

# MARINE BIOTECHNOLOGY ERA-NET

The *Marine Biotechnology ERA-NET* (ERA-MBT) is a consortium of 19 national funding agencies seeking complementarities between national activities by pooling resources to undertake joint funding of transnational projects in the area of marine biotechnology. The activities including the development of a Strategic Roadmap for marine biotechnology will support the European bioeconomy.



## ERA-MBT VISION

Europe's marine ecosystems and organisms are largely unexplored, understudied and underutilized, in spite of Europe's access to an extensive and diverse set of marine ecosystems which support enormous biodiversity. This resource, through the coordinated application of marine biotechnology, has the potential to provide a *major contribution* towards addressing some of the most pressing *societal challenges*, the so-called Grand Challenges of our future, among them environmental degradation, human health and delivering sustainable supplies of food and energy.

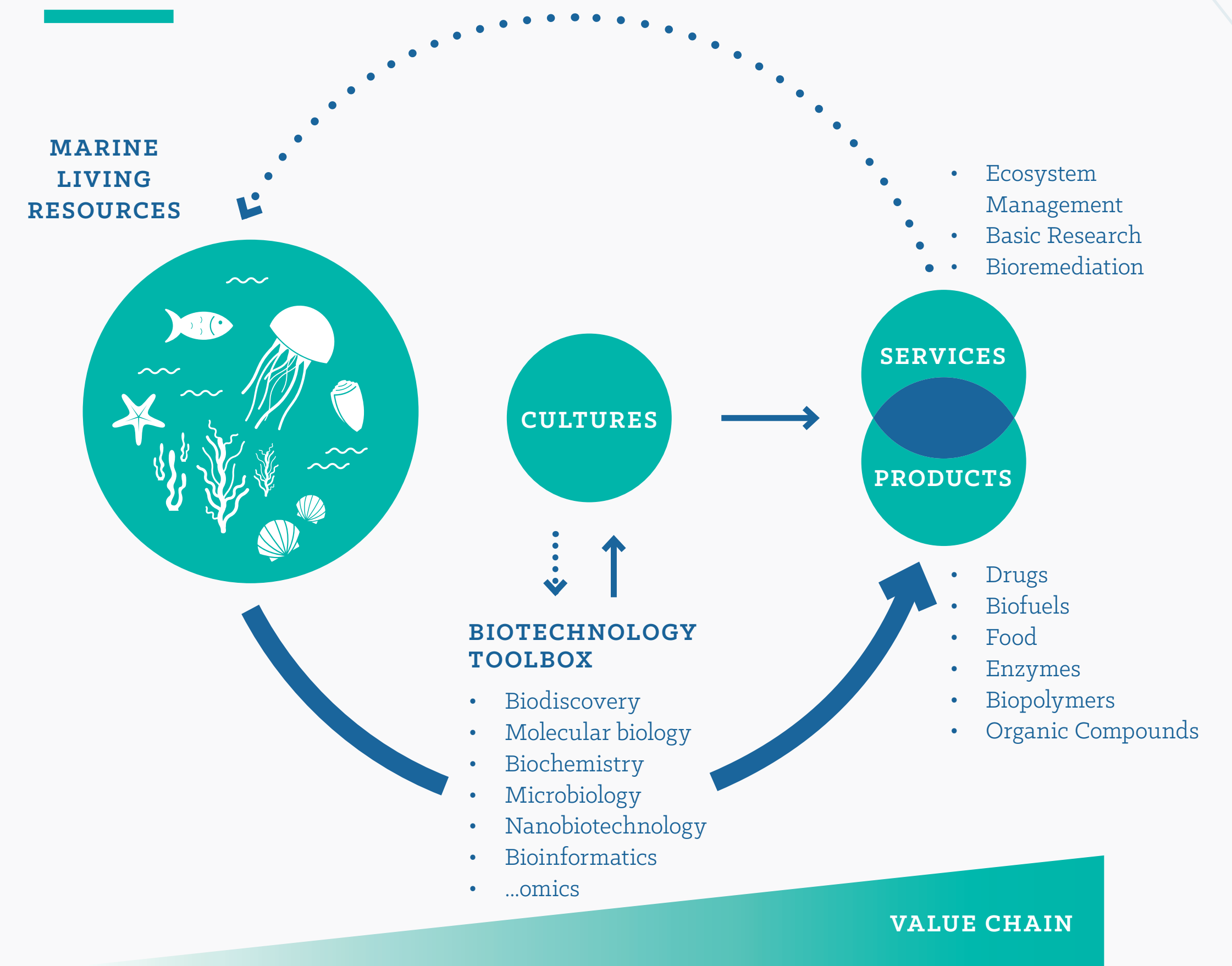
The ERA-MBT vision is to support Europe's marine biotechnology community to participate in a lasting enterprise-driven network that adds value to marine biological resources in ways that nurture and sustain the lives of European citizens.

## ERA-MBT OBJECTIVES

- To stimulate trans-European marine biotechnology research, innovation and enterprise activities.
- To build communities and capacities, taking into account different perspectives and potential of the maritime regions.
- To deliver a lasting network to fund and support the development of marine biotechnology as an important but underexplored area of research.



## MARINE BIOTECHNOLOGY



*Marine biotechnology workflow* (adapted from the European Marine Board Position Paper 15). Marine biotechnology is the application of science and technology to living organisms from marine resources, as well as parts, products and models thereof, to alter living or non-living materials for the production of knowledge, goods and services.

## ERA-MBT ACTIVITIES

The ERA-MBT project was launched in December 2013 and will be operating until November 2017. During the lifetime of the project the following activities will be carried out:

- Launching *three thematic calls* to generate joint European research and development activities.
- Arranging a number of *stakeholder events* to promote dialogue between science, industry and policy and to identify requirements for successful developments within the area.
- Performing *outreach activities* to seek complementarities and avoid overlap with other activities sharing common interest with ERA-MBT.
- Establishing a *Strategic Roadmap* with the support of the *International Advisory Group*, an expert panel reflecting views and expertise from the scientific, policy and business sectors.
- Developing a *perspective on the future* of marine biotechnology research and development and its likely impacts.
- Providing information about marine biotechnology in an *online and open access portal* with a wiki function.



Marine Biotechnology ERA-NET (ERA-MBT) is funded under the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme. | Grant Agreement Number 604814  
December 2013 - November 2017

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