INSTITUTIONAL INVESTMENT ANALYSIS | 5 NOVEMBER 2026

European Blue Economy: Specialist Capital Versus €33 Trillion in Assets Under Management

Executive conclusion. Europe's financial system manages considerable resources, yet the blue-economy investment universe identified by the European Commission remains relatively small. The EIB independently estimates a sizeable annual financing shortfall for EU fisheries and aquaculture. This creates an opening for credible specialist managers that can convert capital into productive, measurable operating investments.

€3bn	€14bn	€33tn
Dedicated blue-fund headline	Combined dedicated and partial-exposure headline	European assets under management (2024)

1 | Comparison with European AUM

BlueInvest capital category	Headline amount	Equivalent share of €33tn
Fully dedicated blue funds	€3bn	0.0091%
Investors with partial blue exposure	€11bn	0.0333%
Combined headline (arithmetic sum)	€14bn	0.0424%

Scale: €3 billion is about €1 for every €11,000 of Europe's managed assets. The combined €14 billion headline equals about €1 for every €2,357. These are comparisons of reported magnitudes, not measured allocation shares.

The €11bn category represents investors with some blue-economy exposure. It should not be described as €11bn invested in blue assets. Likewise, neither the €3bn nor the €14bn represents capital available exclusively to aquaculture. The blue economy includes shipping, marine technology, ocean energy, water and other activities.

2 | The EIB's annual fisheries and aquaculture gap

Metric	EIB estimate
EU fisheries and aquaculture annual investment gap	€3.3bn–€10.4bn

Metric	EIB estimate
Indicative existing annual investment	Approximately €1.8bn–€2.0bn
Gap relative to annual existing investment	Approximately 1.7×–5.8×

The EIB figures are an estimated annual flow gap; BlueInvest reports a mapped capital universe. Their comparison is informative about scale, but funds under management are not interchangeable with annual investment or immediately deployable money.

THE SYSTEMIC CAPITAL COMPARISON

A fractional reallocation would be material

If capital equal to a small fraction of European managed assets were mobilised for eligible fisheries and aquaculture projects, the amounts would be meaningful relative to the EIB's estimates. The following arithmetic is illustrative, not a forecast of demand, commitments or deployable liquidity.

Hypothetical fraction of €33tn	One-time capital equivalent	Comparison with EIB annual gap
0.01%	€3.30bn	Equals lower bound
0.02%	€6.60bn	Within estimated range
0.03%	€9.90bn	Near upper bound
0.05%	€16.50bn	Above upper bound
0.10%	€33.00bn	3.2×–10× gap

Principal finding: an annual capital flow equivalent to approximately 0.01%–0.032% of European AUM would match the EIB's estimated annual funding gap. Recurring allocations, suitable investment mandates, project readiness and absorptive capacity would all be necessary in practice.

3 | What this means for V5 Aquaculture Growth Fund I

V5's proposed competitive position is as a specialist aquaculture growth-equity and operating-transformation platform. The Greece-first model seeks meaningful equity and voting interests in established operators, with operating improvements and capital expenditure tied to validated results.

Operating edge. Coordinate hatchery, pre-growing, marine farming, planned processing, cold chain and customer collection. Underwrite survival, feed conversion, juvenile quality, realised margins and cash

conversion across the whole cycle.

Capital edge. Deploy equity by milestone; assess eligible bank-financed supplier, inventory and receivables facilities only with lender approval, agreed security, covenants and prudent stress testing.

Institutional edge. Present a verifiable asset-level use of proceeds, governance rights, biological KPIs, reporting and sustainability performance. Substantiate each acquisition and production claim; avoid converting sector-wide financing needs into projected fund returns.

4 | Recommended institutional message

V5 investment positioning

"Europe's fisheries and aquaculture investment shortfall is substantial for the industry, yet modest relative to the resources managed by its financial system. V5 aims to connect specialist equity capital with established aquaculture operators, proven production assets, technical expertise and disciplined financial management—turning selected financing needs into measurable operating improvements and long-term enterprise value."

This is an opportunity statement, not a claim that all unmet financing demand is investable or that a particular return is achievable.

METHODOLOGY AND REFERENCES

Source discipline for investor communication

The comparison intentionally uses EFAMA's €33tn end-2024 AUM denominator as a common benchmark and the European Commission's 2026 BlueInvest investor mapping for blue-fund exposure. Different reporting dates and population coverage mean the calculated percentages are comparative ratios only.

Investment categories and cautions

• The €3bn fully dedicated and €11bn partially exposed categories can be summed arithmetically to €14bn, but partial exposure is not a quantified measure of actual blue-economy deployments.
• Blue-economy investment spans a wider group of activities than fisheries and aquaculture.
• EIB's €3.3bn–€10.4bn annual gap combines fisheries and aquaculture and is an estimate subject to assumptions and sector data limitations.
• AUM encompasses many investor mandates, liabilities and asset classes; it is not an available cash balance.
• Any V5 financing opportunity requires investable assets, verified licences, commercial diligence, appropriate governance and a viable cash-flow case.

Primary sources

• European Commission, DG MARE (13 April 2026), Blue economy sees surge in investment and growing investor interest.

https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/news/blue-economy-sees-surge-investment-and-growing-investor-interest-2026-04-13_en

• EFAMA, Asset Management in Europe, December 2025 (European AUM, end 2024).

https://www.efama.org/newsroom/news/record-levels-assets-under-management-europe-driven-strong-equity-market-performance

• European Investment Bank, Investment Gaps to Achieve Sustainable Targets in the Bioeconomy (2025), fisheries and aquaculture section.

https://www.eib.org/attachments/lucalli/20250089-150925-investments-gaps-to-achieve-sustainable-targets-in-the-bioeconomy-en.pdf

V5 supporting documents

V5 Aquaculture Growth Fund I Pitchbook (4 November 2026); Greek Aquaculture — State of the Sector (4 November 2026); Aquaculture Growth Economics and Investment Priorities (4 November 2026); V5 Operating Excellence — Integrated Aquaculture Layout (aligned 4 November 2026).

Prepared for V5 Verde Equity board and institutional-investor discussion. Figures should be revalidated against current primary sources before publication. © V5 Verde Equity branding reproduced from the user-supplied pitchbook.