

Scientific seminar in Valencia

Redeia's Marine Forest platform expands from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic with marine restoration and environmental education initiatives

This strategic project by Redeia has already launched ten initiatives across Islas Baleares, Comunidad Valenciana, Galicia, and Andalusia. These initiatives blend restoration, conservation, science, and social awareness.

The Marine Forest platform is currently working with the Valencian Regional Government (Generalitat Valenciana) to plan the active restoration of Posidonia seagrass meadows in the region.

On Wednesday and Thursday, scientists, experts, public administrations, and representatives from social and sectoral organisations are meeting in Valencia. Their goal is to discuss the challenges facing the ocean and the most innovative solutions to ensure its conservation and restoration.

Valencia, 1 October 2025

Throughout 2025, Redeia's Marine Forest platform has expanded its reach from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic. Specifically, it has launched around a dozen initiatives focused on conserving and restoring marine ecosystems. It is now firmly established as a strategic initiative for protecting the most ecologically valuable marine ecosystems through 2030.

Marine Forest combines active and passive restoration projects alongside awareness-raising initiatives. This approach blends direct interventions in high-value marine habitats with support for research, outreach, and environmental education. The Marine Forest platform is currently **working with the Valencian** Regional Government (Generalitat Valenciana) to plan the active restoration of Posidonia seagrass meadows in the region.

This announcement was made Wednesday by Vicente Martínez Mus, Regional Minister of Environment, Infrastructures and Territory of the Generalitat Valenciana, and Maite Vela, Redeia's Manager of East Regional Office, during the opening of the scientific seminar being held today and tomorrow at the Oceanogràfic.



Redeia's Sustainability Director, Laura Quintana, emphasised the value of this strategic initiative by the parent company of Red Eléctrica. She highlighted that 'in such a short time, it is generating a solid **collaborative** environment between civil society, public administrations, the private sector, the scientific community, and the non-profit (third) sector. It is also promoting innovative, science-based solutions that strengthen marine biodiversity and help society understand the value of these ecosystems.'

Ongoing projects

Among the projects currently underway on the Marine Forest platform is the **collaboration between Redeia and the Altea City Council**, in the province of Alicante. Together, they are contributing to the **passive restoration of** *Posidonia oceanica* **meadows by installing ecological mooring buoys** for boats in sandy areas of the bay. These low-impact anchors and artificial biotopes will ensure more sustainable use of the coastline.

Another major milestone from the past year is **Redeia's agreement with Asociación Amicos** to **conserve and restore marine habitats around the Atlantic Islands National Park** in Galicia's Rías Baixas. In particular, populations of gorgonians are being restored in the Ría de Arousa —vital to the conservation of the area— while actively involving local fishermen and people with intellectual disabilities. This initiative is already delivering positive environmental impact across an estimated area of nearly 250 hectares.

In Islas Baleares, Redeia has also launched the Netejamar Project in collaboration with the Federació Balear de Confraries de Pescadors (FBCP), which has removed more than 10 tonnes of marine waste and redirected it into the recycling system. Another standout initiative is Redeia's ongoing collaboration with the University of Seville, which has been underway for several years. This partnership is dedicated to a scientific study assessing the impact of an aggressive invasive alga, *Rugolopteryx okamurae*, which poses a serious threat to the marine flora and fauna of Tarifa and the Bay of Algeciras.

A cornerstone of Marine Forest is its focus on environmental education as a pillar for ocean conservation. Since its launch in 2024, the platform has had **Fundación Ecomar as a key partner.** During the past academic year, the foundation organised a dozen educational workshops across six Spanish autonomous communities, engaging nearly 500 students. These workshops gave young people the opportunity to understand the importance of Posidonia for the health of the Mediterranean Sea.

In addition, Redeia supports the 'Posidònia a l'Aula' programme, an initiative created by teachers in Calvià (Mallorca) together with IMEDEA-CSIC. The programme has already reached more than 1,000 students in Islas Baleares and is now being introduced in Alicante.



Over a decade of commitment to marine ecosystems

The Marine Forest platform is part of **Redeia's Comprehensive Impact Strategy**, which develops all its initiatives with an inclusive approach, engaging local communities and different sectors. In this spirit of collaboration, all projects are carried out with 'allies': associations, foundations, public administrations, research institutes, and the non-profit sector.

Redeia's commitment to marine protection dates back to 2014. During the development of the electrical interconnection project between Ibiza and Mallorca, the company partnered with the Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Studies (IMEDEA-CSIC). Together, they began research into the systematic replanting of *Posidonia oceanica*, which culminated in 2018 with the restoration of two hectares in Pollensa Bay (Mallorca). This project remains the largest active restoration of this species in the Mediterranean, with survival rates reaching 90%. It earned Redeia both national and international recognition as a key player in restoring this vital marine plant.

Looking ahead, the platform's goal is to launch **several new projects**, **currently under study or development**, **to further expand** marine ecosystem protection in the coming months and years. Beyond the upcoming initiative in Comunidad Valenciana, Redeia also plans to extend its work to another key ecosystem in other regions: macroalgae.

The future of the ocean: A debate in Valencia

This week, on 1–2 October, scientists, experts, public administrations, and representatives from social and sectoral organisations are gathering **in Valencia**. Their goal is to discuss the challenges facing the ocean and the most innovative solutions for ensuring its conservation and restoration. The seminar is also the setting for the launch of the new Marine Forest platform website: https://bosquemarino.redeia.com/es. On this site, you can consult all the information related to this strategic project by Redeia.

For more details, please consult the <u>programme</u> Download audiovisual materials here.