

# Call for case studies:

## Potential OECM candidates under the EU Biodiversity Strategy

### Event details:

Brussels, Belgium – Business Europe

29 September 2023 – 10.00-17.15

**Background:** Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures, or OECMs, are area-based conservation tools officially recognized under the EU Biodiversity Strategy. As part of the pledge and review process under the Strategy, Member States are asked to designate conservation areas within their national waters. In the marine space, OECMs can be identified starting from area-based fisheries management measures. In the context of the event “Understanding OECMs to achieve the 30 by 30 target” (14 September 2023, Brussels, Belgium), Member States and other stakeholders are invited to submit case studies of potential fishery OECMs. During the event, MS that submitted these case studies will be asked to present them to participants. The workshop will (1) discuss the identification and designation process of such case studies and (2) provide a better understanding of what areas can be identified as OECMs in the marine environment.

Call for case studies: Member States and interested stakeholders may submit case studies of OECM candidates within EU waters. You can submit your case study to Alexandra Philippe, [alexandra.philippe@ebcd.org](mailto:alexandra.philippe@ebcd.org) with Jacopo Pasquero ([jacopo.pasquero@ebcd.org](mailto:jacopo.pasquero@ebcd.org)) in copy. Please include in the subject line “Case Study – OECM Workshop”. Proponents of selected case studies will be asked to give a short presentation about the area.

### General guidelines for the submission of case studies:

- The case study should target a geographically defined marine area within EU waters.
- The area should not be already covered by a Marine Protected Area (MPA).
- The area should be under fisheries management measures with positive benefits for marine biodiversity, e.g. fishery closure or Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems.

### Useful documents:

- [A handbook for identifying, evaluating and reporting other effective area-based conservation measures in marine fisheries](#), FAO, 2022
- [Area-Based Management Tools & Marine Fisheries](#), IUCN Fisheries Expert Group, 2023
- [ICES/ IUCN-CEM FEG Workshop on Testing OECM Practices and Strategies \(WKTOPS\)](#), ICES, 2021
- [EU Biodiversity Strategy](#), European Commission, 2020
- [CBD/COP Decision 14/8](#), OECM Criteria

