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ANNEX 1

**ANNEX**

**to the**

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**concerning the adoption of the work programme for 2017 and the financing decision for  
the implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund**

## ANNEX

### Work programme 2017 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 2017 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (1.2), amounting to €29.29 million
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (1.3), amounting to €41.31 million
- for other actions (implemented under direct management) (1.4), amounting to €5.00 million

#### **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. Environmental monitoring of tidal arrays*

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.500.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The development of an ocean energy industry in Europe fits well with several of the EU's key priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- it is renewable energy, contributing to the EU's goals for greenhouse gas emissions reductions and supporting the EU's implementation plan for the COP21 Paris agreement;</li><li>- it is an innovative industry which is already supporting jobs and growth in the EU and has the potential to establish a new industrial sector, as EU companies are currently world leaders in this sector;</li><li>- it is one of the sectors that was identified in the Commission's Blue Growth Communication as an area where EU action can complement initiatives by the Member States to help this nascent industry develop faster;</li></ul> <p>-it contributes to the Atlantic Strategy objective of reducing the carbon footprint of the Atlantic.</p> <p>The deployment of first arrays is crucial for the further development of the ocean energy sector. However, as these are first-of-a-kind</p>

	<p>projects, there is a high degree of uncertainty, including on the application of some parts of the legislative framework for protection of the marine environment (such as MSFD, MSP, EIA and SEA directives, NATURA 2000 and the respective national legal rules). As these first deployments are without precedent, there is not much empirical data to assess the impacts. Therefore, close monitoring of the environmental impacts of these first tidal energy demonstration arrays is essential and will contribute to a better understanding and a more solid basis for assessing the impacts of future deployments of tidal energy devices, benefiting the further development of the ocean energy sector as a whole. This has been identified by the Ocean Energy Forum as a key challenge to be tackled to help the industry move towards commercialisation faster.</p> <p>The cost of full-scale environmental monitoring would be disproportionate to the relatively small scale of these early demonstration projects. An action to contribute to the monitoring of the environmental impacts of these first tidal arrays will be in the general interest of both minimising environmental impacts and promoting renewable marine energy. The information gathered will be used to broaden the knowledge base on the environmental impacts of ocean energy deployments and will enable the fine-tuning of impact assessment models, lowering uncertainty, risk and costs for future deployments and contributing to speeding up the further development of the ocean energy industry.</p> <p>This action should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contribute to increasing environmental data on the impact of tidal stream arrays;</li> <li>• contribute to reducing uncertainty in modelling potential impacts of future tidal stream arrays.</li> </ul> <p>In order to achieve these results, the action will provide grant support to public administrations of Member States and/or project developers to support environmental monitoring programmes for the first tidal array deployments in the EU.</p> <p>The Commission estimates that up to 3 projects may be supported under this action.</p>
<p>Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria</p> <p>Applicants must be private or public legal entities established in an EU Member State.</p> <p>Selection criteria</p> <p>Applicants must have the financial and operational capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance and added value: Relevance of the proposal and its expected results to achieving the objectives of the action. Added value of the proposal in terms of innovation,</li> </ul>

	<p>synergies/complementarity with other relevant initiatives or EU policies, capacity to involve and promote dialogue and cooperation with relevant stakeholders, coverage of Member States bordering the selected area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project implementation: Effectiveness and coherence of the work plan. Feasibility in terms of activities and timetable. Appropriate and balanced allocation of tasks and human resources. Appropriate project management set-up. Complementarity of partners. Adequate risk management.</li> <li>• Budget and cost-effectiveness: Clearly presented and appropriate budget involving a cost-effective allocation of financial resources in relation to the expected results and the planned activities and outputs.</li> <li>• Impact: Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results, potential multiplier effect.</li> </ul>
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.2.1.2. Demonstration projects in emerging blue economy sectors

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 4.500.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Europe's maritime and coastal economy – or 'blue economy' – has a significant potential to contribute to long-term sustainable job creation and economic development. The potential for sustainable maritime growth was recognised in the 2012 European Commission Communication on opportunities for marine and maritime sustainable growth, which in turn contributes to the maritime dimension of the Europe 2020 strategy. That potential has been examined during 2012-14 by a series of in-depth reports (covering each European sea basin area in turn) which identified different key sectors with high development potential.</p> <p>The 2014 European Commission Communication on "Innovation in the Blue Economy" puts an emphasis on investments and innovation in five emerging blue economy sectors; aquaculture, blue biotechnology, ocean energy, seabed mining and coastal tourism. In addition, it has been projected by the OECD in its 2016 report on "The Ocean Economy in 2030" that a group of enabling technologies – such as imaging and physical sensors, satellite technologies, advanced materials, ICT, big data analytics, autonomous systems, biotechnology, nanotechnology and subsea engineering – promise breakthrough innovations as well as improvements in efficiency, productivity and cost structures in many ocean activities.</p> <p>The importance of such enabling technologies for driving innovation</p>

	<p>and competitiveness of EU industry was also at the core of the work of the European Commission's High-Level Group on Key Enabling Technologies (KET) which, in its 2015 final report, highlighted the importance to promote KETs' uptake in SMEs to drive product and process innovation as well as support demonstration activities. Support to demonstration projects is important to enhance the application of new knowledge, ideas and research results into marketable goods and services in the maritime economy.</p> <p>Stakeholder feedback also highlights the potential for collaboration between players in traditional and new or emerging maritime sectors to boost innovation in the blue economy. Joint cooperation projects can concentrate complementary skills, knowledge and resources to bring to market innovative solutions with multi-use applications in the blue economy.</p> <p>This action will support the development and testing of new industry and service applications and solutions for the maritime economy, by providing funding to a selected number of high-potential test cases and demonstration projects.</p> <p>Priority will be given to projects which foster a collaboration approach, can support one or more maritime economy sectors and which tackle innovation challenges such as (<i>the following list is not exhaustive</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• naturally ‘derived’ products (marine food and products from bio-marine resources, energy etc.);</li> <li>• innovative subsea technology solutions;</li> <li>• environmental and monitoring technology.</li> </ul> <p>The action is expected to provide funding to demonstrator pilots developed by a partnership. This funding should also a) help to give the necessary credibility to the high-potential pilot projects to be able to access private financing for the further development of their business and b) result in, and be conditional on, the demonstrator/pilot project securing additional co-funding of at least 25% from other public/private resources, as outlined in an investment plan.</p> <p>The Commission estimates that approximately 6-8 projects may be supported under this action.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must be private or public legal entities established in an EU Member State.</li> <li>• A proposal must include at least two entities legally established in different EU Member States. Other private and public legal entities can participate.</li> <li>• Applicants established in non-EU countries bordering a EU sea basin are eligible if a project activity is carried out outside the territory of the Union, or if the involvement of those applicants from non-EU countries is necessary in view of the nature of the</li> </ul>

	<p>action and in order to achieve its objectives.</p> <p>Selection criteria</p> <p>Applicants must have the financial and operational capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance and added value: Relevance of the proposal and its expected results to achieving the objectives of the action and identified priorities. Added value of the proposal in terms of synergies/complementarity with existing or past collaborative projects (e.g. at sea basin level).</li> <li>• Project implementation: Effectiveness and coherence of the work plan. Feasibility in terms of activities and timetable. Appropriate and balanced allocation of tasks and human resources. Appropriate project management set-up. Complementarity of partners. Adequate risk management.</li> <li>• Budget and cost-effectiveness: Clearly presented and appropriate budget involving a cost-effective allocation of financial resources in relation to the expected results and the planned activities and outputs.</li> <li>• Impact: Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results, potential multiplier effect, proposed methodology to promote transfer and uptake of KETs in traditional or emerging maritime economy sectors.</li> </ul>
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 75%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

1.2.1.3. Implementing Maritime CISE: Upgrading MS maritime authorities' ICT systems to enhance information sharing for maritime surveillance in the frame of the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) - test CISE interoperability solutions

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.060.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Maritime surveillance efficiency and cost-effectiveness can be improved, through better maritime awareness. The Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) for the surveillance of the EU maritime domain is a voluntary collaborative process aiming to provide authorities, interested or active in maritime surveillance, with improved means to enhance the exchange of information and data. It is complementary to the existing and constantly developing maritime surveillance systems hosted in the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), in the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) and in the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) and the integrated maritime services already provided to national authorities.

It facilitates the interoperability between existing Union and national surveillance systems and networks in order to enhance authorities' capacities for their missions at sea.

This action seeks in particular to implement action 3 of section 4 of the Commission Communication (2014)451 final which states that "Member States should in parallel be encouraged to continue to work on modernising their maritime surveillance IT set-up, where there is a need, and further enhance information sharing between authorities involved in maritime surveillance".

The action also seeks co-financing efforts to set up new information flows / information services at national level across sectors and across MS/EEA (excluding any possible double financing of activities by authorities participating in the 'EUCISE2020' project co-financed under FP7). While the 'EUCISE2020' should provide large-scale tests across the EU/EEA, the present action should kick-start the development and implementation of particular new information flows / information services between authorities where there is demonstrated added value.

The main objective of this action is to support efforts in the Member States and EEA countries to inter-connect national maritime IT systems with the aim of enhancing cross-sectorial information sharing.

The concerned sectors are: maritime safety and security, fisheries control, marine environment protection, customs, border control, general law enforcement and defence.

The grant will support setting up and testing interoperability solutions at national level. Interoperability solutions between information exchanges provided under EU law by EU agencies and information exchanges not covered by such legislation should also be considered. Such actions can include or can be limited to preparatory work (e.g. studies).

The action should result in increased interoperability between national maritime surveillance authorities and in new information flows / information services to be developed and/or implemented.

Projects must take due account of the existing and forthcoming cross-sectorial information systems, and especially systems laid down by EU law (such as those referred to in the said Communication, inter alia the INSPIRE directive 2007/2/EC and its implementing rules as well as the Union Maritime Information Exchange System laid down in directive 2002/59/EC and directive 2010/65/EU and, the European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR) laid down in Regulation 2013/1052/EU).

Applicants should take due account of existing interoperability solutions in EU law but will also be encouraged to make use of semantic and technical specifications as well as other interoperability solutions developed so far in CISE and tested in the 'EUCISE2020' project.

	The Commission estimates that up to 5 projects may be supported under this action.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria</p> <p>Applicants must be public authorities of EU Member States or EEA countries. Private, non-governmental, international, regional, research or other organisations can participate as well as partners.</p> <p>Selection criteria</p> <p>Applicants must have the financial and operational capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance to the objectives of the call.</li> <li>• Added value and innovation regarding the expected increase of efficiency and effectiveness in maritime surveillance duties.</li> <li>• Appropriate and clear methodology ensuring that the project implementation is coherent, realistic and feasible in terms of actions and timetable. Effectiveness of the proposed project organisation and management of resources.</li> <li>• Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results.</li> </ul>
Implementation	This 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 2017.

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
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 the Member States' participating Coast Guard authorities (UK Maritime and Coast Guard Agency, UKMCA, for 2016; the host for 2017 will be Portugal).</p> <p>The objective of the action is to support the ECGFF annual high-level conference and related planning activities, such as secretariat meetings, in order to enhance sectorial and cross-sectorial cooperation between Coast Guard Functions, the exchange of best practices and to promote a dialogue at international, regional and national level. The support to the ECGFF has to be seen as complementary to the new European cooperation on Coast Guard functions based on the revised EU Legislation regulating the activities of the 3 EU maritime Agencies: EMSA, EFCA and the new</p>



	<p>European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex). This new cooperation will enhance cooperation between authorities to manage safety, security, environmental and other coast guard functions.</p> <p>Cooperation between Coast Guard Functions (CGF) is vital for maintaining safe, secure and clean seas. Such cooperation is an important element in the context of e.g. the European Maritime Security Strategy Action Plan (EUMSS-AP).</p> <p>EU Agencies will now have a primary role when it comes to relations with the ECGFF given the technical and operational nature of the work of this forum. The objective is to have CGF progressively aligning their operational procedures. This alignment will be supported by the activities and the services provided by the agencies. Defining common operational needs will lead to enhanced effectiveness and cost efficiency of CGF.</p> <p>The ECGFF will continue to be supported as a pool of expertise on technical and operational issues and on the condition that there is strong interaction between the agencies' work and the ECGFF related projects to avoid duplication. The forum input appears of much added value in order to collect feedback and better tailor the joint services which the Agencies should provide to national authorities.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 (1) f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the relevant public authority in Portugal.</p> <p>The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the implementation of the action is sufficient to achieve the required quality, and that the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost-effective.</p>
Implementation	This 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 2017.

