



sea for  
SOCIETY • EU  
TOWARDS A BLUE SOCIETY

# SEA FESTIVALS

## Overview

This information sheet is for educators and other relevant stakeholders interested in organising a Sea Festival event in the context of Sea for Society, or other projects raising awareness on marine ecosystem services. A Sea Festival can stand alone, accompany other bigger festivals (science festival, World Ocean Day, European Maritime Day etc) or be run alongside conferences to bring a celebratory atmosphere.



## Objectives

The Sea Festival will bring together sea-themed events, activities, conferences and promotion to bring awareness on the Ocean and its benefits for human health and well-being.

- To ensure Oceans remain central in sustainability issues and are part of all educational and communication programs & campaigns on this theme
- To involve a broad audience in personal action, taking into account the importance of the Ocean for human life/ to launch a collective action involving a broad audience at the European level
- To raise awareness on what the ocean brings to our daily lives
- To disseminate Blue Society principles to a broader audience

## At a glance

**Duration:** 1 day to 1 week

**Organisation time:** 6 months to 1 year

**Target group:** General public, Researchers, Decision makers, Business sector

## Planning

Several options are possible:

- Small stands in your organisation during another event (World Oceans Day, European Maritime Day etc)
- Associate with another partner to plan other activities or to create a bigger festival

1. Identify and choose what activities will be held during the festival
2. Plan activities and highlights of your event
3. Launch the communication campaign
4. Once over, report your event on the Sea For Society website and blog

## Planning

A Sea Festival can accompany other larger, pre-existing festivals (the local or national science festival, World Ocean Day, European Maritime Day, etc). It can also be run alongside conferences to bring a celebratory atmosphere.

Around a common theme, special activities can be held:

- Educational activities and action around a shared goal to do with the sustainable use of the Ocean
- Raise awareness among the general public on the cross cutting theme
- Food tasting
- Laboratories, temporary exhibits
- Face to face engagement with researchers and other stakeholders
- Debates and discussion, sea food, cultural activities on our relationship with the oceans
- Other public engagement - raising awareness activities
- Contests
  - Public debates with an elected member
  - Scientific workshops
  - Parade

Festivals can also be a context within which to organise other Sea for Society activities such as:

- Blue Talks
- Blue Café
- A day with...
- Contests

## Links

Galway International Oyster & Seafood Festival

<http://galwayoysterfestival.com/>

Festa do Marisco O Grove

[http://www.turismogrove.es/en/festivals/seafood\\_festival/#sit](http://www.turismogrove.es/en/festivals/seafood_festival/#sit)

Lanzarote Ocean Film Festival

<http://www.lanzaroteoceanfilmfestival.eu/festival/>

Festival mondial de l'image sous-marine

<http://www.underwater-festival.com/>