







Seas, Oceans & Public **Health in Europe**

Linking oceans and health research











Seas, Oceans and Public Health in Europe (SOPHIE for short) is a pan-European research project working towards protecting both human health and the health of the marine environment.

Overview

Whilst the ocean can benefit human health and boost wellbeing via activities like recreation and relaxation, it can also pose risks to human health – through factors such as flooding and pollution.

This complex mix of threats and opportunities interact in ways we don't fully understand. As a maritime continent, conducting research in this area is important for Europe, its inhabitants and its ocean.

Review of Marine Data Evaluating compatibility

of European Oceans

and Human Health

data

Policy Review Assessing current marine, ecosystem and human health management plans

Strategic

Research Agenda

Defining a road map

for the future of Oceans

and Human Health

in Europe

Community **Platform** Creating a space for researchers and professionals to build partnerships

Future scenarios Identifying future trends and predicting their impact on water and health

SOPHIE Survey Interviewing 10,000 people about marine, health and wellbeing

issues

Asking the Experts Setting a vision with multidisciplinary researchers and professionals

Citizen Science Program Creating awareness of Oceans and Human Health issues in the tourism industry

Listening to people from different disciplines to define future research priorities

Stakeholder

Discussions

Mapping the Evidence Creating a systematic map of existing Oceans and Human Health research

Innovative Solutions Surveying initiatives which improve the health of oceans and humans

SOPHIE is addressing this need by gathering information from many different sources: from citizens; from research findings; from data repositories; and from existing European policies.

The project is nurturing a network of people and organisations interested in the links between oceans and human health and will produce a Strategic Research Agenda – a road map which sets out the priorities for Oceans and Human Health research over the coming decade.