#### 1.2.1.5. Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MCGFF)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
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 Member States and third countries.</p> <p>In 2009, a forum was created to bring together the public authorities carrying out Coast Guard Functions in Member States and in third countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. Since then, annual sessions of this forum have taken place. The host nation for 2017 has not yet been decided.</p>

	<p>The main objective of this grant is to support the MCGFF framework of cooperation.</p> <p>Cooperation between national authorities in charge of Coast Guard functions is vital so as to enhance the safety, security and environmental protection of the Mediterranean sea basin. Such cooperation is an important element in the context of the European Maritime Security Strategy Action Plan (EUMSS-AP).</p> <p>The objective is to enable national authorities in charge of Coast Guard functions across the Mediterranean basin to develop mutual knowledge, share experience and best practices, as well as to identify areas for further cooperation.</p> <p>The expected results are: improved regional cooperation in the Mediterranean Sea basin on issues related to Coast Guard Functions, and enhanced safety, security and environmental protection of the Mediterranean Sea basin.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 (1) f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the MCGFF host country's relevant public authority. The host country can be a Member State or a third country.</p> <p>The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the implementation of the action is sufficient to achieve the required quality in a cost-effective way.</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 2017.

#### 1.2.1.6. Projects on Integrated Maritime Policy in the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.500.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Cooperation on Integrated Maritime Policy in the Mediterranean Sea needs to be fostered through concrete projects involving private and public maritime stakeholders from the concerned countries.</p> <p>This action aims at promoting job creation, innovation and entrepreneurship in the blue economy of the Mediterranean Sea, based on selected deliverables of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on the Blue Economy, adopted on 17 November 2015.</p> <p>The action is also intended to complement other related ongoing processes, both at sea basin and sub-regional levels as well as EMFF actions launched in 2015 and 2016, such as the actions EASME/EMFF/2015/1.3.1.19 'Support to the development of a maritime strategy in the Western Mediterranean sub-sea basin' and</p>

	<p>EASME/EMFF/2016/1.2.1.1 'Promoting the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean' and other instruments, such the Horizon 2020 EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.</p> <p>The action will consist of a call for proposals for the award of grants aiming at one of the following objectives:</p> <p>a) To pilot networking amongst maritime education and training institutes in the Mediterranean to promote mutual understanding, awareness-raising, identification of common needs and joint actions responding to well-identified challenges hindering the development of maritime skills and professions that are necessary for sustainable growth of the blue economy in the Mediterranean;</p> <p>b) To promote the networking between maritime clusters in the Mediterranean around concrete initiatives/topics focusing on research and innovation, business development or skills development, in relation to the maritime policy/the blue economy.</p> <p>The supported projects should produce concrete results/initiatives that will directly contribute to developments in the blue economy of the Mediterranean Sea by e.g. creating or diversifying jobs, increasing student mobility and traineeships, enhancing cooperation between businesses and education providers in order to fill skills gaps (also by pooling equipments, facilities and human resources), increasing innovation and research capacities by effectively using existing infrastructure and facilitating technology transfers. These results/initiatives should seek complementarities with relevant sea basin and sub-regional initiatives and policy priorities in the Mediterranean, such as the EU Strategy for Adriatic and Ionian Region, the BLUEMED initiative for blue growth and jobs in the Mediterranean and a possible initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy in the Western Mediterranean.</p> <p>The Commission estimates that around 3 projects may be supported under this action for a maximum duration of 2 years.</p>
Award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The coordinating entity has to be established in an EU Member State. Other partner must be legal entities established in EU Member States or in a Mediterranean partner country participating in the UfM. Project applicants must be public or private entities (profit or non-profit) active in the field of maritime affairs.</li> <li>• To be eligible for objective a), proposals must include a transnational partnership of applicants from at least 3 different eligible countries as described above, of which at least two must be from different EU Member States and at least one from an eligible partner country.</li> <li>• To be eligible for objective b), proposals must include a transnational partnership of applicants from at least 3 different eligible countries as described above, of which at least two must</li> </ul>

	<p>be established maritime clusters, whether from an EU Member State or from a partner country.</p> <p>Selection criteria</p> <p>Applicants must have the financial and operational capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance and added value: Relevance of the proposal and its expected results to achieving the objectives of the action. Added value of the proposal in terms of innovation, synergies/complementarity with other initiatives/policies (notably established sea basin-based initiatives), regional outreach and involvement of non-EU Member States.</li> <li>• Project implementation: Effectiveness and coherence of the work plan. Feasibility in terms of activities and timetable. Appropriate and balanced allocation of tasks and human resources. Appropriate project management set-up. Complementarity of partners. Adequate risk management.</li> <li>• Budget and cost-effectiveness: Clearly presented and appropriate budget involving a cost-effective allocation of financial resources in relation to the expected results and the planned activities and outputs.</li> <li>• Impact: Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results, potential multiplier effect.</li> </ul> <p>The action aims at supporting at least one project per objective identified above, provided that for each objective at least one proposal reaches a sufficient quality score following the evaluation of the award criteria. Within the available budget, further projects will be proposed for funding by order of merit according to their score on the basis of the evaluation of the award criteria.</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 2017.

1.2.1.7. Promotion of Europe's coastal destinations as a tourist destination – co-operation with the European Travel Commission

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 800.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The Communication "Europe, the world's No 1 tourist destination – a new political framework for tourism in Europe" presented in its action 16 a call for a coastal and maritime tourism strategy. In February 2014, the Commission adopted a Communication on "A European Strategy for more Growth and Jobs in Coastal and Maritime Tourism". This Communication highlighted the importance

	<p>of the touristic promotion of our coastal regions and as a means to increase the competitiveness of the coastal and maritime tourism sector in Europe. Thus one of the deliverables, as provided by action 2 of the Communication, is to: "Develop a coastal and maritime focus, where appropriate, in EU tourism initiatives, including in promotional and communication campaigns".</p> <p>In order to attract increased international tourist arrivals from third countries to Europe, cooperation will be strengthened with the European Travel Commission (ETC) through an ad hoc grant for extensive actions to promote Europe as a tourist destination. This is a topping up of an action planned by DG GROW. The focus will be on transnational thematic products such as cultural tourism, creative industries and high-end products, gastronomy, natural heritage. A special emphasis on coastal regions is required. This grant aims at specifically promoting coastal and maritime tourism in a joint action. It helps to avoid duplication of effort in identifying the right markets for promotion and in bringing added value to the coastal and maritime tourism segment of the tourism sector, while ensuring sustainable economic, social and environmental development of our coasts and oceans. Gathering together the National Tourism Organisations of 33 European countries, ETC represents the non-profit organisation empowered by the Member States to promote Europe in third countries, in particular long-haul markets. ETC officially complements and adds value to the promotional and marketing efforts of member countries.</p> <p>Online and social media promotion and marketing campaign focusing on the promotion of visiteurope.com and conversion tactics specific for a selected target market. Increased touristic promotion of Europe's coastal and maritime regions in external markets through social media promotion and marketing campaign focusing on visiteurope.com. Enhanced image of Destination Europe and the portal visiteurope.com, through participation in tourism and travel fairs and organisation of relevant events.</p>
Award criteria	<p>Grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 (1) f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the European Travel Commission.</p> <p>The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the implementation of the actions is sufficient to achieve the required quality, and that the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost-effective.</p>
Implementation	<p>This action will be implemented through a cross sub-delegation to DG GROW.</p>
Cofinancing involved	<p>Maximum 80%</p>
Indicative timetable	<p>Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.</p>

### 1.2.1.8. Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) projects

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 3.000.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is an essential process/tool intended to contribute to the sustainable economic growth of our seas and oceans. Its use should also stimulate coherent cross-border investment in the blue economy.</p> <p>The objective of these grants is to support the work of the Member States in implementing the Directive establishing a framework for MSP. This will be particularly important in view of the fact that Member States will need to set up their MSP processes if they are to meet the Directive's deadline for the establishment and implementation of their maritime spatial plans by 2021 at the latest.</p> <p>The grants will support cross-border MSP cooperation initiatives between Member States in the Atlantic, the Western Mediterranean and the Eastern Mediterranean (Adriatic, Ionian Sea and Cyprus). The Commission reserves the right to modify the geographical scope of the projects.</p> <p>The projects will involve concrete actions in Member States helping to build capacity for the implementation of the Directive, and will provide support for the establishment of lasting mechanisms for cross-border cooperation. They will build on prior experience from existing and past MSP projects. The Commission estimates that 3 projects may be supported under this action.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must be public authorities or bodies in charge of maritime spatial planning of those coastal Member States which are responsible for MSP in the selected area.</li> <li>• Other legal entities shall be considered eligible applicants provided that they are endorsed by the public authorities or bodies in charge of maritime spatial planning at national level in the related coastal Member States.</li> <li>• Applicants from at least two Member States must be involved in each proposal.</li> </ul> <p>Selection criteria</p> <p>Applicants must have the financial and operational capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance and added value: Relevance of the proposal and its expected results to achieving the objectives of the action. Added value of the proposal in terms of geographical coverage of Member States bordering the selected (sub-)sea basin.</li> <li>• Project implementation: Effectiveness and coherence of the work plan. Feasibility in terms of activities and timetable. Appropriate</li> </ul>

	<p>and balanced allocation of tasks and human resources. Appropriate project management set-up. Complementarity of partners. Adequate risk management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget and cost-effectiveness: Clearly presented and appropriate budget involving a cost-effective allocation of financial resources in relation to the expected results and the planned activities and outputs.</li> <li>• Impact: Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results, potential multiplier effect.</li> </ul> <p>The action aims at supporting at least one project in the Atlantic, the Western Mediterranean and the Eastern Mediterranean respectively, provided that for each (sub-)sea basin at least one proposal reaches a sufficient quality score following the evaluation of the award criteria. Within the available budget, further projects will be proposed for funding by order of merit according to their score on the basis of the evaluation of the award criteria.</p>
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

1.2.1.9. Supporting the next implementation cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 2.000.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The action supports the second 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 identified a number of shortcomings in the first implementation cycle and led to a proposal of revision of the Commission Decision (2010/477/EU) on criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters (GES).</p> <p>This proposal should be adopted before end 2016.</p> <p>In the meantime, Member States set up monitoring programmes and many finalised their programmes of measures, or are about to finalise them.</p> <p>On the basis of the future revised Commission decision on GES, and based on the forthcoming Commission assessment of the Member States' monitoring programmes and programmes of measures, Member States will have to take further actions and cooperate to ensure an adequate and coherent implementation of the Directive.</p> <p>On the basis of the future revised Commission decision on GES,</p>

	<p>further efforts at (sub)regional level are needed, in particular in the area of establishment of threshold values for the different criteria or of lists of relevant criteria elements to be used, to enable the assessment of the extent to which good environmental status is being achieved.</p> <p>Furthermore, there are increasing examples of good practice in regional cooperation where joined-up actions in relation to monitoring are more cost-effective than countries acting on their own. The development of coordinated and integrated monitoring activities, including sharing information and deployment of new techniques, could decrease the cost of monitoring.</p> <p>Finally, the action could support the regional coordination and cooperation concerning any new measure to be introduced, including carrying out the impact assessment and cost-benefit analyses for the different options available to reduce pressures to the marine environment.</p> <p>The action to be cofinanced will assist regional cooperation among Member States in the implementation of the Directive. It will provide a framework for cooperation in further defining the criteria for GES (elements and (sub)regional threshold values stemming from the revision).</p> <p>It will lead to the development of coordinated and integrated monitoring activities and will support the introduction of any new measure needed to achieve or maintain GES.</p> <p>The Commission estimates that up to 10 projects may be supported under this action.</p>
Award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria</p> <p>Applicants must be public or private authorities or bodies, and their partners (potential co-beneficiaries of the grant) must be registered in an EU Member State or be an international organisation.</p> <p>Partners from third countries which are 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% of the total cost for the action for each third country partner and a maximum total of 10% for all third country partners together, if this is necessary for the implementation of the action.</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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Relevance of the proposal and its expected results to the objectives of the action;</li> <li>- Appropriate and clear methodology ensuring the project implementation is coherent, realistic and feasible in</li> </ul>



	<p>terms of actions and timetable;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cost effective deployment of resources in relation to the objectives;</li> <li>- Added value of the proposal in terms of originality / innovation / geographical coverage;</li> <li>- Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results.</li> </ul>
Implementation	This action will be implemented through a co-delegation to DG ENV.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the first quarter of 2018.

