



Brussels, 18.12.2014  
C(2014) 9794 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 18.12.2014**

**concerning the adoption of the work programme for 2015 and the financing for the  
implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund**

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## concerning the adoption of the work programme for 2015 and the financing for the implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006, (EC) No 791/2007, Regulation No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 23 thereof,

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 45 (3) thereof,

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the common organisation of the markets in fishery and aquaculture products, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1184/2006 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 104/2000<sup>3</sup>, and in particular Art. 42 thereof

Having regard to the Commission Decision 2005/629/EC establishing a Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries<sup>4</sup>, in particular Article 9 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union<sup>5</sup>, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union<sup>6</sup> (RAP), and in particular Article 94 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund it is necessary to adopt a financing decision and the work programme for 2015. Article 94

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 149, 20.05.2014, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 22.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 1.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 225, 31.8.2005, p. 18.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 362, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.

- (2) It is appropriate to authorise award of grants without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the work programme and for the reasons provided therein.
- (3) Under Article 190(1)(d) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 (RAP) , grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies identified in a basic act, within the meaning of Article 54 of the Financial Regulation, as beneficiaries of a grant. The following bodies are identified in a basic act as beneficiaries of a grant: Advisory Councils established in accordance with Article 43 of Regulation (EC) No 1380/2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy.
- (4) Under Articles 190(1) (c) and (f) of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 (RAP), grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly or that have a high degree of specialisation, or because of their administrative power. The following international organisations, regional fisheries organisations and other public bodies dispose of an exclusive expertise and/or competence, or have a de facto monopoly justifying the award of grants to them without a call for proposals: the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), the Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean (COMHAFAT-ATLAFCO), the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF), the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC), the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO), the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the Inter American Tropical Tuna Convention (IATTC), the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO), the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO) and the Euro-Argo ERIC.
- (5) This Decision should allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 (RAP).
- (6) For the application of this Decision, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 (RAP).
- (7) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 127 of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*The work programme*

The annual work programme for the implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2015 as set out in Annex, is adopted.

The work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of the Financial Regulation for actions funded from appropriations of 2015.

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum contribution for the implementation of the programme for the year 2015 is set at EUR 76 342 302, and shall be financed from the following lines of the general budget of the European Union for 2015:

- (a) 11 06 61 Integrated Maritime Policy: EUR 32 737 598
- (b) 11 06 62 01 Scientific advice: EUR 8 680 000
- (c) 11 06 62 02 Control and enforcement: EUR 15 510 967
- (d) 11 06 62 03 Voluntary contributions to international organisations EUR 7 975 000
- (e) 11 06 62 04 Governance and communication EUR 6 493 771
- (f) 11 06 62 05 Market intelligence EUR 4 944 966

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2015 after the adoption of the budget for 2015 by the budgetary authority or provided for in the provisional twelfths.

*Article 3*  
*Flexibility clause*

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution per budget line set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum contribution per budget line in Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt the changes referred to in the first paragraph in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

*Article 4*  
*Grants*

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the Annex, in accordance with the conditions specified therein.

Done at Brussels, 18.12.2014

*For the Commission*  
*Karmenu VELLA*  
*Member of the Commission*



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ANNEX 1

**ANNEX**

**to the**

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

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the implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund**

## ANNEX

### Work programme 2015 EMFF

#### 1.1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives set out in the Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2015 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (1.2)
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (1.3)
- for other actions (implemented under direct management) (1.4)

#### 1.2. GRANTS

##### 1.2.1. Budget Heading 11 06 61

**FOSTERING THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNION'S INTEGRATED MARITIME POLICY (IMP)**

**Legal basis:**

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 81, 82, and 83 thereof.

##### 1.2.1.1. Monitoring the Oceans

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€1.000.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The Euro-Argo research infrastructure was set up under Commission implementing decision 2014/261/EU of 5 May 2014 to coordinate ocean monitoring activities of its members, certain Member States and their oceanographic and meteorological agencies, under the umbrella of the Euro-Argo ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium).</p> <p>Argo consists of a large collection of small, drifting oceanic robotic probes deployed worldwide. The probes float as deep as 2 km. Once every ten days they surface, bringing measurements of conductivity and temperature profiles to the surface. From these, salinity and density can be calculated. The data are transmitted to scientists on shore via satellite. Euro-Argo ERIC is the European contribution to this worldwide effort.</p> <p>Floats need replacing every four to six years due to wear and tear and additional floats are needed to fill gaps in monitoring the oceans.</p> <p>The proposed grant action would provide additional floats. The aim is to expand deployment of floats to have at least 800 operational at a time, involving the release of at least 250 per year.</p> <p>This grant will be awarded to Euro-Argo ERIC and its members (excluding Norway) to co-finance the procurement and the deployment of approximately 150 floats over the years 2015 and 2016, as well as the costs for data processing (via specialised data analysis) and the dissemination of the data.</p>

	The result will be near-real time availability of data on ocean conditions to scientists and engineers. The data will be open-access.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Article 190(1) f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation The grant will be awarded if the application will demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the implementation of the action are sufficient to achieve the required quality, meet the deadlines and respect the budget.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.2.1.2. Supporting the next Implementation Cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€2.037.598
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The action supports the development and demonstration of best practices of regional cooperation for setting up the next implementation cycle under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.</p> <p>In February 2014, the Commission published a report (COM (2014) 97 and SWP (2014) 49) on the basis of Article 12 of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) which identifies a number of shortcomings in the implementation. Following the preparation of the monitoring programmes and the finalisation of the programme of measures, Member States will now have to implement these actions and prepare for the next cycle in the implementation which aims at reviewing the assessments, objectives and targets by 2018. In particular for some descriptors further efforts at regional level are needed to ensure an adequate and coherent implementation. Furthermore, there are increasing examples for good practice of regional cooperation where joined up actions are more cost-effective than countries acting on their own. Moreover, the monitoring and assessment of ecosystems and their services will become increasingly important also in the implementation of the MSFD and the achievement of good environmental status.</p> <p>The action to be cofinanced will assist regional cooperation among Member States' in the implementation of the Directive and will provide good practice examples for the preparation of the next implementation deadlines.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Applicants and their partners (potential co-beneficiaries of the grant) must be registered in an EU Member State or be an international organisation;</li> <li>- Partners from Third Countries being contracting party to one of the four regional sea conventions can be associated to the action on a no-cost basis or at a maximum of 5% for each third country partner and maximum total of 10% for all third country partners of the total cost for the action, if this is valuable for the contents of the action.</li> </ul> <p>Selection criteria:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Operational capacity of the applicant and partners: professional competencies, qualifications and requirements needed to implement the project;</li> <li>– Financial capacity: stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain its activity throughout the period during which the proposal is being carried out and to participate in its funding.</li> </ul> <p>Award criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Technical coherence: proposal should be clear, detailed, coherent, realistic and feasible in terms of actions and timetable;</li> <li>– Financial coherence and quality of the proposed budget: consistency with the technical proposal and cost-efficiency;</li> <li>– Contribution to the general objectives of the action: scope of the project, involvement of different stakeholders, including the regional sea conventions, expected results, methodology and proposed assessment mechanisms;</li> <li>– EU added value in terms of stimulation of best-practice, innovation, demonstration, potential for transferability to other sub regions and sustainability/continuation after the end of the preparatory action;</li> <li>– Geographical scope and potential outreach to Third Countries in particular those being contracting parties of one of the four regional sea conventions.</li> </ul>
Implementation	This action will be implemented in co-delegation by DG ENV.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.2.1.3. Project on Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€6.000.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Despite the ongoing activities of EU Member States in implementing MSP at national or regional level, cross-border cooperation between Member States remains limited at this point in time.</p> <p>The objective of these grants (three grants are expected to be awarded) is to stimulate the development of a cross-border, ecosystem-based approach towards MSP and provide support to the implementation of the Directive establishing a framework for Maritime Spatial Planning (2014/89/EU) adopted by the Council on July 23 2014.</p> <p>These grants will support the launch and implementation of concrete, cross-border MSP cooperation initiatives between Member States in the Atlantic, the Western Mediterranean (incl. Malta), and the Eastern Mediterranean (Adriatic, Ionian and Cyprus). In the Western Mediterranean, a specific focus should be given to the benefits of MSP for the management of the Pelagos Sanctuary. The co-financed initiatives will also contribute to identify potential barriers and to formulate recommendations on the application of MSP in cross-border areas, to the benefit of cross-border MSP application throughout the EU, as well as handling land-sea interactions. For the Mediterranean, the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone</p>



	Management under the Barcelona Convention (Council Decision 2010/631/EU) is highly relevant in this context. The implementation of this action should to the greatest possible extent build upon existing rules including those set out in the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management under the Barcelona Convention (Council Decision 2010/631/EU).
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must be public authorities or bodies in charge of maritime planning of those coastal Member States which are responsible for MSP in the selected area(s).</p> <p>At least applicants from two Member States must be involved in each proposal.</p> <p>Selection criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must give proof of their professional and operational capacity to successfully implement and complete the proposed action.</p> <p>The proposals must demonstrate their connection to national MSP processes and their added value compared to these existing processes.</p> <p>Award criteria:</p> <p>Impact: number of Member States bordering the selected area which are involved.</p> <p>Efficiency: quality of internal coordination, of exchange of information between partners, of monitoring and evaluation of progress</p> <p>Degree of added value in terms of implementing Directive 2014/89.</p> <p>Degree to which other EU instruments (CFP, MSFD, INSPIRE, Natura 2000, EU Biodiversity Strategy) or results of EU programmes (ETC, LIFE, RTD framework programmes, EMODNet...) are taken into account</p> <p>Capacity to involve and promote dialogue and cooperation with relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Quality of dissemination of results to relevant third parties</p> <p>Level of durability of results and implemented mechanisms after project end</p>
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### 1.2.1.4. European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€80.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The ECGFF is organised each year by a host country agreed by consensus by the Member States participating Coast Guards (Italy in 2014, host country for 2015 to be defined in the second half of 2014).</p> <p>The objective of the action is to support the ECGFF annual high level conference in order to enhance sectoral and cross-sectoral cooperation, the</p>

	exchange of best practices, and to promote dialogue at international, national and regional level. Enhanced cooperation between authorities to manage safety, security and environmental threats is expected.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Article 190(1) c of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the ECGFF 2015 host country's relevant public authority.</p> <p>The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality, meet the deadlines and respect the budget.</p>
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

