The STEERER Project

Paving the way towards zero-emission waterborne transport

To get a deeper understanding on shipping’s impact in global CO2 emissions, if it were a country it would be the 6th biggest CO2 emitter in the world. Further, “the International Maritime Organisation has shown that GHC emissions from ships have increased by 70% since 1990 and a European Parliament Report predicts that without action the global share of shipping’s GHC emissions may reach 17% by 2050”.

These figures, combined with the overall emerging citizens movements’ demanding concrete actions to mitigate climate change, highlight the pressing need for actionable and impactful measures in all sectors, and, in this particular case, in waterborne transport. Concurrently, the EU has adopted the European Green Deal as the cornerstone of its policy for the foreseeable future, with a strategy “that aims to transform the EU into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050 and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use”.

STEERER (Structuring Towards Zero Emission Waterborne Transport) will coordinate the establishment and communication of a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and an Implementation Plan towards zero-emission waterborne transport, in cooperation with all key stakeholders needed to facilitate the transformation to clean waterborne transport. In the definition of STEERER, as well as cutting greenhouse gas emissions, all harmful environmental emissions, water pollution and noise emissions have to be eliminated. STEERER’s mission is to bring the various initiatives and sectors’ stakeholders together to join forces for a combined effort with the maximum impact for the climate, people’s health and Europe’s economy.

STEERER is coordinated by the Waterborne Technology Platform (SEA EUROPE is responsible for its secretariat), counting with participation of a total of seven partners from six EU countries.

In sum, STEERER aims to:

- Jointly set [emission targets towards 2050](#) (including targets for 2025 and 2030);
- Develop a [Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda](#) to be able to reach these targets in time;
- Develop an [Implementation Plan](#) to reach the targets in due course, while staying competitive and offering a valid business case;
- Developing and implementing a [communication campaign](#), aimed at broader awareness of the waterborne transport sector and its commitment towards zero-emission transport.

The consortium will function as a Secretariat, where the broader expertise is involved in the Scientific Committee and the Green Shipping Expert Group (GSEG) to be established by the project.

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