

**THIS IS NOT A JELLYFISH.  
THIS IS A DRIFTING PLASTIC BAG.**



# THE EIB AND THE CLEAN OCEANS INITIATIVE

## How polluted are the oceans?

An estimated **8 million metric tonnes of plastic waste** enter the oceans every year, threatening marine ecosystems and the communities that depend on the seas for their livelihood.

Much of the plastic that ends up in the oceans comes from waste discarded on land or in rivers by the **2 billion people** who don't have waste collection services. Lack of wastewater collection and treatment in many developing cities is another major source of plastic waste.

Fast population growth and rapid urbanisation in many cities around the world, particularly in coastal areas, are adding to the problem.

## How will this initiative help the oceans?

The Clean Oceans Initiative was launched in October 2018 by the European Investment Bank in partnership with the German development bank KfW and France's Agence Française de Développement (AFD).

Together, the three banks will provide up to **€2 billion in lending** over the next five years to help the public and private sectors implement sustainable projects that collect plastics and other waste and clean up wastewater before it reaches the ocean. Projects should demonstrate effective and efficient ways of preventing plastics and other waste from going into the oceans.

The projects will have positive environmental and public health impacts, not only in rivers and the sea, but also on land, as discarded plastics and other waste, and untreated wastewater, harm the quality of life in many cities.

## A focus on rivers and coastal areas

The initiative has a global reach, but will focus on coastal countries in Asia and Africa. Projects in Latin America and the Caribbean, and even in Europe, are also eligible, especially when they have a real impact on cleaning up the seas.

## What projects are eligible?

The Clean Oceans Initiative targets the following areas:

- **Collection, recycling and disposal of plastics and other waste:** projects that focus on plastics and waste collected on land, from rivers and from coastal areas of the seas.
- **Waste management in ports and harbours:** projects that reduce the discharge of plastics and other waste into ports and harbours.
- **Innovative plastics:** projects that reduce plastics discharge into oceans or develop new reusable/recyclable plastic products or bio-degradable plastic materials.
- **Wastewater collection and treatment:** projects that help wastewater collection networks and treatment plants reduce the discharge of plastics into rivers and oceans.
- **Urban stormwater management systems:** projects that prevent waste and plastics from entering waterways during rains and floods.





## What support is available?

The Clean Oceans Initiative provides the following support:

- **Long-term loans and other types of financing** for governments and other local authorities as well as the private sector.
- **Grants** to improve the financial viability of projects, increase their positive environmental and social impacts, and enhance their affordability.
- **Technical assistance** to help the promoters prepare and implement their projects.



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