

The recreational boating industry

- 32,000 companies (over 95% are SMEs)
- 280,000 (direct) employees
- Boat builders, equipment manufacturers, charter companies, marinas, and many more water sports and boating companies
- Strong impact for islands, coastal and peripheral regions
- 36 million regular boaters and 6 million boats in European waters (> 80% below 8m)

Impact of COVID-19

- Primary impact on tourism with potential knock-on effects on boat builders and uncertainty towards 2021 season
- Certain positive aspects as consumers interested in non-mass and outdoor tourism in 2020



Recovery & Renewal

Joined-up EU approach towards building a world-leading green and digital recreational boating industry

- Setting conditions for nautical tourism to lead recovery of tourism industry and regions through a harmonised policy approach, marketing and funding through the EU Recovery Fund
- Policy measures for competitiveness of nautical tourism (such as VAT, nautical routes, qualifications)
- Funding for nautical and marina infrastructure development (berths, renewable energy, climate change adaptation, digitalisation, circular economy)
- Development and implementation of infrastructure for low-emission propulsion (biofuels, electric engines, hybrid, fuel consumption improvements)
- Research and innovation funding for new propulsion technologies, alternative fuels and materials