



Brussels, 9.10.2019  
C(2019) 7127 final

ANNEX 1

**ANNEX**

*to the*

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**amending Decision C(2018) 8395 of 13 December 2018 on the financing of the European  
Maritime and Fisheries Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2019**

Annex is amended as follows:

(1) Point 1.1 is replaced by the following:

“On the basis of the objectives given in Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund this **amendment** to the work programme contains the new actions to be financed and the existing actions to be modified for year 2019.”

(2) Point 1.2.1.9 ‘Blue economy window’ is replaced by the following:

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Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	<b>EUR 22,505,000</b>
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The aim is to bring to market new products, services and business models in blue economy value chains and <b>develop sustainable and innovative</b> blue growth in Europe's sea basins.</p> <p>The Commission's first economic report on the blue economy <b>in 2018 and 2019</b> shows that innovative and emerging maritime sectors such as the maritime bio-economy and other sustainably managed sectors have a growth potential that can out-perform traditional sectors and create new opportunities and maritime jobs.</p> <p>However, a market study conducted by the Commission shows that there is a lack of investment in blue growth SMEs. The study concludes that both more EU investment support is needed in this area and that private investors need to be encouraged to give more attention to such emerging maritime businesses. In particular, the market study shows that businesses in innovative, sustainable <b>and circular</b> blue economy sectors, while receiving good financial support including from Horizon 2020 at the research stage, lack support on the path towards market entry and scaling up.</p> <p>The objective therefore is to develop and bring to market new products, services and business models that could develop pre-commercial innovations into ultimately revenue-generating activity. This will involve in particular the sustainable use of marine resources for <b>innovative and/or circular economic activities</b>, improved livelihoods and jobs, whilst contributing to EU goals.</p> <p>EU goals include in particular a sustainable blue economy, especially in Europe's sea basins, energy and food security, circular economy, reduced carbon and environmental footprint and competitiveness on a global scale.</p> <p>The grants shall aim to develop business concepts further into a market-ready product, service or process aligned with the applicant's blue economy growth strategy. Activities could, for example, include trials, prototyping, validation, demonstration and testing in real-world conditions, and market replication. <b>The aim is to bring to market</b></p>

	<b>new products, services and business models in the blue economy value chains and sustainable blue innovation in Europe’s sea basins.</b>
Award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must be for-profit SMEs<sup>1</sup> legally established in an EU Member State. They can apply as single applicant or in a consortium.</li> <li>• By way of derogation, applicants established in non-EU countries are eligible only if their involvement is necessary in view of the nature of the action and in order to reach its objectives. The coordinating entity must be established in an EU Member State.</li> <li>• Applicants must provide a letter of intent for investment support from a <b>financial intermediary eligible for equity or guarantees from the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI)<sup>23</sup> or equivalent institution or significant firm commitment from a customer.</b></li> <li>• Applicants must present a <b>business plan</b> and a first commercialisation plan.</li> <li>• <b>Applicants may not be in a situation of concurrent implementation with another EU funding instrument in respect of the same action.</b></li> </ul> <p>Selection criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must have the <b>economic</b>, financial, <b>technical</b> and <b>professional</b> capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</li> </ul> <p>Award criteria:</p> <p><b>Impact: customer segments, market size, competitors, business and commercialisation plan, IPR, contribution to EU policies, environmental impact;</b></p> <p><b>Innovation: for instance in terms of technology, area of application or business plan;</b></p> <p><b>Implementation: quality of the team, work plan and resources.</b></p> <p><b>In order to ensure a variety of high-level skills, knowledge and</b></p>

<sup>1</sup> Definition of SME: [http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en)  
For-profit SMEs’ means micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, as defined in Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC, that are not ‘non-profit legal entities (i.e., a ‘legal entity which by its legal form is non-profit-making or which has a legal or statutory obligation not to distribute profits to its shareholders or individual members’)

<sup>2</sup> **EFSI Equity:**  
[https://www.eif.org/what\\_we\\_do/efsi/equity-deals.pdf](https://www.eif.org/what_we_do/efsi/equity-deals.pdf)  
**Guarantees under EFSI** [https://www.eif.org/what\\_we\\_do/efsi/guarantee-deals.pdf](https://www.eif.org/what_we_do/efsi/guarantee-deals.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> **Templates and guidance will be provided in the call for proposals**

	<b>experience in different domain and sectors, proposals will be evaluated by independent expert evaluators selected and monitored by EASME.</b>
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 70%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the <b>last</b> quarter of 2019.

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- (3) In the title of Point 1.2.2.10 (e) ‘and to the BlackSea4Fish project’ is added. Point 1.2.2.10 (e) is replaced by the following:

