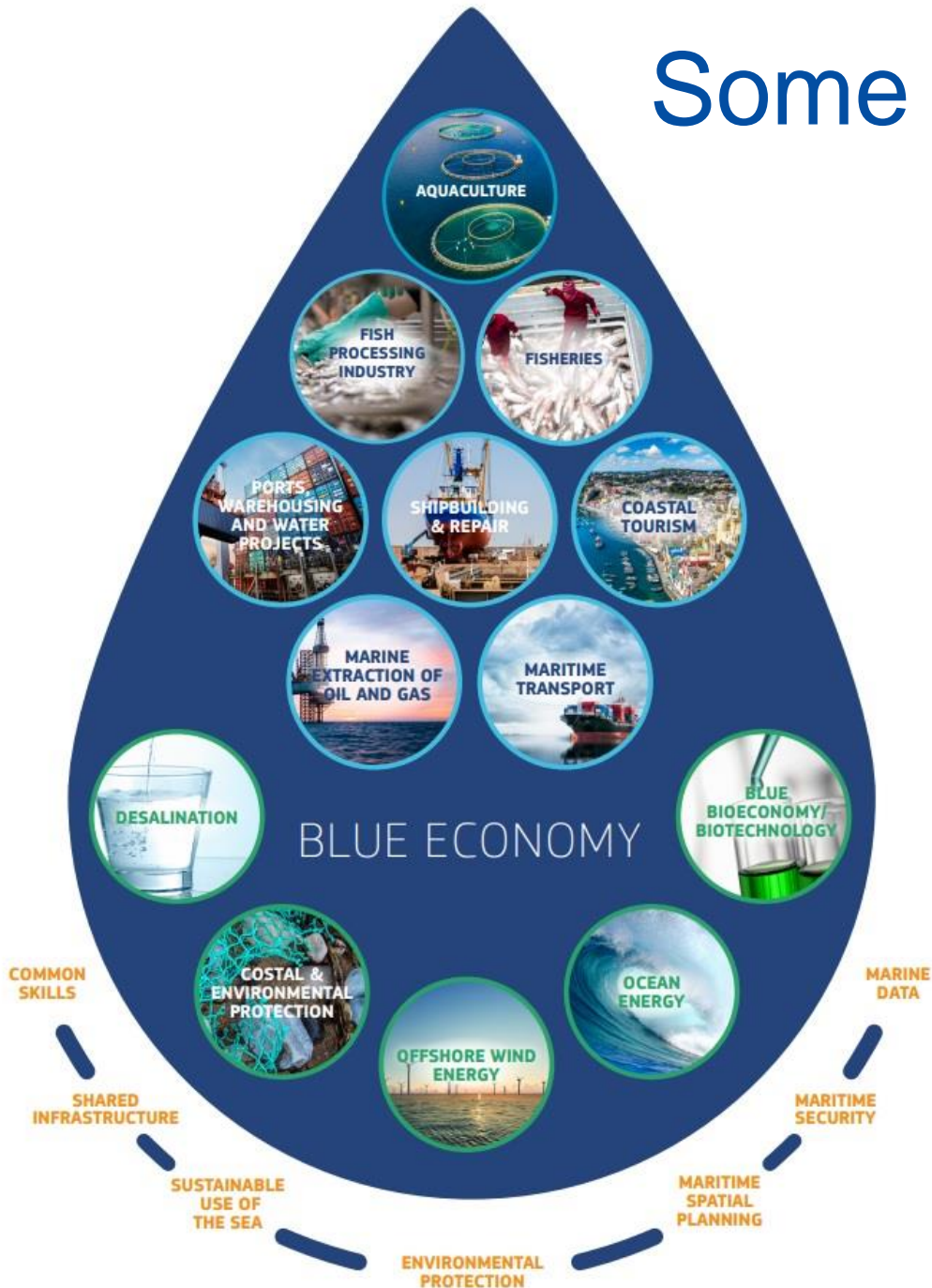


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LIFE
BELOW WATER



European
Commission

Some examples of our actions:



Past actions

- 2018 Study of the **role of women in fisheries** in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea
- **Fisheries Local Action Groups** (« FLAGs ») – 1851 projects (2014-2020)

Present

- Growing interest in gender equality in **Advisory Councils**
- Assessment of the **National EMFAF** programmes

Future actions

- Enhancement of **Data collection** and **Data analysis**
- **Call for proposals** « Women in the Blue Economy » in 2022

MARE's Equality Work Plan (2021-2024)

- **An internal document** – approved by MARE Management in July 2021
- Actions are monitored by **MARE Equality Coordinator** – report to MARE Management board
- Liaise with the Secretariat of the **Commission's Equality Task Force**



Euronews OCEAN
Season 4, episode 3 –
[Women in the Blue Economy](#)



An ocean of opportunities: The women transforming the blue economy
euronews.com

The Policy Dimension

Promote Gender equality in the blue economy sectors

Fisheries: enhance data collection, monitoring and reporting

Promote gender equality in the functioning of the STECF and in the AC

The internal dimension

Capacity building through learning resources (e.g., trainings)

Awareness raising at management level

Gender equality in internal and External Communication

Call for proposals « Women in the Blue Economy » - to be launched 17 May 2022

- Call was announced in the Gender Equality Strategy (March 2020)
- Confirmed in the EU Sustainable Blue Economy Strategy (May 2021)
- [EMFAF Work Programme 2021-2022](#) (January 2022) – Direct Management



Women in the blue economy:

- The grants will help increase the participation and representation of women in the different sectors of the blue economy, thus contributing to a gender equal society as a whole. The objective is to overcome the existing constraints in all aspects of the maritime sector, in particular, recruitment, training, capacity-building, technical cooperation and promotions, so that every person can fully and safely participate in the activities of the maritime economy.



The Call will be presented during the [European Maritime Days](#) in Ravenna (IT) 19-20 May 2022

#UnionOfEquality

GENDER EQUALITY STRATEGY 2020-2025



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