**1.2.1.5. Implementation of the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE): Connection of National IT Systems to National CISE Nodes (Test CISE) and Creation of CISE Nodes for MS not in the Test CISE.**

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€2.538.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Support efforts in the Member States aiming at connecting their national systems to the national CISE nodes and efforts aiming at setting up such national CISE nodes for the Member States not participating in the FP7 CISE test project. Such projects can include or can be limited to preparatory work.</p> <p>The call will be published once the specifications from the FP7 CISE test project are known.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must be public authorities of EU Member States.</p> <p>Selection criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must have the professional competencies as well as appropriate qualifications necessary to complete the proposed action or work programme (adequate people profiles and, where appropriate, a description of the technical equipment, tools or facilities and patents at the disposal of the applicant).</p> <p>Award criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Relevance: The applicant should demonstrate clearly how the proposed action meets the objective of the call. The scope of the project should detail the starting point of the project, including an analysis of the limitations to overcome, and the target state.</li> <li>- Coherence: to ensure coherence at EU level, the proposed action must reuse the semantic and technical specifications of CISE to ensure an effective interoperability.</li> <li>- Added value and innovation: Projects aiming at defining new value-added information services built on information from different sectors will be</li> </ul>

	<p>favoured. Actions with a cross-border dimension can be envisaged provided they are developed in consistency with regional cooperation projects funded by the EU under other instruments. The added-value will be appreciated regarding the expected increase of efficiency and effectiveness in maritime surveillance duties. In these cases evidence should be provided that no double financing of the same activities will occur.</p> <p>The actions should not be linked to IT developments derived from existing legal obligations or IT developments funded by other EU actions. The actions should not aim at connecting national systems to EU systems when both serve the purpose of a same user community. The main objective of this call is the enhancement of IT capabilities at national level.</p> <p>- Methodology: The applicant should demonstrate how timely and successful implementation of the project will be achieved, e.g. through detailed project plan – including a detailed Work Breakdown Structure (WBS), risk management plan, etc. In particular applicants should demonstrate that the proposed means of implementation of the project are cost-effective.</p> <p>- Project Management: Applicants should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality, meet the deadlines and respect the budget.</p>
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### 1.2.1.6. Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€80.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>International cooperation is a key element to meet the challenges arising from the management of sea basins shared by MS and third countries. In 2009, a forum was created among the relevant public bodies of MS and third countries of the Mediterranean sea. Since then, annual sessions of this forum have taken place. The 2015 host country is not yet known and should be appointed during the next forum planned in October 2014 in Portugal.</p> <p>The main objective of the grant is to support the framework of cooperation between public authorities carrying out maritime surveillance tasks. The expected result is to improve regional cooperation in the Mediterranean sea basin on issues related to Coast Guard functions so as to enhance the safety, security and environmental protection of the Mediterranean sea basin.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Article 190(1) c of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the public body indicated for the organisation of the MedCGFF forum by the host country appointed for 2015.</p> <p>The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality, meet the deadlines and respect the budget.</p>
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME

Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.2.1.7. Projects on Integrated Maritime Policy in the Black Sea and/or Mediterranean Sea Regions

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€374.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Cooperation on Integrated Maritime Policy in the Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea needs to be fostered through concrete projects and initiatives and by involving concerned countries and multilateral organisations.</p> <p>This action aims at supporting IMP approaches and initiatives and promoting job creation, innovation and entrepreneurship in the blue economy of the Black Sea and/ or Mediterranean Sea regions.</p> <p>This action will consist of a call for proposals for the award of two grants:</p> <p>a) Project providing the framework for awareness-raising, stakeholder involvement and capacity-building on IMP approaches in the Black Sea and/or Mediterranean and offer a platform for broader cooperation in areas of mutual interest for the participating countries, such as environment, tourism and business development/clusters, etc.</p> <p>b) Project promoting regional cooperation in the Black Sea and/or Mediterranean through concrete initiatives focused for instance on Maritime Spatial Planning and integrated coastal management approaches, networking of maritime clusters, development of maritime highways, promotion maritime and coastal tourism, etc.</p> <p>The expected results focus on the contribution to the improvement of maritime governance, as well as to the promotion of sustainable maritime growth and the creation of jobs, the environmental sustainability and a safer and more secure maritime space. The projects will support existing institutions, multi-lateral agreements, co-operation processes and initiatives both at regional and sub-regional level and will strengthen the links with other programmes and actions at the two sea-basins.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Project applicants can be public authorities or private entities (profit or non-profit)</p> <p>Selection criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must have a demonstrated experience in the area of maritime affairs and adequate technical (human resources, equipment, etc.) capacity to implement the actions to be co-financed.</p> <p>Applicants must have the financial capacity to implement and complete the proposed project, and a yearly budget of at least twice the total costs of the proposed actions.</p> <p>Award criteria:</p> <p>The proposals must demonstrate a sound, detailed, coherent, and effective</p>

	<p>methodological and organisational approach for the implementation of the proposed action.</p> <p>The budget consistency with the technical proposal and cost-efficiency of the proposed action will also be considered among the award criteria.</p> <p>For grant a)</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the proposal demonstrating a high EU added value in terms of innovation, increased cooperation, improved capacity, exchange of best practices.</p> <p>For grant b):</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the proposal demonstrating a strong contribution to strengthening of regional cooperation among European and non-European countries in the Black Sea and/or the Mediterranean.</p> <p>EU added value in terms of innovation, regional cooperation, stimulation of best practice and potential for transferability to other sea-basin will also represent an award criterion.</p>
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Calls for proposals to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### 1.2.1.8. Thematic Routes on Underwater Cultural Heritage

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€195.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The main objective of this action is to promote the creation of touristic thematic routes on underwater cultural heritage, as a way to promote the competitiveness of the coastal and maritime tourism sector. 2-3 grants will be attributed to initiatives for the conception, development, establishment and promotion of thematic underwater cultural routes in European sea-basins. Proposals shall also entail a framework of cooperation with maritime and oceanographic museums, in order to further publicize and present to the public the route and its specific sites of interest. The routes should also contribute to the preservation and promotion of the natural heritage of the sites to be visited, raising awareness between visitors on the need to protect both the cultural and the natural value of these sites.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must be public authorities in charge of maritime affairs and/or tourism or private sector stakeholders involved in those areas of activity.</p> <p>Selection criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must have the economic, financial, technical and professional capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria:</p> <p>Technical coherence: proposal should be clear, detailed, coherent, realistic and feasible in terms of actions and timetable.</p> <p>Financial coherence and quality of the proposed budget: consistency with the technical proposal and cost-efficiency.</p>

	EU added value in terms of innovation, stimulation of best practice and potential for transferability to other sea-basin should be demonstrated.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.2.2. **Budget Heading 11 06 62 01**

#### **SCIENTIFIC ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE**

##### **Legal basis:**

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85 (a), and 86.2 (f).

#### **1.2.2.1. Strengthening cooperation between Member States in the area of fisheries data collection framework (DCF)**

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€1.800.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The call will involve up to 6 grants aiming at strengthening regional or EU cooperation between Member States to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Conduct inter-sessional work between the annual Regional Coordination Meetings or meetings of the Planning Group of Economists;</li> <li>b) further develop regional and EU-wide databases and transmission process for DCF data;</li> <li>c) develop and test an operational framework for establishing and coordinating statistically-sound sampling programmes at a regional or EU scale;</li> <li>d) trial the collection of new variables that may be required under reformed CFP.</li> </ul>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Proposals must be submitted and implemented by partners who are public authorities or private bodies of at least three coastal Member States.</p> <p>Proposals should involve relevant authorities at the appropriate level (international, national and/or regional) engaged in fisheries activities that involve DCF data collection planning, implementing, managing, processing, analysing or transmitting, in the selected sea area(s).</p> <p>Proposals should demonstrate the cross-border nature of the proposed project, inter alia through the proposed partnership composition and the selected geographic area(s) which must be characterised by multiple and cross-border activities (existing or potential).</p> <p>Selection criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must have the economic, financial, technical and professional capacity required to implement and complete the proposed projects.</p>

	<p>Award criteria:</p> <p>Relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the call. Added value and innovation.</p> <p>Proposed working methodology to achieve a timely and successful implementation of the projects.</p> <p>Adequacy of the resources (personnel, equipment, vessels where relevant, financial etc.). Adequacy of the organisation and management structure proposed for the projects. Adequacy of the dissemination plan.</p>
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 90%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015

### 1.2.3. **Budget Heading 11 06 62 03**

#### **VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

##### **Legal basis:**

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85 (c) and 88.
- Article 190 (1) (c) of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation.
- Article 131 (3) of the Financial Regulation, as regards the intention to waive the obligation to verify the operational capacity of these international organisations.