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Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 3,800,000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Improving the situation of the Mediterranean and Black Sea capture fisheries and aquaculture is a priority. The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) <b>is the main conduit notably via the implementation of its Mid Term Strategy (2017-2020) for DG MARE to define multiannual fisheries management plans in the GFCM areas of competence, reinforcing compliance with GFCM recommendations and decisions by Members and relevant non-Members and supporting the fostering of a sustainable aquaculture in the region.</b></p> <p>The implementation of the activities and strategy of the GFCM have been planned and decided according to the priorities identified and agreed during the 41th and 42nd sessions of the GFCM.</p> <p>These actions, will <b>support the preparation</b> of recommendations to be submitted to the 43<sup>rd</sup> session of the GFCM (2019) for which appropriate support will be provided for the organisation of specific meetings, workshops and seminars <b>as well as the implementation of existing ones.</b></p> <p><b>This action will also support the implementation of regional research and scientific activities in the Black Sea (BlackSea4Fish) aimed at improving the scientific knowledge on fish stocks, supporting and improving the scientific advice provided by the GFCM Working Group on Black Sea and therefore supporting the decision making process on regional management measures adopted by the GFCM. This regional action improves the provision and sharing of scientific work and data with non-EU partner countries and contributes to the enhancement of their capacity in participating actively in the GFCM bodies for sustainable fisheries management.</b></p>

	<b>The BlackSea4Fish project is a successful regional example of ongoing multilateral cooperation derived from the Bucharest Declaration. Launched in 2016, the project became an important regional platform supporting collaboration between scientists on marine fisheries. The future activities of the project include a plethora of scientific and research activities aiming at enhancing cooperation to address multiple pressures using an ecosystem approach.</b>
Award criteria	The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 85%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreements to be concluded in the <b>last quarter</b> of 2019.

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(4) A new point 1.2.2.12 (b) ‘NAFO Observe Program: Data digitalisation’ is added:

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<b>Type</b>	<b>Action grant following a call for proposals</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>€20,000</b>
<b>Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results</b>	<b>The specific goal of the action is the digitalisation of the NAFO observer reports to provide reliable and accurate data sets, notably at the haul level data, at least from 2008 until the most recent ones, in view of the 2020 Scientific Council.</b>
<b>Award criteria</b>	<b>The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.</b>
<b>Implementation</b>	<b>The action will be implemented by MARE.</b>
<b>Cofinancing involved</b>	<b>Maximum 80%</b>
<b>Indicative timetable</b>	<b>Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4th quarter of 2019.</b>

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(5) Point 1.3.1.10 ‘Blue economy indicators’ is replaced by the following:

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Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The aim of this action is to obtain the most accurate and up-to-date picture of the blue economy, using existing data from Eurostat and other sources. The purpose is therefore to set up an on-line system that will take, as input, data from structural business statistics, input-output tables, labour force surveys, the Data Collection Framework and tourism statistics, to provide quantitative measurement of the set indicators for the status and trends of the blue economy - for the EU as a whole, at Member State level and for other entities as appropriate.</p> <p>The data will be made available, under certain conditions, through the internet as charts or downloadable files and will allow the input of new raw data as they become available. The tools will update data, at least, on annual basis and allow for a through quality check of the data sets.</p>
Number and type of contract(s)	One specific contract under an existing DIGIT framework contract.
Indicative Budget	€ 115,000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE <b>and via co-delegation to DIGIT</b>
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the <b>last</b> semester of 2019.

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- (6) A new point 1.3.1.13 Study supporting the evaluation of EU Regulation (EU) 2016/2336 establishing specific conditions for fishing for deep-sea stocks is added:

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Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p><b>EU Regulation (EU) 2016/2336 contributes to achieving the sustainable exploitation of deep-sea stocks while reducing the environmental impact of these fisheries, preventing adverse impacts on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) in EU waters and enlarging the information base for scientific assessment.</b></p> <p><b>The purpose of this contract is to support the evaluation of the Regulation by 13 January 2021, as per the legal obligation enshrined in the Regulation.</b></p> <p><b>It is deemed to evaluate its impact and to determine to which extent its objectives have been achieved in line with the Better Regulation Framework.</b></p>
Number and type of contract(s)	<b>One specific contract to be concluded under framework contract EASME/EMFF/2016/029 or any other relevant framework contract in force in the European Commission, or service contract to be concluded following a call for tenders.</b>

<b>Indicative budget</b>	<b>EUR 250,000</b>
<b>Implementation</b>	<b>This action will be implemented by EASME</b>
<b>Indicative timetable</b>	<b>Specific contract to be concluded in the last quarter of 2019</b>

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- (7) A new point 1.3.1.14 ‘Reporting methods for fishing gear placed on the market and waste gear’ is added:

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<b>Subject matter of the contracts envisaged</b>	<p><b>The aim of this study is to contribute to implementing acts for directives on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment (SUP Directive) and port reception facilities (PRF Directive).</b></p> <p><b>It will contribute to feasible, effective and harmonised reporting methods and formats. The reporting should allow reliability and comparability of data across Member States. The quality check reports that accompany the data submitted by the Member States will include all the necessary elements to allow for the proper verification of the data.</b></p> <p><b>The reporting should cover fishing gear placed on the market, collected at ports as well as passively fished waste gear. It should take into account present and planned requirements under waste legislation, the Common Fisheries Policy, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) and future requirements on recyclability.</b></p>
<b>Number and type of contract(s)</b>	<b>Specific contract to be concluded under framework contract No EASME/EMFF/2016/029 for Better Regulation related activities, or any other relevant framework contract in force in the European Commission, or service contract to be concluded following a call for tenders.</b>
<b>Indicative Budget</b>	<b>EUR 300,000</b>
<b>Implementation</b>	<b>This action will be implemented by EASME</b>
<b>Indicative timetable</b>	<b>Specific contract to be concluded in the last quarter of 2019</b>

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