1.2.1.10. Project to support international ocean governance through a Blue Economy Development Framework facility

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.000.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The current framework for international ocean governance is not effective enough in ensuring the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources. Its improvement, to ensure that ocean resources globally are used in a sustainable manner in order to maximise returns in terms of revenue, jobs and growth from the blue economy, is a strategic priority for the European Commission. The Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries has been instructed by President Juncker to engage in shaping international ocean governance in the United Nations, in other multilateral fora and bilaterally with key partners.</p> <p>Work on the Blue Economy must ensure that economic growth and social and environmental sustainability is maintained beyond the 2020 timeframe, taking into account the Europe 2020 review and the internal and external implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Marine and coastal development that enhances economic growth needs to be environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive. Interactions and trade-offs between sectors and investments need to be clearly defined and articulated. For example, funds used to support fisheries infrastructure (ports, vessels, equipment etc.) also need to be predicated upon sound fisheries management and sustainable development.</p> <p>International collaboration and coordination is important to optimise the use of resources and avoid duplication. The European Commission should for this purpose engage with the World Bank, and other actors, to support the development of a robust, evidence-based Blue Economy Development Framework (BEDF) that seeks to understand the value, interactions and trade-offs of existing and emerging blue economy sectors.</p> <p>Given this, an underlying BEDF is required that lays out a growth</p>

	<p>trajectory for the blue economy and models potential pathways for countries. Such a BEDF would consist of three key activities. Firstly to articulate a compelling set of sustainable blue economy principles that will aid in building a constituency in the worlds of public and private capital to consider blue economy investment. Secondly to outline a methodology to estimate the potential stock and flow of jobs and GDP from increased investment in blue economy sectors, particularly in terms of impact on poverty alleviation and economic growth. And thirdly to pilot the methodology in select country types (e.g. large coastal, SIDS, fragile coastal, etc) and to quantify specific returns.</p> <p>To this end there is a need for an injection of resources to develop the BEDF as well as to make early technical assistance (TA) available. Such support could be channeled through the WB PROFISH Trust Fund (which is a Bank-managed fund) that already focuses on how to unlock the potential of the blue economy for poverty alleviation and has a track record of both cutting-edge analytical work and TA, or, if more appropriate, through a special-purpose instrument in accordance with the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>The results of this support – sustainable blue economy principles, and willing private and public capital markets that respond to demand from countries – could then be transformed into a large-scale Readiness Fund that could begin to build portfolios of investable blue economy ideas and match them with available capital worldwide.</p> <p>The EU, with its commitment to blue growth, ocean governance and the implementation of the SDGs, and with considerable experience of sustainable fisheries management, small-scale coastal community development (especially job creation in fisheries communities) and integrated maritime policy and ocean governance, should co-lead in this international effort together with other partners.</p> <p>The World Bank is the most suitable institution for leading the work, given its technical competence and high degree of specialisation in this area. The World Bank has to date actively promoted the sustainable blue economy within its current and future related portfolios.</p>
Award criteria	<p>Grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 (1) f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the World Bank Group.</p> <p>The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the implementation of the actions is sufficient to achieve the required quality, and that the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost-effective.</p>
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Administrative agreement to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

1.2.2. 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, in particular Article 87 (2) and (4).

1.2.2.1. Chartering/purchase of patrol vessels, aircraft and helicopters for control

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 2.500.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The objective is to encourage the enforcement of the CFP from a regionalised perspective by providing grants towards the joint chartering or purchase of control means (patrol vessels, aircrafts, helicopters or remotely piloted aircraft systems). As regionalisation is a key element of the reformed CFP, 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>Objectives pursued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enable the sharing of control resources at regional level in conformity with the regionalisation principle introduced by the reformed CFP;</li> <li>- Encourage Member States to have joined-up control means in order to provide significant savings and synergies in terms of cost;</li> <li>- Facilitate the implementation of Joint Deployment Plans (JDPs) under coordination of EFCA;</li> <li>- Improve the level playing field for fishing activities and control within the European Union.</li> </ul> <p>Expected results and main tasks to be carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improvement of the fisheries control level playing field at EU level;</li> <li>- Improvement of the cost-effectiveness of control activities;</li> <li>- Facilitation of the implementation of Joint Deployment Plans (JDPs) under coordination of EFCA in all geographical areas.</li> </ul> <p>The means will have to be used in priority for Specific Control and Inspection Programmes (Article 95 of the Control Regulation<sup>1</sup>) or Joint Deployment Plans (Chapter III of the EFCA Regulation<sup>2</sup>), in Common Control Programmes (Art. 94 of the Control Regulation), or in common control and inspection programmes (Art. 15 of the EFCA Regulation), unless otherwise agreed with the Commission.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EC) 1224/2009 of 20.11.2009

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EC) 768/2005 of 26.04.2005

	<p>Proposals will have to specify, inter alia, the geographical area concerned and the other Member State(s) participating in the proposal. In accordance with Article 87 (4) of the EMFF Regulation, only one of the Member States concerned shall be designated as a beneficiary.</p> <p>Chartered control means may be publicly or privately owned. Except in the case of chartering of control means owned by a public authority (ministry, agency or other public entity), the beneficiary Member State will have to follow public procurement rules<sup>3</sup>. A public authority (ministry, agency or other public entity) which owns control means cannot conclude a charter party with itself for using those means. The beneficiary public authority may, however, charter control means owned by another public authority (in such case, only the marginal costs incurred for the joint control activities may be considered for co-financing under this action).</p> <p>In case of chartering, the beneficiary will conclude yearly contracts. These contracts should be renewable up to three times.</p> <p>The Commission estimates that up to 3 projects may be supported under this action.</p>
<p>Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria for grant</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria</p> <p>Applicants must be public legal entities established in an EU Member State with responsibility for fisheries control.</p> <p>In accordance with Article 87 (4) of the EMFF Regulation, only one of the Member States concerned shall be designated as a beneficiary. To be eligible, applications have to be submitted by a single eligible applicant, which will become the sole beneficiary in case the application is successful. In view of the objective of the action, applications will have to demonstrate the collaboration commitment from the partner Member States.</p> <p>Selection criteria</p> <p>Applicants must have the financial and operational capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Relevance and added value:</b> Relevance of the proposal and its expected results to achieving the objectives of the action. Added value of the proposal in terms of geographical coverage, support to the implementation of existing multi-annual plans or management plans or international obligations of the EU in relation to fisheries control.</li> <li>• <b>Project implementation:</b> Effectiveness and coherence of the work plan. Feasibility in terms of activities and timetable. Appropriate and balanced allocation of tasks and human resources. Appropriate project management set-up. Adequate risk management.</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup>

Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 65)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget and cost-effectiveness: Clearly presented and appropriate budget involving a cost-effective allocation of financial resources in relation to the expected results and the planned activities and outputs.</li> <li>• Impact: Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results, potential multiplier effect, degree of usage of the means for fisheries control.</li> </ul> <p>The action aims at supporting projects in different sea basins, provided that for each sea basin at least one proposal reaches a sufficient quality score following the evaluation of the award criteria. Within the available budget, further projects will be proposed for funding by order of merit according to their score on the basis of the evaluation of the award criteria.</p>
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	<p>Within the limits of budgetary resources available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- maximum 90 % of the eligible expenditure for chartering;</li> <li>- maximum 80 % of the eligible expenditure for purchase.</li> </ul>
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

### 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. (Regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) and international organisations have the monopoly for the implementation of the actions).

#### 1.2.3.1. Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)

Council Decision (EU) 2015/2437 of 14 December 2015 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) concerning the membership of the Union in the Extended Commission of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna.

#### (a) Gene-tagging and Close-kin Research

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 80.000
Priorities of the year,	Actively support and contribute to the development of scientific

objectives pursued and expected results	<p>knowledge and advice as per Article 28.2 of the CFP Regulation</p> <p>There are two different actions foreseen: gene-tagging and close-kin.</p> <p>a) Gene-tagging is a mark –recapture tagging program, similar to conventional tagging programs, which can provide highly informative fishery independent data on the absolute abundance of juvenile SBT, for use in stock assessment and management procedures.</p> <p>The objectives of the pilot gene-tagging study are to test the field and lab logistics of large-scale gene-tagging juvenile SBT, and to calculate an absolute abundance estimate for the tagged cohort.</p> <p>b) Close-kin research has provided a fishery independent estimate of SBT spawning stock abundance for the SBT population. The program builds on the existing close-kin work and continued sample collection.</p> <p>The gene-tagging data are expected to provide absolute abundance estimates and are planned to be used in a new management procedure for the CCSBT.</p> <p>For close-kin research, the activities of the sample collection program in 2017 are to collect tissue and otoliths samples from 1000 adult fish landed in Indonesia and 1000 tissue samples from juvenile fish harvested in the Australian surface fishery, and to genotype the samples.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2017.

#### 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) **Definition of standards for electronic monitoring (EM) to improve the collection of catch and bycatch data from purse-seine and longline vessels (IATTC)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
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Budget	€ 120.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Improve data collection and monitoring of fisheries is a priority for the EU.</p> <p>Objectives pursued:</p> <p>Evaluate existing Electronic Monitoring systems in view of the establishment of electronic observer programs for longliners and for purse-seine vessels, in particular those of less than 363 t carrying capacity. Define minimum standards to apply when moving to e-observation in both purse seine and longline.</p> <p>Adoption of minimum standards for EM to complement scientific observer programs for control and monitoring purposes and so augment observer coverage in longline and purse seine fisheries of less than 363 t, in line with recommendations from the IATTC scientific staff.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the fourth quarter of 2017.

**(b) Testing Biodegradable Materials for Tropical Tuna FAD Fishery (IATTC)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 250.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Mitigating the negative undue impact of FAD fishing is a priority for the EU.</p> <p>Objectives pursued:</p> <p>Evaluate the use of specific biodegradable materials and designs of twines for the construction of FADs in natural environmental conditions. Test, compare and measure the efficiency of the new designs to aggregate tuna and non-tuna species in “real” conditions. Investigate potential ways to diminish the environmental effects of FAD lost and improve traceability.</p> <p>New designs of FADs that will reduce FADs’ ecological impact through improved design with non-entangling FADs and biodegradable material. Results will contribute to reducing mortality on protected species and to reducing the impact on ecosystems: marine debris, and drift into and damage sensitive habitats (such as coral reefs).</p> <p>The action should take stock of the outcomes of the FP7 MADE project (Mitigating Adverse Ecological impacts of open ocean fisheries).</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This 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 2017.