#### **1.2.3.1. Convention on the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources (CCAMLR)**

Council Decision 81/691/EEC of 4 September 1981 on the conclusion of the Convention on the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources (OJ L 252, 5.9.1981, p. 26)

##### **Pilot project for satellite radar surveillance in the Elan Bank region**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€375.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The objective is to fight against IUU fishing by monitoring wide areas of the Southern Ocean which are not presently under strong surveillance (no duplication of existing efforts).</p> <p>The project makes use of combined satellite radar imagery and satellite tracking systems (Automated Identification System (AIS), Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)) to detect all vessels, those with active tracking systems, and those which have turned off their tracking systems.</p> <p>This pilot project is expected to track some of the illegal vessels which have been chased from the French and Australian EEZs where satellite surveillance is already operational.</p>

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 65%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.2.3.2. Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)

Council Decision 2006/539/EC of 22 May 2006 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Community, of the Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission established by the 1949 Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica (OJ L 224, 16.8.2006, p. 22):

#### (a) Organisational assessment

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Regular performance reviews of RFMOs are a CFP priority to increase the performance and transparency of these bodies. The IATTC is the only RFMO which has not undergone a performance review. Therefore, the EU has proposed to carry out an organisational assessment of the IATTC. The organisational assessment of the IATTC will provide a clear picture of the IATTC/AIDCP (Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program) Secretariat way of functioning, highlighting main strengths and weaknesses, as well possible ways to improve their efficiency and possibly reduce costs. The IATTC will co-finance and co-ordinate such an assessment that will be carried out by an external specialised body.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### (b) Testing of non-entangling and biodegradable Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€200.000



Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	At the initiative of the EU and in line with the EU priority in all RFMOs to reduce by-catch by using non-entangling FADs, IATTC adopted a Resolution which encourages the use of non-entangling and biodegradable FADs. On the basis of advice from the Scientific Advisory Committee, the IATTC has identified as a priority additional research on the effectiveness of various materials and designs of non-entangling and biodegradable FADs. The grant will support such testing which will provide useful data and information to support informed decisions about designs that do not entangle while still attracting tunas and allow for the adoption of more stringent and binding measures in IATTC.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(c) Simulation testing of reference points**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The use of target and limit reference points is a priority for the EU in the implementation of precautionary management strategies. On the basis of scientific advice, the IATTC has adopted in 2014 the use of target and limit reference points on an interim basis. However, further work is required to assess their effectiveness and performance with regards to the principal sources of uncertainty. As a result, simulation testing (Management Strategy Evaluation) will allow for such an assessment and consideration of possible alternative reference points with a view to their adoption by IATTC. The grant will support such testing.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(d) Estimation of post release shark survival rate on Long Line and Purse Seine fisheries**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
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Indicative Budget	€150.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Conservation measures to prohibit the retention of vulnerable shark species are a key priority for the EU and IATTC. However, a certain proportion of released sharks would be expected to die. These dead releases are difficult to quantify even for scientific observers because the deaths can occur days after release. The grant will support research that will provide an estimation of the mortality rates of sensitive shark species in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. This will allow for new shark conservation measures to be taken.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(e) Dolphin population assessment**

Type	Action Grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€60.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The goal of the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP), which is managed by the IATTC, is to progressively reduce incidental dolphin mortalities in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO), to seek ecologically sound means of capturing large yellow-fin tunas not in association with dolphins; and to ensure the long-term sustainability of the tuna stocks in the EPO. The last dolphin population assessment was undertaken in 2006. The objective of the action is to collect new data that is essential for the assessment of the effectiveness and possible improvement of the program. The results of the project are expected to serve for the elaboration of the terms of reference for the stock evaluation in 2016...
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(f) Contribution to the Special Fund for developing countries**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€80.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and	The EU supports as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries to meetings of RFMOs and their subsidiary bodies. The grant will allow for the attendance of developing

expected results	countries parties to the IATTC scientific and other meetings to enable them to participate in the activities of the Organisation and to implement the work and measures adopted by the organisation.  This should contribute to the capacity building for developing countries parties to the IATTC in key areas such as effective exercise of flag state responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and relevant scientific research.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.2.3.3. International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

Accession of the Community to the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (OJ L 162, 18.6.1986, p. 33)

#### (a) Atlantic-wide Research Programme for Bluefin Tuna

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	2.000.000€
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The recovery of Bluefin Tuna in the Atlantic and Mediterranean is an important EU priority. Its sound management requires best available science. ICCAT is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for the research programme and management of tunas and tuna-like fishes in the Atlantic.  The objective of this action is to improve the coordination of the programme, data mining and aerial surveys, and to further improve research in order to facilitate the Bluefin Tuna stock assessments.  Overall, this research programme should enable the ICCAT Scientific Committee to improve knowledge of Bluefin tuna, biology and migrations and undertake accurate evaluation of this key species.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%.
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### (b) ICCAT – Capacity development funds

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
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Indicative Budget	150.000€
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The EU supports as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in meetings of RFMOs and their subsidiary bodies. The grant will contribute to the different ICCAT funds, in particular to support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the meeting participation fund for developing ICCAT Contracting Parties;</li> <li>- the scientific capacity building fund for developing ICCAT contracting parties;</li> <li>- capacity building for port inspectors if decided at the ICCAT Annual Meeting in 2014.</li> </ul> <p>These activities are essential to allow for a meaningful participation of developing countries in ICCAT activities and to help them implement ICCAT rules.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%.
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### 1.2.3.4. Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

Council Decision 95/399/EC of 18 September 1995 on the accession of the Community to the Agreement for the establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (OJ L 236, 5.10.1995, p. 24)

##### (a) IOTC annual meeting

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€250.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The priority is to ensure a continuous leading role for the EU in IOTC. The objective of the EU is to host the annual meeting after almost 20 years of IOTC existence. The grant will support the financing of this meeting.</p> <p>This will be also an opportunity to highlight that the EU is a coastal Contracting Party by organising the meeting on one of its islands in the region.</p> <p>The action is expected to strengthen our role in the organisation and to provide impetus for enhanced conservation, management and enforcement measures for species covered by the IOTC Agreement.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing	Maximum 80%

involved	
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(b) Assistance to foster compliance**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€150.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The EU supports as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in RFMO meetings.</p> <p>The objective of the action is to improve implementation of IOTC's rules and enhance participation in the activities of this RFMO by developing countries, through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-financing of the attendance of developing countries representatives to scientific and other meetings to enable them to participate in the activities of the IOTC;</li> <li>- Support to the organization of a workshop to assess compliance of IOTC CPCs (Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties) with IOTC Data Requirements and possible implementation of a Catch Documentation Scheme;</li> <li>- Co-financing of Data Requirements missions to IOTC CPCs, in particular India and other developing coastal states in the Indian Ocean</li> <li>- Support to set-up web based procedures in the IOTC Web Site for the reporting of Fisheries Statistics by IOTC CPCs.</li> </ul> <p>This assistance should lead to enhanced compliance within the IOTC and reinforced administrative capacity in the beneficiary developing countries.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(c) Working Party on Billfish and Working Party on Ecosystems and By-catch in 2015**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€40.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Better science as a basis for sound fisheries management is an EU priority. In this context, the EU is increasing the gathering of by-catch data and in the annual meeting the EU Delegation encourages the other CPCs to improve data collection. Alongside, the EU has also the leadership on tabling and defending conservation measures on by-catch, notably on sharks.</p> <p>The objective of the action is to improve the quality of science on billfish,</p>

	<p>ecosystems and by-catch. The work will be carried out by means of two working party meetings that will take place back to back. The action will contribute to the financing of these meetings.</p> <p>These meetings should result in recommendations that can contribute to the conservation of billfish and by-catch.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3rd quarter of 2015.

**(d) Support to IOTC scientific activities**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€600.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Better science as a basis for sound fisheries management is an EU priority.</p> <p>The objective of the project is to expand the actions in place on stock structure, notably on assessment and management advice with a basic understanding of shark species structure and connectivity among populations within the Indian Ocean (and potentially with adjacent populations in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans).</p> <p>The action would include following elements:</p> <p>Tagging and work on post-release mortality: Post-release mortality can be estimated from satellite tags, using an appropriate and specific experimental design, notably on sharks.</p> <p>Support to an Observer Scheme training program;</p> <p>Support to Catch per unit effort (CPUE) standardisation and capacity building;</p> <p>Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process and Harvest Control Rules, dialogue between scientists and managers;</p> <p>Data compilation in Coastal Countries, set-up web based procedures for the reporting of Observer Trip Reports (IOTC Regional Observer Scheme);</p> <p>Training of coastal states technicians/samplers to improve data gathering and build capacity in fisheries science.</p> <p>As a result, the action should lead to better scientific knowledge of the ecosystems managed by the IOTC, in particular of those related to shark species.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%

Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015.
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### 1.2.3.5. South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

Conclusion by the European Community of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South East Atlantic Ocean (OJ L 234, 31.8.2002, p. 39)

#### **Support to SEAFO implementation activities: science, compliance and developing countries**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€20.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The EU supports, as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in RFMO meetings.</p> <p>The objective of the action is to support the implementation of priority scientific and compliance related measures in SEAFO, notably by increasing capacity of developing contracting parties to the SEAFO in key areas such as effective exercise of flag State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and relevant scientific research.</p> <p>This action should result in enhanced compliance and improved scientific knowledge within the SEAFO.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.2.3.6. Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)

Council Decision 2008/780/EC of 29 September 2008 on the signing, on behalf of the European Community, of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (OJ L 268, 9.10.2008, p. 27)

#### **Support to SIOFA implementation activities: science, compliance and developing countries**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€20.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The EU supports as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in RFMO meetings.</p> <p>The objective is to support the implementation SIOFA initiation activities and priority scientific and compliance related measures, notably by increasing capacity of developing contracting parties to the SIOFA in key areas such as effective exercise of flag State responsibilities, monitoring,</p>

	control and surveillance, data collection and relevant scientific research. This action should result in enhanced compliance and improved scientific knowledge within the SIOFA.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.2.3.7. South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO)

Council Decision of 3 October 2011 on the approval , on behalf of the European Union, of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean (2012/130/EU), (OJ L 67, 6.3.2012, p.1)

#### Pilot project on e-monitoring

Type	Action Grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Better compliance and data is an EU priority. The use of modern technologies for fisheries monitoring and control is foreseen in Council Regulation 1224/2009 (Control Regulation) as a new method to facilitate administrative procedures and to allow a timely risk analysis and global assessment of all information.</p> <p>The objectives of the pilot project on fully documented fishery for the SPRFMO are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To test whether and how electronic monitoring combined with closed circuit television (CCTV) could be used to monitor transshipments at sea, and</li> <li>• To test whether and how electronic monitoring combined with CCTV can be used to provide reliable documentation of other fishing operation and catches.</li> </ul> <p>The results of the tests would help define the right combination of different technologies to lower costs and increase the efficiency of fisheries monitoring and control for the fisheries in the SPRFMO Convention Area.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015.



