



# How algae can contribute to delivering EU policy objectives

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*We do not usually speak of oceans and forests in the same sentence, but what if you could reforest oceans?*

*Dr Brian von Herzen*

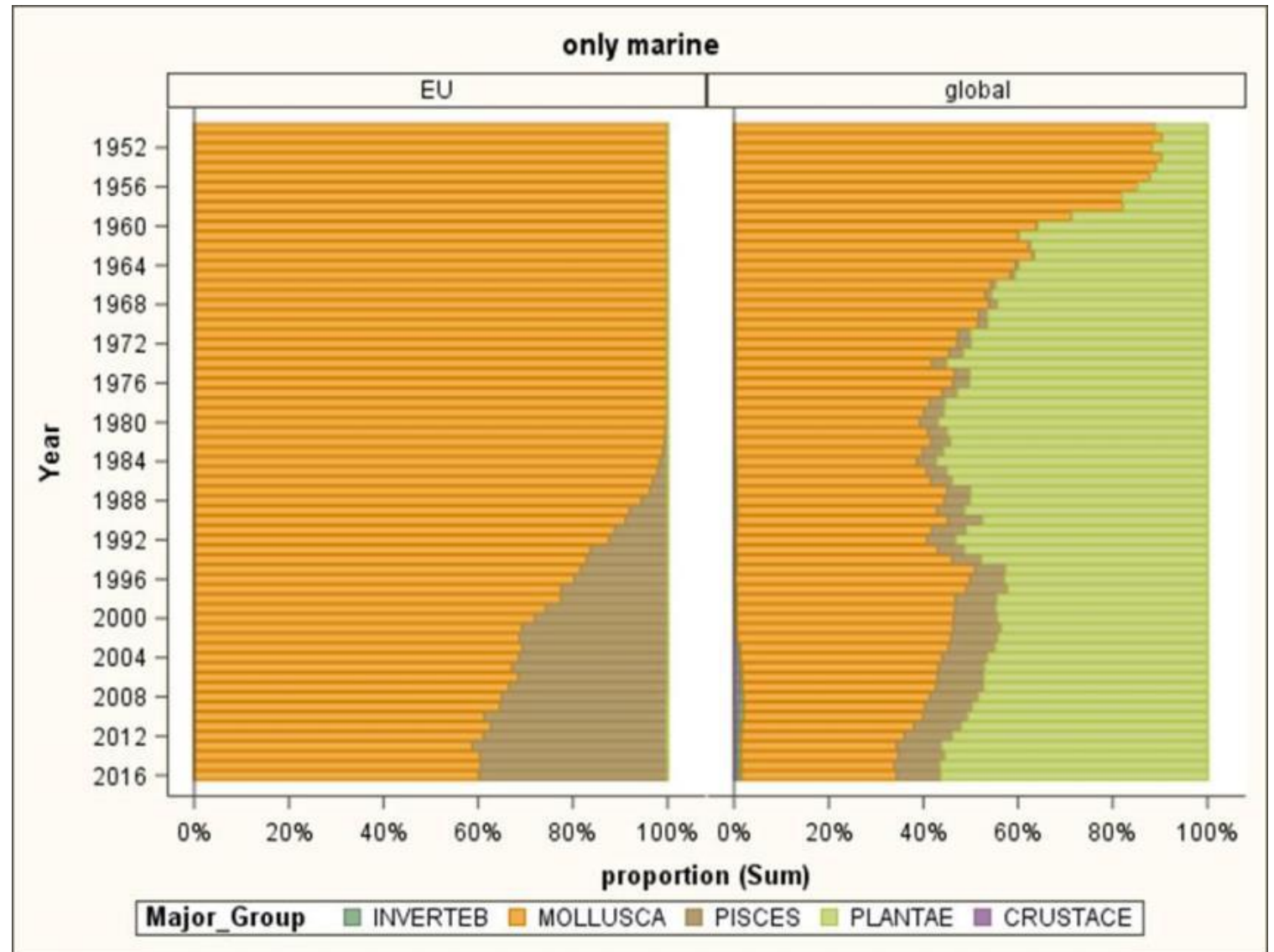
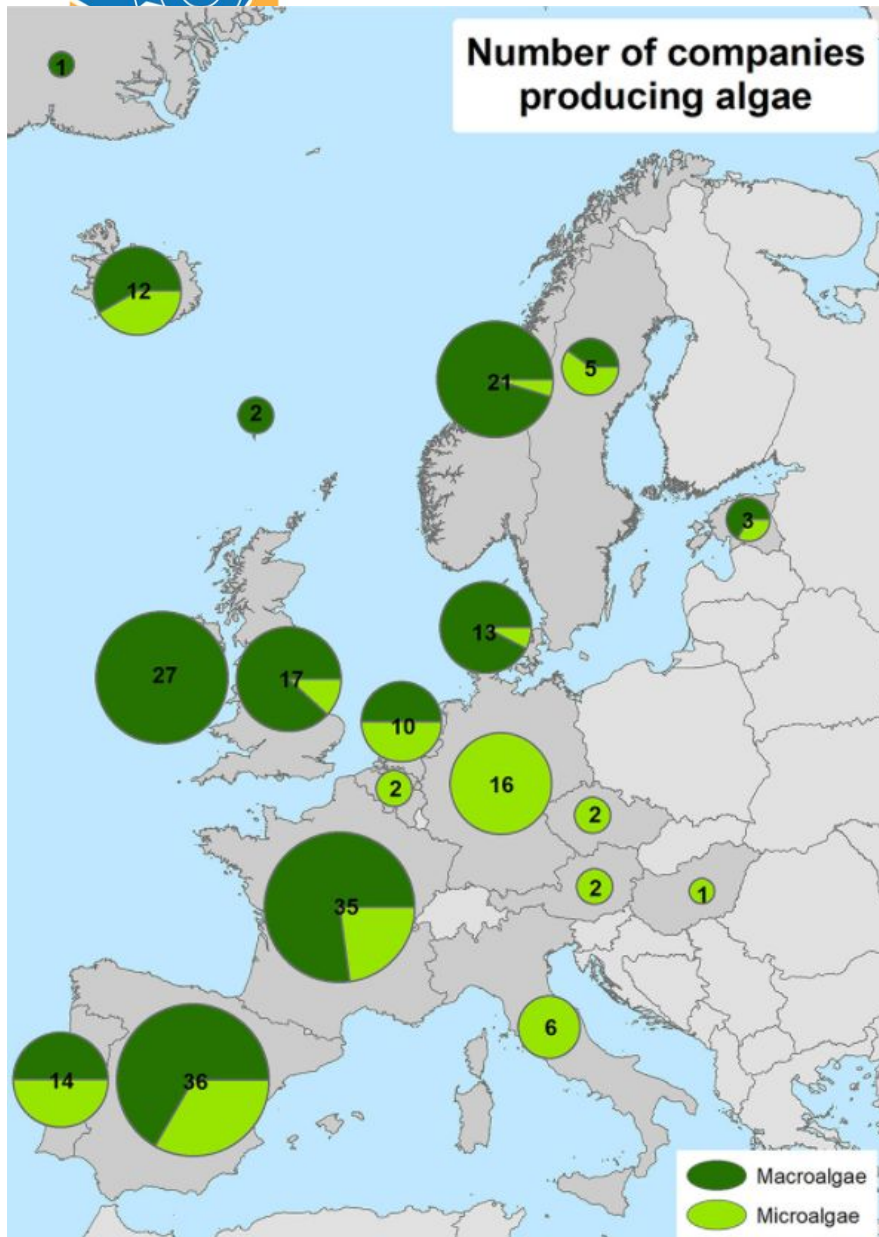