**(c) Identification of mitigation measures on Silky Sharks Fisheries (IATTC)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 250.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Conservation and management of shark species in line with scientific advice is a priority for the EU.</p> <p>Objectives pursued:</p> <p>Conduct experiments on mitigating silky shark catches in the EPO (Eastern Pacific Ocean), especially in longline fisheries, and on the survival of silky sharks captured by all gear types, with priority given to those gears with significant catches. Identify silky shark pupping grounds.</p> <p>This will allow for the reduction of the mortality rates of silky shark in the EPO and the identification of sensible areas for a better definition of time-area closures for silky shark in the region.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This 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 2017.

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) 2017 Annual Meeting (ICCAT)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 700.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The effective funding of RFMOs is a priority for the EU.</p> <p>The main objective is to support ICCAT in the organisation of its 2017 Annual Meeting.</p> <p>The EU has a leading and pivotal role in ICCAT, which is the most strategic RFMO for the EU as a whole and for several EU Member States that are active in ICCAT fisheries.</p> <p>In line with this role, the EU has the intention to table in 2017 several proposals for conservation, management and enforcement measures at this meeting with a view to improve the state of stocks under the provision of ICCAT.</p>



Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2nd quarter of 2017.

**(b) Capacity development fund (ICCAT)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 70.000
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.</p> <p>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 for developing ICCAT contracting parties.</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>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This 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 2017.

**(c) Strengthening the scientific basis for decision-making in ICCAT**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.270.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>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 sound management of these fishes requires best available science.</p> <p>In line with Article 28 (2) of the CFP "the Union shall actively support and contribute to the development of scientific knowledge and advice".</p> <p>The objective of this action is to improve the scientific basis for decision making in ICCAT by supporting different activities included</p>

	<p>in the Work programme of the Standing Committee for Statistics and Research (SCRS) and the 2015-2020 Science Strategic Programme, such as:</p> <p>Atlantic-wide research programme for Bluefin Tuna (GBYP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharks research and data collection programme</li> <li>• Swordfish – stock structure work</li> <li>• ICCAT dialogue between scientists and managers</li> </ul> <p>This action might concern several projects/activities, thus requiring separate grant agreements.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement/s to be concluded throughout 2017.

#### 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) Assistance to foster compliance (IOTC)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 180.000
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> <p>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;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>Support the organization of Working Parties and Technical Committees as defined by the IOTC Commission, as the Working group on FAD and the Technical Committee on Performance Review;</p> <p>Co-financing of Data Requirements missions to IOTC CPCs, in particular India and other developing coastal states in the Indian</p>

	<p>Ocean;</p> <p>Support to set-up web based procedures in the IOTC Web Site for the reporting of Fisheries Statistics by IOTC CPCs.</p> <p>This assistance should lead to enhanced compliance within the IOTC and reinforced administrative capacity in the beneficiary developing countries.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This 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 2017

**(b) Support implementation of the Regional Observer Scheme in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 400.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Better science and compliance are priorities for the EU's work in RFMOs.</p> <p>Objectives pursued:</p> <p>Increase the level of scientific knowledge of tuna, tuna-like stocks and ecosystems in the Indian Ocean through supporting the Regional Observer Scheme and enable IOTC to manage its fisheries on a more reliable scientific basis. Enhance the implementation of the IOTC legislation concerning data collection and raise the level of compliance on data reporting, respectively on the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence and on mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC members.</p> <p>Expected results and main tasks to be carried out:</p> <p>Increased scientific observation on fishing activities in accordance with the needs of the IOTC Scientific Committee and on the minimal rate of coverage established in the Resolution 11/04 and requirements of the Resolutions 15/01 and 15/02. The Scientific Committee will be able to further assess IOTC stocks and significantly reduce current level of scientific uncertainty.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This 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 2017.

**(c) Support to the IOTC Scientific Committee Program of Work – Year 3 (IOTC)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
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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 grant is to support the actions in place on stock structure, among populations within the Indian Ocean (and potentially with adjacent populations in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans). The action will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– tagging and work on post-release mortality;</li> <li>– support to an Observer Scheme training program;</li> <li>– support to Catch per unit effort standardisation and capacity building;</li> <li>– management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process and Harvest Control Rules;</li> <li>– dialogue between scientists and managers;</li> <li>– data compilation in coastal countries;</li> <li>– setting-up of web based procedures for the reporting of Observer Trip Reports;</li> <li>– training of coastal states technicians/samplers to improve data gathering and build capacity in fisheries science.</li> </ul> <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>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the second semester of 2017.

#### 1.2.3.5. Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean (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).

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 30.000
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</p>

	<p>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>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> semester of 2017.

#### 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)

##### (a) **Support to SIOFA implementation activities: science, compliance, developing countries & implementation of SIOFA agreement (SIOFA)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 40.000
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, control and surveillance, data collection and relevant scientific research.</p> <p>This action should result in enhanced compliance and improved scientific knowledge within the SIOFA.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the first semester of 2017.

1.2.3.7. Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (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) Mitigating by-catch of Big Eye Tuna (BET) by Purse Seine Fisheries (PS) in the WCPFC**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 300.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Ensuring sustainable fisheries of BET at MSY in line with political priority of the EU.</p> <p>Identify mitigation measures to ensure more selective catches and decrease of fishing mortality for (BET) which is currently overfished.</p> <p>Overfishing of BET is one of the issues of concerns in Purse Seine fisheries in the WCPFC. Although several initiatives have and still focus in identifying and testing mitigation methods and best practices to reduce the ratio of BET in the total catch, the situation does not seem to have significantly improved. The project will explore new innovative mitigation methods and approaches with the aim to propose techniques, technology and practices that could contribute in reducing the fishing pressure on the species concerned.</p> <p>As a results the basis for taking appropriate conservation measures for BET will be improved.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This 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 2017.

1.2.3.8. Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (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 the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO) bodies and working groups**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 150.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued	Effective functioning of RFMOs is a priority the EU

and expected results	Objectives pursued: To ensure proper functioning of NAFO as an RFMO. To maintain EU's leadership in the organisation. To ensure better-prepared decisions before NAFO's Annual Meeting The grant will provide support for the organisation of intersessional meetings of NAFO bodies (Standing Committee on International Control, Scientific Committee) and specialised working groups.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1st quarter of 2017.

**(b) Scientific assessment for Greenland Halibut (NAFO)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 50.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Better science is a priority for the EU's work with the RFMOs. Objectives pursued: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To maintain EU's leadership in the organisation.</li> <li>• Best available science for sound management decisions before NAFO's Annual Meeting decisions in NAFO. The grant will provide support for the organization of a consensus agreement on assessment methodologies which are to be used in future updated assessments.</li> </ul> As a result, the 'best available' methods that NAFO Scientific Council advice can be based on will be made available for a robust scientific advice process for relevant NAFO fisheries.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3th quarter of 2017.

**(c) Potential vulnerable marine ecosystems – Impacts on deep-sea fisheries – NEREIDA project (NAFO)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 300.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and	Better science is a priority for the EU's work in the RFMOs Objectives pursued:

expected results	<p>Ocean governance and external aspects of the CFP.</p> <p>To ensure proper functioning of NAFO as an RFMO.</p> <p>To maintain EU's leadership in the organisation.</p> <p>To ensure better-prepared decisions before NAFO's Annual Meeting</p> <p>The grant will provide support for a focussed Research and Development programme to address the development and implementation needs of the Ecosystem Approach in NAFO.</p> <p>Expected results and main tasks to be carried out:</p> <p>The collection of High resolution trawl impact data, to explore and model the characteristics of habitats, to further elaborate on multi-species modelling, to develop fishery specific VME risk and impact assessments, to define an approach for weighting the assessment criteria for Significant Adverse Impacts and the organization of science dissemination and knowledge transfer workshop. These tasks will result in obtaining a sound Ecosystem Approach in NAFO.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4th quarter of 2017.

**(d) Improvement of NAFO Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) website**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 15.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Efficient MCS and better compliance are priorities for the EU's work in RFMOs.</p> <p>Objectives pursued:</p> <p>To facilitate the use of the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) website.</p> <p>The MCS website currently it offers a platform for vessel registry information and on vessel inspection activities. The grant will support further development of the MCS website towards a secure central hub for sharing and storage of inspection/observer reports together with information submitted by Contracting Parties.</p> <p>The tool will become more user friendly and the exchange of information will be enhanced. The objective is to facilitate risk assessment and to reduce the filing burden.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.



Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1st quarter of 2017

#### 1.2.3.9. North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)

Council Decision 82/886/EEC of 13 December 1982 concerning the conclusion of the Convention for the Conservation of Salmon in the North Atlantic Ocean (OJ L 378, 31.12.1982, p. 24).

##### (a) Addressing Atlantic salmon mortality at sea (NASCO)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 300.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>In line with Article 28 (2) of the CFP "the Union shall actively support and contribute to the development of scientific knowledge and advice".</p> <p>The objective of this action is to improve the scientific understanding of the Atlantic salmon mortality and to contribute to developing tools for a more effective sea lice control. The action will support projects such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telemetry projects in the North East Atlantic Convention area;</li> <li>• Development of sea lice integrative model.</li> </ul> <p>Expected results and main tasks to be carried out:</p> <p>Improved knowledge on Atlantic Salmon mortality as basis for decision making.</p> <p>This action might concern several projects/activities, thus requiring separate grant agreements.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3rd quarter of 2017.

#### 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) Independent cost-benefit assessment of the options for strategic reorientation of the Central East Atlantic Fishery Commission (CECAF)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 90.000
Priorities of the	Improve the efficiency and performance of Regional Fisheries Bodies

year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>is an EU priority.</p> <p>One of the topics discussed during the 21<sup>st</sup> Session of CECAF (Dakar 20-22 April 2016) was the exploration of directions for improved functioning of CECAF, and collaboration with other regional and sub-regional organizations as a result of the Performance review implemented in 2011.</p> <p>To make an informed decision on a possible strategic reorientation of CECAF it would be necessary to carry out an independent cost-benefit analysis of the various options for such reorientation.</p> <p>The objective of this action is to contribute to such an assessment and to organize a regional workshop in which the options and their costs and benefits can be discussed in a participatory manner.</p> <p>The EU should contribute, inter alia, to promoting better transparency and to encouraging FAO to take the necessary steps towards a strategic re-orientation that could result in the establishment of a fully-fledged Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO) in the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The action will co-finance with CECAF an independent cost-benefit assessment of the various strategic re-orientation options for CECAF).</li> <li>• The resulting assessment should provide sufficient background for taking an informed decision on the future format and structure of CECAF.</li> </ul>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the first half of 2017.

**(b) Eight 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
Budget	€ 70.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Better science as a basis for sound fisheries management decisions is an EU priority.</p> <p>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 8<sup>th</sup> session 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> </ul>

	<p>- an overview of scientific activities in the region;</p> <p>- the examination of issues of key scientific concerns and the development of a future work programme for the region.</p> <p>The action should allow for better quality decisions by CEEAF.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This 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 2017.

**(c) Support to the establishment of a regional fisheries management organization for the Western Central Atlantic (WECAFC)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Improve the efficiency and performance of Regional Fisheries Bodies.</p> <p>Following a performance review, strategic planning and reorientation in 2013 -2015 a preliminary agreement among the members of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) was reached at WECAFC 16 (20-24 June 2016, Guadeloupe) to establish a Regional Fisheries Management organization (RFMO). The establishment of an RFMO is expected to take some 5 to 7 years and will involve 2 major preparatory regional meetings and an inaugural meeting. This action was requested by WECAFC 16 to enable the process towards the establishment of an RFMO.</p> <p>Expected results of the action are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Proposal for convention/agreement for an RFMO for the Western Central Atlantic.</li> <li>2. Draft rules of procedure and financial regulations for the future RFMO, a draft scheme and scale of contributions to the administrative/autonomous budget of the RFMO, and draft criteria for host country selection.</li> <li>3. A 1st Preparatory Meeting or Special session of WECAFC held in 2017 in which above documents have been discussed.</li> <li>4. A report of the 1st Preparatory Meeting or Special session of WECAFC published as FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report (in 3 languages) before June 2018.</li> <li>5. Updated roadmap (plan) for establishment of the RFMO in the Western Central Atlantic.</li> </ol>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.

Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the first half of 2017.

**(d) Support to the creation of a Regional Database and associated transversal WECAFC, CRFM, OSPESCA, IFREMER and CFMC Working Group on fisheries data and statistics (WECAFC)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 80 000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Well-functioning and efficient fisheries organisations are an EU priority. In recent years it has been an important need to improve data collection and to reduce the data collection deficiencies as well as to create a balance throughout the geographical regions included in the WECAFC area of competence.</p> <p><b>The objectives of the action are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create a functional RDB prototype targeting three main regionally shared stocks (Spiny lobster, Queen conch and Flying fish) and their fisheries to collate required data as defined in the minimum data requirements document and feed stock assessment model.</li> <li>• To kick-off the operations of the transversal working group on fisheries data and statistics, by firmly establishing it and support its first meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Expected results of the action are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing a Transversal Working Group on fisheries data and statistics with participation of relevant regional organizations</li> <li>• The Minimum data requirements document for the RDB developed by the WECAFC-FIRMS task force is reviewed and endorsed by the Working Group in close consultation with the other relevant species and fisheries working groups.</li> <li>• Priority standards for data and statistical classifications and formats instrumental to data collection (e.g. logbooks) and harmonization are reviewed and endorsed by the Working Group;</li> <li>• A first draft of a regional fisheries data and statistics sharing policy has been reviewed by the Working Group and is submitted for endorsement to the WECAFC members;.</li> <li>• The Regional database pilot is extended to the three main species (Spiny lobster, Queen conch and Flying fish) based on the endorsed decisions of the Working Group</li> <li>• Data systems of all members, including OSPESCA, are reviewed and options are investigated to enable a regular data supply to RDB and areas of support are identified for</li> </ul>

	all Members.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the first half of 2017.

**(e) 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
Budget	€ 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) therefore assists DG MARE in defining and implementing the multiannual fisheries management plans in the GFCM area of competence, reinforcing compliance with GFCM decisions by Members and relevant non-Members and supporting the GFCM in fostering a sustainable aquaculture development in the region.</p> <p>The implementation of the GFCM activities has been planned and agreed for the inter-sessional period according to the priorities identified and agreed during the 40th and the 41<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the GFCM.</p> <p>These preparatory actions will allow Members to adequately prepare for recommendations to be submitted to the 42th session of the GFCM (2018) for which appropriate support will be provided for the organisation of specific meetings, workshops and seminars.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 85%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	This grant will co-finance the implementation of the FAO Regional projects, such as, 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>These regional projects aim at improving the provision and sharing of scientific work and data with non-EU partner countries and contribute to the enhancement of their capacity in participating actively in the relevant regional frameworks for sustainable fisheries management.</p> <p>Expected results and main tasks to be carried out:</p> <p>Contribution to establish a sound scientific basis for better organised fishing in these regions and sustainable management of resources using an ecosystem approach.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 85%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

**(g) FAO-Global Record of fishing vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 225.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The fight against IUU-fishing is an EU priority.</p> <p>The Global Record is one of the latest tools that are being developed to fight IUU (illegal, unreported, and unregulated) fishing, one of the EU priorities. It will make information available regarding the identification of fishing vessels and fishing activity associated with illegal activities.</p> <p>Following the presentation of an operational prototype at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI 2016) in July 2016, work will now continue on a publicly-available, operational Pilot system that includes records across the various information modules. At COFI 2016 in July, the EU gave its further support to the project.</p> <p>The action grant is to support the launch of the development of the prototype. Based on the feedback received on the prototype, a fully-fledged system will be the result.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> semester of 2017.

**(h) COFI 32nd, related follow up actions (FAO)**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
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Budget	€ 300.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Based on the outcome of the 32 <sup>nd</sup> meeting of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (Rome, 11-15 July 2016), the European Commission will allocate a grant to FAO to support relevant priorities agreed on at the biennial meeting.  Initiatives to support could include FAO initiatives that support the fight against IUU, securing small-scale fisheries, the role of fisheries and aquaculture in food security, global and regional processes or climate change and other related environmental matters.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This 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 2017.

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

##### 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 articles 85(d) and 89 thereof.
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/242 of 9 October 2014 laying down detailed rules on the functioning of the Advisory Councils under the Common Fisheries Policy, in particular article 3 thereof.
- Articles 178 and 190(1)(d) of the Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation.

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

Type	Specific operating grant agreements under multiannual Framework Partnership Agreements
Budget	€ 3.300.000
Description	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.  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

	<p>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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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 € 300 000 (90% of the eligible costs).
Indicative timetable	Specific grant agreements to be concluded throughout 2017.

### 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. Areas of Particular Environmental Interest in the Atlantic

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>In its 2012 Communication "Blue Growth opportunities for marine and maritime sustainable growth", the Commission undertook to "ensure that [seabed mining] activity does not prevent future generations from benefiting from hitherto untouched ecosystems". A public consultation was launched and a study commissioned in order to determine how this could be done.</p> <p>The definition of Areas of Particular Environmental Interest where mining should not take place was suggested as part of the solution. This has already been done for the Pacific, but not the Atlantic. A number of Atlantic ecosystems are protected against activities such as fishing but no such areas have been recognised by the International Seabed Authority.</p> <p>The aim of the contract is to analyse ecosystems and economic activity such as fishing or cable laying on the mid-Atlantic ridge and Rio Grande Rise in order to set up a spatial plan that would include</p>
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	<p>the definition of a coherent set of Areas of Particular Environmental Interest. This marine spatial plan would also take into account marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction</p> <p>This contribution to the Atlantic Strategy would build on a range of existing surveys and mapping exercises, especially by scientific institutes and national authorities. The findings would be made available, through the appropriate institutional channel, to the Legal and Technical Committee of the International Seabed Authority.</p> <p>This service contract should also contribute to the implementation of the Galway Statement and enhance cooperation with countries bordering the South Atlantic Ocean, such as Brazil and South Africa.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 1.500.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1st quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.1.2. EMODnet thematic groups

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) aims to provide access to quality-checked marine metadata, data and data products through a common gateway. It is being constructed using the principles and standards of the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2EC and supports the political goal, endorsed by the Council and the European Parliament, of completing a seamless multi-resolution digital seabed map of European waters by 2020. The annual report 2015 shows that the processed data is already being extensively used by industry, public authorities, researchers and civil society in all Member States and a number of international partners, particularly neighbourhood countries. It is contributing to implementation of the Maritime Spatial Planning and Marine Strategy Framework Directives.</p> <p>EMODnet, however, entails a process of continuous improvement.</p> <p>Whilst much has already been done, there is much scope for refining the data available now and developing new data products.</p> <p>The improvements proposed here are driven by feedback from users, and the analysis undertaken by the Mediterranean and North Sea checkpoints. These upgrades are necessary for completing the seabed map to the required standard by 2020. The improved EMODnet will enhance innovation, foster competition and open new commercial opportunities for companies. The Network will become more effective in supporting the planning and implementation of key environmental legislation and will provide greater transparency of data to support the growth of the blue economy.</p> <p>Based on needs identified by users in the present thematic groups - bathymetry, geology, habitats, physics, chemistry, biology and human activity – follow-up projects for two of them will be launched. The main</p>
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	<p>work will consist in:</p> <p>(1) Sorting out national archives of data so that they all use same format, same standards, same nomenclature, same baseline and are accessible through internet;</p> <p>(2) Creating data products such as a map of the sea bottom topology, geology or habitat, requires assembling many measurements, and interpolating where there are gaps. Each new contract of EMODnet improves resolution;</p> <p>(3) Creating software that allows users to search for data and data products, view them and download them.</p>
Type of contract	2 service contracts
Indicative Budget	€ 8.300.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.1.3. Evaluation of EMODnet and Atlantic Strategy and Action Plan

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The Communication on the Atlantic Action Plan [COM(2013)279] stipulates that the Commission "will prepare a mid-term review of the implementation of the Action Plan before the end of 2017." And that "An independent evaluation of a sample of completed projects will feed into the review, which will be discussed with Member States and other stakeholders."</p> <p>The European Marine Observation and Data Network will undergo an independent review in 2017.</p> <p>Both reviews will build on the contract to support the mid-term evaluation of the direct management component of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, which will be completed by early 2017.</p>
Type of contract	Service contracts linked to any relevant framework contract in force in the European Commission or call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ 300.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts or call for tenders to be launched in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.1.4. IT support for the Maritime Forum

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	The Commission-wide web-rationalisation initiative managed by DG COMM, with the support of DGT and DIGIT, increases relevancy, coherence and cost-efficiency.
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	Based on DG MARE's experience with the multi-site toolkit which has been developed, DIGIT will be tasked with the maintenance of the maritime forum, a website for the European Maritime Day, the Mediterranean Virtual Knowledge Centre and the Ocean Energy Forum.
Type of contract	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	€ 150.000
Implementation	The funds will be made available by DG MARE to DIGIT through a co-delegation.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2017.

#### 1.3.1.5. Marine bio-economy forum

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>In its 2012 Communication "Blue Growth - Opportunities for marine and maritime sustainable growth", the Commission identified marine biotechnology as a potential area for sustainable growth and jobs. The initial focus was on long pay-off applications such as pharmaceuticals. Attention is now shifting towards products that can enter the market sooner.</p> <p>The aim of the Forum is to strengthen Europe's competitive position in the emerging bio-economy. The Forum (which would be modelled after the successful Ocean Energy Forum) will bring together industry and the public sector to identify bottlenecks and obstacles related to financing, risk management, administrative consenting and technological development. It should identify possible operational paths to increase production of food, feed, energy and materials deriving from the collection, cultivation and husbandry of marine life. It will initially run for 18 months and develop a practical and implementable road map.</p> <p>The kind of new questions that arise in this sector, for instance, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how can we move aquaculture facilities further offshore?</li> <li>• what needs to be done to open new markets for products from algae and other marine organisms?</li> <li>• which new products, such as biofuels and animal feeds, would offer European companies opportunities?</li> </ul> <p>The contractors will set up a partnership of industry, public authorities, academia and finance to identify issues and priorities in regulation, research and finance, and propose operable solutions. They will manage a website and set up focused subgroups to examine issues such as food and feed or bioenergy in more detail.</p>
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Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 1.200.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.1.6. Secretariat for EMODnet and European Ocean Observing System

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>Provision of a secretariat for the European Marine Observation and Data Network including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developing and maintaining the web presence;</li> <li>• reporting on activities including publication quality annual report;</li> <li>• monitoring performance and user feedback;</li> <li>• organising progress meetings and annual events;</li> <li>• disseminating information at events;</li> <li>• disseminating marine information and knowledge to a wider audience (public authorities, stakeholders and general public) through the European Atlas of the Seas.</li> </ul> <p>Preparing for a European Ocean Observing System by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• organising Expert Group meetings;</li> <li>• consolidating work of sea basin checkpoints;</li> <li>• analysing costs and benefits of options.</li> </ul>
Indicative Budget	€ 1.200.000
Type of contract	Service contract
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.1.7. Assistance Mechanism for the Western Mediterranean

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The development of a sea basin-based initiative for the western Mediterranean is a possible deliverable of the Union for the Mediterranean Ministerial Declaration on the Blue Economy, adopted on 17 November 2015 in Brussels.</p> <p>This action aims at supporting the implementation and the monitoring of</p>
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	<p>a sea basin-based initiative for the western Mediterranean.</p> <p>The objective of this service contract is to provide support to the public and private organisations and their members, research institutions and universities, institutional and private investors, as well as promoters and other stakeholders wishing to be involved in the development of the aforementioned initiative.</p> <p>This action is complementary to the actions EASME/EMFF/2015/1.3.1.19 'Support to the development of a maritime strategy in the Western Mediterranean sub-sea basin' and EASME/EMFF/2016/1.2.1.1 'Promoting the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean'.</p> <p>The assistance mechanism will disseminate information on a sea basin-based initiative for the western Mediterranean, its priorities and possible funding sources through a project team, web site, and a team of professionals on-site ("focal point service").</p> <p>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 Strategy, including IFI (International Financing Institutions) assistance, as well as any other public or private funding contribution to these projects.</p> <p>The assistance mechanism will also promote the match-making between relevant stakeholders in the western Mediterranean, establish an inventory of relevant projects and monitor their implementation.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 1.500.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.1.8. Facility for blue economy development in the Black Sea