### 1.2.3.8. Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

Accession of the Community to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (OJ L 32, 4.2.2005, p.1)

#### (a) Long term tagging of Bigeye Tuna

Type	Grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€400.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Bigeye Tuna is one of the key tropical tuna species which is currently overfished. It is a priority for EU to promote sustainable exploitation of all fish species. In order to achieve this, collection of precise data is essential to determine appropriate conservation and management strategies. The range of fisheries that exploit bigeye tuna in the Pacific Ocean make it evident that bigeye tuna are distributed throughout the entire ocean basin. However, bigeye tuna are managed as two separate stocks (IATTC and WCPFC Convention Areas), using separate stock assessments and management benchmarks. Intensive tagging is required to better quantify how bigeye migrate and mix, particularly in the Central Pacific, where the two Convention Areas coincide.</p> <p>The objective of the action is to provide data that would enable a Pacific-wide bigeye tuna assessment which will provide greater insight into how fisheries that affect bigeye need to be managed both regionally and throughout the entire ocean basin.</p> <p>The action will result in more sound scientific data for management decisions on conservation of the stocks, both in WCPFC and IATTC.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### (b) Simulation testing of reference points (management strategy evaluation)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>It is an EU priority to use target and limit reference points when implementing precautionary management strategies. The 2014 WCPFC Annual meeting is expected to propose interim target and limit reference points for key species. However, further work will be required to assess the effectiveness of these and their performance with regards to the principal sources of uncertainty.</p> <p>The objective of the action is to carry out simulation testing (Management Strategy Evaluation) which will allow for an assessment and consideration of possible alternative reference points. The resulting material will allow for the</p>

	possible adoption of target and limit reference points by WCPFC at the end of 2015.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(c) Organisation of the Management of Objective Workshop (MOW)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€50.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	In line with EU priorities, the WCPFC has among its priorities, the development of a management framework for WCPFC fisheries based on preliminary work on objectives, indicators and reference framework parts by using an independent expert group and workshops.  The objective is to organise a workshop to address the different management framework issues.  The results of the workshop should contribute to further the development of the management framework and to increase awareness among the WCPFC members.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(d) Organisation of a workshop on capacity management in the region**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Management of capacity across RFMOs is a key priority for the EU. In WCPFC there is no management of capacity plan in place, despite growing fishing efforts.  The grant will support the financing of a workshop which would bring together independent experts and managers, would aim to identify options for a regional capacity management plan. The resulting options would provide elements for the political decision making process that allow for sustainability of fisheries while guaranteeing the relevant development objectives.
Essential eligibility,	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives

selection and award criteria	
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(e) Mitigation of by-catch in WCPFC Purse Seine (PS) and Long Line (LL) fisheries with emphasis on Bigeye Tuna (BET) juveniles**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The European Union is promoting as a priority in all RFMOs the reduction of by-catch. Bycatch in PS and LL pelagic fisheries, the two main gear types for catching tunas, is a significant mortality source of some populations of seabirds, sea turtles, marine mammals, sharks and juvenile tunas. This is particularly the case for BET juveniles that associate closely with floating objects such as logs, buoys and FADs. By-catch of juvenile BET is a serious issue in WCPFC which is affecting the sustainability of the stock.</p> <p>Building on previous relevant initiatives, the project, will summarize and benchmark existing best practices and will aim at improving and/or developing new or alternative by-catch mitigation methods.</p> <p>The outcomes of the project should contribute to improving the conservation status of by-catch species and the sustainability of tropical tuna PS and LL fisheries.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented directly by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015.

**1.2.3.9. Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO)**

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3179/78 of 28 December 1978 concerning the conclusion by the European Economic Community of the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (OJ L 378, 30.12.1978, p. 1)

**(a) Support for intersessional work by NAFO bodies and working groups**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€150.000
Priorities of the year,	Well-functioning and efficient RFMOs are an EU priority. In order to ensure

objectives pursued and expected results	<p>the well-functioning of NAFO as RFMO, the grant will provide support for the organisation of intersessional meetings of NAFO bodies (Standing Committee on International Control, Scientific Committee) and Working Groups. The action is also set up to demonstrate EU's leadership in this organisation.</p> <p>The intersessional work should result in better prepared decisions at the NAFO annual meeting.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(b) Development of a software to enable the NAFO Secretariat to read the ERS (Electronic recording and reporting system) data**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€140 000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The objective of this action is to improve the control and enforcement framework in the NAFO Regulatory Area in line with the EU's general priority for better control and enforcement in RFMOs.</p> <p>All EU fishing vessels must be equipped with an ERS, capable of recording and transmitting data relating to the fishing activity of the vessel, referred to as "ERS data ", whenever the vessel is operating in the NAFO Regulatory Area.</p> <p>The ERS data is transmitted to the Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC) of the flag State, and could possibly be transmitted to the NAFO Secretariat for monitoring purposes. The usefulness of such data has been highlighted in a number of NAFO meetings.</p> <p>However, at the moment the NAFO Secretariat would not be in a position to read and exploit this data.</p> <p>This grant will co-finance the development, installation and testing of software required for the use of ERS data.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE

Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.2.3.10. Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)

Council Decision of 25 November 1991 on the accession of the European Community to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

#### (a) Contribution to the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) to support the work of the GFCM Task Force

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€700.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The priority is to support the GFCM mission, which is aimed at improving the situation of Mediterranean and Black Sea capture fisheries and aquaculture. In this context, the objective of the action is to: a) provide further support to the definition and implementation of multiannual fisheries management plans in the GFCM area of competence, b) reinforce compliance with GFCM decisions by Members and relevant non-Members, c) follow through with the amendment of the GFCM constitutive agreements, and d) support the GFCM in fostering a sustainable aquaculture development in the region.</p> <p>This grant will co-finance the implementation of the GFCM activities planned and agreed for the inter-sessional period according to the priorities that will be identified and agreed during the 39th Session of the GFCM. These activities will involve specific meetings, workshops and seminars.</p> <p>Actions will be carried out in the fields of data collection, monitoring and control as well as proper scientific advice for the establishment of management plans in the Mediterranean and Black Sea Regions. These preparatory actions would allow Members to adequately prepare for recommendations to be submitted to the 40th session of the GFCM.</p> <p>In this context, appropriate support should be provided to the organisation of specific meetings, workshops and seminars.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### (b) Regional Projects: contributions to the EASTMED, MEDSUDMED, ADRIAMED, COPEMED and other projects

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€1 200 000

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>This grant will co-finance the implementation of the FAO Regional projects EASTMED, ADRIAMED, COPEMED, MEDSUMED and other programmes, which are aimed at developing a common framework for cooperation between coastal states of the Mediterranean and Black Sea to enable the common management of fish stocks in these regions.</p> <p>The aims of these regional projects are to improve the provision and sharing of scientific work and data with non-EU partner countries and to contribute to enhancing their capacity to participate actively in the relevant regional frameworks for sustainable fisheries management.</p> <p>Expected results: contribution to establish a sound scientific basis for better-organised fishing in these regions and sustainable management of resources using an ecosystem approach.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(c) Sixth Session of the Scientific Sub-Committee (SSC) of the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€65.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Better science as a basis for sound fisheries management decisions is an EU priority. The main function of the SSC of CECAF is to provide appropriate advice to the Committee for Fisheries management decisions.</p> <p>The objective of the grant is to support the organisation of the sessions of the SSC which is expected, inter alia, to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the formulation of scientific advice with regards to the state of stocks and fisheries for the main trans-boundary stocks and fisheries in the CECAF area for consideration of the CECAF committee;</li> <li>- an overview of scientific activities in the region;</li> <li>- the examination of issues of key scientific concerns and the development of a future work programme for the region.</li> </ul> <p>The action should allow for better quality decisions by CECAF.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%

Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.
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**(d) Twenty First Session of the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€125.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Well-functioning and efficient fisheries organisations are an EU priority. The grant will support the organisation of one session of CECAF which is expected to lead to the adoption of management decisions on the main trans-boundary stocks and fisheries in the CECAF area as well as the adoption of an agreed work plan and road map for CECAF's future work priorities. The action should allow for better quality decisions by CECAF.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(e) Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean (COMHAFAT-ATLAFCO)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	150.000€
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Well-functioning and efficient fisheries organisations are an EU priority. The objective is to contribute to improved fisheries governance in the East-Central Atlantic (from Morocco to Nigeria) through COMHAFAT-ATLAFCO training and capacity building activities for fisheries management and control. The foreseen activities comprise issues such as the promotion of good practices at regional level, reinforcement of regional cooperation for implementing international convention rules in particular arising from ICCAT and fighting against IUU fishing, improving the transparency in fisheries management in particular in tuna fisheries by cooperating with the concerned industry in the training of observers, reinforcing the capacity of the concerned countries to adapt to appropriate standards in terms of treatment of the fishing products. The action should allow for increased awareness among the members and better compliance with RFMO rules, in particular ICCAT.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2nd quarter of 2015.

**(f) Independent cost-benefit assessment of the options for strategic re-orientation of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€90.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Well-functioning and efficient fisheries organisations are an EU priority</p> <p>The 15th session of WECAFC (March 2014) decided that to enable the members to make an informed decision on the strategic reorientation of WECAFC it would be necessary to carry out an independent cost-benefit analysis of the various options for such reorientation. The objective of this action is to contribute to such an assessment and make it possible to organize a regional workshop in which the options and their costs and benefits can be discussed in a participatory manner and proposed for decision at the 16th session of WECAFC.</p> <p>The action will co-finance with WECAFC an independent cost-benefit assessment of the various strategic re-orientation options for WECAFC).</p> <p>The assessment will be carried out by an external specialised body.</p> <p>The resulting assessment should provide sufficient background for taking an informed decision on the future format and structure of WECAFC.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

**(g) Strengthening national data collection and regional data sharing to support priority regional fishery management plans in the WECAFC area**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Indicative Budget	€110.000
Priorities of the year,	Better science as a basis for sound fisheries management decisions is an EU



objectives pursued and expected results	<p>priority.</p> <p>The objective of the action is to set up the foundations of a regional data base (RDB) in support of priority fishery management plans and test through selected pilot plans.</p> <p>In this context, the grant will support the organisation of a workshop that should provide the substance for developing minimum data requirements (draft), data sharing policy (draft), action plan to strengthen selected national data collection systems, and a pilot operational platform for the RDB.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### **1.2.4. Budget Heading 11 06 62 04**

##### **ACCOMPANYING MEASURES FOR THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY (CFP) AND THE INTEGRATED MARITIME POLICY (IMP) – GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION**

##### **Legal basis:**

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, in particular article 85(d) and 89 thereof.

