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SEADOTs project is co-funded by the EU Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement No. 101156488

Trondheim Hosts SEADOTs Kick-Off Meeting to Launch Ambitious Ocean Management Project

The **SEADOTs** project officially launched on 3 and 4 September 2024, with a successful kick-off meeting attended by esteemed consortium partners and advisory board members. The meeting set the stage for advancing Social-Ecological Ocean Management Applications using Digital Ocean Twins (DOTs) over the next three years.

SEADOTs aims to revolutionize ocean management by integrating predictive models of social-ecological interactions into Digital Ocean Twins. This holistic approach addresses critical challenges facing ocean ecosystems, leveraging the latest in socio-economic and ecological data to inform marine spatial planning and decision-making. The project will demonstrate its applications in the Norwegian North Sea, Southern North Sea, and the Baltic Sea, fostering sustainable development, political decision-making, and adaptive management strategies.

The project's core ambition is to balance environmental sustainability with economic and social prosperity. By incorporating data from human activities such as offshore wind energy, fisheries, and marine conservation efforts, **SEADOTs** aspires to inform policies that safeguard marine biodiversity while supporting coastal communities and industries.





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Key Objectives and Use Cases

- Southern North Sea:** Focuses on the coexistence of offshore wind farms, fisheries, and aquaculture, aiming to optimize marine resource use and explore scenarios that maximize environmental and economic benefits.
- Norwegian North Sea:** This study centers on the socio-ecological impacts of floating wind farms on the small community of Utsira, integrating local sentiment analysis and examining conservation strategies.
- Baltic Sea:** Addresses climate change impacts on fisheries, such as heatwaves and tipping points, developing models to predict socio-economic consequences and proposing adaptive management solutions.

The **SEADOTs** consortium, built on technical and scientific excellence, comprises leading institutions and experts in marine science, social research, and ocean data systems. The project will collaborate with EU Digital Twin initiatives, including the Iliad and EDITO projects, contributing to the European Digital Twin Ocean infrastructure.

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