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>This facility intends to promote the regional dialogue on blue growth and sustainable blue economy development in the Black Sea by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supporting regional dialogue and cooperation around selected areas of Blue Growth in the Black Sea (IMP-BS);</li> <li>• raising awareness among the stakeholders in the beneficiary countries of the potential of the blue economy, the benefits of integrating maritime policies and of better coordination among the relevant sectors in a way consistent with the Bucharest Convention and the objective of achieving the good environment status of the Black Sea;</li> <li>• providing adequate capacity-building in areas with potential for blue growth and which are of interest for the relevant stakeholders in the</li> </ul>
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	<p>beneficiary countries and at regional level;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supporting the establishment and maintenance of adequate frameworks for structured dialogue and coordination on maritime affairs in the beneficiary countries and at regional level (working group on IMP);</li> <li>• facilitating cooperation between the relevant stakeholders at regional level (e.g. the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Black Sea Commission) in the context of project development and implementation;</li> <li>• improving knowledge about the blue economy and the preservation of the marine and coastal environment in the sea basin.</li> </ul> <p>The facility will build on the Black Sea Synergy maritime chapter and assist Black Sea countries (Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova, Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, Turkey).</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.1.9. Integration of maritime surveillance - advisory services

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Gartner Advisory Services provides access to a cutting-edge research and advice platform on information and communication technology, as well as the option of direct inquiry with Gartner analysts/experts on this matter.</p> <p>The advisory services are deemed useful for the development and implementation of the Maritime CISE, as such high-level expertise can help in ensuring that CISE progresses in line with the objectives and principles of the Digital Single Market and with the up-to-date developments of digital technology and does not lead to duplication with existing information exchanges under EU law.</p> <p>In addition, this recognised expertise is an essential support in assessing the work and deliverables of the FP7 POV project and can help DG MARE with the process of elaborating specific sections of the Maritime CISE Handbook.</p> <p>The contract takes the form of a one-year license.</p>
Type of contract	Specific contract to be concluded under an existing framework contract (DIGIT ABCIII – Lot 1 (No DI/07170) or any other relevant contract in force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€ 30.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

### 1.3.1.10. Study to support international ocean governance and the development of the blue economy

<p>Subject matter of the contracts envisaged</p>	<p>The current framework for international ocean governance is not effective enough in ensuring the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources. Its improvement, to ensure that ocean resources globally are used in a sustainable manner in order to maximise returns in terms of revenue, jobs and growth from the blue economy, is a strategic priority for the European Commission. The Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries has been instructed by President Juncker to engage in shaping international ocean governance in the United Nations, in other multilateral fora and bilaterally with key partners.</p> <p>The sustainable use of the oceans and the promotion of a level playing field at global level would also open up new economic opportunities for European business operators, often leaders in their field when it comes to new technologies and attention to sustainability of their operations, thereby contributing to the Europe 2020 agenda and the priorities of the Juncker Commission.</p> <p>Consequently, the study will as a first task investigate the international ocean economy and the growth potential of the European maritime economy on international markets.</p> <p>For this part, the contractor will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Evaluate the global ocean economy and its potential to 2030, taking into account and building on existing studies such as, for example, the OECD study on the Future of the Ocean Economy to 2030 (OECD, 27.04.2016);</li><li>ii. Evaluate the growth potential for European business operators (traditional and emerging sectors) in specific markets outside the EU as well as at world level overall;</li><li>iii. Evaluate the main competitive strengths and weaknesses of Europe's maritime economy within the international ocean economy as a whole and barriers to its growth, especially in the light of increasing the sustainability of ocean-based economic activities.</li></ul> <p>As a second task, this study will, building on work undertaken by the World Bank and FAO, assess the coherence of existing international or regional rules to promote sustainable use of marine resources, the costs of lack of enforcement of these rules, and the degree to which states have established; or are establishing, frameworks and principles to render their blue economy sustainable.</p> <p>For this part, the contractor will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. select a number of specific sectors or areas of oceans governance, based on initial desk research to identify the most acute cases of insufficient governance, and for which further analysis as described in the preceding paragraph, is necessary (subject to approval by the Commission). This includes analysis of any frameworks and principles by states to render the relevant</li></ul>
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	<p>blue economy sector sustainable;</p> <p>ii. Focusing on selected cases (to be approved by the Commission), assess the impact of lack of application of existing rules and/or the coherence of the relevant rules in place.</p> <p>The results of this second task will flow back into the design of the facility described under the action “Project to support international ocean governance through a Blue Economy Development Framework facility”. To that end, the contractor shall be required to establish and maintain appropriate contacts and exchanges with the beneficiary of this project.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 700.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

1.3.1.11.Services to move towards good environmental status of the European marine waters by implementing the Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) (2008/56/EC) requires coherent approaches within and between marine regions. This is particularly important for Member States which share marine waters in different regions. Therefore coordination mechanisms, administrative and technical support for regional and inter-regional cooperation in relation to assessment, target setting, and progress towards good environmental status, building on existing collaboration, will be necessary.</p> <p>The work will support the attainment of the good environmental status of marine waters under the MSFD, as well as the coordination between the different marine regions, and will involve the following non-exhaustive tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysing and assessing pressures and human activities in the marine environment, identifying possible cost-effective measures and analysing their socio-economic impacts and benefits;</li> <li>• Developing standardised methods for data collection, sampling design and assessment relating to the state of the marine environment and the pressures and impacts upon it, and if required, developing technical guidance for the Member States;</li> <li>• Providing scientific and technical input to a coordinated and integrated assessment of good environmental status;</li> <li>• Assessing approaches and results of Member States in the different stages of implementation of Directive 2008/56/EC, with particular focus on coherence, notably at regional or sub regional levels. Based on this assessment, recommendations on specific activities, tools, and/or mechanisms to be put in place to</li> </ul>
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	<p>improve coordination within or between marine regions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intensifying information exchange between the EU and Regional Sea Conventions;</li> <li>• Providing scientific and technical support for the assessment of marine protected areas; as well as for all aspects of marine litter;</li> <li>• Providing data, information and other support for the Commission's marine modelling activities;</li> <li>• Organising events such as workshops, conferences and other meetings.</li> </ul> <p>Actions in 2017 will continue and further develop past actions, and support the preparation of the 2018 milestone in the MSFD.</p>
Type of contract	Service contracts or specific contract(s) (5 to 7) will be concluded under an existing framework contract (“Framework contract for services to move towards good environmental status of the European marine waters by implementing the Marine Strategy Framework Directive” - ENV/2016/0017) or any other relevant framework contract in force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€ 2.270.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented through a co-delegation to DG ENV.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2017 or specific contracts to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2017 or renewal of service contract in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

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

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>In order to promote the Integrated Maritime Policy, notably towards its stakeholders, a number of events are planned to be held during 2017; in some cases, preparation of the event will begin in 2017 for an event date in 2018.</p> <p>This action inter alia (but not exhaustively as new events may be required at short notice to respond to topical developments) includes activities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the European Maritime Day 2018;</li> <li>• the Arctic indigenous peoples' dialogue and an Arctic stakeholder platform;</li> <li>• the second edition of the Business &amp; Science Forum;</li> <li>• a launch event for the maritime technology skills blueprint;</li> <li>• a launch event for the call for proposals concerning demonstration projects in emerging blue economy sectors;</li> <li>• the second EMODNet general meeting;</li> <li>• pan-European as well as regional dialogues between cruise operators, ports and coastal tourism stakeholders;</li> <li>• a conference on nautical tourism;</li> <li>• a conference to launch the Western Mediterranean Strategy;</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the 2017 edition of the Black Sea stakeholders' conference;</li> <li>• workshops and other events in the context of the Union for the Mediterranean;</li> <li>• stakeholder events and platforms to identify and act upon blue economy innovation and diversification opportunities in the context of Atlantic Strategy and/or Baltic Strategy and their Action Plans;</li> <li>• workshops, platform meetings or high-level fora on strategic options, barriers and agents for change, key enabling technologies and other aspects of blue growth;</li> </ul> <p>as well as activities necessary to the preparation and follow-up of these events.</p>
Type of contract	<p>Around 15, or more, of either:</p> <p>1) Specific contracts linked to an existing framework contract ("Organisation of conferences, workshops, seminars and other events on the CFP, the IMP and EMFF" - MARE/2014/15) or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission;</p> <p>2) Service-level agreements with DG SCIC or any other Directorate-General or Executive Agency, including the financial management (co-delegation).</p>
Indicative Budget	€ 1.996.980
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts and service-level agreements to be launched and/or concluded throughout 2017 or in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2018.

### 1.3.1.13.Economic Impact of Maritime Spatial Planning

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>It is expected that between 2016 and 2021, Member States will be gradually advancing in their implementation of the Directive on Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP), 2014/89/EU. Some Member States already have established national maritime spatial plans, many are making quick progress, while others need more guidance and information. All could benefit from additional information on how MSP can help them deliver sustainable growth for their maritime economies.</p> <p>The background of the study is to expand the limited information on economic benefits of maritime spatial planning which was produced by the Impact Assessment study commissioned in 2010 when the Directive was proposed.</p> <p>Given the increased experience of real-world maritime spatial planning which has accumulated since then, notably in those Member States which already have national plans, and the ongoing Directive implementation, more solid, empirical information on the effects of MSP will be available.</p> <p>The aim of this study is twofold:</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to explore evidence of effects stemming from the implementation of MSP, with a particular focus on economic effects;</li> <li>- to provide additional information to Member States on how to maximise benefits from Maritime Spatial Planning.</li> </ul> <p>The first step in the study shall be to collect relevant research findings on the contribution of maritime spatial planning towards sustainable blue growth in the EU. After this preliminary 'state-of-the-art' task, the study shall perform a thorough investigation and analysis of empirical facts from existing MSP initiatives. This will focus on identifying quantitative economic effects, as well as social (e.g. conflict resolution, investor certainty) and environmental (e.g. marine protected areas) aspects linked to these effects.</p> <p>As a result, the study should provide an EU-wide picture of the effects of maritime spatial planning, in particular the economic costs and benefits of implementing MSP, at national, regional (sea-basin) and – where relevant (e.g. in the form of case studies) - local scales. It must be based on recognised methodologies, build on work already undertaken and involve coordination with any ongoing initiatives and projects in this area.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 500.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.1.14. Sea basin data stress tests for European Ocean Observing System

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The aim of the stress tests is to assess how fit-for-purpose the surveying strategies and the monitoring networks for marine observation are in European sea basins, to guide the development of a European Ocean Observing System that meets the needs of all stakeholders.</p> <p>There will be special focus on delivering sea-basin parameters for Marine Strategy Framework Directive parameters and on advising on the sea-basin component of a European Ocean Observing System.</p> <p>The work includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– test cases to assess fitness for purpose (e. g. estimating how many fish are caught, how the water temperature has changed, best sites for wind farms, coastal erosion etc.);</li> <li>– delivery of sea-basin indicators useful for reporting under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive;</li> <li>– establishing and operating panels of experts (including Regional Sea Conventions, Advisory Councils for Fisheries, wind-farm</li> </ul>
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	<p>developers, coastal authorities and other key stakeholders);</p> <p>– delivery of reports summarising fitness-for-purpose of data, gaps in networks, new techniques that could be more cost-effective.</p> <p>There will be two lots: Mediterranean and North Sea.</p>
Type of contract	2 service contracts
Indicative Budget	€ 1.900.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