#### **1.2.4.1. Advisory Councils (ACs)**

Type	Specific operating grant agreements under multiannual Framework Partnership Agreements
Indicative Budget	€2.750.000
Description	<p>Advisory Councils (ACs) have the main function of advising the European Commission and the Member States on the management of fisheries and the socio-economic and conservation aspects of fisheries and aquaculture by submitting recommendations, suggestions or opinions.</p> <p>Public funding is needed to enable the ACs to function fully and provide the advice needed – failing this, there is a risk that the ACs would not be set up or at least would not be effective. The ACs which have acquired legal personality are given the possibility to apply for EU financial support as bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest within the meaning of Article 177(b) of the Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>Operating grant agreements will be concluded with the following ACs: Baltic Sea AC; Mediterranean Sea AC; Long Distance Fleet AC; North Sea AC; North Western Waters AC; Pelagic AC; South Western Waters AC; Black Sea AC, Aquaculture AC, the Outermost regions AC and Markets AC.</p>
Objectives and expected results	Improved management of the Common Fisheries Policy by involving stakeholders active/interested in the fisheries and aquaculture issues covered by the ACs in policy-making and implementation.

	Relevant advice to the Commission on management issues relating to the fisheries and aquaculture covered by the ACs. Improved dialogue between the various parties affected by the CFP.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	For each of the 11 ACs, the co-financing will be capped at €250 000 (90% of the eligible costs).
Approximate timetable	Specific grant agreements to be concluded in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.3. PROCUREMENT

#### 1.3.1. Budget heading 11 06 61

#### FOSTERING THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNION'S INTEGRATED MARITIME POLICY (IMP)

##### Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 81, 82 and 83 thereof.

#### 1.3.1.1. Development and implementation of integrated governance of maritime and coastal affairs and visibility of the IMP

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	In order to promote the IMP in the context of sea-basin strategies and through specific maritime policy actions a number of events are foreseen to be held during 2015. These include activities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– the European Maritime Day 2015 and the European Maritime Day 2016,</li> <li>– workshops on the Arctic,</li> <li>– meetings of the maritime stakeholder platform in the Baltic,</li> <li>– a conference on maritime and coastal tourism in the Baltic,</li> <li>– a conference on maritime technologies in the Baltic,</li> <li>– conferences promoting sustainable development of the Blue Economy in the Black Sea and/or Mediterranean Sea regions.</li> </ul>
Type of contract	Specific service contracts linked to an existing or future framework contract.
Indicative Budget	€1.126.000
Implementation	Some 15 specific contracts to be concluded in 2015 under the future Framework Contract for events on IMP and CFP or under other existing framework contracts concluded by the Commission and suitable for the organisation of events.  For the conferences, some of the actions could be implemented through a service level agreement with DG SCIC including the financial management (co-delegation).
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts spread in 2015.

#### 1.3.1.2. IT support for the Maritime forum

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	DG COMM, with the support of the DGT and DIGIT, has started a web rationalisation initiative to cut down the number of the Commission's EUROPA web pages and web content management technologies with the objective of
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	<p>increasing relevancy, coherence and cost-efficiency</p> <p>Based on experience with DG-MARE's maritime forum, DIGIT has developed a multi-site toolkit for dynamic web-site development using open-source platform. Instead of being run by a webmaster, it allows content to be provided by groups of stakeholders that can either be kept within a closed community or disseminated further. It includes shared calendars, e-mail alerts and the ability to provide comments. This includes the Commission's ECAS system for user authentication which is familiar to Commission users and also allows outside stakeholders to register.</p> <p>The tasks covered by this contract include the maintenance of the maritime forum, a web-site for European Maritime Day and the Mediterranean Virtual Knowledge Centre.</p>
Type of contract	One or more Specific service contracts linked to existing framework contracts (STIS-III No DI/07057 and STIS-III No DI/07059 managed by DIGIT) or to future framework contract concluded by DIGIT for the provision of the concerned services.
Indicative Budget	€60.000
Implementation	The funds will be made available by DG MARE to DIGIT through a co-delegation.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts spread throughout 2015.

### 1.3.1.3. Ingestion and safe-keeping of marine data

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>Whilst progress has been made in making data held in national archives available through the European Marine Observation and Data Network, many data collected in national or regional monitoring programmes (e.g. under relevant EU legislation), research projects, both national and from the EU's Horizon2020 programme as well as by private operators of offshore facilities do not arrive in these repositories.</p> <p>As laid down in the Blue Innovation Communication (COM(2014)254) and the related Marine Knowledge Roadmap, the Commission is developing a sustainable process that aims to ensure that marine data is easily accessible, interoperable and free of restrictions on use. Such a process will build on existing standards and processes (including e.g. INSPIRE). The platform to establish such a process is EMODNET.</p> <p>The aim of this contract is to streamline the data ingestion process so that data holders from public and private sectors can contribute to the aims of Marine Knowledge 2020 through EMODNET. It will provide a service for those public and private entities, including international and regional organisations, who commit themselves to sharing available data. The service provision will build on available work and cooperate with existing institutions working on such issues. This service will be an essential contribution to the data and information sharing provisions in the most relevant legislation, namely the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive.</p> <p>The tasks of the contract will include preparing guidance, setting up workflows and providing assistance through a one-stop shop</p>
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Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€4.180.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015

#### 1.3.1.4. Assistance Mechanism for Atlantic Action Plan

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The assistance mechanism will disseminate information on the Atlantic Strategy, its research and investment priorities and possible funding tools through a project team, web site, and a team of professionals on-site ("focal point service").</p> <p>The objective of this service contract is to provide guidance for public and private organisations and their members, research institutions and universities, institutional and private investors, as well as promoters and other stakeholders wishing to put forward and/or develop projects to implement the Action Plan. The web site and focal point service will together provide a question and answer service to potential project developers. The assistance mechanism will bring potential project partners together (through its focal point service or through a specific service on its web site) and advise them on the use of EU financial instruments for projects implementing the Action Plan, including European Investment Bank financial assistance, as well as any other public or private funding contribution to these projects.</p> <p>The assistance mechanism will also publicise relevant calls for proposals or calls for tender that could be relevant for the implementation of the Atlantic Action Plan. The assistance mechanism will also serve as a monitoring tool of the implementation of the Atlantic Action Plan.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€1.500.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tender to be published 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015

#### 1.3.1.5. Study: Realising the potential of Outermost Regions for Blue Growth

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The aim of the study is to investigate the current status of the blue economy and analyse opportunities. The focus will be on offshore renewable energy, coastal tourism, aquaculture, seabed mining, marine biotechnology and ecosystems. Analysis will include a gap analysis for skills, research and data as well as the environmental dimension of these focus areas as set out in the various Communications..</p> <p>The EU's Outermost Regions cover a diverse range of oceanographic, economic, cultural and societal conditions that are not encountered elsewhere in the EU. This offers an unprecedented opportunity for exploring new avenues of sustainable blue growth.</p>
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Type of contract	Specific service contract linked to an existing framework contract ("Framework Contract for identifying and supporting Blue Growth projects in emerging sectors" (MARE/2012/06) or to the "Framework Contract for support to the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy of the European Union" (MARE/2012/07))
Indicative Budget	€295.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.3.1.6. EMODnet secretariat

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Support services are required to ensure the proper functioning of the secretariat for European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet). The tasks covered by the contract include: (a) harmonising the approach of thematic groups, monitoring quality, (b) organising and reporting on meetings of EMODnet steering group and European Marine Observation and Data Network (c) preparing videos and demonstrations and (d) collaboration with related initiatives (WISE-Marine) and partners such as the European Environment Agency.
Type of contract	Renewal of the existing contract or new service contract following a call for tender (in case renewal is not possible or not appropriate)
Indicative Budget	€520.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Contract renewal to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015 or call for tender to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015

### 1.3.1.7. High resolution seabed mapping

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>Up to now the EU's seabed mapping initiative has focused on providing access to low resolution (approximately 250 metres) seabed mapping over European waters. However, many surveys map the seafloor at a much higher resolution.</p> <p>The aim of this contract is to provide access to the underlying survey data, to construct digital terrain models based on these surveys at the resolution at which the data had been captured, and to make the digital terrain models freely available through an internet portal or through machine to machine interfaces.</p> <p>The European seabed map will therefore allow scientists and engineers (including in administrations) to access these data and to progressively increase its coverage as more surveying is completed. The easy use and sharing of these data should be ensured from the outset.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€5.100.000

Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Call for tender to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015

### 1.3.1.8. Study on the Economic Benefits of Marine Protected Areas

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	The aim of the study is to explore the economic and ecosystem services benefits of marine protected areas and other spatial protection measures for blue economy sectors for which the benefits of protected areas have been ostensibly little explored. The study will identify any research already done and, where relevant, propose a methodology for such research. The study will build on work already undertaken and involve coordination with other ongoing initiatives and projects in this area, such as The Economy of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB).
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€300.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Call for tender to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015

### 1.3.1.9. Emerging Pressures, Human Activities and Cost-Effective Measures (and their financing) in the Marine Environment

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Contract to assess and evaluate the origin, extent and possible measures in relation to emerging pressures on the marine environment, in particular marine litter, etc. or emerging sectors with increasing impact on the marine environment addressing a cross-sector concern in the framework of the ecosystem approach (link to descriptors in Annex I of MSFD) in the EU.  One important aspect of the project will be to evaluate their impact on the marine environment and in particular on marine protected areas and possible measures at global, EU and (sub-) national level should be identified. In particular, actions in relation to marine litter and the proposed target such as micro-plastics, noise and best practice exchange will be covered.
Type of contract	Specific service contracts (up to 5) linked to an existing framework contract (ENV. D2/2012/0025)
Indicative Budget	€750.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented in co-delegation by DG ENV.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts spread over 2015