# What do algae have to offer?

Decarbonisation /Climate	Ecosystems/ zero pollution	Circular economy	Food/feed	Rural/coastal development
Low carbon footprint production	High productivity with limited space and resources	Using/cleaning waste water	Alternative proteins	New/alternative quality jobs e.g. for fishers
Bio-based products- Alternative to fuel-based solutions (e.g. bioplastics)	Reducing discharges and effluents	Multi-trophic systems (fish farming and algae)	Functional foods	Integration with agriculture/use of non-operational sites
Bioenergy	Bio-fertilisers (reducing methane emissions)	Facilitating increase in recyclability	Sustainable alternative source for animal-based feed	Community led lo-cal development
Carbon sequestration	Reducing plastics	(Fish) Waste reduction/use		
Climate adaptation and resilience	Cleaning water/ Bioremediation			



# Marine Aquaculture production EU/globally: algae, molluscs and fish source FAO



# Synergies and collaboration

- EU Bioeconomy Strategy (RTD lead, several DGs)
- Algae based fertilisers and feed (DG AGRI, GROW and MARE)
- EMODNET, algae biomass data (JRC, KCB, MARE)
- CEN mandate on standardisation (DG ENER)
- Novel Food Regulation (DG SANTE)
- Biodiversity/environmental services (ENV, MARE)
- Funding under MFF 2021-2028: ESIF, HorizonEurope, LIFE, Climate Innovation Fund, etc. (several DGs)