### 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. Herring in area VIa and VIIbc: scientific assessment of the identity of the Southern and Northern stocks through genetic analysis

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The two herring stocks in ICES areas VIa and VIIbc are known to mix outside of their respective spawning periods in unknown proportions. Catches from the mixed stock cannot be easily separated in either commercial catches or scientific surveys. ICES considers there are two separate stocks but cannot provide separate catch advice.</p> <p>It is proposed to undertake a genetic study to improve the assessment of these two stocks of herring in VIa(S) and VIa (N). This study will use samples from the unmixed fishery, where fishing operations are restricted to the period and area where the two stocks are not mixed (spawning period). Previous samples from the two stocks will also be re-examined using genetic markers to establish a time series of the two stocks.</p> <p>The baseline morphometric samples collected for these stocks are more than ten years old, and thus may no longer be reliable. New samples were collected from four herring spawning sites during spawning time in 2014, and two additional samples in 2016. Recent analyses of these samples did not increase the statistical power of the existing method to discriminate the two stocks. In 2016, a project co-funded by the fishing industry as well as national institutes developed genetic based stock identification methods, to allow for a more robust separation of the survey data into different stocks.</p> <p>This action will support the following elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Genetic analysis of survey samples.</li> <li>2. Comparing the outcome of the genetic analysis with the existing</li> </ol>
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	<p>genetic information from spawning stocks from herring stocks in all neighbouring areas (VIaN, VIaS/ VIIbc, North Sea, Irish Sea and Celtic Sea). This would allow the splitting of the survey samples into stocks of origin.</p> <p>3. To compare the genetic identification of these survey samples to the morphometric identification of the same samples, in order to investigate whether it is possible to retrospectively divide the old samples in a reliable way.</p> <p>This work is necessary to support the achievement of the MSY assessment and the development of rebuilding or management plans for the stocks.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract.
Indicative Budget	€ 200.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be launched 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.2.2. Assessing the impact of the less than 10m fishing fleet on the fish stocks

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Under the current Control regulation the less than 10m fishing fleet benefits from a series of derogations –to logbook, to sales notes if small quantities, to VMS. The effect of these derogations combined is that less than 10m vessels can fish without their activity being controllable by the Member States control authorities. In some cases, &lt;10m vessels pass fish directly to restaurants or other points of sale. For some fisheries, like the cod fishery, some vessels have been transformed into less than 10m to avoid control obligations, or other vessels have been provided with bigger engine power. A recent series of audits carried out in the Atlantic Member States shows that, due to this existing weak framework, most Member States cannot build a consistent knowledge on activities of vessels less than 10m.</p> <p>As a consequence, data available are scarce and neither landing data, nor sales or effort data are reliable, and data are not consistent. Catches from less than 10m vessels are not systematically reported to the Commission under the required monthly catch report. Consequently, the impact of less than 10m on stocks cannot be assessed, while the fact that this fleet is increasing cannot but have an impact on conservation of stocks and the marine environment. At this stage, the risk linked to this fleet cannot be characterised. The problem is considered essential in the Mediterranean Sea, and the experience gained through audits in the Atlantic suggests it is also a key issue in other sea basins.</p> <p>Currently a few MS already run sentinel fleets that could be used as a good practice. Other good practices on data collection /monitoring process could exist in other Member States.</p> <p>In order to build a sound conservation and control approach addressing this specific segment of the fleet, there is a need to assess</p>
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the impact of less than 10m fisheries, at EU level, and develop a consistent risk analysis. To this aim, we need to improve the collection of data by Member States. Ideally, the study should provide us with the number of vessels and species concerned, the fishing areas and the metiers involved, for each sea basin.

Achieving this at pan EU level would be challenging, given the number of vessels involved (more than 16000 for the Atlantic) and the national and regional management that would be required. It is therefore proposed to build our approach on pilot projects, one per sea basin. As such, the series of pilot projects will form a stepping stone, towards a fully operational collection of data.

Objectives : the action should allow to identify:

- the species concerned,
- the fishing areas concerned, and stock (species\*area),
- the number of vessels (active/non active) and metiers (where no metiers are defined, target species or main/key landed species could be used),
- the effort deployed,
- the discards level,
- the good practices identified and
- a proposal for a strategy to be deployed to ensure collection of data.

Based on these elements, the Commission services will draw up a list of species/stocks for which less than 10m fisheries is substantially contributing to fishing mortality and thus would henceforth be candidates for regular data collection requirements and where necessary control measures.

The methodology proposed is as follows (step by step):

1. taking stock of the system in place in the Member States for data collection (to be done through audit carried out by the Commission - to be available in December 2016 for the Atlantic;
2. analysis of scientific literature;
3. identify the data available in Member States (where, when, completeness);
4. organising a pilot project in each sea basins: Atlantic, Baltic sea, Black sea, North sea. Within each pilot project,
  - a. Select a sample of <10m fleet as a case study;
  - b. Identify fishermen associations volunteering to participate in the case study;
  - c. Organise interviews and send questionnaires;
  - d. Organise aerial surveillance. Aerial surveillance would consist of aerial patrols in a random selected series of ICES rectangles. Patrols will be in charge of counting the vessels active in the area and identifying them. Inspection at landing will then be organised to ensure on the quantities caught and landed. Such surveillance should be organised at least once a week and cover

	<p>different areas.</p> <p>The study would include 4 projects, each the subject of one contract.</p> <p>This study shall be conducted in synergy with the work commissioned to the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean Scientific Advisory Committee (GFCM-SAC) on assessment of the impact of small scale fisheries in the Mediterranean Sea.</p>
Type of contract	4 service contracts
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.2.3. Studies providing scientific advice for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Studies providing scientific advice in support of the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy in the Mediterranean and the Black Seas, including at the international level within the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM). In particular, regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The evaluation of technical elements linked to the national and multi-annual management plans or to the different provision of the Mediterranean Regulation and the CFP;</li> <li>• Stock assessments in the Mediterranean and Black Seas,</li> <li>• The GFCM's mid-term strategy (2017-2020) towards the sustainability of Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries;</li> <li>• Scoping studies, aiming at synthesising and analysing scientific material to provide greater clarity about specific research topics.</li> </ul>
Type of contract	Maximum 4 specific contracts linked to the new framework contract for the provision of scientific advice for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€ 500.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.2.4. Study on mid-term evaluation of the Open Method of Coordination for the sustainable development of EU aquaculture

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Mid-term evaluation of the Open Method of Coordination for the sustainable development of EU aquaculture</p> <p>Objectives: The reformed CFP set up a voluntary process for cooperation to promote the sustainable development of EU aquaculture. The OMC is based on EU Guidelines and on Multiannual national plans. Guidelines were adopted in 2013, MS adopted their multiannual plans in 2015. In the Guidelines it is</p>
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	<p>recommended that Member States make a mid-term assessment of the implementation of their multiannual national plan by the end of 2017 on the basis of which the Commission may consider the opportunity to revise the strategic guidelines. The study would evaluate both national and EU efforts to promote development of the sector.</p> <p>Timing: due to late adoption of the multiannual plans we could launch the evaluation mid-2017 to have results by late 2018/early 2019 (18 months contract).</p>
Type of contract	Specific contract under a new framework contract or service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 400.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract or call for tenders to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.2.5. Study on the identification of measures to protect by-catch species in mixed-fisheries management plans

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Mixed-fishery multi-annual management plans are being proposed for the Baltic and North Seas, Western Waters and the Mediterranean. The main management tools will be ranges of fishing mortality for the important target species and associated biomass safeguards, together with regionalised management measures. It has been envisaged that the management of the key driver species would offer sufficient safeguards for by-catch species and that in some circumstances single TACs for by-catch species could be combined in order to minimise the risk of choke scenarios due to single-species TAC limitations.</p> <p>The application of <math>F_{MSY}</math> ranges and combined species TACs together with joint recommendations from MS offers new challenges for managers in determining whether the application of ranges in combination with multi-species TACs in conjunction with as yet unknown spatial, temporal and technical measures would be consistent with achieving the objectives of the CFP and if such approaches would provide pragmatic solutions to complex multi-species fisheries management.</p> <p>This study would pose a number of questions about by-catch stocks to identify the measures that would be needed to protect by-catch species, and would build on existing developments to assist managers (DGMARE) in determining whether proposals for regionalised management measures under mixed-fisheries plans emanating from regional groups are in accordance with the objectives of the CFP.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. are there any metiers for which the TACs of the important target species provide protection of their associated by-catch stocks?</li> <li>ii. for those metiers where this is not the case, what measures could be proposed to offer sufficient protection (technical</li> </ol>
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	<p>measures – appropriate time specific / seasonal / spawning / nursery area closures etc.)?)</p> <p>iii. is it appropriate to cluster certain species to enable by-catch protection? If so, which species?</p> <p>For each case, the relevant triggers to promote protection of the various by-catch stocks would need to be identified. It is also important that this study would use a common framework to enable tie-in with existing research in this area. Additionally, the proposed study would give a tangible output as a tool for managers (and reviewers) to assess specific joint recommendations and their accordance with the CFP to enable appropriate regional management.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

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

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The objective is to provide the European Commission with a flexible tool to request specific and timely scientific advice for fisheries management or other services needed for the provision of the advice, within the context of the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy.</p> <p>The advice and services are sought to support the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy by applying the precautionary and the ecosystem approach, while ensuring coherence with the Union environmental legislation (e.g. Marine Strategy Framework Directive) and with the Integrated Maritime Policy.</p>
Type of contract	Some 5 specific contract(s) will be concluded under a future framework contract on scientific advice for fisheries beyond EU waters.
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2017.

#### 1.3.2.7. Study on the assessment of the EU support to the implementation of the of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP)

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	In the framework of the Better Regulation initiative, an impact assessment will be required prior to proposing a future funding instrument to replace the existing European Maritime and Fisheries Fund. This instrument will be designed to provide financial support for the implementation of the CFP and its various components (data collection, control, common market organisation), as well as some
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	<p>aspects of the IMP, for the programming period 2021-2027.</p> <p>On the basis of an analysis of the past performance of the past EFF and current EMFF, the fundamental questions this assessment will have to deal with, are the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the market failures this instrument should address?</li> <li>2. To which components of the CFP and IMP and which types of operations, should it provide public support?</li> <li>3. In which form (grants, financial instruments, legislative support)? And to which level of support?</li> </ol> <p>This assessment should be conducted as a study, undertaken either under a service agreement with the JRC or through a service contract.</p> <p>For some specific aspects of the work, for example regarding Community Led Local Development, or the EFF ex-post assessment, this work will capitalise on work recently or about to be completed.</p>
Type of contract	Specific contract under suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission or a service contract.
Indicative Budget	€ 500.000
Implementation	This action should be implemented through a service level agreement with the JRC Competence Centre on Micro Economic Evaluation or by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017 or call for tender to be published in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.2.8. Study on quotas swapping within the EU and on their potential in facilitating the implementation of the landing obligation

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Every year, MS exchange a significant part of their share of TACs in the form of quota swaps. These swaps can help reduce the risk that, due to the landing obligation, a species might reach the point of choking one or various fisheries in which it is caught but not targeted.</p> <p>The information generated by a study on these swaps could be used to encourage the "bartering" of quotas to facilitate the implementation of the landing obligation, in particular by preventing untargeted species to choke a fisheries before catch limitations applying to target species are reached.</p> <p>Following Commission's preliminary analyses, this study will involve in particular the following tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate the nature of swaps, hence, what species is exchanged for what other species.</li> <li>2. Investigate the reasons or justifications for swaps i.e. why swaps take place and since 2015 to which extent the landing obligation is affecting the practice of quota swapping, between and within</li> </ol>
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	<p>MS.</p> <p>3. Investigate the exchange rates between species and in particular whether cod-equivalents or other exchange rates are used, whether other forms of compensations are practiced and how these rates may have evolved over time, and why.</p> <p>4. Building on the results of the previous tasks, the contractor is expected to make recommendations to facilitate the implementation of the landing obligation.</p> <p>As a starting point, the Commission will make available its database of swaps and other available information. In addition, Member States' authorities responsible for the management of quotas will need to be contacted and interviewed. Furthermore, stakeholders representing the sector will need to be contacted and interviewed to get their views on swaps as a tool to facilitate the implementation of the landing obligation.</p> <p>As a starting point, the Commission will provide the available information on quota swaps. In the context of the study, the relevant Member State authorities and stakeholders will have to be surveyed and consulted.</p>
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 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.2.9. Study for the review of scientific surveys