### 1.3.1.10. Development of Methodological Aspects in Relation to Good Environmental Status of the Seas under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued	Based on Commission Decision 2010/477/EU and the Commission Staff Working Paper SEC(2011)1255, the criteria and methodological standards
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and expected results	for many of the 11 descriptors of good environmental status need to be developed in more detail and, as far as possible, harmonised, at least within marine regions. The latest scientific and technical knowledge and approaches will have to be harvested from the leading scientific institutes and institutions. Where relevant and appropriate, activities under this heading will be linked with the ongoing work on the mapping and assessment of ecosystems, and their services being undertaken within the context of the EU biodiversity strategy. The tasks covered by these contracts will address certain descriptors as regards their assessment and monitoring, (e.g. by developing common indicators, as well as the related data management).
Type of contract	Specific service contracts (up to 2) linked to an existing framework contract (ENV. D2/2012/0019)
Indicative Budget	€250.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented in co-delegation by DG ENV.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts spread over 2015

### **1.3.1.11.Support and Coordination within and between the Different Marine Regions of the EU (North East Atlantic, Mediterranean, Baltic Sea and Black Sea) in Implementing the Ecosystem Approach and Exchange with other Marine Regions**

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	In the framework of the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC), manage and develop further coordination mechanisms for inter-regional cooperation in relation to assessment, target setting and monitoring of marine waters are useful including through the organisation of regular workshops, exchange of best practices, alignment of reporting or knowledge exchange, progress towards good environmental status building on existing collaboration.  In particular, the specific contracts will provide administrative and technical support the implementation in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea as regards improving the implementation of the programme of measures and preparing for the next stages of the implementation cycle.
Type of contract	Specific service contracts (up to 4) linked to an existing framework contract (ENV. D2/2012/0017)
Indicative Budget	€600.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented in co-delegation by DG ENV.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2015

### **1.3.1.12.Assistance Mechanism for the Implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)**

Subject matter of contracts envisaged	The services envisaged by this contract include three tasks:  Technical studies on MSP: the assistance mechanism will provide studies on subjects defined by the Commission in cooperation with Member States' experts. The studies will focus on subjects which have clear added value for
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	<p>the implementation of the Directive on MSP.</p> <p>Support for Member States: The assistance mechanism will disseminate useful information on the implementation of MSP, bring together operational summaries of best practices for each requirement of the Directive (2014/89/EU) and publicise funding sources. It will bring potential project partners, including Member States, together and advise them on the use of EU financial instruments for projects implementing MSP. The assistance mechanism will also establish a team of individuals ("focal point service") who will work in sea basins to provide guidance and information on MSP for public and private organisations and their members, research institutions and universities, institutional and private investors, and industry. The web site and focal point service will together provide a question and answer service.</p> <p>Support for the European Commission: The assistance mechanism will provide technical and administrative support to the European Commission for the organisation of workshops, conferences and to run the Member State Expert Group on MSP.</p>
Type of contract	<p>Service contract.</p> <p>Renewal of the service contract for the assistance mechanism for which the procurement procedure is ongoing or new call for tenders in case the contract for which the procurement procedures are ongoing is not awarded, or a renewal is not possible or not appropriate.</p>
Indicative Budget	€1.130.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Contract renewal to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015 or new call for tenders to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.3.1.13. Analysis of the functioning of maritime zones throughout the EU

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>At present, a large part of the Mediterranean marine space is made up of High Seas. This situation is in contrast to that in other semi-enclosed seas around the EU, such as the Baltic Sea or the Black Sea, where most countries have resolved delimitation issues through established legal frameworks and agreed on their maritime zones.</p> <p>In this context, a study completed in 2013 carried out an analysis of the costs and benefits of establishing maritime zones in the Mediterranean sea-basin. The present study should build on the work already carried out, updating the results and examining more concrete examples/case studies. The study should also evaluate and present costs and benefits resulting from existing maritime zones (particularly EEZs) in other European seas (Atlantic Ocean, Baltic and Black Sea) and assess their role in fulfilling international agreements and objectives. The study should also take into account work undertaken in other policy areas such as environment.</p> <p>A wide stakeholder consultation shall be carried out involving stakeholders from various domains e.g. environment, fisheries, transport, energy etc. A stakeholder event could also be organized in Brussels, on Commission premises.</p>
Indicative Budget	€150.000



Type of contract	Specific service contract linked to an existing framework contract (Framework Contract FWC/2012/06 for identifying and supporting Blue Growth projects in emerging sectors or any other suitable framework contract into force in the European Commission)
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### 1.3.1.14. Framework contract for maritime security and surveillance expertise

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>In the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS), adopted 24 June 2014, Member States have agreed to elaborate an action plan to implement the strategy before the end of 2014. To implement these actions, a framework contract needs to be established in order to bring in the necessary expertise that can put this action plan into operation.</p> <p>The main objective of the framework contract is to have a service provider that can ensure the necessary preparatory work that brings the EU MSS action plan into operation by providing the necessary studies and other preparatory actions.</p> <p>The contract will be awarded to the contractor that can demonstrate long standing expertise in providing advice on maritime surveillance issues. Specific expertise in both Civilian and Military surveillance operations will be required</p>
Type of contract	New Service Framework Contract
Indicative Budget	€-
Implementation	Inter-institutional framework contract DG MARE-EASME
Indicative timetable	Call for tender to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

#### 1.3.1.15. Assessment of EU Coast Guard functions - intergovernmental operational cooperation

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>In the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS), adopted on 24 June 2014, Member States have agreed to future implementation of several activities in the area of maritime security between European Coast Guard functions.</p> <p>This action shall support the integration of maritime surveillance within the EU, in consistency of the actions detailed in the EUMSS action plan (to be adopted end 2014).</p> <p>The main task of this contract is to define existing operational concepts (expected results) between European Coastguard functions for further development in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• performance management</li> <li>• threat analysis</li> <li>• pooling and sharing</li> <li>• common operations</li> </ul>
Indicative Budget	€200.000

Type of contract	Specific service contract linked to an new framework contract "Framework contract for maritime security and surveillance expertise" (see section 1.3.1.14 above), or any other relevant and suitable framework contract into force in the European Commission
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015

### 1.3.1.16.IT advisory services

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Acquisition of specific advisory services to provide clients with access to research and advice about information technology as well as the option of inquiry with Gartner Analysts/experts.</p> <p>The advisory services are deemed useful for the establishment of the Maritime CISE, as such high level expertise can help assess the work of the FP7 CISE test project and can help DG MARE in the process of writing the Maritime CISE Handbook.</p> <p>The contract will take the form of a 1 year license.</p>
Type of contract	Specific service contract linked to an existing framework contract (DIGIT Framework Contract ABCIII – Lot 1 (No DI/07170) or any other relevant and suitable framework contract into force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€30.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.3.1.17.Intergrated maritime surveillance communication strategy

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Improvement of the communication materials on CISE developed in 2014: presentation, leaflet, poster, video and website. Translation of the communication material, currently available in English only, in other languages.</p> <p>Development of a communication strategy on Integrated Maritime Surveillance including the EU maritime security strategy (EUMSS), including the EUMSS action plan which should be adopted by the end of 2014.</p>
Type of contract	Specific service contract linked to an existing framework contract ("Information and communication activities related to CFP and IMP" - n° MARE/2012/12 - Lot 1) or any other relevant and suitable framework contract into force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€150.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015

### 1.3.1.18. Mobile application and Workshop for Nautical Tourism

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>This contract will consist of the development of a mobile application and identical web page containing information on license requirements and safety equipment rules for recreational boating in each of the EU Member States. The application and web page will also contain detailed info and mapping on EU marinas and services, together with good environmental practice tips for boaters. The ultimate aim of this action is to promote nautical tourism in Europe and ensure a sustainable, safe and worry-free practice of recreational boating in EU waters. The application will be presented to the public in a workshop on new opportunities for nautical tourism in Europe, to be promoted also in the context of this action.</p> <p>This action is in line with the Commission Communication on "A European Strategy for more Growth and Jobs in Coastal and Maritime Tourism". This Communication highlighted the importance of recreational boating for the coastal and maritime tourism sector in Europe. At the same time, it also stressed that the licenses/qualifications obligations and safety equipment requirements for recreational boating vary considerably between Member States, thus limiting boaters' mobility. The importance of ICT tools for the promotion of recreational boating in Europe was also emphasized in the context of the Communication.</p>
Type of contract	Specific service contract linked to an existing framework contract ("Framework Contract for identifying and supporting Blue Growth projects in emerging sectors" (ref. FWC/2012/06), or Specific contract linked to the "Framework Contract for support to the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy of the European Union" (MARE/2012/07), or any other relevant and suitable framework contract into force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€150.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2nd half of 2015.

### 1.3.1.19. Support the development of a maritime strategy in the Western Mediterranean Sub-Sea Basin

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>This contract aims at drafting a Maritime Strategy for the Western Mediterranean (including its Action Plan), assessing its impact and EU added-value and elaborating possible options for ensuring a sound strategy's governance.</p> <p>A study shall be carried out for this purpose, and a stakeholders' platform will be established to support the elaboration and consultation process (e.g. website, on line consultations, forum). The working sessions of the stakeholders' platform should lead to the definition of viable joint and or coordinated actions/initiatives addressing challenges and opportunities with a trans-national dimension.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€427.000

Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tender to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015

### 1.3.1.20. Study to promote innovation in the blue economy of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>This study will assess existing tools, approaches and methods to promote innovation in the blue economy and will develop new ones aiming to boost innovation, facilitate exchanges of experiences and practices and increase capacity and cooperation between different stakeholders, such as maritime clusters, research institutes, training and education institutes and local communities in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.</p> <p>A study shall be carried out for this purpose to deliver a full gap analysis of innovation needs and potentials and elaborate options, possible sources of funding and stakeholders/bodies to be involved in order to establish new approaches and/or set up new and/or expand e existing networks/platforms.</p> <p>The study will build on the results of the study on Maritime Clusters in the Mediterranean and Black Sea carried out in 2013.</p>
Type of contract	<p>Specific contract linked to the "Framework Contract for identifying and supporting Blue Growth projects in emerging sectors" (ref. FWC/2012/06), or</p> <p>Specific contract linked to the "Framework Contract for support to the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy of the European Union" (MARE/2012/07), or any other relevant and suitable framework contract into force in the European Commission.</p>
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative Budget	€195.000
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

### 1.3.2. Budget Heading 11 06 62 01

#### SCIENTIFIC ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE

#### Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85(a) and 86 thereof.