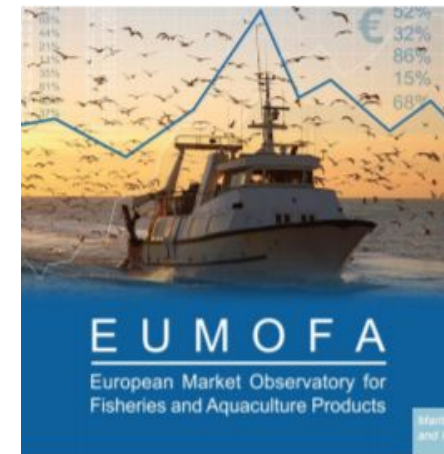
# Situation analysis and state of play

## BLUE BIOECONOMY

Situation report and perspectives



## BLUE BIOECONOMY REPORT



DECEMBER 2020

[WWW.EUMOFA.EU](http://WWW.EUMOFA.EU)

Maritime Affairs  
and Fisheries

# Towards a strong and sustainable EU algae sector – conclusions from the public consultation



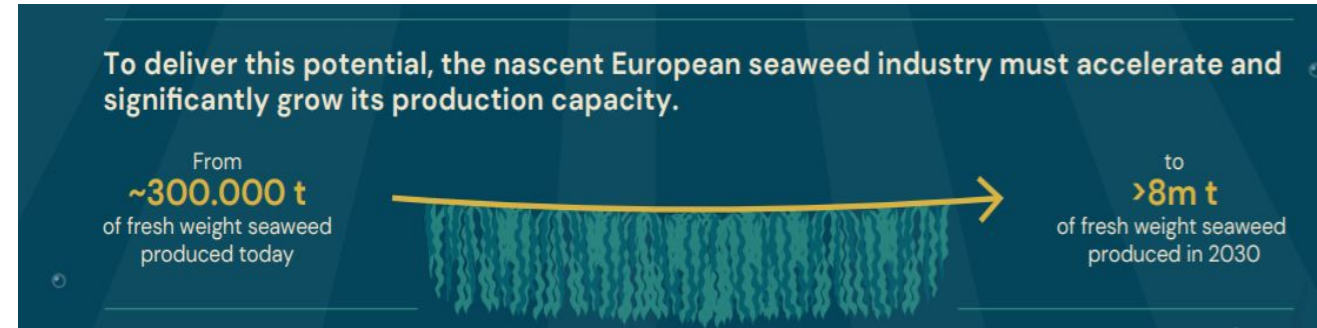
11/02/2021

The European Commission is preparing a comprehensive cross-sectoral EU algae initiative. The aim of the initiative is to increase the

products  
footprint  
objective  
green, ci

*Aim: to increase sustainable production, ensure safe consumption and boost innovative use of algae products in Europe.*

## EU Algae initiative (1)



### **5 initial objectives (subject to the IA):**

- 1. Improving governance framework** e.g. guidelines, standards, recommendations etc
- 2. Support functioning of the market** – novel algae species, funding mechanisms, one-stop-shop/assistance mechanism

# EU Algae initiative (2)

**3. Ensuring sustainable development of the EU algae sector –**  
*e.g. to develop regenerative and restorative algae farming, bioremediation*

**4. Increasing social awareness and acceptance – e.g.**  
*communication, EU campaigns etc*



**5. Closing knowledge, research and innovation gaps -**  
*developing new systems/methods, algae innovation etc*



## EU algae initiative (3)

### DG MARE (Unit A2) coordinating



- Impact assessment study (16/01/2022):  
policy options – OPC (3 months), interviews,  
surveys, 5 webinars
- IA report (incl RSB comments: Dec 2021-  
FEB 2022)
- Commission Communication: mid-2022



## **Current – future algae calls/studies**

*A study to create European Algae Stakeholder Forum (EU4Algae) and to bring more novel algae species to the EU market*

*EASME call Algae and Climate – to examine costs, impact and benefits of scaling up production of marine algae through aquaculture in the EU – deadline 31/05*

*Study to support EGD: Lot 1 'Shellfish and Algae' — assessing the potential of shellfish and algae to recycle nutrients – selection procedure about to finish*



**“When you look at how we are going to feed the world population by 2050 in a way that doesn’t harm the environment, there is only one pathway,” says Carlos Duarte, a researcher and professor in biological oceanography and marine ecology. “To scale up seaweed farming.”**