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Data on fisheries are collected by Member States through the Data Collection Framework (DCF). The main sources of data are commercial fisheries (fishery dependent information) and research surveys at sea (fishery independent information). Research surveys are the most reliable and expensive part of Data Collection.</p> <p>The current list of surveys was established a long time ago. New data requirements emerging from the ecosystem based approach have been incorporated in the new multiannual Union programme (EU MAP) and constitute an obligation for Member States to collect. The new data requirements will need to be incorporated in the surveys, to the extent that this can be done, while maintaining or improving the collection of data required for fish stock assessment and forecasting. In addition, climate change is expected to affect fisheries in an unforeseen way. Survey design should be adaptable enough to account for the effect of environmental changes on fisheries.</p> <p>Member States are also now required to work on data collection on a regional basis, with a view to avoiding duplication of resources. Greater cost-efficiency should be achievable by optimising the</p>
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	<p>allocation of surveying tasks among Member States working in the same sea basin.</p> <p>Consideration should also be given to introducing new surveying technologies (to the extent that these are reliable and proven), or further assessing the value of such techniques.</p> <p>This action should review the current list of research surveys at sea, in order to analyse redundancies and/or gaps, improve efficiency and streamline the work carried out by Member States sharing the same sea basin. This action should evaluate the current data obtained from surveys for all sea basins, identify ways for data needed to be delivered in a more efficient manner and develop a similar quality assurance framework as is the case for fishery dependent data.</p> <p>This work is necessary to support the DCF implementation, by way of improved sea basin coordination, in order to meet the CFP objectives.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 500.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

### 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 and hardware (infrastructure) supply, supporting the implementation of the Common fisheries Policy. Access to databases.
Type of contract	<p>Specific service and supply contracts linked to existing framework contracts provided by DG DIGIT.</p> <p>Some 40 contracts to be awarded in accordance with the framework agreement with DG DIGIT.</p> <p>5 direct contracts for access to databases.</p>
Indicative Budget	€ 4.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE. Part of the appropriations will be subject to co-delegation/cross sub-delegation granted to DIGIT (hosting service), DG COMP (case handling) and

	DG SANTE (IUU database for catch certificates) to fund the different services and IT applications.
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2017.

#### 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	Some 8 supply and service contracts.
Indicative Budget	€ 10.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2017.

#### 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 for the organisation of meetings of the experts groups on 1) Fisheries control and 2) Compliance with the obligations under the Union fisheries control system (logistical and administrative costs).
Type of contract	Specific contracts linked to existing framework contracts OIB.DR.2/PC/2012/117/55/C0 L2 (LotB) and L3 (Lot C), (some 40 specific contracts). Procurement procedures (about 6 contracts).
Indicative Budget	€ 40.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2017.

#### 1.3.3.4. Study related to the preparation of impact assessment on a new control regulation

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Study supporting the impact assessment (IA) of a new control regulation.
Type of contract	Specific contracts linked to a future framework contract "Evaluation, Impact Assessment and related activities" or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission
Indicative Budget	€ 250.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2017.

### 1.3.3.5. Study on the possibility to develop self-controlled scheme in fisheries

<p>Subject matter of the contracts envisaged</p>	<p>The introduction of the landing obligation in the reformed CFP gives the opportunity to facilitate effective implementation of the landing obligation in the respective fisheries.</p> <p>At a time where EU economic policies call for decreasing the public expenses, the landing obligation could be a good opportunity to develop projects and explore new ways of controlling the fisheries, in particular by putting the responsibility for compliance on fishermen.</p> <p>EU financed research programmes have assessed the factors affecting compliance to fisheries rules. Legitimacy of the rules, understanding of them and participation in the decision making proved to be key factors. Some Member States are already working toward a culture of compliance, or developing co-management schemes with fishermen, with success. Should fishermen be responsible for their own control and their own compliance, through self-defined scheme, Member States control authorities will be in charge of supervising the fishermen control activities, i.e. the effectiveness of the schemes. This will result in transferring the cost of daily control to fishermen. By defining their obligation (above legal constraints), fishermen are inclined to commit to it. Such a "self-control" strategy has been applied long ago to the food safety sector and proved to be effective and efficient.</p> <p>Allowing projects of this kind to develop would contribute to: 1) the implementation of the landing obligation, 2) the increased commitment of the industry, 3) increased cost-efficiency of fisheries control by Member States authorities.</p> <p>The objective of this study is to explore and provide guidance on how to implement and control the landing obligation and how the control of fisheries can be organised by fishermen.</p> <p>This action should therefore provide the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- what are the best practices to be followed when implementing the landing obligation;</li><li>- how could fishermen self-control the implementation of the landing obligation;</li><li>- what are the key elements of a compliance scheme;</li><li>- how can compliance schemes be supervised by the national authority and be extended to other obligations;</li><li>- what is the impact of compliance scheme on compliance, efficiency of control, implementation of the landing obligation, sustainability of the fishery;</li><li>- what are the alternatives, trade-offs, pros and cons, limits of the compliance scheme.</li></ul> <p>The action should involve officially recognised groups of fishermen (e.g. producer organisations, cooperatives, regional fisheries committees), active in the same fishery. Offers covering several Member States will be given preference. Ideally one case study per sea</p>
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	<p>basin.</p> <p>The studies shall include a description of the proposed control scheme, explain how compliance could be self-controlled by fishermen and a description of how Member States authorities could supervise the compliance scheme. The proposed control scheme should include a charter specifying the commitment of every participant to implement the landing obligation and respecting the CFP rules.</p>
Type of contract	Up to 4 specific contracts
Indicative Budget	€ 800.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 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, maps and other materials, including audiovisuals (including on the EMFF);</li> <li>- hiring of stands, publicity for the participation in fairs and exhibitions, publications on a range of topics;</li> <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 implementation 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, Our Ocean Conference, etc.);</li> <li>- information about fisheries legislation or IMP topics in Member</li> </ul>
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	<p>States as well as in third countries;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– purchasing of advertising space;</li> <li>– use of the of the Next EUROPA internet presence (called NE-CMS) service by DG MARE for the "Websites Fisheries and Maritime Affairs.</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 contracts</p>
Indicative Budget	€ 3.999.000
Implementation	<p>Some 30 specific contracts/order forms will be linked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– current framework contract (MARE/2012/12) and new framework contract (MARE/2016/11) 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>– framework contract for 'Evaluation and impact assessment activities for DG MARE (MARE/2011/01) and its successor;</li> <li>– framework contract for the organisation of conferences, workshops, seminars and other events on the Common Fisheries Policy, the Integrated Maritime Policy and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund ( MARE/2014/15);</li> <li>– or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission.</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>The MoU for the use of NE-CMS service by DG MARE will be implemented through a co-delegation to DIGIT.</p> <p>Some 5 service contracts may also be concluded through procurement procedures.</p>
Indicative timetable	Service contracts and specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2017.



### 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	Provision of services for the running and maintenance of the European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture (EUMOFA). EUMOFA is the market intelligence tool on the European Union fisheries and aquaculture sector, aiming at increasing market transparency and efficiency, analysing the EU market dynamics, supporting business decisions and policy-making.
Type of contract	Service contract (renewal of existing contract)
Indicative Budget	€ 4.047.880
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Renewal of service contract in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

#### 1.3.5.2. Dissemination of recommendations on the implementation of Production and Marketing Plans

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	The interim assessment of the preparation and implementation of Production and Marketing Plans (Art. 28 of R (EU) No 1379/2013) will be concluded in 2016.  The recommendations and ways of improvement ensuing from this assessment will be disseminated through the organisation of a forum-conference for all relevant stakeholders: producers (members and non-members of Producer Organisations, other collective bodies), national administrations and other interested actors.
Type of contract	Specific contract linked to an existing framework contract MARE/2012/12 - Lot 3
Indicative Budget	€ 100.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2017.

### 1.3.5.3. Observatory of voluntary claims relating to fisheries and aquaculture products in Europe

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The 2016 Pilot Project on the assessment of voluntary claims relating to fisheries and aquaculture products in Europe aims at drawing up an inventory of and at analysing voluntary claims that accompany these products when sold to the EU consumer.</p> <p>The set-up of an observatory of voluntary claims on a permanent basis, or establishment of another instrument, is a possible outcome of the project.</p> <p>Based on the outcome of the pilot project, DG MARE will propose the most suitable instrument to follow up on the findings. The costs involved will be known at that moment.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 100.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be launched in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017.

### 1.3.5.4. Information system for commercial designations for fisheries and aquaculture products

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Contract for the running, maintenance and improvements of the information system for commercial designations for fisheries and aquaculture products
Type of contract	Service contract (renewal of existing contract)
Indicative Budget	€ 120.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Renewal of service contract in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2017.

## 1.4. OTHER ACTIONS

### 1.4.1. 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.

1.4.1.1. 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	Provision of advice and other services by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) to support the implementation of the CFP and in relation to data and marine research needs.
Indicative Budget	€ 2.400.000
Implementation	The action is implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Memorandum of Understanding to be concluded during the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

1.4.1.2. 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 experts, 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 will be provided by a permanent Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) set up by Commission Decision.</p> <p>This decision foresees the payment of a compensation to the members of the STECF and/or the experts invited by the STECF.</p>
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	20 to 30 STECF meetings spread throughout 2017.

1.4.2. 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)

1.4.2.1. 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: Missions to control and evaluate the implementation of the CFP, including, inter alia, missions verifying the application of CFP rules in accordance with Title X of the Control Regulation and participation at subsequent meetings.

Amount: € 800.000

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

Subject: Expert group meetings on fisheries control examining the implementation of the CFP and 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: € 300.000

1.4.2.3. Training of European Commission officials involved in verification, autonomous inspections and audits

Subject: Training of European Commission officials involved in verification, autonomous inspections and audits.

Amount: € 25.000

1.4.3. *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.

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

Subject: Storage, distribution and production services provided by the Publications Office (OP).

Amount: € 120.000

1.4.4. *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.

1.4.4.1. European Atlas of the Seas

Type	Administrative Arrangement
Description and objective of the action	<p>The European Atlas of the Seas allows professionals, students and anyone interested to learn more about Europe's seas and coasts, their environment, related human activities and European policies. It supports policy-making both within and outside the Commission on maritime affairs, marine environment, fisheries, transport, energy and other issues by providing digital maps of European seas and coasts.</p> <p>The objective of this action is to ensure further Atlas development</p>

	<p>(versions 4 and 5) and continuous maintenance, cooperation and promotion, both on the Atlas content, features and functionalities.</p> <p>Further Atlas development should focus on the specific needs of EU policy-makers, especially DG MARE in its policy preparation, implementation, evaluation and communication, in particular: the integrated maritime policies linked to geography (maritime spatial planning etc) and geographically-defined fisheries legislation and information, such as TACs and quotas, technical measures, stock status, etc.</p> <p>The action will take the form of an Administrative Arrangement with the Commission's Joint Research Centre, including terms of reference. It will follow up previous Administrative Arrangements with a budget of € 800 000 for 2013-2014 (2 years) and a budget of € 320 000 for 2015-2016 (2 years).</p>
Indicative budget	€ 360.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	The Administrative Arrangement is to be concluded in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2017.