#### 1.3.2.1. Study on development of effective mitigation measures to minimise seabird bycatch in gillnet fisheries

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	This study aims to develop and test mitigation measures in static net fisheries where seabird by-catch is documented as being a particular problem. The study intends to follow an industry/science approach using the collective knowledge of experts in seabird biology and commercial fishermen.
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€150.000

Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	First or second quarter 2015

### 1.3.2.2. Study on the importance of immigrant work in the EU fisheries sector

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The study intends to collect data on immigrant work in the EU catching, aquaculture and seafood processing sector. In addition, the study will analyse trends of immigrant work in the EU catching, aquaculture and seafood processing sector from 2000 with the objective of determining the extent to which immigrant work is in addition to or replacing local workers. Finally the study will also evaluate the importance of immigrant work for the viability and resilience of a selection of coastal areas (roughly 10) particularly dependent on fisheries and aquaculture.</p> <p>The conclusions of the study will contribute to evaluation related services, for example of social measures in the successive financial support tools for the CFP.</p>
Type of contract	Specific contract linked to an existing framework contract (MARE/2011/01 Lot 2)
Indicative Budget	€400.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2015

### 1.3.2.3. Scientific advice for fisheries beyond EU waters

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Scientific advice and other services for fisheries beyond EU waters. Ensure the participation and coordination of EU scientists in scientific meetings of RFMOs and FPAs and the provision of specific scientific advice needed in the international context.
Type of contract	Specific service contracts linked to an existing framework contract (MARE/2012/21: 'Scientific advice for fisheries beyond EU waters') (up to 6 contracts)
Indicative Budget	€1.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2015

### 1.3.2.4. Study on the identification of areas and seasons where high discards and highgrading occur in the North East Atlantic.

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The CFP provides for the elimination of discards. This could be achieved by means of increased selectivity and technical measures. Avoiding and/or closing the areas and seasons where discards are more likely (because juvenile, non-target or non-commercial species aggregate for instance) would provide a simple way of decreasing unwanted catches in a substantial way.</p> <p>The study should identify the areas and seasons both on the basis of</p>
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	species/stock and MS/fleet/fleet segment/metier where appropriate.
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€200.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2015.

### 1.3.2.5. Tagging study to determine mortality sources on cod in the Irish Sea

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The tagging study will determine mortality sources on cod in the Irish Sea.</p> <p>Cod management is the driver for fishery management in the Irish Sea since 2000, yet stock assessment is flawed. ICES have been unable to reconcile the cod abundance, with possible causative factors. Resolving the uncertainty over mortality and sources of increasing unaccounted mortality is a priority- to improve stock assessment, provision of future catch advice and s determination of factors to aid rebuilding.</p> <p>The objective is to improve stock knowledge for development of a plausible regional management plan in light of the landings obligation in 2016.</p> <p>As the only plausible method is a large scale conventional tagging programme focused on the Irish Sea, but with good spatial coverage and connectivity with neighbouring cod stocks to provide a complete picture of mortality due to migration, a specific study has to be carried out.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€600.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2015.

### 1.3.2.6. Availability and dissemination of DCF data

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>One of the key aims of the revision of the DCF regulation will be to increase availability of data to end user and to reduce the burden on Member States of providing DCF data to end users. A Study has been carried out in 2013-2014 to explore possible avenues for achieving this, through a DCF data availability platform. This contract will involve implementing the first phase of the DCF data availability platform by exploring a possible interface between Member States data collectors and (national and international) data users and also facilitating the annual reporting required from Member States. This project will include ensuring compatibility between existing DCF databases and IT platforms at national and supra-national level, taking into account the requirements of the INSPIRE Directive. Furthermore, synergies in data collection and data sharing with other platforms will be explored (e.g. environmental data).</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€600.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.

Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2015.
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### 1.3.2.7. Ex-post evaluation of the Mediterranean Sea Regulation

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Ex-post evaluation of Regulation 1967/2006 ((EC) 1967/2006 of 21 December 2006 concerning management measures for the sustainable exploitation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea, amending Regulation (EEC) No2847/93 and repealing Regulation (EC)No 1626/94), in line with the political guidelines of the Commission issued in 2009. The evaluation will focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing implementation of the Regulation by Member States</li> <li>• Analysing to what extent the main objectives were reached and identify main achievements and weaknesses in this respect</li> <li>• Identifying elements requiring adaptation to the new Common Fisheries Policy.</li> </ul>
Type of contract	One Specific contract linked to the Framework Contract: MARE/2011/01 Lot 2 FWC – "Retrospective and prospective evaluations on the CFP, excluding its international dimension".
Indicative Budget	€50.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2015

### 1.3.3. Budget heading 11 06 62 02

#### CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT

#### Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 87 (2), (b) and (c).

#### 1.3.3.1. Provision of IT services and supplies

Subject matter of contract envisaged	Development, maintenance and support of IT applications to support the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy. Supply of hardware (infrastructure) to support these applications.
Type of contract	Specific service contracts linked to existing Framework Contracts (DIGIT/ESP/DESI II, lots 1, 2 and ITSS)  Supply and service contracts  About 25 contracts to be awarded in accordance with the framework agreement of the Directorate-General for informatics (DIGIT).
Indicative Budget	€3.200.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE. Part of the appropriations will be subject to co-delegation/cross sub-delegation granted to DG DIGIT (hosting services) and DG COMP (IUU case handling) to fund the different services and IT applications

Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2015
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### 1.3.3.2. Equipment for European Commission officials

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Protection and safety equipment and materials required for verification, inspection and audit related tasks
Type of contract	Supply and service contracts (5 contracts)
Indicative Budget	€20.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Indicative timetable	Procurement procedures to be launched in the 2nd half of 2015

### 1.3.3.3. Organisation of the meetings of the expert groups on fisheries control and on compliance with the CFP rules

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Covering the expenses relating to the organisation of meetings of the experts groups on fisheries control and on compliance (logistical and administrative costs)
Type of contract	Supply and service contracts Procurement procedures (about 4 contracts) Specific contracts linked to existing Framework Contracts OIB.DR.2/PC/2012/117/55/C0 L1 (Lot A), L2 (Lot B) and L3 (Lot C), (about 4-10 contracts)
Indicative Budget	€5.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Indicative timetable	Contracts spread throughout 2015.

### 1.3.3.4. Standardisation of the interpretation of regulations

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Covering the expenses relating to initiatives, including seminars and media tools for standardising of the interpretation of regulations and associated controls in the Union
Type of contract	Specific service contract linked to existing Framework Contract MARE/2012/12
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Indicative Budget	€100.000
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015



### 1.3.3.5. Study - Additional analysis related to the ex-post evaluation of the control regulation

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	The study will envisage additional analysis in the framework of the study on the evaluation of the impact of the Control regulation on the Common fisheries policy (accordingly to Art. 118(3) of the Control regulation).
Type of contract	One specific service contract linked to an existing Framework Contract (MARE/2011/01 - Lot C)
Indicative Budget	€300.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015

### 1.3.3.6. Study on the future perspectives of the EU rules to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing (Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 - IUU Regulation).

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Following the study on the state of play of the IUU Regulation concluded in 2013-2014 and as a result of the forthcoming the Communication to the Council and Parliament on the IUU Regulation and in line with the EC initiative for better regulation, this study will focus on a forward-looking evaluation of whether the Regulation is fit for the purpose of addressing IUU strategic issues for the future.
Type of contract	One specific service contract linked to an existing Framework Contract (MARE/2011/01 - Lot C)
Indicative Budget	€300.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015

### 1.3.4. Budget heading 11 06 62 04

#### ACCOMPANYING MEASURES FOR THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY AND THE INTEGRATED MARITIME POLICY – GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION

##### Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85(f) and 91 thereof.

#### 1.3.4.1. Public Relations, Information and Communication Measures Relating to the Common Fisheries Policy and the Integrated Maritime Policy

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Provision and coordination of information, communication and public relations actions including, inter alia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– publications, producing information packs and other materials, including audiovisuals (including the EMFF),</li> <li>– hiring of stands, publicity for the participation in fairs and exhibitions, publications on a range of topics,</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– web development and updating of web-pages, revamping of existing websites,</li> <li>– translations,</li> <li>– organisation of conferences, events and seminars or workshops on maritime policy and fisheries and on the EMFF (such as for example the Seafood exhibition, conferences on maritime policy issues such as regional maritime strategies, coastguard cooperation, maritime spatial planning, marine knowledge and surveillance, seminars on the CFP Reform, including aquaculture policy and on the reform of the Common Organisation of the Markets in fishery and aquaculture products, science, conference on community-led local development in fisheries areas for Fisheries Local Action Groups, etc.),</li> <li>– information about fisheries legislation in Member States as well as in third countries,</li> <li>– production of promotional material, purchasing of advertising space, design, production and distribution of charts such as for instance on the TACs and quotas.</li> </ul> <p>Procurement of evaluation and impact assessment related services connected to information and communication activities for the Common Fisheries Policy and the Integrated Maritime Policy.</p>
Type of contract	<p>Service contracts</p> <p>Specific contract linked to existing or future framework contracts</p>
Indicative Budget	€3 623 771
Implementation	<p>Some 40 specific contracts/order forms will be linked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– the framework contract (MARE/2012/12) of Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries for “Information and communication activities relating to the European Union's integrated maritime policy (IMP) and to the common fisheries policy (CFP)”;</li> <li>– the framework contract for 'Evaluation and impact assessment activities for DG MARE (ref. MARE/2011/01);</li> <li>– the future framework contract for the organisation of events related to the IMP and CFP;</li> <li>– other framework contracts managed by other Commission services (DG COMM, SCIC, OP, PMO, etc.).</li> </ul> <p>For publications and related services, some of the actions could be implemented through the service level agreement with OP signed on 22/01/2013 under the regime of budget co-delegation;</p> <p>For the conferences, some of the actions could be implemented through a service level agreement with DG SCIC including the financial management (co-delegation).</p> <p>Translations for information and communication activities can also be provided by DGT through the service level agreement signed with DG MARE.</p> <p>Some 5 service contracts may also be concluded through procurement procedures.</p> <p>Finally, this envelope includes DG MARE's contribution to the "Corporate</p>

	communication under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020" (23.9.2013 SEC (2013)486 final). These appropriations will be managed by DG COMM through a co-delegation with DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Service contracts and specific contracts spread throughout 2015.

### 1.3.5. **Budget heading 11 06 62 05**

#### **MARKET INTELLIGENCE**

##### **Legal basis:**

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85(e) and 90 thereof.
- Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the common organisation of the markets in fishery and aquaculture products, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1184/2006 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 104/2000, and in particular Art. 42 thereof (Market Intelligence).

#### **1.3.5.1. European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture (EUMOFA)**

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Market Observatory (includes market intelligence, IT and communication services).  Contract for the running and maintenance of the European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture (EUMOFA), which is a market intelligence tool on the European Union fisheries and aquaculture sector.  The EUMOFA aims to increase market transparency and efficiency, analyse EU markets dynamics and support business decisions and policy-making.
Type of contract	Service contract (renewal of existing contract)
Indicative Budget	€4.944.966
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Renewal to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015

## **1.4. OTHER ACTIONS**

### **1.4.1. Budget heading 11 06 61**

#### **FOSTERING THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNION'S INTEGRATED MARITIME POLICY (IMP)**

##### **Legal basis:**

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 81, 82 and 83 thereof.

#### **1.4.1.1. EU Atlas of the Seas (MARATLAS)**

Type	Administrative Arrangement
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Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>Further development and maintenance of the EU Atlas of the Seas, with following vision for the period of 2015-2016:</p> <p>The European Atlas of the Seas will support policy making both within and outside the Commission on maritime policy, marine environment, fisheries, transport, energy and other issues by providing digital maps of European seas and coasts. The Atlas should expand also to coastal issues and issues related to land-sea interactions (e.g. by incorporating the OURCOAST database). As policy support tool, the Atlas should inform decision-making at the EU, national and regional levels. A user group will be set-up with representatives of interested DGs, including JRC, MARE, ENV and RTD.</p> <p>The Atlas will remain a publicly accessible web-based tool. As such, the Atlas will convey relevant information to stakeholders in the Commission, to professionals in various maritime sectors (including fisheries, transport, energy), environmental administrations and bodies and other types of organisation (e.g. private sector, NGOs, academia) and to the wider public.</p> <p>The Atlas should evolve into the ocean pillar of Digital Earth: a digital replica of the European coasts and seas. In doing so, it will aim to facilitate a shared understanding of various aspects of the sea (natural, environmental, societal), be accessible from computers, tablets and mobiles devices, understandable by a broad audience (decision makers, stakeholders, public), and be continuously updated with data from a number of different sources.</p>
Indicative budget	€320.000
Implementation	Renewal of existing Administrative Arrangement between DG MARE and JRC-IES
Indicative timetable	Administrative Arrangement to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015

#### **1.4.2. Budget heading 11 06 62 01**

##### **SCIENTIFIC ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE**

##### **Legal basis:**

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85(a) and 86 thereof.
- Commission Decision of 4 February 2010 amending Commission Decision 2005/629/EC establishing a Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries and in particular Article 9 thereof.

#### **1.4.2.1. Scientific Advice and Knowledge: Memorandum of Understanding between the European Community and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)**

Type	Memorandum of Understanding
Description and objective of the action	The general objective is to set up the basis for the provision to the EC by ICES of advice and other services to support the implementation of the CFP and through this, where relevant, directly related policies such as the Marine Strategy Framework Directive
Indicative Budget	€1.600.000
Implementation	The action is implemented by DG MARE

Indicative timetable	Memorandum of Understanding to be concluded during the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.
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#### 1.4.2.2. Scientific advice and knowledge: Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF)

Type	Compensations for STECF members and invited experts
Description and objective of the action	<p>The implementation of the EU policy for fisheries and aquaculture requires the assistance of highly qualified scientific personnel, particularly in the application of the marine and fisheries biology, fishing technology, fisheries economics or similar disciplines, or in connection with the requirements of research and data collection in the fields of fishing and aquaculture.</p> <p>This assistance is provided by a permanent Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) set up by the Commission Decision n°2005/629.</p> <p>This Commission Decision foresees the payment of a compensation to the members of the STECF and/or the experts invited by the STECF for delivering background reports prior to STECF meetings and working groups and for their participation and work performed during the working groups, plenary sessions. The compensation amounts are foreseen in the annex to the Decision.</p> <p>The compensations are in line with the Commission Decision n°2014/2220 on conditions for granting a special allowance to participants in the activities of a Commission expert group.</p>
Indicative Budget	€820.000
Implementation	Individual payments
Indicative timetable	20 to 25 STECF meetings spread throughout 2015

#### 1.4.2.3. Implementation of the administrative arrangement between the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries and the Joint Research Centre (JRC)

Type	Administrative Arrangement
Description and objective of the action	The purpose of the administrative arrangement is to provide scientific, technical and administrative support to facilitate the efficient functioning of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) and to support the data collection framework in the fisheries sector and the scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy.
Indicative Budget	€1.460.000
Implementation	The action is implemented by DG MARE
Indicative timetable	Administrative Arrangement to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015

#### 1.4.3. Budget heading 11 06 62 02

##### CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT

**Legal basis:**

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 87 (2)

**1.4.3.1. Chartering of patrol vessels and aircraft for control**

Type	Union financial contribution
Budget	€10.520.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The objective is to support the Member States in fulfilling their control and enforcement responsibilities under the CFP, from a regionalised perspective, by providing a Union financial contribution towards the chartering of control means (vessels or aircraft) which will be used by several Member States belonging to the same geographical area/sea basin. Regionalisation is a key element of the reformed CFP and this action represents an additional possibility for Member States in the area of control. It should increase the overall level of control activities, particularly those involving several Member States.</p> <p>The chartering is intended to cover 3-4 patrol vessels or aircrafts for roughly one year in 3-4 different geographical areas.</p> <p>All Member States with responsibility for fisheries control at sea will be invited to submit a proposal specifying, inter alia, the geographical area concerned and the other Member States participating in the proposal. To be eligible, as a general rule, at least 3 Member States should be involved in the proposal.</p> <p>In accordance with Article 87 (4) of the EMFF Regulation, only one of the Member States per geographical area involved should be designated as the beneficiary, and will be granted the Union contribution. Proposals will be selected for financing on the basis of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Degree of effective integration of the chartering in an existing SCIP (Specific control and inspection programmes, according to Article 95 of the Control Regulation<sup>1</sup>), in an existing common control programme (Art. 94 of the Control regulation), or in an existing common control and inspection programme as defined in Art. 15 of the EFCA Regulation<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>– Degree to which the patrol vessel or aircraft will be used in control activities in support of relevant multi-annual plans (where these exist), or in support of the fulfilment of the EU's Mediterranean obligations.</li> <li>– Number of Member States participating in the chartering of the shared means in each geographical area compared to the potential number of participant Member States.</li> <li>– The proposed cooperation and management mechanisms to be put in place by the participating Member States, to ensure optimal use of the vessel or aircraft.</li> <li>– Number of days for which the Member States have committed to use</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EC) N° 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EC) No 768/2005 of 26 April 2005

	<p>the vessel or aircraft for fisheries control (minimum 60% of time spent at sea or in air).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Compliance with a set of minimum technical requirements to be met.</li> <li>– Quality of the methodology and effectiveness of the practical arrangements proposed for the management of the vessels or aircrafts and of the chartering contract.</li> </ul> <p>The beneficiary Member States will be selected by DG MARE.</p> <p>The selected Member States will be responsible for the procurement procedures and will conclude yearly contracts. These contracts should be renewable up to three times. This procurement will be limited to vessels not owned or controlled by the Member States or their agencies.</p> <p>Where a Member State has received a contribution from the 2014 budget, the support may be renewed subject to the satisfactory implementation of the proposed control activities (adjusted as necessary in the light of experience). Similarly, support awarded for 2015 may be renewed in subsequent years subject to the same conditions regarding implementation, as well as the availability of the necessary budget and the adoption by the Commission of a Work programme permitting the continuation of the support.</p> <p>In deciding whether to renew support, the Commission will evaluate requests for renewal at the same time and together with new requests for financing from subsequent budgets and according to the criteria established for the year in question.</p> <p>Rate of the Union financial contribution: maximum 70%.</p>
Implementation	<p>Union financial contributions provided to individual Member States designated as beneficiaries.</p> <p>This action will be implemented by EASME.</p>
Indicative timetable	<p>Selection of beneficiary Member States in the 2nd half of 2015 on the basis of the criteria specified above.</p>

#### 1.4.3.2. Missions to Ensure the Implementation of the Rules of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), including Missions to Evaluate and Control the Application of the Rules of the CFP

**Subject:** The aim of the missions is to control and evaluate the implementation of the CFP. This includes, inter alia, missions to verify application of CFP rules in accordance with Title X of the Control Regulation. It also includes participation at meetings on the implementation of the Control Regulation and other CFP Rules.

**Amount:** €660.967

#### 1.4.3.3. Meetings of the expert group on fisheries control and of the expert group on compliance with the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) rules

**Subject:** The action aims at financing the costs related to the meetings of the expert group on fisheries control devoted to examine the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy as well as to the meetings of the expert group on the compliance with the CFP rules (Art. 37 of the Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of European Parliament and of the Council).

**Amount:** €320.000

#### **1.4.3.4. Training of European Commission officials involved in verification, autonomous inspections and audits**

**Subject:** Financing of the costs for the training of European Commission officials involved in verification, autonomous inspections and audits.

**Amount:** €25.000

#### **1.4.4. Budget heading 11 06 62 04**

**ACCOMPANYING MEASURES FOR THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY AND THE INTEGRATED MARITIME POLICY – GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION**

##### **Legal basis:**

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85(f) and 91 thereof.

#### **1.4.4.1. Publications to enhance the dialogue with the fishing industry and those affected by the CFP (OP)**

**Subject:** Financing the costs for storage, distribution and production services provided by the Publications Office (OP).

**Amount:** €120.000